

DIGNITY AND RESILIENCE IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS:
ACT ALLIANCE'S RESPONSE IN THE MIDDLE EAST



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FOREWORD

In the midst of the situation facing the peoples of the Middle East, ACT Alliance members are working to bring hope, dignity and resilience to crisis affected populations and those living in deprivation.

This photo-book is an attempt to bring the stories of hope amid the gloomy context that populations of the Middle East have had to endure, some having lived as internally displaced persons and as refugees in both host communities and camps within the region and beyond.

The future of the region is dependent on its people, most of whom have seen and experienced difficult situations that they can only hope would not be repeated. The future of children and youth is in limbo as hopes for a better future are shattered daily, homes lie in ruins and land is taken away. Many children born in such situations do not have birth certificates or any kind of documentation, and are therefore condemned to a bleak future, many of them to statelessness.

The future of all people in the region is at stake, and the need to bring up a new generation that can live in peace with one another is a challenge, but still very possible.

The international community can do something to stop the crisis. There is a political solution, and there is a need for political commitment to save lives and preserve dignity for all.

The photographs in this book, which are representative of the work of the ACT Alliance response in the region, show that it is possible to give hope to many people affected by the crisis and that a brighter future is possible. We will continue working towards bringing hope and dignity to affected populations and host communities in the Middle East.



John Nduna
ACT Alliance General Secretary



Mural in Daudia IDP camp, Iraq, which is currently home to people of Christian, Yazidi, Muslim and Turkman communities. Showing their different houses of worship side by side promotes peaceful co-habitation among people who have fled a sectarian conflict.

Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographs taken by:

ACT Alliance secretariat staff or consultants

DanChurch Aid

Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR)

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Financial support

Church of Sweden

Norwegian Church Aid

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Limitation: *The book could not cover all responses; neither could there be mention of all ACT members responding in the Middle East. It is limited to countries in which there has been an ACT Alliance humanitarian response appeal in the past four years.*

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CONTENTS

	ACT response in Iraq	6
16	ACT response in Jordan	
	ACT response in Lebanon	23
31	ACT response in the OPT	
	ACT response in Syria	38

IRAQ

Iraq has long been in the throes of humanitarian crises as a result of wars, internal political and ethnic conflicts. The recent conflict since the beginning of 2014 resulted in a new influx of internally displaced persons. Local communities have generally welcomed displaced Iraqis alongside Syrian refugees. However, this has also resulted in a substantial strain on local resources.

ACT Alliance's response to the recent crises has been in the following sectors: food distribution; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); non-food items (NFIs); health; cash assistance; livelihoods; shelter; protection and education.



Photo: ACT/Gorden Simango

The Karbarto 2 camp for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), on the outskirts of the city of Duhok – Iraqi Kurdistan.

ACT Alliance Cash Transfer Programming facilitates the recovery of markets, while reinforcing dignity, choice and response to the needs of affected populations. It empowers households to be actively engaged in meeting their needs by not placing them only at the receiving end. In Daratu, Bardarash district, Duhok Governorate in northern Iraq.

Photo: LWF/Ilna Gajdikova



People waiting for their turn to get inside and receive cash at a local school in northern Iraq.

Photo: LWF/Ilna Gajdikova



On display is information summarising items this cash assistance will purchase which follows the NFIs and shelter cluster guidelines. People get a leaflet listing items they can purchase.

Photo: LWF-Iraq



Process of receiving cash vouchers and cash for those already registered, at Daratu, Bardarash district, Duhok Governorate, northern Iraq.

IRAQ CASH ASSISTANCE

Public schools in Kurdistan often operate in shifts, with morning classes reserved for local students and afternoon classes for IDPs with teachers who are refugees themselves. Students have difficulties concentrating; they have no space in which to do their homework. Learning is difficult due to traumatic experiences.



Photo: Christoph Pueschner/DKH

Yazidi refugee children in the IDP camp Baadre on their way from school to their homes. Baadre, northern Iraq.



Photos: LWF/Seivan Salim

Refugee students Shemaa, Bushra and Hashana leaving school. They live in a community shelter in Chamanke in Dohuk, northern Iraq.

