|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Belgisch Wapenschild + Baseline EN | **Directorate-general for Development Cooperation – DGD**  **Service D5.1 – Humanitarian Aid** |

**SINGLE FORM FOR THE FUNDING OF HUMANITARIAN ACTION[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**(Legal basis: the law of 9/01/2014 modifying the law of 19/03/2013 on Development cooperation - Royal Decree of 19/04/2014, General expenditure budget, basic allocation 14 54 52 35.60.83).**

# GENERAL INFORMATION

* 1. ***Name of the humanitarian organisation/date of approval by the Minister for Development Cooperation (if required):*** Oxfam-Solidarité ASBL, 17/11/1997 (renewal: 12/12/2012 and 20/05/2016).
  2. ***Title of the action:*** Multi-year food security and wash assistance to vulnerable communities in Deir-ez-Zor, Syria
  3. ***Intervention area (country, region, locations):*** Syria, Deir-ez-Zor Governorate, Al Mayadin District
  4. ***Action start date:*** 1st April 2018
  5. ***Duration of the action in months (cf. Art. 17, §2):*** 24 months
  6. ***Expenditure eligibility start date: 1st April 2018***

Signature date granting Ministerial Decree.

***1.7 Proposal and reports (Concerning the specific timeframes, cf. RD of 19/04/2014):***

Initial proposal date: 14-01-2019

Revised proposal no. date: dd-mm-yy

Date of the granting Ministerial Decree date: dd-mm-yy

Unilateral Act date date: dd-mm-yy

Letter of acceptance date date: dd-mm-yy

Interim report date: dd-mm-yy

Final report date: dd-mm-yy

***1.8 [INT] List the exchanges of letters that took place following the signature of the unilateral act until the interim report stage***

***1.9 [FIN] List the exchanges of letters that took place following the submission of the interim report until the final report stage***

# NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## Assessment date(s); methodology and information sources used; organisation/person(s) responsible for the assessment

In terms of assessments, Oxfam acknowledges the following limitation in information access and assessment in Syria for humanitarian actors:

*- Lack of accurate population data:* there is a general dearth of official population data in the country due to the crisis. Few new studies have been carried out. Oxfam, as the UN and other humanitarian organizations, is also in some cases dependent on pre-crisis data. UN-OCHA and other non-governmental entities are providing population data-sets, but their accuracy is questionable given the restrictions on comprehensive data collection.

*- Access & Approval:* access and approvals by the Government of Syria (GoS) remains a challenge for international humanitarian actors in country which also limit conducting technical assessments. Approval for any deep technical assessments needs be given from Government of Syria line ministries, and there has been reluctance to allow international humanitarian actors independently to assess and verify needs on the ground.

*- Lack of socio-economic assessments:* household level socio-economic assessments have not been undertaken during the crisis in the country; hence Oxfam relies on information gathered through observations and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)/key informant interviews to inform its programming as well as community feedback, and rapid assessment reports from other humanitarian actors.

To overcome the above challenges, Oxfam used information from secondary sources (e.g. UN agencies, local authorities, SARC) to inform ongoing situation and needs analysis and to triangulate data using a minimum of 3 independent sources of data, where they exist.

Moreover, Oxfam has been able to conduct several assessment missions between March and September 2018 and utilise assessment reports from other humanitarian actors. The most recent of these are describe below:

Primary/field data:

* Oxfam – Emergency Food Security and Vulnerable Livelihood (EFSVL) Field Mission, Deir-Ez-Zor – 26th August to 1st September 2018 – FGDs and Key Informant Interviews in 25 villages of Al Mayadin District of Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate conducted by Oxfam EFSVL and MEAL staff.
* Oxfam – WASH Assessment, Deir-Ez-Zor – 17th to 23rd September 2018 – Focus Group Discussion and Key Informant Interviews in 35 villages of Al Mayadin District of Deir-Ez-Zor Governorate conducted by Oxfam WASH and MEAL staff. Cfr Annex 1 and 2.

Secondary data/literature review:

* Humanitarian Needs Overview 2018 <https://hno-syria.org/>
* OCHA Syria Population Datasets 2018
* REACH North East Syria Humanitarian Needs Overview – September 2018 [http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reac h\_syr\_fachsheet\_hsos\_regional\_factsheet\_nes\_september\_2018.pdf](http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/reac%20h_syr_fachsheet_hsos_regional_factsheet_nes_september_2018.pdf)
* FAO – Damage Assessment “Counting the Cost” <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/resources/documents/resources-detail/en/c/878213/>
* Food Security Situation in Syria Report – December 2017 <https://fscluster.org/syria/document/food-security-situation-syria-expanded>
* USAID – Syrian Agriculture; Historical and Environmental Context – June 2014 <https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PBAAC901.pdf>
* WFP – Deir-Ez-Zor City WFP Assessment – February 2018 <https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/syria-deir-ez-zor-city-wfp-assessment-food-security-update-february-2018>

## Account of the problem and analysis of the stakeholders

Account of the problem

In the eight years of the crisis, the scale, severity, and complexity of needs across Syria remain overwhelming. According to the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) 2018, 13.1 million people in Syria require humanitarian assistance. Of these, 5.6 million people are in acute need due to a convergence of vulnerabilities resulting from exposure to armed conflict, massive displacement and limited access to basic goods and services due to extensive destruction of public and private infrastructure and sources of livelihoods. 69% of the Syrian population is estimated to be living in extreme poverty, compared to 34% before the crisis[[2]](#footnote-2).

