

Date of Submission	
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Summary

Project title		Enhancing women’s role in spreading non-violence culture		
Sector(s)		Capacity building		
Project location(s) (governorate, district, sub-district, community)	Governorate	District	Sub-District	Community
	Raqqa	Raqqa City	Raqqa City	Raqqa City
Duration (start and end date)		Start date: 1.05.2024		

Location and Project Brief

Location Brief

(Brief description of target area and its current situation)

Al-Raqqa Governorate is located in north-central Syria on the Syrian-Turkish border. It is administratively divided into three regions, containing ten districts. The ten districts contain 662 residential communities of different sizes. According to the 2011 census conducted by the Syrian regime, the city's population is estimated to be 833,293 persons. However, the aforementioned figure does not represent reality. The province of Raqqa has a larger number of residents from all governorates. Especially, at the centre of Raqqa city and Al Thawrah city (al-Tabqa), which was modernized after the construction of the Euphrates Dam. A large number of the labour force working in the dam facilities come from other governorates. These civilians reside within Al-Raqqa governorate even though they are registered in other governorates.

With the launch of the peaceful demonstrations and movement in Mar. 2011, Raqqa was one of the governorates that participated in the uprising against the dictatorship, demanding freedom, justice and dignity. On March 4, 2013, the movement and its developments ended with the Syrian Opposition Forces controlling the province, after it has been under the control of the government forces.

Al-Raqqa city was the first governorate to completely exit the government's control. This drew attention of the Opposition to transfer all political and serving bodies to the city of Raqqa. Dozens of opposition political leaders visited the city after its liberation from the regime's control. However, the rise of ISIS, abolished all Opposition's plans at the time. On August 15, 2013, clashes began between the armed Opposition blocs and the Islamic State Organization. The clash ended with the withdrawal of the Opposition forces from the city, which led to the emergence of ISIS as a prominent force in the city. On December 29, 2013, ISIS attempted to fully control the city and

expel all armed Opposition groups from the city. This process took several days, however, it ended with ISIS's complete control of the city.

ISIS controlling AL-Raqqa governorate, pushed the international forces to intervene, forming a coalition to attack ISIS and enable Syria 's democratic forces to regain control in October, 2017

Project Brief

(Summary of project objectives and content)

Despite the importance of the current projects, that target the service sector in Al- Raqqa city , these projects need to expand and include some social segments, especially the segment targeted by our project, which are women. Today, women are the main element in the city. The city suffers from large numbers of men losing their lives as a result of wars, or being lost and disappearing in prisons.

The idea of the project focuses on women as they are the main element in raising generations and developing societies. Enabling women to take an active role will contribute greatly to the protection of next generations from intrusive ideas that are accustomed to violent cultures as a result of the ongoing conflict. In addition, women today bear economic responsibilities as breadwinners for their families, and therefore the project will focus on elements within the social and economic dimensions. These segments are important in ensuring the return of non-violence, extremism rejection, diverse community coexistence, building the values of civil peace, and promoting dialogue by raising awareness and promoting concepts of human rights, the values of coexistence, civil peace, and meaningful constructive dialogue between the various segments of the feminine component. Such segments belong to ethnic groups, which has long cherished their affiliation to Raqqa. Thus, the project of building peace and spreading the culture of non-violence with female actors is an important project for the region, due to the escalating rate of kidnappings and assassinations, that the region suffers from; and the lack of participation in the decision-making of the local community by the existing authority.

The idea of spreading non-violence culture through women starts from small circles such as family, of relations between relatives, and work. Those are the circles in which women can spread non-violence culture easily and also influence it when having the sufficient tools and knowledge. From these small circles, women can influence and effect wider circles to include large segments of society, and this leads to the removal of hostilities and the absence of individual revenge in society.

Through meetings, workshop, awareness sessions, and opinion polls, which will include large segments of the civil organizations, women activists, and dialogue gathering to form a network of feminists participating in free and common work space, women will be able to build communities and deliver their voice to those involved in the political and civil process in Syria.

General objective:

Promoting the role of female actors by spreading the culture of non-violence in their local communities.

The main objectives of the project:

- I. Create a free and shared space for women to express their will, hopes, initiatives and prove their ability to resolve conflicts in their own way.

