## **ACT Alliance**

Syria Protracted Crisis - Developing the Resilience of Affected People

# Apped Syr231



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Project Summary Sheet									
Project Title	Syria Protracted Crisis - Developing the resilience of affected people								
Project ID	SYR231								
Location	Syria								
Project Period	Start Date: 1 January 2023								
	End Date: 31 December 2024								
Poquesting	No. of months: 2 Syria ACT Forum	24 months							
Requesting Forum	Syna Act Toruni								
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Requesting	- Middle East Coun								
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	- Swiss Church Aid -	HEKS/EPER							
Contact		-							
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	contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)								
Local partners		-		Syria. For confidentiality / security, their etails can be directly provided to funding					
	members.								
Thematic Area(s)	Cash and Vouchers		$\boxtimes$	Shelter and household items					
	Camp Managemen	t	$\boxtimes$	Food and Nutrition					
	Disaster Risk Mana;	gement	$\boxtimes$	MHPSS and CBPS					
	🖾 WASH		$\boxtimes$	Gender					
	🖂 Livelihood		$\boxtimes$	Education					
	🖂 Health		$\boxtimes$	Advocacy					
	□ Other:								
Project Outcome(s)	<ul> <li>Other:</li></ul>								



Project Objectives Target Recipients	<ol> <li>Provide multi sectorial humanitarian support to people affected by the Syrian conflict in all governorates and Northern Syria</li> <li>Build on the resilience of the people affected by the conflict by providing livelihood, PSS and restoration support</li> <li>Enable the community to be agents of change by capacity building and advocacy on different issues</li> </ol>										
		population								ees	
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## Reporting Schedule

Type of Report	Due date
Situation report	15 July 2023
	First SitRep due,
	Bi-annual
Interim Reports (narrative and financial)	31 January 2024
Final narrative and financial report (60 days after the ending date)	28 February 2025
Audit report	31 March 2025
(90 days after the ending date)	





#### Please kindly send your contributions to the following ACT bank account:

US dollar Account Number - 240-432629.60A IBAN No: CH46 0024 0240 4326 2960A

Account Name: ACT Alliance UBS AG 8, rue du Rhône P.O. Box 2600 1211 Geneva 4, SWITZERLAND Swift address: UBSWCHZH80A

Please note that as part of the revised ACT Humanitarian Mechanism, pledges/contributions are **encouraged** to be made through the consolidated budget of the country forum, and allocations will be made based on agreed criteria of the forum. For any possible earmarking, budget targets per member can be found in the "Summary Table" Annex, and detailed budgets per member are available upon request from the ACT Secretariat. For pledges/contributions, please refer to the spreadsheet accessible through this link <u>00 Appeals reports</u> The ACT spreadsheet provides an overview of existing pledges/contributions and associated earmarking for the appeal.

Please inform the Director of Operations, Nancy Ette and Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Niall O'Rourke to the following email address: Humanitarian Team <<u>humanitarianfinance@actalliance.org</u>> of all pledges/contributions and transfers, <u>including funds sent direct to the requesting members</u>. Please also be sure to inform us at the time of your pledge of any back donor or other special requirements relevant to the donation. In line with Grand Bargain commitments to reduce the earmarking of humanitarian funding, if you have an earmarking request in relation to your pledge, a member of the Secretariat's Humanitarian team will contact you to discuss this request. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

#### For further information, please contact:

#### **Middle East and North Africa**

ACT Regional Representative, Rachel Luce (<u>Rachel.Luce@actalliance.org</u>) Humanitarian Advisor, George Majaj (<u>George.Majaj@actalliance.org</u>)

Visit the ACT website: https://actalliance.org/

**Niall O'Rourke** Head of Humanitarian Affairs ACT Alliance Secretariat, Geneva





## BACKGROUND

#### **Context and Needs**

After nearly 12 years of conflict, Syria remains a complex humanitarian and protection emergency characterized by ongoing hostilities and their long-term consequences, including widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure, economic collapse, explosive ordnance contamination and one of the largest number of internally displaced people in the world. In many ways, the humanitarian needs across the whole of Syria are currently at their highest since the start of the conflict, and households are reverting to negative coping mechanisms more frequently than before. This includes child labour, child marriage, sale of productive assets, and borrowing (69% of households have taken on more debt since mid-2020) – all of which increase protection needs and/or reduce households' capacity for self-sustenance in the future. As household resilience decreases, humanitarian needs increase.

- Across the whole of Syria there are 14.6 million people (67% of the total population) who require support to meet their needs, an increase of 1.2 million people from 2021<sup>1</sup>.
- 6.9 million are internally displaced people (IDP) many having been displaced multiple times and up to 80% of those are internally displaced and in need of assistance are women and girls.
- The small area of opposition held northwest (NW) Syria is home to some of the most severe humanitarian needs and densely populated camps. The population is over 4.4 million alone and 93% of those are in need of assistance virtually everyone. Over 2.8 million of those residing in the NW (over half) are IDPs, and 1.7 million of them living in overcrowded camps or informal settlements that lack access to basic services. Over half of those in camps are under the age of 18.
- The constant threat of violence, repeated displacement, and lack of available services has a profound impact on the psychological wellbeing and education of children and young people. More than 75% of Syrian children in the NW displace PTSD symptoms and need critical MHPSS. There has also been an increase in attempts and suicides amongst children, this is incredibly worrying and shows how desperate and hopeless the situation has become.

