



GBV AoR  
Whole of Syria

# Using data to improve the GBV Response in Syria

SVRI – Cape Town

22 October 2019





The aim of ***Voices from Syria*** is to support the development and implementation of humanitarian programmes to prevent and respond to Gender based violence across the whole of Syria response. It is also intended to be a resource for humanitarian workers programming in other sectors to understand the risk of GBV that need to be mitigated throughout the response.

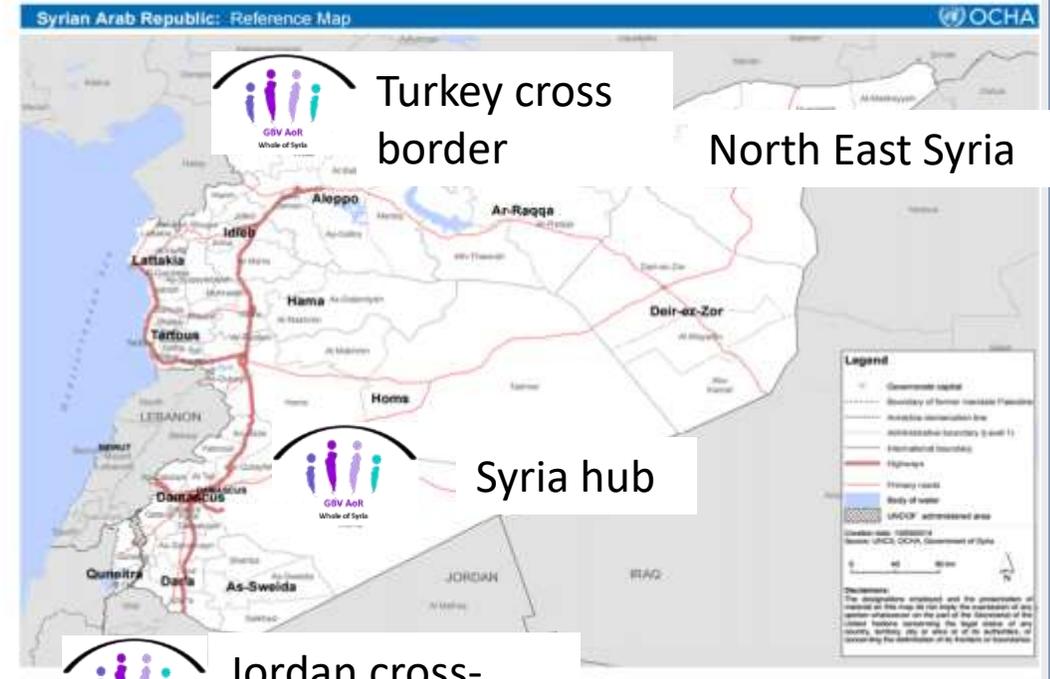


# Background

2015 First Syria Humanitarian Response Plan. In order to have an HRP you need a humanitarian needs overview to inform the plan.

- No data on GBV (limited assessments from INGO, but no one wanted to share them)
- Challenging context
  - Security
  - Lack of partners
  - No trust between the response
  - Lack of approvals to conduct assessments
  - Unreliable multisectorial quantitative data

## Whole of Syria Operation



# Methodology

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## *FOCUS ON QUALITATIVE DATA*

### **Tools:**

- Community Focus group discussions (Women, Men, Adolescent girls, Adolescent boys)
- GBV Expert Focus Group Discussions (Delphi method) – at WoS, hub levels and subnational levels