- II. Empowering a number of female community actors with the capacity for dialogue and communication, and the ability to represent their interests and campaign to spread nonviolence and to prevent the continuation or exacerbation of conflicts in the region.
- III. Raising awareness, concepts of coexistence, community cohesion, legal rights and lawful principles to prevent the society from returning to violence and extremism.
- IV. Developing and enhancing the intellectual capabilities of women participating in the concepts of conflict resolution and non-violence culture by giving them experiences from around the world.
- V. Map the problems and obstacles facing women and feminist civic actors.
- VI. Advocating women voices and their demands to be involved in resolving conflicts, reducing violence, spreading non-violence, and the process of change and political transition in Syria.
- VIII. Increasing the representation of women engagement in public affairs by creating effective and influential female personalities

Main outputs, outcomes, and activities:

The first output **empowering (60) local femal active actors within specific criteria to be bearers of influence and change** through the following activities:

1. Identifying direct knowledge gaps in the community related to non-violence, cohesion, community coexistence and building local peace.
2. Trainees will map challenges facing women participation in Al-Reqqa, which prevents women from engaging in societal and political work by
3. Holding training sessions to enhance and build capacities of female actors with tools of dialogue, discussion, communication and spreading the non-violence culture.
4. Train 60 female actors to gain relevant experience in understanding and resolving conflict mechanisms away from the tactics of violence in Al-Reqqa
5. Holding dialogue sessions to raise intellectual awareness of female actors in:
 - 5.1. Building civil society peace.
 - 5.2. Fighting violence and extremism
 - 5.3. Culture of volunteer work.
 - 5.4. Social accountability.
 - 5.5. Active participation in peace building, conflict resolution ,and replacement of violence with non- violence to restore normality among the components of society.
 - 5.6. Strengthening community bonds and restoring non – violence.

- B. Second output **promoting nonviolence culture, by supporting and advocating women voices both locally and internationally to ensure reaching decision – making circles** through the implementation of the following activities:

1. 4 Initiatives planned and carried out by trainees based on the experience gained from the training period on civil peace and spreading the culture of non - violence
2. Internal implementation of local advocacy through executing opinion polls on the recommendations and outputs with locals.
3. Implementing international and external advocacy by sharing the outputs and recommendations with countries and bodies involved in the Syrian case.
4. Awareness campaigns via social media on priority issues.

Details of Proposed Project

1 - Context analysis

Please indicate the present situation in the selected location (s) and the project context in that situation. Additionally, include the social dynamic of the area, including presence of IDP, youth and available/accessible services)

Syrians have suffered from the nature of the totalitarian regime, and its focus on transforming all state authorities, institutions and resources into tools that achieve its goals and serve its interests. The regimen worked on diminishing the effective role of the civil society, especially women. The role feminine components have been largely marginalized as a result of the Assad regime's policy, which supports communal, patriarchal, and tribal leaders to enable their control over the governorate's resources and ensure their subservience to it. After the peaceful movement in 2011, it was the feminist community that participated in the peaceful rebellion and the protest movement against the dictatorship, aspiring to take its natural role in the context of justice, equality and freedoms. Unfortunately, this dream did not last long as a result of the Islamic State's control over the province of Al-Raqqa, which returned women to the pre-Islamic eras as a result of oppression and practices that do not coincide with the values of Islamic law, that honor women, nor with human values. As a result of foreign ideas to the societies, females lost their natural role as an active participant in family building and raising generations, contributing to the weakening of women influence on their children who fell into the trap of extremism and violence.

Today, after the elimination of ISIS and the change of forces in control in Al-Raqqa province, the number of its inhabitants began to increase, despite the poor conditions. Many displaced persons from other governorates who came in the beginning of 2012 and in 2019. The population of the province is 500,000 divided between displaced and indigenous people, the majority of whom are women and children, as many men were killed in the battles or because of the bombing. There are various ethnicities, including the Kurdish, some Circassian and Armenian families in addition to the original Arab Muslim component, which is by nature a moderate and non-militant Muslims.

2 - Problem statement

Please describe specific problems and needs and explain why the proposed project intervention is important and considered a priority to address the issues directly. Provide evidence of possible consequences that could emerge if the issues are not addressed properly. Whenever possible, include baseline or need assessments, studies, and reports (internally or from open source) that highlight the issues.

