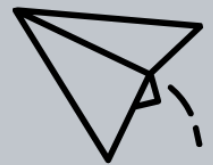




The Social and Economic Vision to Enhance Social Cohesion in Markadeh District



January -2024

About Enmaa Al-Furat (FDO):

It is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 2017 and exercises out its activities in Northern and Eastern Syria. **FDO** seeks to play effective, influential and meaningful roles that contribute to consolidating the values and practices of democracy, respecting and preserving diversity, promoting social cohesion, supporting efforts to achieve just and sustainable peace, and providing impactful and sustainable civic spaces, and promoting the effective and meaningful participation of youth and women in the local communities in which they operate.

About the Project :

(**FDO**) is working to implement the project of “**together towards a cohesive society**” in Markadeh district - Al-Hasakeh Governorate by enhancing social cohesion based on strengthening community dialogues, enhancing trust, understanding, interaction and relations among members of the local community and helping them in creating a long-term economic and social vision based on local aspirations. It contributes to improving the economic and social situation and supporting and enhancing the roles of women.

the work team:

This economic vision was implemented by members of the community committee in Markadeh district, represented by:

- Ismail Jasim Mohaimed
- Jassim Mohamad Al-Saleh.
- Ahmed Khider Dawod.
- Firas Awad Al-Mahjoob.
- Turkia Naser Al-Dokmak.
- Alaa AbdulAziz Dokmak.
- Amena Khalifa Hasan.
- Fatima Hamod Al-Ali.
- Anood Taha Hamad.
- Muhammad Abdul Mohsin.
- Saleh Khider Al-Ali.
- Amer Mushaal Al-Deich.

With technical support and supervision by the project work team, represented by:

Mona Muhammad Al-
Abdullah
Facilitator of dialogue

Saleh Hamad Al-Khidder
M&E officer

Hassan Khalaf Al-Hussein
project manager

About community dialogues in Markadeh district:

FDO works through the community committee in Markadeh district to conduct a group of community dialogues with individuals of the host community, displaced people and returnees in Markadeh district in order to help them reach a long-term economic and social vision, based on local aspirations, and contributing to improving the economic and social reality and support and enhance the roles of women. Members of the community committee, during the months of December 2023 and January 2024, held 16 dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district (Markadeh district center, Kishkish Jobour, Al-Jana, Harir Hatem, Al-Dashisha) to discuss four main topics identified by members of the community committee, namely:

- A. The reality of services in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts, problems, and levels of social cohesion between the host community, IDPs, and returnees in Markadeh district.
- B. The reality of women in Markadeh district and its impact on the roles and status of women and their economic reality.
- C. The reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district and their impact on levels of conflicts and rates of social cohesion.
- D. The reality of the practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district and their impact on different levels of conflicts and social cohesion rates.

About the participants in the dialogue sessions:

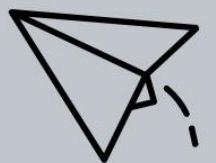
Members of the community committee in Markadeh district carried out 16 dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district in 5 villages: Markadeh district center, Kishkish Jabour, Al-Jana, Harir Hatem, and Al-Dashisha. 320 Participants participated in these sessions from members of the local community (including members of the community committee in Markadeh district). Women's participation in dialogue sessions was 50%, the participation rate of displaced people in dialogue sessions was 29.7%, and the participation rate of returnees reached 10% of the participants in the dialogue sessions, with ensuring tribal diversity in Markadeh district.

Issue	Location of dialogue session	Data of beneficiaries				
		men	women	Host community	IDPs	Returnees
The reality of services in Markadeh district	Markadeh district center	10	10	12	6	2
	Al-Jana	10	10	12	7	1
	Al-Dashisha	10	10	12	6	2
	Kishkish Jobour	10	10	12	6	2
The reality of women in Markadeh district	Markadeh district center	10	10	12	6	2
	Al-Dashisha	10	10	12	6	2
	Kishkish Jobour	10	10	12	6	2
	Harir Hatem	10	10	12	6	2
The reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district	Markadeh district center	10	10	12	6	2
	Al-Jana	10	10	12	6	2
	Al-Dashisha	10	10	12	6	2
	Harir Hatem	10	10	12	6	2
The reality of the practices of non-government	Markadeh district center	10	10	12	6	2
	Al-Jana	10	10	12	6	2
	Kishkish Jobour	10	10	12	6	2

al and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district	Harir Hatem	10	10	12	6	2
Total		160	160	193	95	32
Percentage		50%	50%	60.3%	29.7%	10%



**the reality of services in Markadeh
district and their impact on the
rates of conflicts and problems and
levels of social cohesion**



About the Participants in the Dialogue Sessions :

Members of the community committee in Markadeh district carried out four dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district about the reality of services in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts and problems and levels of social cohesion in Markadeh district. The dialogue sessions were carried out in four villages, which is the center of **Markadeh city, Jana, Dashisha, and Kishkish Jobour**, on **27/12/2023 and 28/12/2023**, where **80** participants participated in these sessions (including 12 participants from members of the community committee in Markadeh district).

Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of Services in Markadeh District :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district indicate that 50% of the participants are dissatisfied with the reality of services in Markadeh district, and 47% of participants are not at all satisfied with the reality of services in Markadeh district, while 1.5 % of participants are satisfied with the reality of services in Markadeh district, and 1.5% of participants are very satisfied with the reality of services in Markadeh district.

Location of dialogue sessions	Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of Services				
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied	Not very satisfied
Markadeh district center	0	0	0	12	5
Al-Jana	0	1	0	12	4
Al-Dashisha	1	0	0	10	6
Kishkish Jobour	0	0	0	0	17
Total	1	1	0	34	32
Percentage	1.5%	1.5%	0%	50%	47%

The reasons why the majority of participants feel dissatisfied or not satisfied at all with the reality of services in Markadeh district are due to several reasons, the most important of which are:

- Deterioration of the service situation in Markadeh district, and lack of availability of basic services.
- High prices and the inability of local community members to provide basic requirements for their families.
- The impact of the lack of availability of basic services on members of the host community, displaced people, and returnees.
- Unfair distribution of services in the local community.
- Administrative corruption, which directly affects the quality of the distribution of basic services in Markadeh district.
- Lack of observation and accountability.
- Acute shortage of drinking water.
- Severe shortage of bread quantities, and poor quality of bread being distributed.
- The lack of quantity and poor quality of fuel, which affects the agricultural situation in Markadeh district and the ability of farmers to irrigate their agricultural lands.

While the reasons why some participants feel satisfied with the reality of services in Markadeh district are due to several reasons, the most important of which are:

- Good financial situation and ability to provide the basic needs of their families.
- Availability of basic services in varying proportions in the local community.