Since the beginning of 2022, Syria has faced an accelerated economic collapse, which is the worst economic crisis since the conflict began<sup>2</sup>. The attempt of the Central Bank of Syria to change its official exchange rate of the SYP towards the USD is unfortunately not catching up to what is actually happening in the market and in everyday life of those who suffer the most. The ongoing economic collapse has made people's access to basic services across Syria more difficult, hampered by damaged infrastructure, lack of critical supplies, and a decreasing purchasing power, including challenges to safe and free movement.

The situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the entire socio-economic system and has led to a dramatic loss of livelihoods across the country. The impact of this is expected to be the hardest for 90 per cent of the Syrian population who are living below the poverty line. Due to COVID-19, there has been a decrease of 19.8 percent in the average number of employees in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector. The unemployment rate was estimated at close to 50 per cent of the working-age population at the end of the first quarter of 2021. In particular, there was a decrease in employment of 18.2% for males and 19.7% for females. Most enterprises lost significant revenue ranging from 40 percent to 100 percent, and about 13% had to close their operations. The impact on livelihoods and the gloomy economic prospects poses an even higher risk of individuals joining armed groups and committing crimes, and due to the fear of livelihoods loss, parents are encouraging early marriages and sending their children to work more, and some 2.45 million children inside Syria are out of school, while 1.6 million are at risk of dropping out.

Add to this the more recent Cholera outbreak in September 2022<sup>3</sup>, which is challenging a health system that is struggling to meet existing basic needs. As well as the uncertainty around the renewal of the UN crossborder mechanism in January 2023. With few viable alternatives to it, this would affect millions of already vulnerable Syrians in the NW of the country, during the harsh winter months.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNICEF annual report, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Country profile, Syria, The Economist Intelligence Unit, 2022. 27 June 2022</u>

<sup>3</sup> Cholera outbreak in Northeast Syria – NES NGO FORUM- September 2022

The ongoing Unilateral Coercive Measures imposed on Syria are aggravating the vulnerability of the Syrian population at several levels: Affecting the access to basic services provided by the state, impeding the rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure, limiting the import of essential materials such as agricultural inputs or crude oil derivates and creating goods shortages. UCMS are thus significantly destabilizing the economy, impacting the energy sector (leading to prolonged electricity outages, constantly increasing transportation costs and increasing the need for humanitarian aid.

According to the HNO 2022, needs continue to be high in all areas of Syria and for all sectors, compounded by the challenge of less funding according to the overall estimated budget.

<u>Food and Nutrition</u>: prices are on the rise while food availability is decreasing. The top barrier to accessing food is the inability to afford essential food items. A deepening economic crisis, coupled with the significant destruction of infrastructure over a decade of conflict primarily by the Syrian government and its allies, have led to severe wheat shortages. As the situation only gets work, a necessary sustainable food access approach is needed.

According to the HNO 2023, It is estimated that 12 million are facing acute food insecurity and 1.9 million people are at risk of sliding into food insecurity. As of September 2022, the national average price of a WFP standard reference food basket reached a new record, marking a nearly four-fold increase in the past two years only. Furthermore, 77 percent of households in Syria reported that their income was insufficient to cover the cost of basic needs<sup>4</sup>.

Bread is the main food staple in Syria and therefore public bakeries provide subsidized bread for a price of around 5% of its real cost (a bread packet weighting 1.1 Kg is sold for 200 SYP while the production cost is 3,700 SYP), giving access to basic food to the most vulnerable layers of the Syrian population. To achieve this goal, a network of state-owned public bakeries across the country sells subsidized bread and is managed by the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection (MoITCP) through the Directorate of Bakeries (DoB). The DoB is responsible for constructing bakeries, providing new or repairing bread production lines, supplying the bakeries with subsidized inputs such as wheat; yeast and fuel, recruiting bakeries' staff and paying for their salaries as well as conducting quality assurance spot checks. Before 2011 the country produced enough wheat to satisfy domestic consumption needs. But the fractioning of the country and the UCMs (affecting importing of agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides) led to a decline in domestic wheat production and at the same time drove millions into poverty, making them even more reliant on subsidized bread in their diet.

**WASH:** Access to sufficient and affordable safe water, adequate sanitation, solid waste management and/or hygiene supplies remain a challenge for more than 2 million people in IDP sites. Systems have suffered from damage owing to hostilities, strain from years of functioning at high capacity due to the growing demand, limited or no maintenance, continuous drain of technical staff and poor water resource management, exaggerated by cascade effects of climate.

According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview for 2023 (HNO 2023), 13.55 million people are in need of WASH assistance, 2,6% more than in 2022. Furthermore, according to the ICRC report on 01/10/2021, Syria now has up to 40% less drinking water than before the crisis period. All functioning water supply infrastructure depends on electricity in a context where the power generation capacity is down by 60% to 70 percent and the majority of areas are receiving less than 2 hours of grid electricity a day<sup>5</sup>.

Local authorities, specifically the Ministry of Water Resources, are responsible for constructing, operating and maintaining water networks, boreholes and pumping stations. Similar to bread, water is also subsidized by the Syrian state as it charges fees that do not cover the operational costs. Since the outbreak of the Syrian crisis, water infrastructure has sustained widespread damage and suffers from the lack of electricity/fuel to pump the water due to the UCMs. In many areas, people have reduced access to potable water and are mostly relying on expensive water trucking from untrusted sources. This has contributed to an outbreak of cholera, in September 2022, with cases appearing across the country.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> WFP, '11 years of conflict: with hunger at historic levels, millions of Syrians hang by a thread,' 08 May 2022. accessed on 27 June 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>HNO 2022</u>



Shortage of electricity remains the root cause for water supply systems underperformance or cessation and is mostly related to the significant shortages of fuel for power plants.

