

Annual Report 2016

A Message from Ihsan's Team

The **humanitarian response** inside Syria remains one of the most complex challenges faced by Syrian Civil Society Organizations in particular, and the international community in general. The rapid changes in the Syrian situation demands **commitment** and **collective efforts** to **provide timely** and **needs-based services** to the **most vulnerable people inside Syria**.

The year of **2016** was a year of remarkable growth, which required **increasing our team** in Syria to exceed **750 member**, women and men, to support our programs in **Aleppo**, **Idleb**, **Hama**, **Lattakia and Dar'a**, as well as hard to reach and besieged areas such as **Rural Damascus** and **Homs**.

Ihsan expanded its partners to include many **UN agencies** and **international NGOs**, the end of **2016** was crowned with a distinctive partnership with **King Salman Humanitarian and Relief Center.** In 2016 Ihsan managed to reach over **3 million beneficiaries** in Syria, through its specialized projects in **Women** and **Child Protection, WASH, Agricultural Programs, Food Security, Education** and others.

Our hope and energy remain strong, and we are striving in **2017** to **increase** and **enrich our development programming** to empower individuals and the community as a whole, and reach the **highest quality** of work in **accordance with international standards** to alleviate the suffering of our people in Syria.

Baraa Al-Smoudi Executive Director

About Ihsan

- Established in July 2013 in Gaziantep, Turkey.
- Service-oriented organization with development goals.
- Focuses on providing a better life for Syrians through economic and social development, and to strengthen
 the institutional and professional services within Syrian society.

Our Vision

To become the most efficient, transparent, functional and responsive Syrian service-oriented organization that improves the lives of Syrians through relief, recovery and development initiatives.

Our Mission

To provide Syrians with much-needed services that focus on alleviating suffering, and fostering economic/social development, support a vibrant Civil Society, and build the capacity of Local Councils.

Ihsan Departments



How We Work

Needs Based

Our approach to programs is one that is built on listening to the **local communities** and **their needs** because we ultimately believe that community ownership is key. Ihsan's MEAL department leads on identifying community needs through various assessment tools including key **informant interviews**, focus **group discussions** and sample surveys.

Strong Program Design

The next step is ensuring a strong program design whereby the Programs Departments **takes the identified gaps** and creates a program that aims to **address the root causes** of these needs. Key community leaders and local councils are often consulted at this stage in order to **better understand** the feasibility of such programming.

Quality Implementation

Programs are most often implemented through Ihsan's field staff located throughout the 8 offices in Syria. Since the establishment of the organization, Ihsan has placed a concerted effort in **building the capacity of all staff**, including those on the front line. The experience of the staff has contributed to their ability to **implement programs with high quality**, ensuring the integration of key stakeholders and in line with humanitarian principles.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning

A key function in the organization stems from our MEAL department, which remains independent of our Programs department. Through this function, we are able to **monitor the outputs of programs** and **measure the impact** of programs throughout baseline and end lines assessments. This department also provides **access to beneficiaries to provide their feedback** and complaints so that we can be sure that their needs are met. Finally, our MEAL department allows lhsan to **take lessons learned from previous projects** and apply them moving forward in order to strengthen our future programming.

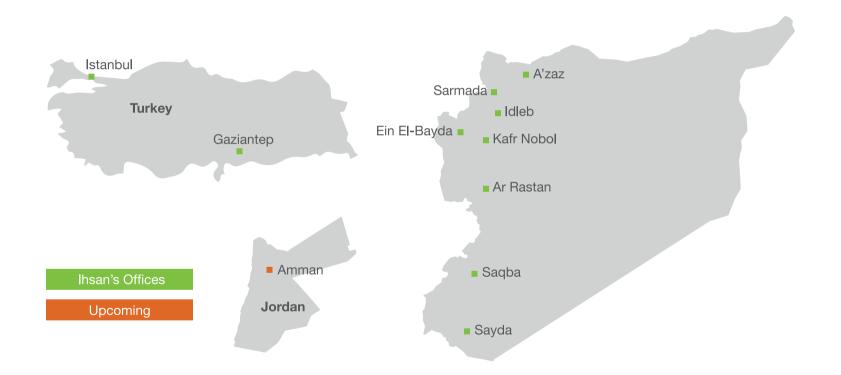
Institutional Support

Ihsan works to support Local Councils and Civil Society Organizations by implementing joint projects, programs, and workshops.

Ihsan currently implements five programs including:



Where We Work



Ihsan Accomplishments in 2016

\$34,635,039	Total Value of Projects and Ongoing Contracts
\$24,248,650	Total Value of Projects in 2016
\$10,386,389	Total Value of Contracts Signed in 2016 and Started Implementation at the End of 2016
3,061,900	Total Number of Beneficiaries
52	Total Number of Implemented Projects

Support by Program & Total Number of Beneficiaries

Total Support by Program		Total Number of Beneficiaries
Food Security & Livelihoods	70%	2,290,780
NFI/Shelter	12%	82,539
WASH	10%	475,000
Protection	5%	139,913
Education	3%	73,668





Beneficiaries

2,290,780

The program focuses on two main tracks, Relief and Early Development. Ihsan projects this year were implemented in **Aleppo, Idleb, Rural Homs and Rural Damascus**.