Conclusion

The embedment of the totalitarian system and its succession in change of control powers that followed over the decades, significantly marginalize the role of women as active partners in society. Women were marginalized through excluding and prohibiting them from active participation in building civil society, and contribution to enclosing and solving its problems. Furthermore, supporting peaceful coexistence and rejecting violence. Despite the predominance of their percentage over men, whose

numbers have decreased as a result of killing, arrest, and displacement, women fulfil their duty as mothers, educators, breadwinners and as a basic community component to be partners in promoting community coexistence and building civil peace to ensure the return of non-violence culture in their communities

With the beginning of the peaceful civil movement in early 2011, which demanded for the achievement of freedom and social justice, including all life components. The movement demanded the application of human rights principles and the rule of law. The regime response was through the aggravation of repression, arrests, bombing, displacement, provoking sectarian and ethnic cleavages, as well as tending towards extremism and violence. Thus, further dismantling the civil society and diminishing its role in solving civil problems. Moreover, absents rights of civil and political actors to participate in building their communities and their country.

Due of the large number of women, women should participate and have the greatest impact in the economic and social construction in the region through their participation in service and social joints. Women will have the ability to resolve conflicts and spread the culture of non-violence and political engagement in the future and access to local and national decision-making sites. Women attempt to find workspace, where they can organize themselves at local community levels. Women view themselves as officials on the front lines and before men. Due to the decreasing percentage of men as a result of murder, detention and deportation, women took the responsibility as mothers, breadwinners, educators, activists, and feminist to do their duty toward their children and societies, in an attempt to avoid falling again into the trap of violence and destabilization. To achieve these needs, we need to bridge the knowledge gap between genders. This gap has increased due to the years of war and the dictatorship. Females' knowledge needs have worsened, whether in terms of basic education, capabilities and skills, tools for economic empowerment, community participation and building coexistence, or societal and civil peace in order to enable them to participate effectively in the political process, based on a set of needs, which came according to the following:

1. The need to create co-working spaces for women to launch their initiatives.
2. The need to reduce gender gaps by promote awareness in social, human rights, communal concepts, which were absent from the civil society for decades, especially accountability.
3. The need for a civil dialogue that enhances resilience, cohesion and community coexistence, creating an environment for civil peace, violence rejection and giving preference to the language of dialogue in order to avoid the return of violence and extremism.
4. The need to refine local knowledge experience in the concept of conflict resolution and non-violence for female civil actors
5. The need to ensure effective participation of women in programs, projects, activities and initiatives of the Syrian civil society.

3 - Project description

*Based on the problem statement above, describe the specific project intervention, its **goals and objectives**, **how and through which activities** the project contribute to the solution of the stated problems and needs, as well as indicator to measure targets. In details, please describe direct, segregated by gender and age group, and indirect beneficiaries, including direct beneficiary identification and selection. Women and girls' inclusion and capacity building approach should be explained. The logical framework will be as an annex to the proposal.*

Overall Goal

Enhancing the role of women in spreading the culture of non-violence

Objectives (Outcomes)

- Increasing the awareness of the Syrian civil society in Al-Raqqa city of the principles and values of the human being and the culture of non-violence
- Empowering local women to play their role in local influence and change

Expected results (Outputs)

- Increasing the awareness of the Syrian civil society in Al-Raqqa city of the principles and values of the human being and the culture of non-violence
- Empowering local women to play their role in local influence and change.
- Mapping the knowledge gaps for the participating women
- A map of training skills gaps
- 60 qualified female actors and trained to spread the culture of non-violence
- Initiatives that women undertake after gaining knowledge and empowerment tools
- A feminist activity centre, that attracts and targets feminist actors

Planned activities

*(Activities should be grouped in reference to the **Expected Results (Outputs)** and **Objectives (Outcomes)** above)*

1. Project staff recruitment
2. Rent and equip the centre
3. Selection of female candidates through a list of women-led organizations or initiatives and leaders to participate in the project
4. Holding focus group sessions to identify training and knowledge needs
5. Implementing awareness sessions based on identifying and classifying the problems and challenges that women face in their daily life (economic - political - social)
6. Holding awareness sessions to raise women's knowledge of the concepts of community participation, civil peace, non - violence, democracy and pluralism.
7. Extraction of work results and what participants have gained in reports based on questionnaires to measure cognitive development
8. Providing continues psychosocial support to the trainees based on the needs arising during the sessions and activities
9. Holding a workshop to extract recommendations
10. Launching initiatives undertaken by groups in implementation of what was trained on during the three-month period and applying it through this initiative, showing the role that women play in the civil peace process and spreading the culture of non-violence
11. Raising recommendations and sharing results with stakeholders and those involved in the political process.

