

- Annual Report 2020



• WE WORK FOR A DECENT LIFE FOR ALL SYRIANS



- Annual Report 2020

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Identity

The Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) is a Syrian, national, non-governmental, non-political, non-profit organization that works to maximize the impact of the aid provided to the Syrian people by coordinating efforts between donors, implementing agencies, and local partners.

It was established in 2012 under the auspices of the Friends of the Syrian People Group, and in conjunction with the international recognition of the National Coalition for Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces. It operates within the Syrian national vision of the political process that is supported internationally as part of the United Nations resolutions.



ContextofInternationalResponse

The first path is the humanitarian/ relief path

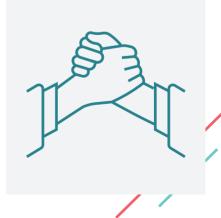
which works to provide emergency humanitarian relief, especially in the early years of the crisis. It is overseen by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and United Nations agencies play the leading role in managing that effort with the support of the relevant and internationally funded non-governmental organizations, and in accordance with the principles and standards of humanitarian work.

The second path is the path of early recovery, stabilization support, and local development.

This path aligns with the political vision and strategy of the countries involved in the Syrian issue, as it has become an urgent necessity after years of conflict, in order to create the appropriate environment for a political solution, to increase the resilience of civilians, and to strengthen an appropriate adaptation strategy. This path is supported by donor countries whose interests intersect with the Syrian issue.







Strategic Goals

- 1. To lead in information management, research, and data banking to "enable better decision-making at the local, national, and international levels in order to improve the response in its humanitarian path, and its early recovery and stabilization path."
- 2. To lead in coordination, networking, and advocacy to evoke the priorities of the Syrian issue at the local and international levels, in order to enhance the role and position of ACU as a Syrian organization capable of leading networking and enhancing participation and integration.
- 3. To support the steadfastness and cohesion of the local Syrian civil society and in the diaspora.
- 4. To support early recovery programs for civil societies.
- 5. To build ACU's capacities as a specialized institution capable of playing an essential role within its tasks in the reconstruction phase.

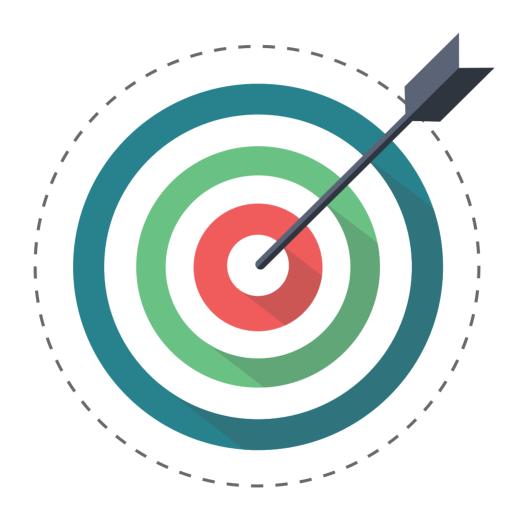












Main Tasks

Information Management (IM)

This unit is specialized and has cumulative experience in needs assessment and research studies, which are considered a reference for both the humanitarian path and the early recovery and stabilization support path, through a network of specialized enumerators for this purpose, and who cover the Syrian map. The IMU works to enable a better decision for response providers and decision-makers, and it issues flash, thematic, and interactive reports, as well as interactive maps.





Coordination and Advocacy Management

ACU seeks to excel in a network of local, regional, and international relations, both governmental and non-governmental, as it works to host sectoral platforms and build a relationship network of local actors, individuals, bodies, and initiatives in order to serve its goals and the Syrian people's goals in terms of advocating the needs and priorities of donors and advocating partners through issuing reports and organizing conferences, events, and workshops.



Grants and Programs Coordination Management

The Development Programs Unit built its vision and strategy to be aligned with ACU's mission: "We work together for a dignified life for all Syrians." Based on the indicators of the great and exacerbating need in key sectors including educational, agricultural, economic empowerment, empowerment, and community organization, through its activities and projects, the Development Programs Unit aimed to enhance resilience and societal stabilization, for Syrians in local communities or in the diaspora countries.



Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning Department (MEAL)

This department measures the gap between the need and the response, and assesses the impact of the donor response, whether in the humanitarian path or in supporting stabilization for the Syrian needs indicators.

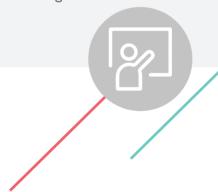


Empowerment and Capacity-building For partners in specialized, technical, administrative, and financial skills.

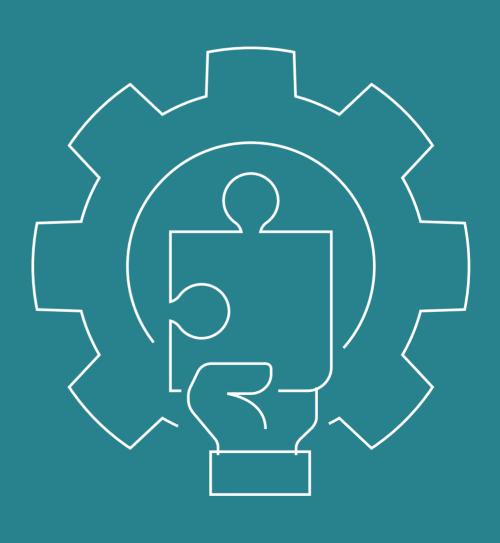
To empower health workers, both individuals and organizations, with knowledge and guidelines to combat pandemics and enhance their capacities to confront the COVID-19 pandemic

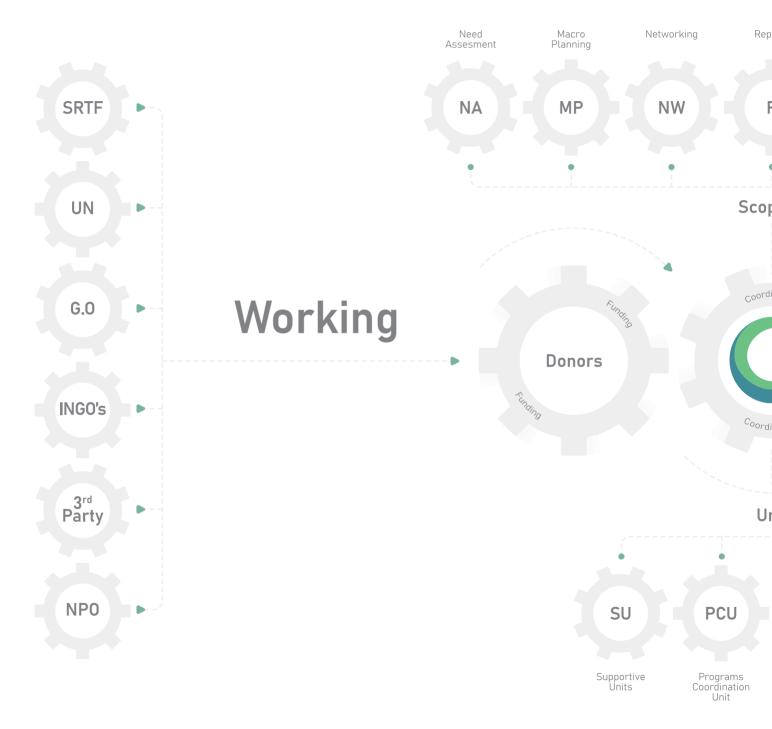
To build the capacity of Syrian youths, both IDPs and refugees, with skills, knowledge, and trainings to prepare them for the local and Turkish labor markets

