

# 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 Idleb.
- Successful project "Free University of Aleppo".
- News of councils and organizations in Aleppo and Idleb governorates.
- News of councils and organizations in Tell-Abiad and Ras Al Ain.
- 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.

## Displaced numbers and their needs

The number of families displaced from the beginning of the Syrian regime and Russia's military campaign against the northern Syria from November **2nd, 2019** until the announcement of the cease-fire on January **12th, 382,466** thousand people **67,104** families.

After January **12th** ceasefire, there were breaches of the agreement by regime and Russian aircrafts that led to the displacement of **16,547** people, 2,903 families, as of January **17th**.

Immediate humanitarian assistance is the most important thing that IDPs need in northern Syria, where food, shelter security as well as health and psychosocial support have become an urgent need for IDPs to prepare ready-

to-eat food rations and cooked meals as a priority for them, due to the fact that many of the newly displaced do not have the means of cooking, in addition to the urgent need for bread. The result of tremendous pressure on the northern regions and insufficient allocations, in addition to heating, winter clothes and blankets.

**20%** of newly displaced people seek shelter in camps while **30%** live with host families, **18%** in rented homes and **13%** others live in unfinished buildings, according to preliminary studies, public buildings, mosques and schools are temporary shelters for a number of large displaced families.



Idlib countryside

## Successful project «Free University of Aleppo»



The University of Aleppo was launched in the liberated areas at the beginning of the **2015-2016** academic year to be the first university in the liberated Syrian interior, operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education in the Syrian interim government, with the participation of founding, supervising, financial and logistical care by Education Without Borders (Midad), Aleppo University is considered A formal academic educational institution that provides undergraduate and graduate education services to students in the liberated areas.

The university's colleges and institutes have been distributed in the various liberated areas "Aleppo - Idlib - Damascus countryside - Homs - Lattakia

The number of students reached **8,100** students "in the academic year **2016-2015**"

Now, as a result of the situation that has taken place in some liberated areas (Damascus countryside, Daraa and Homs) from forced displacement, the university's work has been concentrated in Aleppo countryside (Azaz and Marea')

The number of students at the university for the current academic year **2019-2020** has reached **5,009** male and female students with different specializations and different levels of study, including **311** male and female students in postgraduate studies.

The number of university faculty members with Ph.D. holders has reached **60** university teachers of various academic ranks: Professor - Assistant Professor - Teacher.

While the number of members of the technical staff and teaching assistants with masters and bachelors degrees: **36** academics.



## Local councils and organizations in Aleppo province updates

Also, the administrative body numbers holders of Masters, bachelors, Institute and Secondary school degrees reached **89** administrative employee.

**1,662** students graduated from the university until the end of the academic year **2018-2019** from various colleges and institutes affiliated with the university, while the number of graduates from postgraduate studies (Ph.D., masters and qualification diplomas) reached **61** students.

### Al-bab Area

#### **Al-bab local council:**

The local council carried out some rehabilitation works in the city's bus station (Otogar).

#### **Qabbasien local council:**

AK Energy company announced the launch of registering subscriptions to deliver electricity.

The local council, in cooperation with Ihsan Relief and Development Organization, held a training course on the maintenance and operation of water stations.

#### **Bazagha local council:**

The local council completed the first

part of constructing the first floor of the local council new building.



The local council conducted a vaccination campaign against FMD for sheep, cows and goats in the city and the countryside, where (8,200) livestock were vaccinated and the vaccination will be completed upon receipt of a new batch of the vaccine.

The local council, in cooperation with the Syrian Association for Studies and Consultations, held a legal awareness lecture on contracts and sales, the mechanism for fixing them and documents, and the need to preserve them.

Watan organization, in coordination with the Syria vaccine team and with the support of UNICEF, installed a 15 kW solar system project for Bezaa health center.

