



ANNUAL REPORT

2023



WATAN Foundation
www.WATAN.foundation





CONTENTS

06

A word from the
WATAN President

08

About WATAN

10

WATAN history

12

Board of Directors
of WATAN

14

Role in Syria

16

Situation in Syria

18

WATAN's
Programmes

42

Challenges and
Success

44

The Financial
Report

51

Special Thanks



NAVIGATING CHALLENGES, INSPIRING RESILIENCE

Word from the WATAN President

As we gather the threads of our collective efforts and weave the fabric of WATAN's 2023 annual report, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and admiration for the resilience displayed by our communities in the asylum countries and northern Syria. In the face of unimaginable challenges, our commitment to humanitarian action has remained unwavering, guided by the

principles of compassion, solidarity, and dignity.

The year 2023 was a testament to the indomitable spirit of humanity as we navigated the complexities of conflict, displacement, and natural disasters. From the bustling streets of Aleppo to the idyllic landscapes of Idlib, our teams worked tirelessly to provide life-saving assistance

and foster hope in the hearts of those most in need.

At the heart of our endeavors lies the principle of early recovery, a beacon of hope in the darkest of times. Our efforts focused on containing and controlling the fires of conflict before they spread, whether through rehabilitating damaged infrastructure, supporting farmers in rebuilding their livelihoods, or mobilizing resources through innovative fundraising initiatives. By providing emergency care

and financial assistance during times of crisis, we aimed to prevent suffering from escalating and ensure the swift recovery of communities in distress.

Education has always been a cornerstone of our work, for we believe that investing in the future of our youth is investing in the resilience of our communities. Despite the turmoil of conflict and displacement, we remained steadfast in our commitment to providing educational opportunities to the most vulnerable. Through our programs,

we empowered young minds with life skills, nurtured dreams of a brighter tomorrow, and restored hope in the face of adversity.

In our pursuit of social harmony, we recognized the importance of dialogue and reconciliation in healing the wounds of conflict. Our community centers and peace-building initiatives provided safe spaces for dialogue, fostering understanding and solidarity among diverse communities. By addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting social cohesion, we endeavored to build bridges of peace in a fractured world.

Economic empowerment has been central to our mission of rebuilding lives and restoring dignity in the wake of crisis. Through our initiatives, we sought to empower individuals and communities with the tools and resources needed to rebuild their livelihoods. From new market development to capacity building for skilled workers, we invested in the economic resilience of communities, ensuring that they could thrive in the face of adversity.

Innovation has always been at the heart of our approach, driving us to adapt and evolve in the face of ever-changing challenges. Our innovation labs were incubators of creativity, where we explored new approaches and technologies to enhance our humanitarian response. From physical innovation to relief innovation, we harnessed the power of innovation to deliver more effective and efficient assistance to those in need.

Advocacy has been a cornerstone of our efforts to amplify the voices of the voiceless and hold perpetrators of violence to account. Whether advocating for alternatives to tents for refugees or pressing for an end to violence in northwestern Syria, we remained steadfast in our commitment to justice and human rights. By shining a light on the plight of the vulnerable, we sought to mobilize global support and solidarity for those in crisis.

As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of the past year, we are reminded of the resilience of the human spirit and the power of solidarity to overcome adversity. Our work is far from over, but with your continued support and partnership, I am confident that we can navigate the challenges ahead and build a future where compassion, justice, and dignity prevail for all.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our mission and for standing with us in solidarity with the people of northern and northwestern Syria.

Sincerely,

Moaz Al-Sibaa

ABOUT WATAN

Who We Are

WATAN is a leading Civil Society Organization delivering emergency relief, third-sector support, and long-term international development projects.

WATAN is committed to helping people and reviving communities. WATAN is an independent, non-governmental, apolitical, and non-sectarian organization.

We operate several integrated programs with the aim of addressing humanitarian emergency response and sustainable community revival through a holistic and transformative approach.

We believe in the role of Civil Society in the various phases of intervention. Thus, we invest in supporting and developing Civil Society in our areas of reach. We also create platforms for coordination and integration to maximize impact on communities served.

To achieve our goal, we seek to be the preferred partner for international agencies in areas of specialization and reach.

WATAN was established in 2012 as a framework merging a number of organizations and groups that had extensive community development work going back to 2006.

Mission

Our mission is to develop a sustainable, healthy, and educated community, based on an inclusive society that positively engages, supports, and improves the lives of each individual, regardless of gender, faith, or ethnicity. We deliver programs that rebuild lives and maintain community social cohesion by providing transformative programs in reliefs, post-conflict-peace-building, education, economic empowerment, advocacy, and development of a strong Civil Society.

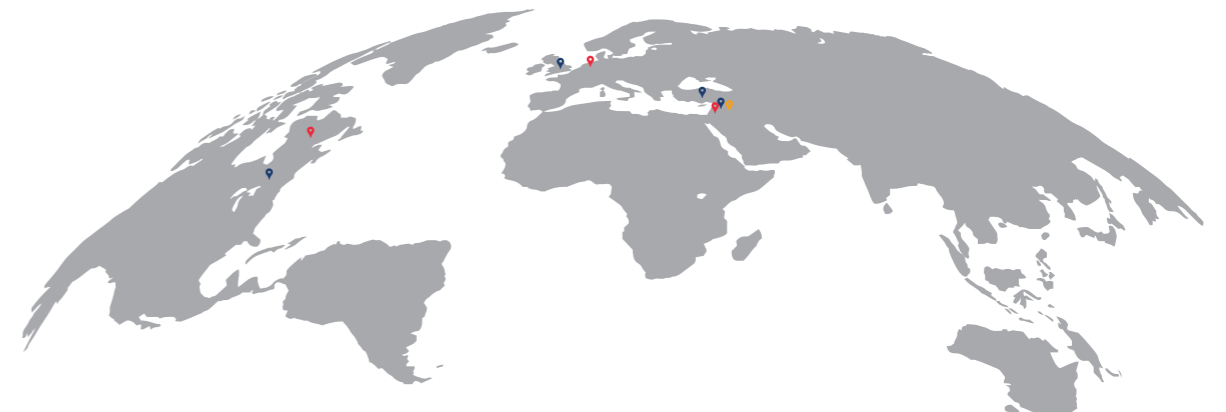
Vision

Free and dignified world based on tolerance, respect, and social justice.

Sustainability Framework



WATAN's offices around the world



- Jordan - Germany** (Red box): Offices under construction
- Syria - Turkey - United Kingdom - United States - Canada** (Blue box): Active offices
- Iraq** (Orange box): Licensed Offices Without external activity

WATAN HISTORY

2006

Syrian Business Club

- The founder, Moaz Al-Sibaai, started a network for young Syrian professionals in the diaspora.
- 2008: Syrian Business Club - Growth
- A total of 200 annual events were held.
- Activities held included professional skills training and networking events.

2011

The Syrian Dream and SYAN

- In early 2011, The Syrian Dream was established. The project aimed to advocate peaceful positive change. As the war started, the group became a strong media voice for Syrians.
- In parallel, SYAN was launched and held a conference for the Syrian civil community in July 2011, which was the seed for WATAN Network
- Inside-Syria, Lebanon-based, and Lebanon cross-border humanitarian operations started. WATAN leads several health and psychosocial support programs.

2012

Founding Conference Re-Branding WATAN

- In early 2012, the number of volunteers exceeded 1000, and 30+ volunteer teams worldwide.
- This prompted the founder to call several preparatory meetings to join the efforts. This was crowned by launching the organization under the new name of "WATAN" which covers 8 organizations.
- All 8 organizations were registered in the UK and then in Turkiye.

2013

Gaziantep & Globally

- WATAN Conference: Activists today... Pioneers of institutions of civil society tomorrow, with 1000+ attendees.
- A regional cross-border office opened in Gaziantep.
- Opening the first school for the displaced inside Syria.
- Established 2 psychotherapy centers in Lebanon, benefiting 10,700 individuals through collaboration with OTI and US AID.
- WATAN's Network was launched (Empowerment - Excellence - Sustainability Participatory Approach).
- Afaq, a new institute was established under We to support university students.

