

Local Development

The Local Development Organization (LDO) has worked on the issuance of a monthly bulletin to highlight the news and activities of local councils and civil society organizations in Syria.

- Humanitarian context in Northern Syria.
- News of councils and organizations in Aleppo and Idleb governorates.
- News of associations operating in northern Syria.
- Local Development Organization News.
- Information on governance and local administration.
- Women worked in public affairs.
- Success stories.
- Meeting of the month.
- Statistics.



Humanitarian context in Northern Syria

The northern regions of Syria witnessed a military campaign by the regime forces and Russia on the southern and south-eastern countryside of Idlib. The campaign started with the beginning of November to this day. As a result of the campaign, about 40,117 families (216,632) people were displaced from the above-mentioned areas, distributed over 249 towns, camps and villages, since The beginning of the campaign on the 1st of November until the 25th of December, the displacement cases were very difficult due to targeting the main roads with intense aerial bombardment and poor transportation traffic for several reasons, the most important of which is the fear of bombing and the scarcity of fuel, there was a briefing for OCHA (issued on December 21, 2019) in this regard about the humanitarian situation in which spoke about the difficulty of displacement from areas of intense bombing and the willingness of the people to move to safer areas,

through which it reported that a temporary cessation of air strikes on December 21 between 6 a.m. until 12 p.m. on main roads which allowed thousands of civilians to flee their areas in Ma`rat al-Numan and its surroundings to safer areas, and there are still many stranded residents who could not get out of the hot spots.

In southern Idlib, many health facilities stopped due to the constant shelling, including Ma`rat al-Numan National Hospital, which can now only provide emergency services, and the Syrian American Medical Association (SAMS) announced that it was suspending its work in Ma`rat al-Numan National Hospital because it was targeted more than once within a week, also SAMS had suspended their work at Al Salama Maternity Hospital in Maarat al-Numan a week ago, and her staff also suspended work at Saraqib Health Center in eastern Idlib countryside, the targeted area in Ma`arat al-Numan is free of bakeries.



Local councils and organizations in Aleppo province updates



Al-bab Area

Al-bab local council:

The local council held a dialogue symposium during which the topic of the deterioration of the Syrian pound and economic problems was discussed, how to find solutions to them and the possibility of adopting the Turkish lira as an alternative to circulation. The symposium was called to all economic actors and associations in the city.

The Directorate of Municipal Services of the Local Council, in cooperation with the Electricity Company, prepared and connected the high-voltage lines connecting from Ar-Ra'ee city to the main electricity station in Al-Bab.

Under the auspices of the local council, the first olive festival event in the region, which was held in cooperation with Violet Organization, and was launched in the cultural center of Al-Bab city.

The local council trained the vaccination staff working in the city in preparation for launching the oral polio vaccination campaign.

Qabbasien local council:

The local council of Qabbasien and its countryside, in cooperation with Ar-Ra'ee Gas Center, distributed fuel (at cost price) for bakeries and generators to reduce the burden on the citizen.

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Bazagha local council:

The local council affirmed that all citizens must obtain the new identity card before the end of the year 2019, as a fine will be imposed on every person who does not obtain the ID as a maximum on 31st December 2019.

The local council in Bazagha started the implementation of the “marketplace project”, which includes constructing (13) new stores in cooperation with the Local Development Office.

The local council of Bazagha completed the second half of constructing the first floor of the local council building.

The local council conducted a field visit to review the rehabilitation works in (Al Sukaria Al Kabira - Al Tafare’a - Al Muqri) schools, which is carried out in cooperation with the SDI organization.

The local council, in cooperation with the Syrian Association for Studies and Consultations, held a legal awareness lecture on ways to obtain civil identi-

cation documents and register civil restrictions.

Azaz Area

Azaz local council:

The local council notified the owners of vehicles and cars to register their vehicles until 1/1/2020. After this date, all vehicles that are not registered will be seized and the owner will be subject to legal liability.

The psychological counseling center in the city held a celebration on the occasion of the international festival for people with special needs, and seven new classrooms were opened for special education in Azaz region on this occasion.

The local council worked to maintain the city’s roads and restore the street in front of the Women and children’s Hospital before the winter.

The local council has completed paving the road between Azaz city and the Katma village, with a width of 12 meters and a thickness of 10 cm.

The local council, in cooperation with the Humanitarian Relief Organization, distributed the feed to livestock owners in the framework of supporting the agricultural sector in order to conserve livestock.

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The local council paved the highway inside Sejjo village, with interlock stone, for a length of 1,500 meters.

