

FIRST URGENT LIST OF ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF KOBANÊ CANTON

For the purpose of correctly assessing the level of damages to the canton, the Kobanê Reconstruction Board (KRB) was established in late January 2015, with the aim of establishing an accurate assessment of damages with the aid of international experts. The KRB has produced a detailed report and references satellite mapping images from UNITAR for the purpose of determining the nature of the damage in the Kobanê Canton¹. The report details essential services in urgent need of reconstruction. Work is currently underway with these experts to determine the entirety of the damage to the canton, but initial assessments indicate close to 80% of the canton is severely to moderately damaged. These initial assessments indicate that further work is required before Kobanê is functional again and able to accommodate the returning refugees adequately.

The number of returning refugees to Kobanê indicates an urgent need for international support, aid, and materials required to begin immediate reconstructions. According to UNHCR following the ISIS attacks since 2013 especially from 15 September 2014, it is estimated that well over 200, 000 refugees fled from Kobanê and surrounding villages into Turkey. With Kobanê's liberation thousands of these refugees have left their refugee camps in the bordering Turkish state, creating an urgent need for basic services and supplies such as food, medicine, clean drinking water and winter clothes. Hundreds of refugees cross the border and return to Kobanê daily, creating a constant flow of traumatized returning refugees in critical need of basic services and essential infrastructure. Currently over 25, 000 civilians live or have returned to the city and surrounding villages, but they lack basic services, clean water and food.

Assessment of Damages to Kobanê Canton, Syria:

Using satellite imagery acquired between the periods of 6th of September, 2014-22nd of January 2015, UNITAR / UNOSAT has identified a total of 3,167 affected structures within the area of this map, with well over three quarters including essential infrastructure and service building necessary for affective administration of the canton. The attached map illustrates satellite-detected damage and destruction in large portions of the city of Kobanê.

¹ Rojava, Kurdistan in Syria.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT OF KOBANE, ALEPPO GOVERNORATE, SYRIA

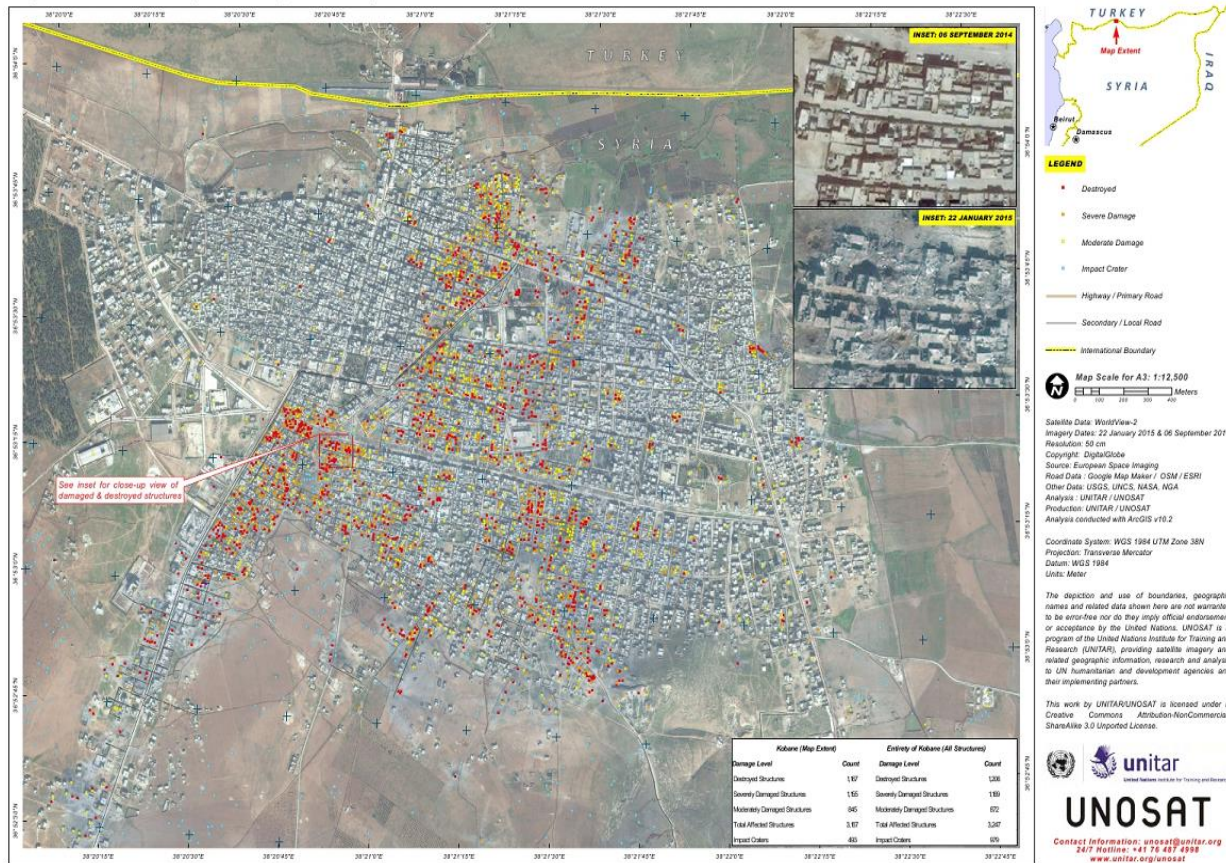
Analysis with WorldView-2 Data Acquired 22 January 2015 and 06 September 2014