People living in unfinished buildings or in community shelters – unlike those living in camps – do not automatically receive assistance. ACT Alliance members identify vulnerable families in need living in the communities and offer them support.

Photo: LWF/Sandra Cox



Five-year-old Vian Shara and her father collect one month's food supply, distributed by ACT member LWF and its partner.

Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim



Imama George and her daughter-in-law bake traditional bread in Daudia IDP camp. They receive non-perishable food from LWF.

Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim



A family receives a two week food box ration: 10 kg of rice, lentils, salt, tea, beans, canned/tinned vegetables, chicken, sugar, pasta, bulgur, flour, and bottles of oil.

A mobile clinic and pharmacy treats more than 160 patients per day with basic equipment – stethoscopes, blood pressure readers and diabetes testing equipment. The van doubles as a pharmacy one day and a relief goods delivery vehicle the next. It is run by LWF partner, CAPNI.



Photo: LWF/Sandra Cox

Nurse Adleya Nestores, left, with pharmacist William Al-bazi, administer medicine from the back of a van.



Photo: LWF/Sandra Cox

Doctor Yosef Mekho takes the blood pressure of Wissam Yousef, who fled the ISIS advance to find sanctuary in the Iraqi Kurdistan town of Aradin.

Strengthening livelihoods and protection forms a significant part of the humanitarian response of ACT members. The response empowers affected populations in host communities to fend for themselves by engaging in vocational skills training and then accessing grants to start income-generating projects.



Photo: ACT/Gorden Simango

An IDP carpenter trained by an ACT member also received a grant to start a business. Here he is shown working on the alignment of concrete beams ready for casting in Duhok.



Photo: ACT/Gorden Simango

Staff of an ACT member partner visiting a project/construction site where graduates of a vocational skills training are working.



Photo: ACT/Gorden Simango

Putting the final touches to a hairdressing salon in Duhok. ACT assisted with training fees and grants to support graduates to start their small businesses.

In 2014 ACT member DKH distributed relief packages while LWF and its partner distributed household goods in time for winter to the most remote regions in the Kani Mase, to families who sought refuge from the ISIS advance in the mountains of Iraqi Kurdistan.



Photo: ACT/DKH/Anne Dreyer

Iraqi IDPs leave a school compound with relief goods from DKH, which include hygiene products, mattresses, pots, kettles and food.



Photo: LWF/Sandra Cox

Preparing a delivery, men throw a rope over dozens of mattresses and pillows.



Photo: LWF/Sandra Cox

Some 188 families received food, household goods, bedding, clothes and kerosene stoves in December 2014.

Most IDP camps host displaced people of different faiths, including those from minority groups. Centres provide psychosocial support and promote peaceful interaction between the displaced of different communities. Among ACT members, LWF with its local partner Jiyan Foundation, offers counselling, psychosocial support and psychotherapy.



Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim

Jiyan center for counselling at Khanke IDP camp provides psychological help to victims of violence and trauma.



Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim

Children who have been traumatised in the past, draw in a women-friendly space, Daudia IDP camp.



Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim

A counselling session in Khanke refugee camp.

The mass influx of people has caused a shortage of shelters in Dohuk. People have sought refuge in schools, churches, mosques and unfinished buildings. For privacy families have separated their sleeping quarters with cardboard and plywood. ACT members support them with food, sanitation, school supplies and other relief goods.



Photo: LWF/Michael Hyden

The Yazidi community centre where displaced Iraqis are living.



Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim

A communal shelter. 51 people between ages nine months and 85 years live in this one room. Since the IDPs arrived, two children were born.

Water is a challenge across the country. In camps, adapted responses are found. For people living outside camps, ACT member Christian Aid supports local partner REACH in providing essential items to over one thousand families around Sulaimaniya and Erbil, such as hygiene kits with first-aid equipment, soap, shampoo, water purifiers and sanitarries.

Photo: LWF/Seivan Salim



Water tanks in Daudia camp, northern Iraq. The facilities installed by LWF help residents in the refugee camp store water and have it available as they need it.

Photo: ACT/Gorden Simango



Women engineers maintain a borehole which pumps water from 70m before feeding it through a purification process to supply Daudia camp, northern Iraq.

Photo: ACT/Sarah Malian



A Syrian refugee looks at a leaflet with hygiene advice. Behind is an aid truck used to carry hygiene kits to distribution points.

