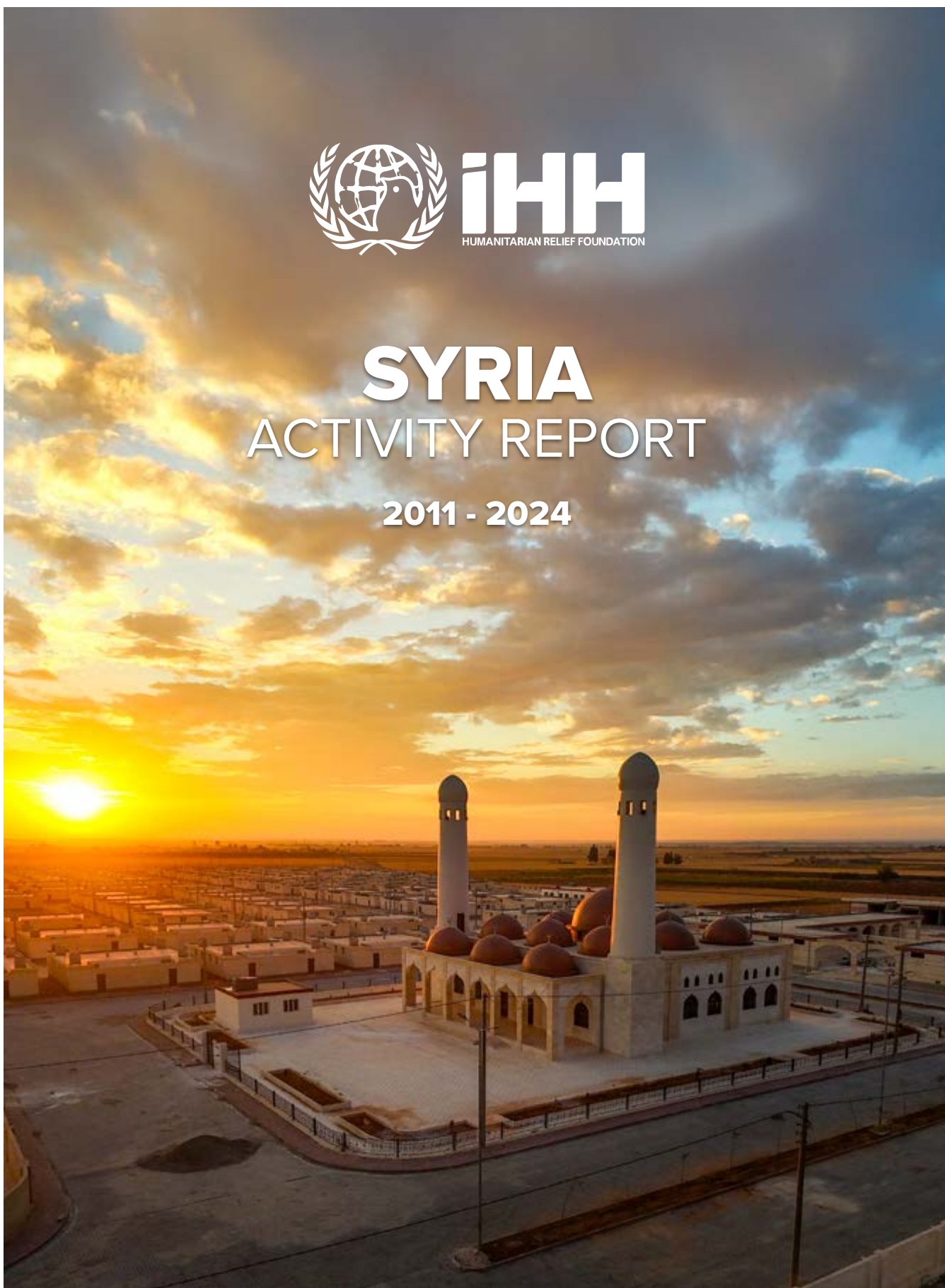




SYRIA

ACTIVITY REPORT

2011 - 2024



A B O U T U S

At IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, we have been working since our establishment in 1992 to provide the humanitarian aid that is needed by people in dire straits, who are faced with a disaster, victimized in a war, or a natural disaster, or who have experienced violence, and to prevent the violation of fundamental rights and freedoms of these people anywhere in the world. These activities, which started with volunteer activities and were institutionalized in 1995, spread to 123 countries in a short period of time and became a bridge of charity stretching out from Türkiye to the whole world.

While carrying out its work in the fields of humanitarian relief, human rights and humanitarian diplomacy, IHH acts as a role model in the development of non-governmental organizations that operate in regions that suffer from unjust treatment, prioritizing the development of a sense of helping, solidarity and brotherhood both at home and abroad and has implemented several social and cultural projects for this purpose. In addition to its emergency relief efforts, IHH also builds permanent buildings such as schools, hospitals, cultural centers, mosques, water wells, orphanages and healthcare centers that will help the local people improve, and provides humanitarian diplomacy in all matters where interstate diplomacy is not able to produce a solution, acting as a mediator to solve such problems.

Honored with the Outstanding Service Award by the Turkish Grand National Assembly in 2007, IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation has been granted tax exemption, and classified as a foundation working for public benefit as per Cabinet Decree 2011/1799 of 04.04.2011.

IHH received the “State Outstanding Sacrifice Medal and Badge” for its disaster management efforts in the earthquakes that happened in Kahramanmaraş in 2023.

IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation is an advisory status member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC); a council member of the Organization for Islamic Cooperation Humanitarian Fund (OICHF), and a member of the Humanitarian Forum (THF); International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA); Turkish Volunteer Organizations Foundation (TGTV), and the Union of NGOs of the Islamic World (IDSB) and the International Search and Rescue Consultancy Group within the United Nations (INSARAG).

IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation Syria Activity Report 2011-2024

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This report, published in June 2025, covers the humanitarian aid activities carried out by IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation in Syria between 2011 and 2024.

For more information about our activities, visit our website www.ihh.org.tr, call us on +90 212 631 2121, or send an e-mail to info@ihh.org.tr.

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INTRODUCTION

Throughout history, Syria has been home to many civilizations—from the Hebrews and Babylonians to the Byzantines and Mamluks. The region remained under Ottoman rule for four centuries. Following World War I, Syria came under French control in 1923 and gained its independence in 1946. However, political stability proved elusive. In 1963, a coup by the Ba'ath Party escalated the country's political crisis. When then Minister of Defense Hafez al-Assad seized power through an internal party coup in 1970, Syria became a dictatorship ruled by military and intelligence forces. The 1982 Hama Massacre, in which at least 30,000 people were killed, became a grim symbol of the Assad regime's brutality against civilians.

After ruling the country with oppression and violence for 30 years, Hafez al-Assad died in 2000 and was succeeded by his son, Bashar al-Assad. It soon became clear that Bashar would be no different—he intensified the regime's repression and further curtailed freedoms.





Inspired by the Arab Spring that began in Tunisia, the Syrian people launched peaceful protests in March 2011 against oppression, human rights violations, and widespread corruption. The Assad regime, however, responded to these unarmed protests with heavy weaponry. The situation rapidly escalated into violent clashes and soon spiraled into a full-scale civil war that engulfed the entire country.

According to the London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), more than 610,000 people have died in the war. Throughout the conflict, regime forces committed war crimes, including the use of chemical weapons against civilians.

The Syrian Network for Human Rights (SNHR) reports that over 25,000 children have lost their lives. More than 50,000 people are estimated to have died or disappeared in prisons and detention centers. Amnesty International revealed that nearly 13,000 people were executed at the notorious Sednaya Prison alone.

The destruction caused by the war in Syria has been catastrophic. According to the World Bank, at least one-third of all homes in the country have been destroyed, and half of the hospitals and educational institutions have been damaged or demolished. Historic cities like Aleppo, Hama, and Homs have been reduced to rubble. The regime has used barbaric methods—bombing civilian neighborhoods, shelling homes, and burning prisoners alive—to kill tens of thousands. Millions have been forced to flee their homes multiple times, with many ending up in tents and refugee camps.

According to UN data, 6.8 million people have been internally displaced, and 5.5 million have taken refuge in neighboring countries. UNICEF estimates that 2.4 million children inside and outside Syria are deprived of education. Around 15.3 million Syrians remain in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

After nearly 14 years of enduring hardship without giving up their fight for freedom, the Syrian people finally emerged victorious. Following the liberation of rural Aleppo on November 27, 2024, opposition forces regained control of Saraqib, Hama, Homs, and finally, on December 8, Damascus was freed from Assad's rule. Bashar al-Assad fled the country. Now, a new chapter begins for Syria.

This report in your hands details the humanitarian aid efforts of our Foundation—active in challenging regions since 1992—carried out in Syria between 2011 and 2024 to support those in need.

