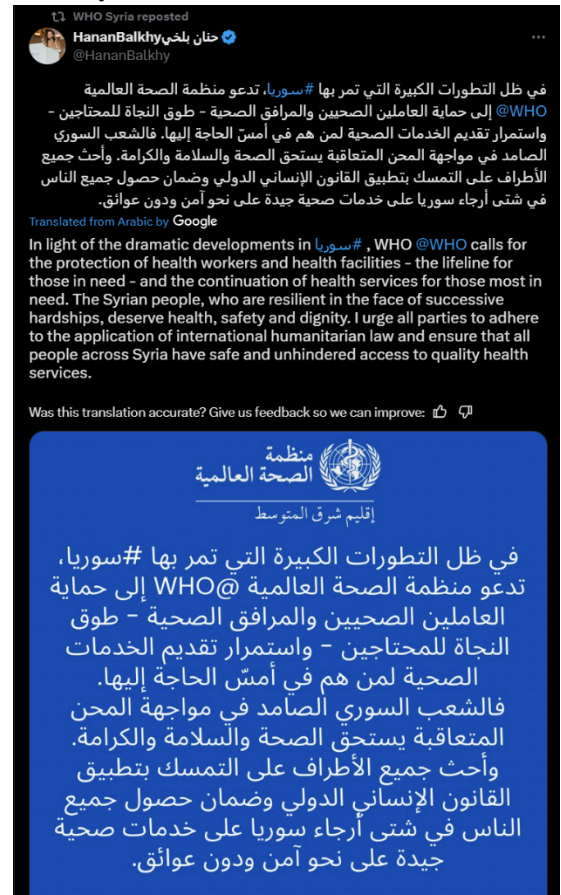


Situation Report N7, Damascus, Health Sector Syria, 9 December 2024, 23:00

1. Situation overview:

- Violence continues throughout the country.
- On 9 December, early morning 10 December 2024, sounds of severe explosions were heard all over Tartus, Jableh and Latakia cities and surrounding areas, Homs city as well as in Damascus city. These were due to be believed a large scale air strikes on multiple weapon deposits, scientific research centers and other institutions related to the Ministry of Defense. The situation deteriorates as most of these facilities were traditionally located in dense populated urban areas. Levels of detonation are massive. Collateral damage on casualties, impact on health facilities is expected. No accurate information is yet available at present.
- There is a serious degree of military intervention from the neighboring state in the south of Syria resulting in direct and indirect impact of health service availability and accessibility.
- On 9 December 2024, HTS announced a curfew in Tartus and Latakia cities starting from 17:00 to 5:00 AM on 10 December 2024, under liability of violation. The announcement stated that during this time, security and police forces will be working to reinforce security and stability. The following categories are exempted from the curfew: National Defense, Firefighting, Doctors and medical staff, Ambulance, Internal Security Forces.
- The MoH reports that vaccination services get continues in Aleppo, Hama, Hassakeh, Dar'a, Sweida governorates. In other governorates health care workers could not report to their facilities due to ongoing insecurity. The MoH reports that all vaccines and cold chain are safe.
- Throughout 9 December there was a panic in Damascus city on the alleged chemical exposure. This was not substantiated by a number of credible sources. The White Helmets responding to the attacks in Damascus stated: "Our people in Damascus, many pages on social media have published rumors about the spread of toxic gases in the city after the Israeli bombing that targeted scientific research centers on the outskirts of the city on Monday evening, December 9. The firefighting teams of the Syrian Civil Defense responded to the scene of the incident and extinguished a fire in the targeted area. We confirm that there was no evidence of unusual toxic fumes during the extinguishing of the fire, and no cases of suffocation were observed among civilians. We call on journalists and all agencies and media outlets to verify information before publishing it in order not to cause panic among civilians"
- The Syrian Transport Administration announces that Damascus and Aleppo airports will be operated for domestic flights within days.
- Reported by OCHA:
 - Liquidity: The Governor of the Syrian Central Bank issued a circular notifying all banks (public and private) to resume their normal operations as of 10 December. The USD circulation is allowed.
 - Stock outs: Stock outs of essential commodities including medicines have also been reported which could have implications on the use of cash assistance as a stop gap measure for the current supply chain issues.
 - Fuel: There has reportedly also been a huge increase in fuel prices with a litre of fuel in Damascus going for 33,000 SYP per litre or 1.33\$ per litre (the petrol stations are also now reportedly accepting payments in \$).
- Statement on key agreements by the General Command (interim transitional government): Today the Prime Minister on behalf of the General Command issued a public statement announcing that the following agreement has been reached.
 - Preserving institutions: - The importance of the survival of public institutions and the continuation of their work to ensure the stability of the state was emphasized.
 - Reinstating employees: - Working to return 400,000 employees to their jobs during the coming period.
 - Our message to the people: Emphasizing that a new phase is beginning in the country, based on unity and reconstruction.
 - Decision to stay: My decision to stay in the country is a preliminary decision to support stability and follow up on the work closely.
 - Presence of ministers: Most ministers are currently in Damascus, working to manage the transitional phase.

