

**IMPR HUMANITARIAN  
ANALYSIS & REPORTS**

**NO:14**



# **KOBANI**

**SITUATION ANALYSES  
&  
NEED ASSESMENT**



# KOBANI

## SITUATION ANALYSES NEED ASSESSMENT



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*Since September, 2014 Kobani was under siege and heavy bombardments, the damage driven by the war blocked off people from accessing to their basic needs from any field. During the war, about 220 thousand people were obliged to evacuate their houses from Kobani city centre and settlements which belong to Kobani Canton. After ISIS forces were defeated, a new period of civil returning has started in January and February.*

*UNHCR, AFAD, Suruç Municipality, IMPR Humanitarian, INGOs and other NGOs have provided food, water, shelter, protection and warm place for the people of Kobani who have displaced to Suruç. Some of the families how have passed to Kobani were very shocked with the situation of the city because there is not enough food, shelter, tents, water, medicine, etc.*

*The number of the population have reached about 18 thousand of the returnees in the (from border) date of March 3th 2015, and the people who stayed in Kobani despite the aggravated circumstances of the war, who are about 10 thousand people. Thus, the number of civil people who settled in Kobani Canton has reached 30 thousand civilians. Within the scope of the IMPR Humanitarian operations within the border regions and Suruç, it has witnessed the ongoing preparations of returns.*

*It is stated that the number of the returnees will reach the number of 50 thousand in end of March and will reach up to 90 thousand as soon as the weather gets warmer.*

# IMPR Humanitarian Observation Inside Kobani

ISIS destroyed considerable settlements part of Kobani and the surroundings by using long range guns, mines and tanks. Besides, the rescue operation against ISIS, the city and settlements came across with detriment. In Kobani in the pre-war period, people who could meet their harboring, food, health, education and basic needs on a limited scale, with the destruction and ruin of the post-war in the region have perished the lives and the access of the basic needs of the returner civilians.

While the agriculture and livestock were annihilated, ISIS stole people belongings and savings as remnants of war. During the negotiations realized in Kobani, it has stated by the local sources that ISIS members stole the ferrous of the houses, agriculture, means of transport and even the cows and chickens in the villages. It is identified that almost 90% of the settlements in the city center and the rest of the city were damaged after the war. Heretofore, 270 villages had been rescued, only in 60 villages families are settled and the rest are still empty.

The cities and the villages where mainly returnees and settled families are as follows: Bendır village, Tılxezal village, Kahne Mürşide, Mektaba Reş, Şehit Çektar.

Regarding the return of the civilians, the places of settlement are usually Kobani's eastern districts, Turkey's border of Mürşitpınar, Kahne Mürşide and some of the villages in the East, West and South which are 10 km away from Kobani. Families who return are placed into these areas but if the house has an owner then the owner is called and given the information that a family is going to be replaced in their house.

Thereabouts 18 thousand people have entered through legal means from Mürşitpınar border and between 2-3 thousand people have actually entered illegally as it is stated.

The ones who use legal transmission are comprised of families and the illegal entrance is usually done by the youths and local individuals. The ones who are curious about Kobani's situation, get back to Turkey after that the use of the illegal entrance because they know that when they give their ID cards they cannot come back.



*Composed of the families who stay in the villages of Suruç, are in a vulnerable situation, stay in tents, lose their relatives and who couldn't survive in the big cities such as Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa.*

## Returning Process: Observation in the Borders

At the beginning of March, IMPR Humanitarian field team in his close following up for the returning of Kobani people and in a field visit observations. Mirshit Pinar cross border gate witnessed over 200 Turkish vehicles, Syrian personal cars, and minibuses filled with people from Kobani and crossing the Turkish borders to Kobani, These people are estimated to be 2000 persons and adding this number to our pervious number we will have 18.000 people who have returned back to Kobani. The cross border gate is open people who want to return to Kobani.

- Families: Composed of the families who stay in the villages of Suruç, are in a vulnerable situation, stay in tents, lose their relatives and who couldn't survive in the big cities such as Gaziantep and Şanlıurfa. During our interviewed with people at the border, generally they are coming to from Suruç, Mardin, Gaziantep, Diyarbakir, Osmaniye and Adana to crossing the border.
- The Turkish minibuses and mini trucks are taking 150TL for each crossing that they do, this is considerably a very high cost for taking the families into Kobani, taking the fact that these trucks and buses only go 10 to 15 Km from Suruc and its villages to Mürşitpınar gate.
- There were two security check points by the Turkish military forces one in Mürşitpınar park and the other in the entrance of Mürşitpınar cross border gate. The YPG and YPJ forces are receiving the people in the other side and emptying the Turkish vehicles in a safe place near the border and sending them back to the Turkish lands, only the Turkish drives were given permission to cross the borders to Kobani and back to Turkey.