Since 2011 in Syria:

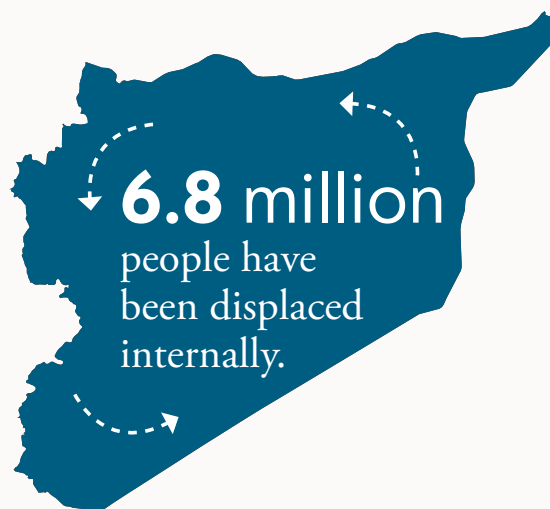


Over **610,000**
people have lost their lives,



including approximately
25,000 children.

More than
5.5 million
people have taken refuge in
other countries.



Around **15.3 million**
people are in need of humanitarian aid.



3/7
About half of all hospitals and
schools have been destroyed
or damaged.



1/3
One-third of all homes
have been destroyed.



500 thousand
According to opposition sources,
500,000 people have been
imprisoned.



136 thousand
More than 136,000 people
have died or disappeared in
detention.

SUMMARY OF IHH'S OPERATIONS IN SYRIA

Between 2011 and 2024, our Foundation delivered humanitarian aid worth

\$733,271,672

to those in need across Syria.

Since the onset of massacres in 2011, our Foundation has been working tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian people—primarily through humanitarian aid, but also across a wide spectrum of support activities. To enhance the speed and effectiveness of our response, we established logistics and coordination centers in Reyhanlı (Hatay) and Kilis in Türkiye, along with logistics hubs inside Syria at Bab al-Salam and Bab al-Hawa.

We distributed bread produced in bakeries we established or supported—ensuring that even the most basic food items reached those struggling with extreme scarcity. Our food aid programs have reached and sustained hundreds of thousands of people.

In the health sector, we constructed medical facilities and provided treatment services. Our orthotic-prosthetic center delivered rehabilitative care to individuals who lost limbs in airstrikes. During periods of intense bombardment, when hospitals faced critical shortages of medical supplies, we established a bandage factory and opened pharmacies providing free medication for those unable to access essential drugs.

For hundreds of thousands forced to survive in tents and makeshift shelters for years—particularly vulnerable during harsh winter conditions—we built safe and durable housing units across various phases.

With the destruction of schools, the loss of educators, and widespread displacement due to ongoing attacks, many children were left without access to education. In response, we established preschools, primary and secondary schools, and supported hundreds of university students—particularly those whose studies had been disrupted—through partnerships such as with Damascus University.

Through humanitarian diplomacy efforts with international actors and local stakeholders, we facilitated the evacuation of tens of thousands trapped under siege and deprived of food and medical care, ensuring their safe passage through humanitarian corridors. We also initiated prisoner exchange negotiations, reuniting detainees—abandoned to die in prisons—with their families.

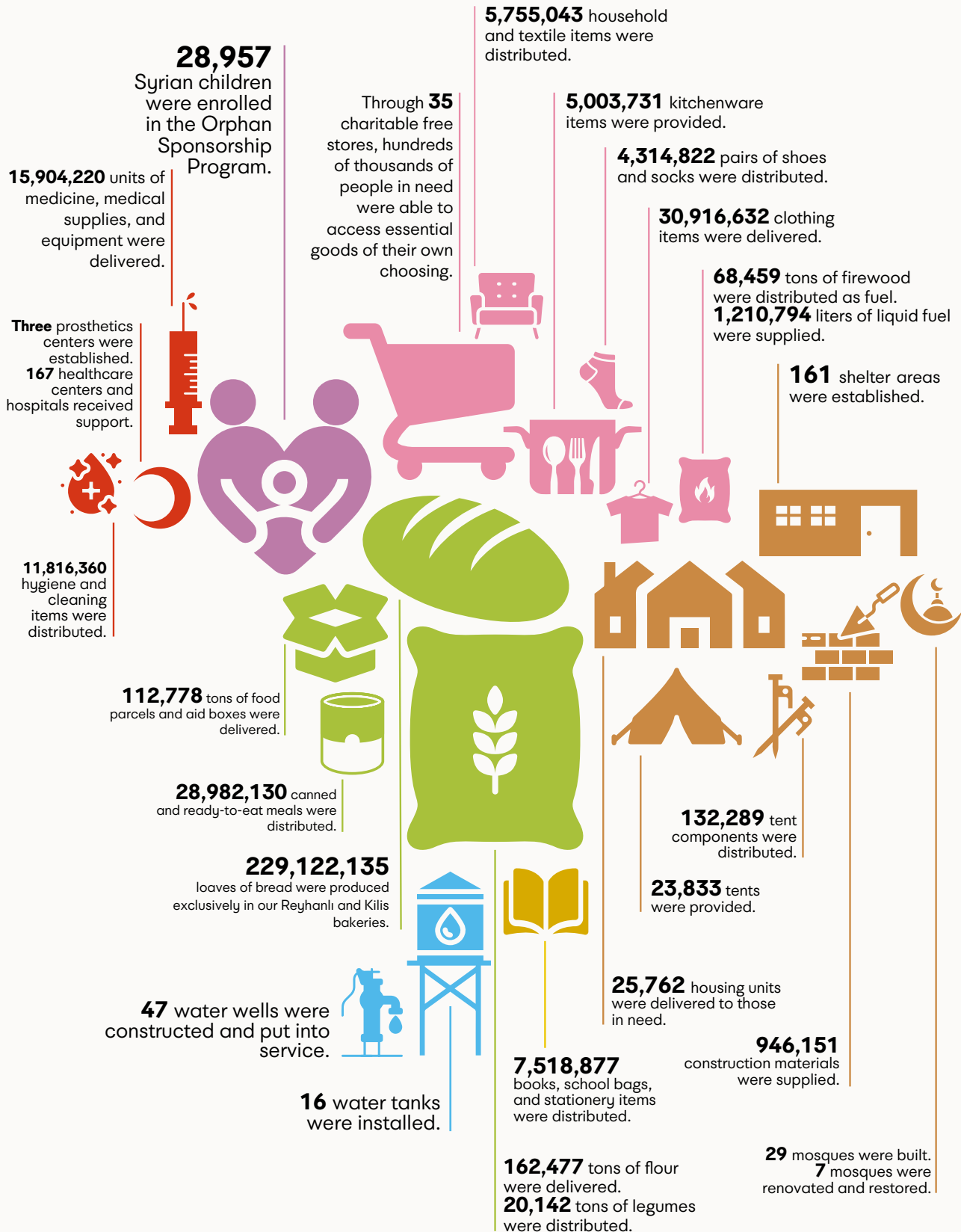
From the very outset of the nearly 14-year-long civil war, we have stood in solidarity with the Syrian people, spearheading efforts in emergency relief, healthcare, education, shelter, and humanitarian diplomacy. We remain committed to continuing these efforts until life returns to normal.



The Reyhanlı Education Campus was constructed to accommodate and educate up to **1,000 children**.



Two universities, **46** schools, and **1** special education school were established. Additionally, **44** schools were constructed, and **17** existing schools were renovated and restored.



Figures are based on data from March 2011 to December 2024.

REGIONAL OFFICES



Humanitarian operations in Syria are managed through **two** coordination centers and **three** field offices.



A total of **970** personnel and volunteers are actively involved in these operations.



More than **90,000** guests have been hosted and briefed on the Foundation's activities and ongoing needs.