The Syrian Engineers Organization for Reconstruction and Development held in coordination with the Turkish Disaster Management Organization "Afad" a training workshop on water and sanitation in Azaz in which more than 30 engineers participated.

Akhtrain local council:

The local council continued to work on the rehabilitation of (Tal Batal - Akhtrian Road) with asphalt.

The local council repaired the sewage system in the town in front of the town's hospital with a length of 150 meters.

Shafak Organization worked to rehabili-

tate the town's water pipe-line network to secure safe drinking water for about 9,000 people, in cooperation with the local council.



Ehteimlat local council:

The local council, in cooperation with World Vision, replaced the main water pipeline in the town with length of 20 m.

The local council started construction of a new waterway that passes through agricultural lands in cooperation with

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Shafaq Organization, instead of the old eroded one.

Shafak organized a seminar on training for awareness of remnants of war, attended by school administrators and teachers in the town.

Suran local council:

The local council worked to maintain the automatic bakery in Souran, which included equipment and building maintenance.

Sham organization built El-Jakkah Elementary School in Souran, and the opening was attended by the deputy governor of Kilis, the director of Kilis education directorate, and the head of the local council in the city.

Dweidan local council:

In cooperation with Shafak Al-Bida', the local council started installing a Submersible Pump for the second well in the town.

Dabeq local council:

The local council, with the support of Acted organization, undertook the cash-for-work project with the aim of expanding and defusing the river in order to protect the town from floodwaters, and to carry out emergency repair of sanitation.

Mare' local council:

The local council completed paving Mare' - Kaljibrin road with a length of 9 km and a thickness of 10 cm.



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Jarablus Area

Jarablus local council:

The local council in Jarablus has expanded the sewage network and paved main and branch roads in the city.



The local council completed the project of building a residential rehabilitation village in Jarablus, and the orphans and widows was settled there.

Afrin Area

Afrin local council:

The Chamber of Industry and Commerce Committee affiliated with the local council continued to visit the registered industrial establishments and commercial stores in the chamber to give their owners entry and exit permits from Hammam border crossing.

The control department team in the local council conducted field visits to the city streets to ensure that the owners of the stores who were given a previous warning because they had occupied the street.

The Social Service Center and the Sports Office the Local Council organized a



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recreational trip to Turkey for 50 people with special needs on the occasion of the International Day for People with Special Needs, with the aim of improving their psychological condition.

The local council, in the ongoing efforts of achieving food security, registered the requests of new memberships of the Chamber and those wishing to grow wheat to obtain wheat seed and white and black fertilizer, knowing that these materials will be paid for after the end of the harvest season.

The agricultural office of Afrin local council, in cooperation with the Directorate of Agriculture in Turkey, carried out a vaccine campaign for sheep and goats, where approximately 16,400 were vaccinated in Afrin.

The technical workshop of the Water Corporation Afrin local council began to maintain the leakage in the main pipe-line of the city, after conducting the necessary examination for it, as the team conducts inspection tours of the network lines periodically in order to ensure their safety.

The sports office in Afrin local council opened the first class football championship for men, with the participation of 12 clubs, which will be held in Afrin Sports City Stadium.

The technical workshop of the Water Corporation in Afrin local council connected a reinforcement water pipe-line in Mahmudiyah region, with the aim of securing access to water for the largest number of homes.

Under the supervision of the sports office in Afrin local council and in coordination with the Sports Federation in Turkey, a training and introductory course was held for a number of karate coaches in the liberated areas with the aim of developing this sport and preparing the trainers and honing their skills.

The service office in Sheikh Hadeed local council maintained and paved the roads in the district.

Atareb Area

Atareb local council:

The local council met with the owners of generators and agreed to fix the Ampere price at 1,500 SP at a rate of 3 hours daily operation in exchange for providing the local council of generator owners with diesel at appropriate price.

The Local Council issued Circular No. 264, which was addressed to the displaced to document their rental contracts with the local mukhtar and with two witnesses, so that the contract is considered a document that allows each

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displaced person to obtain his dues.

The local council rehabilitated and cleaned the city's sewers.

Abin Samaan local council:

The local council announced water will be pumped for three hours per day, four times per month, and in return, it will collect a fee of 2,500 SP per month.

The local council cut the water lines for those who failed to pay the fees, and the council made a call to cooperate with it and pay the fees to continue pumping water.

Kafr Naha local council:

Under the supervision of the local council and the support of the townspeople, a new section was dug in the cemetery in the Al-Rahal area, next to the Armenian Association, after the old section was filled.