JORDAN

Jordan is host to Palestinian, Syrian and Iraqi refugees resulting from the prolonged conflicts in the Middle East. Waves of refugees from Syria since 2011 and Iraq in early 2015 have increased the pressure on neighbouring countries. Refugees live in camps and in host communities.

The ACT Alliance response in Jordan has covered the following sectors: food security; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); psychosocial support and protection; life skills; non-food items (NFIs); education; health; children and youth forums; womens empowerment forums; shelter and livelihoods.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

The Zaatari refugee camp near Mafraq, Jordan. Established in 2012 as Syrian refugees poured across the border, the camp held more than 80,000 refugees by early 2015.

Programmes for the education of refugees and vulnerable people intend to meet the needs of different beneficiaries: classes for children, vocational training for young people and business courses for women as working from home is one of the easiest ways to earn some money.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Women refugees from Syria graduate from a 15 day Start Your Business course in Zarqa. Sponsored by ACT member DSPR.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Syrian men learn computer skills in a programme run by LWF.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Girls in class in the Zaatari Refugee Camp, located near Mafraq, Jordan, where ACT members are at the forefront of providing education for boys and girls.

Many actions are taken to provide food, such as the distribution of food parcels and food vouchers to families, as well as community kitchens.



Photo: LWF

Rahib shows the food ration a local organisation in Al Toura provides once a month to him, his wife and children and a second family.



Photo: LWF/H. Martinussen

Rabbi, from Syria, has prepared free meals for the Zaatari refugee camp and is also selling meals to the local community in Al Mafraq.

The health and wellbeing of refugees whether in host communities or in refugee camps needs attention. ACT Alliance in Jordan provides healthcare to refugees, supporting clinics and health institutions. This clinic in Madaba is supported by DSPR.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

As more patients and their parents wait, Dr. Saba Ghawi, a pediatrician, writes a prescription for a young patient at a clinic in Madaba.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Dr. Saba Ghawi, a pediatrician, examines a young patient.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Ayat Jara, a pharmacist, fills a prescription for a patient.

Many vulnerable Syrian refugee families are supported by ACT members, as well as many Jordanian families living in poverty. Besides household parcels, in 2015, ACT member IOCC distributed 10,536 hygiene kits, 9,884 school kits, 1,680 baby care kits and provided 30,000 refugee children with school uniforms.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Nahle Al Saye and her four children, refugees from Aleppo, Syria, open a box of household supplies with help from Fadi Wakileh. Provided by IOCC.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Christian women, who fled violence from Mosul in Iraq to Amman in Jordan, unpack a box of household supplies given by IOCC.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Lisa Henry, humanitarian response coordinator for ACT member DCA, hands over a school uniform to a boy in the Zaatari refugee camp.

In the Zaatari refugee camp near Mafraq a few ACT Alliance members are providing psychological support. It is an opportunity for psychosocial specialists to focus on specific children's situations and broadly address topics such as early marriages.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Topi Hurtig and a team of circus trainers teach juggling, acrobatics and clownery to young Syrian refugees. This programme is run by ACT member Finn Church Aid (FCA).



Photo: ACT/Utrika Lagerlöt

A LWF psychosocial specialist working on conflict management and mediation for the local leaders. The project is supported by ACT member Church of Sweden among others.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Attending soccer training as part of a psychosocial programme run by the LWF Peace Oasis. Plastic sheets on the fence ensure that girls can also participate in sports activities.

Shelters in need of rehabilitation are identified before ACT members contract local companies to provide identified basic home repairs, including painting, carpentry, plumbing, electricity, roofing, wall repairs, unblocking sewage and installing ventilation. ACT members also provide cash assistance for tents and provide items such as heaters.



Photo: LWF/M. Renaux

Major rehabilitation works have been done in this home by LWF, notably in the living room which is also the sleeping quarters for most of the family.



Photo: LWF-Jordan

Syrian refugees in the Al Mafraq host community warm themselves by gas heaters given to them by LWF just before a big storm in January 2015.

LEBANON

The ACT Alliance humanitarian response in Lebanon began long before the current Syria crisis. The alliance has responded to internally displaced persons from civil wars, refugees from previous Iraq wars, Palestinian refugees and so forth. These refugees and IDPs have fled war and violence, and have a right to seek asylum. There are over one million registered refugees in Lebanon.