## Local councils and organizations in Aleppo province updates



### Azaz Area

#### **Azaz local council:**

The local council opened the central hospital in the city, a year after starting to restore and equip it in the framework of supporting the medical sector in the region and meeting the needs of citizens.

The local council started the rehabilitating of the central market in the city, as a first step, pour the main pillars and equip them for the post-processing of the structure in a hemispherical shape along the market in the city.

The local council has worked on restoring the road in the western neighbor-

hood with asphalt as part of the council's plan to maintain roads within the city.

In cooperation with the Council of Al-salama Villages, Shafak Organization has extended a sewage line to Yahmul village with a length of 1,126 meter.

#### **Akhtrein local council:**

The local council prepared the high voltage line connecting to the city to supply it in cooperation with the Syrian-Turkish company.

The local council signed a memorandum of understanding with ACU to estab-

## Local councils and organizations in Idleb province updates

lish a mentoring unit for the city and its countryside, with the aim of supporting farmers and enabling them economically, reducing unemployment rates and increasing living opportunities in the region, according to the introduction of the memo.

### **Kafra local council:**

The local council distributed the fourth batch of feed to beneficiaries of livestock support in cooperation with the International Humanitarian Relief Organization, the distribution included (pellet fodder - barley - hay) in addition to continuing the activities of the mobile veterinary clinic to the beneficiaries of the project.

### **Suran local council:**

The local council worked to complete the road paving project in the city, as the main road within the town is currently being paved.

### **Kaljibrin local council:**

The local council, with the support of the local development office and supporting small projects, worked to open the modern automatic bakery in the town.

### **Dabeq local council:**

The local council, with the support of ACTED, worked to establish a park in the center of the town.



### **Mare' local council:**

In cooperation between the Qatar Charity Organization and the local council, the second phase of the silo restoration and rehabilitation project in the city has begun. This phase includes maintenance work on the metal body, which extends for a period of 45 days.

The local council, in cooperation with Shafak organization, extended the city's sewage network with a length of 1,200 meter.

### **Ar-Ra'ee local council:**

The maintenance teams of the local council, in cooperation with the maintenance teams of the "Turkish Energy" company, have prepared a connection station between the Syrian and Turkish side in Ar-Ra'ee city, in preparation for the delivery of electricity from Turkey.

## Local councils and organizations in Aleppo province updates

### Jarablus Area

#### **Jarablus local council:**

Ghandorah office, affiliated with the local council in Jarablus, destroyed quantities of expired medicines after they confiscated them from pharmacies.

This month, a local council was formed in Ghandourah in the countryside of Jarablus, headed by Mr Saleh Sharif.

The council's service office repaired the sewage in the city streets.

### Afrin Area

#### **Afrin local council:**

The service office in the council, in cooperation with Bahar Organization, established a landfill for organic waste to manage solid waste in an environmentally sound manner and preserve health.

The health office met in the Council to discuss health problems and develop appropriate solutions for them, and to develop a plan to rotate pharmacies in the city over the course of 24 hours, and requests for affiliation in the Pharmacists Committee were also accepted and conditions for licenses to open the pharmacy.

The health office in the council, in coop-

eration with SRD, Hand in Hand, Bahar and IDA organizations, provided health care through mobile clinics for newly arrived families to Afrin region of Idlib.

Under the auspices of the local council in Jenderes and under the supervision of the water unit, the main submersible pump for Junders and Kafr Safra water station was maintained.

International Relief Organization continued to implement the mobile veterinary clinic project under the name "Khairat Biladi", by providing veterinary treatment and vaccines to the beneficiaries of the project in Afrin region and its countryside.

The service office in Jenderes Council followed up the work of repairing some sewage lines in the area.



ACU, in cooperation with Olive Branch Chamber of Agriculture, launched the Agricultural Economic Empowerment Project in northern Syria.



## Local councils and organizations in Idlib province updates



### Atareb Area

#### **Atareb local council:**

The local council announced a public auction for the rental of garage and municipal stores until January 6th 2020.