2014

Mature Turkiye Programs & WCBP

- WATAN Conference: Shaping Our Future
- Launching WATAN Capacity Building Program (WCBP), a comprehensive leadership program to develop project leadership expertise in the Syrian 3rd sector.
- In the conference, WATAN launched its 4 strategic priorities for Turkiye, targeting Syrian refugees: their social cohesion and economic empowerment, their youth, and the civil community.
- Continuing to lead advocacy in international and local forums for the Syrian people and the 3rd sector.
- MOU's on economic empowerment were signed.
- 12 million Beneficiaries

2015

Protection, Education, and Integration

- WATAN Conference: Together
- Launching psychological support programs with the University of Manchester, UK.
- Facilitating workshops addressing integration challenges for Syrian and Turkish students in Turkish universities.
- Engaged 50 civil community organizations through WATAN Network members.
- 1,3 million Beneficiaries

2016

Strategic Relation, and Integrated Projects

- Receiving accreditation as a formal partner for UN Agencies.
- The first integrated mobile health unit was established in Northern Syria.
- An infrastructure project was set up for sewage systems across various villages in Aleppo.
- 2,5 million Beneficiaries

2017

Consolidation / Sustainable Intervention

- WATAN Conference: Sustainable Impact
- Consolidating the nine organizations into eight specialized programs within WATAN as a unified entity.
- Launching the Sustainable Intervention Forum at WATAN's annual convention (conference)
- Continuing to play a pioneering role in civil community development through capacity building for more than 300 NGOs.
- 2 million Beneficiaries

2018

Strategic Donor and Agricultural Value Chain

- WATAN Conference: Aspiring future
- We became a direct partner working with the EU.
- We played a leading role in supporting the agricultural value chain in Syria, particularly for olive oil and wheat.
- The first exhibition of olive products in Syria /Idlib was held.
- WATAN's Aid Expo is launched in Istanbul.
- 4,3 million Beneficiaries

2019

Innovate for Humanity/ Youth and Education

- WATAN annual convention is held in Gaziantep with an Innovate for Humanity theme. We explicitly add innovation to its global messaging and advocate for more innovation in the sector with specific solutions and clear methodologies.
- WATAN runs more than 30 schools.
- 5,5 million Beneficiaries

2020

Innovation in Action/ 2025 Roadmap

- Establishing the Innovation lab and implementing a new innovative shelter as part of establishing two camps, housing thousands of families.
- The 2025 roadmap was released.
- With COVID-19, We re-adjusted our operating model demonstrating agility and innovation.
- 2 million Beneficiaries



Board of Directors of WATAN



Moaz Al-Sibaai

Chairman

Founder of WATAN organization; 28 years of experience in the private sector in UK and Arab Gulf; volunteered in a number of non-profit organisations for 33 years.



Iman Ahmado

Board Member

One of WATAN's founding members; with 31 years of work experience and 18 years of experience in Voluntary work.



AbdulRahman Alhamdo

Board Member

One of WATAN's founding members; with 18 years of experience in business entrepreneurship in information technology; 13 years of volunteer work in vocational training networks and managing business start-up initiatives.



Majed Salem

Board Member

Joined WATAN in 2014; 20 years experience in Marketing, Sales and Business development; 7 years experience in essential strategic development for start-ups; experience in being a founder, participant, and consultant in voluntary work.



Fatema Obeid

Board Member

Joined WATAN in 2012; 14 years experience in Voluntary work.



Hikmat Walid

Board Member

Joined WATAN in 2015; 20 years experience in Network and Communication Technology in the UK and in the Gulf; a volunteer in a number of non-profit organisations for 10 years.

ROLL IN SYRIA

Early Recovery

Early Recovery aims to contain and control the fire before it spreads and causes more harm by focusing on three main routes of action including rehabilitation to restore and recreate what has been destroyed as early as possible. Secondly, by supporting farmers in the sector of agriculture. Finally, we focus on the early stages of the calamity to raise funds via mini-fundraising projects to quickly accumulate enough finances to partially recover from any disaster. These strategies help ease the suffering by ensuring it does not develop and expand by providing the necessary emergency care and finances needed when disaster strikes.

Education & Youth

The conflict did not only end lives and destroy homes but also dreams and hopes of a better future which WATAN aims to resuscitate by providing educational programs to the most vulnerable youth that helps them to develop life skills and gives them an opportunity to face the challenges of life more effectively

Social Harmony

Community centres and peace buildings aim to address the issues raised by crisis-stricken societies, which provide platforms for discussion and peacebuilding allowing new communities to gather to compensate for the ones lost in the conflict.

Economic Empowerment

WATAN largely depends on Economic Empowerment to compensate for destroyed infrastructure and to deliver basic necessities to those displaced and harmed by the conflict. This strategy includes new market development, capacity building for skilled workers, and business incubators. These strategies ensure the security of finances in emergencies and new plans are tested to develop our finances and fundraising prospects.

Innovation

The Innovation strategy aims to apply new approaches and adapt quickly to any crisis where WATAN depends on its different labs, for example, the Physical Innovation Lab and the Innovation Lab Relief, to analyse and draw out new methods to tackle the challenges faced when providing relief and care to the vulnerable people struck by calamity.

Advocacy

WATAN employs its advocacy abilities and strategies in many cases, for example, when finding alternative tents for the refugees so they can endure the bitterly cold winter and have better protection and privacy. Our campaigns are not restricted to relief work but we also advocate for the ending of violence in north-western Syria in global events by pressurising human rights agencies to respond and end the conflict.





Threads of Resilience:

Navigating the Tapestry of Struggle in Northern and Northwestern Syria

In the delicate fabric of northern and northwestern Syria, the threads of humanity are tightly woven with the intricate patterns of conflict, displacement, and resilient survival. As we unfurl the tapestry of 2023, we find a narrative rich with challenges, resilience, and the need for global solidarity.

The United Nations and humanitarian partners have been the artisans, tirelessly weaving the threads of hope through their commitment to deliver life assistance to those in need. Guided by humanitarian principles, these efforts faced a critical juncture when Security Council Resolution 2672, authorizing UN aid delivery via Bab Al-Hawa, expired on July 10, 2023. The Security Council's failure to reach an agreement on its extension cast shadows of uncertainty. However, the UN, undeterred, continues to employ all available access modalities. Bab Al-Salam and Al Ra'ee have become lifelines, ensuring the cross-border movement of aid delivery and personnel.

Yet, amid these efforts, the economic loom has been severely impacted, as the World Bank estimates a staggering 12.5% contraction in the Syrian economy in 2023. The conflict, the primary driver of this decline, has not only displaced millions but has also led to a sharp increase in food prices and a significant decline in agricultural production. The economic fabric, already strained, faced a seismic jolt on February 6, 2023, when a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck the Turkish-Syrian border.

This earthquake, a cruel stroke of fate, laid waste to communities already ravaged by over a decade of armed conflict. Over 4.1 million out of 4.5 million people in the affected area became dependent on humanitarian aid. For the 2.8 million internally displaced people, the earthquake added another layer of suffering to their already challenging existence. Buildings, scarred by years of government shelling, crumbled, leaving survivors displaced to city streets and overstretched IDP camps in freezing temperatures.

Civilians in the region find themselves entangled in the tapestry of hardship. Displacement, the lack of access to basic services, and the destruction of infrastructure have created a daily struggle. The housing shortage persists, leading to overcrowded and unsanitary conditions in camps and urban areas. Children, born into a world of conflict, bear the weight of its toll on their mental health.

The economic repercussions echo in the marketplace, where the cost of survival has soared. The World Bank's estimation of a 12.5% contraction in 2023, coupled with the earthquake's destruction of businesses and industries, paints a bleak economic landscape. The poverty rate, a cruel reflection of this reality, rose from 70% in 2022 to a staggering 82% in 2023.