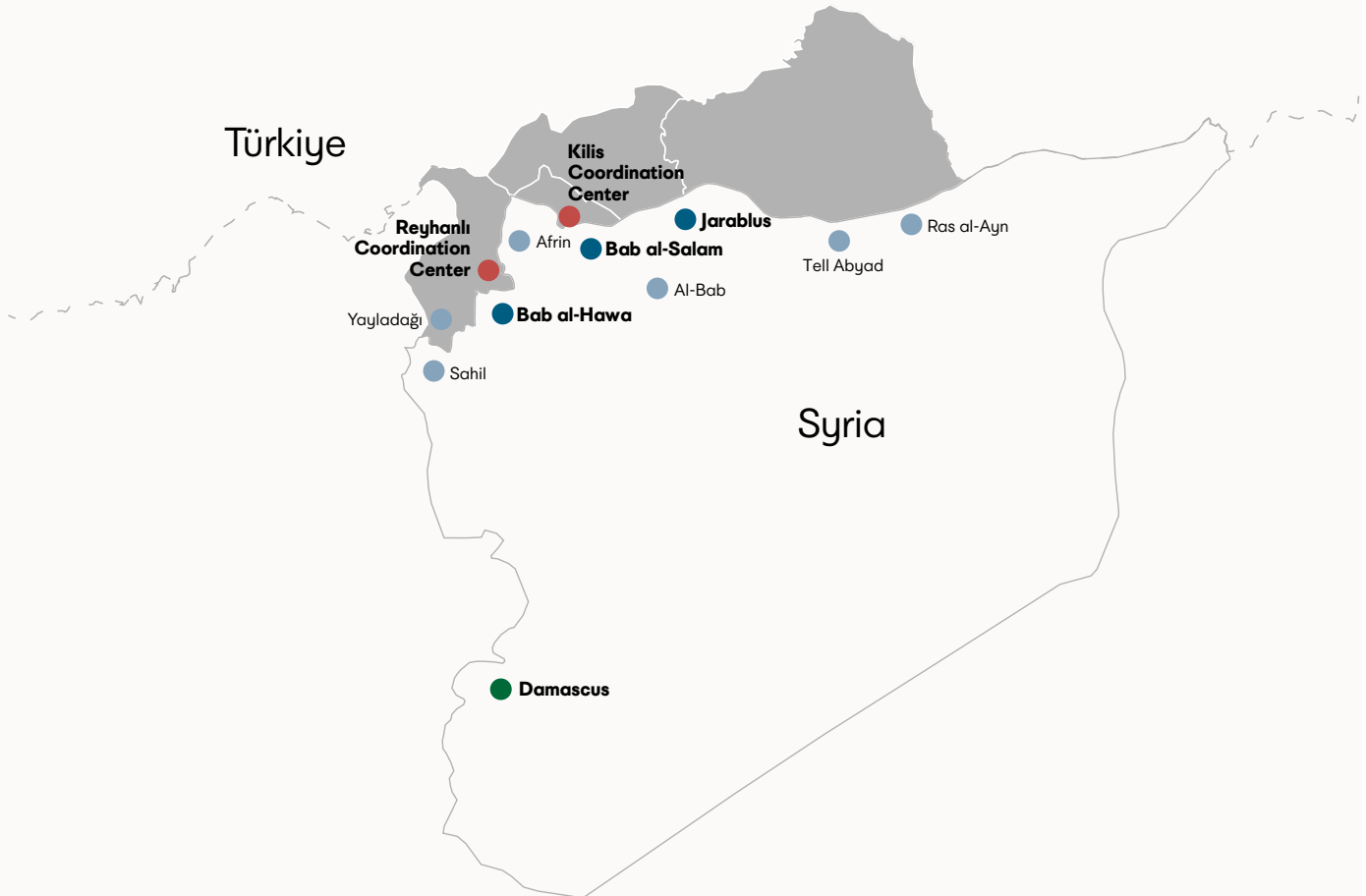
Our Foundation currently carries out its humanitarian aid efforts in Syria through two coordination centers located in Reyhanlı and Kilis, and three field offices in Bab al-Salam, Bab al-Hawa, and Jarablus. These offices operate under the coordination of the main centers in Reyhanlı and Kilis. In 2025, our Damascus Office was also established.

These centers, which include facilities such as bakeries, soup kitchens, and warehouses, not only serve as logistical hubs for humanitarian coordination but also host diplomatic and international meetings.

Since 2012, more than 90,000 guests—including government officials, representatives of NGOs, donors, and volunteers from both Türkiye and abroad—have been welcomed at our Reyhanlı and Kilis coordination centers. Visitors have been briefed on our aid efforts, operational activities, and pressing needs on the ground.

As of the end of 2024, 970 staff members and volunteers were working across our centers and offices. Operations such as coordination, aid storage, media outreach, civil defense, emergency response, search and rescue, orphan care, distribution, logistics, transportation, education, medical screening, construction of permanent facilities, and food and bread production are all carried out by dedicated professionals and volunteers with expertise in their respective fields.

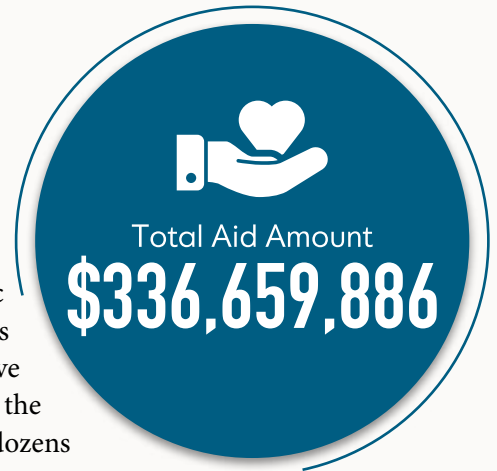
Coordination Centers and Field Offices Overseeing Humanitarian Aid in Syria (2011–2024)



FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

Since the onset of the war, IHH has been striving to meet the basic food needs of Syrians affected by the conflict. Due to ongoing attacks and the resulting crisis, many bakeries across the country have become inoperable, leading to a severe shortage of bread, one of the most essential food items. To address this issue, we have supported dozens of bakeries inside Syria with flour and fuel supplies, enabling them to resume bread production. In addition, our bakeries—established or supported in Hatay, Kilis, and within Syria—produce thousands of loaves of bread daily, which are delivered directly to those in need. To date, over 229 million loaves of bread have been produced and distributed from our bakeries in Reyhanlı and Kilis alone. Moreover, we provide seed support to farmers, helping to expand cultivated land. This enables families to grow their own food and sustain themselves without relying on external aid—restoring a sense of dignity and self-reliance in the face of protracted displacement and poverty.

Since the beginning of the war, our Foundation has delivered a total of \$336,659,886 worth of aid in the Food Security and Livelihoods sector to support the people of Syria.

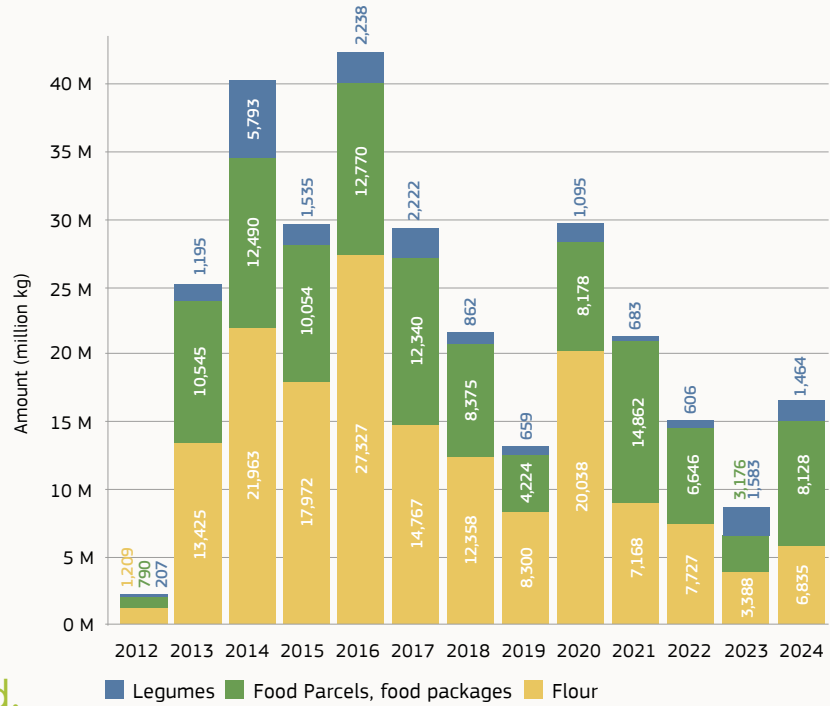


112,778 tons of food parcels and aid boxes were delivered.



20,142 tons of legumes were distributed.

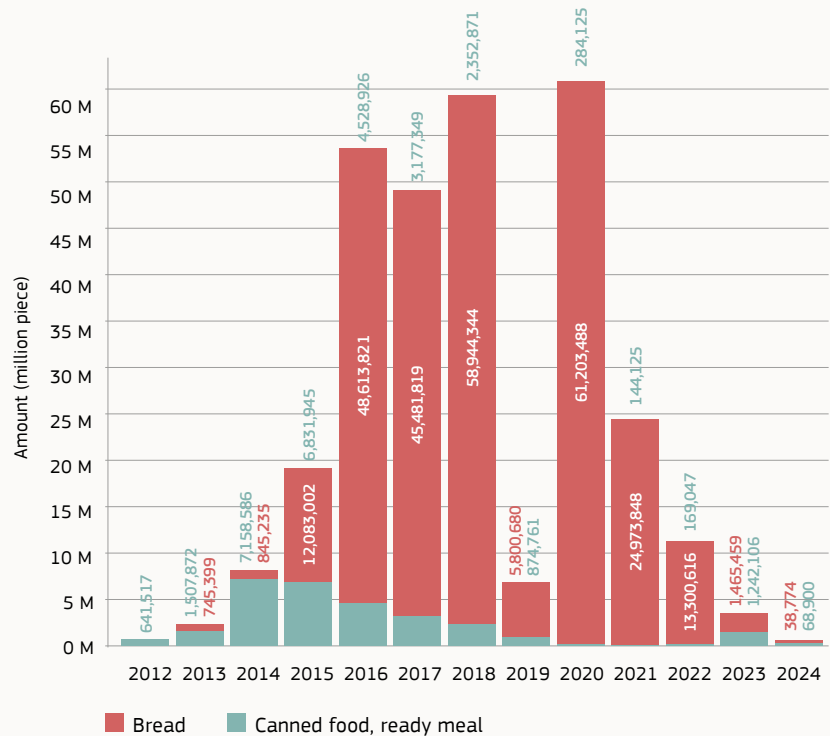
162,477 tons of flour were delivered.



229,122,135 loaves of bread were produced exclusively in our Reyhanlı and Kilis bakeries.



28,982,130 canned and ready-to-eat meals were distributed.