The ACT Alliance response in Lebanon has covered the following sectors: food security; education; shelter; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); demining and clearance of unexploded ordnances and explosive remnants of war.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Children run through a settlement of Syrian refugees in Minyara, a village in the Akkar district of northern Lebanon.



Photo: DCA/Bassam Abo Nassif

Manual mine clearance activity using the metal detector Type VALON VMH3, conducted by a DCA deminer in the village of Zeghrine in Mount Lebanon.



Photo: DCA/Ali Al Hussein

Manual mine clearance activity using the full excavation method conducted by a DCA deminer in DCA task MF 1196, in the village of Jeita in Mount Lebanon.



Photo: DCA/Ali Al Hussein

Manual mine clearance activity using the metal detector type Valon VMH3, conducted by a DCA deminer in DCA task no MF 1196, in the village of Jeita in Mount Lebanon.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Hiyam Moussa helps children study in the Sabra refugee camp in Beirut, run by DSPR of MECC.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Children participate in math class in a settlement of Syrian refugees in Minyara. Supported by IOCC.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Khaled Bastoni teaches in a school in Saida run by DSPR.

In the community kitchen supported by ACT members such as IOCC in Minyara, a village in the Akkar district of northern Lebanon, women are preparing a hot meal for Syrian refugees living in a nearby settlement. Food parcels are also distributed to newly arriving refugees.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Women prepare soup in a community kitchen.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Food packages for refugees.

Zena Aboud ladles the soup she and other women have prepared in the community kitchen.

The clinic, a community health center in Kab Elias, a town in Bekaa Valley, is supported by IOCC and provides treatment to many Syrian refugees.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



A breast-feeding specialist offers awareness sessions for women on optimal feeding for Infants and Young Children at the community health center.

Photo: ACT/IOCC/Ramzi Haider



Doctors volunteer their expertise to care for Syrian refugee children.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



A health and nutrition specialist feeds a baby with a formulated peanut-based food for treating severe acute malnutrition.

Where hundreds of thousands of Syrians have fled violence that has left them with psychological trauma, these activities are essential.



Photo: ACT/Natalie Naccache

Jaylan is 14 years old and is a Syrian refugee. She is one of the 120 children who received one-to-one psychosocial aid, supported by Christian Aid.

In winter, temperatures during the day can be less than four degrees Celsius and at night sometimes below freezing. Several babies and toddlers freeze in the winter. ACT members IOCC and DKH provide a range of support for families such as gasoline-burning stoves.



Photo: ACT/DKH/Thomas Lohnes

A mother with her baby in a run-down former shop near Tripoli is staying close to the stove, whose gasoline is provided by ACT members.



Photo: ACT/IOCC/Tiziana Cauli

A family gathers together outside, coping with the snowy winter.

IOCC implements WASH infrastructure for water networks and drainage systems for the host community in Chekka (North) and Anjar (Bekaa). When they have completed the work, housing units will be connected to the municipal water network.



Photo: ACT/IOCC/Tiziana Cauli



Photo: ACT/IOCC/Tiziana Cauli

A boy drinks safe water from a faucet in the El Rahme settlement of Syrian refugees in Bhannine, a village in the Akkar district.

Settled in El Rahme, Mahal Al Ashar says that having access to clean water is a great relief to residents in the camp.



Photo: ACT/IOCC/Tiziana Cauli

Children fill up bottles and buckets with clean water from a tank in the informal settlement in Bar Elias, Bekaa Valley.

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

The fragile situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) remains a thorn in the side of the international community. Only a political solution to which the international community is committed can resolve this long running crisis.

The ACT Alliance response in the OPT covers the following sectors: health; peace advocacy; cash assistance; psychosocial support; education; livelihoods and job creation; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); fodder for livestock; food security and shelter.

Photo: ACT/Andrew Hogg



Constantine Dabbagh and Dr. Salim al-Abadalla, director of a clinic, at what is now the ruins of the clinic.

