



BelSalameh

strengthening resilience and peace in syria
تعزير إرادة الحياة والسلام في سوريا







OUR GOAL

“Bel Salameh” ABAAD's project inside Syria, funded by the European Union, aims to support Syrian men and women in war-torn Syria to actively engage and contribute as citizens in rebuilding peace and resilience at the individual and social levels.



duration

24 months

location

**LEBANON
& SYRIA**

A project by:



Funded by:



THE EUROPEAN UNION

RATIONALE

Now in its fifth year (2015), the Syrian crisis continues unabated, and with it continue numerous devastating consequences:

IMPACT ON SOCIAL FABRIC

- Displacement, forced migration, and difficulties coping with and integrating into new host communities
- Syrian women, men, and youth experiencing or witnessing extreme forms of violence
- Numerous forms of losses (including human, material, ideological, cultural, identity, and other types) and inability to carry out mourning rituals, both in Syria and in surrounding countries, on the individual, family, and community levels
- Interrupted education cycles, leading, in some cases, to child military recruitment, trafficking, and early marriage
- Limited capacity for service provision, especially in the mental health sector; medication is scarcely available and extremely expensive

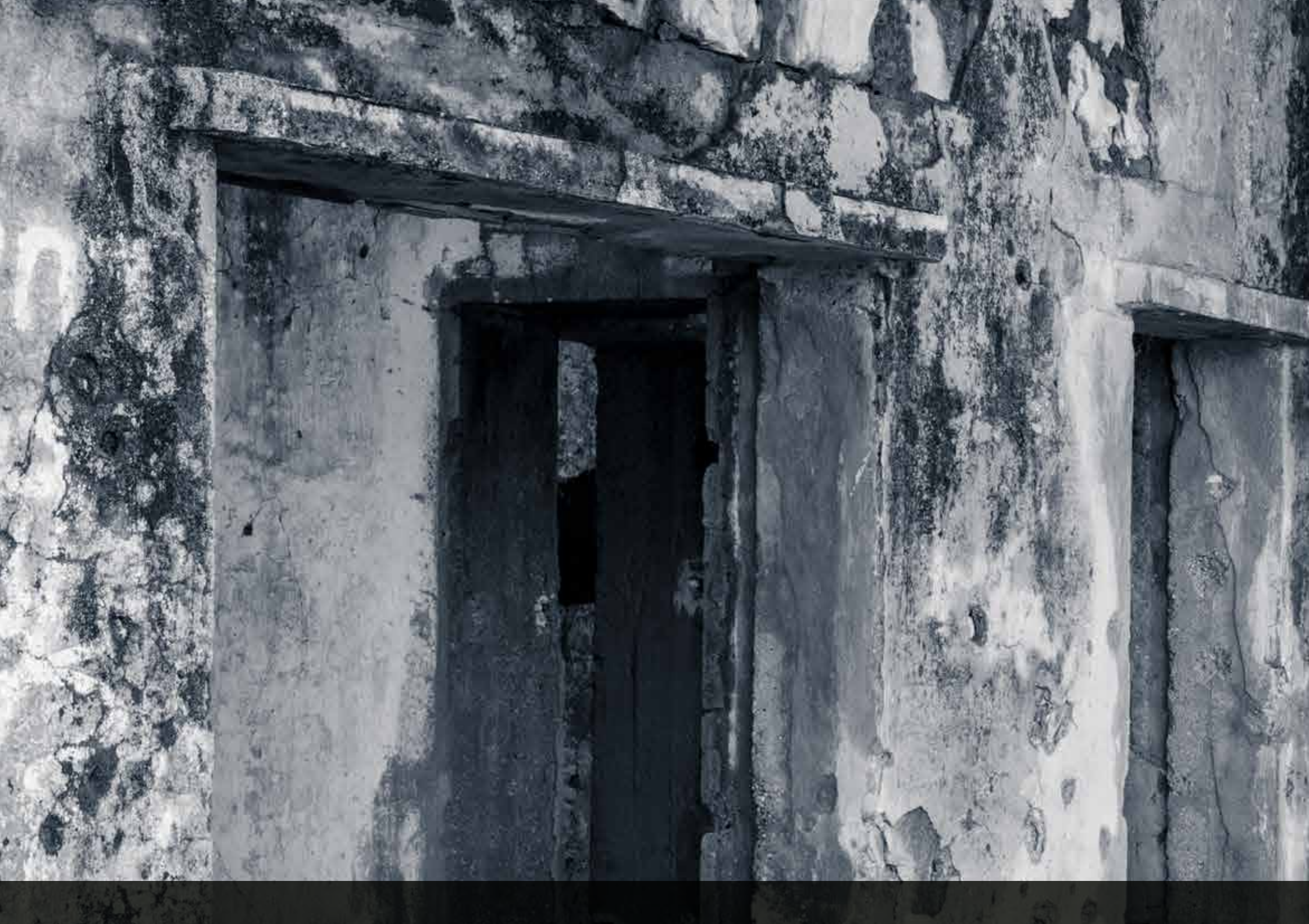




IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

- Human suffering, helplessness, and distress - normal reactions resulting from abnormal situations (exposure to insecurity, adverse events, and extreme violence)
- Difficulty to reach the acceptance stage of grief, resulting in being trapped in the stages of denial, depression, and/or anger
- Inability of individuals and families to transform and find meaning in traumatic events due to lack of available MHPSS can result in the increase and prevalence of mental disorders and trans-generational mental health risks on the long-term
- Resilience and positive development that are also present on individual, familial, and community levels, in spite of the severity and lengthiness of the crisis – responses to adversity that need to be supported and strengthened





THUS,

the project will respond to the multiple psychological dimensions of the crisis and will enable individuals and communities to improve their capacity to find meaning in their suffering and to transform their negative experiences. The strength and resilience centred approach utilised by ABAAD within this project will support the capacities of affected communities inside Syria to cope with immediate needs emanating from the crisis, recover from its impacts, and sustain this recovery over the long-term.



Activities

1. BUILDING THE CAPACITIES OF 40 MHPSS PROFESSIONALS USING THE RESILIENCE-CENTRED APPROACH TO WORK WITH AFFECTED COMMUNITIES INSIDE SYRIA

- Capacity needs assessment for mental health practitioners, conducted in order to inform the training curriculum
- Production of a standardised training curriculum using the brief-psychotherapy model
- Resource development on mental health issues
- Intensive training workshops for selected practitioners on the standardised curriculum to provide practitioners with theoretical and practical skills MHPSS practitioners
