



Widows Training and Development Center (WTDC)

Field of Activity

Gender Equality and Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Vision and mission

WTDC aims to support Iraqi community through the **economic, social and psychological empowerment of youth and women**. In doing this they pay attention to apply the principles of **gender equality, inclusion, and non-discrimination**, in order to provide equal opportunities and services.

ACTIVITIES

WTDC's program and activities are highly focused on **promoting women's rights in Iraqi constitution and law, gender equality, combating violence against women**. Providing opportunities for economic empowerment to improve the life quality for women including youth.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ Instructions by religious Endowments (Sunni and Shiite) to limit the problem of marriage outside the court; 4622 signatures in support to the related raising awareness campaign.
- ❖ Contributed to solve the issue of marriage outside the court by issuing a law or resolution protecting women on this aspect.
- ❖ Formatted volunteer lawyers' team to support women who marriage contract was not approved in the court.
- ❖ Increased the awareness of the health and social consequences of early marriage among 728 girls in high school, 160 parents.
- ❖ 18.735 Adolescents and Youth beneficiaries (males and females, aged 12-19 years old) benefited from the Friendly Space Center that provided them with Leadership and Life Skills to reduce the vulnerability of crisis-affected adolescents through the development of positive social networks, safe spaces and increased community engagement.
- ❖ Psychosocial and legal support provided to 385 IDPs women and capacity building for women's committees, including 40 IDPs women and girls.
- ❖ 200 young men and women (aged 18-30 years old, with a focus on females) attended vocational training, business management and received the start-up tool kits in order to improve their economic level and to re-integrate the returnees to Iraq by involving them in the trainings.
- ❖ 429 young men and women provided with Social, psychological and legal support with a focus on females, through the appointment of specialized psychological researchers, lawyers and awareness raising sessions.
- ❖ 44 women and men were empowered economically and socially. Building the capacity for 15 IDPS women by providing life skills training.



Country: Iraq



Year of foundation:
2006



Areas of intervention:

Baghdad governorate;
Al-Najaf and Al-Kofeh



STAFF:

12 employees, 9 are women



Network:

Doha International Family Institute;
GIZ; Iraqi Women's Network



Website:

<http://www.wtdciq.org>

WTDC's Contributions to Naseej's workstreams:

3

Policy Change



This project is co-funded
by the European Union



WTDC's activities supported by Naseej: an overview

Locations



Baghdad

Budget



€ 147.456

Timeframe



12 months

Naseej's workstreams

Stream 1 (Services Delivery)

Strengthening support and referral services and reporting systems for women and girls GBV survivors

Stream 2 (Community Engagement)

Transforming the social norms that perpetuate GBV with a special focus on youth engagement.

Stream 3 (Policy Change)

Strengthening development and implementation of national GBV legislation



Advocacy campaign to contribute to the speed-up of the legislation of The Protection from domestic violence law.

Promote and highlight the progress of the campaign through different platforms in the social media.

Printing and distributing publication related to the campaign.

Community and media mobilization campaign to raise the awareness on the law against domestic violence

Raising awareness of the importance of combating domestic violence, the dangers of violence in the Iraqi society, the need to legislate the law and its positive aspects to protect the Iraqi family in general and women in particular.

Individual meetings and dialogue forums

Mobilizing influential figures and decision-makers (deputies in the Legislative Council, the cabinet, prominent political figures, the presidency, civil activists, tribal sheikhs, and clerics).

Issue Report and Research to strengthening the Dafa'a campaign



Strengthening and assigning the campaign goal through monitoring reports and supporting documents issued by the specialized Monitoring and Reports Consultants.

Submitting the "Dafa'a paper" to the House of Representatives

Submitting a policy paper "Dafa'a paper" attached to a research paper "Attraction Research" by the campaign advisors to the House of Representatives and adopting it by the committees concerned with the legislation of the law against domestic violence.



Create a monitoring team to launch the campaign to promote the law against domestic violence

Build a monitoring team by selecting 10 lawyers from 10 governorates around the country. Providing a capacity building training for the monitoring team through Zoom in writing report and other skills help them to launch the legal and social campaign to promote the law against domestic violence.



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Naseej: Connecting Voices and Action to End Violence
Against Women and Girls in the MENA Region



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