



SARD

Annual Report

01/05/2021-
31/04/2022



Livelihood project in A'zaz

Letter from our Director

We reflect on what began ten years ago when volunteers in Aleppo faced an immense challenge and started going door to door distributing food, medicine, and clothes to families displaced by the growing conflict.

Again, over this last year, our team and the people we serve faced incredibly tough challenges- the pandemic stretching into its second year, soaring food prices, and the economic crisis further deteriorating, pushing thousands of more Syrians into poverty. Like our founders, we responded with tenacity and perseverance to ensure the most vulnerable among us get the help they need.

Our commitment to a community-driven approach continued. It led us to spearhead a critical project to support unaccompanied and separated children with case management and open an Interim Alternative Care Center- the first and only one of its kind in A'zaz, northwest Syria.

We launched new livelihood programs, supporting men and women to open up businesses, increasing food security for them and their families, positively impacting their mental well-being, improving local employment opportunities, and stimulating the local economy. These are just a few examples of the work that we have been doing over the last year.

Your support enabled SARD to reach more than 185,327 people in Syria with direct support to save lives, build resilience, and galvanize entire communities. Thank you.

On behalf of everyone at SARD, I thank you for your trust, partnership, and ongoing support.

Alaa Wafai
SARD Director



"Like our founders, we responded with tenacity and perseverance..."

Upgrade of Sewage, Maaret Tamsrin

Mission

We rehabilitate the most vulnerable communities in Syria by providing emergency relief, shelter assistance, and livelihood support.

Vision

We aspire to impartially reduce the suffering and improve the lives of internally displaced persons and vulnerable communities in Syria.

Values

Impartiality
Transparency
Inclusivity
Accountability
Ownership

Who We Are

The Syrian Association for Relief and Development (SARD) is a humanitarian non-profit agency that provides life-saving, life-sustaining, and community-galvanizing humanitarian assistance to vulnerable communities in Syria. Established in 2013, we are an independent and non-political humanitarian non-profit agency dedicated to impartially reducing human suffering in Syria.