<u>Health:</u> needs in Syria are already significant. Thousands of children are suffering from severe malnutrition. Thousands of more people suffer from cancer, diabetes, and other chronic conditions for which treatment is limited. 70% of the sub-districts (188 out of 268) have most severe health needs and severity score of 3 and above<sup>6</sup>. One million children are in need to primary health care assistance.

One of the most pressing concerns is the lack of technical staff required to deliver and maintain basic health services or to operate potable water supply systems, as a consequence of displacement, death or impairment, and lack of technical training. Half of Syria's sub districts are at emergency levels because of the lack of healthcare workers alone.

<u>COVID-19 & Cholera outbreak</u>: the situation has been further aggravated in light of the easing of the precautionary measures for COVID-19 and the lack of proper clean water and sanitation for the most vulnerable areas. Needs are rising, especially for those with limited immunity are increasing continuously. Lack of consistent funding, vaccination hesitancy, infections among frontline health workers, high transmission rates in IDP camps, lack of oxygen supplies, limitations of the cold chain capacity, and limited technical/management capacity are further hampering COVID-19 prevention and response across Syria. The most vulnerable people already facing struggles to access clean water are in need of awareness raising, PPE, medicines, health care services, that in light of Syria's fragile health system.

<u>Gender Based Violence (GBV) / Psychosocial Support:</u> Protection issues are a grave concern, with increasing reports of violence taking place. Women and girls are subjected to increased denial of economic resources and education, movement restrictions, exploitation, forced and child marriage, intimate partner and family violence, technology facilitated violence, and physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, and social violence. This violence pervades all walks of life. 19 per cent of household mentioned that women and girls feel unsafe in certain areas. 71% of communities mention that child marriage is an issue for adolescent girls<sup>7</sup>.

<u>Education</u>: Some 2.4 million children, aged 5-17 years, are out of school. They represent nearly half of the about 5.52 million school-aged children. These children fall prey to child labour, early and forced marriage, trafficking, and recruitment into the fighting. More children are likely to miss out on education and are at risk of permanently dropping out<sup>8</sup>. The top barrier to accessing education services is that families cannot afford to send their children to school. Support is needed in covering tuition fees, safe transportation, school supplies are essential.

<u>Livelihoods</u>: 8.7 million Syrians need early recovery and livelihoods support in the absence of decent, longterm jobs and livelihoods opportunities. The job market lost 3.7 million jobs since the crisis begun. More than 50% of the potential workforce are in need to have access to sustained employment<sup>9</sup>.

#### Capacity to respond

The ACT Syria Forum (ASF) was established based on the decision of the Jordan, Syria, Lebanon (JSL) forum and on the strategy of ACT alliance to establish individual local forums to strengthen the relationships among local ACT members and local churches.

The four ASF implementing members (CA, HEKS / EPER, MECC and GOPA-DERD) of this appeal are reputable organisations that have strong roots in the community either directly or through their partners, with some operating within Syria since the start of the crisis back in 2011. They also have taken part in previous humanitarian relief operations implemented as an ACT appeal in the different and respective geographical areas. Throughout, members will continue to coordinate with each other through the ASF forum.

ASF members participate directly or through their local partners in the UN-led working groups and/or cluster meetings, such as WASH, Food Security, Health, Protection, Shelter, and Logistics and have developed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with various local and international actors. CA as well as HEKS/EPER are observers within the Syria International NGO Regional Forum (SIRF), CA is an active member in the Northwest Syria NGO Forum and it's various working groups.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Reliefweb, 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview: Syrian Arab Republic, 22 February

<sup>7 &</sup>lt;u>HNO 2022</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Unicef, Flagship report, Every Day Counts, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Unicef, hno 2022 final version



The members also bring technical expertise in programmatic areas, such as education in emergencies, psychosocial programming, community-led approaches (SCLR/PVCA), vocational training using the "linking Learning to Earning" (L2E) approach through the provision of educational, technical and recreational skill trainings, and supporting PWDs. The members also not only implement quality programs with consistency and determination, but also provide capacity building support to local implementing partners to enhance the learning of international standards and implementation in programming. Through working closely with local churches, LNGOs and targeted communities, members have access to and can respond in a timely manner with responsibility and accountability. Members, through local partnerships inside Syria have been able to access most areas across the whole of Syria, providing the necessary response to the most vulnerable and hard to reach areas.

## **RESPONSE STRATEGY**

#### The **Results Framework** should be annexed to this appeal proposal

The ACT SYR231 appeal builds upon work undertaken in previous Syria Humanitarian response appeals. Implementation will be by ACT members and in some cases through local partners in Syria. The appeal maintains a strong focus on supporting the most vulnerable communities and protecting the rights of all and addresses the protection and assistance needs of affected Syrian people due to protracted crises, economic collapse and the impact of the quick spread of COVID-19 and cholera. Through a comprehensive and holistic implementation strategy, the appeal continues to address the most pressing basic needs while adding a more sustainable approach to resilience and capacity development. Appeal requesting members will be focusing on restoring and supporting pre-existing basic services infrastructures as the most sustainable and resilience-oriented interventions. This approach aims at contributing to the recovery process and facilitating the return to normality thus paving the way toward development-oriented interventions in conjunction with the Triple Nexus approach (Humanitarian, Development and peacebuilding).

This response will focus on reducing the vulnerability of people affected by the protracted Syrian conflict and worsening economic situation through activities and services that enhance the ability of affected populations to lead a dignified life by enhancing their capabilities to acquire necessary tools and knowledge to become active parts in income generating activities and answer their eminent needs to lead a somewhat independent life. All interventions are participatory and inclusive with a focus on strengthening local initiatives and community-based activities and approaches. ACT Syria members will answer the needs of locals and individuals by providing sustainable solutions to the accumulated crises.