The Gaza Strip and the West Bank have one of the highest unemployment rates – leaving people with few if no expectations. Through employment-related action, vocational training centers sponsored by DSPR and LWF contribute to mitigating the impact of this difficult situation.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Ayda el-Habbash teaches an advanced dressmaking class in the center.



Photo: LWF-Jerusalem.

Ghadeer Altawil, fond of electronics since childhood, learned to repair mobile phones in the LWF vocational training center in Beit Hanina.



Photo: LWF-Jerusalem.

Yousef, 25, was trained in welding in the vocational training center in Beit Hanina and has just opened his own metal workshop in the village of Ash-Shuyukh.

Support provided is either oriented towards food security or the distribution of food packages, which here contain: canned meat, three pieces; tuna, three pieces; canned beans, four pieces; jam; cheese, two pieces; milk powder, one pack of 800 gm; sugar, two kg; salt, one kg, and tea bags, one pack.

Photo: ACT/MECC-DSPR



The DSPR distribution was for displaced people and those whose houses were totally destroyed and therefore stayed in the Orthodox Church in Gaza City.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Amna Ali Attan was supported by IOCC to install new irrigation equipment in the garden and buy new seeds and seedlings. This helped her family of 11 people.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Khaled Abu Khater grows vegetables in several greenhouses, using water from a rain water catchment system to fill a giant pond. The project was supported by DHK.

The Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, an Anglican church-affiliated hospital, attends to patients who suffer from a chronic shortage of several medicines. It is supported by ACT member NCA. Gaza suffers from a blockade which makes the replacement of parts of medical equipment difficult.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

As a mother looks on, nurse Asma El Shami weighs her child in the pediatric department.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Three-year-old Anas, who suffered severe burns to her chest, sits in a therapeutic bath.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Dr. Khalid Abu Ajwa examines the scarred arm of nine-year-old Zacaria Syam injured in an Israeli bombing during the 2014 conflict in Gaza.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

With medication provided by ACT members, nurse Tahreer Qannan can attend to a 62-year-old patient on the oncology ward.

ACT members distributed supplies targeting displaced people whose houses were destroyed during the 2014 Gaza conflict. IOCC distributed hot meals, food and other relief goods, whereas DSPR, distributed food, water and hygiene kits.

Photo: ACT/IOCC



A man prepares the kits before delivery.

Photo: ACT/IOCC



Relief goods distributed to people.

Photo: ACT/MECC-DSPR



A truck full of kits, ready to be delivered.

ACT members support critical programmes which offer new hope to affected children, both for their own sake, for the sake of the future of the Palestinian society, and for future peace in the region. Christian Aid and its partner, the Culture and Free Thought Association (CFTA), a Palestinian NGO in Khan Younis, is providing such work in the Gaza Strip.



Photo: ACT

A puppet show for children in a Palestine center.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

A girl paints a mask in a center run by CFTA.



Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey

Children have a discussion in a center run by CFTA.

The homes of many families in this neighborhood were destroyed during the 2014 Gaza conflict. People received cash assistance for immediate needs when they emerged from shelters and returned to the rubble of what was once their homes.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Women and children in Gaza stand beside their tent and in front of the rubble of their home. They receive support from DCA.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



People are receiving cash from the cash assistance project, to support them to pay their rent and other needs.

Photo: ACT/Paul Jeffrey



Men sitting in the waiting space before receiving cash.

SYRIA

The crisis in Syria has been a multifaceted armed conflict since the unrest began in March 2011. This has affected neighbouring countries and beyond. The severity of the humanitarian disaster has been felt mainly by civilians, many of whom have had to flee their homes and now live as internally displaced persons (IDPs) or refugees in neighbouring countries and beyond. For IDPs, whether they will be able to return to their original homes and whether their lives will ever be fully restored or re-established, remains a big question.

ACT Alliance members have been responding to the Syria crisis in the following sectors: food security; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); shelter; education; livelihoods and early recovery.



Photo: GOPA/IOCC

Internally displaced children gathered outside in Jableh, a coastal city in Syria.

ACT members are providing educational support and repairing schools to help children stay on track with their learning, despite many having been uprooted from their homes many times. School uniforms are provided, and damaged schools are rehabilitated to help children return to class.

Photo: MECC media team



A school kit distributed by ACT member MECC to around 2,000 children in Aleppo in 2016.