FAO’s Damage Assessment report states the overall financial cost of damage and loss in the agriculture sector over the 2011–2016 period is estimated to be at least USD 16 billion, which is equivalent to just under one third of Syria’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2016. The governorates with the largest loss were Al-Hassakeh, Ar-Raqqa, Rural Damascus, Deir-ez-Zor, Dara’a and Idleb, each registering over USD 1 billion of damage and loss.[[3]](#footnote-3) Annual crops registered the largest share of lost production (economic loss), followed by livestock. Conversely, the livestock subsector accounted for the highest proportion of damage (as manifested in the value of livestock deaths). Deir ez Zor is listed as a priority (Tier 1) governorate for agricultural assistance.

Deir-ez-Zor governorate is located in the East of Syria. It was controlled by ISIS from December 2014 till September 2017 until the GoS and Kurdish forces respectively reclaimed different parts of the governorate. As front-lines and control of different areas were changing, populations fled in and out from one area to another depending on their perception of where they felt safer. During the besiegement, all supply routes to the governorate’s capital city, i.e. Deir-ez-Zor, were cut and the only corridor to bring food to the besieged community of around 93,000 people was through the airport which remained under GoS control. As a result, food accessibility significantly decreased in the city due to deteriorating market functionality, no access to farming fields, extremely limited food availability and overall breakdown of livelihoods[[4]](#footnote-4). Over 6 million people have been displaced within Syria, many on multiple occasions. Deir Ez-Zor governorate has seen an estimated 224,000 people return between November 2017 and September 2018. Syrian law does not permit data collection to allow a clear understanding as to why people return, but anecdotal evidence from Oxfam’s analysis highlights strong push factors (overcrowded living conditions, lack of ability to earn an income) and some pull factors (own land in Deir Ez-Zor which can be used for income-generating activities; public sector job is now operating), and so in spite of severely challenging living conditions, including the destruction of public utilities, shelter, and the looting of possessions, many people are choosing to return to the governorate.

Deir-ez-Zor in economic terms is largely an agricultural producing governorate. The main city and many communities are located on the banks of the Euphrates River which flows from Turkey, through Syria into Iraq. Pre-conflict, two thirds of the population of the governorate were dependent on rural livelihoods based on agriculture and livestock rearing[[5]](#footnote-5), and were largely dependent on the river for irrigation of farmland. Prior to the onset of the Syrian crisis in 2011, rural areas of Deir-ez-Zor were a major source of supply of fruits and vegetables to local markets, with the main income source being cash crops sales, livestock sales, remittances, and petty trades for communities living in the governorate[[6]](#footnote-6). During the ISIS occupation, many farmers fled, while those who remained were unable to access their land. In addition to destruction caused by war, the region has also suffered from increasing desertification with cyclical drought due to a combination of both man-made and natural factors. There is a long history of conflicts over water in the region because of natural water scarcity, the early development of irrigated agriculture, and complex religious and ethnic diversity. With the added possibility of rising global temperatures and reduced surface flows through climate change, there is a strong likelihood that there will be a need for urgent long-term agricultural reforms to be put in place when some kind of political stability returns.

Post besiegement, livelihood opportunities for the population are very limited or non-existent. The few permanent residents counting on stable income such as salaries or remittances, have poor financial access to food due to limited local markets resulting in extremely high market prices. Basic public services, from electricity to administrative services, are also either very poor or non-existent. IDPs who are returning suffer from the same shortages. They are mostly farmers. As a result of war, loss of and damage to assets, including irrigation equipment and lands is preventing farmers from reinitiating their livelihood practices[[7]](#footnote-7).

In terms of water provision, the main water source in Deir-ez-Zor governorate is the Euphrates river, on whose banks several water treatment plants are located supplying water to Deir-ez-Zor city, the governorate’s capital, as well as rural areas of the governorate. Several main water pumping & treatment stations are currently out of service. Damages to treatment plants and pumping stations are the result of either airstrikes, indirect fire or deliberate sabotage and looting of essential equipment (generators, pumps' engines and electrical cables). Currently, access to water in the city of Deir-ez-Zor is limited with low water pressure (in some areas, water barely reaches the first floor) and limited number of operational hours (once every 4 days for 2-3 hours). Air strikes have also severely damaged both potable and wastewater pipelines in several neighbourhoods. Identifying damages and leakages is impeded by rubble from collapsed buildings and lack of water in the pipelines. Regarding sanitation, sewage networks have not been significantly affected, but localized repairs and improvements are needed. A recent REACH assessment (September 2018) indicated that 43% of communities consulted cited the following common issues with sanitation: inability to empty septic tanks, blocked connections to the sewage and lack of water to flush. Wastewater treatment plants in many areas are not in operation due to damage or non-availability of critical supplies and support.

The HNO 2018 indicated that although water and sanitation services and hygiene supplies are available, they are relatively expensive. Therefore, IDPs and returnees are not able to purchase and sustain basic hygiene practices. However, the REACH assessment further informed that 93% of assessed communities in Deir-ez-Zor governorate reported that drinking water from their primary source tasted and/or smelled bad, and that diarrhea was reportedly the most common health concern in 65% of assessed communities. Health concerns regarding poor water quality might be further exacerbated by limited access to healthcare services.