#### Goal

Developing the Resilience of Affected People as a result of the Syria Protracted Crisis and COVID-19

#### Outcomes

1.1	People affected by the conflict received multi-sectoral (WASH, Education, health and Energy) support
	to alleviate their hardship through a coordinated approach.

- 2.1 People affected by the conflict receive support and training to find jobs or means of livelihood.
- 2.2 People affected by the conflict given the necessary access to emergency mental health and psychological well-being support
- 2.3 People affected by the conflict were given the necessary access to nutritious food.
- 2.4 Institutions restored / rehabilitated in conflict affected areas to allow citizens to regain some normalcy and independency
- 3.1 Members, partners and churched capacities are strengthened through awareness and Social cohesion is promoted among targeted communities

#### Outputs

1.1.1.	Provision of clean water access, hygiene kits and COVID-19 and Cholera awareness sessions to target	1
	population	1
1.1.2.	Health services provided through the provision of medication to patients	1





- 1.1.3. Safe learning spaces and access to quality education through the provision of tuition support and remedial classes for targeted students
- 1.1.4. Provision of electricity through the installation of solar panels to schools
- 2.1.1 Men and women and youth are able to meet their own basic needs through increasing access to employment, vocational training and restoration of sustainable livelihood opportunities.
- 2.2.1 Psychosocial wellbeing for vulnerable individuals, including children are supported so they can meet their urgent survival and development needs
- 2.3.1 Provision of quality food assistance and subsidized bread to people affected by the economic collapse
- 2.4.1 Support to Syrian communities through the rehabilitation of existing diaconal services in faith-based entities is provided
- 3.1.1 Independent, good governed and inclusive local community groups that prevent violence and promote inclusion and social cohesion are increased
- 3.1.2 Awareness sessions for ACT Alliance Syria members, their partners and the community

#### Exit strategy

The main focus of this Appeal is on building resilience of affected communities, investing in local capacities increases the sustainability and expedites the departure of INGOs and being adhere to localization. ACT Syria members commit to this strategy and provide guidance to partner organizations, churches and any governmental bodies, line ministries, municipalities on capacity building, managerial and administrative support. By working alongside and building the capacity of local communities and actors and CBOs, ACT Syria members ensure greater sustainability of projects. Once the projects end (or should international funding decline), these organizations are well positioned to continue supporting vulnerable peoples. Additionally, by utilizing their network of volunteers and local knowledge, ACT members are able to maximize the intended outcomes of the proposed project.

Throughout the Appeal, ACT members will continue to identify ways to ensure program sustainability. The transition of specific project activities will be carried out gradually as local capacities are strengthened. Some activities may also have direct continuity through new projects developed by ACT members/or other institutions and NGOs. Furthermore, the coordination and capacity building of all project stakeholders will sustain the interventions, as ACT Syria members will work with local community representatives to form local committees to maintain the projects and to coordinate on new initiatives.

Apart from the existence of core staff, ACT Syria members specifically select project local staff from the targeted areas and build their capacities through trainings so that targeted communities have local skills and knowledge beyond the life of the project. Moreover, coordination with municipalities, line ministries, primary health centres, water establishment, and other local stakeholders is done throughout the project and when needed a MoU is signed with a specific stakeholder to clarify responsibility and develop an agreed common exit strategy or handover. Capacity building for the municipalities and line ministries, will be done as part of the handover and by the contractors in charge of the execution of the civil works to know how to operate the facilities after the project timeline ends.

MECC has followed the modality of tripartite or multi- lateral agreements with its partners in order to build their capacity and ensure that churches can continue implementing with same activities through the funds they received from partners outside appeal mechanism.

The exit strategy for HEKS/EPER's conflict-sensitive reconstruction interventions, revolves around handing over the infrastructure sites and technical drawings to the relevant authorities as well as providing them with the needed spare parts and tools for maintenance in the future. The concept behind HEKS/EPER approach is to respect the initial standards of the country and restore the infrastructure without a long-term commitment from HEKS/EPER in order not to create a parallel system or reliance on aid in the targeted community.

#### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Implementation Approach



ACT members adopt a participatory approach and local partnership including the beneficiaries in all aspects of program planning and management cycle. Participation of beneficiaries is a key component of this appeal and the Requesting Members (RMs) have through their local partners or directly voluntary teams who have a direct access to local communities and prove to be effective and in needs assessment and translation of programs and activities. Implementation of activities will be either through tripartite or multi- lateral agreements with local partners or through direct implementation for members who have offices and team on the ground. All activities will be implemented with respect of COVID-19 protection regulations with the provision of PPE to all field staff and protection accessories to beneficiaries such as face masks and sensitizations in distribution places. Coordination will take place whenever possible with existing sector groups lead by different UN agencies as well as with local directorates of different civil services such as; education, health and municipalities.

ACT Syria forum member's proposed activities have multiple modalities of implementation, including direct provision of items (such as food parcels, medications for cancer patients, hygiene and COVID-19 kits, and educational supplies), early recovery/livelihood (vocational training, business grants) and community empowerment through necessary capacity building for initiating a bakery that would supply its neighboring villages.

In previous responses to the Syria Humanitarian crisis, ACT members have ensured that gender- related issues are addressed in program design, implementation, reporting, security, and recruitment of staff at both management and field levels. Prioritizing gender analysis as a core element of program design, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting helps ensure that girls and boys, women and men, have equal opportunity to participate in, influence and benefit from the project. Similarly, specific vulnerabilities of women- and elderlyheaded households and households with persons with disabilities will be considered, as well as the number of individuals who can work per household and their legal status.