Indicators, targets and milestones

(Include indicators to measure realistic targets, with milestones when feasible, leading toward achieving objectives)

This project will focus on the social aspects of the targeted groups, which are also targeted with inputs and assistance at the level of food security, service, and livelihood. Therefore, supporting stability and moving forward in eradicating the society of its weaknesses and ensuring its stability, requires the integration of efforts around various activities and this project will work on.

Sustainability

Work will be done through meetings aimed at integrating the project activities with related project activities in the work area. Furthermore, work will be done through advocating

for project outputs. The aim of the project is to target different donors or work through voluntary initiatives to insure continuity of activities.

Environmental considerations

One of the project's values states that people enjoy the environmental resources of the society and the country in which they live. Furthermore, promoting these values will pave the way for preserving public property, ensure its environment sustainability, and protect it from tampering so that it can safely reach future generations

Considerations of human kind

The project was built on humanitarian foundations that prevent discrimination on the account of gender, but also to promote effective participation without prejudice or discrimination of human race

Community participation

Through discussions, questionnaire sessions, and opinion surveys to view the results and recommendations, the project will promote community participation of the various segments of civil society and the various political, ethnic, geographic and religious affiliation and space to express their opinion and feedback to be placed between condemning specialists to straighten and develop the input of community participation

Direct and indirect beneficiaries

(Include number, type, gender, age group, direct beneficiary identification and selection; and indirect beneficiaries)

Beneficiaries (Please separate only when required)	Men	Women	children	Total		
				Host community	IDPs	
Direct	%0	% 100	0%	40	20	60
Indirect	% 0	% 0	% 0	% 0	% 0	%0

Gender inclusion and capacity building approach

The project objectives and activities are totally built on Gender inclusion and capacity building approaches

4 - Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Description of how and how often project activities are monitored and reported with the milestones. If evaluation is planned, please specify). Details of monitoring, evaluation and reporting, as a part of the action plan will be in the annex.

The project management will develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan through an organized and continuous process in accordance with a set plan outlining the objectives to be achieved and reviewing it periodically to ensure that the implementation is carried out in the correct framework.

In terms of monitoring activities: The M&E employee at Feminist Org. will contact field staff and to provide them with all the needed documents to document all phases of the project and its activities according to the level of work. M&E employee will provide Field staff with tips and suggestions to avoid delays or errors that have been faced in the previous similar projects

On the level of monitoring: the goal will be to assess the impact in regards to the objectives, whether assessing the capacity of diverse partners to dialogue, information exchange, and the ability to come up with recommendations applicable in the short and medium term.

As for reporting, more information about the reporting mechanism will be included in the M&E plan.	
1.	Monthly completion reports explaining work progress.
2.	A technical report with an executive summary on outputs of the activities
3.	Periodic financial report and donor activities
4.	Final report one month after the end of the project.

5 - Risk Assessment, Challenges and Mitigation

Please identify the challenges and risks that might be encountered by the proposed project as well as their level (high, medium, low) and provide respective mitigation measures.

Risks describe	Mechanisms to overcome its
The continuation of COVID-19 pandemic, hence the continuation of social distancing and prevention measures.	Adoption of virtual meetings and non-physical exercises
Deterioration of security within Syria	Adopting virtual meetings and non-physical exercises
The Women's Office opposes the project, because it has a monopoly on working with women, however it is not considered a big challenge	Preparing a memorandum of understanding between the two parties, and including some trainees from the Women's Office.
Women face some harassment during or after community training	Therefore, the project activities will target both men and women, so that awareness of the two genders will be spread in the region. Moreover, we will have a social worker from the beginning of the project to monitor the psychological status of women and follow up them.