In terms of livelihoods, as a result of the conflict, many women have taken on the role of principal breadwinners for their families, as men have either been killed, disappeared, have fled the country or have joined the fighting. This is particularly apparent in Deir-Ez-Zor as many men fled during the time of ISIS’ control over the governorate. Females account for 55% of the total population and 66% of the total youth population (age 20 to 35). Compared to pre-conflict times, there has been an increase in women taking on the role of principal family breadwinner (HNO 2018, p 42). However, households with a female main income provider have less access to aid and resources due to gender inequality prior to conflict and women’s inability to move safely in public spaces, which is now exacerbated. Protracted conflict and massive displacement have changed household composition and further altered the previously unequal gender roles and dynamics. In the absence of male household members, women, particularly those of child-bearing age, now play a significant role in providing for their families, not only within the home but in seeking essential services and livelihood opportunities outside it. In addition, given the male dominated culture, women have limited ability to negotiate solutions in the current context which can deprive them of their rights to, among other, property and long-term security, they are more susceptible to gender based violence, and sexual exploitation, while their female children are more at risk of child marriage as their mothers may consider this a solution to their economic hardship, a practice that was common before the war and is now increased.[[8]](#footnote-8) While all sex and age groups face movement restrictions for various reasons, the risks for women and girls are significantly higher, sometimes limiting their movements even with a chaperon. Communities in Deir-ez-Zor are conservative and gender segregation by social norms is a significant obstacle for reaching out to women and girls.

Stakeholder analysis

The following stakeholders have been identified as being key in the success of the proposed project, through either direct or indirect influence:

* **Local communities, among which IDP host communities, IDPs and returnees**. While beneficiaries, these are also the main enablers for the proposed project. During Oxfam’s field assessments, the needs for intervention have been identified based on community identification and prioritisation of issues. During implementation, Oxfam will further enhance its cooperation with local communities to ensure proposed activities address community identified needs and that communities inform and participate in implementation.
* **Local authorities in Deir-ez-Zor**. They are supportive of the proposed interventions and can enable field access by recommending to the Government authorities at the national level, i.e. line ministries to approve the interventions. Local authorities have been consulted on needs during Oxfam assessment missions and will be engaged throughout the project on the design and delivery of key project activities. Based on to-date implementation, local civilian authorities have been very supportive of Oxfam activities, providing additional logistics support as may have been required. They have also showed understanding for Oxfam standards. This has allowed access to Oxfam to perform impartial needs assessments.
* **National authorities and line ministries**, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Water Resources and the Ministry of Agriculture. For all international assistance projects, after funding is secured, the relevant ministries must be addressed to obtain approvals for project activities and locations. Oxfam has MoUs with these ministries. Regardless, obtaining approvals can be a lengthy process which can take between 3 to 6 months.
* **International community and donors engaged in Syria**. These stakeholders can be either enablers or blockers to project activities and objectives depending on the political outlook of the conflict. Currently various international actors are aligned with different sides of the conflicts (e.g. Russia is supportive of the GoS, the United States, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in opposition to the Government). International assistance support by these external stakeholders will follow their political alignments. Most international actors are supportive of humanitarian actions in Deir-ez-Zor - given the level of destruction the people of the governorate suffered under ISIS rule. However, this assistance is mostly limited to humanitarian aid.
* **UN and sector system**. This is an enabling system. Oxfam is a member of several thematic working sectors, namely, WASH, Early Recovery and Livelihoods and its cash programming sub-sector, Food Security and Agriculture and NFI, and it regularly reports against the 4W reporting matrix for these sectors. This guarantees that there is no duplication of efforts amongst the key sector actors. Through close coordination with other humanitarian actors, Oxfam aims to ensure activities are well planned, are complementary to those delivered by other actors and that sector standards are applied, with an overall intention to improve the positive impact of the humanitarian community.
* In Deir-ez-Zor governorate, Oxfam is currently engaging, among other **donors**, with UNHCR and WFP on humanitarian programming. However, there is at this time no UN hub in Deir-ez-Zor, though one is planned. Given conflict dynamics, some UN agencies have split activity coordination for Deir-ez-Zor between GoS and Syrian Defense Forces held areas, with the former coordinated in Damascus, and the latter in Qamishli (in Al Hasekeh governorate).
* **Civil society**: Oxfam closely coordinates with international civil society actors on planned activities, and interventions in Syria. It is an active member of the Damascus-based 24 member INGOs group (DINGO) which contributes to further coordination on matters related to Government authorities and donors.
* **Armed groups**. Namely the Syrian Arab Army, supported by Russia forces and Iranian militias and the Syrian Defence Forces (SDF), supported by the United States are present in the area. These opposing forces are currently not engaging in aggressive armed conflict; however, small scale armed clashes have been reported between the SAA and the SDF in the recent past. Because Syria remains a volatile theatre due to the variety of external stakeholders with different interests, should the situation in Deir-ez-Zor revert to significant clashes, project access and implementation may be affected. At this time, such a development is unlikely.

## Please summarise the results of the assessment (if necessary, append a comprehensive report) by establishing a link to the action

In February 2018, WFP and the REACH Initiative conducted rapid needs assessment in the governorate based on key informant interviews. The results found that commercial flows to Deir-ez-Zor city have improved and have positively impacted the city’s market overall functionality, food availability, food diversity and accessibility, encouraging many displaced households to return. However, due to the protracted years of besiegement and intense military activity, the level of devastation and destruction of infrastructure in Deir-ez-Zor governorate is very high. As a result, proper dwellings are few and many returnees and IDP households are living together in tight quarters and under poor living conditions. Moreover, many bakeries, schools and medical centers remain out of service; generators are the only source of electricity.