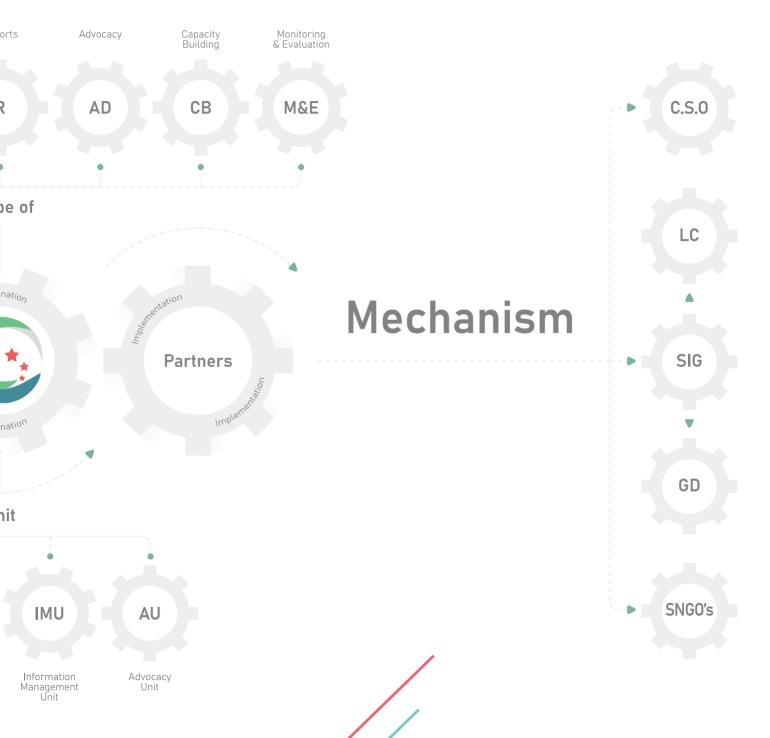
To build the capacity of Syrian local actors and organizations as per the principles of human rights and the rule of law



Work Mechanism at ACU







Departments of the Administrative Unit











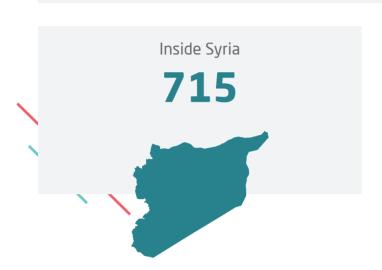








Staff working for ACU and their locations





Number of employees in each department

Financial Administration

12

Operations Management

16

Information Technology

2

Advocacy and Communication

10

Monitoring and Evaluation

9

Development Programs Unit

73

Information Management Unit

107

Health Programs Unit

505

Services and Infrastructure Unit

Categories of ACU>s staff

Doctors and administrators teams

They work on surveilling epidemics found in most of the Syrian areas outside of the Syrian regime control. Every day, they work to monitor news and collect data about the main epidemics listed by the World Health Organization. In addition, they manage and implement immunization campaigns. These teams work in coordination with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the Turkish health directorates.

MEAL teams

They work on following up with the projects and ensuring their proper implementation by local partners

Engineers teams

They work to monitor the water quality and to purify it though conducting periodic, specialized tests for the quality of the water used, whether for drinking or for other uses.

Field enumerators teams

They work on implementation questionnaires designed to measure needs assessment indicators, to collect information in various sectors, to conduct opinion polls, and to monitor displacement movements and camps conditions.



Highlights of 2020

Total grants coordinated until 2020

259,102,792 \$

Grants coordinated during 2020

9,112,150\$

Total MoUs signed until 2020

2326 MoUs

MoUs signed during 2020 27 MoUs



COVID-19 surveillance





Positive cases

20,551



Number of tests

74,880





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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Executive Management of the Assistance Coordination Unit ("ACU") Gazlantep, Turkey

Opinion

- 1. In our opinion, except for possible effects of the matters discussed in the Basis for Qualified Opinion' paragraph below, the accompanying combined financial statements give a true and fair view of the combined financial position of Assistance Coordination Unit ("ACU") as at December 31, 2017, and of their combined financial activities and their combined cash flows for the year them need in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IPRSs).
- We have audited the combined financial statements of the Assistance Coordination Unit, which comprise the combined statement of financial position as at December 31, 2017, and the combined financial activities and their combined cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the combined financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

