

An overview of DanChurchAid's Program (DCA) in Syria



FACTS:



- DCA has had a presence in Syria since 2015.
- 91 Employees (86 National and 5 International).
- Number of projects implemented from 2020 until 2025: 41 projects.
- Direct beneficiaries from 2020 until 2025: 922,562.
- DCA Syria focuses on two goals in DCA's global strategy: Save Lives and Build Resilient Communities in partnership with three national organizations.

CONTACT:



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OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:



- The fall of the Assad regime in December 2024 offered cautious optimism that a path to longer-term recovery was finally emerging. This change provided opportunities for organisations such as DCA to explore ways of expanding their operations to the former Assad controlled regime areas. However, this shift coincided with unprecedented cuts to global humanitarian aid, stress-testing already overstretched resources amid record-high needs. With this geopolitical change, DCA is in the process of securing registration in Damascus to expand its operations to new areas such as Aleppo and Homs.
- The humanitarian response priorities for Syria 2025 indicates that close to 16.5M people in need. Nearly 7.2 million people are displaced within Syria, the vast majority living in sub-standard, inadequate and temporary shelter without access to basic services and resulting in increased vulnerability and hardship. The funding situation is worsening and after the major cuts from USAID, these needs are exacerbated adding further strains on humanitarian actors' ability to respond. (Syrian Arab Republic: Humanitarian Response Priorities - January to June 2025 (March 2025) | OCHA)
- Since September 2024, regional conflict in Lebanon has led to the displacement of approximately 562,000 people into Syria—63% Syrians and 37% Lebanese or others—further straining Syria's already fragile humanitarian situation and overstretched essential services. In such a fluid context, emergencies continue to happen as conflict intensifies across the country. DCA responded to the most urgent needs of the displaced people coming from Lebanon and Aleppo following the military operations.

WHERE WE WORK:



Country Office (Ar-Raqqa): Field office where all operations take place also offers Organizational capacity strengthening support to partners; Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning; programme strategy; operational support.

Support and Liaison Office (Erbil): Provides administrative and logistic support to the program in Syria.

Implementing directly and together with partners:



Roj Mine Control Organization (RMCQ):

A non-profit organization dedicated to humanitarian demining and risk education in North and East Syria. It's the only local demining organization which works over North and East Syria since it was founded in late 2016. RMCQ aims to ensure safe, sustainable environments for communities affected by landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Ar-Raqqa and Hassakah Governorates.



Amal for Relief and Development:

A Syrian non-governmental, non-profit organization founded with the aim of providing lifesaving assistance and services to the most vulnerable groups, strengthening their resilience, and advocating for their fundamental rights, as well as providing recovery programs to war torn societies in Deir-ez-Zor Governorate



Dan for Relief and Development (DRD):

An independent non-profit organization established in 2013 in the city of Hasaka - north-eastern Syria, working to activate civil society and promote human rights, and seeks to provide relief and development services to the displaced, refugees and vulnerable groups, in order to achieve stability, sustainable development in Ar-Raqqa Governorate.



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WHAT WE DO:



Humanitarian Mine Action: DCA surveys contaminated areas and provides clearance of explosive hazards with the goal of saving lives. HMA team delivers risk education to at risk communities in areas contaminated by unexploded ordinance (UXO) and other Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). Following community liaison and coordination with local authorities, DCA delivers Non-Technical Survey NTS in contaminated areas as part of its HMA activities. This facilitates future clearance and other humanitarian interventions including safe, sustainable rubble management using mechanical assets.

The clearance team removed 62 items of (ERW), including (UXO) and provided EORE sessions to 342 Individuals (121 M – 221 F) During the first eight months of 2025.



Shelter: DCA conducts rehabilitation works of key infrastructure, including schools and community centres after these have been surveyed and cleared of UXO by HMA team through the delivery of an integrated approach Programming, thus maximising the benefit to the local communities we serve. Additionally, DCA provides light rehabilitation of schools that were serving as collective centres hosting displaced people by Installing and repairing doors and windows, sealing classrooms against weather, Restoring of electrical and plumbing systems. In rural settings and informal settlements. DCA provides displaced families with tents and non-food items to protect them from the harsh weather conditions and improving their living conditions. DCA also rehabilitates key public infrastructure such as schools, community spaces. DCA supported 1,684 Individuals (821 M - 863 F), in improving their safety and living conditions during the first eight months of 2025.



Protection Assistance: DCA provides protection assistance for affected communities (adults and children) to support them with coping with the stress of living in post conflict areas. DCA provides case management, Psychosocial support, recreational activities (music and arts), and information dissemination on child protection with women and men above 18 and girls and boys between 11-17 years of age. These services are delivered through static responses in DCA's Community Safe Space and through mobile teams utilising tents to improve the wellbeing of children, youth and adults. DCA also utilizes community-based protection approaches to strengthen the protective environment at community level.

DCA supported a total of (2,720) Individuals (1,254 M - 1,466 F) During the first eight months of 2025.



Early Recovery and Livelihoods: DCA supports local actors in Informal Settlements and in Ar-Raqqa city through formation of community groups that work together in identifying their challenges and developing Community-Based Resilience Plans (CBRPs). DCA provides the necessary training in various areas before providing group cash transfers to allow the group to address the identified needs. DCA provides Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes in Informal Settlements and Ar-Raqqa city to enhance economic resilience among conflict-affected individuals by equipping them with practical, market-driven skills and start up kits, following market assessments and community input.

DCA supported 129 (39 M – 90 F) TVET participants to receive tailored vocational trainings. And 3,104 (1,538 M – 1,566 F) SCLR participants During the first eight months of 2025.

DCA is grateful for the support from our current donors:



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