Yet, as the global context shifts, the financial threads sustaining humanitarian projects in northern and northwestern Syria face strain. Economic downturns, geopolitical shifts, and donor fatigue cast shadows over the availability of funds. In the competition for limited resources among various global crises, the Syrian population finds itself caught in a delicate balance.

As we reflect on the woven narrative of 2023, the challenges faced by the people and humanitarian organizations are threads of a multifaceted tapestry. The ongoing conflict, economic fragility, and the echoes of the earthquake shape the region's trajectory. Addressing the humanitarian, living, and economic challenges requires not just a passing glance but sustained international attention, cooperation, and innovative solutions to mend the frayed edges of hope for the people of northern and northwestern Syria. The resilience of the human spirit, woven into this intricate fabric, beckons for a united effort to stitch together a brighter future.



TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKES WATAN's Response and Impact

In the wake of the catastrophic earthquake that shook southern Turkey and northern Syria on February 6, 2023, WATAN emerged as a beacon of resilience and compassion. As we explore the profound impact of WATAN's response, join us on a journey through the vibrant landscape of their humanitarian initiatives.

Amidst the immediate chaos, WATAN's field and administrative teams found themselves deeply affected by the disaster, yet dedicated to aiding and saving the wounded with unparalleled commitment. Drawing from over a decade of experience, the rapid response team initiated emergency medical projects across regions like Al-Bab, Marea, Salqin, and Idlib, conducting surgical operations and providing vital blood units.

Recognizing the urgent need for shelter, WATAN swiftly established temporary collective shelter centers, erected tent camps, and distributed non-food item baskets, providing solace to those who lost their homes. Engineering teams embarked on constructing prefabricated shelter units with infrastructure, spanning across northern Syria and southern Turkey.

Expanding their reach, WATAN's field teams promoted food security through the distribution of food baskets and ready-to-eat meals in Gaziantep City, Gokson town, Kahramanmaraş in southern Türkiye, and Harem, Afrin, and Azaz in northern Syria.

Addressing the holistic recovery of affected communities, WATAN's protection projects focused on psychological well-being, social ties, and overall resilience. Psychological support sessions, parenting skills training, and case management services unfolded in Islahiya town in southern Türkiye, and Kafr Galis, Al-Shih Bahr, Maarat Misrin, and Killi in the Idlib countryside in northern Syria.

With unwavering commitment, WATAN prioritized providing potable water, extending sewage networks, and constructing bathroom blocks. These efforts reached staggering numbers in Harem, Al-Dana, Jisr Al-Shughur, Maarat Misrin in northern Syria, and Gokson town in Kahramanmaraş province, Turkey.

WATAN's commitment to rebuilding extended to the restoration of schools and rehabilitation of homes damaged by the earthquake. Soran in the Aleppo countryside, and Hazano, Batbu, and Kili in the Idlib countryside witnessed the direct impact of these restoration efforts.

WATAN's response extended beyond human beneficiaries to include animals. The initiative supported rescue and treatment operations, providing veterinary care and shelters to enhance the health and survival of animals in Gaziantep Province, Turkey.

In Taftanaz town, Idlib countryside, WATAN provided multi-purpose cash assistance to individuals, offering flexibility and empowerment in the face of post-earthquake challenges.

WATAN's achievements underscore the vital role of humanitarian work in rebuilding lives. As we celebrate these impactful projects, we extend an invitation to our diverse community, civil society workers, stakeholders, embassies, and major donors. Your participation is not merely support; it is a contribution to fostering hope and resilience.

«In our shared humanity lies the foundation for a better world.» Together, let us continue standing in unity, exemplifying the strength that arises when communities collaborate for a brighter and more compassionate future.



Water, Sanitisation, and Hygiene

As of 2023, the water and sanitation sector in northern and northwestern Syria confronts formidable challenges arising from persistent conflicts, widespread displacement, and the aftermath of a devastating earthquake in February. The prevailing circumstances are marked by:

The conflict and seismic events have inflicted significant damage upon the water and sanitation infrastructure within the affected regions. Both displaced populations and host communities find themselves contending with compromised access to clean water, sewage networks, and fundamental sanitation facilities.

A considerable influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has strained the pre-existing water and sanitation resources in host communities. The sudden surge in population often overwhelms local systems, exacerbating pressure on water sources and sanitation facilities.

Contaminated water sources and inadequate sanitation facilities present substantial health risks, including the potential spread of waterborne diseases. Ensuring access to clean water and proper sanitation is imperative for averting disease outbreaks and safeguarding public health within the affected areas.

The water and sanitation crisis not only jeopardizes physical health but also contributes to the psychological and social challenges faced by affected populations. The lack of access to basic amenities compounds the overall stress and strain on communities endeavoring to rebuild their lives post-earthquake.

WATAN has been actively engaged in responding to the water and sanitation crisis. Demonstrating unwavering commitment, WATAN has prioritized the provision of potable water, the extension of sewage networks, and the construction of bathroom blocks. These efforts have yielded significant impact, particularly in areas such as Harem, Al-Dana, Jisr Al-Shughur, and Maarat Misrin in northern Syria.

With WATAN's emphasis on sustainable solutions, community involvement, and ongoing support from humanitarian actors and partners, there is a critical imperative to address both the immediate and long-term needs of the affected populations.



60,314
Beneficiaries



Idlib & Aleppo
Areas of Implementation



“

Thanks to WATAN's interventions, clean and safe drinking water flows freely in Jisr al-Shughur, changing the lives of its residents.

Quench Thirst WATAN water mission in Jisr Al-Shughur

Within the walls of the city of Jisr al-Shughur, worries and poverty linger in the hearts of its residents, with a severe shortage of water resources. The drinking stations were not the vital nerve of the city after they stopped operating, opening the door to a tragedy that knows no bounds. Plunging its population into a dire situation with no clear solution in sight.

One gray day, we meet Hajja Firdaus Umm Ahmed, a sixty-year-old citizen whose eyes tell of a lifetime of hardship. Like many in Jisr al-Shughur, she relied on irregular water trucks to meet her daily needs, an expensive and unsustainable solution. She regrets, saying: “We depend on the arrival of tankers to compensate for the water shortage, but even these limited quantities are not enough to meet the needs of our home. The water we buy is not safe for consumption, and we do not have the financial means to bear its cost. 1,000 cubic meters cost about 70 Turkish liras, which is a recurring necessity.” Twice a week.” With these words, she paints a vivid picture of the daily suffering of the city's people, where hope fades into absent waters, and life continues to teeter on the brink of lack and need. This highlights the vulnerability of their situation.

However, WATAN has emerged as a beacon of hope, having realized that the challenges facing Jisr al-Shughur require more than just a temporary solution. They embarked on a comprehensive project aimed at revitalizing the city's water infrastructure and improving the quality of life for its residents. By restoring water networks, repairing tanks, and providing clean water via tankers to more than 740 families, WATAN achieved an immediate and tangible impact.

But their efforts did not stop there. Recognizing the importance of sustainability, WATAN implemented projects to install electrical transformers and rehabilitate electricity networks, ensuring a

continuous and reliable water supply to the city. This comprehensive approach not only addressed the immediate need for clean water but also laid the foundation for a more resilient future.

Today, thanks to WATAN's interventions, clean and safe drinking water flows freely in Jisr al-Shughur, changing the lives of its residents. Umm Ahmed's gratitude is clear as she says: “We never dreamed that water would reach us so quickly and efficiently.” The burden of securing water has been lifted, allowing families to redirect their resources toward other basic needs.

WATAN's efforts are not limited here, as the organization seeks to enhance the sustainability of the project by switching to clean energy sources. By launching an innovative project that enhances the process of operating stations using solar energy. To improve water access to remote areas, a huge reservoir with a storage capacity of 300 cubic meters is being constructed.