- 3. We were not able to observe the counting of physical inventories as of December 31, 2017, due to the war in Syria. Due to the nature of the ACU's operations and geographies that ACU is 2017 by other and in procedures. For the same reason, we are unable to determine whether adjustment to the inventories of the ACU as of that dates are necessary. Since inventory balances enter into the determination of dishumenents in the statement of financial activities, we are also unable to determine whether adjustments to the results of activities for the year ended December 31, 2017 are mecessary.
- 4. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards in the Auditor's Reponsibilities for the Audit of the Combined Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the ACU within the meaning of ethical requirements are further described and have fulfilled our other responsibilities under those ethical requirements. We believe that the # sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Gove Statements

 Management is responsible for the preparation and fair prestatements in accordance with International Piranacial Repocontrol as management determines is necessary to enable t statements that are free from material misstatement, whethe with governance are responsible for overseeing the ACU's c

ECO Deset Saljmass Denetim we Dawymanki A. S., a Tarkish joint stock company is a momber of EDO Internal limited by gustantee, and fores part of the international EOO sequent of independent member times. Caractal its month by Education Results private lates EOO International Limber* in Speci we be Titric second spices Desermanki Known Steels: Delivers See landscalation discuss EOO James Transcalation Consideration. All ACU's financial operations are subject to external auditing agencies, which issue their annual reports. The international, independent BDO institution 2017 report was issued highlighting the integrity of the financial statements, commenting that they give a correct and fair presentation of ACU's Financial Department, its financial performance, and its cash flows in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

BDO

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Combined Financial Statements

- 6. The objective of our neld are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the combined financial statements as a whole are five from material misstatement, whether the to final or financial statement, white the properties of the properties
- As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the planning and performance of the audit. We also:
- Identify and uses not note of married minuteness of the combined financial automate, whether due to found or error, delegate and perform soully recordent responsive to these trible, and obtain audit evidence that in sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a matterful minutenesser resulting from fraud is highly than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the overvite of infernal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an
 opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the combined financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the combined financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a namer that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities and business activities within the ACU to express an opinion on the combined financial statement.
- We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the ACU audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.
- We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.
- 10. We are also required to provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have compiled with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

İstanbul, September

BDO Denet Bağımsız Denetim ve Danışmanlık A.Ş. Member, BDO International Network

Taceddin Yazar Partner in Charge

ACU>s Partnerships

































































































ACU>s Programs

In recent years, ACU focused on development programs by supporting development projects, such as the Agricultural Empowerment Project and the Civic Awareness Project, in addition to immunizing the community from diseases, especially in light of the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, by establishing several centers to test samples, in addition to working to secure the necessary vaccine. Also, the routine vaccination centers and the nutrition surveillance program were supported by the WASH program, which monitors water quality in order to provide safe water and reduce waterborne diseases. In addition, the Information Management Unit worked to provide studies assessing basic needs, especially those related to education, in order to help guide decision-makers and donors to the appropriate support ways and methods, depending on the most needy sectors, groups and regions.







وحدة إدارة المعلومات INFORMATION MANAGEMENT UNIT



برنامج التمكين الاقتصادي ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



برنامج المراقبة والـــــــقييم MONITORING AND EVALUATION



برنامج المياه والإصحاح البيئي WATER SANITAION AND HYGIENE



برنامج اللقاح IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM



برنامج التغذية NUTRITION SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM





شبكة الإنذار المبكر والاستجابة للأوبئة EARLY WARNING ALERT AND RESPONSE NETWORK

Information Management Unit (IMU)

This unit is specialized and has cumulative experience in needs assessment and research studies, which are considered a reference for both the humanitarian path and the early recovery and stabilization support path, through a network of specialized enumerators for this purpose, and who cover the Syrian map. The IMU works to enable a better decision for response providers and decision-makers, and it issues flash, thematic, and interactive reports, as well as interactive maps.





