

Side Event on Area Based Resilience Programming

When: 14:00hrs to 15:45hrs Brussels time on 5th May (105 mins)

Where: Conference room, 7th floor of the UN house in Brussels/Zoom (link to be shared)

The Syrian Arab Republic is facing what remains one of the world's most complex emergencies, with the highest level of humanitarian needs since the crisis began, continued internal and external displacement, widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure in urban and rural areas with disastrous impacts on development gains in the country. Given the well-documented, recent increase in people's needs, especially in terms of food security, access to basic services and livelihoods as a result of stark socio-economic decline, the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Syria is making concerted efforts to scale up multi-year resilience and recovery programming to more effectively and sustainably meet the needs of vulnerable populations.

Resilience interventions are a core component of effective responses to complex and protracted crises, not just to respond to needs and vulnerabilities, but also to pursue approaches that simultaneously seek to restore basic services, ensure mobility and access, stimulate economic recovery and livelihoods and enhance social cohesion and protection. Multi-year and area-based resilience assistance is becoming an evermore vital part of the UN's response to Syria's 12 year-long humanitarian crisis.

Against this backdrop, the UNCT has defined its core approach to resilience assistance in Syria, to ensure that it is effective and integrated, but also human rights-based and people-centered, promoting local ownership and sustainability. Moderated by Mr. Imran Riza – UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria – and bringing together several resident UN agencies working on resilience programming, as well as the Chief of Party for the INGO-led Syria Resilience Consortium, this side event on the margins of the Brussels 6 Conference for Syria and the region will discuss the UNCT Syria's approach, its key principles and how the UN and other actors are, with demonstrated results, making concerted efforts to deliver resilience assistance in a coherent, complementary and principled manner.

Format: Panel discussion

Language: English

Registration: Please register, and indicate if you will attend in person or on-line via Zoom (link to be provided upon registration: <https://forms.gle/iktsdThR3NXewzWz8>)

Agenda:

14:00 hrs. Opening Remarks by **Dr. Dan Stoenescu**, EU Chargé d'affaires to Syria

14:10 hrs. Introduction: UN's approach to resilience assistance in Syria by **Mr. Imran Riza**, UN RC/HC Syria

14:20 hrs. Panel discussion: Moderator: **Imran Riza** UN RC/HC

Panelists: **Ramla Khalidi** UNDP Syria Resident Representative

Mike Robson FAO Syria Representative

Ryan Knox UN Habitat Chief Technical Advisor/Head of Syria Programme

Hisashi Izumi UN Joint Programme Manager, RCO Syria

Eric Carlberg Syria Resilience Consortium Chief of Party

Disclaimer: Views, thoughts, and opinions expressed during the side events reflect solely those of the speakers/organisers and do not constitute endorsement by the EU and the UN.