- Education: We heard anecdotal reports that the Syrian national curriculum will stay in place however the nationalisation component will be removed. We are following up and will share the related update.
- Population movements: We are confirming reports of movements out of the shelters as well as reports that the residents of Rukban have also been able to move out. A separate consolidated report will be shared once finalised.
- Footprints of partners/response capacities: We will be doing a stock taking on the current footprint vs response capacities. Related discussions to be held with you at an informal sector coordinators meeting that will be convened tomorrow to decide on the best way forward.
- WHO Regional Director issued a statement.
- DINGO issued a statement on recent developments, see Annex.
- The IDPs movement update as of 8 December is shared by Gaziantep. Please see attached.
- Meeting with the new Hama Governor, Engineer Qutayba Khalaf, took place on 9 December 2024: As of 9 December all government departments, particularly Health, WASH, and Electricity, will begin maintenance work, as well as the cleaning of buildings and facilities. Electricity has been restored to most neighborhoods, with ongoing maintenance in the affected areas of the city. Water is now available throughout all areas. No humanitarian organizations are currently active, but it was agreed that starting next Sunday, all humanitarian actors and departments should resume their normal operations. SARC Hama reported that their vehicles have not yet been returned, and that they are not delivering any assistance. However, based on the authorities' recommendation, they will resume operations soon. It was also reported that all collective shelters have been closed, and most of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) who arrived in Hama governorate last month have returned to their places of origin. The NGOs also reportedly informed that they couldn't distribute any in-kind assistance due to the lack of items in their warehouses.



2. Impact on health:

- Of serious concern, the levels of hostilities in Deir-ez-Zoir. Violence is fierce resulting in high number of casualties. 10 deaths and 20 injuries. Reports on attacks on health care are received.



- Same for the areas west of Raqqa governorate, Menbij area which changed lines of control from SDF to HTS forces. Reports on attacks on health care are received. NES Forum HWG is preparing the necessary Flash Update. Photo of PHC in Menbij.
- In Sweida there were about 10 various casualties.
- The administration of Al-Mowasat University Hospital extends its sincere thanks to all the medical, nursing and service personnel for the great efforts made in treating the injured who visited the hospital during the past 48 hours, where more than 350 patients were received, 51 emergency surgical procedures were performed, and 20 patients were admitted to the intensive care unit, while trying to provide the necessary services. Within the available capabilities and in the optimal form and management, knowing that most of the casualties were due to random shooting
- The Office of the Syrian Authority for Medical Specialties was looted.
- The administration of Al-Mouwasat University Hospital in

Damascus calls on: All medical, nursing and administrative staff must join their work immediately to

ensure the continuation of the hospital's work and the provision of its services, noting that Employee transport buses will operate tomorrow as usual on all lines. The hospital nursery will also receive the children of female employees as usual

