



## 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, including 4622 signatures in support to the campaign.
- ❖ Contributed to solve the issue of marriage outside the court by issuing a law or resolution protecting women on this aspect.
- ❖ Created volunteer lawyers' team to support women whose 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 and 160 parents.
- ❖ 18.735 Adolescents and Youth (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 and business management training and received the start-up tool kits.
- ❖ 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 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

## Project title: An advocacy campaign to push for passage of the Law against Domestic Violence

### Locations



Baghdad

### Budget



€ 147.456

### Timeframe



May 2021  
April 2022

### 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 



### Dafa'a campaign

Building the Dafa'a (in English = Move forward) campaign to contribute at the speed-up of the anti-domestic violence law and to raise awareness on the importance of combating domestic violence, the dangers of violence in the Iraqi society, the need of legislative framework and its positive aspects to protect the Iraqi family in general and women in particular. This will include: community and media mobilization, promotion and dissemination of the campaign's progresses through different social media, printing and distribution of publications related to the campaign.

### Issue Report and Research to strengthening the Dafa'a campaign

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



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

Submitting a policy paper 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 with 10 lawyers from 10 governorates around the country. Provide them a capacity building training in writing report and advocacy skills needed 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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