Photo: GOPA/IOCC



More than 40,000 school kits and hygiene kits have been given to Syrian children at schools in Damascus, including uniforms made by women refugees.

Photo: GOPA/IOCC



IOCC repaired this classroom in Homs, damaged from several years of conflict.

Photo: GOPA/IOCC



The rehabilitation of this school allows children who have not had regular access to school to continue or have catch-up classes to advance their education.

With the ongoing crisis, humanitarian needs continue to be overwhelming. The deteriorating economy and the sharp decrease in purchasing power, with the price of basic commodities particularly food continuing to rise, leaves 8.7 million people in dire need of food security. IOCC organised the distribution of parcels with its partner GOPA.



Photo: ACT/IOCC

Food parcels distributed to thousand of families contributed to alleviating the economic burden experienced by vulnerable families.

ACT member IOCC provides medical supplies for hospitals in the Syrian cities of Hama, Hasakeh, Aleppo, Damascus, Daraa, Lattakia, Swaida and Tartous as well as hospital equipment for essential services, including minor surgical procedures. IOCC also gives support for emergency surgeries and safe delivery of babies.



Photo: GOPA/IOCC

IOCC provides pre and postnatal care as well as delivery assistance to displaced pregnant women who otherwise may not have access to medical care.



Photo: GOPA/IOCC

Lifesaving and disability-preventing surgeries are provided to thousands of Syrians. A piece of metal embedded in the skull of 11 year-old Ali was able to be removed.



Photo: GOPA/IOCC

An internally displaced man from Idlib receives emergency medical assistance at a hospital in Lattakia, a port city in Syria.

The wages people earn from the Cash-for-Work programme established by IOCC help support their families and provide necessary services for the community. Many displaced Syrian men and women benefit from the programme.



Photo: GOPA/IOCC

Taking part in the Cash-for-Work activities, many families have increased their purchasing power so that they can meet their essential needs.

Kits of non-food items, which include hygiene, infant, dignity, bedding and clothing kits, were distributed by IOCC and MECC in the governorates of Al-Hassakeh, Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Tartous, Lattakia, Daraa, Al-Sweida, Damascus and Rif Damascus.

Photo: MECC media team



Distribution of various kits in Izra: one box includes a dignity kit for women, and the other includes winter clothing kits for children.

Photo: MECC media team



An elderly person in Tartous IDP camp receives a bedding kit and a hygiene kit bag.

Photo: ACT/IOCC/GOPA



Thousands of displaced Syrians wait patiently at a distribution center at the Orthodox Church in Tartous to receive emergency bedding and food parcels.

These children are among the few thousand displaced Syrian people who have benefited from the counselling programme provided by IOCC and GOPA trauma counsellors since it was started in March 2012.



Photo: ACT/IOCC/GOPA

Outdoor games, performing and face-painting are all activities used to help displaced Syrian children express their feelings through art and play.

IOCC repairs and renovates temporary shelters and apartments. MECC and IOCC provide monthly rent assistance to support the vulnerable displaced families, targeting households in governorates with a high density of displaced and affected populations.

Photo: GOPA/IOCC



IOCC relief workers are supporting IDPs on shelter issues at Tartous.

Photo: GOPA/IOCC



A wash tank is being installed for IDPs in Damascus.

Photo: MECC media team



Receivers of cash assistance are able to remain in their current shelters and not be evicted.

Rehabilitation of school facilities by MECC in Damascus, Daraa and Lattakia. The rehabilitation of schools has also created job opportunities for workers from the local community and has been able to indirectly secure cash for their families.



Damascus, Al-Kharrat - Before



Damascus, Al-Kharrat - After



Damascus, Issam Safieh - Before



Damascus, Issam Safieh - After

Children were provided with access to clean safe water; took part in hygiene promotion campaigns, and were given hygiene kits. The hygiene kits contain soap, shampoo, toilet paper, toothpaste, a toothbrush, a comb, nail clipper, sanitary napkins, garbage bags, small plastic/stainless steel water bottles, towels and a waterproof school bag.



Al-Hidayeh school in Damascus: teaching children the appropriate way of hand-washing.



Distribution of school hygiene kits in Nasouh Othman Agha school in Damascus.