OCHA reported that access to basic services across Deir-ez-Zor governorate remained limited, including in Deir-ez-Zor city, where a process of recovery is ongoing but insufficient to meet needs. Of particular concern was the poor level of water quality reported across the governorate, with key informants in nearly half of assessed locations reporting that people were falling ill after consuming the water available to them.

Oxfam conducted several missions and needs assessments in August and September 2018 in Deir-Ez-Zor governorate, which included Oxfam WASH, Food Security, Gender, and MEAL staff. These assessments covered approximately 50% of the population in targeted villages which have high returnee numbers. General findings include lack of safe water and poor hygiene practices in most of the 10 visited villages and towns in Al Mayadin. Either the pumping stations and water treatment plants servicing the villages were destroyed or damaged before the crisis, or otherwise completely out of service due to lack of maintenance and spare parts. In the villages targeted during the assessments, women were those who mostly confirmed the OCHA findings that there is no adequate water in terms of quantity and quality for personal hygiene or household use. Lack of menstrual hygiene materials among women and adolescent girls was noted as a huge need. This shortage negatively affects women and girls’ hygiene practices, their health and their dignity.

In September 2018, Oxfam further assessed Upper Bugres and Ashrara villages in Al Maydin sub-district, the main findings included:

* Contraction of the local population: before the crisis, Ashrara’s population was 25,000 and Upper Bugres’ 20,000. At the time of the September 2018 assessment, the total population in Ashara was 8,000 and in Upper Bugres 15,000. The level of destruction in both villages is 60%; there is one health centre in each of the two villages and diseases within communities include diarrhoea; scabies, lice and fever.
* In terms of WASH needs, the following was identified: a) the pumping station is totally out of service; with huge needs identified for: i) water network rehabilitation; ii) sewage network rehabilitation; iii) spare parts for water and sanitation systems; iv) trucks and other equipment; and b) there is low access for communities to safe potable water with i) the percentage of communities covered by water network being 0%; ii) percentage of the communities depending on water trucking being 100%; iii) price of 1 cubic meter of water being 1,000 SYP, with families spending around 10,000 SYP (20 USD) per month on water; iv) poor water quality as the source for all water is the river; v) the functional sanitation system in Ashrara covers 50% of the households and in Upper Bugres 70 %.

On 22 September 2018, Oxfam performed an assessment in all villages (35 locations) in Al Mayadin. The main finding in all 35 locations was that the water situation is severe in terms of both quantity and quality of water accessible. An estimated 75 to 100 % of the population does not have access to water through the water network. This compels the population to collect and use water directly from the river which is an unprotected water source, which directly exposes them to many water borne diseases.

In terms of Food Security, Oxfam conducted an assessment from 26th August to 1st September 2018 in 25 villages in the same district. It was reported that people returning to the GoS controlled areas reported that they are facing serious trouble in moving their livestock from Kurdish to GoS areas because military forces are imposing fees on their transfer with the amount of 23 USD for every sheep. During this mission, Oxfam also consulted with the Directorate of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform in Deir-ez-Zor, who notified Oxfam that out of the 616 irrigation pumps that used to supply irrigation water to 49,326 farmers, only 47 pumps are working currently; 132 pumps are damaged, 303 were stolen, 45 were vandalized, 89 were destroyed. As a consequence, approximately 45,500 farmers have been left with no or very limited access to the irrigation systems. This in turn affects their farming capacity, and therefore the supply of food items in the local markets.

In addition, this assessment mission also identified that most of the bakeries in the area are not working, which is causing a severe shortage of subsidised bread. This confirms the 2014 report by the ACU[[9]](#footnote-9) which stated that in Deir-ez-Zor governorate 45% of bakeries were non-functional. The most cited reason for bakeries to stop functioning in these areas was the continuous shelling and intensification of clashes which suspended operations, and in some cases destroyed bakeries.

The most significant finding during the assessments Oxfam made in Deir-ez-Zor was the expressed strong desire but also strong willingness by farmers in rural communities to re-start their agricultural businesses and to minimize their reliance on humanitarian assistance. Oxfam Syria believes this is closely related to a wish to live a life in dignity, which is at the chore of Oxfam programming.

## [INT] If changes have taken place in the needs assessment at the interim report stage, please provide information

## [FIN] If changes have taken place in the needs assessment following the interim report, please provide information

# HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION IN THE INTERVENTION AREA

## Presence of the humanitarian organisation in the intervention area: brief overview of the strategy and current or recent activities in the country

Oxfam has been present in Syria since July 2013 with a full Country Programme operating from its head office in Damascus, with a field office in Aleppo and further presence across the country. Oxfam works through Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with four line ministries: Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Ministry of Social Affairs & Labour (MoSAL), the Ministry of Local Administration & Environment (MoLAE) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). Oxfam in Syria is also in negotiation with the Ministry of Education. These MoUs allow Oxfam to work on WASH and EFSVL interventions and to access collective shelters, schools and municipalities directly (Annex 3-Oxfam in Syria Access Strategy). This mechanism is unique as almost all other INGOs are registered either through the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC), or Syria Trust for Development. Given that Oxfam does not have to work through these latter two entities, Oxfam has a unique position in being able to directly engage with a greater number of key stakeholders, to navigate the fluid and complex operational environment in Syria and to achieve results while maintaining humanitarian independence and security.