The local council issued a circular stating that the vehicles will be inspected within a week of announcing this. Anyone wishing to, must review the council. Launch a campaign (and honor them) in the city to receive the displaced from Idlib countryside, in cooperation between the local council and civil society organizations.

The local council announced, through its agricultural office, a vaccination cam-

paign for chickens with (Newcastle) vaccine (plaster).

#### **Abin Samaan local council:**

The local council provided several plots of land for use as a camp for new IDPs from the southeastern countryside of Idlib.

The local council issued a notice to the people that the water pumping fees should be paid under penalty of cutting the water and referring to the court.

The local council signed a memorandum of understanding with People in Need organization to start a project to rehabilitate the landfill east of the town.

The local council issued a circular stating



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that no complaint related to the work of the council will be accepted unless it is in writing and thus complaints on social media are not accepted.

### **Abzemo local council:**

The local council secured 14 houses for the displaced from Al-Ma'ara countryside and paid the rent for them for a month.

SRD organization provided tents to repair old tents for 55 families and daily meals, then distributed bread packs, hygiene baskets and food baskets to 49 families.

## **Jebel Saman Area**

### **Daret Azza local council:**

The Council issued a circular stating that the displaced persons must register their rental contracts in front of Mukhtar and in the presence of two witnesses, in order for it to be approved as an official document enabling them to obtain cooperative benefits.

The local council repaired sewer lines in front of the automatic bakery in the city.

## **City center area**

### **Idlib city local council:**

The local council announced that the registration for "finalizing building works" of a number of houses project inside the city will be extended until Wednesday January 15th 2020, knowing that the project will be implemented in cooperation between the council and Bina Development Organization.

The local council announced the offer of some shops for investment and asked those who wish to invest to submit a request to the council.

The local council has warned the investors of the roofed market stores to cancel their contracts and put the stores back for investment because of their failure to fulfill their obligations.

### **Bennsh local council:**

The local council asked the breeders of chickens and pigeons to refer to the council to receive (Newcastle disease) vaccines.

The local council repaired the roads in the city east of Hammam Square.

### **Hazano local council:**

Watan, in cooperation with the local

## Local councils and organizations in Idleb province updates

council in the town, cleaned the main sewage system for the town and the neighboring towns.

The local council, under the supervision of the services office, restored some of the town's excavations.

The local council signed a memorandum of understanding with Bonyan to support the secondary school in the town.

The local council announced the formation of an Emergency Response Committee to assist the displaced people from Ma'arrat An Nu'man area.

The International Rescue Committee announced the launch of the Cash for Work project for women, which is represented by wool-knitting activities, and requested those wishing to join the project to register within a specified period.

### Harim area

#### Harim local council:

The local council issued a note with the intention of raising awareness and urging the reception of new IDPs from Ma'arrat An Nu'man and the southern countryside of Idleb and not using them in rents (profiteering) and others.

The local council also launched a dis-

tress call for organizations and associations to assist the displaced people from the southern countryside of Idleb and Ma'arrat An Nu'man.



#### Sarmada local council:

The local council and members of the emergency room of Sarmada held a meeting during which a committee was formed, and collected a \$2,306 and 2,330,200SP to purchase water tanks and secure the needs of the displaced.

The local council signed a memorandum of understanding with Bena Organization on a water project in the city that includes replacing a water network with a length of 5,500 meter and providing 4 electrical generators for water stations, a horizontal pump and a submersible pump, where the duration of the project will be four months.

The service office of the local council cleaned rain-nozzles, provide water for schools, and assisted the displaced in

## Local councils and organizations in Idlib province updates

sanitation and water services.

### **Azmarin local council:**

The local council issued a note to determine the ceiling of house rents in the town and not to exploit the new IDPs from the southern Idlib countryside.

### **Kafr Takharim local council:**

The local council asked investors and tenants of its stores for the to re-new their contracts for the year 2020.