Al-Hidayeh school in Damascus: teaching children the appropriate way of hand-washing by using puppets.



Distribution of hygiene vouchers to people in Damascus.

ACT Alliance members

AFRICA

ANGOLA: Angolan Council of Christian Churches (ACCC/CICA)

ANGOLA: Igreja Evangélica Reformada de Angola (IERA)

BURKINA FASO: Association of Reformed Evangelical Churches of Burkina Faso (AEERB)

BURUNDI: National Council of Churches of Burundi (CNEB)

BURUNDI: The Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi (EEB)

CAMEROON: Eglise Fraternelle Luthérienne du Cameroun (EFLC)

DRC: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Congo (ELCCo)

DRC: Ecumenical Office for Development Support (BOARD)

DRC: Centre Oecuménique pour la Promotion du Monde Rural (COPROMOR)

DRC: Eglise du Christ au Congo Bureau National (ECC)

ETHIOPIA: Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (EECMY)

ETHIOPIA: Ethiopian Orthodox Church – Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (EOC-DICAC)

GHANA: Presbyterian Church in Ghana (PCG)

KENYA: Anglican Development Services Kenya (ADK)

KENYA: National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK)

KENYA: Fellowship of Christian Councils and Churches in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa (FECCLAHA)

KENYA: Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA)

LESOTHO: Christian Council of Lesotho (CCL)

LIBERIA: Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL)

LIBERIA: Lutheran Development Service, Liberia (LDS-Liberia)

MADAGASCAR: Eglise de Jésus-Christ à Madagascar – Dépt pour le Développement (FJKM)

MADAGASCAR: Malagasy Lutheran Church (MLC)

MALAWI: Evangelical Lutheran Development Service (ELDS)

MALAWI: CCAP Blantyre Synod Health and Development Commission

MALAWI: Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD)

MALAWI: Malawi Council of Churches

MOZAMBIQUE: Comité Ecuménico para o Desenvolvimento Social (CEDES)

MOZAMBIQUE: Christian Council of Mozambique (CCM)

NIGERIA: Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)

SIERRA LEONE: Council of Churches in S.L. (CCSL)

SENEGAL: Eglise Luthérienne du Sénégal (ELS)

SOUTH AFRICA: Economic Justice Network of FOCCISA, Southern Africa

SOUTH AFRICA: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (ELCSA)

SOUTH SUDAN: Presbyterian Relief and Development Agency (PRDA)

TANZANIA: Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)

TANZANIA: Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service (TCRS)

UGANDA: Church of Uganda (CoU)

UGANDA: Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC)

UGANDA: Rural Action Based Organisation (RACOBABO)

ZAMBIA: Council of Churches in Zambia (CCZ)

ZAMBIA: United Church of Zambia (UCZ)

ZIMBABWE: Lutheran Development Service in Zimbabwe (LDS-Zimbabwe)

ZIMBABWE: Christian Care (CC)

ZIMBABWE: Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC)

ASIA

BANGLADESH: Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB)

BANGLADESH: KOINONIA

BANGLADESH: Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Service (RDRS)

BANGLADESH: Social Health and Education Development (SHED)

CAMBODIA: Life With Dignity (LWD)

CHINA: Amity Foundation (AF)

INDIA: Christian Agency for Rural Development (CARD)

INDIA: United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India (UELCI)

INDIA: Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA)

INDIA: Synodical Board of Social Services, Church of North India (SBSS-CNI)

INDIA: Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT)

INDONESIA: Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Community Development Studies (CDRMCDS)

INDONESIA: Indonesian Christian Association for Health Services (ICAHS/PELKESI)

INDONESIA: YAKKUM (including YEU)

JAPAN: National Christian Council in Japan (NCCJ)

KOREA: Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK)

PAKISTAN: Community World Service Asia (CWSA)

PHILIPPINES: National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP)

SRI LANKA: National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)

TAIWAN: Presbyterian Church of Taiwan (PCT)

AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALIA: Act for Peace

AUSTRALIA: Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)

AUSTRALIA: Anglican Overseas Aid – Australia

AUSTRALIA: Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

AUSTRALIA: UnitingWorld: Relief and Development Unit

NEW ZEALAND: Christian World Service (CWS)

EUROPE

ARMENIA: Armenia Inter-Church Charitable Round Table Foundation (ARTF)