The Information Management Unit works on issuing

Thematic reports

This type of report focuses on a specific issue such as education, food security, health, etc., and it aims to assess the situation of the sector and identify needs and priorities

Panoramic report

This type of report assesses a specific geographic area and covers all aspects of living, infrastructure condition, and other areas

Flash report

This type of report is issued as a warning signal for a specific humanitarian situation in non-governmental areas of Syria

Needs assessment report

These are multi-sectoral assessment reports that provide a comprehensive study of the humanitarian situation in a specific area

Case report

These reports provide an overview of the situation in the assessed area and identify the population's immediate humanitarian needs

Interactive studies

They are periodic studies issued regularly, and they show data that the user can interact with directly

Maps

These maps provide interactive information and data that can be easily accessed by the user



In 2020, the Information Management Unit issued the

Winter Needs in Northern Syria Camps Report

The fifth edition of the "Winter Needs in Northern Syria Camps" report sheds light on the camps reality, the nature of IDPs places of residence, and their age groups. The report also includes the most important needs and their quantities according to the international humanitarian response.





Highlights of the report

The assessed camps

458

Types of accommodation

Caravans

8,871



Rooms

32,250



Tents

78,304



Market Needs Report

The interactive study of the market price index aims to monitor the prices of basic items and foodstuffs in the Syrian markets, in addition to the prices of fuel and building materials the areas outside the regime control in 6 Syrian governorates. Then, the data of the study is presented at the governorate and sub-district levels





Interactive study on monitoring displacement camps in northern Syria

The interactive study on monitoring the status of displacement camps includes the situation of IDPs in northern Syria camps in the following sectors: health, WASH, food, education, shelter, sources of income, and demographic information.





A study of displacement and return movements in northern Syria

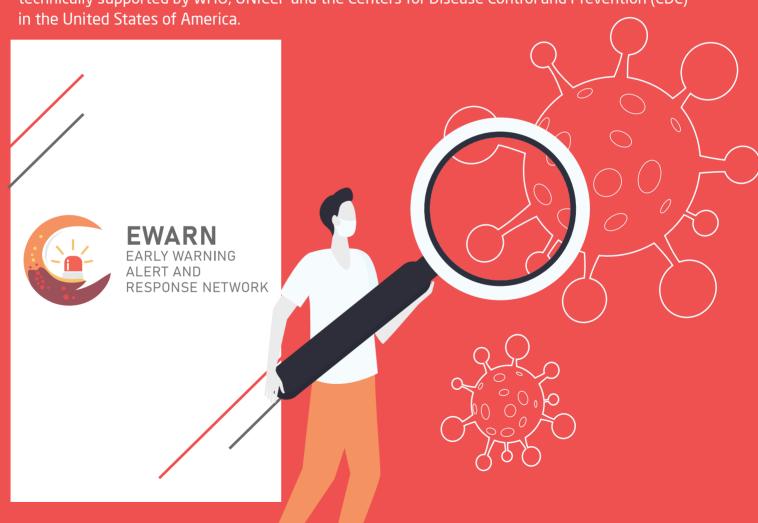
This study includes population census information for all cities and towns outside the regime control in Syria, and this study is updated on a monthly basis, as the IMU's enumerators constantly track the displacement and return movements.





Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)

It is a health information system for epidemiological disease surveillance. It was established in areas outside the regime control after the collapse of the health system in mid-2013. EWARN is a major and accredited source of public health information for WHO and UNICEF indicators. It is technically supported by WHO, UNICEF and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the United States of America.



EWARN Activities

The disease surveillance system relies on accurate, complete, and timely data, and these factors ultimately determine the system's ability to provide useful health information about the population served by the network. This happens through:

Reports

- 1. Weekly epidemiological bulletin
- 2. Weekly acute flaccid paralysis bulletin

Training and capacity-building

They are laboratories distributed in several governorates and supported and overseen by the World Health Organization.