This map illustrates satellite-detected damage and destruction in a portion of the city of Kobane, Aleppo Governorate, Syria. Using satellite imagery acquired 22 January 2015 and 06 September 2014, UNSTAR/UNOSAT identified a total of 3,167 affected structures within the area of this map. Approximately 1,167 of these were destroyed, 1,155 severely damaged, and 845 moderately damaged.

The city-wide analysis of Kobane revealed a total of 3,247 affected structures, of which 1,206 were destroyed, 1,169 severely damaged, and 872 moderately damaged. A total of 979 impact craters were also identified within Kobane and its immediate surroundings. This is a preliminary analysis and has not yet been validated in the field. Please send ground feedback to UNSTAR/UNOSAT.

Complex Emergency

Production Date: 2/11/2015
Version 1.0
Activation Number: CE201306043YR



According to the attached satellite images, the portion of Kobanê pictured demonstrates that approximately 1,167 of the infrastructure and service buildings were destroyed, 1,155 severely damaged, and 845 moderately damaged. A greater analysis of the canton of Kobanê reveals a total of 3,247 affected structures, of which 1,206 were destroyed entirely, 1,169 severely damaged, and 872 moderately damaged. A total of 979 impact craters were also identified within the city and its immediate surroundings. This analysis of the entirety of the canton and surrounding locations is a preliminary analysis and is yet to be validated more concretely in the field.

Kobanê Map Extent		Entirety of Kobanê (All Structures)	
Damage Level	Count	Damage Level	Count
Destroyed structures	1,167	Destroyed structures	1206
Several Damaged structures	1,155	Several Damaged structures	1169
Moderately damaged structures	845	Moderately damaged structures	872
Total Affected structures	3,167	Total Affected structures	3247
Impact craters	493	Impact craters	979

Essential Infrastructure for Reconstruction of Kobanê:

Infrastructure:

A systematic policy of the Syrian regime for the Kurdish majority towns such as Kobanê, was to depend on neighboring towns and cities (Mimbej, Sirrin and Shekhlar) for its drinking water, electricity and flour production mills.

The terrorist organization ISIS controlled the surrounding towns and villages for well over two years, resulting in the deliberate tactic of destroying and cutting the flow of clean water, electricity and flour production mills and factories.

The Kobanê Canton Administration (KCA) considered alternatives as a matter of urgency. The resulting solution was to rely on water production from ground wells, which were then purified and distributed via the previously existing networks. However, two months into the production of this alternative system, ISIS deliberately targeted these infrastructures.