6 - Support to local governance structures (such technical directorates and local councils)

Identify local governance actors the proposed project intends to involve and take-part of in facilitating the process of project planning, implementation and support.

All civic events and organizations at the local level and feminist initiatives will be part of participating in project activities to ensure that all actors and stakeholders are involved in the work.

7 - Capabilities and experience of the applicant (organization/company/local structure etc.)

Please describe the background, experience, capacity and capabilities of the NGO/firm/applicant in addressing problems and needs similar to those mentioned for this project. Please provide details of the staff, including titles and experience, who will be assigned for this project, and If the project plan to include sub-contract. As a part of the experience, it is important to include the current or previous projects with their funding resources.

who are we:

A non-governmental, non-profit organization that aims to empower women's role in the Syrian civil society; in Raqqa province, also promote the principle of women's rights in line with international humanitarian principles and conventions.

Why:

1. Raising awareness of women and enhancing their role and participation in the reconstruction and stability of Syria.
2. Provide psychological support activities for women

3. Creating job and training opportunities for women
4. Organizing health awareness campaigns and preventive campaigns
5. Organizing awareness and education campaigns for individuals and society to get rid of the psychological and intellectual norms built by years of terrorism
6. Intellectual and psychological support for women to positively participate in community development
7. Providing support to the displaced and to alleviate their suffering under critical circumstances

Our values:

The organization is neutral and independent. It does not take sides with any party, and it is impartial in its position, hence, it does not favour any party.

The organization provides its services to beneficiaries, regardless of their affiliation, differences in language, colour, gender, religion, intellectual beliefs, political positions, or other discriminatory considerations.

ANNEX

1.

2. Budget (in EURO)

Description:

(Year 2024)

Costs Discription	Amount	unit	# of recurrence	unit of tecurrence	Unit value (in EUR)	Percentage	Total Cost (in EUR)
1. Staff, Human Resource							
1.1. Project Manager	1	person	5	Month	€ 1,500	100%	€ 7,500
1.2. Grant, financial, account officer	1	person	5	Month	€ 400	100%	€ 2,000
1.3. Procurement/Logistics/ admin officer NW Syria	1	person	5	Month	€ 400	100%	€ 2,000
1.4. M&E officer	1	person	5	Month	€ 400	100%	€ 2,000
1.5. Media officer	1	person	5	Month	€ 400	100%	€ 2,000
1.6. Reporter officer	1	person	5	Month	€ 400	100%	€ 2,000
Subtotal Human Resources							€ 17,500
2. Travel & Accommodation							
2.1. International travel	5	person	5	Trip	€ 50	100%	€ 1,250
Subtotal Travel & Accommodation							€ 1,250
3. Equipment and supplies							
3.1 Computer/ laptops	2	device	1	number	€ 600	100%	€ 1,200
3.2 projector	1	device	1	number	€ 500	100%	€ 500
3.3 Printer	1	device	1	number	€ 500	100%	€ 500
3.4 Stationery	1	set	5	month	€ 100	100%	€ 500
3.5. Furniture	1	set	1	lump sum	€ 1,500	100%	€ 1,500
Subtotal Equipment and supplies							€ 4,200
5. Activities in NE Syria							
5.1 Training Workshops							
5.1.2 Handouts, stationery and other material	3	Day	4	Training	€ 75	100%	€ 900
5.1.3 Hospitality & catering & lunch	45	day*person	4	Training	€ 15	100%	€ 2,700
5.1.4 Transportation	45	Person	4	Training	€ 20	100%	€ 3,600
5.1.5 Trainer wages	3	day*person	4	Training	€ 300	100%	€ 3,600
5.2 Awareness sessions							
5.2.2 Handouts, stationery and other material	3	Day	4	Awareness	€ 75	100%	€ 900
5.2.3 Hospitality & catering & lunch	45	Person	4	Awareness	€ 15	100%	€ 2,700
5.2.4 Transportation	45	Person	4	Awareness	€ 20	100%	€ 3,600
5.2.5 Facilitator/ NW Syria	3	day*person	4	Month	€ 500	100%	€ 6,000
5.3 Research services, online awareness sessions							
5.3.1 White paper and researches	1	report	1	lump sum	€ 1,000	100%	€ 1,000
5.3.2 Online awareness sessions	1	session	4	month	€ 100	100%	€ 400
5.3.3 Implement 4 practical initiatives to promote and spread a culture of nonviolence based on training	1	Initiative	4	month	€ 1,000	100%	€ 4,000
5.3.4 Holding a workshop to extract recommendations	1	workshop	1	Month	€ 1,000	100%	€ 1,000
Subtotal Research services, counseling							€ 30,400
7. Other							
7.1 Office Rent	1	Office	5	month	€ 300	100%	€ 1,500
7.2 Utilities	1	servises	5	month	€ 100	100%	€ 500
7.3 stationery	1	Office	5	month	€ 100	100%	€ 500
Subtotal Other							€ 2,500
7. Subtotal direct eligible costs of the Action (1-6)							€ 55,850
7.1. Indirect costs (maximum 7% of 7, subtotal of direct eligible costs of the Action)							€ 3,909.50
8. Total eligible costs of the Action, excluding reserve (7+ 8)							€ 59,760
8.1. Provision for contingency reserve (maximum 5% of 7, subtotal of direct eligible costs of the Action)							€ -
9. Total eligible costs (9+10)							€ 59,760
9.1. Taxes							€ -
13. Total Budget							€ 59,760