Umm Ahmed's story appears as an example of powerful humanitarian narratives that reveal WATAN's efforts to improve living conditions in northwestern Syria. These efforts are not limited to saving Umm Ahmed and her family from the trouble of obtaining water but rather reflect WATAN's commitment to building a sustainable society and ending the suffering that has extended for many years.

WATAN's role resonates through the transformation of individuals' lives amidst the harshest circumstances. In every project in which humanitarian support is invested to enhance water infrastructure, it leaves a lasting imprint on the hearts of individuals and paints a promising future for communities.



Health

In the conflict-ridden areas of north and northwest Syria, the healthcare system faces immense challenges exacerbated by ongoing conflict, economic instability, external pressures, and the persistent threat of COVID-19. Vital healthcare infrastructure is severely lacking, leading to limited access to essential services, particularly in conflict-affected and remote areas. The earthquake on February 2023, compounded these challenges, causing widespread destruction of healthcare facilities and increasing the demand for emergency medical care and rehabilitation services.

A comprehensive needs assessment reveals urgent priorities, including rebuilding damaged medical infrastructure, addressing human resource shortages, and ensuring access to primary healthcare services, mental health support, and essential medicines. Additionally, enhancing preparedness and response mechanisms for disease outbreaks and medical emergencies is crucial.

In the aftermath of the earthquake, additional urgent measures include providing emergency medical care, establishing temporary healthcare facilities, and offering psychosocial support services for survivors. Rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts are paramount to restore access to essential healthcare services.

WATAN's health sector response has been proactive, and WATAN's health sector in north and northwest Syria has been actively engaged throughout 2023. WATAN has undertaken a range of interventions, including rapid assessments to ascertain the health needs and priorities of earthquake-affected populations, guiding targeted and launching WATAN's blood bank network with aims to improve the availability, safety, and quality of blood units in north and northwest Syria, while also addressing anemia and

integrating essential services for thalassemia patients through comprehensive approach interventions and resource allocation. Provision of emergency medical care and surgical services to underserved populations, alongside efforts to rehabilitate healthcare facilities, provision of medical equipment and supplies, and capacity-building initiatives to enhance service delivery, have been key priorities. Additionally, the implementation of disease surveillance, vaccination campaigns, and hygiene promotion activities to mitigate the spread of infectious diseases has been undertaken. In response to the earthquake disaster, WATAN's health sector swiftly mobilized emergency response efforts, deploying emergency medical teams, procuring and distributing medical supplies and equipment, providing psychological first aid and community-based psychosocial support, and facilitating coordination efforts among humanitarian actors and local authorities.



235,000

Beneficiaries



Idlib & Aleppo

Areas of Implementation



The timely intervention not only saved the lives of Nadia and her baby but also became the lifeblood of many others.

Together We Save WATAN Blood Bank Network, Revival Point

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Shelter and Non-Food Items

In the conflict-ridden regions of north and northwest Syria, the shelter sector confronts significant obstacles stemming from prolonged conflict, economic instability, and recurrent population displacement. Many communities endure precarious living conditions in makeshift shelters, damaged structures, or overcrowded collective centers, lacking adequate protection from the elements and essential amenities. Access to safe and dignified housing remains a challenge, particularly for vulnerable groups like women, children, and the elderly. The situation is further compounded by the compounding effects of the COVID19- pandemic and the devastating earthquake that struck on February 2023 ,6, resulting in widespread infrastructure damage and further displacement.

Throughout 2023, WATAN, operating in the shelter sector in these regions, has been at the forefront of addressing these pressing needs. In response to the February 6 earthquake disaster, WATAN swiftly mobilized its resources to provide emergency shelter assistance and protection interventions for affected populations. This included rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts aimed at restoring damaged houses, repairing infrastructure, and constructing transitional shelters to offer durable housing solutions for impacted communities. Additionally, WATAN facilitated the distribution of emergency shelter kits, tents, tarpaulins, and other non-food items to meet the immediate needs of displaced families.

As part of its ongoing response, WATAN focused on building dignified shelter units and collaborating closely with United Nations

agencies and local authorities, community leaders, and other stakeholders to ensure a coordinated and effective shelter response. This involved resource mobilization, information sharing, and joint planning efforts to address the complex challenges faced by the shelter sector in the wake of conflict and natural disasters.

Despite the complexities of the situation, WATAN's shelter sector remains committed to providing emergency shelter assistance and rehabilitation support to affected populations. Efforts are underway to ensure that displaced families have access to safe and dignified shelter options, thereby enhancing their resilience and facilitating their recovery in the aftermath of adversity.



351,204

Beneficiaries



Idlib & Aleppo

Areas of Implementation



“Living in tents did not last long,”

Transforming Tragedy WATAN Journey of Hope and Renewal In Syria

On a journey to search for hope in a time of displacement and suffering, we delve into an exceptional novel coming out of northwest Syria. Here hope turns tragedy into a stage for renewal and restoration of life.

Hajja Aida, from the southern Aleppo countryside, embodies steadfastness and strength under harsh circumstances. Her journey began in 2017, amid the sounds of bombing and planes, reaching the town of Bans in the Aleppo countryside. But fate wanted her to move to Batbu in Idlib, specifically to Al-Hamoud camp.

Amid the difficulties, Hajja Aida, mother, and father of her three daughters, found solace through WATAN and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. “Living in canvas tents did not last long,” said Hajja Aida, as WATAN led the rehabilitation of Al-Hamoud camp, transforming it into a safe and dignified place. Engineering work has begun on leveling roads, lighting, extending sewage and water networks, and paving roads, which enhances life safety amid harsh weather conditions.

Detailing a harmony between engineering creativity and human care, the generous shelter unit in Al-Hamoud Camp paints an inspiring picture of transformation and renewal. Khaled Ateeq, one of the engineers of the WATAN system and the main supervisor of the rehabilitation work, describes this unit as not just a shelter, but rather a masterpiece carefully designed to be a home that restores life and dignity to those who have lived for years in the shadow of an endless tragedy.

The generous shelter unit features unique details, as it is made of sandwich panels and metal profiles, characterized by a design that combines comfort and beauty. It consists of two rooms that provide privacy, in addition to a kitchen, bathroom, and toilet, with a sky hatch equipped with an independent water tank and a solar energy kit. The ceramic floor adds a touch of luxury.

This unit is not just a residence, but rather a place

that embodies privacy and comfort, and is an effective insulator from extreme temperatures. These additions come to an end the tragedy of many families who have lived for many years under the weight of difficult conditions and extreme cold and allow them to build a new incubator that will restore their safety and renew their spirit with hope.

Expressing her gratitude, Hajja Aida acknowledges the importance of her new home and the services provided. They no longer fear the strong winds or heavy rains that previously forced them to remain outdoors. Today, she can secure her daughters in a housing unit that provides them with the privacy they have been searching for since the beginning of their displacement.

WATAN’s impact extends beyond Al-Hamoud Camp, with 114 housing units built there, 184 housing units in Zeitan Camp, and 2,131 RHUs in 14 sites in northern Idlib. These numbers represent a changed life, where each door hides a unique story of defiance and transcendence of the human spirit.

Let us paddle together in the waters of hope and solidarity. WATAN and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees are carefully leading the reconstruction journey, turning despair into opportunity and adversity into victory. Let us continue to build a bright future for hundreds and give them a chance for a new beginning with safety and dignity.

In conclusion, Hajja Aida and the families in the Syrian camps are symbols of strength in adversity and hope in the darkest days. Your support is essential. We invite you to contribute to these humanitarian efforts, rebuilding lives and improving conditions for refugees. Together, we can build a better society and a brighter future for all.

Let us be a strong voice for solidarity and humanity and give hope its wings to soar in the sky of renewal and reconstruction.

Food Security and Agriculture

In the conflict-ridden regions of north and northwest Syria, the food security and agriculture sector face formidable challenges arising from prolonged conflict, economic instability, and environmental degradation. These adversities have not only disrupted farming activities and damaged infrastructure but also displaced farmers, resulting in widespread food insecurity and heightened vulnerability to malnutrition among vulnerable populations. Limited access to arable land, water resources, and agricultural inputs further exacerbates the dire situation.