Daily Production Capacity Of 500,000 Loaves

Due to heavy bombardments in Syria, many bakeries have been destroyed or severely damaged, making it extremely difficult for people living in camps or urban areas to access bread, a staple food. For many impoverished Syrians, a single loaf of bread and a modest meal represents hope for survival. To preserve that hope, we continue to produce bread for those in need through the bakeries we established in Syria. With the support we provide to local bakeries—mainly in the form of flour and fuel—our collective bread production capacity in Syria can reach an average of 500,000 loaves per day.

Bread Distribution Process:



Flour donated by benefactors is delivered to the bakeries by our Foundation.



The flour is processed into dough at the bakeries.



The bread is packaged after production.



It is distributed to those in need in designated regions.





Food Chain

As a result of the war, many families engaged in agriculture were forced to abandon their homes, leaving vast areas of farmland uncultivated for years. Those who remained in their villages often lacked the financial means to work their land. On top of the destruction caused by war, drought in recent years has further crippled agriculture, pushing the country's farming sector to the brink of collapse. The production of even the most basic food staples, such as flour and legumes, has significantly declined. To offer a sustainable solution and revitalize agriculture, our Foundation launched targeted support projects in the regions of Azaz, Jarablus, Ras al-Ayn, and Tell Abyad. We provided local farmers with wheat and chickpea seeds, enabling them to re-cultivate their land. Prior to seed distribution, we conducted soil analyses across Syria to ensure the seeds selected—procured from Türkiye—matched the ecological characteristics of the region.





Income-Generation Projects

One of the most pressing challenges caused by war and displacement is unemployment. Families living in tent cities and refugee camps often rely entirely on aid, which limits productivity, undermines sustainability, and causes severe difficulties in meeting even their most basic needs.

To address this, we launched income-generation projects in Idlib, Azaz, and Afrin, helping locals to open small businesses in various sectors—including coffee shops, repair workshops, and grocery stores. These businesses were handed over to beneficiaries fully equipped and operational. Thanks to these projects, thousands of individuals have become self-reliant and are now able to look to the future with hope. Some business owners have even been able to expand their operations, creating job opportunities for others in their communities and contributing to local economic revival.





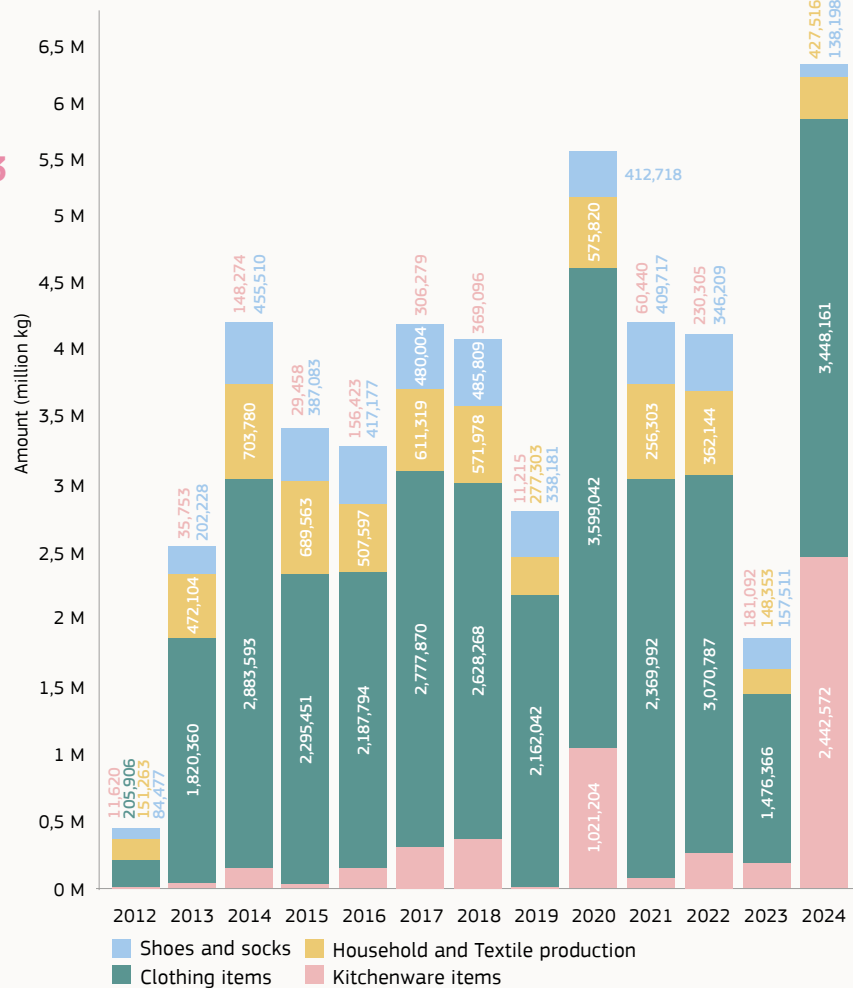
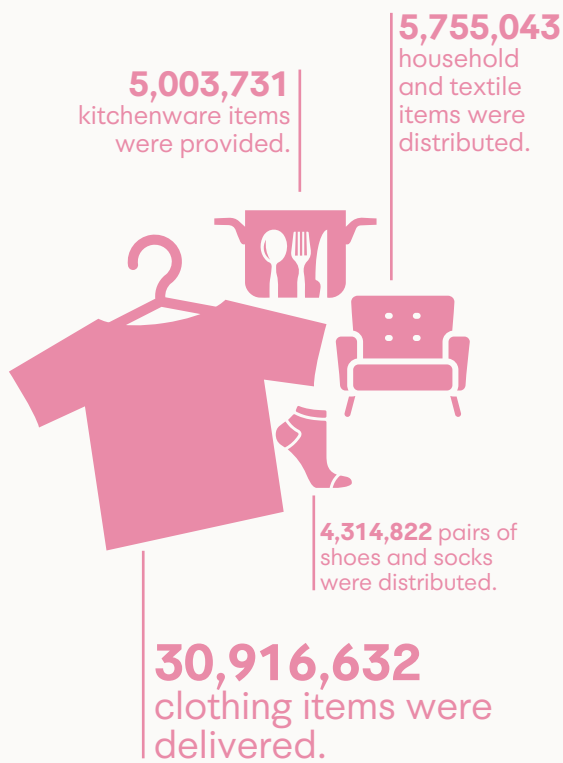
NON-FOOD AID

In Syria, millions of people have been displaced—either seeking refuge in other countries or relocating within the country. Amid this massive migration, many lost not only their homes but also access to basic necessities.

Since the onset of the war, in addition to providing food aid, IHH has worked tirelessly to deliver essential non-food items to those in need across Syria. From the earliest days of the conflict, we sent clothing supplies to the region and have since opened 35 charity stores in various locations. These stores allow individuals to easily access the garments they need with dignity.

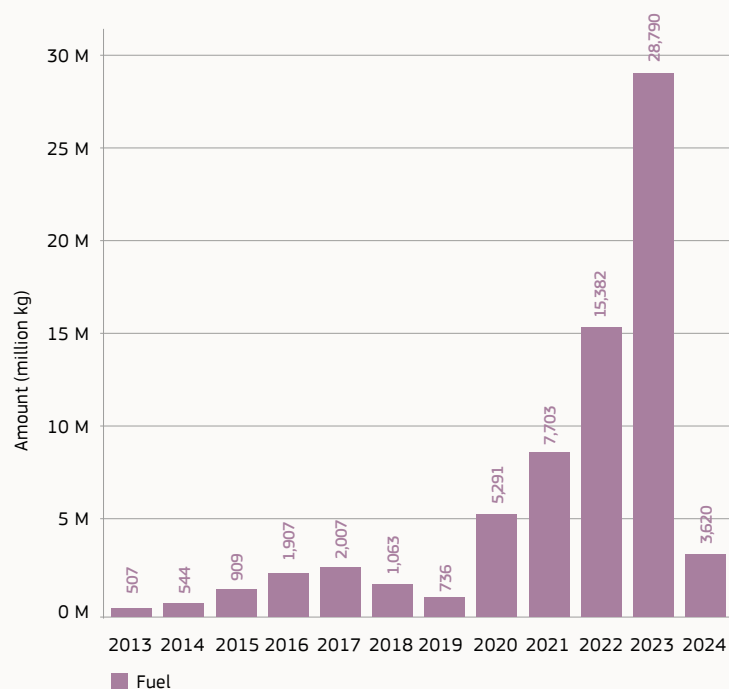
To date, our Foundation has delivered a total of \$168,979,368 in non-food aid to hundreds of thousands of people affected by the war.





68,459 tons of firewood were distributed as fuel.

1,210,794 liters of liquid fuel were supplied.



Charity Stores

The war in Syria has not only torn apart lives and families but also deprived people of the opportunity to continue their professions. A significant portion of the population was forced to flee their homes. In response, IHH has launched a variety of initiatives aimed at helping displaced Syrians rebuild their lives, regain their independence, and foster the development of new social spaces within the country.

For the past 14 years, our Foundation has been distributing clothing to the Syrian people, and through these stores, aid items have become continuously accessible to those in need. People affected by the war can easily select the clothing of their choice from these locations, restoring a sense of normalcy and dignity. To date, we have established 35 charity stores throughout Syria. In 2024 alone, 380,573 people benefited from these stores.