Despite challenges related to different groups' perceptions of gender roles, ACT Members have sought to ensure women's participation by inviting both husbands and wives to consultations and assessments, and by organizing separate discussion groups for women, that are facilitated by women. ACT Syria Member's selection of staff is based on qualifications and aims to keep equity between women and men both at the national office, as well as at the field level and provide a safe space for all who require it, with no discrimination and support within their capabilities if need be.

During the selection of project beneficiaries, ACT members target the most vulnerable among affected and displaced families, including: orphans, widows and divorced women, elderly persons, PWDs, people who have been exposed to traumatic events (e.g. loss of a family member or kidnapping); and unaccompanied children who live with a relative or caregiver. Child protection and wellbeing, inclusion of people with disabilities and gender sensitivity are cross-cutting components that guide the work of ACT and its partner through the programs.

Protection concerns are taken into account by ensuring respect for the rights of vulnerable groups. This includes children, people with special needs, the elderly, and girls and women, in particular those most at risk of abuse and exploitation. All members are committed to strict adherence to the Core Humanitarian Standards, the ACT Alliance Code of Conduct and the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policy. With respect to any activities or affected persons, ACT members do not discriminate based on ethnic, religious or political backgrounds of the populations served. In order to reduce the potential for harm, members emphasize cooperation and consultation with local organizations and volunteers.

ACT members have adopted the IASC Gender and Age marker in project design and implementation. Program implementation furthermore sees the inclusion of GBV awareness sessions, training, case management and referral of GBV cases, in addition to specific outreach activities meant to increase the participation of women. Dedicated Gender focal points are in place to support and train field staff and volunteers, check if project implementation is in line with the gender ambitions and adapt plans if necessary.

#### Implementation Arrangements

ACT appeal members employ a strategy, based on the premise of constant interaction with representatives of the population. Requesting members through the local partners or directly by their local staff meet whenever needed with local community leaders, local officials, local informant people, and country government officials



to facilitate the implementation of designed activities. Regular meetings are held with decision makers as well as with beneficiaries in order to share information and knowing the emerging needs so that the implemented activities meet its end result objectives or to change the modality of Implementation to match the needs of served communities. ACT Syria requesting members also believe in beneficiary led programing, which ensures buy-in from the communities in which members work. Stakeholders include both duty bearers (Ministries, local government, businesses, INGOs, UN agencies and related clusters) and rights holders (beneficiaries, targeted communities) in both public and private sectors, each meriting a different engagement approach.

CA will work with one local partner to reach 3,000 children in NW Syria through individual and group MHPSS & PSS support, as well as 300 children with individual protection assistance (emergency case management). The work will also support 35 (5 of which will be newly established) community protection & peacebuilding committees in the NW with training and grants to implement community initiatives. The partner staff under this will include: MHPSS facilitator, case workers and a response officer, with support from a logistic officer, MEAL office and program officer.

The proposed response is one of joint programming, each requesting member's sectoral expertise and geographic coverage will be complementary with other requesting members ensuring that the targeted affected population's needs are covered.

Through strong coordination with local churches, LNGOs and sector cluster workings groups in Syria, ACT requesting members are well-informed and prepared to continue their humanitarian response in key priority areas (health, food security, livelihoods, WASH, protection/psychosocial and education). ACT Syria requesting members, will work together in vulnerability assessments, data gathering, and focus group discussions for various sector related programming to adapt to best practices, changing regulations and security situations to ensure a timely and coordinated response and to benefit from lesson learned to improve future programming. Through regular contact with the relevant working groups in order to avoid duplication of activities, coordinate with other actors, and keep up to date on the most current, relevant issues and developments within the different sectors. Each requesting member is responsible for coordinating with the relevant national line ministries associated with the area in which the member is working.

Coordination between ACT Members will be facilitated through regular ACT forum meetings attended by the Country Directors/Team leaders which will harmonise operations and encourage information sharing and reporting on the dynamic political and security context within Syria.

Each requesting member of the ACT SYR231 appeal is responsible for the implementation of the activities as laid out in their individual log frames and proposals; abiding by their internal rules and regulations concerning the Project Management Cycle. A joint coordination appeal committee will be established in order to share information, to coordinate in order to implement all designed activities with utmost efficient way and to submit the required reports on time. The forum / appeal coordinator will facilitate the coordination meetings among requesting member, gather information and drafting sitreps, interim and final report and liaise with ACT secretariat in Jordan.

The requesting members in SYR231 appeal in Syria will work either directly through their existing offices and staff or through local partners in coordination with their registered umbrella organisations in Syria.

MECC, HEKS and GOPA – DERD will implement all their activities directly with dedicated field teams.

Christian Aid is working in partnership with a local partner, a leading NGO in Syria in the field of child protection. CA has previous experience implementing work with this partner, and the partnership is supported by a joint Partnership Agreement, as well as funding & reporting agreements for specific projects.

ACT members engage mainly with stakeholders in the public sector, such as ministries, local authorities, schools and health clinics and communication will be that of transparency. Nevertheless, public-private partnerships and cooperation are increasingly common and can include training facilitation, job placement and internships, as well as goods delivery and donations in-kind. When entering to any community -new or old- coordination and cooperation is being set with key stakeholders, which often include church leaders or church related organizations or groups. ACT Syria members have extensive experience in working with church leaders and church related organizations; showing great impact in facilitating the work, conducting planned activities and coordination all the while respecting local customs and traditions.