- Three Flash Updates on Attacks on 3 PHC facilities in Deir-ez-Zoir are developed. On 8 December, as result of the chaos in the city and the inability of the SDF forces to control the security situation, local population looted fully Ad-Dahiye Health Center, Al-Qusour Health Center, and Ath-Thawra Health Center.
- 7 out of 8 PHC facilities in Deir-ez-Zoir are non functioning. The only facility remaining functioning is Harabish Center.
- Deir-ez-Zoir general hospital reported only 2 doctors in the emergency department. The work of hemodialysis department stopped due to the absence of electricity and fuel. As of 9 December 5,000 liters of diesel were supplied and the department re-started its work.
- Information is being checked on the details of looting of the main warehouse of WHO in Damascus
- All 18 MMTs supported by WHO /GAVI had suspended their activities since 7 December. Same for Mozaic NGO assisting northern rural Latakia / Kinsabba, Slenfeh areas. SARC is still providing ambulatory services and referrals for emergency & critical cases. PHCs are suspended or with very limited HR as majority of staff are from rural areas. Public hospitals still provide health services with limited HR.
- Head of the newborn unit of Tishreen hospital reports the unit is functional. All residents are at work while nurses are absent. Immediate supplies are available.

3. Needs and priorities:

- It is essential at the senior humanitarian leadership level to identify the areas of responsibilities under the WoS umbrella, assign responsible structures. At present there is a mix of new authorities being seen engaged in governorates outside of their AoR.
- Health sector partners are recommended to maintain direct dialogue among each other, regardless whether earlier being part of Syria HCT/Damascus or HGL Coordinated Response/Gaziantep.
- Supply chain issues: Looting of warehouses including for UN Agencies and SARC was reported in Damascus, in addition to looting of humanitarian organizations' warehouses in other parts of the Country. Further reports also indicate that Lattakia Port was also looted. WHO warehouse was looted in Damascus. This falls under the definition of attack on health care. This has implications on the ability of the affected organizations to address the current imminent needs, the logistic cluster, Ayad Naman [WFP] ayad.naman@wfp.org, is requested to support in mapping the existing logistics capacity to inform the required decisions and follow up engagements.
 - o Mapping of available humanitarian supplies to gauge existing response capacities

#	Sector	Organization	Location of the warehouse	Supply type and quantity available	Targeted areas/ areas to be supplied.
1					

- o Mapping of humanitarian supplies that were looted as a result of the recent crisis

#	Sector	Organization (if sensitive please only indicate organization type –i.e. UN/ NGO)	Location of the warehouse	Supplies looted	Quantity
1					

- Health sector organizations operational in south Syria, Damascus and Rural Damascus: While the leadership is working on identifying counterparts and coordination structure with the new authorities, it is important to map the implications of the recent events on the humanitarian programmes on the ground both ongoing and planned. This will serve as a starting point to advocate for the required facilitation whether it is movement of personnel, approvals, or financial procedures with the relevant personnel once appointed. Whenever possible and without taking additional risk, please include also the impact on your organization's physical facilities and properties (office, warehouse, vehicle, mobile clinic... etc.) including devices and equipment that have been installed previously to public services apparatus such as solar system, pumping machine (for water stations), production line (for bakeries), equipment.. etc. Please also inform of any resumed activities whether via local NGOs, implementing

partners, or suppliers as we will try to channel humanitarian aid through actors in the field if possible until the humanitarian operation is back on full scale.

Contact person: Lama Al Taweel, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Damascus and the South Sub Office, Mobile & WhatsApp Number: +963 (0) 953 300 074 | e-mail: altaweel@un.org

- Due to the rapid escalation in violence and shift in control, OCHA is working on mapping services provided by sectors to identify gaps in service provision due to security or access constraints as well as to inform the humanitarian response to fill the gaps from the different all hubs. They have created the below short form to populate the status of ongoing, interrupted, or suspended activities on a weekly basis (with the date of suspension). If there are no changes in the status of the activity, you don't need to report, only provide an update if there has been any change. Kindly submit your inputs directly to kavuwas@who.int/ For support or if you have any questions, please reach out to me via WhatsApp at +254722542646, or email kavuwas@who.int.