Training and capacity-building

- 1. Training the EWARN team
- 2. Training health personnel working in Syrian NGOs

Number of locations

22

₹

Number of centers



Highlights of 2020

Diseases surveilled during the year

Acute diarrhea

860132

Suspicion of influenza

1108334

Suspicion of measles

288

Acute Jaundice syndrome

33028

Acute flaccid paralysis

289

Cutaneous leishmaniasis

55460

Suspicion of meningitis

4186

Suspicion of typhoid fever

25256

Acute bloody diarrhea

9064

Acute respiratory disease





Program Activities

Total number of trainings 12

- Training NGOs staff
- Training field coordinators
- Training area coordinators
- Training the central team



Number of acute flaccid paralysis reports

52

Lab tests

1932

Number of weekly reports

52



Total number of trainees

5596

Number of epidemiological warnings

96

The programs team

Rapid response team

6

Field coordinators

226

Area coordinators

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Program

The program provides support for obtaining safe drinking water, improving sanitation services, and enhancing hygiene, in order to ensure a healthy, disease-free environment.





The program aims to



Water Program in 2020

During 2020, the program completed several projects that contributed to securing clean water for people, in addition to providing continuous sterilization of water sources, especially in light of the spread of the Corona pandemic. Also, the team provided the necessary training and development for the teams working in this sector.

The spread of waterborne diseases reduction project:

The project aims to reduce the spread of waterborne diseases. This project covers all areas in northern Syria outside the regime control, through conducting advocacy and awareness campaigns on the importance of water sterilization, in addition to testing water quality in order to provide continuous sterilization of water sources, especially in light of the spread of the Corona pandemic. Also, the team provided the necessary training and development for the teams working in this sector.







provinces 6

Training of Syrian engineers at the Turkish Water Institute

The project activities include providing a set of theoretical and practical trainings and field visits in cooperation with the Turkish Water Institute of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, through conducting six trainings at the Water Institute in Turkish cities. These trainings include field visits to water and sanitation stations and irrigation projects.



Monitoring the implementation of sewage stations

The project aims to oversee the implementation and installation of a pilot station, to support its operational activities, to evaluate performance, to conduct the necessary tests, to conduct awareness campaigns, and to build the capacity of the station workers.







Drinking water stations maintenance

Maintenance work has been completed to prepare eight stations in Idlib Governorate to fix all damages in these stations and bring them back to work.









Improving health care procedures and water quality to reduce COVID -19 infections

The aim of the project is to enhance the standards of maintaining the water quality in the displacement camps, and to spread health awareness to reduce the spread of diseases and prevent COVID-19.





Distributing 500 water tanks with a capacity of 1,000 liters per tank

Distributing 25,000 water gallons with a capacity of 20 liters

Distributing 2,200,000 chlorine tablets and 6 tons of chlorine to sterilize drinking water

Implementing 10 awareness campaigns

Increasing the individual's share of drinking water to prevent COVID-19

The project aims to maintain and rehabilitate the stations and provide the necessary support with fuel and lubricant oil in addition to the electrical generation sets, and to provide operational costs and the necessary training for the stations workers.



The number of water stations that have been maintained, installed, and operated

29 water station



Building the capacities of Syrian workers in the water sector with regards to using solar energy systems and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in water and irrigation projects







Nutrition Surveillance Program

The Nutrition Surveillance Program was established in mid-2017 as part of the EWARN network to regularly investigate and monitor the nutritional status of children under 5 years of age. It is an ongoing system for creating information that reflects the size, distribution, and causes of malnutrition among the population at present and in the future, for the purposes of policy formulation, program planning, management, and evaluation.



The program aims to

- 1. assess moderate and severe acute malnutrition and bilateral edema in children under 5 years of age.
- 2. reduce the mortality rate resulting from acute malnutrition in children under 5 years of age.
- 3. follow up with the detected and referred cases—two weeks after the referral, to assess the sufficiency and quality of case management services.