SHELTER

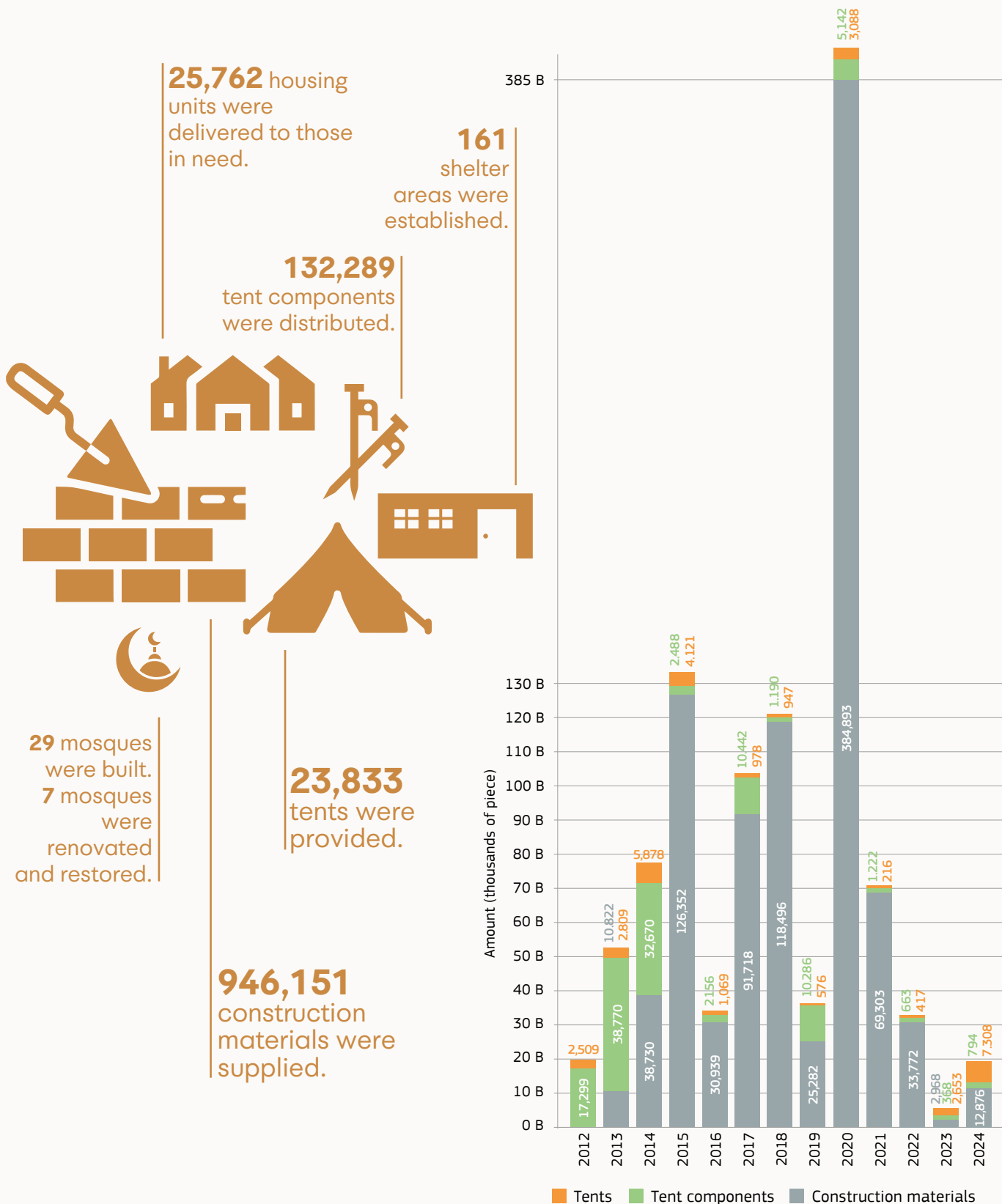
The Syrian war, the largest case of forced displacement since World War II, shattered hundreds of thousands of families and forced millions to flee their homes and seek refuge in other countries. Ancient cities that had stood for thousands of years were reduced to rubble.

Millions of people, leaving behind everything they owned, sought safety by migrating to areas they perceived as secure. One of the regions most affected by this mass migration was the Türkiye-Syria border. People took shelter in open fields and plains, far from any established settlements.

As IHH, we immediately launched efforts to develop safe shelter solutions for those fleeing to these regions. During periods of intense mass displacement, we established tent camps. Later, to ensure more humane living conditions, we began constructing “Life Houses.”

To date, IHH has delivered \$72,395,625 in shelter aid to individuals who lost their homes due to the war in Syria.





Rahmet Village

From the beginning of the war, many people in Syria were forced to live in tents or makeshift shelters for years. Summers brought unbearable heat, and winters brought freezing temperatures, snow, and rain—conditions that made life extremely difficult. The elderly and children frequently fell ill, and in some cases, people even froze to death.

To address these dire circumstances, our Foundation launched the Rahmet Village Project in Idlib in 2017. The village includes 100 homes, a school, a mosque, and a health center. Approximately 500 people currently live in the village, which consists of 75 m² homes. Each house has a small garden, which residents can use for planting or as a sitting area.





Brick Houses

The relentless bombardment by the Assad regime has triggered waves of mass displacement at various times. In response, IHH launched the Brick House Project in 2020 to offer a more permanent and dignified solution to families—particularly orphans—who had been living in tents for years. Each house includes one room and a kitchen.

Our Foundation constructed 17,000 brick houses and furnished them completely before settling 17,000 families into these homes. Thanks to this project, thousands of families now have a safe, warm shelter to endure the harsh winters.





Life Houses

To address the shelter crisis for those displaced by the war, our Foundation launched the Life Houses Project in 2021. These concrete-roofed homes are 40 m² in size and include two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet, an indoor courtyard, clean water and electricity infrastructure, wastewater drainage, and an individual water tank. Each house also comes with its own garden. Tens of thousands of families who moved from tents into Life Houses have since been protected from rain, snow, and freezing temperatures, gaining access to safe, dignified, and warm homes.