3. Logical Framework

	Results	Indicators	Sources & means of verification	Assumptions
Impact	Effective and influential women who have sufficient awareness to spread the culture of non-violence through their families and communities and civil society in which human rights are and influential thus an active respected			
Outcomes	1. Increasing the awareness of the Syrian civil society in Al-Raqqa city of the principles and values of the human being and the culture of non-violence 2. Empowering local women to play their role in local influence and change.			
Outputs	1. A map of the knowledge gaps for the participating women	# Knowledge gaps	A knowledge gap needs questionnaire	
	2. A map of training skills gaps	# Knowledge gaps	Training needs questionnaire	
	3. 60 qualified female actors and trained to spread the culture of non-violence	# Training sessions #Awareness sessions	Pictures and videos of the sessions	

	4. Initiatives that women undertake after gaining knowledge and empowerment tools	#4 Initiatives	Reports on the initiative and the areas implemented in	
	5. A feminist activity centre, that attracts and targets feminist actors		%Percentage of women who visit the centre and request community counselling	
	6. Local and international advocacy campaign	# Posts on social media #Correspondence and replies	Social Media	
	7. 4 Initiatives planned and carried out by the trainees based on the acquired experience			
Activities	12. Project staff recruitment 13. Rent and equip the centre 14. Selection of female candidates through a list of women-led organizations or initiatives and leaders to participate in the project 15. Holding focused sessions to identify training and knowledge needs 16. Implementing awareness sessions based on identifying and classifying the problems and challenges that women face in their daily life (economic - political - social)			

	17. Holding awareness sessions to raise women's knowledge of the concepts of community participation, civil peace, non - violence, democracy and pluralism. 18. Extraction of work results and what participants have gained in reports based on questionnaires to measure cognitive development 19. Holding a workshop to extract recommendations 20. Launching initiatives undertaken by groups in implementation of what was trained on during the three-month period and applying it through this initiative, showing the role that women play in the civil peace process and spreading the culture of non-violence 21. Raising recommendations and sharing results with stakeholders and those involved in the political process.		
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3. Work plan:

	Description of the activity	The year	2024											
		The month	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4
work plan	Project staff recruitment													
	Rent and equip the centre													
	Selection of female candidates through a list of women-led organizations or initiatives and leaders to participate in the project													
	Holding focus sessions to identify training and knowledge needs													
	Implementing awareness sessions based on identifying and classifying the problems and challenges that women face in their daily life (economic - political - social)													
	Holding awareness sessions to raise women's knowledge of the concepts of community participation, civil democracy and pluralism. violence, - non peace,													
	Extraction of work results and what women gained in reports based on questionnaires to measure cognitive development													
	Holding a workshop to extract recommendations													
	Launching initiatives undertaken by groups in implementation of what was trained on during the three-month period and applying it through this initiative, showing the role that women play in the civil peace process and spreading the culture of non-violence													
	Raising recommendations and sharing results with stakeholders and those involved in the political process.													

4- Image:



