



## FACTS:

- DCA has had a presence in Syria since 2015
- In 2020, a total of 402,334 people benefitted from DCA's activities in Syria;
- **Annual turnover 2020:** EUR 7,87 million
- **Employees:** 201 staff (177 national and 24 international staff), across 6 offices;
- DCA Syria's operations in 2020 are funded by: Danida, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Austrian Development Agency, the European Commission (EuropeAid and ECHO), the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Church of Sweden, ITF Enhancing Human Security, and UNICEF.

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:

A decade into the Syrian crisis, the scale, severity, and complexity of needs across the country remain overwhelming. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), in 2021 over 6.7 million people are displaced, 13,4 million need humanitarian assistance, and 90% live below the poverty line. This situation is further exacerbated by the implosion of the Syrian economy, which has seen a 78% drop in the value of SYP since Oct. 2019 and a one-year increase of 236% in the average food basket cost.

Further, communities attempting to recover from recurrent conflict are seeing unprecedented levels of both **explosive hazard contamination and demolished buildings and loss of essential infrastructure**. According to the HNO an average of 76 explosive incidents took place daily in 2020, and almost 50% of communities report reduced functionality of critical infrastructure.

## WHAT WE DO:



**Humanitarian Mine Action:** As a result of over a decade of conflict, which has included the aerial bombardment and the systematic use of explosive weapons in Syrian communities, an estimated 1/3 of the country remains contaminated with explosive remnants of war. DCA Syria works to clear explosive hazards and educate communities on how to mitigate the risk of living in contaminated areas.



**Market-Based Humanitarian Response:** A decade conflict has resulted in the stunting of local economies, leaving most Syrians struggling to meet their basic needs. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated this situation with 300,000 households reporting at least one person losing their job. DCA provides market-based support to vulnerable households unable to meet their basic needs.



**Shelter Rehabilitation & Non-food Item Support:** In order to support both displaced families and those living in houses damaged by conflict, DCA provides market-based and / or in-kind support to families to improve their basic living conditions and protect themselves from harsh weather conditions.



**Psychosocial Support:** Years of conflict have had a significant impact on the mental health of many Syrians, resulting in high rates of sadness, fear, anger, and aggressive behaviours. DCA Syria provides specialized Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (PSS) and referral services to children and caregivers as well as mobile awareness sessions to communities on mental wellbeing and Gender Based Violence. .

## CONTACT:

**Country Director:** Barry Jolly / [bjol@dca.dk](mailto:bjol@dca.dk) / Phone Country: (+964) 7510135037

## HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:

The activities supported by DCA in Syria are focused on two of the global goals in DCA's International Strategy: Save lives and build resilient communities. More specifically, DCA implements the following activities as part of its Syria country programme:

**Risk Education:** The programme supports the delivery of Risk Education to boys, girls, men and women who either live or are planning to travel through/return to contaminated areas. This education enables them to make safer decisions and better protect themselves and their families from injuries and death related to the contamination.

**Survey & Clearance:** Survey of contaminated areas and the clearance of explosive hazards saves lives. It is an essential first step before any rehabilitation or reconstruction work can take place.

**Market-Based Humanitarian Response:** DCA provides cash to households unable to meet their most essential needs, this includes the distribution of monthly Cash for Food, the use of Multipurpose Cash as an emergency response, the distribution of Cash to meet Shelter and / or seasonal non-food needs, and community-based Cash for Work schemes.

**In-Kind NFI support:** Where relevant, DCA also provides in-need families with in-kind support in order to meet essential non-food needs. These items may include shelter materials, seasonal items to protect from extreme weather, or hygiene kits.

**Psychosocial Support:** DCA provides structured wellbeing activities for children in Community Spaces to improve the mental health of children, youth, and adults. The purpose of these activities is to increase psychological resilience and communities' ability to heal following trauma and conflict.

**School rehabilitation:** DCA conducts rehabilitation of damaged school buildings that have been cleared for explosive hazards by DCAs Clearance teams, focusing on designing safe and inclusive learning spaces for children and teachers from surrounding communities, paying special attention to enabling access for people with disabilities and ensuring gendered WASH facilities.



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