Stories and Lived Experiences about the Reality of Services in Markadeh District:

The results of the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district have showed that the stories and personal lived experiences narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district reflect the reality of services in Markadeh district, as they clearly indicate the deterioration of the service reality, and the lack of any solutions at the present time that contribute to improving the reality of services, and the absence of local actors and influential figures in the local community who could play a positive role in demanding improvement of the service reality in Markadeh district. This is due to the loss of trust between members of the local community and the entities responsible for providing services in Markadeh district. Here are some stories and lived experiences that narrated by participants during the dialogue sessions as follows:



“I am not satisfied with the mechanism of distributing drinking water in the village. I have not received drinking water for more than 20 days, which forced me to fill drinking water at my own expense and at a price four times its value, which increased my financial burden for this month.”



Participant from Markadeh city Center

"I do not get my right to bread due to the lack of credibility and equality in the distribution of bread in the village and the absence of accountability for those responsible for distributing bread. This has caused a conflict and tense relations between me and those responsible for distributing bread in the village"

Participant from Al-Dashisha village

"I took my child to the hospital because of the contamination of the drinking water, which led to my child being poisoned. Also, taking my child to the hospital cost me a huge amount of money. All of this happened because of the poor drinking water we get and the failure to purify it to make it safe to drink"

Participant from Al-Jana village



“I am a university student from the village of Kishkish Jabour. I face great suffering with the high fees for transportation that I need to reach my university, due to the high price of diesel. I could not afford all these expenses, so I left my university”



Female participant from the village of Kishkish Jabour



“My husband is from Aleppo Governorate and does not have proof of personal identity or a family book, which caused my family to not receive heating materials and bread. This led to a dispute arising between us and those responsible for providing services because they did not appreciate my family's situation and did not extend a helping hand to us”



A female displaced participant who lives in the village of Al-Jana

"I am the father of a family of 8 people. I receive only 8 loaves of bread daily, and this is never enough to meet my family's bread needs. I submitted a complaint more than once to those responsible for distributing bread in the village, and I did not receive any answer, which caused me to lose my confidence in those responsible for distributing news in the village"

A participant from the village of Kishkish Jobour

"The drinking water distribution tanker in the village did not fill drinking water for me despite my dire need for drinking water, and it filled water for people who did not have an urgent need to obtain drinking water due to corruption, marginalization and discrimination among members of the local community, and this caused a dispute to arise between me and the officials about distributing drinking water in the village, and my trust in those responsible for distributing drinking water has declined. This has also increased my suffering, as I fetch drinking water from my neighbors, which makes me feel very embarrassed"

Female Participant from the village of Dashisha



“I own a large area of agricultural land on the banks of the Khabur River. Due to the dryness of the Khabur River and the lack of water to help me with irrigation, I dug holes to collect water for my land, and that cost me exorbitant sums. Despite this, these ponds only contributed to irrigating very small areas of my agricultural land, and therefore I cannot secure my family's needs from the income from my agricultural land, which causes my economic reality to deteriorate”



A participant from the village of Kishkish Jobour

Understanding and Analyzing the Reality of Services in Markadeh District :

The Global Café tool has been used to understand and analyze the reality of services in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts, problems, and levels of social cohesion. Through dialogue sessions with members of the local community, the following results have been reached:

First: The reasons for the emergence of the problem (lack of services in Markadeh district) :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the reasons for the lack of services in Markadeh district are due to the impact of the war on the region and the absence of a safe environment, in addition to administrative corruption among those responsible for providing services in the region, the absence of observation/oversight and accountability, and the exclusion and marginalization of members of the local community. In addition to the absence of local actors who can play effective roles in demanding and contributing to improving the service and economic reality in Markadeh district, in addition to this is the water interruption of the Khabur River, which is the main source of irrigation for agricultural lands in the region, which negatively affected the economic reality in the region, and all these reasons clearly affected the rates of trust and interaction in the local community, and increased the levels of conflicts and problems among members of the local community.

Second: The impact of the lack of services in Markadeh district on increasing the rates of conflicts in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the lack of services greatly increases the rates of conflicts and problems in the local community. These conflicts result from the lack of bread, drinking water, and heating materials, and the unfair distribution of services. In addition to the lack of irrigation water to irrigate agricultural lands and the unfair distribution of humanitarian aid and the resulting problems among members of the local community. These conflicts are due to several reasons, the most important of which are the unfair distribution of services, discrimination between members of the local community, and weak mechanisms for distributing services and humanitarian aid.

Third: Local actors in the problem :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the service institutions in Markadeh district, capitals, and notables directly affect the deteriorating service reality in the region due to the weak capabilities of workers in the service institutions. In addition, the notables' opportunism and they use their relationships in a negative way to achieve the interests of specific groups in the local community, and their failure to play effective roles to demand the achievement of fair distribution of humanitarian services and aid in Markadeh district, and this directly affects members of the local community, the displaced and returnees through the spread of poverty and the inability to provide the basic needs of families and increasing the economic burdens on the local community members, high prices and merchants' monopoly on materials, and the decline in agricultural reality in the region resulting from the interruption of water from the Khabur River, which constitutes the main source of irrigation for agricultural lands, lack of support for the agricultural sector, insufficient well water to irrigate agricultural lands and the lack of alternative irrigation sources, which causes a decline in agricultural production and deterioration of the economic reality in Markadeh district.

Fourth: The impact of the lack of services in Markadeh district on confidence in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the lack of services, their unfair distribution, and discrimination between members of different clans lead to a decline in trust levels between members of the local community from different clans due to conflict over services, and this causes an increase in conflicts and problems between members of the local community and officials on the distribution of services in the local community, and the increase in conflicts and problems between members of the local community from different clans due to the limited quantities of services and their inadequacy.

The lack of services and their unfair distribution also leads to a decline in trust between the host community and the displaced as a result of the displaced receiving fewer services than members of the host community. This is due to the belief of the host community members that they are more deserving of obtaining services because they suffer from a deteriorating economic reality without paying attention to the suffering of the displaced in the local community, which causes an increase in the feeling of marginalization and exclusion among the displaced, and thus a decline in the levels of trust between the host community and the displaced in the local community. This is applied to those returning to the local community as well, as the exclusion and marginalization of returnees from services and giving preference for the host community for services contributes to the difficulty of returnees to adapt and integrate with the host community and thus declining levels of trust between returnees and the host community.

Fifth: The impact of the lack of services in Markadeh district on interaction and relations in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the decline in trust rates among members of the local community as a result of the lack of services directly affects the nature of relationships and interaction between members of the local community in light of the decline in trust rates and the deterioration of the economic reality, social relations and cooperation between members of the community have become closed due to the fact that local community members are preoccupied with providing the basic needs of their families, meanwhile relations and interaction among local community members are constant on the level of tribal affiliation.

The decline in trust levels among members of the local community as a result of the lack of services clearly affects the nature of relations and interaction between the host community and the displaced and returnees in the local community. We notice that the groups of displaced and returnees are isolated and closed in on themselves and do not interact or tend to build social relationships with the host community as a result of feeling excluded and marginalized in obtaining services.

