


Grant recipient:	Rezan Organization For Development, Erbil, Iraq	
Project title:	Further assistance through winterization to conflict-affected population in Mosul, Ninewa Governorate.	
Project code:	Donor: 319.000-022/19E , internal IRQ-DIOC_009	
Grant period:	2 months	
Total funding:	25,410 Euros	
Reporting period:	1/Dec/2023- 15/Feb/2024 (2.5 months)	
Date of Report:	28-Feb-2024	



PROJECT FINAL REPORT

Summary of key achievements:

Rezan Organization for Development, in collaboration with local authorities, churches, and community leaders in Mosul and Telkif cities, undertook a comprehensive initiative to address the urgent needs of vulnerable populations affected by displacement and poverty. Through meticulous field assessments and

close coordination with stakeholders, the organization identified and prioritized individuals and families facing severe hardships, particularly in the harsh winter conditions.

1. Implementation of the project measures, achievement of the indicators in the reporting period

Rezan Organization initiated the project by engaging with local authorities, churches, and community leaders to gain insights into the pressing needs of vulnerable populations. Field visits to various unfinished shelters, including homes and buildings, underscored the dire circumstances faced by those who had lost their homes and livelihoods. Many families were living in extreme poverty, lacking even basic necessities such as adequate bedding.

In response to these findings, Rezan Organization made the decision to procure essential winterization items. These items, consisting of two blankets, two sponge beds, and one kerosene heater per household, were identified as critical for alleviating the suffering of vulnerable individuals and families enduring the harsh winter conditions.

Description of project activities and reporting against log frame:

Project Outcome: 120 most vulnerable returnee families (720 individuals) basic seasonal needs are met and addressed through provision of winterisation items.

Activity 1.1.1 Needs assessment and beneficiary identification.

Rezan Organization conducted comprehensive needs assessments in collaboration with local authorities, churches, and community leaders to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by vulnerable populations. Field visits to unfinished shelters provided firsthand insights into the urgent needs for shelter, warmth, and basic necessities.

Vulnerability Assessment: In coordination with local leaders and churches, Rezan Organization conducted a thorough vulnerability assessment to identify and prioritize individuals and families most in need of assistance. This process involved visiting different neighborhoods and registering vulnerable individuals based on predefined criteria.

Activity 1.1.2 Procurement of winterization items.

The organization undertook the procurement of essential winterization items, which were sourced locally from the market in Mosul, ensuring timely acquisition and supporting the local economy. The procurement process involved careful selection of high-quality blankets, sponge mattresses, and kerosene heaters, considering both effectiveness and affordability. By procuring items from the local market, Rezan Organization not only addressed immediate needs but also contributed to local economic stability.

Activity 1.1.3 Distribution and training.

Beginning in February 2024, Rezan Organization commenced the distribution of winterization items to the identified beneficiaries. The selection process, guided by the vulnerability assessment results, ensured that assistance reached those facing the most severe hardships.

To ensure an organized and equitable distribution process, Rezan Organization collaborated closely with community leaders and invited them to the distribution site. The Distribution events were carefully organized to facilitate a systematic and fair allocation of winterization items to the identified beneficiaries.

In addition to the distribution of winterization items, Rezan Organization conducted an awareness session for the beneficiaries. The session covered various topics essential for winter safety and well-being, including: proper use of winterization items, winter safety measures and risk awareness.

Coordination

The project adopted a coordinated approach for the implementation of activities. For the identification of beneficiaries, the implementing team sought assistance from different stakeholders including community leaders, local NGOs and International NGOs and churches. Security forces were the key stakeholders who were consulted for the referrals/ identification of beneficiaries and to obtain NOC (No Objection Certificate) and approval to implement activities in the area.

Challenges

1. **Currency Fluctuations and Rising Costs:** The fluctuations in the prices and exchange rate of the US dollar against the Iraqi dinar pose significant challenges for purchasing the items. As the value of the Iraqi dinar fluctuates, the cost of imported goods, often priced in USD, becomes unpredictable. This instability results in goods becoming more expensive for shop owners, impacting our purchase planning time and quantity.
2. **Delays in Project Funding:** The bureaucratic banking processes in Iraq often result in delays in receiving project funds. These delays hinder the timely execution of projects, leading to increased costs, missed deadlines, and frustrated stakeholders. Businesses and organizations relying on project funding face challenges in planning and executing their initiatives effectively due to these delays of the banks.

Lessons learnt

1. Importance of community engagement and participation in project planning and implementation
2. The need for training and awareness programs to maximize the impact of humanitarian assistance.
3. The significance of sustainability and long-term planning in addressing the needs of vulnerable populations in post-conflict settings.

Sustainability

Sustainability was prioritized in the selection of winterization items. Extensive consultations were conducted with over 150 families, local leaders, and religious leaders to understand the specific needs and requirements of the local population. This participatory approach ensured that the purchased items were tailored to address the most pressing challenges faced by vulnerable families in the community.

By engaging with stakeholders and incorporating local perspectives, Rezan Organization ensured that the project's interventions were not only effective but also sustainable in the long term.