

Syrian Society for Social Development

Report on Covid-19 Response from 3/13/2020 to 8/31/2020

In response to COVID-19, and in line with the WHO Strategic Plan, and Ministry of health supervision, the Syrian Society for Social Development (SSSD) has implemented several infection prevention and control (IPC) and awareness raising activities, and targeted all groups including older persons, persons with specific needs, women, children, adolescents, and men, serving almost 2 million beneficiaries.

During the reporting period, covid-19 activities included the following:

Sterilization campaigns, which included sterilizing public places and facilities_ such as public ovens, clinics, hospitals, schools, examination centers, pharmacies, barber shops, markets, places of worship, public transportation ...

Awareness campaigns and sessions, which comprised:

- Online awareness sessions and campaigns through social media (Facebook and WhatsApp groups), phone calls, and text messages.
- Awareness activities at public and gathering places, including distributing brochures, putting up posters, and marking the safety distance in order to maintain safety space while in queues at gathering places.

Distributing hygiene kits, especially to older persons, PwSNs, female-headed households, and families in poor financial situation. These kits included face masks, gloves, disinfectants, detergents, and sometimes thermometers.

Medical in-kind Assistance through distributing medical supplies/equipment to people infected with covid-19, and those susceptible to covid-19 infection, and included nebulizers, oximeters, elderly diapers, urinary catheters, glucose devices/strips, and wheelchairs.

Rehabilitating an isolation center, whereby activities included removing the rubble, disinfection, and furnishing/equipping the place which was adopted by MOH as an isolation center.

Community-led initiatives (CLI), including making detergents, disinfectants, and face masks, and distributing the latter to families in need. Additionally, oxygen cylinders were distributed to patients in need.

Capacity building, through conducting covid-19 related trainings/sessions to staff, volunteers and health workers.

As for the areas targeted, SSSD intervened in the following governorates:

- **Damascus and Rural Damascus:** The number of beneficiaries was 563,919. Activities implemented included the distribution of 204 hygiene kits, distributing 15 medical equipment/supplies, assisting in

the sterilization of gathering areas and public places, online awareness raising on COVID-19, and carrying out 16 CLIs. Also, a blood donation campaign was implemented in Damascus for children with Thalassemia. Furthermore, sterilization campaigns and awareness raising sessions were conducted at the Khaled Ibn Al-Waleed Center for Juvenile Delinquents, and 15 oxygen cylinders were distributed in Rural Damascus (Hameh, Jaramana and Saydeh Zaynab).

- **Daraa and Sweida:** 264,404 beneficiaries were served from various activities. The major activities included distributing 100 hygiene kits, implementing sterilization campaigns, distributing brochures, online awareness-raising activities, and conducting 4 CLIs.
- **Deir Ezzor:** Main activities included distributing 100 hygiene kits, each kit serving one family, and online awareness sessions. Furthermore, the total number of beneficiaries was 5111.
- **Hassakeh/Qamishli:** The main activities were conducting 11 CLIs, and sterilization campaigns at public institutions and centers, whereby awareness brochures were also distributed in the process. Also, 240 hygiene kits were distributed to female survivors, including girls, women, and elderly females, in addition to distributing 150 hygiene kits to families in the Arisheh camp, and 150 hygiene kits to families in Qamishli. Furthermore, the total number of beneficiaries reached 242,750.
- **Hama:** Activities in Hama mainly focused on awareness raising through distributing brochures and online awareness sessions, sterilization campaigns at public institutions and centers, distributing 64 medical supplies/equipment, and implementing 15 CLIs. Also, an isolation center was prepared and rehabilitated, and 425 hygiene kits were distributed to women. Furthermore, the number of beneficiaries reached 260,940.
- **Homs:** The total number of beneficiaries was 307,045. The main activities included sterilization campaigns and distributing awareness brochures, conducting online awareness activities, distributing 118 medical supplies/equipment, and implementing 10 CLIs.
- **Tartous:** The main activities in Tartous included implementing one CLI, assisting in sterilization and awareness campaigns at gathering public places, distributing 60 hygiene kits, and spreading awareness through awareness videos and follow-up calls in order to reach illiterate groups, older persons, women and children. Furthermore, the total number of beneficiaries reached 155,178.
- **Aleppo:** Main activities included implementing sterilization campaigns, assisting in sterilizing public places, distributing 210 hygiene kits, ongoing communication with the elderly and persons with specific needs, and implementing 12 CLIs. Furthermore, the number of beneficiaries reached 185,803.
- **Idleb:** Main activities included cleaning and sterilization campaigns at public places, and conducting 2 CLIs, with a total number of 7000 beneficiaries.