Sixth: The impact of the lack of services in Markadeh district on women in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the lack of services increases the burden on women in the local community in light of the lack of services, women are responsible for providing alternatives to secure the family's needs by making bread on the clay oven/the tannour, transporting and fetching drinking water, and collecting firewood to provide a source of heating. Conflicts often break out between women while collecting firewood due to the limited quantities of firewood available on the land and the need of women to provide a source of heating in their homes.

The lack of services also affects widowed and separated women, as these women bear additional burdens as they are responsible for supporting their families and providing their basic needs, uneducated women who do not know how to demand their rights, and women who suffer from health problems or permanent physical disabilities and the shortage of necessary services for them.

The lack of services also directly affects displaced women, as they suffer from the effects of displacement and psychological trauma, they are forced to bear additional burdens to provide alternatives to meet their families' needs for bread, drinking water, heating, and humanitarian aid. Returning women face the same challenges, which cause their weak integration into the local community. In addition to that, stereotypes regarding women's roles and limiting women's roles to household chores, which hinders women from demanding their rights and improving their social and economic reality.

Proposed Solutions to Improve the Reality of Services in Markadeh District:

The solutions proposed by local community members to improve the reality of services in Markadeh district include:

- A.** Building Roman dams on the Khabur River valley, which are dams used to collect rainwater in order to provide additional irrigation sources for agricultural lands in the region.
- B.** Drilling artesian wells to provide additional sources of irrigation water, and installing modern irrigation networks in order to ensure optimal use of irrigation water.
- C.** Supporting farmers with seeds and fertilizers to support the agricultural sector and improve the economic reality of farmers.
- D.** Establishing water desalination plants to provide drinking water in Markadeh district, and increasing the number of tanks to distribute drinking water to members of the local community.
- E.** Forming community committees to monitor the distribution of services (bread, water, heating materials), ensuring justice in distribution, and contributing to resolving conflicts resulting from service distribution operations.
- F.** Strengthening community accountability for local administrations responsible for distributing services in Markadeh district.
- G.** Activating the role of women in the local community by providing awareness campaigns, vocational training programs, and supporting small projects for women.
- H.** Providing feed and veterinary medicines for livestock and poultry.
- I.** Supporting the electrical sector by maintaining the current electricity network and working to expand it, and providing the local community with alternative sources of electrical energy, such as providing local community members with solar panels.
- J.** Activating and supporting Markadeh Hospital, and providing mobile medical clinics that contribute to improving the reality of health services in Markadeh district.
- K.** Support the education sector by supporting schools and rehabilitating damaged schools.

Expected Results from the Solutions Proposed by Local Community Members :

- Supporting the agricultural sector and livestock breeding in Markadeh district can contribute to reducing unemployment rates, reducing the spread of poverty, achieving self-sufficiency and thus improving the economic reality in the region and reducing immigration rates.
- Building Roman dams on the Khabur River valley contributes significantly to providing water sources used to irrigate agricultural lands, and exploiting winter flood waters,

which ensures the continuity of agricultural seasons and improves the economic reality in the region.

- Establishing water desalination plants contributes to providing potable water and reducing the economic burden on members of the local community, in addition to improving the health situation and reducing the number of medical cases resulting from the use of contaminated water for drinking.
- Supporting the role of women contributes to empowering women and increasing their effective participation at the social and economic levels.
- Forming community committees and enhancing community accountability for the distribution of services contributes to reducing conflicts resulting from unfair distribution of services in the local community.

Members of the local community believe that the proposed solutions and their expected results can contribute significantly to enhancing trust, interaction and relations between the host community, the displaced and the returnees, in addition to improving the roles and status of women in the local community, improving the economic reality in the region, and reducing conflicts. problems, enhancing social cohesion in the region, and providing a safe environment that contributes to supporting stability in a sustainable manner in Markadeh district.

Proposed Community Initiatives to Improve the Reality of Services in Markadeh District :

Community initiatives proposed by local community members in Markadeh district include:

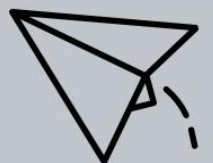
- Forming community committees of the members of the local community in the villages of Markadeh district should work to ensure that services are delivered in a fair and responsible manner to members of the local community.
- Working to collect contributions from members of the local community in the villages of Markadeh district in order to provide electrical generators (Amperes) that contribute to providing a source of electrical energy in the local community.
- Working to establish funds to collect donations and work to promote the idea in the media so that the fund contributes to helping the poor, the sick, orphans, widows, and people with disabilities.
- Working to encourage the owners of capitals to establish small and medium investment projects in Markadeh district.

Proposed Recommendations to Improve the Reality of Services in Markadeh District :

- Urging non-governmental, non-profit organizations and relevant local administrations to conduct an economic feasibility study for the project to build Roman dams on the course of the Khabur River valley.
- Accelerating the establishment of a drinking water desalination plant and placing drinking water tanks in villages that contribute to the access of members of the local community to clean and safe drinking water.
- Providing job opportunities for men and women in Markadeh district and focusing on holders of university degrees.
- Working to increase the number of bakeries in the region and the quantities of flour allocated to them.
- Opening vocational training centers in Markadeh district.



**The reality of women in Markadeh
district and its impact on the roles
and status of women and their
economic reality**



About the Participants in the Dialogue Sessions :

Members of the community committee in Markadeh district implemented four dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district about the reality of women in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts and problems and levels of social cohesion in Markadeh district. The dialogue sessions were carried out in four villages, which is the center of **Markadeh city, Harir Hatem, Dashisha, and Kishkish Jobour**, on **6/1/2024 and 7/1/2024**, where **80** participants participated in these sessions (including **12** participants of the members of the community committee in Markadeh district).

Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of Women in Markadeh District :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district indicate that 36.7 % of the participants are not at all satisfied with the reality of women in Markadeh district, and 54.4% of participants are dissatisfied with the reality of women in Markadeh district, while 4.4 % of participants are neutral to the reality of women in Markadeh district, and 4.4 % of participants are satisfied with the reality of women in Markadeh district.

Location of dialogue sessions	Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of Women				
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied	Not very satisfied
Markadeh district center	0	1	0	16	5
Harir Hatem	0	0	1	7	9
Al-Dashisha	0	2	2	12	1
Kishkish Jobour	0	0	0	2	15
Total	0	3	3	37	25
Percentage	0 %	4.4%	4.4%	54.4%	36.7%

The reasons for the majority of participants feeling dissatisfied or not at all satisfied with the reality of women in Markadeh district are for several reasons and the most important reasons as follows:

- Tribal mentality, customs and traditions that limit the role and status of women in local society.
- Depriving women of the right to inherit.
- Depriving women of the right to education.
- Early marriage of girls in the local community.
- The poor economic situation directly affects women and increases their suffering.
- Lack of basic needs for women (medical needs, health care.)
- Lack of awareness among members of the local community about the role and status of women, which contributes to women not practicing active roles in the local community.
- Lack of training courses that contribute to building women's capabilities and enhancing their ability to access of job opportunities.

While the reasons why some participants feel satisfied with the reality of women in Markadeh district are due to several reasons, the most important of which are:

- Convincing that women are performing their natural roles in the local community (raising children, housework, working on agricultural lands and raising livestock).

Stories and Lived Experiences about the Reality of women in Markadeh District:

The results of the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district have showed that the stories and personal lived experiences narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district reflect the reality of women in Markadeh district, as they clearly indicate the bad economic situation of women affecting directly women, low marriage rates, depriving women the right to inherit, female deprivation of completing their education, local customs and tradition that affect negatively women. Below are some of the stories and lived experiences narrated by the participants during dialogue sessions.



“I come from a very simple and poor family. My father is fifty years old and I have very young brothers. My father is tired and sick and cannot work to provide the family's needs, so I quit studying and started working to help my father provide our family's needs because of the poor economic situation in the region”



Female participant from the village of Kishkish Jabour

"As women, we face a major problem of not being able to get married and build a family, due to the partner's inability to provide necessities of marriage due to the high cost of housing, furniture, and marriage costs, and men often do not get job opportunities that enable them to save money to buy these necessities. As a result, women grow older and remain alone, weak, and without a breadwinner"

Female participant from the village of Kishkish Jabour

"I have great difficulty in obtaining bread, water, and heating materials, which forces me to make great physical efforts to search for alternatives such as going to the wild lands to collect firewood and use it as a source of heating and preparing bread for my family"

Female participant from the village of Kishkish Jabour



“My husband married on me and left me and my children. I became the breadwinner for my children. I live in bad economic conditions, and sometimes my children and I sleep without dinner. I am old and cannot work, and this has affected my health, my economic situation, and my ability to save money to buy the basic needs of my family”



Female participant from the village of Harir Hatem



“I have been a teacher for 25 years. I previously had 10 males and 18 females in the class. Now in the same school and with different circumstances I have in the class 30 males and 3 females, and I think this explains the low levels of awareness and deprivation of girls to complete their education”



Male participant from the village of Dashisha

"I have been a widow for seven years. I left the village because of revenge problems. I had to sell my house, and after I returned, I lived in the houses of the people of the village, and I sent my son to Lebanon to help support our family, but he had a traffic accident, which led to his death. I am now alone and face great suffering to support my children, and the pressures of life increase on me day after day"

Female participant from the village of Harir Hatem

"My family deprived me of the inheritance after my father died. If I had received my share of the inheritance, I would have been able to save my needs and live my life with dignity"

Female participant from Markadeh city center



“I am a man with a religious status in society, and I am dissatisfied with the reality and status of women in local society because customs and traditions and practices prevent women from obtaining their rights, and this is clear in the fact that women do not obtain their rights of inheritance and the robbing of girls' dowries by their families”



Male participant from the village of Dashisha

Understanding and Analyzing the Reality of Women in Markadeh District :

The Global Café tool has been used to understand and analyze the reality of women in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts, problems, and levels of social cohesion. Through dialogue sessions with members of the local community, the following results have been reached:

First: The reasons for the emergence of the problem (the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district) :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district revealed the reasons for the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district that goes back to the local customs and traditions prevailing in the local community, depriving women of their rights of education and inheritance, high rates of early marriage for girls, and the poor economic reality that directly affects women, marriage rates in the local community are low due to the high costs of marriage, in addition to the absence of courses training that contributes to building women's capabilities and enabling them to obtain job opportunities and the lack of services allocated to women (health care, medical centers), and the absence of economic projects that contribute to supporting the small projects for women, and all of these reasons clearly affected the reality of women, their roles, and their status in local society and their economic reality and their ability to provide basic needs.

Second: The impact of the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district on increasing the rates of conflicts in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district greatly increases the rates of conflicts and problems in the local community, and these conflicts result from tribal fanaticism, customs and traditions regarding issues of marriage and divorce, the absence of laws, and unequal opportunities between women, and discrimination between women in accessing public services and humanitarian aid.

Third: Local actors in the problem :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that parents and service institutions directly affects the deteriorating reality of women in the region due to customs, traditions, and weakness of services provided to women, forcing girls to marry at an early age, and the absence of laws that guarantee women's access to their rights, and the lack of economic support for women, and this directly affects women and the most vulnerable women from the host community, displaced women and returnees through widespread poverty and the inability to provide the basic needs of families and increasing the economic burdens on women who are the breadwinners of their families, and depriving girls of the right to education and marrying them at an early age, the lack of health care needs for women, and the deprivation of women of their right to inheritance, which causes a deterioration of the women situation in Markadeh district.

Fourth: The impact of the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district on confidence in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the disparity in education levels between women in different villages in Markadeh district, depriving women of their right to inheritance, and the weak economic situation and lack of the ability of women to provide their basic needs, and the unequal distribution of services and humanitarian aid between different villages in Markadeh district lead to a decline in trust levels between members of the local community from different clans. This causes an increase in conflicts and problems between members of the local community and those

responsible for distributing services. These conflicts are directly reflected on women in Markadeh district.

The unequal distribution of humanitarian services and aid between women from the host community and displaced women also leads to the inferiority view of displaced people in the local community where it contributes to a decline in trust between the host community women and displaced women.

The exclusion and marginalization of returning women, their homes having been robbed, and their lack of access to services and humanitarian aid and the difficulty of their integration into the host society and obtaining job opportunities lead to decline in confidence levels between women of the host community and returning women in Markadeh district.

Fifth: The impact of the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district on interaction and relations in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in the Markadeh district showed that customs and traditions have limited women's roles to raise children, do housework, work on agricultural lands, raise livestock, and the spread of the phenomenon of divorce. Differences in education levels between women in different areas clearly affect the interaction and relationships between women from different clans and regions in Markadeh district.

The difference in customs and traditions between the host community and the displaced women, the different levels of education, and discrimination, between women from the host community and displaced women, access to employment and work opportunities, unfair distribution for services and humanitarian assistance, also contribute to a decline in interaction and relationships between women from the host community and displaced women and this increases the difficulties of integrating the displaced women into the host society.

The returnees' homes having been robbed, and their deprivation of access to services due to their loss of the necessary legal identification documents and their marginalization during the distribution of humanitarian aid, lead to a decline in interaction and relations between women from host society and returnee women and increases the exclusion of returnee women and reduces their chances of integration with the host community.

Sixth: The impact of the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district on women in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed the deteriorating reality of women in Markadeh district increases the burden on women in the local community, as women are forced to make great efforts to provide basic needs for their families (bread, drinking water, collecting firewood for cooking and heating), and this exposes women to health problems where there is lack of services and health care, and this increases the rates of deprivation of girls from their right to education, and their marriage at an early age in order to let their families obtain money in light of the bad economic conditions, and the deterioration of the situation of women in Markadeh district leads to an increase of economic and psychological burdens on the most vulnerable women in the local community, including widows, separated women or divorced women, and women with disabilities, due to the lack of a breadwinner for them and their children, which forces women to make great efforts to support their families and provide their needs and the needs of their children.

The deteriorating situation of women in Markadeh district also affects displaced women and increases the poor economic situation for women and the difficulty of their integration into the host society, due to the customs and traditions in the host society and the suffering that

displaced women face to obtain job opportunities and livelihoods and secure their families' needs, and women's loss of identification documents also affects and makes it difficult for them to obtain services and humanitarian aid, and displaced women endure great difficulties in securing the basic needs of their families.

The deteriorating situation of women in Markadeh district affects returning women and increases the economic burdens on returning women due to their homes that have been robbed, and hinders their integration into the host community and their access to humanitarian services and aid. In addition, they face difficulties in obtaining job opportunities that help them improve their economic situation and meet the needs of their families.

Proposed Solutions to Improve the Reality of Women in Markadeh District:

Solutions proposed by community members to improve the reality of women in Markadeh district include:

- A.** Improving the medical sector in the region, increasing women's access to health care, and providing mobile clinics for women.
- B.** Enacting laws that limit early marriage for girls.
- C.** Enacting laws to ensure compulsory education for girls.
- D.** Educating women about their rights.
- E.** Providing literacy courses for women.
- F.** Providing vocational training programs for women and teaching them skills and professions that will help them obtain job opportunities.
- G.** Supporting economic projects for women (greenhouses, livestock, nursing, sewing).

Expected Results from the Solutions Proposed by Local Community Members :

- Strengthening the role and status of women in local society.
- Reducing conflicts and problems between spouses.
- Improving the living situation of women and helping them provide their families' needs.
- Increase awareness among women, increase women's self-confidence and enhance their effective participation.
- Reducing the economic burdens resulting from seeing doctors and medical centers in Al-Hasakeh Governorate.
- Developing women's skills and increasing their access to job opportunities.

Local community members in Markadeh district believe that the proposed solutions and their expected results can contribute remarkably in enhancing trust, interaction and relationships between women from the host community and displaced women and returnees. In addition, improve the roles and status of women in local society, improve the economic reality of women in the region, and reduce conflicts and problems, enhancing social cohesion in the region, and enhancing the roles and status of women in the local community.

Proposed Community Initiatives to Improve the Reality of Women in Markadeh District :

Community initiatives proposed by local community members in Markadeh district include:

- Providing literacy courses for women.
- Opening a vocational training center for women.
- Supporting small economic projects for women (greenhouses, livestock, sewing).

Proposed Recommendations to Improve the Reality of Women in Markadeh District :

- Supporting the health sector and providing mobile clinics that contribute to improving health care for women.
- Improving the reality of services in the region (bread, drinking water, heating materials).
- Enhancing opportunities for women's participation in economic projects implemented by non-governmental and non-profit organizations.



**The reality of job opportunities and
resources in Markadeh district and
its impact on economic reality and
social cohesion**



About the Participants in the Dialogue Sessions :

Members of the community committee in Markadeh district implemented four dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district the reality of Job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts and problems and levels of social cohesion in Markadeh district. The dialogue sessions were carried out in four villages, which is the center of **Markadeh city, Jana, Harir Hatem, Dashisha**, on **10/1/2024 and 11/1/2024**, where **80** participants participated in these sessions (including **12** participants of the members of the community committee in Markadeh district).

Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of Job Opportunities and resources in Markadeh District :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district indicate that 38.9 % of the participants are not at all satisfied with the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district, and 58.8 % of participants are dissatisfied with the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district, while 2.9 % of participants are neutral to the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district.

Location of dialogue sessions	Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of job opportunities and resources				
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied	Not very satisfied
Markadeh district center	0	0	0	10	7
Harir Hatem	0	0	1	9	7
Al-Dashisha	0	0	0	10	7
Jana	0	0	1	11	5
Total	0	0	2	40	26
Percentage	0 %	0 %	2.9 %	58.8 %	38.9 %

The reasons for the majority of participants feeling dissatisfied or not at all satisfied with the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district for several reasons, the most important of which are:

- Lack of job opportunities for those with academic degrees.
- Absence of support for small and medium economic projects.
- Lack of job opportunities for women to help them meet their basic needs.
- Scarcity of resources.
- The decline in economic reality and the spread of unemployment and poverty.

Stories and Lived Experiences about the Reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh District:

The results of the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district have showed that the stories and personal lived experiences narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district reflect the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district, as they clearly the impact of the lack of employment opportunities and resources on local community members, women and the most vulnerable women. This is evident in the difficulty

of obtaining job opportunities, the weak ability to provide the basic needs of families, and the lack of insufficient wages, and the lack of adequate and appropriate job opportunities for women. Below are some stories and lived experiences which have been narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions.



FDO
إمارة الفجيرة

“I am graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Arabic language. After my graduation, I could not get a job based on my educational attainment. Or any job opportunity that helps me provide the basic needs of my family, which forced me to travel in search for work and on my traveling way I have had a severe and permanent injury to my foot resulting from a mine blowing from war remnants, and I am now unable to obtain a job opportunity that helps me secure the basic needs of my family”




Male participant from the village of Dashisha

"I am a displaced person residing in this region. I do not have a stable job and rely on daily work to secure my family’s needs, but daily work is not stable and not guaranteed, and even if I get daily work, the wage I receive is not enough to secure my family’s basic needs"

Male participant from the village of Dashisha


"I have applied for a job in local administrations, and I was accepted, but on the condition that I travel to another region to attend training for a long time, I had to give up work because local customs do not accept women leaving the village alone for work, and currently I do not have a job that helps me meet my basic needs"

Female participant from the village of Al-Jana



FDO
إمارة الفجيرة

“My family and I suffer from very severe poverty and I cannot provide my family’s needs, as a result of the lack of job opportunities and my inability to get a job. I go to the popular market in Markadeh and collect leftovers of vegetables to satisfy my children’s hunger”



Female participant from Markadeh city center



“I am a fifty-year-old woman and I suffer from cancer. I used to go for treatment, but due to the lack of resources, job opportunities, poor living conditions, and extreme poverty, I stopped receiving treatment because I was unable to saving treatment costs, because my children do not have work to help them bear the costs of my treatment”



Female participant from Harir Hatem

"I am the widow, my husband passed away and I have four daughters, including a child with a disability, who have been unable to complete their education due to the lack of Job opportunities. We cannot secure our daily needs; we don't have any profession to work in and improve our economic situation"

Female participant from Harir Hatem

"Due to the lack of job opportunities in the region, my family and I traveled to northern Syria to work in cultivation of onion. The work continued for four months in very poor conditions, lacking accommodation, ill-treatment, and shortage of financial return. We wouldn't have to go through all this suffering if we were able to get work in our area"

Male participant from Markadeh city center



"I am a twenty-year-old young man. I couldn't complete my education because of the war. I searched a lot to obtain a job opportunity, but due to the lack of resources and the absence of empowerment and vocational training programs, I have been unable to master any profession or work but work in agricultural lands which face great challenges due to lack of resources and insufficient work in agriculture to meet basic needs"



Male participant from Harir Hatem

Understanding and Analyzing the Reality of Job Opportunities and Resources in Markadeh District :

The Global Café tool has been used to understand and analyze the reality of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts, problems, and levels of social cohesion. Through dialogue sessions with members of the local community, the following results have been reached:

First: The reasons for the emergence of the problem (lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district) :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district revealed the reasons for the lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district due to the impact of the war on the region and the loss of security, which prevents capital owners from contributing in investment in economic projects in the region. The drought of the Khabur River led to the decline of the agricultural sector and weak support for the agriculture and livestock sectors. In addition to the weakness of the expertise and capabilities of local community members that limits their ability to obtain job opportunities, weak support for small and medium economic enterprises, and lack of the availability of economic projects that contribute to providing job opportunities for unemployed youth and women. In addition, administrative weakness in managing qualified human resources in the region, lack of clarity of recruitment standards, weakness of transparency and equality in employment, and all of these reasons clearly affected the spread of unemployment as well as internal and external migration and the decline of the economic reality in the local community.

Second: The impact of the lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district on increasing the rates of conflicts in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that there are few job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district which cause significantly increase in the rates of conflicts and problems in the local community, and these conflicts result from the shortage of employment opportunities, unequal opportunities, lack of clarity in employment standards, discrimination in granting jobs, and problems as a result of irrigation turns of agricultural lands.

Third: Local actors in the problem of the lack of job opportunities and resources:

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that local administrations and capital owners in Markadeh district directly affecting the lack of job opportunities and resources as a result of the reluctance of capitalists to invest and open economic projects in the region, and the local administrations not adopting clear and equal standards in employment processes, and the lack of plans that ensure the provision of more job opportunities for the local community and reduce unemployment, and this directly affects women, the most vulnerable women from the host community, displaced women, and returnees through increasing unemployment rates in the local community and the inability of holders of academic degrees to obtain jobs and not supporting young people's ability to obtain job opportunities that help them build families and secure their basic needs and the needs of their families, the lack of suitable and appropriate job opportunities for women, and the inability of the most vulnerable women to provide their basic needs to support their families.

Fourth: The impact of the lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district on confidence in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that discrimination and inequality among people from different regions and clans in obtaining jobs, lack of clarity in employment standards, and lack of economic empowerment projects and livelihood support, lack of resources and their lack of optimal use, and conflicts resulting from access on water sources lead to a decline in trust levels among members of the local community from different clans, which causes increase in conflicts and problems between members of the local community and local administrations, these conflicts are directly reflected on the economic reality in Markadeh district.

It also leads to inequality between the local community and the displaced in access to employment opportunities, jobs and grant the host community the priority to receive, as trust between the displaced and the host community declines, and exclusion of returnees can lead to obtain work and employment opportunities, and give priority to the host community in obtaining them. Most returnees lose the identification documents that help them obtain job opportunities, and discrimination in obtaining resources leads to a decline in trust between returnees and the local community and limits their integration into the host community.

Fifth: The impact of the lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district on interaction and relations in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that there is inequality among the people of the regions of different clans to have access to work and employment opportunities, disparities in educational attainment, and competition for few resources and the limited employment opportunities directly affect the interaction and relations between members of the local community of the different clans and areas in Markadeh.

The lack of integration of displaced people into the labor market, their lack of access to work and employment opportunities, and not allowing displaced people to open economic projects or invest in the agricultural sector, and inequality among members of the host society and IDPs' access to resources contributes to a decline in interaction and relations between the IDPs and the host community. Eventually it leads to a decline in social cohesion.

Also the lack of integration of returnees into the labor market, and their inability to obtain jobs and employment opportunities as a result of their loss of their identification papers, the robbing of returnees' homes, and their bearing additional burdens for providing basic necessities for their homes, and the lack of professions and capabilities among returnees to obtain work in local administrations or private work , lead to a decline in interaction and relations between returnees and the host community and increases the difficulty of returnees' integration into the host society.

Sixth: The impact of the lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district on women in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that few job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district, increases the burden on women in the local community, as women are forced to make great efforts to provide their basic needs for their families (bread, drinking water, collecting firewood for cooking and heating), and limits the status and roles of women in local society, hinders the integration of women into the labor market. The lack of job opportunities and resources also affects the most vulnerable women in the local community as a result of the inability of women who support

their families to provide basic needs for themselves and their families, the spread of begging phenomenon, and women are forced to migrate in order to obtain work opportunities, and women did not have professions that helps them provide themselves and their families' basic needs.

The lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district also affects displaced women, and the poor economic reality increases the suffering of displaced women and their difficulty integrating into the host society, their inability to provide basic needs for themselves and their families. They lack a sense of stability and their ability to improve their economic reality and overcome the negative consequences of displacement, and the discrimination between the host community women and displaced women to have access to job opportunities.

The lack of job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district affects returning women and increases the economic and psychological burdens on returnee women and their integration into the host society is hampered due to the difficulty of women obtaining work opportunities and the need of women to rebuild their homes.

Proposed Solutions to Improve the Reality of Job Opportunities and Resources in Markadeh District:

Solutions proposed by local community members to improve job opportunities and resources in Markadeh district include:

Resources optimization:

- A.** Building of dams on the course of the Khabur River to improve the agricultural situation in the region and provide job opportunities in the agricultural sector.
- B.** Supporting the agriculture and livestock sectors.
- C.** Supporting farmers with greenhouses, solar panels, fodder, and fertilizers.

Increase of job opportunities:

- A.** Support small and medium economic projects.
- B.** Providing more job opportunities in local administrations and service institutions, and employment based on competency.
- C.** Providing vocational training programs for youth and women.
- D.** Raising the wages of workers so that they are able to provide the basic needs of their families.
- E.** Conduct training in sewing, nursing, and computer skills for women to increase their access to employment.
- F.** Encouraging capitalists to open economic projects in the region.
- G.** Activating the role of unions in the region to enhance the local community's ability to communicate their needs and demands for decision-making centers.

Expected Results from the Solutions Proposed by Local Community Members :

- Reducing internal and external migration.
- Reducing unemployment rates in the local community.
- Eliminating the phenomenon of begging among women and children.
- Supporting stability and reducing levels of conflicts and problems.
- Promoting the effective participation of women and improving their access to work.
- Promoting community awareness about the role and status of women.
- Improving the standard of living and enhancing the ability of community members to provide basic needs.

- Ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in managing local resources.
- Promoting modern agricultural practices such as clean energy and modern irrigation.

Local community members in Markadeh district believe that the proposed solutions and their expected results can contribute remarkably in enhancing trust, interaction, and relations between the host community, the displaced, and the returnees, in addition to improving the roles and status of women in the local community, improving the economic reality in the region, and reducing conflicts and problems, enhancing social cohesion in the region, and enhancing the integration of displaced people and returnees into the host society.

Proposed Community Initiatives to Improve the Reality of Job Opportunities and Resources in Markadeh District :

Community initiatives proposed by local community members in Markadeh district include:

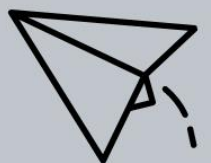
- Providing literacy courses for women.
- Providing vocational training programs for youth and women to enhance their access to employment opportunities.
- Providing capacity building programs for youth and women to enhance their access to jobs.
- Establishing social solidarity funds to help the most vulnerable women and people with disabilities.

Proposed Recommendations to Improve the Reality of Job Opportunities and Resources in Markadeh District :

- Supporting small and medium economic projects.
- Providing economic empowerment and livelihood support projects.
- Commitment to transparency, fairness and equality in employment procedures in local administrations.
- Increase support for the agricultural sector and support farmers.



**The reality of the practices of non-
governmental organizations in
Markadeh district and its impact on
rates of social cohesion**



About the Participants in the Dialogue Sessions :

Members of the community committee in Markadeh district implemented four dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district about the reality of the practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts and problems and levels of social cohesion in Markadeh district. The dialogue sessions were carried out in four villages, which is the center of **Markadeh city, Kishkish Jobour, Jana, and Harir Hatem**, on **15/1/2024 and 16/1/2024**, where **80** participants participated in these sessions (including **12** participants of the members of the community committee in Markadeh district).

Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of the NGOs 'practices in Markadeh District :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district indicate that 38.9 % of the participants are not at all satisfied with the reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh district, and 58.8 % of participants are dissatisfied with the reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh district, while 2.9 % of participants are neutral to the reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh district.

Location of dialogue sessions	Analysis of the Spectrum of Feelings about the Reality of the NGOs 'practices				
	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied	Not very satisfied
Markadeh district center	0	0	0	15	2
Harir Hatem	0	0	0	10	7
Al-Dashisha	0	0	0	12	5
Jana	0	0	0	8	9
Total	0	0	2	40	26
Percentage	0 %	0 %	0 %	55.8 %	44.2 %

The reasons for the majority of participants feeling dissatisfied or not at all satisfied with the reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh district for several reasons, the most important of which are:

- Inability of NGOs to meet local needs.
- Random targeting of beneficiaries without conducting an in-depth stakeholder analysis.
- Opaque and unfair recruitment processes
- Unfair distribution of humanitarian aid, and failure to rely on clear criteria to determine beneficiaries.
- Marginalization and exclusion of groups from the local community.
- Weak inclusion of women and the most vulnerable women in economic empowerment projects.
- Weak inclusion of displaced persons and returnees in economic empowerment projects.

Stories and Lived Experiences about the Reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh District:

The results of the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district have showed that the stories and personal lived experiences narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions in Markadeh district reflect the reality of negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district, as they clearly indicate the impact of negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations on trust, relationships and interaction between community members, levels of conflicts, and limiting the roles and status of women in the local society. Below are some stories and lived experiences which have been narrated by the participants during the dialogue sessions.



“We have tried many times to highlight the reality of our region and our need for humanitarian aids and economic projects by non-governmental organizations operating in Al-Hasakeh Governorate, but this did not achieve what was required, and the number of operating organizations is still very few in our region and not enough to meet the needs”



Male participant from Markadeh city center

"I am a young man with a university degree, and I have nearly ten years of administrative work experience, and I speak English well, and I am good at working with computer programs. I am unemployed now. I have sent my CV to all the organizations that have requested job opportunities through social media platforms, but in vain and I did not receive any response"

Male participant from Markadeh city center

"I am a widow who heads a family of five people. An organization distributed greenhouses to support agriculture in the region, I obtained a shared greenhouse between me and other four beneficiaries, and this is not enough to meet the essential needs for my family"

Female participant from the village of Al-Jana



“I am displaced in the village. I got a plastic green house for agriculture. The owner of the house I live in called me and said that the greenhouse I received came for house and is not mine and I have no right to use it and it must remain at house, which caused a dispute between me and the owner of the house, and I was unable to take my right out of the greenhouse to provide my family's basic needs”



Female participant from the village of Al-Jana



"I am the father of a family of 14 members, and my house was demolished, like the rest of the houses in the village. An organization came to the village and some beneficiaries were registered without announcing the registration or clarifying the criteria, and we did not know about the existence of the organization until later distribution operations, and I also learned that there was a person who was taking a sum of money from the people in order to register them in the organization"



Male participant from the village of Kishkish Jobour

"My village was almost completely destroyed due to the war in the region. An organization came to the village to record data of those affected, and unfortunately the data of the relatives of those responsible were recorded; however, those highly affected weren't registered. Consequently, some homeowners were helped without clear criteria, and the rest of the homeowners in the village were marginalized despite the fact that their homes were completely destroyed"

Male participant from the village of Kishkish Jobour

"I am a woman who is the breadwinner for my family, and my financial and psychological condition is very deteriorating due to my inability to provide the basic needs for my children. Meanwhile, an organization came to the village, and I did not hear about its arrival like many members of the local community, and I did not benefit from the aids distributed, despite my dire need for it, where aids were distributed in a non-transparent manner and according to unclear and unfair criteria, which negatively affected the relations between members of the local community"

Female participant from Harir Hatem village



"An organization came to distribute fodder in the village, and because of the unfair distribution, part of my share was deducted for my cousin, and the matter didn't end here. Rather, a big problem arose between me and my brother, and the matter reached a major dispute between us. Had it not been alleviated without the intervention of the notables in the village, the results would have reached negative results with undesirable consequences, and the estrangement between me and my brother continues to this day due to the unfair and non-transparent distribution of aids"



Male participant from Harir Hatem village

Understanding and Analyzing the Reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh District :

The Global Café tool has been used to understand and analyze the reality of the NGOs practices in Markadeh district and their impact on the rates of conflicts, problems, and levels of social cohesion. Through dialogue sessions with members of the local community, the following results have been reached:

First: The reasons for the emergence of the problem (negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district) :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district revealed the reasons for negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district due to the small number of non-governmental organizations operating in the region, the projects presented do not take into account the needs of local community members and weak inclusion of the needs of women and the most vulnerable women in needs monitoring processes, weak inclusion of the needs of returnees and displaced people in needs monitoring processes, and the scarcity of involving local community members in identifying the most priority projects for the local community. In addition to the lack of community awareness about the mechanisms of the work of non-governmental organizations, discrimination and lack of equality during distribution of humanitarian aid, marginalization and exclusion of displaced people and returnees, and the absence of clear, transparent and announced standards to choose beneficiaries of projects and humanitarian aids, and poor coordination between non-governmental organizations and individuals of the local community in order to ensure fair distribution of aid, and all of these reasons clearly affected trust, relationships and interaction between community members and non-governmental and non-profit organizations.