SARD REACHED

Social Cohesion

4

Projects

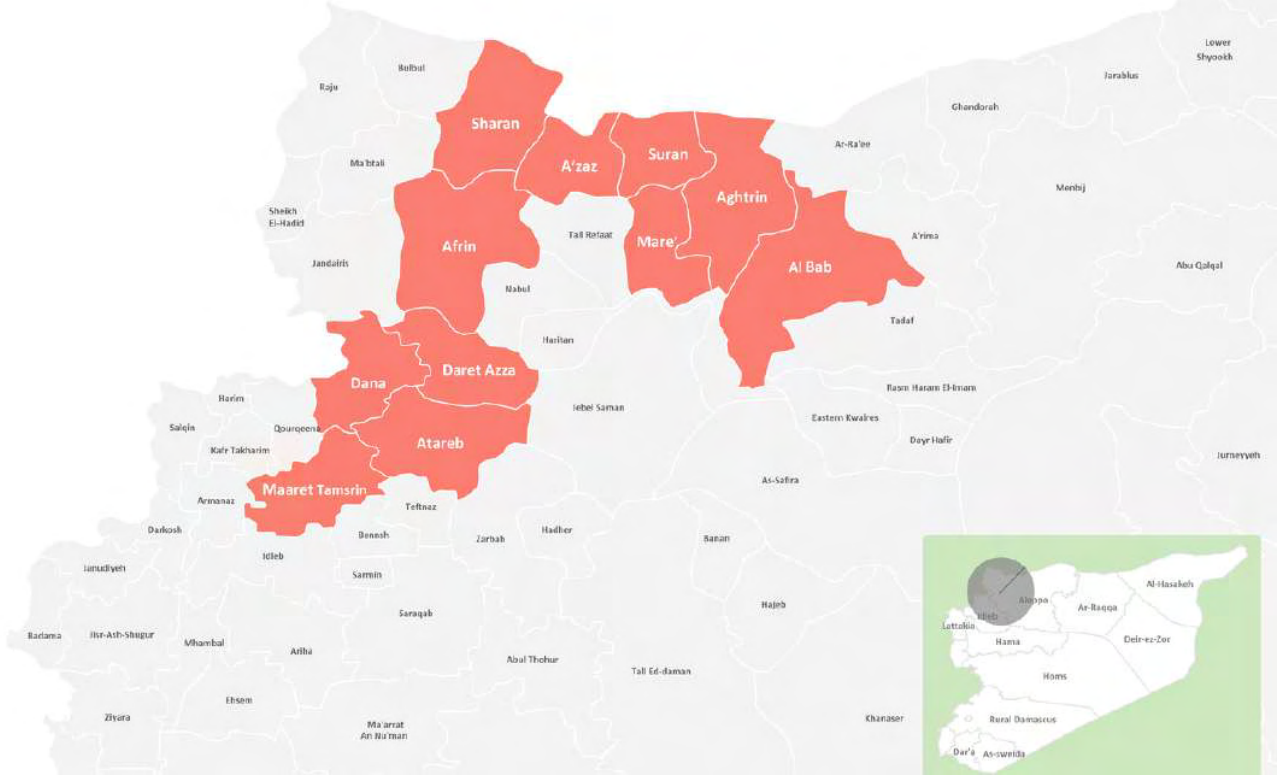


185,327

People Served

36

Communities



Life-Saving

Why?

After more than a decade of conflict in Syria, humanitarian needs remain enormous, spanning various sectors. 12.4 million people in Syria – more than 70% of the current population and the highest level ever recorded in the country – are food insecure. **With most households barely able or unable to meet their most basic needs and millions living in IDP camps, life-saving responses continue to be crucial for populations across Syria, particularly northwest Syria.**

Unlike previous years, northwest Syria did not see major displacement from fleeing the front-lines. SARD's life-saving response focused on assisting people in camps and or people displaced from flooding, winter storms, fires, and eviction. Our critical life-saving emergency response included Ready-to-Eat rations, emergency shelter assistance, Non-Food Items, and WASH support for people in informal settlements, open fields, and communities.



Whether it was our local team, clusters, or other NGOs who identify a person in need, within

72 HOURS

we delivered the following Life-Saving assistance to people in informal settlements, open fields, and host communities.

2,984

Hygiene Kits

100

Emergency Shelters

50

Emergency Latrines

1,275

Winterization Cash Grants

250

Bedding Units

2,995

Ready-to-eat rations



Khalef's Story of impact

Putting the fire out

Al Naser camp, Idlib

"I hope that I will return to my home and my village. I hope for the end of injustice and displacement. I once again extend my heartfelt thanks to SARD and I ask God to bless their work."

*"On a cold, windy day during last year's harsh winter, we were gathered in my tent with my son and his family and we heard the neighbors calling that their tent was on fire. **My family and I rushed to help put out the fire, but the intensity of the wind spread it to our tent too.** Eventually, we were able to put out the fire, but it left our neighbor's tent completely destroyed and ours half-burnt."*



"Two hours later, SARD team members arrived carrying bedding, blankets, hygiene kits, and an emergency shelter. The team went to work straight away and so before night fell, our two families were able to sleep safely in the new shelters."



Life-Sustaining

Why?

With no political resolution in sight, Syria remains a complex, protracted conflict. Economic conditions continue to worsen, with skyrocketing prices and the depreciation of the Syrian Pound. The lack of financial resources – and subsequent poverty, exacerbated by the widespread shortage of jobs, is one of the core challenges facing households. Extreme living conditions in overcrowded camps and damaged structures are a primary humanitarian concern.

SARD's Life-Sustaining support meant that people met their basic needs and stabilized their situation so they could end their dependency on humanitarian aid. Unlike many NGOs, SARD provided e-vouchers to give families the dignity of choice and flexibility to buy essential items tailored to their needs while contributing to the local economy. If they met requirements, beneficiaries were referred to one of our livelihood programs, shelter rehabilitation services, and protection services.



NFI

**BEDDING SET,
KITCHEN SET,
AND
CLOTHES E-
VOUCHER**

"I went with my family to the market. The children could buy new clothes and each of them would have his own bedding, pillow, and cover. And for the first time in several years, I felt I was the head of the family." - Abdul, Qazal



**MONTHLY FOOD AND HYGEINE
E-VOUCHER**

"Now my children are eating the food they desire, as through the voucher we were able to buy all kinds of food items including meat, vegetables and fruits." - Jamil, Aleppo

**8
MONTHS**
of support
to get **6,624**
people back on
their feet



Awareness Raising Campaign

SARD conducted a robust campaign to raise awareness on issues like child rights, Covid-19 prevention measures, and even environmental topics like waste management. The campaign included **20,000 brochures and posters, 4,000 children's magazines, 12 videos**, community activities, training sessions, and social media outreach.

Reaching over 70,000 people.