### **Sampling**

**Training of partners-** remote FGD training tool.

**Data collected** by protection partners (GBV, Protection Child protection, Mine action) in Arabic

**Translation** of all FGDs

**Data entry** using maxqda qualitative analysis tool + secondary sources such as reports (Commission of inquiry)

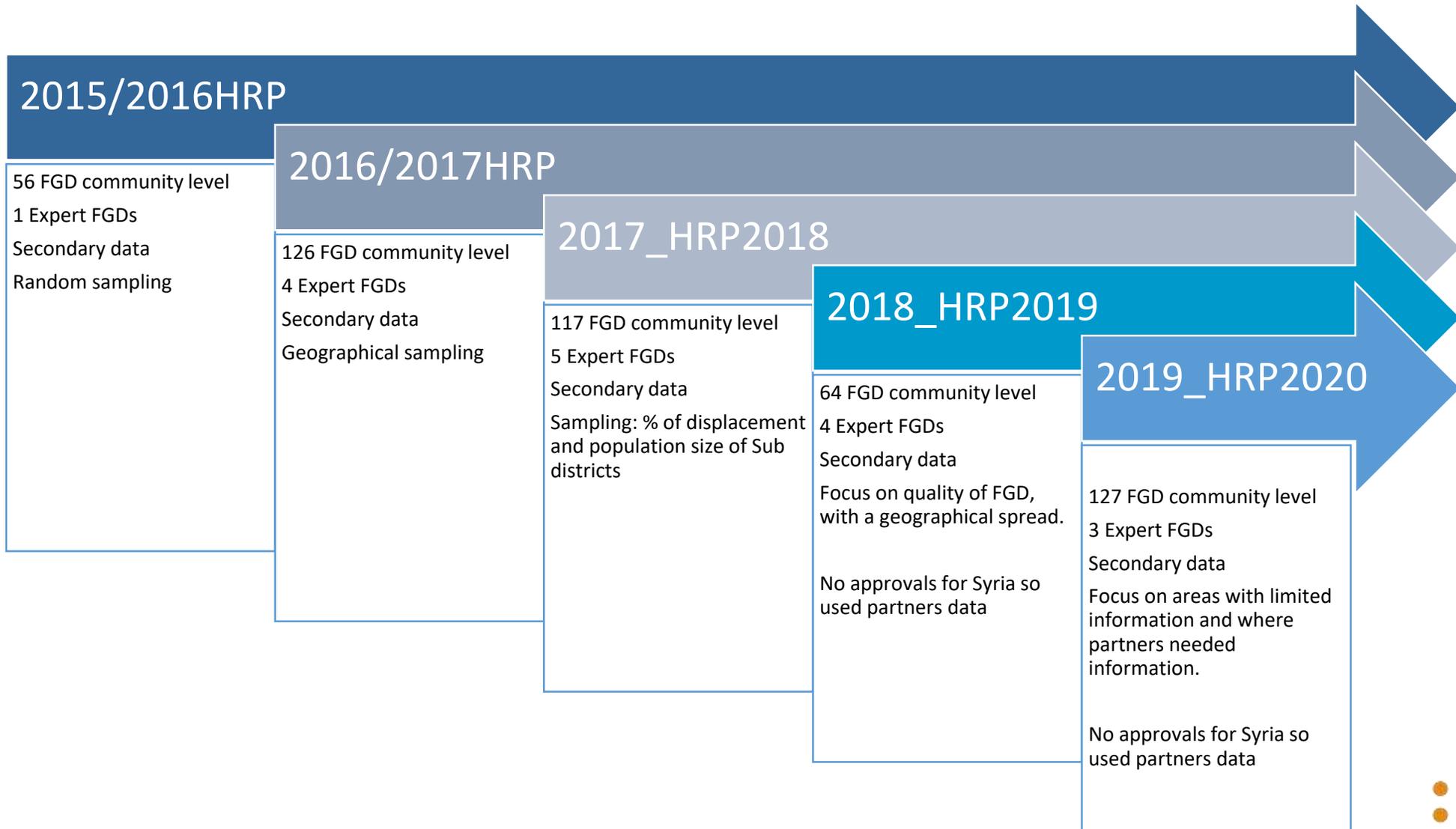
**Analysis** for the HNO and for Voices fro Syria



### **Data collection/ Analysis focus on:**

- Type of violence
- Negative Coping mechanisms affecting women and girls
- Availability and access to services for women and girls and survivors of GBV
- Movement restrictions
- Risks in accessing Aid

# Timeline and details of data collection and sampling



# IN HER WORDS

***“The biggest violence we see is that women and girls are forbidden from going outside the home. They are not allowed to share their opinions and are not allowed to have a decision.”*** — Adolescent girl, Syria

***“At work, girls and women are subjected to violence by men, forcing them to work hard on farmland, taking away the money they earn by force and favoring hard labor over education.”***

Adolescent girl, North East Syria

***“People who suffer the most violence are us girls. We are used to this. We are starting to think that it is normal, that this part of raising us and part of the culture where we are raised in”***

— Women from Idleb, North West Syria

***“We girls and women are the most oppressed. I think a little bit more repression and they will hold us accountable for the breaths we take.”***

— Adolescent girl in Syria

***Sexual violence and raping children and harassing them at schools is widespread, to an extent that mothers feel afraid of sending their children to schools..”***

— Woman, Aleppo, North West Syria

# Impact

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*Voices form Syria* has highlighted the voices of women and girls that are often invisible in the response

*Voices form Syria* has improved the response. It helped GBV organizations have the information they need to target their interventions to address GBV. Donors confirmed that it has supported them in knowing what and where to fund.

*Voices form Syria* has provided the ‘*evidence*’ to the humanitarian leadership on the protection situation of women and girls in Syria to advocate on behalf of the GBV AoR for improved gender and GBV mainstreaming and for GBV to be one of the non-negotiable issues to be addressed by all humanitarian actors.



*“We have been able to use Voices from Syria to develop our the Syria humanitarian business case”. Donor*

*“it was very helpful with external engagement particularly senior management and other sectors”  
GBV AoR member*

**Survey from the members of the GBV coordinating groups**  
85.19% found it helped design and/or adapt interventions,  
88% of said it helped with advocacy on GBV issues,  
100% helped to understand the types of violence,  
92% of to identify affected populations,  
75% of said it helped identify coping mechanisms,  
85.71% said it helped to identify areas to improve interventions.



# Key takeaways

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- Consider using qualitative data for humanitarian needs overviews (HNO) to inform humanitarian response plans.
- Consider producing a report in addition to the HNO to avoid limiting the information needed for programming.
- Focus on achievements and be clear on your intended audience
- Produce a separate advocacy report.

A photograph showing the back of a woman's head and shoulders as she looks out a window. The view outside the window shows a landscape with rolling hills and a town, under a sky with soft, colorful clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

*"We long for peace and a place that feels like home once again. As mothers, we want to feel like our children have a future that does not look like our present."*

**Asma, a Syrian women from Qamishli**