Second: The impact of the NGOs negative practices in Markadeh district on increasing the rates of conflicts in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the negative practices of the organizations are not- governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district greatly increases the rates of conflicts and problems in local society. These conflicts result from the unfair distribution of humanitarian aids and unclear criteria of selecting projects' beneficiaries, and conflict over jobs among members of the local community.

Third: Local actors in the problem of the NGOs negative practices:

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that non-governmental and non-profit organizations. Some of their employees, and relevant local administrations directly influence negative practices of non-governmental organizations as a result of unfair distribution, lack of transparency and equality, and the inability of non-governmental organizations to meet local needs, and weak oversight of some employees who give priority to their relatives to have access to humanitarian aids, opportunities to register and participate in projects, and weak accountability and oversight of the relevant local administrations over the work of non-governmental organizations that implement their projects in the region, and this directly affects members of the local community, women and the most vulnerable women, displaced people and returnees by limiting their ability to have equitable access to humanitarian aids and opportunities to participate in economic empowerment projects and livelihood support, as a result of the unequal distribution, marginalization and exclusion of some groups in the local community.

Fourth: The impact of the NGOs negative practices in Markadeh district on confidence in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district made it clear that discrimination and inequality among people of different regions and clans to obtain humanitarian aids and benefit from economic empowerment projects, supporting livelihoods, unequal distribution, exclusion and marginalization of some groups in the local community leads to a decline in trust levels between members of the local community from different clans and causes an increase of conflicts and problems between individuals of local community.

Also, discrimination and inequality between the host community and displaced people in obtaining humanitarian aids, giving priority to the host community, and not focusing on meeting the needs of the displaced, leads to a decline in confidence among the displaced and the host community.

Also, the marginalization and exclusion of returnees from obtaining aids and participating in projects as a result of their loss of their identification papers, not including the needs of returnees, and the weakness of their involvement in projects of economic empowerment and livelihood support, lead to a decline in trust between returnees and the local community and limiting their integration in the host community.

Fifth: The impact of the NGOs negative practices in Markadeh district on interaction and relations in the local community :

The results of dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district revealed that unfair distribution of humanitarian aids, the bias of some employees towards their relatives and villages, and the inequality between different regions in implementation of the projects directly affect the interaction and relationships between community members from different clans and regions in Markadeh district.

Deprivation of displaced people of their right to receive humanitarian aids and participate in projects, access to jobs, discrimination between the host community and displaced people, and unequal distribution of humanitarian aids contribute to the decline of interaction and relations between the displaced people and the host community and the limitation of the integration of the displaced people into the host society.

The marginalization and exclusion of returnees from obtaining humanitarian aids, participating in projects, and obtaining jobs, discrimination between the host community and returnees, and failure to meet the needs of returnees and the exposure of their homes to theft lead to a decline in interaction and relations between the host community and the returnees and increases the challenges facing them and impedes the integration of returnees into the host society.

Sixth: The impact of the NGOs negative practices in Markadeh district on women in the local community :

The results of the dialogue sessions with members of the local community in Markadeh district showed that the negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations in Markadeh district that contributes to the weak effective participation of women, not including women's needs and demands, lack of interest in projects to support and empower women, weak support for small economic projects for women, in addition to increasing the burden on women to provide basic needs for themselves and their families, negative practices of non-governmental organizations also affect the most vulnerable women in local society, as they contribute to the marginalization and exclusion of women; the most vulnerable women, weak inclusion and integration of the most vulnerable women into projects, and increase burdens on

them to provide their needs in addition to the spread of the phenomenon of begging among women and the most vulnerable women, who are desperate to meet their needs and the basic needs of their families.

The negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations also affect displaced women, as they contribute to not include the needs and demands of displaced women and work to meet them, their weak participation in projects, and deprivation of displaced women to obtain their right to receive humanitarian aids, and limiting the integration of displaced women into the host society.

Negative practices of non-governmental and non-profit organizations affect returnee women where they contribute to marginalization and exclusion of returnee women, failure to include the needs and demands of returnees and work to meet them, inability of returnee women to obtain humanitarian aids due to the loss of identification papers, the returnee women bear additional burdens in order to provide the basic needs of their families, and they increase the psychological burdens on returnee women and limit their integration into the host society.

Proposed Solutions to Improve the Reality of the NGOs Practices in Markadeh District:

Solutions proposed by local community members to improve the NGOs practices in Markadeh district include:

- A.** Urging non-governmental and non-profit organizations to work and implement projects in the region.
- B.** Ensure fair distribution of aids based on transparency and clear standards.
- C.** Form a community committee of local community members to monitor and supervise the distribution of humanitarian aids.
- D.** Establishing local volunteering initiatives that evaluate and monitor local needs and priorities for intervention and share its reports with non-governmental and non-profit organizations.
- E.** Taking into account and meeting local needs and reducing conflicts resulting from the unfair distribution of humanitarian aids.
- F.** Reducing the exclusion and marginalization of displaced people, returnees, women, and the most vulnerable women in the local community.
- G.** Enhancing social cohesion between the host community, displaced people, and returnees.
- H.** Deepening local community awareness about the mechanisms of the work of non-governmental and non-profit organizations.

Expected Results from the Solutions Proposed by Local Community Members :

- Strengthening social cohesion between the host community, displaced people, and returnees.
- Increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of projects implemented by non-governmental and non-profit organizations in the region.
- Enhancing the transparency of non-governmental and non-profit organizations.
- Meeting local needs, including the needs of displaced people, returnees, and the most vulnerable women in the local community.

- Include the needs of displaced people and returnees in local response and development plans.
- Including and promoting the participation of women and the most vulnerable women in projects.
- Ensuring fair distribution based on accountability, transparency, and clear and fair standards.
- Reducing conflicts and problems resulting from the unfair distribution of humanitarian aid.
- Improving the economic reality in the region and supporting livelihoods.

Proposed Community Initiatives to Improve the Reality of the NGOs Practices in Markadeh District :

Community initiatives proposed by local community members in Markadeh district include:

- Form a community committee to monitor and supervise humanitarian aid distribution operations and ensure fair distribution in the local community.
- Establish community initiatives to monitor and evaluate local needs and assist non-governmental organizations to determine intervention priorities.

Proposed Recommendations to Improve the Reality of the NGOs Practices in Markadeh District :

- Providing vocational training programs in the region.
- Support and provide economic empowerment and livelihood support projects.
- Providing a safe and appropriate environment for the work of organizations in the region.