AUSTRIA: Diakonie

BELGIUM: Solidarité Protestante (SP)

CZECH REPUBLIC: Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren (ECCB)

DENMARK: DanChurchAid (DCA)

FINLAND: Finn Church Aid (FCA)

GERMANY: Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (DKH)

GERMANY: Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service (BdW)

HUNGARY: Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)

ICELAND: Icelandic Church Aid (ICA)

NORWAY: Norwegian Church Aid (NCA)

ROMANIA: Ecumenical Association of Churches in Romania (AIDRom)

RUSSIA: Russian Orthodox Church – Department for External Church Relations (ROC)

SERBIA: Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization (EHO)

SERBIA: Philanthropy – The Charitable Fund of the Serbian Orthodox Church

SWEDEN: Church of Sweden, International Mission and Diakonia (CoS)

SWEDEN: Diakonia Sweden

SWITZERLAND: Bread for All (BFA)

SWITZERLAND: Swiss Interchurch Aid (HEKS)

THE NETHERLANDS: ICCO Cooperation

THE NETHERLANDS: Kerk in Actie

UK AND IRELAND: Christian Aid (CA)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA: Fundación Hora de Obrar (FHdO)

BRAZIL: Coordenadoria Ecumênica de Serviço (CESE)

BRAZIL: Diaconia

BRAZIL: Fundação Luterana de Diaconia (FLD)

BRAZIL: KOINONIA

BOLIVIA: Asociación Boliviana Uniendo Manos por la Vida (RED UMAVIDA)

BOLIVIA: Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia (IEMB)

CHILE: Centro Ecuménico Diego de Medellín (CEDM)

CHILE: Educación Popular en Salud (EPES)

COLOMBIA: Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC)

COSTA RICA: Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILC)

CUBA: Council of Churches of Cuba (CCC)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicanas (SSID)

EL SALVADOR: Asociación Cristiana de Educación y Desarrollo (ALFALIT)

EL SALVADOR: Salvadorian Lutheran Synod (SLS)

GUATEMALA: Asociación Conferencia de Iglesias Evangélicas de Guatemala (CIEDEG)

GUATEMALA: Consejo Ecuménico Cristiano de Guatemala (CECG)

GUATEMALA: Centro Evangélico de Estudios pastorales en Centro América (Cedepeca)

HAITI: Service Chrétien d'Haïti (SCH)

HAITI: Mission Sociale des Eglises Haïtiennes (MISSEH)

HONDURAS: Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM)

NICARAGUA: Accion Medica Cristiana (AMC)

NICARAGUA: Association for Social Development of the Moravian Church (ADSIM)

NICARAGUA: Centro Intereclesial de Estudios Teológicas y Sociales (CIEETS)

NICARAGUA: Council of Evangelical Churches (CEPAD)

NICARAGUA: Iglesia Luterana de Nicaragua (ILN)

PERU: Diaconia Peru

REGIONAL (L.A.): Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias (CLAI)

REGIONAL (L.A.): Centro Regional Ecuménico de Asesoría y Servicio (CREAS)

MIDDLE EAST

EGYPT: Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical and Social Services of the Coptic Orthodox Church (BLESS/COC)

LEBANON: Middle East Council of Churches (MECC)

OPT: The East Jerusalem YMCA

OPT: The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL)

REGIONAL (M.E): Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees of the Middle East Council of Churches (DSPP-MECC)

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA: United Church of Canada: Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit (UCC)

CANADA: Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWSD)

CANADA: Primates World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF)

CANADA: World Renew (WR)

CANADA: Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)

USA: Church World Service (CWS)

USA: Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA)

USA: International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)

USA: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

USA: United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) USA

USA: Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

GLOBAL

Baptist World Aid (BWA)

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

The Salvation Army

ECLOF International

World Association for Christian Communication (WACC)

World YWCA

OBSERVERS

AUSTRALIA: Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)

GLOBAL: Anglican Alliance

GLOBAL: Mission EineWelt

GLOBAL: World Student Christian Federation (WSCF)

GLOBAL: Vereinte Evangelische Mission (United Evangelical Mission)

FINLAND: Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM)

REGIONAL (EUROPE): Conference of European Churches (CEC)

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