The local council announced the 2020 first-round phone bill was issued in Kafr Takharim, and asked the families to pay before cutting the lines of the defaulting subscribers

Bena organization requested that families who did not benefit from Ihsan Organization project for residential building restoration operations to apply for Bena to benefit from these services.

Hurras network in cooperation with the Child Protection Committee in Kafr Takharim announced an invitation to young men and adolescents “males” between the ages of 15-18 years to participate in life skills training that aims to make young people more able to deal with different situations in their daily

lives and make change Positive.

### **Dana local council:**

Women from the city launched a campaign they called (Relief of the Distressed) in coordination with the local council as a response for newly displaced from the southern countryside of Idlib, where meals were distributed in a home kitchen.



The local council has worked to equip a shelter center for the recently displaced from Ma'arrat An Nu'man and southern Idlib countryside.

The local council has rehabilitation and initial maintenance of the road from Al-resala Bakery to the automatic bakery to facilitate traffic, as an temporary solution, pending appropriate measures to be taken at the beginning of the spring.

The local council in the city announced a campaign to vaccinate the chicken with the Newcastle vaccine.



## Local councils and organizations in Idlib province updates

### **Eskat local council:**

The local council, in cooperation with ACTED organization, announced the opening of registration for supporting small women's projects, which starts on Wednesday 15th January 2020 and ends on Monday 20th.

### **Selwa local council:**

The local council, in cooperation with the resedience, installed tents in Althanawiah yard for the displaced people from and around Ma'arrat An Nu'man area.

## **Ariha area**

### **Ariha local council:**

Orange launched the "Hizam" project in Ariha, which aims to enhance the capabilities of 1,000 young men and women and enable them to enter the workforce by providing professional consultations and a set of training programs that help them build a career path.

The local council sent a distress call to civil society organizations, local councils, international organizations concerned with Syrian affairs, and associations operating in northern Syria to meet the needs of the displaced, and provide them with shelter.

### **Orm Eljoz local council:**

The local council announced a campaign for oral polio vaccination, with vitamins A for children aged from one day to five years.



## **Jisr-Ash-Shugur area**

### **Janudiyeh local council:**

GOAL organization contract with the local council to support bread for one of the bakeries in the town was renewed by three additional months, until 3rd March 2020.

### **Bsheiriyeh local council:**

The local council and a group of social activists launched an initiative to collect in-kind donations in order to secure what is needed for the displaced people of Ma'arrat An Nu'man and its countryside.

### Tell-Abiad area

The Education Office of the local council has opened more than 65 schools in Tell-Abiad and its countryside and 35 schools in Suluk and its countryside, and work is ongoing to open all schools in the region.

The water services office of the local council provided a new motor for "Hweijet Abdi" town pump after the previous engine failed, and fuel was provided to more than 20 pumps in Tell-Abiad and Suluk.

The local council distributed drinking water to the people in Abu Qraya until the failure that caused the water not reached them was fixed.



Turkish Red Crescent opened Al-Mahabba free shopping center in Tell-Abiad In the presence of Sanliurfa governor.

Ataa Charity, in cooperation with the local council, provided ambulances ful-

ly equipped to the National Hospital to serve the sick and injured.

Water services office team repaired the malfunction near the border-crossing, which fed both Masaken neighborhood and the eastern neighborhoods of the city.

The local council received a quantity of flour provided by the Turkish Red Crescent and AFAD, and it was deposited in the warehouse to be distributed to the bakeries later.

Services office team of the local council continued to rehabilitate and repair all public health facilities in the city. The teams will also expand their work in a second stage in Suluk and Hammam At-Turkman.

The local council launched a campaign entitled "the week of general hygiene" in Tell-Abiad, Suluk and their countryside, to clean streets, and public places.

The Office of Endowments and Religious Affairs of the local council and Alsham Association for Orphans opened an orphanage in Tell-Abiad and works to support orphans in the city, and provides health, psychological, social and cultural care to them.

## News of councils and organizations in Tell-Abiad and Ras Al Ain



### Ras Al Ain

The relief office of the local council of Ras Al-Ain launched a relief campaign in the city in cooperation with IHH, Ataa, Turkish Red Crescent and other organizations.

The electricity directorate of the local council delivered electricity to the drinking water wells at the northern reservoir point to operate at a rate of 24 hours.

The electricity directorate of the local council has repaired the 66 high voltage line as part of the repairs aimed at restoring the electrical current to the city.

The water directorate of the local council worked on repairing the pumping pipes, as the pumping pipeline in Kharabat neighborhood in the eastern section of the city was repaired.

The education directorate of the Local

Council opened Al-Nugra school in the town.

On a youth initiative for the teachers working in Abu Jarada Village School in the western Ras al-Ain countryside, the village teachers opened their school to complete the educational process in the village.

The Directorate of Agriculture of the local council announced that it will conduct an interview for applicants to work in the Directorate, including engineers, veterinarians, and agricultural technicians, on 20th January 2020 at 11 a.m.

The Hygiene and municipal directorate of the local council worked on a campaign to clean up the city, remove dirt mounds and open closed roads.

The civil registry directorate of the local council conducted interviews with the



## Associations operating in northern Syria

applicants to work for the Directorate to activate the official departments.

The relief office, in cooperation with the Turkish Red Crescent, distributed 107

food baskets to the southern village of Marquez as part of relief campaigns by the local council.



Free Bar Association

### **Free Bar Association (Aleppo Branch)**

With the participation of the boards of branches of the Free Bar Association in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Damascus, Daraa, Lattakia, Ar-Raqqa and Al-Ha-saka, the Syrian free lawyers held their first electoral conference at the Cultural Center in Azaz on Saturday, 21st December 2019 To elect the central union representing the mentioned branches.

The free bar association branch in Aleppo held its 63rd regular session at the council's headquarters in Azaz, on Monday, January 13th, 2020, where the council reviewed the agenda submitted

by the president and members of the council, and took decisions in accordance with the law regulating the legal profession and a plan was approved. Field visits will be conducted by the branch council on all courts and agency offices in which the attorneys registered where the Alepp free lawyers exercise their profession.

The Council of the Free Bar Association Branch in Aleppo Monday, December 30th, 2019 at the headquarters of the Council in Azaz examined trained-lawyers to qualify and upgrade them to Professors Lawyers, where the thesis submitted by the exercisers were discussed

## Associations operating in northern Syria

in front of the president and members of the branch council as a scrutiny committee.

The association branch of the Free Lawyers Forum in Azaz held a solidarity protest with defenseless civilians in Idlib and its countryside.



### The Association of Free Syrian Engineers (Aleppo Branch)

The association has formed a technical advisory committee to provide technical engineering advice for the possibility of creating an additional floor in Al-Aqsa School in Azaz, where the committee has conducted a physical examination and sounding the foundations and soils and prepared its technical report and the relevant detailed accounting memo and submitted it to the local council to take appropriate measures. This work was done according to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two parties.

The association branch council held a meeting with a delegation from Sham International University during which they exchanged views on the role of engineers in studying, implementing and supervising infrastructure projects in the liberated areas and the difficulties facing their work. Several issues were discussed during the meeting, most notably the strengthening of cooperation between the association of and the university. In the field of practical training for students, organizing specialized courses for the association members and participating in committees based on qualification tests to “engineering ranks”. Focusing on ways to enhance cooperation in quality control of building materials and soil tests by using the university’s laboratories, in addition to offering scientific research to meet the infrastructure needs in the region.

### The Association of Free Syrian Contractors

In the presence of the head of the Syrian interim government, a branch of The Association of Free Syrian Contractors has been established in Azaz.

## Local Development Organization



### **Future of Local Administration and Governance in Syria**

The Local Development Organization followed-up the courses of building the capabilities of the Studies and Research Department through following training on the methodology and style of public speaking, in addition to working on developing the strategic plan for the Organization through the re-development of the organizational structure, the objectives and components of the strategic plan are in line with the new work axes in which the organization has entered, and a third workshop is being prepared to assess the success experiences in governance for local councils in the liberated areas during the last period.

### **Women's Voice project**

The organization has conducted several

training sessions in partnering with several women's associations as follows:

A course in psychosocial support, a course in monitoring and evaluation, and a course in presentation design skills in Kafr Takharim in cooperation with the Women and Child Rehabilitation Association.

A course in monitoring and evaluation and a course in photography and media skills in Kafrnaha, in cooperation with Ra'edat Association.

A course in presentation design skills and a course in human resources in Ariha in cooperation with the Women's Association in northern Syria.

A course in psychosocial support and a course in facilitation skills in Orm Eljoz in cooperation with Yasmine Association for Development.



## Local Development Organization

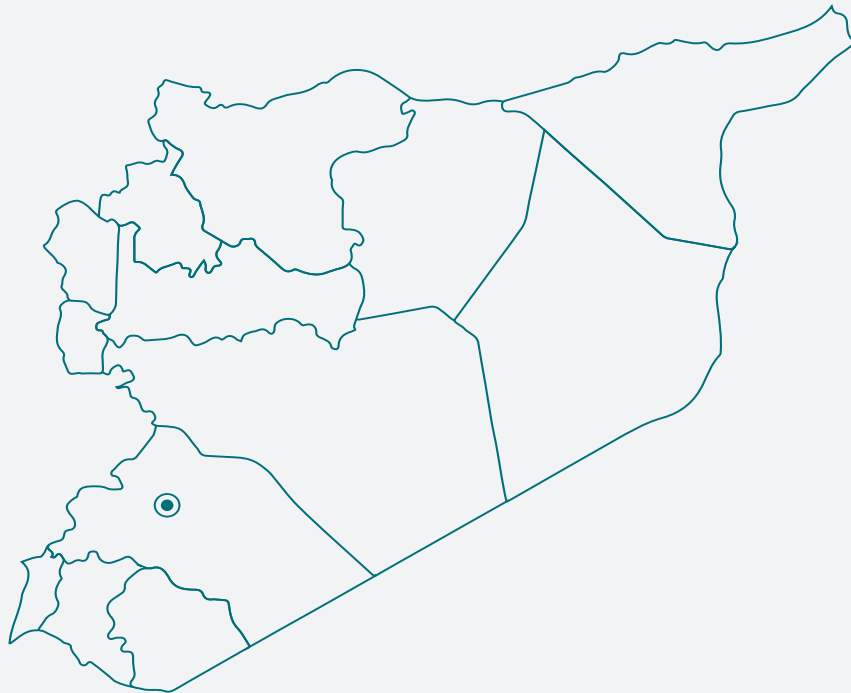


In a remarkable event in northern Syria in Kafr Takharim, the Women and Child Rehabilitation Association held, in co-operation and partnership with the Local Development Organization, an exhibition of drawings for the painter "Aya Deeb" entitled "Echo of a Woman's Voice". , The exhibition was very popular, especially among women, activists, and those interested in women's affairs.

On Saturday 28th December 2019, the Local Development Organization in Sanliurfa ( South Turkey) trained Tell-Abiad and Ras Al-Ain councils on the basics of local administration and the provisions of the executive regulations of the local administration within the organization's plan to build the capacities of local councils and develop their work. Local Development Organization (LDO) participated in a workshop on the Syri-



an Constitution held by Ain Alsharq for Policy Studies (AAPS) and civilians for justice and peace organization in cooperation with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (ORSAM) in Ankara, Turkey on Tuesday 21st January 2020. Local Development Organization CEO gave a presentation on decentralization administration in the previous Syrian constitutions and the most important recommendations that must be considered to enhance the role of administrative decentralization and local authority.



### **The competences of local councils**

The competencies of the administrative units can be divided into several groups:

1. Original terms of reference expressly provided for by law and they differ from one unit to another according to their area, financial status and human capacity and exercised independently of the central authority.
2. Terms of reference transferred from the central authority to the administrative units, as the central authority is supposed to carry them out on its own, but for the reasons of the process of delegating local administration units to do so, it is preferred.
3. Terms of reference usually belonging to the central authority, but their implementation rests with the executive and local authorities together, as the central authority must take the opinion of the local units concerned in all central projects that are supposed to be established within the scope of the local unit.

## Women worked in public affairs



### **Lawyer Mrs. Rabia Al-Harami**

Studied at Ma'arrat An Nu'man schools and completed her university education at the University of Aleppo, where she graduated from the Faculty of Law in 1990 and in 1995 she joined the Bar Association of Idleb and practiced the legal profession to date.

In mid-2016, she joined the local council in Ma'arrat An Nu'man with the legal office after the restoration of the council members. In the same year in October, she applied for the electoral cycle and was chosen by the preparatory committee as a member of the local council, and she was chosen to head the legal office and deputy head of the local council.

One of the most important tasks she carried out during her work with the local council is participating in preparing the unified internal system for local councils in accordance with Law 107 of 2011 and contributing to activating the bureau and all administrative records of

the local council.

Also contributed to activating the work of the financial system, establishing its rules, documenting the record of fixed and movable assets, documenting the register of vehicles, and activating internal control over local council offices.

She also worked in the legal office to activate the registration of rental contracts in the local council and evacuate the tenant directly without referring to the courts after the expiry of the contract period registered with the local council. She also worked as a supervisor on a real estate registry project in the city, which aims to provide raw materials for the real estate registration process and to provide office equipment and furniture, as well as cameras to document real estate registry records.

And contribute to maintaining the organizational chart and eliminating the abuses that occurred on the organizational chart, as well as on public property, and followed up on all the cases that were brought before the local council in his legal capacity.

She followed-up the city council's association with the provincial council and worked with its colleagues to activate the relationship appropriately and to adopt the internal system of local coun-



## Meeting of the Issue

cils approved by the interim government, as well as to communicate with local councils that are administratively affiliated to the Idlib governorate and exchange experiences, information and benefit from projects.

She also worked in civil society organizations and was one of the founding members of the Syrian Women Gather-

ing in Idlib, in 2017, which was aimed at gathering the efforts of women under one aim, whether as service centers for women or individuals with the aim of working to raise awareness among women and empower them politically and raise their professional and economic capabilities and solve their problems Legal.



The Local Development Organization held a meeting with Mr. Ma'an Nasser, general director of the General Organization for Seed Multiplication, and the following dialogue took place:

**Mr. Ma'an, welcome. It would be nice if we got to know more about you.**

**What is your profession and the beginning of your work after the revolution?**

Maan Nasser, from Mare' city in Aleppo, holds masters degree in agricultural engineering.

The head of the viral tests department at the general organization for seed

multiplication affiliated to the regime, previously started my work with revolutionary institutions, which was with the Revolutionary Council of Aleppo Governorate in 2012 as an official in charge of agricultural affairs in Aleppo governorate.

Then, with the Free Aleppo Governorate Council, I worked to establish the general organization for seed multiplication of Free Aleppo Governorate Council.

In 2014, I joined the Syrian Interim Government as the Director General of the general organization for seed multipli-

## Meeting of the Issue

cation, which was formed in all the liberated Syrian governorates.

### What is the General Organization for Seed Multiplication and what services do you provide?

The general organization for seed multiplication is one of the most important productive institutions affiliated with the Ministry of Agriculture in the Syrian interim government concerned with supporting farmers, providing technical services to them, and securing all agricultural production requirements from improved sterilized sifted seeds, fertilizers, and others at reduced prices.