The needs assessment in this sector highlights critical concerns, including ensuring access to food for vulnerable groups, providing agricultural support to boost productivity and rehabilitate land, creating livelihood opportunities in agriculture, implementing nutrition programs to address malnutrition, and delivering emergency food assistance in remote areas.

Throughout 2023, WATAN has been diligently addressing these needs in the food and agriculture sector. The organization has been proactive in providing agricultural support, including distributing seeds, tools, and offering training to farmers. Livelihood programs such as cash-for-work initiatives and vocational training in agricultural skills have been implemented to bolster household food security. Additionally, WATAN's efforts extend to supporting local ranchers and distributing food aid, including staple items and nutrition supplements, to vulnerable households in conflict-affected regions. Furthermore, initiatives aimed at strengthening local food markets, improving farmer access, and supporting value chains have been pivotal in enhancing agricultural livelihoods.

To further augment agricultural productivity and self-sufficiency, WATAN is actively supporting the value-added chain for olive farmers. This initiative involves establishing and backing agricultural associations to provide collective support and resources to farmers. Furthermore, the introduction of innovative agricultural technologies like hydroponic farming is set to revolutionize agricultural production and enhance self-sufficiency among farmers. In addition, WATAN is empowering women in the food security sector through initiatives like the Women's Association for Consumer Food Production, ensuring their active

participation and contribution to enhancing food security in their communities.

However, the challenges faced by the food security and agriculture sector were significantly compounded by the February 2023 earthquake in southern Turkey and northern and northwestern Syria. This catastrophe inflicted extensive damage to infrastructure and agricultural land, exacerbating food insecurity and livelihood vulnerabilities among affected populations.

In response to this humanitarian crisis, WATAN extended its efforts to address the immediate needs of earthquake survivors in the food and agriculture sector. Emergency food assistance, distribution of essential agricultural inputs, and tailored livelihood support programs were swiftly implemented. Collaborative efforts with stakeholders were undertaken to coordinate relief efforts, fortify food distribution systems, and restore agricultural productivity in affected areas.

Despite the formidable challenges posed by the earthquake, WATAN remained resolute in supporting affected populations in rebuilding their lives and livelihoods. Through its comprehensive approach to emergency response and long-term recovery, WATAN continues to strive towards enhancing the resilience and food security of communities impacted by the disaster.



351,204

Beneficiaries



Idlib & Aleppo

Areas of Implementation



“
The problem is not merely about earning a living, but rather the hardship life has become, especially with age,

Building Bridges of Hope

The impact of WATAN in confronting the food crisis

In the chill of dawn, when the earth trembled beneath the weight of tragedy, the earthquake shattered the tranquil lands of northwestern Syria. It not only crumbled buildings and scarred the earth but also broke the spirits of its inhabitants, leaving behind an enduring trail of sorrow. Amidst the myriad tales of woe, the narrative of Abu Sabri emerges as a symbol of resilience in the face of adversity. A resident of the northern countryside of Aleppo, this fifty-year-old father of four embodies the struggle of hundreds of families in the region, where despair tightens its grip, food security teeters on the brink, and job opportunities dwindle amidst soaring prices.

"The problem is not merely about earning a living, but rather the hardship life has become, especially with age," laments Abu Sabri, reflecting on the challenges of existence in these tumultuous times.

However, amidst these bleak circumstances, the WATAN Foundation shines for its remarkable efforts in meeting the urgent needs of affected families. Beyond merely alleviating hunger, WATAN's food voucher project aims to empower these families and assist them in rebuilding their lives.

Abu Sabri is just one of the many beneficiaries of this groundbreaking initiative. WATAN extended its services to over 2,060 affected families in the cities of Afrin and Azaz in the northern countryside of Aleppo. E-vouchers worth US65\$ per month were distributed over three months, enabling each household to secure a total of US195\$.

"The beauty of this project lies in the freedom to choose goods," Abu Sabri notes with a smile. "I was able to purchase rice, ghee, oil, sugar, and other essentials. This money is now being wisely utilized to fulfill the needs of my children and other essentials."

Abu Sabri's narrative is a mere glimpse of the success achieved by WATAN, as it rescued

numerous families from the post-earthquake tragedy, ensuring food stability, and inscribing a new chapter in their lives.

These personal anecdotes serve as poignant reminders of the significance of compassion and solidarity in fostering hope and restoring dignity. In a time where food remains an urgent necessity, this modest triumph underscores the imperative for a holistic approach to humanitarian relief. The impact of humanitarian work transcends mere sustenance, striving to enhance lives holistically.

In times of conflict and adversity, the beacon of hope emanates from the efforts of humanitarian organizations dedicated to providing support and care to the afflicted. Abu Sabri's story vividly illustrates the indomitable spirit of humanity in overcoming challenges when the world unites in a spirit of cooperation and compassion.

WATAN's success in transforming lives exemplifies the profound impact of humanitarian work on individuals and communities. As we conclude this narrative, let us heed the call to continue supporting humanitarian endeavors and unite our efforts in building a world where justice and safety reign supreme and hope finds a permanent abode in the hearts of the needy.



Education

The education sector in north and northwest Syria grapples with significant challenges stemming from protracted conflict, economic instability, and mass displacement of populations. These adversities have led to the destruction of schools, limited access to quality education, a shortage of trained teachers, and disruptions in academic schedules. Many children are denied their right to education, exposing them to risks such as exploitation, child labor, and recruitment into armed groups.

Critical concerns highlighted in the needs assessment for the education sector include ensuring access to quality education for all children, rebuilding and rehabilitating damaged schools, recruiting and training qualified teachers, addressing the psycho-social needs of traumatized students, and implementing innovative programs to reach marginalized populations.

Throughout 2023, WATAN has been actively responding to these needs in the education sector. Efforts have included rebuilding and rehabilitating damaged schools, setting up temporary learning spaces, and providing essential supplies and materials. Additionally, WATAN has focused on recruiting and training teachers, integrating psycho-social support into the curriculum, and implementing catch-up and accelerated learning programs for children affected by conflict and displacement. Psychosocial support services, community-based education initiatives, non-formal education programs, and vocational training opportunities have also been provided to adolescents and youth.