Shelter Upgrades and House Repairs

1,371

Individuals benefited by Upgraded Shelters

98

Single and Collective Shelter Upgrades

2,012

Individuals benefitted from House Repairs

299

House Repairs

Shelter upgrades included emergency repair work related to safety and security, weather protection, privacy, and access to hygienic sanitary facilities carried out by SARD's engineer teams.

House repairs were cash grants to families to carry out extensive repairs beyond basic emergency repairs, overseen by SARD.

100%

Doors, locks, lights, and partitions to improve privacy and safety, a particular concern for women and girls.

TRAINING FUTURE LABOR FORCE

456

**VOCATIONAL
TRAINING**

305

APPRENTICESHIP

151

**BUSINESS
TRAINING**

**START-UP
110**



Livelihood

Over the last year, SARD invested heavily in sustainable change through programs supporting individuals entering the marketplace for the first time, seasoned professionals restoring their business, or existing businesses expanding their capacity. SARD provided the resources, tools, and support to ensure they were successful in their journey.

CASH INJECTION

242

CASH-FOR-WORK OPPORTUNITIES

received short-term job placements to support rehabilitation projects



Livelihood participant, Sarmada

**EXPANDING
EXISTING
BUSINESSES**

30

WORKSHOPS

received cash grants,
business training, and
apprentice placements

**RESTORING
BUSINESSES**

209

PROFESSIONALS

received cash grants and
business coaching to return
to their professions

SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURS AND START-UPS

119 ENTREPRENEURS

received Business Training

90 START-UPS

awarded cash grants to start their business



Vocational Training, Deir Hassan



Protection

Protection was mainstreamed in

100%

of all SARD's programming and activities.



Protection, Az'az

CASE MANAGEMENT PROTECTION SERVICES

We provided **case management and psychosocial service activities to 200 boys and girls** of different age groups in undeserved areas. We tailored services to prevent separation, violence, child marriage, labour and forced recruitment.

INTERIM ALTERNATIVE CARE CENTER

SARD's Interim Alternative Care Center (IACC) for unaccompanied and separated boys and girls addressed the protection needs of approximately **29 unaccompanied and separated boys and girls**. The children at the IACC receive approximately 6 months of essential and specialized protection services, shelter, psycho-social support, and placed in schools or appropriate learning programs. In addition, **18 children were placed with vetted and approved foster families**. SARD continued to provide follow-up care following foster placement.