Oxfam in Syria seeks to contribute at scale to ensuring that vulnerable women and girls, men and boys of Syria will be better able to claim all of their rights, now and in the future by pursuing three cross-cutting and mutually reinforcing programmatic change goals in Syria:

* Through the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) program, more vulnerable women, men, girls and boys have equitable access to safe water, sanitation and waste management services and are able to safeguard their families’ health.
* Through the Emergency Food Security and Viable Livelihoods (EFSVL) program, more vulnerable women and men are able to secure basic food needs and viable livelihoods and have the capacity to withstand shocks.
* Through the Voice for Accountability, Protection and Participation (VAPP) program, more vulnerable women and men will live in dignity, protected from violence, coercion and deliberate deprivation and be better able to claim their rights now and in the future. In addition, Oxfam works to place vulnerable populations at the heart of the humanitarian response, helping them to gain decision-making powers over their own lives, and enable them to live in greater dignity.

Oxfam’s began providing humanitarian WASH assistance in 2013, and is considered a leading WASH actor in Syria alongside ICRC/SARC and UNICEF. To date, the country programme has provided sustainable access to safe water for over two million IDPs, returnees and host community members in 12 out of 14 governorates. The interventions implemented since 2013 have included a wide range of support from water trucking to full rehabilitation of water systems infrastructure (Annex 4 and 5), and from public health promotion to hygiene items distributions, with gender mainstreamed.

Oxfam's EFSVL team was established in 2017 with a strong competence across livelihoods and cash programming. In 2018, the EFSVL team implemented emergency bread and clothing distributions in the city of Deir-ez-Zor; it was the first INGO to pilot an emergency cash transfer project in Rural Damascus. Oxfam has since delivered cash-for-work programming in Deir-Ez-Zor and Aleppo governates. It remains the only INGO to deliver cash programming. Learnings from these pilot programmes have been integrated in the proposed project under the Response Analysis section and Annex 6. Additional projects in agricultural livelihoods and vocational training have been designed and are being implemented through strategic partnerships with Syrian NGOs in Aleppo, Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus and Deir-ez-Zor governorates.

Oxfam’s country programme is fully staffed and supported by a highly competent team of technical staff both at its Damascus office with WASH, EFSVL, MEAL, gender, advocacy/media experts, and at the governorate level with focal points, site engineers and contractors.

Oxfam's focus is on “safe programming” which implies that all interventions are assessed for conflict sensitivity, do no harm and from a gender perspective with clear risk identification and mitigation plans. Keeping in mind the vulnerability of the beneficiaries, a safeguarding policy and a feedback and complaints handling mechanism is in place to ensure that beneficiaries are not merely passive recipients of aid.

## Ongoing actions and requests for funding submitted to other donors, in the same intervention area – please state how overlaps and double funding would be avoided

Oxfam has been implementing interventions in Deir-ez-Zor since early 2018. Given the wide scale needs in Deir-ez-Zor, its remoteness, which in part explains the few humanitarian actors engaged in the governorate, its agricultural significance, the governorate is a priority area for Oxfam.

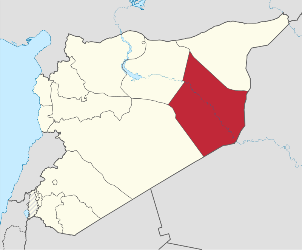
As described above, in early 2018 during winter, Oxfam carried out an emergency bread and clothing distribution. Since then, other programs implemented in Deir-ez-Zor have focused on different types of EFSL activities, i.e. cash programming, emergency agricultural support to farmers and livelihood rehabilitation. From July to December 2018, it implemented a multi-faceted agricultural livelihoods program funded by UNHCR which included restoration of irrigation systems through provision of equipment and cash for work, distribution of seeds and training of farmers. At the time of this writing, January 2018, Oxfam is initiating the implementation of a project funded by the Italian Development Cooperation (€ 550k) which will concentrate on the rehabilitation of public bakeries. Oxfam is also in the process of finalising proposals for 2019 with WFP (USD 200k) for cash distribution to support farmers until the first yields; with UNHCR (USD 400k+) with similar agricultural activities solidly based on lessons learned from the initial such project; and with ECHO for WASH activities. As the above describes, within its main areas of programming, Oxfam aims at integrated programming as the overall impact on the communities will be greater.

The proposed activities in this proposal will complement activities already being delivered in Oxfam’s wider Deir-ez-Zor programme funded by other donors, balancing shorter term emergency interventions, with more mid-term resilience focused interventions. Double funding is avoided through clear programme monitoring and financial tracking systems, with different donor funded activities implemented across the Governorate.