Relief

In 2016, the humanitarian community witnessed a major increase in violence which forced hundreds of thousands out of their homes. Ihsan field staff was able to quickly **identify needs** and **respond** in a timely manner through the **distribution of ready to eat rations, support to bakeries** for bread and **food baskets distribution.** Ihsan regular relief programming included **monthly food baskets** distribution to the most vulnerable families in Idleb and Aleppo.

Early Development

In addition to the **raw materials** needed to continue farming. Beneficiaries were provided **trainings on GAPs** so as to increase the impact of the assistance provided. This includes the introduction of **new agricultural technologies** such as **"intercropping"**, which took advantage of the vast lands between the olive groves that were left untouched by local communities. Ihsan also conducted its first **cash-based programming** whereby the most vulnerable households were selected for cash-for-work activities. In this program, households conducted rehabilitation of community assets in exchange for cash.





This year, the program focused mainly on providing life-saving assistance to families fleeing violence as well as timely winterization support. Projects were implemented in **Idleb** and **Aleppo.**

As families in Syria are often forced to flee their homes multiple times, access to **basic non-food items** remains a major need all over Syria. In order to respond to these needs this year, Ihsan provided non-food items such as **blankets**, **solar lamps** and **mattresses** to the most vulnerable households who are often found to be living in dire conditions. In responding to the displacements in Aleppo, Ihsan also provided families with **tents** and **prepared collective centers in order to receive children, women** and **men** who had nowhere to go. Finally, Ihsan also distributed both **winter kits** as well as **clothing** through **in-kind** and **voucher methodologies**, allowing beneficiaries to identify what their needs are and have the ability to meet them.





Beneficiaries	475,000
Water Networks	12
Sewage Systems	4

In **2016,** Ihsan significantly increased WASH programming in Northern Syria focusing on complete rehabilitation of water networks and sewage systems. Projects were implemented in **Aleppo** and **Idleb** governorates.

The rehabilitation activities included:

- Installation of needed materials such as generators and pumps.
- Rehabilitation of water storage units.
- Rehabilitation of networks that have been destroyed due to the conflict.
- Supporting the provision of operation and maintenance to the WASH units within local councils (incentives, tool kits, fuel and chlorine).
- Providing 2,891 hygiene kits to IDPs from Aleppo.

Technical trainings were also provided to increase the capacity of the WASH units which includes training on the **establishment of cost-recovery systems.** This enables communities to continue the operation of the water system even after the withdrawal of Ihsan by collecting fees from the households.





In **2016,** the program focused on delivering programs in child protection and **GBV** sectors. The projects were implemented in **Aleppo, Rural Homs and Rural Damascus.**

Child Protection

Ihsan expanded the reach and **quality of child protection programming** in Syria through the establishment of new centers in Rural Damascus and Rural Homs, in addition to the already established center in Aleppo. These centers provided **recreational psychosocial support**, **structured psychosocial support** and **case management services** to conflict-affected boys and girls. Ihsan mobile units also traveled throughout each area of operation to **reach children in schools, mosques, collective centers** and **camps** to provide them with recreational psychosocial support as well.

Gender-Based Violence

Ihsan delivered GBV services through safe spaces in Aleppo City, Rural Damascus and Rural Homs. These spaces enabled an **environment** where **women** and **girls** were able to **access psychosocial support, vocational training opportunities** and a space for women within the community to come together. As a result of these spaces, women have been able to **access employment opportunities** in places such as clinics, hospitals and organizations.





Women & Girls Safe Spaces



Child Friendly Spaces





Beneficiaries 73,668

Number of Supported Schools

11

In **2016,** Ihsan focused on increasing both the access and **quality of education in Northern Syria.** Education projects were conducted in Aleppo governorate.

One of the most eye-opening gaps in the humanitarian response in Syria is education, for both children and youth. For that reason, Ihsan focused on **scaling up education activities** in order to reach more children with better services.

Ihsan's education projects provided:

- Material resources to deliver education.
- **Technical support** to school teachers and management.
- Teachers and students' kits, as well as incentives for teachers.
- Rehabilitation of schools, in addition to heaters and fuel in winter.
- Trainings on "Education in Emergencies" and awareness sessions on "Remnants of War" in line with international standards.
- Small vocational training centers within traditional school spaces, to develop the skills of youth boys and girls and enable them to smoothly join the job markets.



Partnerships















































Ihsan Accomplishments since Establishment through 2016

\$75,375,170	Total Value of Implemented Projects
17,273,981	Total Number of Servecies Provided to Beneficiaries
273	Total Number of Implemented Projects



2016 Financial Report

\$34,635,039	Total Value of Projects: both Implemented and Under Implementation
\$24,248,650	Total Value of Projects in 2016
\$1,618,248	Total Payroll and Expenses
6.7%	Administrative Costs





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