



# EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis, the Madad Fund

## الصندوق الائتماني الإقليمي للاتحاد الأوروبي للاستجابة للأزمة السورية (مدد)

The conflict erupted in Syria in 2011 has driven one the largest refugee crisis in the world. Today, following the collapse of the Assad government in early December 2024, more than **4 million registered Syrian refugees** continues to live in neighbouring countries [UNHCR: March 2025]. Beyond the enduring humanitarian emergency, Syria and its bordering nations find themselves confronted with a multifaceted crisis, worsened by the **war in Ukraine and Gaza**, the **climate crisis**, and the consequences of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, which have amplified preexisting inequalities both within Syria and across the region.

### WHY THE EUTF SYRIA, THE MADAD?



Since December 2014, the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis (EUTF Syria) has placed **the European Union** at the forefront of the international response to the Syrian crisis. The EUTF Syria mobilised **EUR 2.38 billion**, including contributions from 21 EU Member States, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom. **129 key interventions** have been carried out in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Türkiye and, to a lesser extent, in the Western Balkans, Armenia and Egypt. The EUTF Syria **benefited over 12 million people**, including refugees and host communities, with improved access to **Health, Basic & Higher Education, Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Livelihood, Protection & Social Cohesion**.

### WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

**706**

**schools**  
constructed and/  
or refurbished

**1,167**

**health facilities**  
upgraded, refurbished  
and equipped

**467**

**water & wastewater**  
systems constructed  
and/or rehabilitated

**85,000**

**job opportunities**  
promoted



- **1 ML+ children and youth** gained access to formal and non formal education;
- **1,5 ML+ women, men and youth** improved their livelihoods through skills development, cash assistance and support to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises;
- **5,8 ML+ people** accessed quality primary healthcare services;
- **145,000+ professionals** in the sectors of education, health, protection and WASH were offered specialised trainings toward better services in the host countries;
- **259,000+** received employability, vocational and entrepreneurial skills training.



## VOICES OF THE EUTF SYRIA: MEET SOME OF THE PROTAGONISTS



***"When I work at full capacity, I recycle up to 9 tons of stones per month. This is possible thanks to ad hoc training, modern machineries, and the legal guidance I was offered."***

Tamer is a Syrian social entrepreneur who specialised in transforming stones, either found in nature or re-used from construction leftovers, into precious artworks for interior design decorations. With EUTF support, Tamer keeps pursuing his art and profession in Lebanon.



***"I used to think that having diabetes was dead-ended. By attending the information sessions, I learned that I could make simple changes to live a normal life with it."***

Yasmeen has benefited from the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) clubs made available in Jordan by the EUTF-funded Reayah project. These clubs represent a safe space where NCD patients discuss ways to manage and adapt to their diseases and improve their life.



***"I have a passion for law and studying it will give me a chance to make my voice heard. Yezidi women fight against all odds."***

Gulshada Qasim, 22-year-old Yezidi student from Sinjar, Iraq, prepares her law exams from the Jamishko camp, in Duhok, home to 25,000 internally displaced Yezidis like her. Awarded an EUTF-funded scholarship through the SPARK project, Gulshada's determination prevails over all challenges.

## WHAT IS NEXT?



*Although the EUTF formally ended in December 2021, with all projects concluding by June 2025, the EU's commitment to addressing the Syrian crisis remains strong. In the years ahead, support will continue under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument - Global Europe (NDICI-GE).*