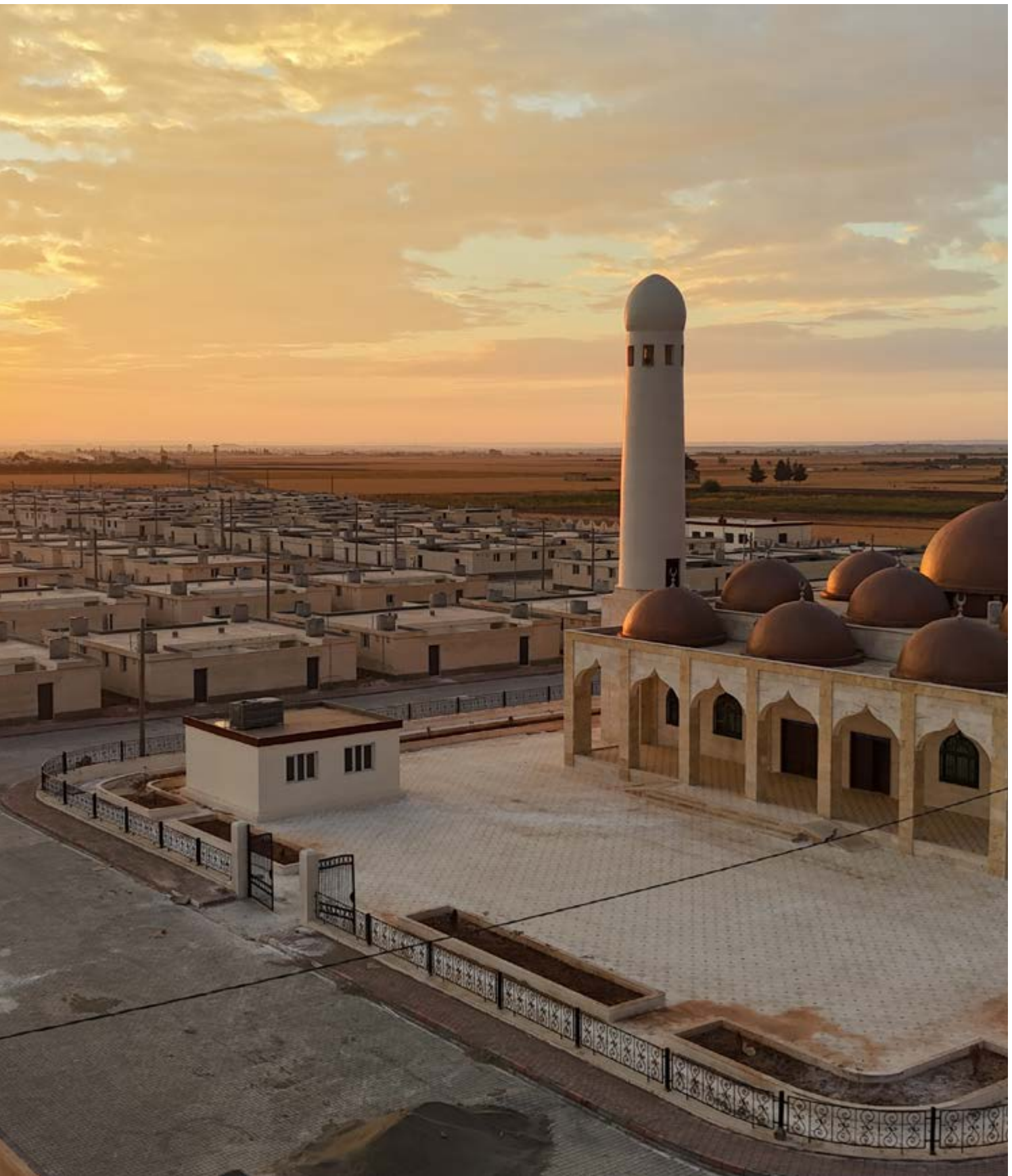


City Of Hope

In a joint initiative between our Foundation and Qatar Charity, the City of Hope Project was brought to life in Tukli village in the Azez region of Syria. The city now provides permanent housing for 1,400 families who had been living in makeshift shelters and tents in the Babussalam Refugee Camp for many years. Constructed on a 280-decare (approximately 280,000 m²) plot of land, the City of Hope was thoughtfully designed to meet the comprehensive needs of its residents. The city comprises nine neighborhoods and includes 1,400 residential units—1,200 homes of 50 m² and 200 homes of 100 m². In addition to housing, the City of Hope features educational, religious, health, social, and commercial facilities aimed at rebuilding lives and restoring dignity.

- 1,200 housing units (50 m² each)
- 200 housing units (100 m² each)
- Mosque (700 m²)
- Two-story boys' primary and middle school (1,000 m²)
- Two-story girls' primary and middle school (1,000 m²)
- Kindergarten (400 m²)
- Public education center (1,000 m²)
- Multipurpose conference hall (2,900 m²)
- Administrative building (1,500 m²)
- Health center (765 m²)
- Marketplace with 50 shops
- Police station
- Water well and 160 m³ water storage tank
- Social services center
- Sports facilities
- 8 children's playgrounds
- 1 garbage collection truck
- 100 waste containers





PROTECTION

Children are among the groups most severely affected by the war in Syria. According to United Nations data, approximately 6 million Syrian children have been born since the conflict began. Research conducted by the Humanitarian and Social Research Center (İNSAMER) indicates that there are nearly 1 million orphaned and/or fatherless children in Syria. Additionally, it is estimated that 9.2 million Syrian children are currently living either inside Syria or in neighboring countries as refugees.

Numerous organizations operating in the region report that the vast majority of these children are in urgent need of support across a wide range of areas—from education, healthcare, shelter, and food to psychological care and security.

Our Foundation is committed to protecting these vulnerable children and supports three orphanages in Syria, ensuring that approximately 28,000 orphans are raised in a safe and healthy environment.

Through our Orphan Sponsorship Program, we also provide regular monthly support to 28,957 Syrian orphans. Between 2011 and 2024, our Foundation delivered a total of \$84,972,741 in aid to orphans and children in need under the protection sector.



28,957

Syrian children were enrolled in the Orphan Sponsorship Program.

The Reyhanlı Education Campus was constructed to accommodate and educate up to **1,000** children.



Tailoring Workshops

To empower orphan mothers and women in need, our Foundation has established tailoring workshops where women can socialize, gain skills, and contribute to their household income. The workshops produce a wide range of garments—from children's clothing to traditional abayas—which are then distributed to vulnerable populations within Syria.

One such facility is the Reyhanlı Tailoring Workshop, where 42 women are employed. This workshop alone produces an average of 30,000 pieces of clothing per month. Across Syria, our Foundation currently operates 21 tailoring workshops, each serving as a vital space for women's empowerment and humanitarian production.





WATER, SANITATION, HYGIENE & HEALTH



Although protected under international law, hundreds of health centers and hospitals in Syria have been reduced to rubble by regime airstrikes since the start of the war. Many doctors have lost their lives in the attacks, leaving the healthcare system in a state of devastation. Since the outbreak of the conflict, our Foundation has been working in the fields of health and hygiene assistance, providing essential medicines, conducting health screenings, and, when necessary, performing surgeries in collaboration with volunteer doctors. We also support hospitals serving refugees by supplying medical equipment, consumables, and power generators.

Since the war began, our Foundation has provided medicines, bandages, and medical supplies to 92 health centers and 75 hospitals, and established an intensive care unit at Idlib Hospital. These facilities serve at least 500,000 people annually. Furthermore, our Mobile Health Clinic Truck Project, run in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), reached over 133,000 people between 2020 and 2023. During the pandemic, we also delivered COVID-19 awareness and prevention training to 40,000 people.

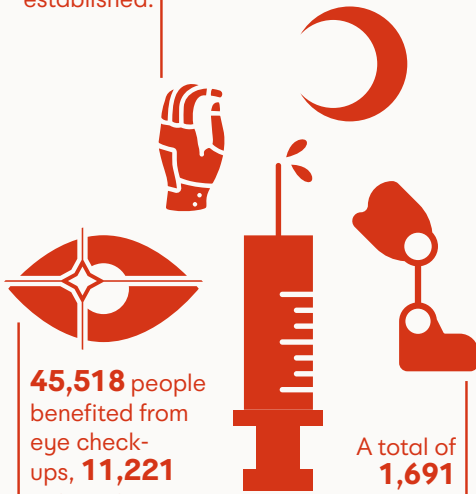
To meet broader health and hygiene needs, our Foundation established 167 healthcare facilities and 3 prosthetics centers, offering critical services to those affected by the war. In addition, we have drilled 47 water wells—23 in Idlib and 24 in Azaz—and built 16 water tanks, providing safe and clean water access to more than 146,000 people.

Through our efforts in the water, sanitation, hygiene, and healthcare sectors, we have delivered a total of \$46,805,429 in humanitarian aid to people deprived of basic health services due to the war in Syria.



Three prosthetics centers were established.

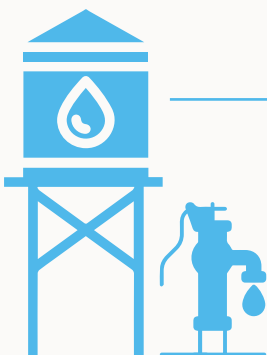
A total of **92** health centers and **75** hospitals were supported.



45,518 people benefited from eye check-ups, **11,221** cataract procedures were carried out, and **995** individuals were provided with corrective eyewear.

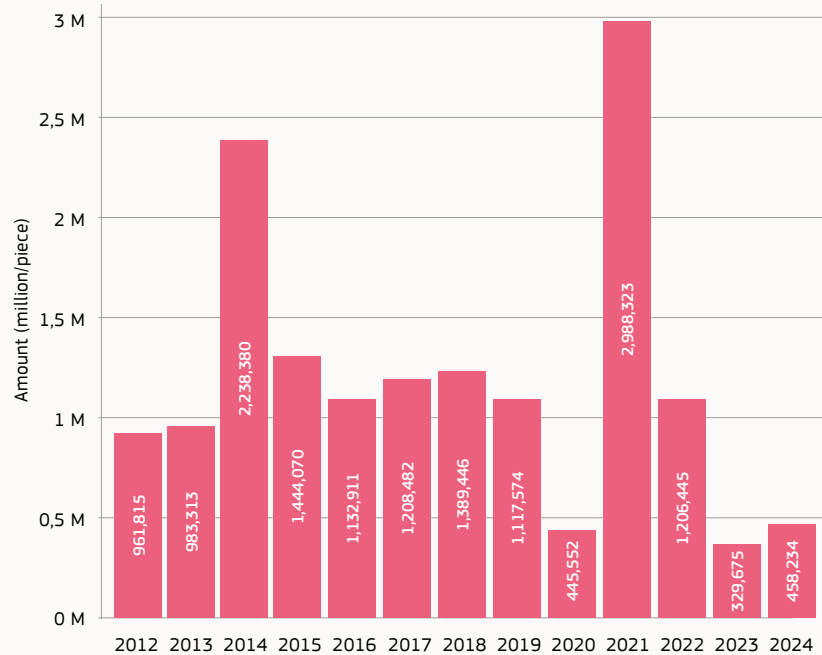
A total of **1,691** prosthetic devices were provided to patients following examination.

15,904,220 units of medicine, medical supplies, and equipment were delivered.

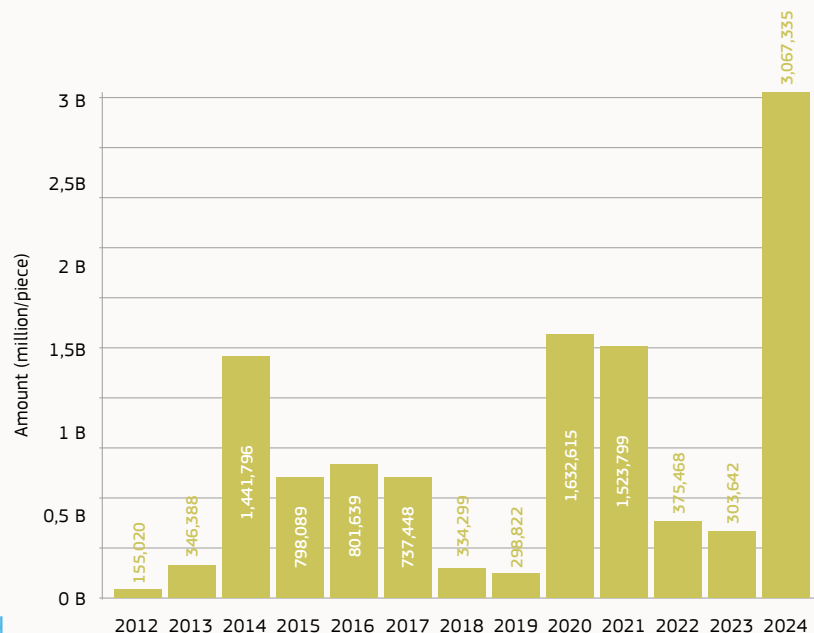


16 water tanks were installed.