Syria vaccine team announced the launch of the oral polio vaccination campaign in the town.

Mercy Organization distributed a cash grant to new IDPs in Kafr Naha (\$250 to 280 families).

Jebel Saman Area

Daret Azza local council:

Eve organization in Darat Azza set up a

package of computer courses for women in order to develop and raise the capabilities of women.



A volunteer team from Kenana Hospital conducted a discussion session on gender-based violence attended by many women on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Eve organization launched the "Detergent Industry at Home" course, which singled out women who have no breadwinners in order to create a job opportunity for them, qualify them, and enable them to depend on themselves under difficult living conditions.

City center Area

Idlib city local council:

Idlib Health Directorate, in cooperation with the Syrian-American Medical Association SAMS, graduated the first batch of female midwifery students in Idlib and Termanin, where the number of female

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graduates reached thirty eight students and their study period lasted eighteen months.

Bennsh local council:

The local council discharged the water pools in the city to the sanitation system.

Sarmin local council:

Ajyal Center in cooperation and coordination with the local council conducted a training package entitled "MS word" first level.

Kafr Yahmul local council:

Shafak Organization, in cooperation with the local council, conducted awareness sessions on children's rights and group activities for children on the occasion of International Children's Day.

Foah local council:

The local council, in cooperation with the civil defense, prepared the eastern neighborhood as a substitute for the main street as a local market "bazar" to ease congestion in the town.

Hazano local council:

The local council, in cooperation with Masarat Organization, prepared a preparatory session with farmers before distributing seeds and fertilizer to them, through which they explained the methods of cultivation and methods of fertilizing the lands.

Ma'arrat Tamasrin local council:

The service office of the local council paved a number of road sections in the northern district of the city.

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Harim Area

Harim local council:

The local council held an auction for the investment of the motorcycle market near “seven seas” square.

The local council announced the suspension of the memorandum of understanding with “Masar” organization due to the lack of conformity of the basket’s materials with the book of conditions, bringing bad and non-conforming materials and evaluating them in an amount that exceeds their real value according to the council.

Goal organization declared an announcement to contract with food store owners to open a market for food voucher project in the city.

The Syria vaccine team announced the launch of the oral polio vaccination campaign in the city, in addition to giving vitamin A.

ACTED organization announced the opening to apply for women’s small projects in the city, as part of the livelihood projects. Financial grants will accompany the provision of training for women to build their capacities and develop their skills.

The local council announced a campaign for sheep and livestock vaccine against

FMD in Harim, in cooperation with Violet Organization.

Sarmada local council:

Syria vaccine team has opened a permanent vaccine center that provides vaccines for children and pregnant women to reduce pressure congestion from the hospital’s vaccine center.



Azmarin local council:

The local council worked for a full week in the maintenance of sewage networks in the town.

GOAL has signed contracts with the owners of food stores in Azmarin market for food vouchers project.

Kafr Takharim local council:

The local council distributed diesel to the city’s schools, and the amount distributed was 3,500 liters.

Dana local council:

The local council announced the opening of the central slaughterhouse in the city and directed the butchers to

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work in there, under the subject to liability.

The local council has finished paving Dana new bakery street, in cooperation with the people.

Atma local council:

The local council announced that they will install cameras in sensitive places in the town to control security, and asked the people to cooperate and help in this matter.



The local council repaired the old water pump and purchased a new generator in case of any breakdown in order to keep pumping water to the people in the town.

Ma'arrat An Nu'man Area

Ma'arrat An Nu'man local council:

Syria vaccine team announced the launch of the oral polio vaccination campaign in the city for children aged up to five years old.

The local council announced the opening of registration for water tanks from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the party old building.

The local council announced that it raised the price of the water tank with a capacity of (22-24) barrels (delevered to house) 1,700 SP. And the price of the water tank capacity of 10 barrels (delevered to house) 1,100 SP and that is due to the high fuel prices.

Maar Shurin local council:

The local council, in cooperation with the civil defense team, bulldozed the landfill and cleaned the area around it in order to protect the town and the residents from dirt and disease.

Ariha Area

Ariha local council:



Orange launched "Pack" project in the city, which aims to strengthen the capabilities of 1,000 young men and women and enable them to enter the labor

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market by providing professional consultations and a set of training programs that help them build their career path. In addition to providing them with job opportunities.