## [FIN] List the other operations performed by the humanitarian organisation or its implementation partners during the same period in this intervention area and describe how the risks of double funding were avoided

# OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

## Precise location of the action (please include a map making it possible to locate the project)



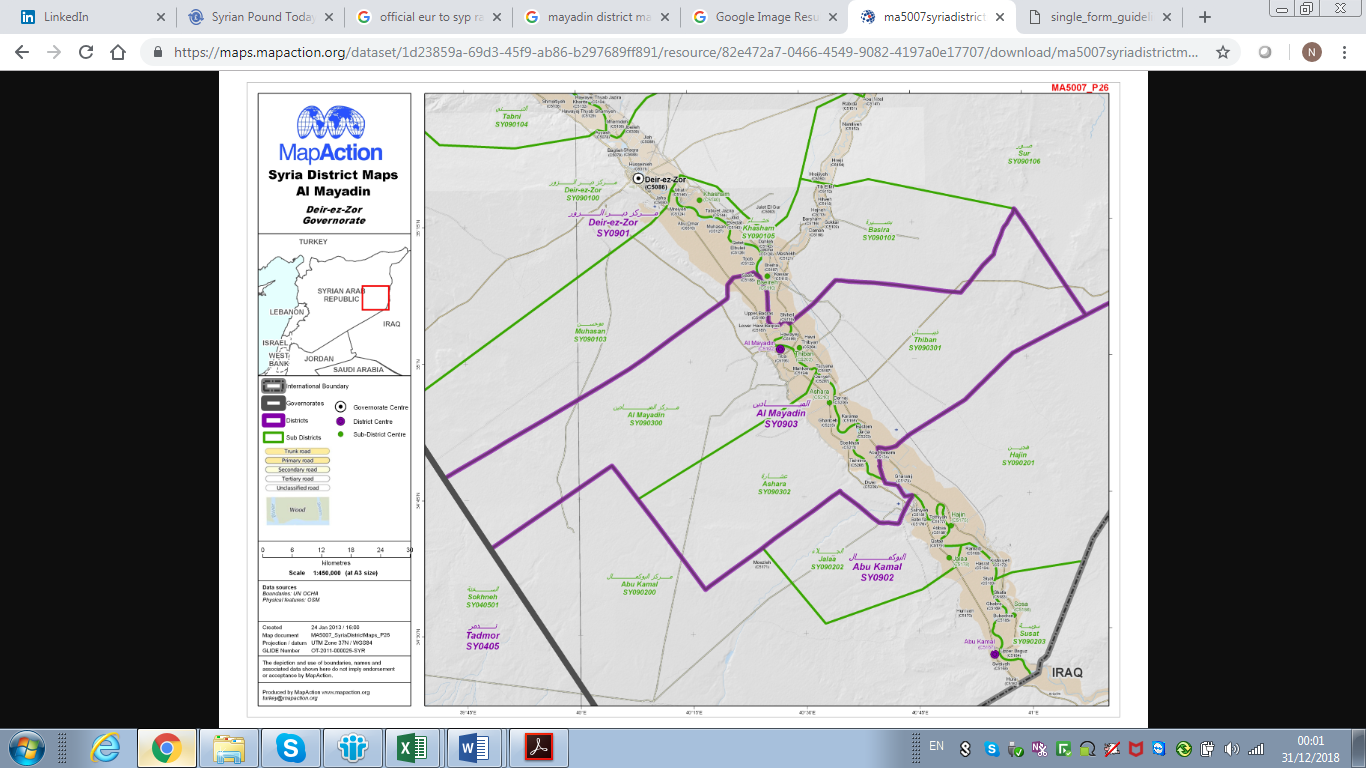


Figure 1 *- (approximate representation of Deir-ez-Zor governorate and al Mayadin District)*

The proposed action will be implemented in Al Mayadin district in Deir-ez-Zor governorate in the East of Syria. According to UN-OCHA 2018 population data figures, there are approximately 87,350 people residing in Al Mayadin District, which is composed of three sub-districts: Al Mayadin, Al Ashara, and Thiban (Diban). The majority of planned activities under this proposal will be for Al Mayadin and Al Ashara sub-districts, on the south side of the Euphrates. Oxfam will continuously assess needs in Thiban sub-district, as well as other districts in Deir-ez-Zor in case project activities are required elsewhere. This could extend to all areas of Deir-ez-Zor governorate, including Deir-ez-Zor town, which is the main market town in the region, which has an estimated population of over 140,000 people according to UN OCHA.

Given recent announcements in December 2018, that the US would withdraw forces from Syria, there is likely to be developments in the relationship between the SDF and GoS forces. SDF forces have been supported by US allied forces, and their withdrawal will leave SDF in a weaker position. However, at this early stage, there are strong possibilities of reconciliatory discussions and negotiation between SDF and GoS which if goes positively could increase potential humanitarian access of Oxfam and other humanitarian actors on the ground. Thus between the time of proposal submission and grant award, there could be significant changes in the ability to access different at-risk communities.

Total population of the three sub-districts:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Deir-ez-Zor** | **0-4** | | | | **5-17** | | | **18-59** | | | **>60** | | | **Total** | | |
| Male | Female | Total | Male | | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total | Male | Female | Total |
| **Al Mayadin** | 1131 | 1165 | 2296 | 2429 | | 2496 | 4925 | 2962 | 5125 | 8086 | 333 | 200 | 532 | 6855 | 8985 | 15840 |
| **Ashara** | 704 | 889 | 1593 | 4996 | | 3140 | 8136 | 5882 | 4920 | 10802 | 149 | 0 | 149 | 11731 | 8949 | 20680 |
| **Thiban** | 5872 | 6032 | 11904 | 6663 | | 5859 | 12522 | 10209 | 14531 | 24740 | 960 | 704 | 1664 | 23704 | 27126 | 50830 |
| **Total** | 7707 | 8086 | 15792 | 14088 | | 11495 | 25583 | 19053 | 24576 | 43629 | 1442 | 904 | 2346 | 42291 | 45059 | 87350 |

## Beneficiaries

## Total number of direct beneficiaries:

Total number of direct beneficiaries for this project is expected to be **35,000**.