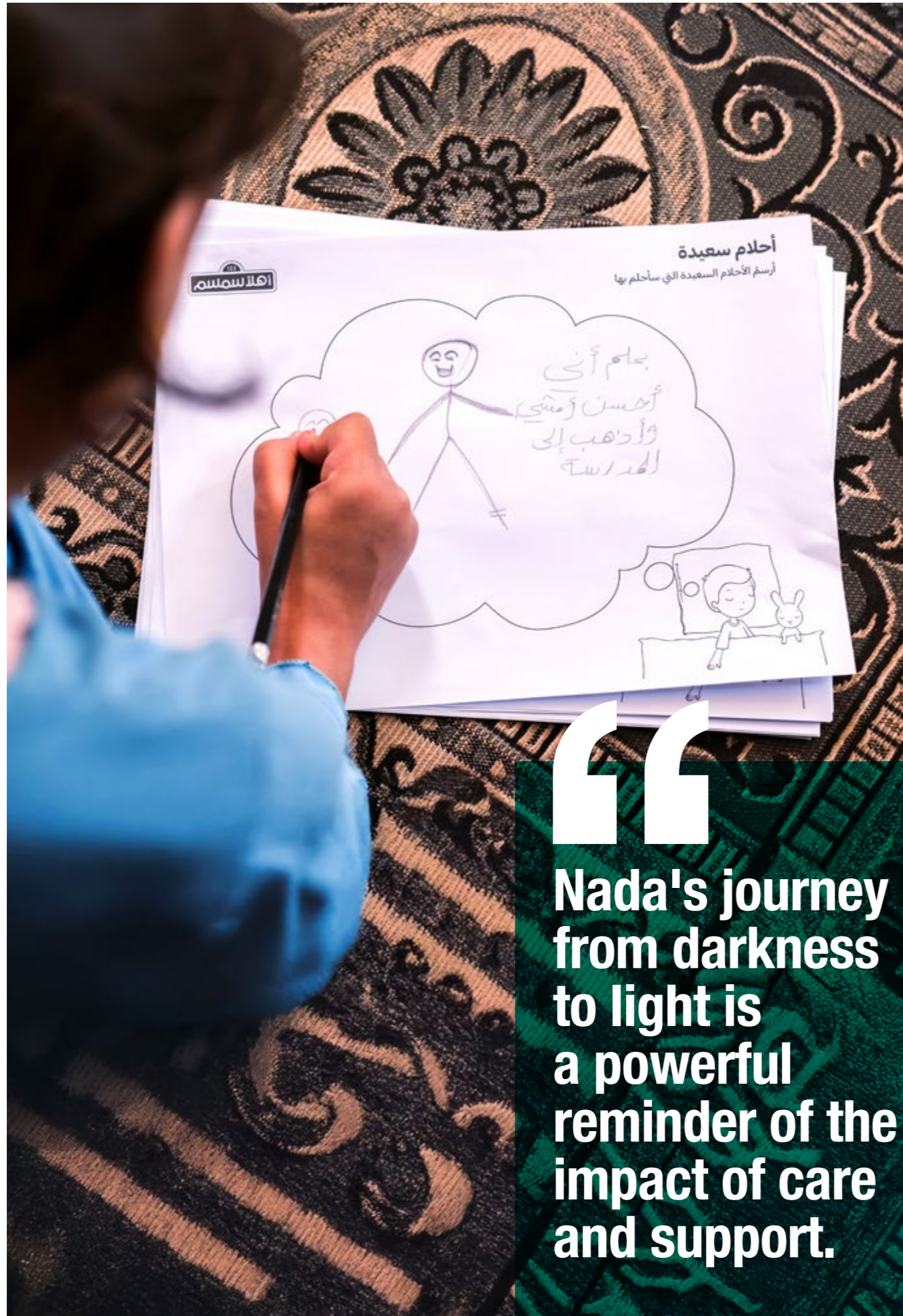
The devastating effects of the February 2023 6.6 earthquake further exacerbated the challenges in the education sector in northern and northwestern Syria. In response, WATAN teams swiftly mobilized to restore damaged schools, ensuring that children could return to safe learning environments. Through these efforts, WATAN continues to strive towards ensuring access to quality education for all children in the region, emphasizing the importance of sustained investment, collaboration among stakeholders, and advocacy for the right to education.



4,092
Beneficiaries



Idlib & Aleppo
Areas of Implementation



Nada's journey from darkness to light is a powerful reminder of the impact of care and support.

"Hello Semsame" An embrace of life in the form of an educational program

In 2017, the city of Khan Shaykhun in the Idlib countryside was subjected to a storm of pain. The aerial bombardment with toxic sarin gas killed 100 people and injured more than 400 others, leading to the displacement of hundreds of families. Among the displaced is Nada Al-Youssef, the young heroine whose story of steadfastness shines amidst the darkness of tragedy. Among the many displaced people was Nada Al-Youssef, a young girl with great determination. Nada left her home and village and began her displacement journey with her family to start a new life in the camp.

Nada was carrying a greater burden than the weight of displacement, as she suffered from swelling of the skin, weakness in her muscles, and damage to the nerves surrounding her, which negatively affected her facial features and movement until she became confined to bed. Her days were spent away from her school, in isolation, but in this darkness, a ray of hope emerged.

The "Hello Semsame" project launched by the WATAN Foundation for Early Childhood Development in Al-Najma Camp has become a beacon of light for Nada. Through the project, facilitators visited Nada's family and provided her with encouragement and support, reconnecting her with her community. With each passing day, Nada learned how to deal with her feelings and how to accept others. Through innovative activities such as the maze and sharing emotions, Nada transformed from an isolated child into an integrated person within her community.

The project's focus on activating children with disabilities went beyond intellectual activities, to include motor activities that allowed Nada to fully participate and achieve self-satisfaction. Through innovative activities and the support of facilitators, Nada transformed from an isolated child into an integrated member of her community.

As Nada flourished, her story became an inspiration to others in the camp. Her journey from darkness to light is a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative impact of care and support.

On the other hand, the facilitators considered the need to fully integrate children with disabilities into the family and society. They were motivated to play an active role for these children in society, which gave them self-confidence and enabled them to overcome the difficulties they faced.

Nada's story is not just a story of personal triumph; it is a testament to the power of community support and the impact of humanitarian work. Her father expressed his deep appreciation for the project's services. Her father said with a smile:

"I really appreciate the services of this project, and I hope all the children live a healthy and happy life."

In conclusion, Nada Al-Youssef's story is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of community support. Through the "Hello Semsame" project, she not only overcame her challenges but also became a symbol of hope and determination for others. Nada learned how to build a bridge of communication and understanding with others, and how to take advantage of life's opportunities positively until she became an integral part of her community. She overcame her challenges with a sincere smile and became an inspiration for other children in the camp.

As we celebrate Nada's achievements, let us reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that every child has the right to a healthy and happy life. This project is not just a program. It is a humanitarian message that challenges difficult circumstances and rebuilds hope in the hearts of children who have lost hope due to the effects of war. "Hello Semsame" was not just an entertainment event, but rather an opportunity to renew life and restore faith.

Remember that the success of projects such as "Hello Semsame" depends on the support of partners, donors, and participating organizations, and on collective efforts and cooperation in achieving sustainable development. Their contributions are invaluable in continuing to improve the lives of children and families in northwest Syria. Together, we can build a brighter future for everyone.



Protection

In the regions of north and northwest Syria, the protection sector grapples with profound challenges arising from prolonged conflict, widespread displacement, and the erosion of societal structures. Vulnerable groups, notably women, children, and marginalized communities, are particularly exposed to various forms of violence, exploitation, and infringements on their rights. These include arbitrary detention, forced displacement, gender-based violence, child recruitment, and constrained access to essential services such as healthcare and education.

Key concerns identified in the needs assessment of the protection sector include:

- Ensuring the safety and security of civilians, with a focus on preventing harm, injury, and loss of life.
- Providing legal aid and facilitating access to justice for individuals subjected to rights violations.
- Addressing the psycho-social needs of survivors of violence through comprehensive counseling and support services.
- Preventing and responding to instances of gender-based violence by establishing safe spaces and offering tailored support to survivors.
- Safeguarding children from recruitment by armed groups, and facilitating family tracing, reunification, and access to education and psychosocial support services.

WATAN has been actively responding to these critical needs by:

- Delivering emergency aid, encompassing shelter, food, and medical care, to those affected by violence and displacement.
- Establishing child-friendly spaces across three locations, providing a secure environment for children and offering psychological relief alongside educational support.

- Conducting psychosocial support sessions for affected families, empowering them to navigate trauma and fortify their resilience.
- Offering comprehensive case management services to vulnerable cases, including unaccompanied children, school dropouts, and children with disabilities, with a focus on upholding their dignity and facilitating their reintegration into society.

Despite sustained efforts, challenges persist in the protection sector following the February 6, 2023 earthquake. WATAN's response endeavors to alleviate these challenges by delivering essential services, fostering community resilience, and advocating for the rights and safety of conflict-affected populations. Continued investment, collaboration among humanitarian stakeholders, and sustained advocacy efforts are essential in effectively addressing protection needs and nurturing resilient communities across north and northwest Syria.



12,500
Beneficiaries



Idlib
Areas of Implementation



You have given us new hope and unparalleled radiance. Amna's mother saidd.

