

In neighbouring Kilis province, the municipality and NGOs also set up several schools that employ Syrian teachers.<sup>1</sup>

(North Syria) aid is given to known, trusted people in the buffer zone (...).<sup>2</sup>

more than 40 camps were operational for the internally displaced people (IDPs) on the Syrian side of the border, housing around 100,000 people, although numbers change as new camps are built and others closed.<sup>3</sup>

Health issues are beginning to be addressed; a Turkish NGO said it has several hospitals and ambulances in northern Syria and also plans to move in three mobile hospitals from Turkey.<sup>4</sup>

Several NGOs admit they often need to negotiate with hostile groups to distribute their aid.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> One school set up by International Blue Crescent in Kilis can take 1,350 Syrian children. They also have several psychosocial education centers for children with a capacity of 1,200. Crisis Group interview, Muzaffer Baca, vice president, Istanbul, January 2014.

<sup>2</sup> The head of a Turkey-based NGO said they work with relief committees inside Syria: "We make sure it gets where it is supposed to. We trust our Syrian contacts, most of them have relatives in shelters in Turkey. They would not do [us] wrong". Crisis Group interview, Muzaffer Baca, International Blue Crescent vice president, Istanbul, January 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Turkish aid organisation International Blue Crescent is also active in Aleppo, Raqqa, Hasaka and Homs in northern Syria, working with Syrian relief committees, distributing various supplies including hygiene and startup kits. Crisis Group interview, Muzaffer Baca, vice president, Istanbul, January 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Crisis Group interview, Muzaffer Baca, International Blue Crescent vice president, Istanbul, January 2014.

<sup>5</sup> "Mostly we can negotiate our way across using our Syrian negotiators, but you can't always do that. Sometimes you don't want to give what the other side is asking for". Crisis Group interview, Muzaffer Baca, International Blue Crescent vice president, Istanbul, January 2014.