Nutrition surveillance program in 2020

Number of centers

45

Number of employees in the program

110



Work locations

Jarablus - Al-Bab - Azaz - Afrin - Idlib - Harem -Jisr al-Shughur - Jabal Samaan





Survey statistics

Number of children

208,532

Cases of malnutrition

7,929

General rate of acute malnutrition

3.8%

Moderate acute malnutrition

5,561

Severe acute malnutrition

2,368

Stunting rate in children

31.32

Rate of underweight in children

10.74

Numbers of surveyed pregnant and lactating women

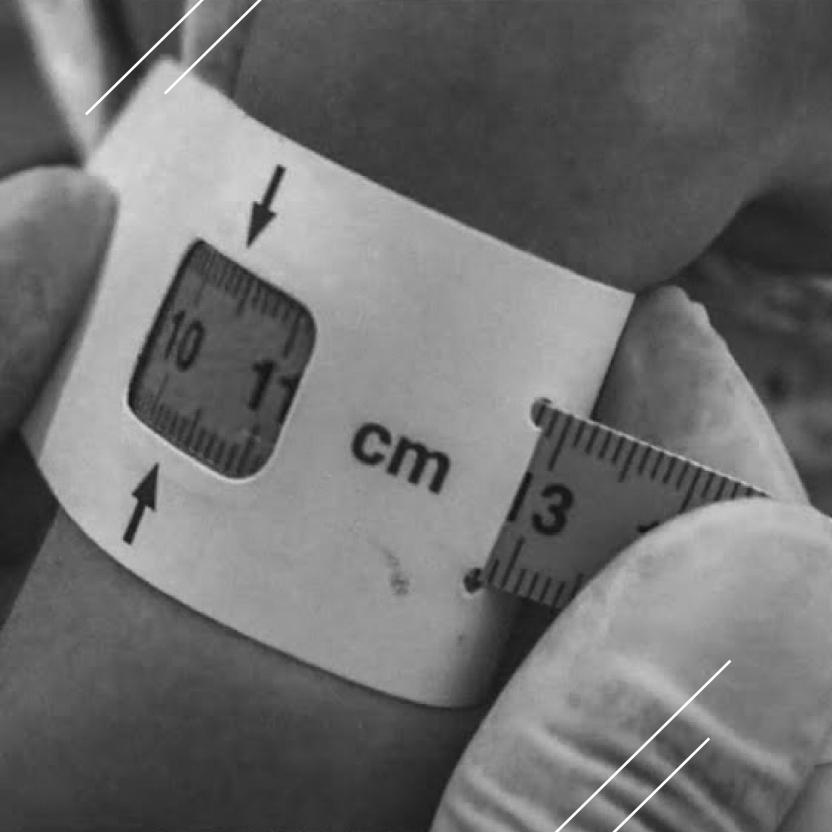
79,035

Number of malnourished women

4,709

Rate of acute malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women

6%



Immunization Program

The immunization program includes the immunization room at the central level which works under the umbrella of the technical committee led by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, and it is responsible for planning and overseeing all immunization activities in the liberated areas in Syria.





The program aims to

- 1. raise a healthy generation by reaching and immunizing all children
- 2. rebuild and strengthen the comprehensive routine immunization program
- 3. build the capacities and increase the efficiency of the medical staff in the immunization field



The immunization program in 2020

Number of implemented immunization campaigns

2

Number of immunization beneficiaries

2,788,900

Number of immunization centers

30

Number of teams

40

Number of staff

190

Distribution of centers Idlib (20), Aleppo (8), Raqqa (1), Al-Hasakah (1)

Vaccines administered in the routine immunization centers

Tuberculosis (BCG)

Hepatitis B

Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV)

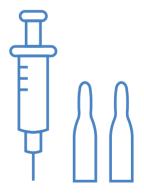
Pentavalent vaccine (PENTA)

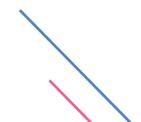
Inactivated
Polio Vaccine
(IPV)

Measles and Rubella



Tetanus Vaccine for women (TT)







Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Accountability (MEAL)

Monitoring: It is a continuous and organized process that takes place throughout the project phases, the aim of which is to provide stakeholders with detailed information at an early stage on the progress or delay of the project activities approved in the plan, and that are being implemented.