*Individuals Entrance:* Composed of people who come from Gaziantep, Şanlıurfa and other cities. Volunteer work and supporters who would like to return are included in this, as well.



## Situation of Kobani

The conflict lasted in Kobani for 5 months till now, and it left us with hundreds of dead people, thousands of psychological cases, thousands of injured people and very difficult life stories of many people. The means of the Return back to Kobani is regain the their country but also the people have started to go back to Kobani knowing that a very difficult life await them. Because there is no food, water, shelter or anything to relay on in their life in Kobani.

PYD/YPG provide the food to the people who went back to the Kobani. But after the increase the number of the people in Kobani, PYD / YPG explained that they cannot support the food for all people because of the less capacity and means. Food support cannot continue regularly because of the lack of the food items.

1 out of 3 black ovens are functional to make bread in Kobani. This one black oven has 8 lines but just 2 lines are working to make bread.

Now, we can say that between 80% and 90% of the city has been destroyed, others has been damaged by the war.

The houses trees, gardens and the presence of the trap bomb placed in open areas used by civilians are not able move at all from their location. Until now, between 13-15 people lost their lives, due to a total of 5 trap bomb in villages or cities. This incident took place at a time when there are 10 thousand civilians, the number of civilians is increasing every day and it will lead growth of the danger.

Although it was faced less damage in homes in settlements outside Kobani, plunder home supplies, the village livestock, agricultural products and materials, foods by ISIS power; to accessing the clear water and food problems, seriously affected the human.

Actually Kobani which burned, damaged and looted after the end of the siege, it has been facing a new war: hunger, thirst, disease, and cold. Calls for assistance from the international community that has not responded yet.

Daily, the electricity can be given only the 3 hour in the evenings in Kobani. The electricity is given just for bakeries that cover the basic needs and water wells that are used for generator services.

Former water wells that obtained clean water are polluted, access to clean water is very difficult because of the new water wells are not deep enough nor covered. Water wells that are newly functioning are able to benefit in maximum for half an hour after that new water wells should be opened.

Generator that Kobani people have, can be used just for the water wells to remove water from the wells.

While daily 6 tons of bread a day was enough before starting to return the Kobani, now, 10 tons of the bread is made by local bakeries. Considering the numerical increase of the return that will be experienced in March, a serious need flour arises in Kobani. The field team performed the meeting with the Council of the Co-Chair of the Kobani.

The flour need was expressed that become very important in this meeting. Official representing of the city expressed that new electric oven will be completed, however they also stated that there is not enough flour to make bread.

There is a serious problem of the fuel in the city. Finding of the gasoline and fuel problems emerges as a separately problem.

There is one market opening at the moment.

Hospitals and health clinics were damaged. ISIS took all of the medical devices.

Epidemic illness, rabies etc... are a direct threat to the civilians life.

Another issue that was fully articulated during the field research is about farm land. Because Farm land will remain as an unusable land in coming 1-2 years. The reason is that mines, howitzer and bombs placed on the ground and removing all of them will take time.

The work to cleaning the city from the corpses began. But it takes much time because of the mines placed under corpses. There are a lot of corpses, so cleaning the roads should be with trucks (dozer) and in collective form. In this point, lack of truck gives bad influences on these works. Smelling of the corpses are relatively less in winter time. But after sunny days, the smelling of the corpses is going to increase.

Housefly issue started after the corpses. This kind of events could increase especially during the sunny days. According to the observation, housefly is seen in the city center and boundary area. Unless measures are taken, housefly issue starts to affect Suruç. Housefly issue directly affects body, such as swelling arm and injury could recover with just emergency action.

All of the educational units and materials were damaged. There is a deficiency for qualified personnel; such as doctor, teacher, engineer etc. in Kobani.

## Basic Needs

### Shelters

While 80-90% of locations in the Kobani center became unusable, the rest of the locations were damaged. Therefore, local authorities request shelter tent. Firstly, local authorities of Kobani requested for tent city in Mişta Nur elevation for 1000 people , Barzani Relief Fund responded to this call and sent 1000 tents. But after the last return, the amounts of tents remain insufficient. Building tent cities in different places (for example, Tilşehir) of the city is on the agenda.

General settlement and structuring, micro and general security survey such as howitzer, mines and man-trap should be made for opening reoccupation of the villages. International team should urgently start to operation to clean the ground from the man-traps.

### Food

Access to main food material of the population that set in city center is almost impossible. Thereby, there is an urgent need for sending aid materials to each families to Kobani. The families which returned to Kobani have tried to handle with the limited materials. In case of finishing these materials, war against the hunger will start for Kobani people.