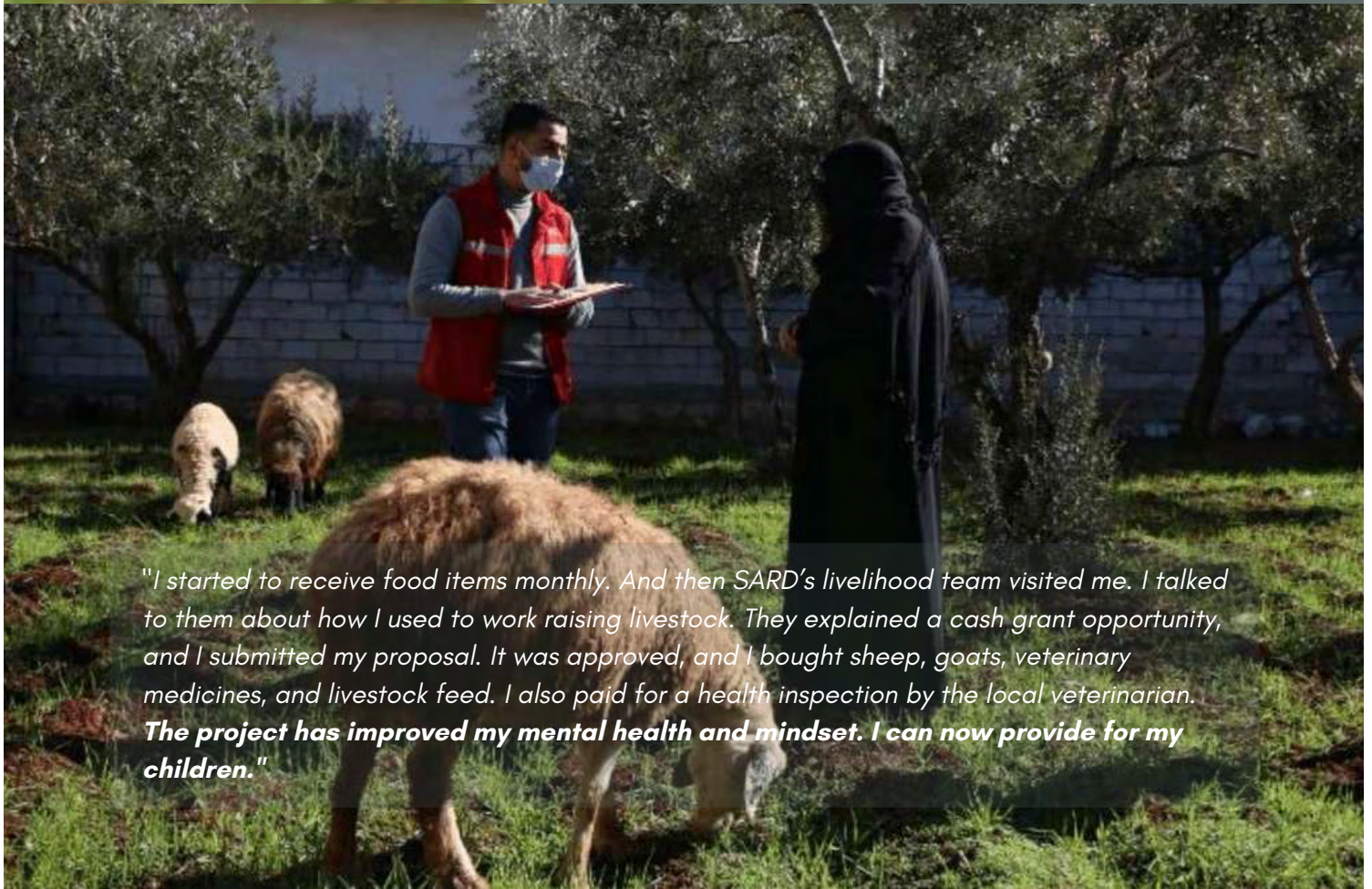
Fidaa's Story of impact

A widow's journey back to her sheep

Sarmada, Idlib



*"Livestock raising was the source of livelihood on which my family depended as the primary source of income. We benefited from their milk, cheese, and wool. I lost my husband in the bombing of Maarat al-Numan. He left me with seven children. **As the bombing increased, we left the village, and most of the livestock died.** I suffered a lot because I was unable to provide for my children. I remained without work and relied only on humanitarian aid from organizations and the charity of people. Then Allah sent you to us."*



*"I started to receive food items monthly. And then SARD's livelihood team visited me. I talked to them about how I used to work raising livestock. They explained a cash grant opportunity, and I submitted my proposal. It was approved, and I bought sheep, goats, veterinary medicines, and livestock feed. I also paid for a health inspection by the local veterinarian. **The project has improved my mental health and mindset. I can now provide for my children.**"*

Community-Galvanizing

Why?

Over a decade of conflict has left essential services and infrastructures destroyed, damaged, and neglected, affecting entire communities. Many lack access to sewage infrastructure and electricity, while schools and health facilities struggle to cope. The social fabric of whole communities has fallen victim to the crisis, with tensions and sensitivities between host communities, displaced, and returnees.

SARD's Community Galvanizing initiatives increased the resiliency of vulnerable communities and invested in local economies. We improved access to essential services and facilities for entire communities and strengthened the relationships between displaced persons and host communities.



Community infrastructures rehabilitated over the past year included **parks, markets, sewage systems, and paving and leveling of roads**. These projects gave vulnerable people from the community short-term cash-for work opportunities. In camps, roads were leveled and graveled, and tents insulated benefiting 18,677 people.

Social Cohesion activities included **community Ramadan iftars, park openings, recreational activities for persons with disabilities, rehabilitation of school grounds, community performances, children's activities, and more**.



68,440

Community members impacted by rehabilitation projects

23

Community Infrastructures Rehabilitated

14

Social Cohesion Activities

3,821

Community members who participated thousands of people

Sarmada's Story of impact

Opening the largest park in Idlib Governorate

Sarmada, Idlib



Sarmada, a border town in the northwest part of the country, has grown dramatically due to waves of displacement from around the country and its new role as an important commercial gateway. It is home to thousands of internally displaced persons. SARD stepped in to build the largest park in the governorate to serve the growing community.

SARD gave 30 vulnerable individuals from the local community cash-for-work opportunities to build the new park. Through cash-for-work opportunities, we fostered community engagement and social cohesion, and we injected cash into the local economy.