Building The Future Vision of a Better Tomorrow

First of all, let us avoid feeling sad about the familiar suffering of winter in the camps, and do not highlight the exhausting heat of summer, as those hot and cold winds have become a routine part of our reality. Instead, we'll share with you a unique story, meet Amna, the little girl whose journey is as inspiring as it is empowering.

She began a safe journey amid the chaos and destruction that her city witnessed, as missiles rained from the sky, forcing her and her family to flee in search of safety. When they arrived in the Sarmada area in the Idlib countryside, they faced a new dilemma: the health situation of Amna. Amna suffered from rickets, was deprived of her ability to move, and relied heavily on her parents for transportation.

But Amna's spirit remained intact. Despite the challenges, she fought her illness with steadfast determination. She remembers her mother, with a smile in her voice and steadfastness: "Amna has been flying with us since her childhood years, and with every new difficulty that appears, her strength is renewed. Although we faced our transition to these fabric tents with some shock, we have not lost hope, but rather we look forward with optimism." We say thank God for everything."

WATAN's commitment to supporting a decent life for individuals and sustainable investment in the future played a pivotal role in Amna's story. Through the protection program, Amna was provided with an electric chair, giving her the freedom of movement she desperately needed. This chair was not just a means of transportation, but rather a gateway to a new world of opportunities and interactions, enriching a safe life in immeasurable ways, both psychologically and socially.

Happiness and joy emanate from the words of Amna's mother, as she thanks with all her heart for the support her daughter has received. "They were wonderful moments. Amna can now join the

children without us needing to drag her regular chair. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You have given us new hope and unparalleled radiance."

Amna's story is not just an isolated incident, but a testament to the transformative power of empathy and support. With committed supporters and leading entities, Watan is paving the way to a future filled with peace and prosperity for all.

The impact of WATAN's initiative extends beyond Amna. Through the protection program, similar equipment has been provided to other children with special needs, promoting positive development and improving their psychosocial health.

In 2023, WATAN took another important step towards enhancing independence and sustainability by providing a job opportunity to the mother of Mamoun, a child with special needs. This initiative not only provided financial income for the family but also contributed to Mamoun's return to school, marking a milestone in his and his family's journey to independence.

These stories of challenge and hope serve as a reminder of the ability of the human spirit to overcome even the most difficult circumstances. They stress the importance of solidarity and compassion and urge us all to think about how we can contribute to positive change in our world.

In conclusion, these stories of triumph and transformation paint a picture of the resilience of the human spirit and the power of hope. They remind us of the importance of strengthening solidarity and making efforts to build a world of positive change and compassion – a legacy that resonates in the hearts of all.



Economic Empowerment

In the regions of northern and northwestern Syria, the devastating earthquake of February 6 exacerbated the already challenging economic landscape. The seismic event inflicted widespread destruction, resulting in significant damage to infrastructure, businesses, and livelihoods. Many local economies were disrupted, with markets severely impacted. The earthquake further exacerbated existing vulnerabilities, deepening poverty and financial insecurity among communities already grappling with the repercussions of prolonged conflict and economic instability. Access to essential services, employment opportunities, and financial resources became even more limited, exacerbating the economic hardships faced by vulnerable populations, including women, youth, and displaced persons. The earthquake's economic toll continues to reverberate, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive recovery efforts and sustained support to rebuild livelihoods and restore economic stability in the affected regions.

The needs assessment in the economic empowerment sector underscores several critical imperatives:

- Establishing sustainable livelihood avenues to alleviate poverty and address unemployment.
- Facilitating access to financial resources, vocational training, and entrepreneurship assistance.
- Advancing economic inclusion and empowerment initiatives, particularly targeting marginalized groups such as women and youth.
- Initiating efforts to rebuild and revitalize local economies and enterprises adversely affected by the earthquake.
- Strengthening market systems and value chains to bolster economic resilience and sustainability.

In response to these pressing needs, WATAN has been actively engaged in the economic empowerment sector, with a specific focus

on post-earthquake recovery endeavors. This includes:

- Enhancing living conditions for 248 households residing in lightly damaged homes resulting from the earthquakes in Idlib district, Idlib, and Atareb district, Aleppo, in the northwest of Syria.
- Providing multi-purpose cash assistance to 356 vulnerable households, particularly those headed by females, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and children, who have been impacted by the earthquakes, aiming to address their basic needs for sustenance and mitigate negative coping strategies.

Despite commendable efforts, challenges persist within the economic empowerment sector, necessitating sustained investment, collaboration among humanitarian entities, and innovative approaches to cater to the evolving needs of conflict-affected and disaster-stricken communities. By prioritizing initiatives for economic empowerment and recovery, humanitarian organizations aspire to cultivate resilient communities and foster sustainable development across north and northwest Syria.



3,020
Beneficiaries



Idlib

Areas of Implementation



“I was not expecting this. Now, I feel completely independent, as I can secure my needs freely after this project.” Abu Muhammad said.

Choosing Liberation WATAN's Cash Aid Project Empowering Families in Conflict Zones

In the tumult of conflict, where the destinies of humanity hang by fragile threads, stories of resilience and challenge unfold, casting a poignant light on the lives of those caught in the crossfire. Nowhere is this reality more stark than in northern Syria, where families grapple with the relentless trials of war. Amidst the chaos, a unique narrative emerges—one that defies the relentless bombing and stands as a testament to the human spirit.

In the town of Taftanaz in the Idlib countryside, Abu Muhammad becomes a symbol of unwavering courage. In the face of indiscriminate bombing and the aftermath of the February 6 earthquake, he refuses to abandon his home. Poverty deepens, living conditions worsen, and hope fades. Yet, Abu Muhammad remains, bravely defying the challenges that threaten to engulf him.

WATAN's Response: Economic Empowerment in Action:

In a powerful partnership with donors, WATAN initiates an economic empowerment project, delivering cash aid to the beleaguered town of Taftanaz. More than a mere distribution of financial assistance, this project becomes a beacon of support reverberating through the city, impacting the lives of 353 families.

The project, allocating a cash sum of 100\$ for four months, transcends the traditional notion of financial relief. It extends a liberating hand, allowing families to choose goods and services that cater to their specific needs. From these choices sprout seeds of empowerment, bearing witness to the transformative power of humanitarian cooperation.

Abu Muhammad attests to the project's impact: "I was not expecting this help. I contributed to

paying off the debts I had borrowed to secure my family's needs. Now, I feel completely independent, as I can secure my needs freely after this project." His story is not merely an endpoint but the commencement of narratives of resilience echoing from families affected by natural disasters.

Humanitarian Vision in Action:

Humanitarian projects, exemplified by WATAN's commitment, extend beyond financial support. They become crucial in early recovery and rebuilding lives shattered by crises. Cash assistance plays a pivotal role in promoting dignity, and respect, and revitalizing local economies, supporting small and medium enterprises.

WATAN's Commitment to Early Recovery:

WATAN's dedication is manifest in the meticulous selection of beneficiaries and the rigorous monitoring and evaluation to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian projects. The distribution of cash aid reflects a genuinely humanitarian vision that seeks to provide consistent support and assistance to vulnerable populations in times of crisis.

WATAN's threads of resilience weave tales of hope and empowerment in the heart of conflict. Abu Muhammad's story is but one chapter in this narrative of human endurance. The cash aid project becomes a symbol of choosing liberation, providing families with the means to rebuild their lives independently. As we navigate the complex tapestry of human existence, let us draw inspiration from these tales of hope and recommit ourselves to the collective effort of building a better future for all.

Challenges *and* Success

Challenges:

Security Concerns: The persistent conflict and volatile security situation posed significant challenges to WATAN's operations, impacting the safety and security of staff and beneficiaries alike. Access restrictions, bureaucratic hurdles, and the risk of armed violence presented formidable barriers to delivering aid and implementing projects effectively.

Resource Constraints: Limited funding, exacerbated by donor fatigue and competing humanitarian crises globally, constrained the organization's ability to scale up interventions and reach all vulnerable populations in need. Resource scarcity necessitated difficult decisions regarding project prioritization and allocation, often leaving critical needs unmet.