Project Consolidated Budget



	Appeal Total	HEKS/EPER	Christian Aid	GOPA DERD	MECC
Direct Costs	4,349,356	973,500	420,380	1,146,785	1,808,691
1 Project Staff	722,761	68,400	199,741	190,952	263,668
1.1 Appeal Lead	24,000	-	-	-	24,000
1.2 International Staff	79,834	-	43,834	-	36,000
1.3 National Staff	618,928	68,400	155,908	190,952	203,668
2 Project Activities	3,148,367	826,000	159,000	734,367	1,429,000
2.1 Public Health	160,667	-	-	76,667	84,000
2.2 Community Engagement	166,000	-	81,000		85,000
2.3 Preparedness and Prevention	-	-	-	-	-
2.4 WASH	320,000	320,000	-	-	-
2.5 Livelihood	270,000	-	-	90,000	180,00
2.6 Education	210,000	-	-		210,00
2.7 Shelter and Household items	1,015,000	-	-	245,000	770,00
2.8 Food Security	600,000	500,000	-	-	100,00
2.9 MHPSS and Community Psycho-social	330,500	-	78,000	252,500	-
2.10 Gender	70,200	-	-	70,200	-
2.11 Engagement with Faith Leaders	-	-	-		-
2.12 Advocacy	6,000	6,000	-		-
3 Project Implementation	129,105	9,000	12,439	78,667	29,00
3.1. Forum Coordination	46,500	9,000	9,500	12,000	16,00
3.2. Capacity Development	82,605	-	2,939	66,667	13,00
4 Quality and Accountability	114,500	6,500	30,000	40,000	38,00
5 Logistics	191,322	58,800	19,200	72,800	40,52
6 Assets and Equipment	43,300	4,800	-	30,000	8,50
Indirect Costs	409,275	74,760	65,580	158,036	110,899
Staff Salaries	309,684	67,600	34,560	119,303	88,22
Office Operations	99,591	7,160	31,020	38,733	22,67
Total Expenditure	4,758,631	1,048,260	485,960	1,304,821	1,919,59
ACT Secretariat monitoring cost SMC	47,586	10,483	4,860	13,048	19,19
ACT Secretariat management and coordination cost SMC	309,311	68,137	31,587	84,813	124,77
Total Expenditure + SMC	5,115,528	1,126,880	522,407	1,402,683	2,063,55

#### Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

ACT Syria requesting members adhere to strict monitoring and evaluation (M&E) methods. They are committed to ensuring that all activities are being implemented in a timely fashion as per the action plan and that beneficiaries receive quality assistance in a dignified and respectful manner. Projects are designed to have in place monitoring systems where all components are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-bound, including the development and use of relevant data collection tools to track and sort data, disaggregated by gender, nationality, and age group. With an M&E plan in place, members will track project performance, identify results and learnings associated with the projects and address potential delays at an early stage. Coordinated monitoring sessions will be designed to minimize potential disruption to project activities and allow for maximum coordination of ACT Syria requesting members, to the benefit of the beneficiaries.

Based on COVID-19 situation and cholera outbreak, members are ready to conduct remote follow up with beneficiaries through phone calls to conduct qualitative beneficiary satisfaction surveys to solicit feedback if need be, it has also proven to be cost and time effective. Moreover, requesting members will meet once a month to discuss progress and challenges During these discussions, project staff will identify the incremental and cumulative project results, discuss current challenges, adjust the project implementation timeline or activities when necessary, and identify effective strategies for achieving the project objectives.

It is planned that the ACT Secretariat will conduct a monitoring visit to the Appeal project locations each year based on the agreed upon ToR as well as conducting remote monitoring. The forum also will accommodate any FM request to have a monitoring visit during the appeal cycle, based on agreed upon TOR.

In order to gauge the quality of project activities within the target communities, feedback from the beneficiaries will be solicited through beneficiary satisfaction surveys, post-distribution/activity monitoring, and focus group discussions.





During the implementation of the targeted infrastructures' civil, electrical and mechanical works part of the appeal, technical engineers will be conducting daily visits to the work site to monitor the implementation and ensure adherence to safety measures, quality standards, technical specifications, and time schedule. In terms of evaluation of the impact, HEKS/EPER staff will conduct baseline and end-line surveys for the borehole intervention and post-evaluation for the bakery interventions. All lessons learned from the implementation of the planned intervention will be documented and stored in a dedicated database.

Interim and final financial and narrative reports will be prepared based on the guidelines set by ACT Alliance and will be in conformity with ACT policies. During the implementation period, Situation Reports will also be prepared on a regular basis. The project will be financially audited by independent auditing companies per each of the ACT members' policies.

An overall joint internal appeal evaluation with support from ACT Secretariat will be conducted at the end of the Appeal. However, if the appeal generates more than USD\$2m an external evaluation will be undertaken, ToR to be shared and approved by ACT Secretariat

#### Safety and Security plans

As ACT member activities take place in settings that are politically sensitive, security assessments take place on a regular basis. Each member has their own security plan, and daily monitoring of the current environment is used to inform and update the security situation and any impacts it may have on programming. ACT members are in regular coordination and communication with one another and with relevant actors to provide better and timely safety and security for staff and beneficiaries. As such, ACT members will receive daily security update from the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) in Syria. MECC has its own security advisor who monitor the situation on daily basis and issue weekly security report to be shared with MECC supporting partners.

All ACT member's staff are required to be familiar with and sign their respective country office security plan that also works on implementing it within a gender perspective, as well as receive training on the organizationwide safety and security principles. Project planning and implementation take into consideration the safety of beneficiaries, particularly ensuring that activities do not exacerbate tensions between Syrian IDPs, returnees and host community members.