47 water wells were constructed and put into service.



Medicine, medical equipment and device



Hygiene supplies and cleaning products

High-Tech Orthotic & Prosthetic Centers

Through a project supported by Kuwait's Bayt Zakat and the International Doctors Association (AID), our Foundation provides prosthetic arms and legs to individuals who have become physically disabled due to the war in Syria. Established in 2017, the Prosthetics Center operates through four offices located in Istanbul, Hatay, and inside Syria.

To date, the centers have served 5,092 patients. Among them, 4,223 individuals underwent medical evaluations, and 1,989 patients were provided with prosthetic limbs tailored to their needs. Including those with multiple limb losses, a total of 2,573 prosthetic devices have been produced so far.

Using 3D scanning technology, the center can easily and accurately capture the measurements needed for each patient, reducing the cost and time required for prosthetic production. These scanners can also be taken into remote camps and active conflict zones, allowing the teams to reach patients who lack access to medical facilities. Custom sockets and prosthetics can then be rapidly fabricated based on the data collected.





Dar-Al-Shifa Pharmacy

Millions of Syrians who have been forcibly displaced due to the war continue to face serious challenges in accessing healthcare services. Even when medical consultations and treatments are available, obtaining necessary medications remains a major hurdle. To address this gap, our Foundation established Dar-al-shifa Pharmacy in Azaz in 2019. The pharmacy provides free medication to individuals of all ages in need. Approximately 25,000 people benefit from the pharmacy each year. In 2024 alone, we distributed 63,159 units of medication to patients in need.





Eye Health Center

In partnership with the Alliance Of International Doctors (AID), our Foundation established the Idlib Eye Health Center in Sarmada, Idlib, in 2021 to provide specialized care for war-affected individuals. The center plays a vital role in a region where access to medical services is extremely limited. Staffed by a team of nine professionals, the center offers free eye care services to the public. Since its opening, the facility has conducted over 45,000 eye examinations, performed more than 11,000 surgeries, and provided eyeglasses to 995 individuals.





Umut Evi Elderly Care And Physiotherapy Center

In war-torn Syria, where thousands of families have been separated by death or displacement, the most deeply affected groups include children, the elderly, and people with disabilities. Many elderly and disabled individuals who have lost their families or have no one to care for them are left to survive on their own, often in unsafe and unhygienic conditions, deprived of even the most basic needs and entirely without access to healthcare. To address this, our Foundation established the Umut Evi Elderly Care and Physiotherapy Center in Azaz in 2018. The center offers safe and hygienic shelter, regular nutrition, medical treatment, and access to medication tailored to the age and health conditions of elderly individuals in need of care. In addition, the facility provides physiotherapy services for individuals with disabilities in the region.

Each day, approximately 100 people benefit from free medical check-ups and physiotherapy treatments at the center.





Water Wells and Storage Tanks

The nearly 14-year war in Syria has completely devastated the country's infrastructure, leaving vast populations without access to clean water—an issue that poses major health risks and contributes to the spread of preventable diseases. This crisis is even more severe in rural areas, where many displaced people have settled in regions with no established infrastructure.

To meet this urgent need, our Foundation drills water wells and installs storage tanks in cities with collapsed infrastructure as well as in newly settled displacement zones. These systems allow communities to access clean and safe water, helping to mitigate health and hygiene-related challenges. In addition to constructing the wells and tanks, we also conduct regular maintenance to ensure their long-term functionality. To date, our Foundation has established 47 water wells and 16 storage tanks, providing clean water access to more than 146,000 people across Syria.





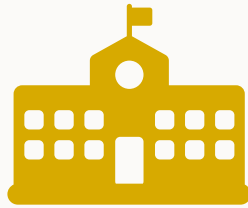
EDUCATION

The war in Syria has caused devastating destruction across all sectors, including the educational infrastructure. Schools were bombed, educators either fled or were killed, and the educational journeys of millions of students were abruptly interrupted. Our foundation is committed to rebuilding Syria's future by establishing schools, providing financial support to students, supplying educational materials, and regularly paying the salaries of 270 teachers who educate 8,100 students.

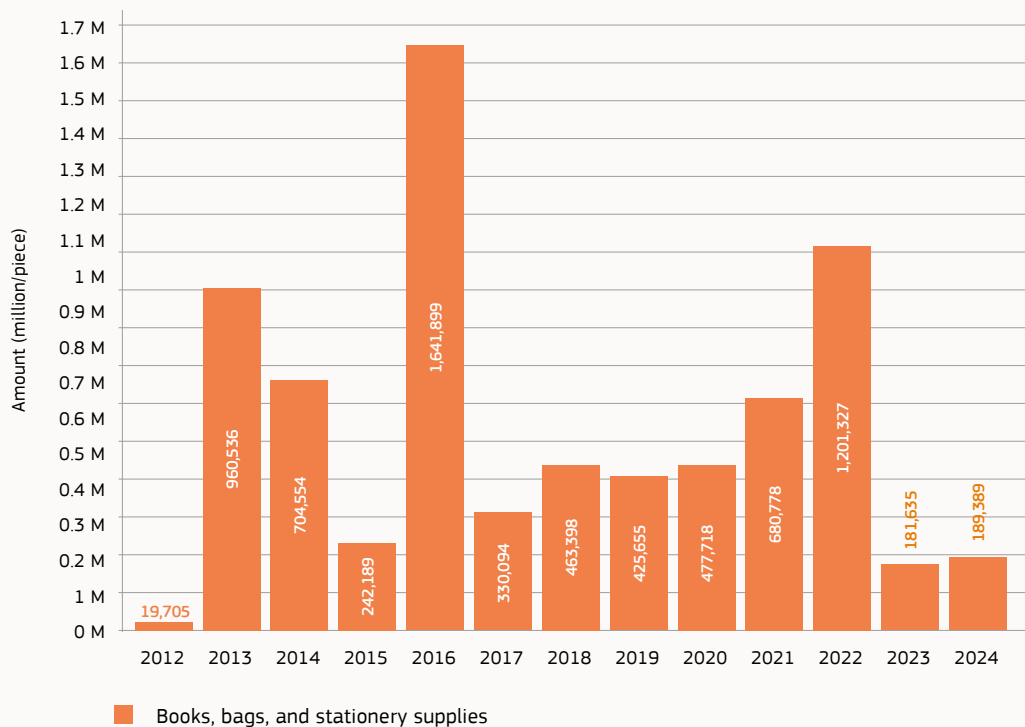
Due to the severe disruption of educational activities caused by the war, we have provided a total of \$23,458,621 in educational aid in Syria to date.



Two universities, **46** schools, and **1** special education school were established. Additionally, **44** schools were constructed, and **17** existing schools were renovated and restored.



7,518,877 books, school bags, and stationery items were distributed.



Education Center For The Visually Impaired

In response to the attacks in Syria that have left many individuals visually impaired or blind from birth, our foundation inaugurated the Education Center for the Visually Impaired in Azaz. The center offers training in Braille literacy, reading and writing, computer and phone usage, chess, and Islamic sciences. Thanks to a tailored educational program, participants complete approximately six months of training after which they gain the ability to communicate using computers and phones, develop their physical and cognitive skills through chess, fulfill their religious duties with foundational Islamic knowledge, and—most importantly—become confident individuals capable of adapting to social life and independently managing various tasks.





Damascus University

As in all sectors, the war in Syria has caused immense devastation in the field of education. Schools were bombed, educators fled, and the educational paths of millions of students were abruptly disrupted.

At IHH, we have consistently supported educational initiatives in every region we operate. In Syria, we launched numerous projects to meet the educational needs of Syrian students and help restore the dreams destroyed by war. We established schools for all age groups in refugee camps and various parts of the country. To ensure access to higher education for university-age students, we laid the foundations of Damascus University in Azaz, northern Syria, in 2015.

The university began its academic journey in September 2016 with a capacity of 1,000 students and now hosts over 2,700 students. Damascus University contributes to higher education through its faculties of Engineering, Economics and Administrative Sciences, Political Science, Theology and Law, Education, Health Sciences, and Literature. Despite the challenges of operating in a conflict zone, the university offers comprehensive support to students, including dormitory services and full scholarships. We view the university as a cornerstone in building a future in Syria where knowledge and wisdom take precedence. Since its inception, 803 students have graduated, the vast majority of whom are now employed in various sectors and institutions. Furthermore, 390 students are currently enrolled in postgraduate (master's and doctoral) programs at the Graduate Institute and Research Center.