Sector	AoR	Main Activity	Sub-Activity	admin3 Name	Admin3 Pcode	admin4 Name	admin4 Pcode	admin3 Name en	Response Status	Date of Suspension	Week	Month	Year

4. Current response to date

- Amid escalating challenges to healthcare in Damascus, WHO delivered trauma and surgical supplies to Al Mousat Hospital to enable life-saving services for those in need and is working to support additional hospitals in the coming days.
- WHO Director-General: WHO teams based in Syria are still on the ground, working to ensure continuity of health services. We remain steadfast in our commitment to the long-suffering Syrian population, who need access to health services. Health workers, facilities, transport and supplies must be protected. We call on all parties to respect this. We also call on donors to urgently provide resources to WHO and partners so we can all deliver on our life-saving mission.
- Al Hol camp/Hassakeh governorate – UNICEF resumed its operations via one of its implementing partners.
- UNFPA's response to the needs of IDPs from Aleppo in Al-Hasakah and Raqqah governorates, 3 – 9 December 2024: On 8 December, partners were unable to reach service delivery points due to the prevailing security situation. Similarly, on 9 December only a limited number of partners were able to provide services. Despite challenges, a total of 3,433 beneficiaries were reached with SRH and GBV services. Clean Delivery Kits and sanitary napkins were distributed.
- Health Cluster Gaziantep released its regular update on the situation. Please see attached.
- Health sector is updating the list of MoH and MoHE public and private health facilities in Damascus city/Jebel Saman with Type, Functionality, Accessibility, and Damage status as of November 2024 before the current change in control and hostilities in GoS areas. Please see attached.

Contact information:

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- Mr Azret Kalmykov, a.i. Sub-national Health Sector Coordinator, **Qamishli, north-east Syria**, kalmykova@who.int
- Dr Wafaa Altajjar, a.i. Sub-national Health Sector Coordinator, **Lattakia / Tartous**, altajjarw@who.int
- Dr Anas Aljoury, Sub-national Health Sector Coordinator, **Deir-ez-Zoir**, aljourym@who.int
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Annex 1. DINGO Statement

Damascus, 9 December 2024

Statement by the Damascus INGO Forum

The Damascus INGO (DINGO) Forum acknowledged the profound significance of this moment as Syria enters a period of unprecedented political change following the fall of the Syrian Government on December 8 and reaffirmed its commitment to continue supporting the people of Syria.

While this marks a pivotal shift, the ongoing humanitarian crisis remains dire, with over 16 million Syrians still in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. DINGO Forum urges all actors to prioritise the safety, and needs of Syrian civilians during this crucial transitional period.

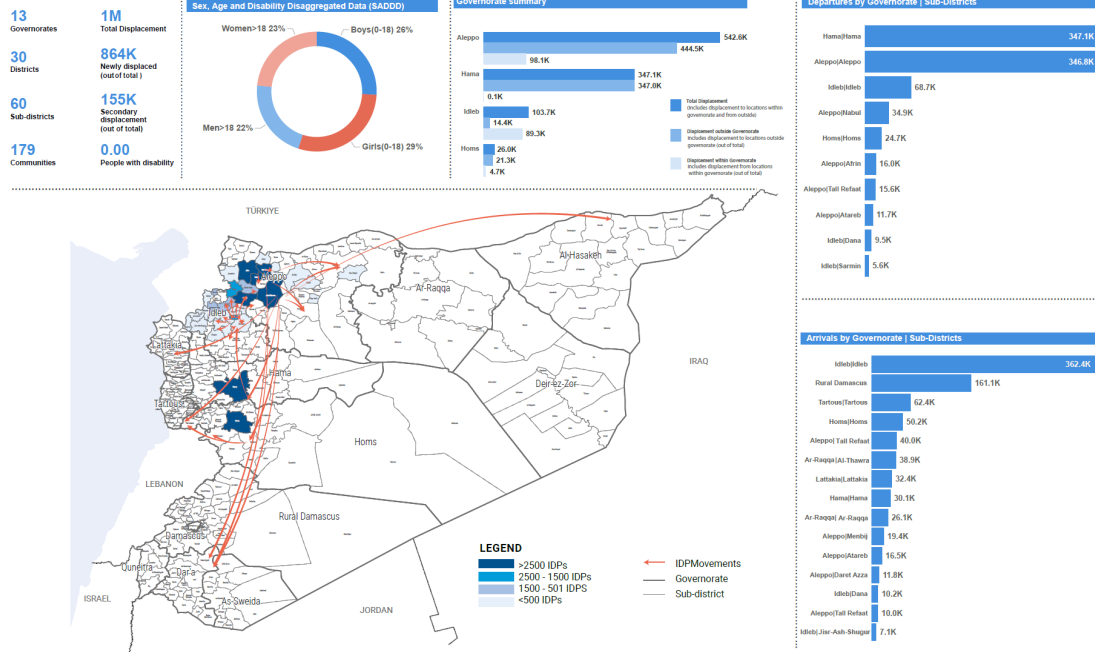
With a long-standing presence on the ground, DINGO members remain fully committed to maintaining operations and providing critical support. Since November 27, hostilities have displaced nearly 400,000 individuals. Many have relocated to the northeast, while others remain in front-line areas with limited options for leaving. As we navigate this period of uncertainty, the DINGOs agencies remain committed in its mission, standing united in solidarity, as it has since the onset of the crisis, and emphasize the importance of being actively engaged in dialogues with relevant stakeholders.