In case of increased security risk or security incidents, ACT members will act according to the guidelines indicated in its security manual to protect both staff and beneficiaries. While closely monitoring the situation on the ground and coordinating with other humanitarian actors, communication with staff in all project locations is carried out regularly, and security information is shared with staff accordingly.

## PROJECT ACCOUNTABILITY

Does the proposed response honour ACT's commitment to safeguarding including PSEA? All staff and volunteers of requesting members, particularly those involved with the response, will be required to sign the requesting members' Code of Conduct. If you don't have one, members can use ACT's Code of Conduct.

🗆 No

As ACT Alliance secretariat is CHS certified, ACT appeals will be implemented with adherence to CHS commitments.

#### Code of Conduct

ACT members are committed to guard against the abuse of power by those responsible for protection and assistance to vulnerable communities. Especially in humanitarian crises, the dependency of affected populations on humanitarian agencies for their basic needs creates a particular ethical responsibility and duty of care on the part of ACT members and their staff and volunteers. Therefore, ACT members have a responsibility to ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of this code of conduct, sign it, and understand what it means in concrete behavioral terms. ACT members ensure that there are proper mechanisms in place to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse. ACT member staff, volunteers, and visitors are expected to sign and adhere to the ACT Code of Conduct as well as to special code of conduct of ACT requesting members. In case any incident occurs, a complaints response mechanism is in place to address beneficiary feedback, including addressing violations of the ACT Code of Conduct. Disciplinary measures are



in place to address a staff member or volunteer who violates the Code of Conduct. ACT members will continue to ensure that the principles of the Code of Conduct are incorporated into planning and implementation of activities under the ACT SYR231 Appeal. Moreover, the ACT Code of Conduct will be communicated to the beneficiaries and they will be made aware of the complaint mechanisms available for their use. To date no incidents recorded from any requesting members about the violation of the code of conduct nor from any of their local respective partners. Service in Dignity is the basis of any humanitarian intervention as well as do harm to served communities.

#### Safeguarding

The ACT Syria forum members adhere to ACT Alliance Child Safeguarding Policy as well as to their own policies. In 2017, many ACT members participated in an online Child Safeguarding webinar and one ACT member (MECC) attended a specialized Training of Trainers on Child Safeguarding. ACT Member staff and volunteers who work closely with beneficiaries in the field are trained on child and adult protection. Everyone who represents any of ACT's organization in the presence of children is trained to behave appropriately toward children and respond swiftly and productively to issues of child abuse or sexual exploitation. All activities are assessed for potential risk and mitigation strategies are developed, ensuring that not only are individual children protected, but that the organizations are inherently child safe. Specific measures, such as ensuring that staff are not alone with children whenever possible, obtaining permission from a parent or guardian prior to utilizing a child's photograph or interview for communications purposes, and seeking feedback from youth beneficiaries regarding programming, are employed to the fullest possible extent. Many ACT member staff also complete an online training on prevention of SGBV. Members' work in the field is closely monitored by management to ensure that staff, volunteers, and others who visit ACT.

Member projects behave appropriately toward children and never abuse the position of trust that comes with affiliation with ACT Alliance. The ACT Syria Forum aims to create a child-safe environment in all of its work by assessing and reducing potential risks to children. In case that any incident were to occur, some ACT members have a complaint response mechanism in place to address beneficiary feedback, including addressing reports of child safeguarding incidents and other forms of exploitation and violence. The feedback is addressed as soon as it is received and are knowledgeable of referral pathways to help populations in need receive the support and assistance required.

#### Conflict sensitivity / do no harm

ACT Syria members provide independent, neutral humanitarian assistance and social cohesion events, which attempts to reduce tensions among the beneficiaries' community. By focusing on the provision of humanitarian assistance without bias towards adherents to any particular faith group, ethnicity, gender or political affiliation, ACT members have solidified their image as independent and neutral faith-based humanitarian aid providers. ACT members will maintain and uphold their reputation through ongoing and continuous relationship building with community leaders, local municipalities, and religious and secular organizations.

ACT members are committed to, and employs, a "Do No Harm" approach and mainstreams protection throughout all of its work. Members ensure that local authorities, affected populations, and other humanitarian actors are engaged through the full project planning and implementation cycle. In order to follow the "Do-no-harm" principle, the designing and implementing of the activities, provision of education and psychosocial services to the community will support beneficiaries to deal with the impact of conflict trauma and stress. It will focus on building resilience within the communities This ensures that community relations are not harmed but the most vulnerable and needy are targeted. Protection principles such as child protection and child & adult safeguarding are upheld in the projects. With respect to psychosocial programming, ACT members ensure that any material developed and used include the beneficiaries' opinions and feedback to reflect and build on their personal experiences and develop appropriate and culturally sensitive material for different age groups.





#### Complaints mechanism and feedback

The ACT Syria Member's complaints mechanisms and procedures allows all stakeholders to provide feedback and complaints on ACT Members work, have them heard, taken seriously and addressed appropriately. ACT members have long since established a complaints and feedback mechanism and will share their knowledge and experience with the ACT members that are working towards establishing the appropriate (local/global) complaints mechanisms to encourage feedback about its work from all its stakeholders. As a joint program, members are able to cooperate and share resources on a platform that benefits not only the ACT members but also ensures that the projects and the beneficiaries are aware of the tools in place, have access to and feel safe to voice their concerns. Using multiple modalities (phone hotline, email address, physical feedback boxes at centres, complaints focal persons assigned) members aims to ensure that affected populations have access to the mechanisms. The complaints response mechanisms are in place to address beneficiary feedback on project initiatives, refer cases in need to other projects or service providers, and address protection concerns and other forms of exploitation and violence.