Space of Peace Organization Survey team organized visits to several health facilities in northern Syria where they distributed brochures and explained on referrals of gender-based violence as part of the activities of the 16-day campaign to combat violence against women launched by the organization.

The Child Protection Committee of Space of Peace Organization launched an initiative to support people with special needs through the distribution of brochures aiming to raise the physical and intellectual level of people with disabilities and integrate them with the community that forms an essential part of it, as part of the campaign entitled "For You" launched by the organization.

Orm Eljoz local council:

Mercy Without Limits organized a 16-day campaign to combat violence against women, which aimed to increase community awareness of women and adolescents and the appreciation of women's rights through numerous seminars and workshops.

Jasmine Center for Social Development launched "warm" campaign in preparation for the winter, with the aim of shedding light on the difficulties facing the internally displaced in Syria and collecting winter aid for them.

Jasmine Center for Social Development held a cultural seminar on the danger of underage marriage, entitled "Underage marriage is a community suicide".

Jisr-Ash-Shugur Area

Jisr-Ash-Shugur local council:

The local council worked to clean the city's streets and remove debris after the recent bombing campaign targeted the city.

The local council cleaned the schools to continue the educational process.

The local council repaired the main sewage line after it damaged a result of the recent bombing campaign.

The local council announced the launch of the "Green Fingerprint" campaign, which aims to grow trees and flowers within the city, in which members of the local council, neighborhood committees and some families participated.

Associations operating in northern Syria

Free Bar Association (Aleppo Branch):

The Free Bar Association Council participated in the activities of a workshop organized by “Syrian Journalists for Human Rights” Foundation in Gaziantep, Turkey, which highlights the difficulties and challenges facing workers in media and press fields before and during the Syrian revolution, and proposes practical solutions that guarantee the protection and independence of workers in these fields is both human and legal.

The Free Bar Association Council held its 57th regular session at the council’s headquarters in Azaz, in which it audited many of the new affiliates’ requests to the branch’s board and referred them to the specialized committee to verify its formal and substantive conditions.

The Council of the Free Bar Association branch in Aleppo established in cooperation and coordination with “Bridges of Justice Int “ a round table at the council headquarters in Azaz, titled “Crimes against real estate properties” discussing the crimes committed by the regime since it assumed power over real estate owners within the Syrian territories and the policy of enacting laws that enable him to tighten control over the property of his opponents and put mecha-

nisms and methods to protect real estate property legally under international laws.



The Association of Free Syrian Engineers (Aleppo Branch):

The Association of Free Syrian Engineers held its second periodic meeting in which the financial and administrative reports of the branch council were presented and approved, as was the election of a member of the branch council and a member of the Internal Control Committee and a draft of the internal regulations for organizing the work of the engineering people on the branch body, discussed and approved.

The Association printed “Association Identities” and distributed them to the members at the main branch and other offices in administrative areas.

The Association issued a statement denouncing the massacre committed by the regime in Qah camp and called on the international community to investigate that and hold the perpetrators accountable.

Local Development Organization



Future of Local Administration and Governance in Syria:

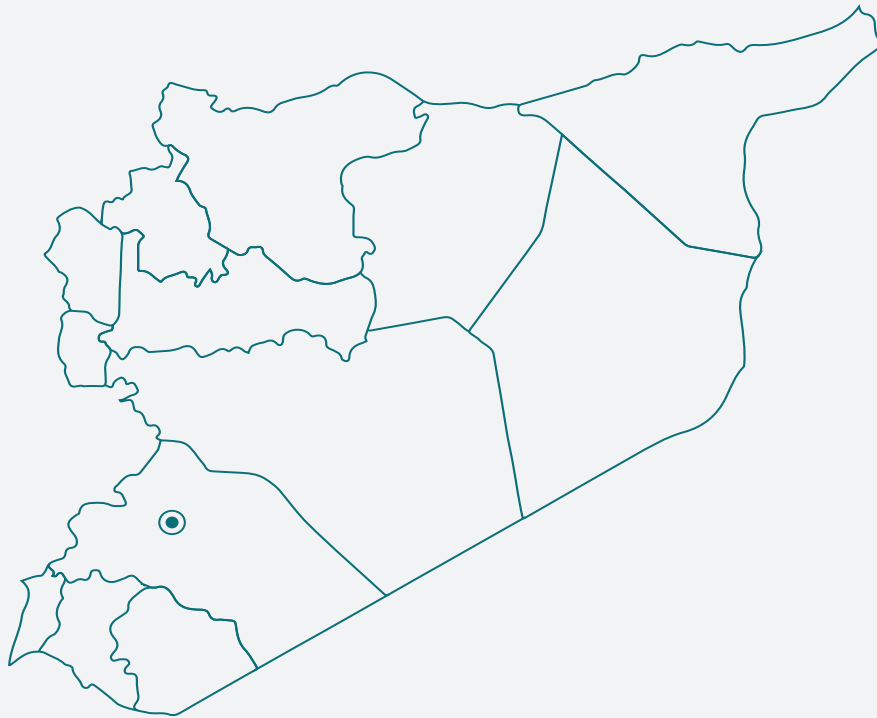
Local Development Organization (LDO) continued the capacity building courses for the Studies and Research Department through training on methodology and style of public speaking with a five-day training, in addition to working on developing the organization strategy through the reassessment and development of the current applied strategy in line with the needs of governance for local councils and civil society bodies in the liberated areas, and the second two workshops were held to assess the success experiences in governance for local councils in the liberated areas during the last period, and started preparing videos documenting experiences of success of local councils in the liberated areas, in addition to starting preparing in-depth studies of governance in Syr-