Outcome 1: 35,000 beneficiaries from WASH interventions.

Outcome 2: 17,500 beneficiaries from EFSL intervention.

Although each Outcome will target direct beneficiaries under differing but similar criteria for intervention, a 100% overlap is planned of EFSVL direct beneficiaries with the WASH beneficiaries, with the water supply activity giving the largest beneficiary reach and coverage for the project.

## Specificities of the direct beneficiaries (please specify, if possible, by referring to the groups as appropriate, e.g.: unaccompanied minors, people with disabilities, children, former combatants, etc.)

The ethnic mix of Deir-ez-Zor governorate is predominantly Arab Sunni populations, on both sides of the Euphrates. Kurdish populations are not present, except for SDF forces which control the Northern side of Euphrates in Deir-Ez-Zor.

Direct beneficiaries will include vulnerable and at-risk communities with a high number of IDP returnees. Over the past year, there has been a high number of Syrians returning to their place of origin, who were previously internally displaced due to conflict and besiegement.

Over the last year alone, there are over 224,000 people who were formerly internally displaced who have returned to their place of origin in Deir-ez-Zor governorate. Because many men have fled from the conflict, were killed, injured or have joined military ranks, many women are now heads of household and not only have to continue their traditional household activities within the home, but also have to take on income generation activities as the main breadwinner, mostly being active outside the house. The project will therefore specifically target women headed households in terms of their food security, livelihood and WASH needs.

The average household size is estimated to be 7 persons per household.[[10]](#footnote-10)

## Mechanisms and criteria for the identification of the direct beneficiaries

Oxfam will prioritise project activities in communities with high number and ratio of returnees to the local population, where there is a high level of vulnerability and poor coping mechanisms, for both returnees and residents that have remained in their home of origin. In particular, for both the EFSVL and WASH interventions, priority for specific household level needs interventions will be based on the following criteria:

1. Female-headed HHs;
2. HHs with persons with disabilities, among whom those with lack of mobility related to old age or children with physical or mental impediments;
3. HHs with high number of children, both school age children and under 5 years of age;
4. Spontaneous returnee households who have lost assets and property due to the conflict, who struggle to restore their livelihoods;
5. Individuals who have remained in their homes of origin within communities where returns are taking place or who are hosting IDPs, and whose have similarly lost assets and property and are struggling to restore their livelihoods.

Oxfam will target its intervention in communities which have seen many households returning, and where there are issues of social cohesion, basic social service provision, and livelihood restoration. Taking into consideration the above beneficiary criteria, these will be further confirmed after interactions with the affected communities to include other possible excluded and vulnerable groups.

For both the public health promotion and food security interventions, beneficiary identification will be conducted with the communities and will be verified at field level by Oxfam teams. For the restoration of water systems, the selection will be based on a combination of technical feasibility and largest catchment population. Priority will be given to interventions which serve a high caseload of people who identify with the criteria described above.

## Describe the scope of and the arrangements for the involvement of the direct beneficiaries in the development of the action

Beneficiary involvement at the initial design phase of this project has been important in order to get a first-hand understanding of the most urgent needs. Further consultations are planned with women, men, boys, girls, elderly persons and persons with disabilities to ensure their differing and specific needs and protection risks are identified and considered in aspects of programme delivery.   
  
The implementation of this project will be carried out through participatory community approaches involving different stakeholders including beneficiaries, community leaders, local authorities on key project activities such as beneficiaries’ selection to ensure transparency and accountability to multiple and different stakeholders. Beneficiaries will be encouraged to actively participate at the different stages of project cycle implementation through focus group discussions. They will be involved in determining and/or finalizing the contents of the hygiene and agricultural NFIs. It is also planned that they participate in defining the curricula for the agricultural trainings they will receive.

Communities will be fully informed of the project’s objectives and activities, criteria for beneficiary selection and content of NFIs distributed to ensure transparency, accountability and acceptance.   
Furthermore, Oxfam implements a beneficiary feedback system which includes help desks during distributions for receiving feedback and complaints. Beneficiary feedback is recorded and cascaded to respective teams for action; it is also incorporated into future programming as lessons learned. Information collected through the feedback system is used to obtain beneficiaries perspectives on implementation and indications on adjustments that may be required to improve the process. Information collected on communities’ protection concerns will be used to adapt Oxfam’s program and improve the level of safe programming to ensure Oxfam fully adheres to the Core Humanitarian Principles and Oxfam’s Responsible Data Policy.

Additionally, Oxfam will recruit community resource persons (CRPs) from the targeted communities to lead hygiene and health promotion awareness activities. They will benefit from training and will act as focal points and resource on public health within their respective communities. Oxfam will also aim at utilising qualified local contractors for its WASH interventions who will in turn hire local skilled and unskilled labour, which will further contribute to local community ownership of the interventions.

## Other potential beneficiaries (indirect, catchment, etc.)

Oxfam’s EFSVL intervention will not only directly benefit specifically targeted individuals and households but will also benefit the local communities at large as increased agricultural food production will in turn increase the quantity and diversity of food available at local markets. This increased food production can also be used in agricultural value chains for further processing and boosting value. These benefits could extend to other areas of Deir-ez-Zor governorate, including Deir-ez-Zor city, the main market hub in the governorate, which has an estimated population of over 140,000 (source: UN OCHA).