	Situation
Water	Not clean
Electricity	Not functional for over one year
Flour Factory ²	Destroyed entirely

Consequently, Kobanê currently has no clean drinking water and all drinking water servicing 25, 000 civilians remain unpurified. The sewage system and electricity networks inside the city are also destroyed entirely. The combination of these issues could lead to serious health crises and lack of food security within the city.

Health care:

Previous to the ISIS attacks, Kobanê had four functioning hospitals servicing an estimated 500, 000 civilians. Following the conflict, two of these hospitals were destroyed entirely, and the last two have acquired damages ranging between 20 – 50% to their infrastructure.

A number of private clinics and pharmacies have also seen damages considered severe to moderate. Consequently, there is a critical need for infrastructure that can provide medical and health care to thousands of existing and returning civilians in the city and the country side.

Services	Number	Destroyed	Damaged
Hospital	4	2 completely	2 have damages over 50%
Pharmacy	8	completely	-
Private clinics	3	completely	-

² According to the Syrian Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) wheat is the most important staple food commodity in the country and is consumed primarily as bread. It is essential to note that the Rojava region also produces an estimated 70% of the grains for all of Syria, and its currently debilitated infrastructure has a state wide impact on food security and production.

Education:

Previous to the conflict, Kobanê had 19 functioning schools from elementary to high school level. Post-conflict, 4 of these schools have been destroyed entirely, with 15 having received damages ranging from 20-80% of their infrastructure.

In the surrounding 300 villages all schools and educational institutions have been destroyed entirely.

Schools	Number	Damage	Destroyed
In Kobanê city center	19	15 schools have 20-80%	4 entirely
In Village	300	-	Destroyed

Short Term Services and Need:**Temporary Refugee Camp:**

Due to the large flow of returning refugees, the ongoing tentative nature of the security situation, the deliberate planting of mines in surrounding villages, and the lack of available services and infrastructure the Kobanê Reconstruction Board is proposing the necessity of preparing 40 acres of land in the west of the city for the purpose of setting up a temporary tent city to house civilians. The most critical of these situations according to Kobanê's Minister of Defense and Self-protection is the nature of the land mines planted which prevents the returning refugees from returning to their homes. Until the mines are safely removed it is possible that the refugees will need to be housed long term in the tent city. For these reasons, the camp requires having two medical points, four tent schools, security points and other necessary public services. The necessity and significance of the tent city remains one of the most critical points for aid and support from the international community.

	Number
Tents	1000
Schools	4
Medical points	2
Hygienic Services	500

Finally;

KRB will continue to assess the situation on the ground, but we stress the urgency of the humanitarian situation and the necessity of immediate support, aid and supplies. In order to achieve these goals and objectives KRB urges the international community, human rights organizations, aid organizations and NGOs, including the European Union (EU) and Members States as well as the United Nations (UN) to help facilitate a safe `*humanitarian corridor*` from Turkey to Kobanê Canton. While the international community has provided significant levels of support and aid, these necessary materials have remained within the borders of the Turkish state and have not been passed on to the Cantons. KRB stresses the importance of a safe humanitarian corridor to allow the passage of necessary supplies to the civilians and returning refugees.

Kobanê's historical resistance is, and has been, in defense of humanity and acts *as a corridor to prevent the spread of ISIS into Europe*. But the resistance continues, and the Kurdish Defense Forces continue to fight for the liberation of innocent civilians from the ongoing ISIS threat in the Middle East.

- Therefore the reconstruction of Kobanê and international aid and support will serve two important purposes in this conflict.
- It will demonstrate that the international community is united and stands in solidarity against all forms of terrorism in defense of humanity.
- It will demonstrate the united efforts of the international community in support of democratic, human and women's rights values.
- KRB, therefore, emphasizes the need for the international aid, humanitarian organizations, EU, and the UN to work and coordinate directly with Kobanê Canton Administration (KCA) in facilitating the reconstruction process and the long term global security.

Mr. Idris Nassan,
Spokesperson of Kobanê Reconstruction Board