In its Faculty of Health Sciences, which operates with four departments, students are trained as nurses, physiotherapists, anesthetists, and emergency medical technicians. Graduates go on to provide vital healthcare services in underserved regions.

In addition, 800 students continue their education in various fields at Hayat University, another institution supported by our foundation in Syria.





Reyhanlı Education Campus

On World Orphans Day in 2015, our foundation laid the foundation stone for the Reyhanlı Education Campus in Hatay's Reyhanlı district—an initiative developed for orphaned children. The project was carried out in partnership with the Qatari humanitarian organization RAF, and the official opening of the campus took place on May 18, 2017.

Situated on an area of approximately 100 decares, the campus has a capacity of 990 students. It includes a middle school and an international imam hatip high school. The Reyhanlı Education Campus applies a holistic education model to ensure that both war-affected and other students grow up well-equipped in terms of physical, mental, and spiritual development.

The campus features a mosque, a health clinic, playgrounds, a cultural center, an indoor sports hall, a rehabilitation center, an infirmary building, science and art workshops, agricultural fields for planting and cultivation, picnic areas, and olive groves. Designed to meet every need of its residents, the center not only provides optimal conditions for the moral and academic development of its students but also offers rehabilitation programs to help them cope with war-related trauma and the psychological challenges of being orphaned.

Educational and social facilities within the campus include:

- School
- Mosque
- Dormitory
- Language center
- Playgrounds
- Kitchen and dining hall
- Animal shelter
- Conference hall





Rufeyde Community Education Center

Our foundation organizes vocational training courses at various times for youth, women, adults unable to attend school, and individuals with disabilities. Additionally, it provides necessary materials, equipment, and workspace support to those who had professions or trades prior to the war, enabling them to resume their work.

The Rufeyde Community Education Center, established by our foundation in Azez, serves women who seek to acquire vocational skills and improve themselves. The center offers training in Turkish language, hairdressing, tailoring, handicrafts, first aid, and Islamic studies. Women receive instruction in their areas of interest, and over the past five years, 960 women have benefited from the center's programs. Moreover, textile products and handcrafted gift items produced by participants of the tailoring and handicrafts courses are displayed and sold at an exhibition space within the center. Many of the women who receive training here go on to practice their new professions, contributing to their families' livelihoods. These educational programs and activities provide war victims with opportunities for socialization, productivity, and reintegration into daily life, thereby helping to alleviate, even if slightly, the lasting impacts of war.





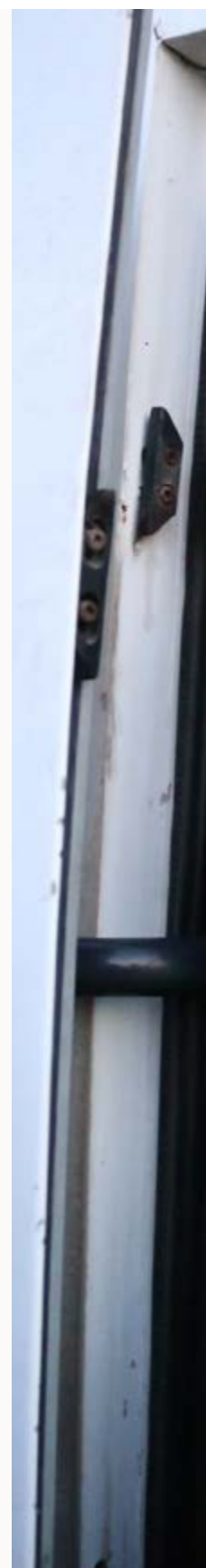
HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

Our foundation's humanitarian diplomacy efforts in Syria focus on the following key areas:

- Preventing war, massacres, and loss of life
- Delivering humanitarian aid to civilians under siege
- Evacuating besieged civilians and the wounded
- Rescuing local and foreign war captives abducted within Syria
- Mediating disputes among opposition groups to avert conflict before it begins
- Raising global awareness of human rights violations committed during the war
- Amplifying the voices of oppressed Syrians through engagement with international organizations

In addition to acting as an arbitrator and mediator between conflicting parties in war and crisis zones, our foundation carries out diplomatic initiatives aimed at saving the lives of innocent individuals who have been unlawfully detained or held hostage.

We also share information and collaborate with organizations such as ECOSOC, OCHA, UNRWA, UNHCR, OIC, OICHF, MSE, AFAD, and the Red Crescent. Furthermore, we deliver presentations and participate in meetings around the world to shed light on the Syrian crisis.





Prisoner Exchange – 2013

Through our foundation's mediation efforts, a total of 2,130 civilians — including 76 women — who had been unjustly imprisoned by the Assad regime, subjected to torture, and left to die under inhumane conditions, were rescued from detention.



Aleppo Evacuation – 2016

At the end of 2016, the Assad regime and its allies placed the population of Aleppo under siege. Tens of thousands were trapped in the city, where even the delivery of humanitarian aid was blocked. In response, our foundation launched the campaign “Open the Road to Aleppo,” which mobilized over 5,000 vehicles and 40,000 volunteers.

Participants gathered in Istanbul and set off toward Reyhanlı with trucks loaded with essential food supplies and hundreds of support vehicles. Major gatherings were held in Sakarya and Konya along the way before the convoy reached Reyhanlı. A mass rally was held at the Cilvegözü Border Gate with the participation of tens of thousands. The global attention generated by this rally and convoy, along with Türkiye’s diplomatic efforts, led to the opening of a humanitarian corridor. As a result, 45,000 people were safely evacuated to secure areas.



Conscience Convoy – 2018

Our foundation took part in the “International Conscience Convoy,” launched to mobilize global public opinion for the release of women who had been unlawfully detained and tortured by the regime throughout the war. On March 8, 2018 — International Women’s Day — thousands of women from 55 countries, representing different faiths, languages, ethnicities, and cultures, traveled from Istanbul to the Syrian border in Hatay, where they held a powerful rally to raise their voices to the world.

Supporting the Türkiye chapter of the Conscience Movement, our foundation contributed to international efforts aimed at securing the release of thousands of women and children subjected to brutal treatment in Syrian prisons. In 2021, numerous high-level meetings were held, leading to comprehensive efforts for the release of pre-identified female and child detainees. As a result of these initiatives, many imprisoned women and children regained their freedom.



Humanitarian Diplomacy Efforts in Syria

- In the final days of 2015, our foundation facilitated a coordinated medical evacuation between two besieged areas in Syria. From Foua, a regime-held enclave in Idlib surrounded by opposition forces, 107 wounded individuals, 6 bedridden patients, and 125 companions were evacuated. Simultaneously, 60 injured individuals and 66 companions were removed from Zabadani, a rebel-controlled town encircled by regime forces near Damascus. Those evacuated from Zabadani were transferred to Türkiye via Lebanon for treatment. This operation was made possible through the diplomatic initiatives of our foundation, supported by the governments of Türkiye and Lebanon and coordinated with OCHA, ICRC, and SARC.
- In 2017, 15,000 residents of the Waer neighborhood—trapped under siege and intense bombardment—were evacuated to safer areas. Our foundation also provided logistical support and accompaniment for the relocation of 7,775 individuals from Lebanon's Aarsal region to Idlib in Syria. Following an agreement between Syrian opposition groups and the Assad regime, 2,520 people from Madaya and Zabadani arrived in 61 buses and were met with emergency relief supplies. A portion of these families were initially accommodated in temporary shelters established by our foundation in central Idlib.
- During the 2018 evacuations from Eastern Ghouta and Homs, our foundation supported efforts to ensure the safe relocation of displaced civilians to secure areas. Temporary shelters were established for the refugees, and emergency food supplies were delivered to meet their urgent needs.
- In 2019, 10,500 Iraqi nationals residing in Syria were assisted in returning to their home country through the Voluntary Repatriation Program.
- In 2020, 379 Iraqi nationals living in Syria were repatriated voluntarily to Iraq via Kilis. Additionally, three Filipino citizens residing in Syria were also repatriated to their home country.
- In 2021, nine Iranian detainees held in Syria were successfully freed. Through family reunification efforts, a three-member family separated by the conflict—some of whom were in Syria—were brought together in Türkiye. Additionally, a Syrian citizen residing in Lebanon was reunited with their family in Lebanon, and a Syrian mother and her disabled daughter were reunited in Türkiye through our support. We also engaged with 56 Iraqi migrants deported to Syria and informed the relevant Iraqi authorities about their situation. Furthermore, 164 Iraqi nationals were voluntarily repatriated from Syria to Iraq through coordinated efforts.
- In 2022, 240 Iraqi families were facilitated in returning voluntarily from Syria to their home country. As a result of family reunification efforts, 15 children were also reunited with their families in their countries of origin. Additionally, 60 women were released from Syrian prisons.
- Since the onset of the war, a total of 2,148 Syrians along with detainees of various nationalities—including 70 Iranians, 10 Turks, 8 Sudanese, 8 Iraqis, 2 Germans, 1 Afghan, 1 Argentine, 3 Filipinos, 1 Kuwaiti, 2 Ukrainians, 4 Swedes, 2 Poles, 1 South African, 1 Japanese, and 3 Spaniards—have been released through the efforts and interventions of our foundation.

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