Infrastructure Damage: The February 6 earthquake dealt a severe blow to already fragile infrastructure, disrupting essential services and exacerbating humanitarian needs. The widespread destruction of roads, buildings, and utilities impeded the delivery of aid and hindered recovery efforts, posing logistical challenges and delays.

Coordination and Collaboration: Ensuring effective coordination among humanitarian actors, local authorities, and community stakeholders remained a persistent challenge. Fragmentation, competition for resources, and divergent priorities occasionally hindered collaborative efforts, limiting the collective impact of humanitarian interventions.

Successes:

Rapid Emergency Response: Despite facing immense challenges, WATAN's rapid emergency response teams demonstrated agility and effectiveness in providing life-saving assistance to earthquake-affected communities. Swift deployment of medical teams, distribution of relief supplies, and establishment of temporary shelters saved lives and alleviated suffering in the immediate aftermath of the disaster.

Community Engagement and Empowerment: WATAN's commitment to community-centered approaches and participatory decision-making empowered local populations to take ownership of recovery efforts. Engaging community leaders, mobilizing volunteers, and fostering grassroots initiatives strengthened social cohesion and resilience, amplifying the impact of humanitarian interventions.

Innovative Solutions: In the face of resource constraints and evolving challenges, WATAN embraced innovation and adaptability to optimize project outcomes. Leveraging technology, exploring alternative delivery mechanisms, and piloting new approaches enabled the organization to overcome obstacles and deliver targeted assistance efficiently.

Advocacy and Impact: WATAN's advocacy efforts on behalf of vulnerable populations yielded tangible results, driving policy changes, mobilizing support, and raising awareness on critical humanitarian issues. Amplifying the voices of affected communities, influencing decision-makers, and championing humanitarian principles enhanced the organization's impact and contributed to positive change.

Despite the trials and tribulations encountered along the way, WATAN's steadfast commitment to its mission and values remained unwavering. The challenges of 2023 served as catalysts for innovation, resilience, and collective action, fueling the organization's determination to continue serving as a beacon of hope and compassion for those in need. As WATAN navigates the path ahead, guided by lessons learned and fortified by its experiences, the journey towards a brighter, more resilient future for the people of Syria continues with unwavering resolve.



Our year by the number

\$34.5M

income received by different sources



\$12,75M
NFI



\$3,54M
WASH



\$2,63M
FSL



\$156k
Education



\$75.4k
Protection



\$11,5M
Shelter



\$3,35M
Health



\$417.5k
Emergency Response

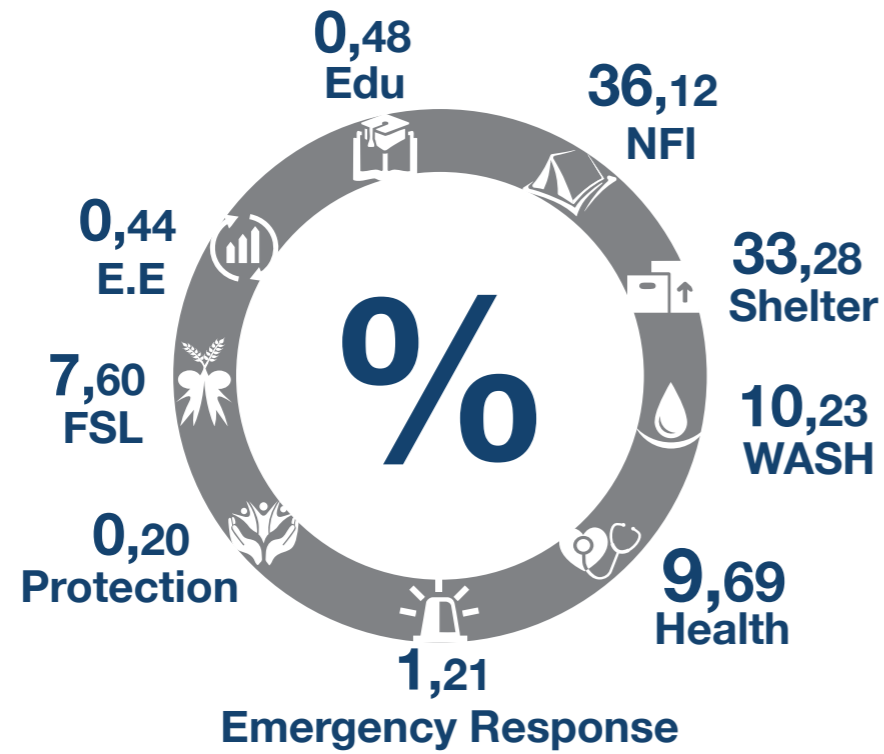


\$150.5k
Economic Empowerment

Financial Report

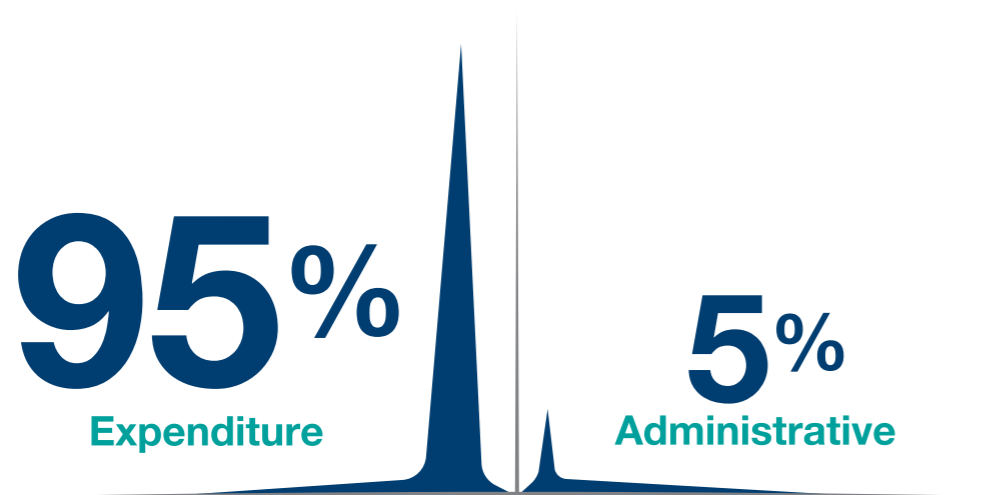


Expenditures



Unrestricted Income & Admin Share

As per WATAN expenditure for the year 2023, the percentage of operational expenditure is equal to %95 of the total expenditure while %5 was administrative cost.



Projects Expenses

According to WATAN's expenses for 2023, in-kind expenses accounted for %53, operational expenses for %42, and administrative expenses for %5.



ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting with respect to income and on an accruals basis with respect to expenditure, in accordance with the accounting policies as set out below. These accounting policies are in accordance with the policies and guidelines of WATAN. However, in relation to the accounting treatment of the inventories, WATAN's Policy is to expense these immediately to the statement of financial activities at acquisition. This is deemed to be a more appropriate accounting treatment than the treatment normally afforded to such transactions in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), which would require these transactions to be recorded as assets subject to annual accounting charges as these assets are utilized or consumed. These policies are in line with the normal accounting policies applied by International Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), which are observed due to their working environment.

- Fund Accounting Policy

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose. Restricted revenue is generated from the projects whose terms are specified with the Donor before the implementation starts. These types of contracts mainly include type and scope of work, implementation duration, expense type and contract value. Restricted revenue is generated as the same amount as the expenses charged on the Project.

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

- Incoming Resources

The principal accounting policies adopted is revenue recognition revenue is recognized under the percentage of completion method which allocates the expenses to the donors based on approved financial reports.

Voluntary income including donations and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognized where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognized as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

- Resources Expended

Liabilities are recognized as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Costs of generating funds are the costs associated with attracting voluntary income.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

- Admin Support Costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Special Thanks





WATANFoundation
www.WATAN.foundation