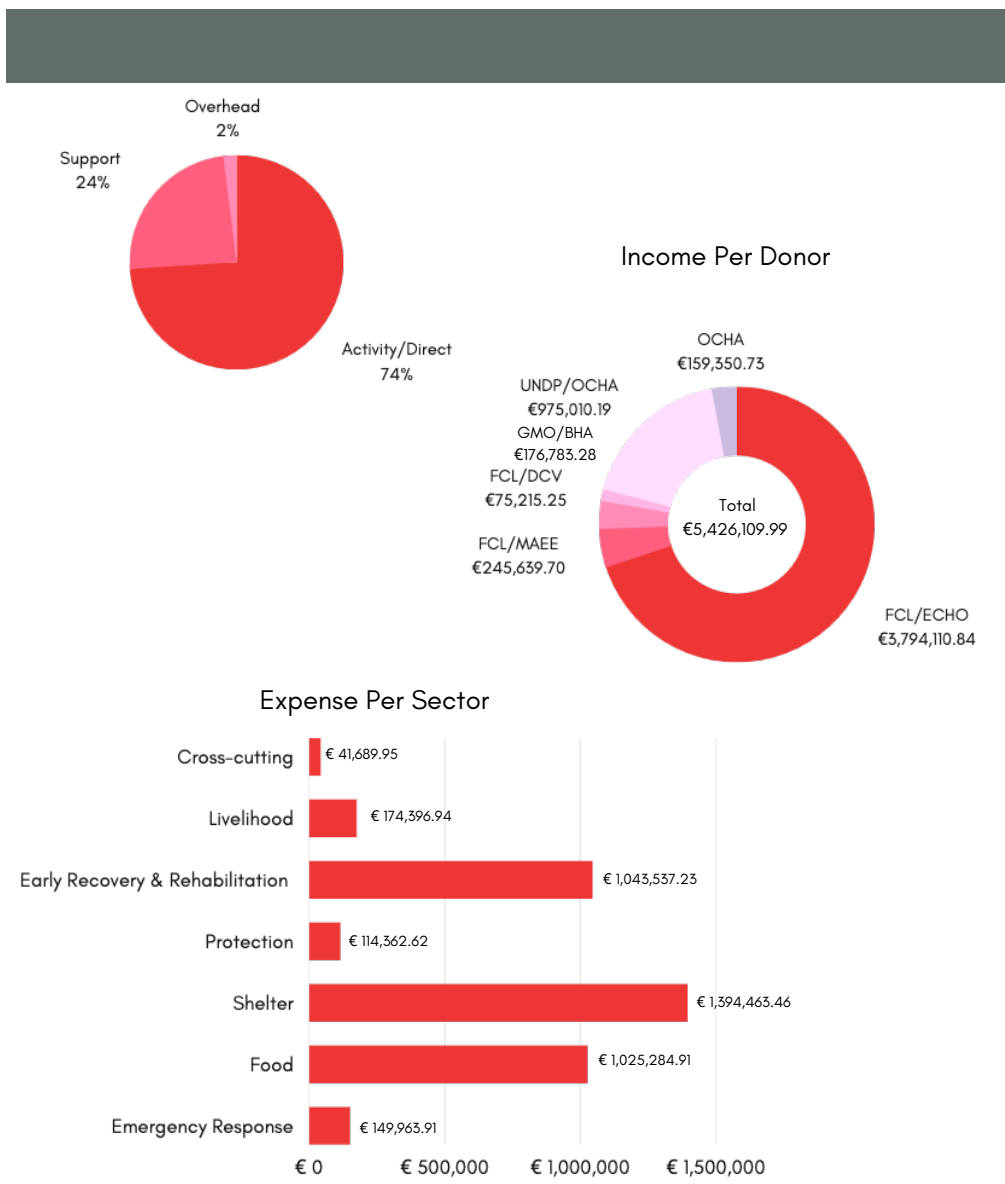
On opening day, children and their families gather to celebrate, fostering social cohesion. Now, the community and its children will have a safe place to gather and play for years to come.



Financial Overview

01/05/2021- 31/04/2022

Our finances reflect our commitment to transparent, efficient, and accountable assistance and innovative opportunities for Syrians in need.



Shelter Rehabilitation, Darat Izza



Livelihood Project, Az'az

Our Partners

We want to thank our incredible partners who committed to community-driven and people-focused initiatives in Syria over the past year.

Partnerships are critical to solving the complex and multifaceted challenges that face Syrians today. You made our work possible.

Thank you.

"Out of the thousands of NGOs working in Syria, on a local and international level, I love working with SARD because they are truly working for the people." - Partner



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG



JOIN US

PARTNER. DONATE. FOLLOW US.



Livelihood Project, Az'az

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