ia in the councils sector and civil society organizations with the aim of giving indicators and outlines to see governance in the coming stages and the organization followed up through the meetings with partner organizations in the governance platform to develop a common vision of a plan Work for the next stage.

Women's Voice project:

In occasion of the International Day against Violence against Women, Local Development Organization (LDO), in cooperation with partners inside Syrian, launched a series of awareness-raising activities and seminars dealing with issues of empowering Syrian women and emphasizing the importance of their participation in community activities and eliminating any form of exploitation and violence that takes place in practice against women.

Information about local administration in Syria



Historical development of the legislative framework for local administration in Syria:

The first stage:

- After independence in 1946, many laws were issued to regulate state affairs, including the Municipalities Law No. 172 of 1956, the District Councils Law and Resolution No. 215 of 1956 and the Law of Administrative Organizations No. 496 of 1957.

The second stage:

- In 1971 Legislative Decree No. 15 of 1971 containing the Local Administration Law was issued, and then the executive regulations of the Local Administration Law were issued by Decree 2297 of 1971.

The third stage:

- In 2011, after the outbreak of the Syrian revolution, Legislative Decree No. 107 of 2011 containing the Local Administration Law was issued, which, according to Article 161, repealed all previous laws, and then in 2012 Resolution 42 of the Ministry of Local Administration containing the internal system of administrative units councils and their executive offices was issued.

Women worked in public affairs



Mrs. Bayan Mohammad Rihan

Born on April 1st 1986 in Duma, before the revolution she was a fourth-year college student (geographic department), a social-studies school teacher, and a volunteer at a Charity in Duma for the Community Learning Center project. Then, with the break-out of the revolution, she participated in the demonstration in the first funeral of the martyrs and began coordinating demonstrations and peaceful movement with Women and youth in Duma coordination and became a correspondent very early as she was filming women's demonstrations and media interventions at the beginning of 2012 she founded "Coordination of Tha'irat", which published the first issue of the Tha'irat magazine and was arrested for the first time by the Syrian regime in the first month In 2012 in one of the demonstrations on Friday with a delegation of foreign journalists, she was arrested for several hours and released by the foreign journalist. Then she continued her work in media, relief and aid, and participated in principles of first aid training and formation of a field hospital, and during the storming of Duma city by the regime forces she was at the field hospital and left the city and returned after two days and participated in establishing the General Authority of Civil Defense and then was arrested by the Syrian regime again on September 25th 2012 for one month and released with negotiations between the Free Army and the Syrian regime and returned to Duma city to work with the coordination of the city and first aid. She participated in establishing Iqra Educational Center

Women worked in public affairs

in December 1st 2012 for displaced children, then moved to the local council of Duma, where she initially worked in the Public Relations and Information Office and then established the women's office in the local council on January 1st 2015 where she worked on several projects for women and society, including:

1. Empowering Women Project for the institutional work where two women were employed in the council after a training program.
2. The committee responsible for projects with Tamkeen Organization where the women's office had a special project which is the training hall, and participation in other projects supervised by the council.
3. Livelihood project for women that provides a financial grant for women to carry out their own projects.
4. Legal and Medical Awareness lectures for women in the city.
5. Awareness Campaign for Women in the city to participate in the local council elections.
6. A campaign in the city to encourage women to run for elections, this campaign lasts for a full year and as a results 15 women were nominated, 9 of them succeeded in the general assembly elections.
7. Participation in forming a women committee in Rural Damascus governorate and running for the governorate elections.
8. Advocacy Campaign to stop internal fighting in cooperation with activists in Eastern Ghouta in 2017.

