

2016
Report to Sterling Escrow

Assistance to Refugees and Displaced Persons in the
Camps of Duhok Province
Iraq, Kurdistan Region

February – November 2016



Drawing course for children, Kabarto Camp I, August 2016

Locations

- Runga Camp
- Khanke Camp
- Essean Camp
- Kabarto Camps I and II
- Sharya Camp

Beneficiaries

4,200 refugee/IDP families (approx. 21,000 individuals) in total benefitted from the psycho-social assistance provided within the scope of this project.

Activities

All visits were conducted in coordination with the camp managements.

The purpose of the visits was to meet refugee families and in particular the newly arrived girls and women who returned from IS slavery, to sit together and talk to them, assess their needs and provide psycho-social assistance and various aid supplies like food, sanitary products, clothes and toys.

Whereever needed, women were referred to health centers. Many cases received emergency treatment and were taken abroad in coordination with other organizations and the local authorities.

The team also assisted those who needed legal documents such as ID, residency card, citizenship card and passport in coordination with the local authorities.

Several entertainment events for children were carried out: a circus presentation, a distribution of toys in the camps, a drawing course, and other happenings. The events were realized with the support of Jinda Center and Salt Foundation.



The WADI team (right and left) with two Yazidi women who just received new documents, August 2016

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Education

- 3-months English course for 72 students in the camps

Psycho-social assistance

- Extended and repeated talks with 462 women and girls, most of them survivors of IS captivity
- Social, psychological, health and mental health courses in all camps, total number of participants 519
- A drawing course for children age 5 – 15. 350 children in three camps participated.

Practical assistance

- Distribution of food supplies for 500 families who survived IS (supported by Khalsa Aid)
- Purchase and distribution of clothes for 800 surviving women and girls (supported by Khalsa Aid)
- Provision of official papers (ID and passport) for more than 200 females
- Provision of financial support to more than 40 cases with the help of government parties, NGOs or private donations
- In coordination with Baa'dre camp, refrigerators, stoves and gas bottles were distributed for more than 60 families.



Medical help

- Medical checkup for the female survivors
- Distribution of 30 diabetes check and blood devices in Essean camp
- 15 women and children received free medical surgeries in Azadi and Hevy hospitals as they had no income.
- Disabled children received milk, diapers and wheelchairs.

WADI team with Lamiya Aji Bashar who later received together with Nadia Murad the EU Sakharov human rights prize, April 25, 2016, Baadre Camp. The team helped Lamiya to reestablish her ID, registration cards and passport

Support ICC investigation of the persecution of Yazidis as a potential case of genocide:

- Taking those females who have no income to genocide court in Duhok for story documentation.

Local coordination

- The team participated in most conferences and events related to IDPs and refugees in Kurdistan Region.

Income generation

- Shops were opened (sewing, salon, handcrafts, jobs in governmental departments) and job opportunities were provided for 52 cases.¹



Monthly distribution of food and other items to Yazidi families, May 18, 2016



Wheelchair for Dildar, a 3 year old Yezidi IDP child, May 15, 2016

Networking

The activities were conducted in coordination with several international organizations, in particular:

Khalsa Aid, Salt Foundation, Heartland Alliance, NRC, ACF, GIZ, ICMP, UPP, IOM, Bridge air organization (Kurdistan-Germany) , UNHCR, NDO, UNICEF, UNESCO

¹ Video documentation of a beauty shop opening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6-yGs3KLo4>

WADI's extended local network which helped realizing the mentioned activities includes:

KRG office representative, office of kidnapped persons, genocide office for documentation, Duhok health department, Hari Kar NGO, Asuda, Jiyan Foundation, Barzany Charity Foundation, Shingal mayor, Chiya Shingal organization, Yazda, Essean Health center, KRG Department of Combating Violence against Women, Baa'dre Sub-district Directorate, Ezidi Spiritual Counsel, Nineveh Province, Kurdistan Women Union, Student Union, and other parties.



WADI team member as studio guest in a Waar Channel programme about violence against women and the fate of Yazidi girls abducted by ISIS, May 26, 2016

Journalists were supported and numerous interviews were given about the fate of the Yazidis and the human rights situation and violence against women in the region.

Exemplary Story

"Today we met Nadia (name changed), a 24 year old Yazidi woman, who was captured by ISIS on 15 of August 2014 in Kocho village and kept in slavery until end of May 2016. She had to suffer a lot in Fallujah, from where she managed to escape thanks to a local family, who helped her to cross the Furat river, where she met members of a Militia brigade, who brought her to Baghdad. All her other family members are still missing and either dead or held captive by ISIS.

She came to Dohuk and found shelter with an uncle of her who is one of the few male survivors of the Kocho massacre. After we heard about her, we met her and started to help her by bringing her to a medical check, purchasing some of her basic needs and trying to link her to the government department and other NGOs who can support her case.

As for hundreds of other girls and women who escaped ISIS terror we will try to help her as much as possible."



Basma and Sarah, Mobile Team Dohuk of Wadi, June 7th 2016

Capacity Building

WADI staff members Sarah Hassan and Basma Khidir attended many training courses to develop their skills, such as:

- Psychosocial support training by UNICEF
- Mental health and legal counseling by NDO
- Health awareness by Yazda
- Life skills by the international nexus of human values
- Trainers' course by the international nexus of human values
- Various courses by Nima center
- How to document mass grave cases: initial steps by ICMP
- International civil laws and its difference from human rights by Geneva call
- Human trafficking by Heartland Alliance
- Digital security by Asuda

Outlook

There is still great need for the kind of support WADI's team is able to provide, hence the ongoing activities will be continued in 2017.

Beneficiaries came up with numerous ideas as to how they could be supported efficiently, and as far as the funding situation permits, WADI will realize some of these ideas.

Among these ideas is a knitting shop, an orphanage for refugee children, a rehabilitation center for children who survived IS captivity, green houses for farming courses and income generation, as well as courses for other job opportunities.



Sharya Camp, preparing lists for food distribution, August 2016



Food distribution to 200 displaced Ezidi families, April 4, 2016