As we look ahead, the DINGO Forum underscores the importance of fostering conditions for a peaceful, inclusive, and sustainable future in Syria. This includes rebuilding essential infrastructure, ensuring returns of internally displaced persons and refugees remain safe, voluntary, and dignified, and investing in opportunities that empower Syrians to rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience.

The DINGO Forum calls the international community, including donors, to respond promptly and decisively in supporting the Syrian people wherever they may be during this pivotal moment.

Damascus INGO Forum.

Annex 2. IDP Displacement as shared by OCHA Turkiye



Annex 3. List of public health facilities in Damascus District as of November 2024, prior to the latest escalation

District	Sub-District	Name		Type	Status	Access	Condition
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Bassel Heart Institute	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Ebn An-Nafis hospital	MoH	General	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Kidney hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Ophthalmology hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Damascus hospital	MoH	General	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology	MoH	Specialized	Partially functioning	Accessible	Partially damaged
Damascus	Damascus	Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynecology	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Az-Zahrawy hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Ebn Rushd Psychiatric hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Red Crescent hospital	MoH	General	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Assad university hospital	MoH	General	Fully functioning	Hard to access	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Mowasa university hospital	MoH	General	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	General Authority for Pediatric Hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Hard to access	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Hospital of Maxillofacial Surgery	MoH	Specialized	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	University Cardiovascular Surgical hospital	MoH	Specialized	Fully functioning	Hard to access	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Mazze	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Qadam_Ad-Dahadil	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Masaken Barze	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Polyclinics	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Al-Arin	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascus	Damascus	Dummar Al-Balad	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact

Damascu s	Damascu s	Junoud Al-Assad	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Mashrou'a Dummar	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Adnan Al-M'erbani	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Ahmad Sh'aban	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Kaboun	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Barze Al-Jadid	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Centre Against Rabies	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Eish Al-Warwar	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Kemareya	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Dwel'a	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Hay Belal	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Mahmoud Khalil	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Partially damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Training for care	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Abed Al-Karim Al-Ayoubi	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Abu Jarash	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Bassam Abboud	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Mahmoud Barazi	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Muhammad Ali Al-Nouri	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Zein Al-Abideen	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Zuheir Houbbi	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	8-Azar	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Abed Al-Guani Najib	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Zuhour	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Ath-Thawra	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Hay Al-Tadamon	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Specialist	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Training for Anti-Tuberculosis	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Ad-Dahadil	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Adib Al-Lahham Specialist Dental	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Hussein Khattab	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Kafer Souse Al-Jadid	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Muhammad Al-Ashmar	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Naser Al-Din Hussein	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Not functioning	Accessible	Partially damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Nasser Kan'an	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	7-April	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Adawi	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Amara	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	As-Sadat	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Centre counseling and voluntary testing	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	International Vaccine	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact

Damascu s	Damascu s	Jobar Al-Jadid	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Not functioning	Inaccessibl e	Fully damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Jobar Al-quadim	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Not functioning	Inaccessibl e	Fully damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Jobar to Natural Obstetrics	MoH	Specialization Center	Not functioning	Inaccessibl e	Fully damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Sarouja	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Specialist centre for the diagnosis of infectious diseases	MoH	Specialization Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Abed Allah Al-Kafarsousi	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Not functioning	Accessible	Fully damaged
Damascu s	Damascu s	Abi Zar Al-Gafari	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Al-Somareya	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Fayez Mansour	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Hay 86	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Fully functioning	Accessible	Intact
Damascu s	Damascu s	Radio and TV	MoH	Primary Health Care Center	Partially functioning	Accessible	Intact