Bayan also accompanied the United Nations delegations to Eastern Ghouta and also communicated with the World Food Organization (WFP), where it provided information, one of the results of which was writing a report on the deteriorating food security situation in Eastern Ghouta in light of the siege. During the fierce campaign carried out by the Syrian regime and Russia on Eastern Ghouta, she was with the emergency committee that provided services to the people under the bombing until the displacement to the north of Syria began, so she went out with the displaced people as well.

Meeting of the Issue



The engineer: Ali Hallak

The Local Development Organization held a meeting with Eng. Ali Hallak Director General of Local Administration and Displaced Affairs at the Ministry of Local Administration and Services in the Syrian Interim Government:

Welcome Mr. Ali, if you would like to tell us at the beginning about you, your profession, and your start with the local councils?

My name is Ali Hallak, a displaced from Aleppo city, an IT engineer, "artificial intelligence and natural language processing". I hold a diploma in local administration from the Arab Reform Initiative in cooperation with the Swedish University of Lund and another diploma in local administration and local governance from Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University in Istanbul.

My beginning with local councils was with Aleppo city local council, in which I worked as director of the Human and Administrative Resources Department and a member of the Executive Office for Project Management and then I worked in training for local councils on several topics, the most important of which are in governance and management.

I joined the Syrian interim government and worked as an assistant to the head of strategic planning and international cooperation and then head of the Syrian Commission for Displaced and Refugee Affairs and most recently I was appointed as director of local administration and displaced affairs.

Meeting of the Issue

Mr. Ali, could you please tell us about the Ministry of Local Administration, the work assigned to the it and its departments?

The Ministry of Local Administration is a ministry that was established with the launching of the Syrian interim government and is the body concerned with forming and operating local councils. The Ministry works in the local administration sector to achieve a set of strategic issues as follows:

Governance, Property rights, Emergency and camps, Community cohesion, Local development.

1. And that is through developing and building four directorates as follows:
2. The Local Councils Directorate, which is concerned with elections and formation of local councils, developing executive regulations and internal regulations governing the work of local councils.
3. The Directorate Internally and Forcibly Displaced Persons Affairs, a recently established directorate that specializes in organizing and monitoring the situation of displacement and forced displacement by forming committees for them, wherever they are.
4. Real Estate Interests Directorate, whose main task is to organize real estate issues in the liberated areas and it is currently in the process of being established.
5. The Social and Labor Affairs Directorate, which is also in the process of being established, which will focus on the work of organizations, family affairs, people with special needs, and issues of combating unemployment.

We have finished preparing the operational plans of the four directorates and we are currently seeking to implement them in coordination with the stakeholders in each field according to a government approach that seeks to enhance national partnerships with various actors.

Meeting of the Issue

What are the obstacles that stand against achieving these goals?

There are many obstacles that confront us in our work, foremost of which is the lack of funding, which is the first obstacle in addition to the continuous change in the controlled areas inside Syria, which is followed by displacement in very large numbers, not to mention the ongoing security challenges, and a subjective factor represented by the failure of some regulations to defend major changes in the work of local councils.

A final word that you want to direct through the fourth issue of Local Development Organization's Newsletter, which you were the guest?

The current difficult stage that the Syrians are going through now requires support and assist for the national institutions created by the revolution because the word of any future merit will be for the strength of the institutions that represent the Syrians and this matter is considered a collective national responsibility in front of institutions, civil society organizations and society as a whole.

success stories

In cooperation between Idlib City Local Council and Violet Organization, on Dec 12th 2019 two buses for internal transport in the city of Idlib under the name of Al Khair Bus will start working, at a rate of five daily trips for free and in two major northern and southern routes, provided that the number of trips be increased to eight trips after a while if there is available diesel and its low price, which has received great acceptance among .the people

Statistics

Victims:

252 civilians, between a man and a woman, including **79** children, were killed at the start of the recent military campaign by the regime and Russia targeting northern Syria in the period from November **1st** to December **25th**.

Displacement:

More than **19,898** displaced families **109,408** people, between a man and a woman, are the numbers of families and people displaced from the areas that are being targeted by the forces of the regime and Russian occupation during the period from November **1st** to December **17th**.

Camps:

41 camps inhabited by more than 5,791 displaced families, are the number of camps and families affected by the winter and rainstorms in northern Syria.



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