Before the return to Kobani, six ton bread within a day was sufficient but nowadays ten ton bread was produced. Taking into consideration that the returning rate of next months will increase, there will be growing need for flour. We have reached needs of flour as a result of IMPR field assistants' meeting with Kobani parliament co-chair. Besides building baker's in the city center is going to be a remarkable contribution to meet the needs. In conjunction with this, needs to flour and wood will be go up.

There is a big problem for the access to clean water. Therefore, digging a well in the city were increasing requirement. In addition to this, building dust removal plants on Fırat River, disinfestations to water, creating water supply networks and providing water supply cars are vital to overcome these problems.

Food allowance for tent city is on the agenda. Because of this, providing food materials is important. Providing home, product for kitchen and food materials are growing need in the villages. Otherwise, non-food assistance is carrying big importance for the population in villages. Farms animals for provision of the requirements. Baby food should be provided in order to overcome nutrition problem for children because of the inadequate food intake. After making cultivated area eligible, providing mowing machines is a big need.

## Health

Every health clinics, pharmacies and hospitals were demolished in and around Kobani, every materials within them were plundered. General hospital should urgently be built and necessary materials should be provided in a short time.

There is no equipment and specialist team apart from 3 volunteer doctors that interfere emergency patient. Because of this, if it is possible, necessary apparatus and health team who are specialist on different subjects should be promoted. There is not medicine except painkiller. Grand medicine distribution store should be built for meeting needs and necessary drugs should be provided. There is big requirement for general and special cleaning materials. Cleaning materials for especially women and children should be provided immediately.

General ambulance should be delivered. NVaccine for lyssa and tetanus should be provided. Indication like itchiness reveals. Disinfestations of the city for especially house fly should be implemented in a general meaning.

## Education

There were regular educational system without university before the war, space assignment was currently made for two foreign foundations in order for building educational training unit. Safe units for education are needed. Safety educational and training places for 2-6, under and above 18 years of age are required. Needs of main and individual training materials were addressed.

## Main Materials

Service trucks such as garbage truck, water tank truck and ambulances should be provided for municipal services. Some of important service trucks are no longer functional and the others were carried away by ISIS. combine harvester, tractor for agriculture and wheat, lentil and the other seeds to be planted should be provided. Main education, health and public administration units should be built urgently. Water system in the city center has become undrinkable for one year. Repairing the system could play vital role for access to clean water.

## Public Services

- Volunteers and YPG are providing these services by cleaning the streets. The city needs 100 heavy vehicles for six months at least to clean city
- There is an association called The High Committee of Rebuilding Kobani belonging to PYD and they are taking pictures and making assessments of the destroyed facilities to send these information and pictures to donors and people who are interested in rebuilding the city
- There is also another independent committee called Rebuilding of Kobani Committee
- Heavy vehicles are needed to clean the city from the dead bodies

## ERW

The city needs a professional team to demine the ERW and mines in Kobani. A lot of people who got returned were injured by the Mines, some say that Bishmarga forces are demining some mines and ERW for the people who are returning, there are 02 teams, one from Peshmerga engineers and the other team is from YPG. But they need professional team. The teams who are working in removing the mines are few in numbers and cannot help the people who are living in villages because the villages also were mined. The teams do not demine any places by themselves, they do it if a family demands the team to come and clean their house 18 persons are dead and 33 are injured due to ERW and mines.

## Fuel and Gas

There is no fuel whatsoever for the people in Kobani, there is no Gas at all, but there is petrol because the people used it in the agriculture, the houses are mined and my neighbor in Aligor is one example, he got injured badly, while opening a door inside his houses which means that ISIS deliberately mined all the houses. Gas and Gas cans are missing because ISIS stole them and turned them into explosive bombs.

IMPR Humanitarian teams still working in the Suruç and Kobani.

### First Level of Aid

- Food
- Water
- Shelter

### Second Level of Aid

- Medical Supplies and Medicines
- Hygiene Kits
- NFI Kits
- Mines and ERW Risk Education

### Third Level of Aid

- Psychological support
- Education and it's materials
- Rebuilding house, services, services material hospitals, schools, bakehouse



## ABOUT IMPR HUMANITARIAN

IMPR Humanitarian is a humanitarian, non-governmental, non-profit organisation founded in Turkey that works especially in Turkey, Syria, and KRG. IMPR Humanitarian aims to promote human rights and humanitarian assistance with support of the operational projects. IMPR Humanitarian fulfils its mandate by providing direct assistance to conflict-affected populations. Within this frame, IMPR has partnership and coordination with national and international communities to have humanitarian assistance activities in the area where displaced communities have been living. IMPR has been carrying the humanitarian assistance programs in close collaboration with national and international communities. Under its mandate, IMPR Humanitarian focuses on protection, relief, rehabilitation, post-conflict recovery, capacity-building, humanitarian mine-action, and advocacy. Humanitarian imperative, neutrality, impartiality as main principle of IMPR Humanitarian.