ACT Syria members take complaints seriously. They also commit to addressing all issues of sexual exploitation, abuse of power, corruption and breach of the ACT member policies and standards. Appropriate cultural and local practices are respected and taken into consideration in handling and responding to complaints and feedback. The procedure for complaints will be reviewed regularly to ensure and incorporate learning and improvement towards ACT member accountability. ACT Syria members are additionally committed to international humanitarian standards and accountability mechanisms, such as Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and the Sphere Handbook.

#### Communication and visibility

ACT Syria members will continue to work on ways of promoting the ACT Alliance identity during all stages of the Project Management Cycle. Implementing members will share the success stories of beneficiaries with other ACT members and funding partners to show the impact of the activities

ACT members acknowledge the source of funding whenever possible for any and all projects funded by the ACT Alliance. As such, all project documentation – such as attendance sheets, training materials, forms, and other related documents used as part of project activities – contain if possible the relevant logos to acknowledge ACT Alliance and/or back donor support. At project sites in the host community and camp, staff and volunteers wear vests and IDs identify of both their organization and ACT Alliance as a supporter of the activities. ACT Alliance's support will be acknowledged verbally during community events and/or during media campaigns. However, a low visibility strategy will be respected when required by the sensitivity of the issue. ACT forum members will also collect and share stories of project impact to build a strong evidence base of the ACT projects responding to the Syria Humanitarian Crisis.





## Annexes Annex 1 – Summary Table

	MECC					GOPA-DERD					CA		
Start Date	1 Ja	nuary 2023			1 January 2023				1 January 2023				
End Date	31 0	December 2024	1		31 D	31 December 2024				ecember 2024	ŀ		
Project Period (in months)		2	4 mon	ths		24	month	S		24	mont	hs	
Response Locations		All G	overn	orates	F	Hassaka, Rural Damascus, Quneitra				Northwest Syria			
Sectors of response		Public Health		Shelter and household items		Public Health		Shelter and household items		Public Health		Shelter and household items	
		Community Engagement		Food Security		Community Engagement		Food Security		Community Engagement		Food Security	
		Preparedness and Prevention		MHPSS and Community Psycho-social		Preparedness and Prevention		MHPSS and Community Psycho-social		Preparedness and Prevention		MHPSS and Community Psycho-social	
		WASH		Gender		WASH		Gender		WASH		Gender	
		Livelihood		Engagement with Faith and Religious leaders and institutions		Livelihood		Engagement with Faith and Religious leaders and institutions		Livelihood		Engagement with Faith and Religious leaders and institutions	
		Education		Advocacy		Education		Advocacy		Education		Advocacy	
Targeted Recipients (per sector)	Public Livelil capac Food WASH	Education:       8,400 beneficiaries         Public Health:       250 beneficiaries         Livelihood:       80 beneficiaries         capacity building:       30 beneficiaries         Food Security:       5,000 beneficiaries         WASH:       5,000 beneficiaries         Shelter:       70,000 beneficiaries			livelih Public MHPS	Gender:690 beneficiarieslivelihood:2,280 beneficiariesPublic Health:2,001 beneficiariesMHPSS:5,895 beneficiariesFaith Based Activities:405 beneficiaries				MHPSS: 3,300 beneficiaries Community engagement: 27,000 beneficiaries			
Requested budget (USD)		2,063,559	Serieiteit		US\$	1,402,683			US\$	522,407			



	HEKS-EPER									
Start Date	1 Ja	1 January 2023								
End Date	31 C	ecember 2024	ļ							
Project Period (in months)		2	4 mon	ths						
Response Locations		Sahnay	a -Rural D	Damascus						
Sectors of										
response		Public Health		Shelter and household items						
		Community Engagement		Food Security						
		Preparedness and Prevention		MHPSS and Community Psycho-social						
		WASH		Gender						
		Livelihood		Engagement with Faith and Religious leaders and institutions						
		Education		Advocacy						
Targeted Recipients (per sector)	WASH:20,000 beneficiariesFood security:60,000 beneficiariesAdvocacy:800 beneficiaries									
Requested budget (USD)	US\$	1,126,880								





#### Annex 2 – Security Risk Assessment

#### **Principal Threats:**

Threat 1: Security in project areas becomes unstable due to uprising and opposition.

Threat 2: Impact of International sanctions and Cesar ACT on Syrian population and on transferring funds from Lebanon into Syria due to capital control in Lebanese banks

Threat 3: Government approvals for projects are not obtained or heavily delayed

Threat 4: Deteriorated living conditions of the Syrian population due to the economic situation may cause more agitation and civil unrest leading to tensions among the project.

Threat 5: Inability to implement projects properly due to the impacts of COVID-19 and Cholera

Place the above listed threats in the appropriate corresponding box in the table below. For more information on how to fill out this table please see the ACT Alliance Security Risk Assessment Tool (<u>http://actalliance.org/documents/act-alliance-security-risk-assessment-tool/</u>)

Impact	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Severe	Critical
Probability					
Very likely	Low	Medium	High	Very high	Very high
	Click here to	Click here to	Click here to	Threat 2	Click here to
	enter text.	enter text.	enter text.		enter text.
Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Very high
	Click here to	Click here to	Threat 4	Threat 5	Click here to
	enter text.	enter text.			enter text.
Moderately	Very low	Low	Medium	High	High
likely	Click here to	Click here to	Threat 1	Threat 3	Click here to
	enter text.	enter text.			enter text.
Unlikely	Very low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium
	Click here to				
	enter text.				
Very unlikely	Very low	Very low	Very low	Low	Low
	Click here to				
	enter text.				