- Rapid assessment of MHPSS needs, risks, resources, and strengths of frontline workers inside Syria and working with Syrian refugees in Lebanon, resulting in recommendations to conduct a self-care Training of Trainers

2. TRAINING 460 FRONTLINE WORKERS ON RELEVANT SKILLS AND CAPACITIES (PSS, GROUP SUPPORT USING ART TECHNIQUES, REFERRAL SYSTEMS IN EMERGENCIES), AND PROVIDING THEM WITH NECESSARY RESOURCES

- Development of a context-adapted humanitarian version of the Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) and Psychological First Aid (PFA) manuals to be used in non-specialised settings
- Providing training workshops on PFA, mhGAP, and case management followed by on-the-job group coaching for 160 social workers
- Training workshop for 300 social workers on conducting support groups for parents in order to identify and respond to their children's MHPSS needs and resources
- Training 400 educators on how to identify MHPSS needs and resources among children, and to implement referral mechanisms as necessary



Photo credit / ABAAD



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martabogdanska.com

3. CREATING A PIONEER, ACCREDITED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND WIDELY-ACCESSIBLE ONLINE PORTAL AND SUSTAINABLE LIVE TUTORING SYSTEM RELATED TO GBV CASE MANAGEMENT IN THE ARAB WORLD

- Course content drafting, accrediting, translation, and editing
- Development, design, and testing of the web portal on which the course will be featured
- Technical and thematic workshops for experts working in the field with women and adolescent girls (self-care)
- Creation of a Mental Health/GBV Support Helpdesk where trainees/other frontline workers can live chat with experts who will provide multi-sectoral support, and share additional tools as required



4. ENHANCING TECHNICAL RESPONSE MECHANISMS (ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS) FOR PROFESSIONALS DEALING WITH GBV SURVIVORS IN EMERGENCIES, DONE THROUGH SPECIALISED TRAINING FOR MEDICAL EXPERTS AND FOR CASE MANAGERS

- Training of Trainers on mitigating the risks related to sexual assault, as well as the clinical management of survivors of sexual assault (CMR)
- Training of Trainers on GBV case management in emergency and post-emergency settings (GBV CMiE)





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5. STRENGTHENING PEACE-BUILDING THROUGH COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS VIA SOCIAL COHESION BY ORGANISING A SERIES OF RECREATIONAL AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

- Creating a group of youth change-makers across Syria and building their capacities in the implementation of street-based cultural activities which promote peace and non-violence
- Producing a documentary film highlighting positive masculinities and femininities within Syrian society
- Organising six public events (such as sculpture, street rap, music, mobile cinema/theatre, and similar) targeting at least 5000 citizens in peace messaging





FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ABAAD THROUGH:

+961 1 28 38 20/1 | +961 70 28 38 20

abaad@abaadmena.org