Evaluation: It is a process that takes place in the middle and/or end of the project cycle, and it aims to measure the project success in achieving its objectives and to identify the impacts resulting from the project implementation. Monitoring includes collecting data and information about everything related to the project.





Objectives

To issue qualitative reports that reflect the extent of the projects success in achieving their goals, and to draw lessons learned for future projects.



Tasks & activities

- 1. To make monitoring and evaluation plans for ACU projects.
- 2. To cooperate with program managers in developing smart indicators to measure projects outputs and results.
- 3. To collect quantitative and qualitative data to measure project indicators.
- 4. To ensure that the projects activities and outputs are in line with the plan prepared by the project management.
- To receive suggestions and complaints from stakeholders during project implementation.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning, and Accountability in 2020

Total field visits

160 visits

Number of question-

11,500 questionnaires

Number of focus group discussions

3 discussions







Economic Empowerment

ACU's Economic Empowerment Program aims to reach a balanced, sustainable, and stable economic reality by providing technical support for individuals to increase their income and provide equal opportunities for all.





The program aims to

Develop a set of development projects that achieve sustainable development and self-sufficiency for the targeted communities.



Economic Empowerment in 2020

Supporting Syrian Civil Society actors (Civil awareness)

Empowering Syrian civil society actors in order to enhance the concept of community awareness

Number of beneficiaries **151**

Ariha, Ram Hamdan, Kaftin

Economic empowerment of the agricultural sector in northern Syria (Food security and livelihoods)

Supporting stabilization in northern Syria (an agricultural area) by empowering its population economically, reducing unemployment, and increasing livelihoods

Number of beneficiaries **13,300/30,000**

Implementation location **Euphrates Shield and Olive Branch areas**



Israar (Insistence) Economic Empowerment

Empowering Syrian refugee youths in Turkey aged between 18 and 35 through training, mentoring, and connecting them to the labor market

Number of beneficiaries

20,370 beneficiaries of the training 13,200 beneficiaries of employment opportunities

Implementation location **Turkey**



Syrian Legal Platform (Governance)

Framing and strengthening the role of civil society actors in the peace process

Beneficiaries

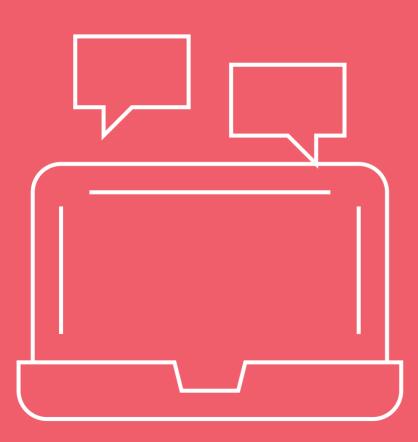
35 civil society organizations

Implementation location **Turkey, Syria**





ACU Activities in 2020





January 2020

Launching the Agricultural Economic Empowerment Project in northern Syria on 13/Jan/2020





A training on the design of drinking water treatment stations on 16/Jan/2020







February 2020

ACU participated in the consultation meeting organized by the Turkish Maarif Foundation (Turkish Knowledge Endowment) in Istanbul on 14/Feb/2020





April 2020

ACU participated through its EWARN Network as part of the Force Task plan to confront the Corona virus on 08/Apr/2020





April 2020

Natakaafal" is a Syrian humanitarian campaign initiated by humanitarian organizations and institutions on 27/Apr/2020





July 2020

Signing a memorandum of understanding between the University of Aleppo, ACU, and Education Without Borders/Midad on28/Jul/2020





July 2020

A coordination meeting on the importance of cooperation and coordination between organizations working in the agricultural sector on 09/Sep/2020





The periodic meeting for the Syrian Legal Platform, which was attended by representatives of civil society organizations participating in the platform on 01/0ct/2020







November 2020

The Syrian Education Platform held its second 2020 meeting on 14/0ct/2020