It was established in the last quarter of 2013, and it operates in the Syrian regions outside the control of the regime as an alternative to the "general organization for seed multiplication" affiliated to the regime which has ceased its activities in these areas.

The organization began its work initially with the Free Aleppo Governorate Council, and after the formation of the Syrian interim government, it worked to establish branches in all areas outside the control of the regime.

The general organization for seed multiplication is managed and practiced by a group of experienced and efficient agricultural engineers, within a cooperative

and ambitious team,

The organization's headquarter in Aleppo Governorate, and it has several branches and aims to:

1. Supporting the agricultural production process in an optimal way by securing all agricultural production requirements for farmers.
2. Providing good and reliable seeds for farmers, whether from local production or by importing at reduced prices compared to the local market, especially strategic crops such as wheat and potatoes, to motivate farmers to continue farming and increase production to contribute to providing food security.
3. Preserving the local seed varieties of the agricultural crops by multiplying and preventing their extinction and deterioration, and establishing a genetic bank to preserve the varieties and laboratories to ensure their safety from diseases.
4. Working to publish new varieties of seeds from the improved seeds through field days and agricultural seminars.
5. Establishing and activating agricultural extension centers to spread awareness among farmers about optimal technical management of

## **Meeting of the Issue**

fields and the use of modern agricultural techniques in order to increase production.

### **And when Mr. Ma'an was asked about the organization's relationship with the local councils, he answered:**

The general organization for seed multiplication adopts a policy of cooperation and coordination in working with local councils in cities and towns and governorate councils and with civil society organizations working in the field of agricultural development projects to achieve the highest benefit from work and uniting efforts towards common goals in supporting farmers, increasing agricultural productivity and contributing to achieving food security.

### **Mr. Ma'an What are the obstacles facing your work in the institution?**

The most important obstacles facing us are the lack of financial resources and weakness in administrative expertise in addition to the organization's inability to cover all areas outside the control of the regime as a result of the lack of support and its lack of continuity.

The constant shelling of the organization's headquarters and warehouses, in addition to the constant security threats.

Competition by local organizations that

do not have a specialized staff and operate a policy of free support that leads to the creation of a state of laziness and dependence on the relief basket of farmers and lack of interest in cultivating in the best way.

As a result of the organization's ongoing policy of supporting farmers, which leads to annual losses of 30 percent of its capital, and if it continues in this policy it will lead to bankruptcy as the organization sells both wheat and potato seeds (purchases from farmers producing at a high price) at lower prices than the market Local support and encouragement to farmers. Accordingly, the organization needs continuous support in order to compensate for the financial support provided to farmers and producers in order to continue to provide services and achieve the seed production cycle.

**Thank you, Mr. Ma'an, for giving us this time, and we wish you all the best of luck.**

### success stories

Some people donated a plot of land in Abzemo town in the western countryside of Aleppo to build a camp on it for the newly displaced people from southern Idlib countryside. The donors, in coordination with the local council in the town, began to prepare the camp west of the village, next to Al-Juma camp, and their lands were initially paved, and the local council opened the door for donation by the people to complete the work in the camp.

### Statistics

#### Facilities and infrastructure

The number of damaged Facilities and infrastructure during the military campaign reached **169** damaged Facilities, in direct and indirect damages varied.

#### Humanitarian workers

The number of humanitarian workers victims during the aforementioned period reached **5** volunteer workers.

#### Victims

The number of civilian casualties since the beginning of the military campaign on November **2nd, 2019**, until the ceasefire on January **12th**, was **313** civilians, including **100** children, and the number of injuries during the same period was **1,834**, of varying severity.

#### Material losses

The initial material losses to the affected facilities were estimated at **\$322** million.





**Local Development  
Organization**  
منظمة التنمية المحلية

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 +90 531 701 0015

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 [info@ldo-sy.org](mailto:info@ldo-sy.org)

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 [www.ldo-sy.org](http://www.ldo-sy.org)

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