In terms of Oxfam’s WASH interventions, increased access to safe water will indirectly improve access to sanitation and will enhance health and hygiene promotion of the population connected to the same WASH systems targeted by the action. Rehabilitating water systems will not only provide clean water to vulnerable communities. It will also reduce the burden and cost to local water establishments and humanitarian actors who employ expensive interim solutions, namely water trucking to fill the gap, in turn allowing them to save and redirect resources to be used to reach more people in underserved areas.

## Direct beneficiaries by sector (refer to “ECHO’s guidelines, Annex I”, pages 26-29: <http://ec.europa.eu/echo/about/actors/fpa_fr.htm>)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sectors** | **Number of beneficiaries** |
| EFSL | 17,500 |
| WASH | 35,000 |

**[INT] In the event of a change, please provide information**

**[FIN] In the event of a change, please provide information**

**[FIN] Estimate by type of beneficiary**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Women: | | … %,e | | Men: | (women + men total = 100 %) |
| Infants (aged < 5): | … %, | Children  (aged < 18): | … %, | Elderly: | … % |

* 1. ***Objectives, outcomes and activities***

### Operational overview of the action: logical framework (3 pages maximum)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Title of the action | Multi-year food security and wash assistance to vulnerable communities in Deir-ez-Zor, Syria | | | |
| Main objective | To improve food security, nutrition, access to safe water and resilience for vulnerable conflict-affected women, men, girls and boys in Syria | | | |
|  | Intervention logic | Objectively verifiable indicators | Verification sources | Risks and assumptions |
| Specific objective | To ensure that the most vulnerable conflict-affected population have its critical basic needs met through interventions which improve sustainable food security outcomes and improve access to life-saving safe water and hygiene practices. | * 60% of targeted conflict- affected households have improved livelihood strategies and incomes; * 60% of target population have adequate WASH services and hygiene practices. | * Baseline survey * Endline survey * EFSA * PDM surveys. * KAP survey * Field reports | **Risks:**  - Compromised ability to achieve project objectives due to lack of approvals to work in government and opposition controlled areas  - Escalation of conflict resulting in insecurity near project locations which may limit Oxfam’s abilities to achieve project objectives  - Difficulty in accessing communities for data collection to assess their actual needs and/or measure impact  - Rapid increase of beneficiaries in targeted locations  - Increased tension between IDPs, returnees and host communities  - Limited equipment and supplies available in the Syrian market due to instability, sanctions and limited imports delays or prevents the implementation of project activities  - Risk of compromised impartiality and independence  - Occurrence of gender-based violence  **Assumptions:**  - No interference by conflicting parties in the implementation putting at risk independence and impartiality.  - Security situation in target area allows movement of Oxfam staff & volunteers;  - Oxfam project supported water resources/availability and quality remains stable and within minimum standards;  - No damage to newly rehabilitated infrastructure;  - Oxfam is supported by relevant authorities to conduct hygiene sessions in collective shelters, other informal settlements, or other public spaces;  - Oxfam is supported by relevant authorities to continue with the unconditional cash distribution programme;  - Cultural / religious biases to women’s participation in project activities are minimised;  - Intra-household tension related to project benefits are minimised. |
| Outcomes | OC1: WASH - Conflict-affected Syrian women, girls, boys and men have improved access to adequate safe water, hygiene materials, and have improved hygiene and water conservation practices.  OC2: EFSVL - Conflict-affected Syrian women, girls, boys and men have increased access to food through increased food production and increased household income. | * 35,000 people have access to sufficient and safe water for domestic use; * 70% of targeted women, men, girls and boys express satisfaction with reliable access to water by the end of the project; * 70% of women and men who have benefited from hygiene promotion activities know and apply at least 3 key hygiene behaviours by the end of the project. * 60% of targeted families with improved coping strategy index scores and greater diversity of expenditure; * 60% of targeted vulnerable households with improved Food Consumption Score >42; * 60% of conflict affected women-headed households have increased household income. | * Baseline survey * Endline survey * PDM reports * KAP survey * Focus Group Discussions; * Key Informant Interviews; * Water quality test results (where possible); * Water Establishment figures regarding user population and flow rates; * Market analysis report * Post Distribution reports * Registration records * Distribution records * Accountability report * Focus Group Discussions * Key Informant Interviews |
| **Activities** | **Outcome 1: WASH**   * 1. Essential rehabilitation of water supply systems;   2. Hygiene Promotion Awareness Activities/Campaigns with women, men, boys, and girls including distribution of IEC WASH related materials   3. Provision and distribution of gender sensitive hygiene kits;   1.4 Develop policy brief on the WASH response in Syria, based from learning from the project  **Outcome 2: EFSVL**  2.1 Conduct respectively vulnerability, market and land irrigation infrastructure engineering analysis;  2.2 Rehabilitation of communal irrigation canals using labor intensive schemes and the provision and installation of irrigation equipment;  2.3 Provide agricultural toolkits and poultry;  2.4 Provide unconditional cash support to extremely vulnerable households unable to participate in agricultural activities;  2.5 Perform a pilot localized research on the effects of climate change on natural resources, i.e. land and water in agricultural areas with recommendations for improved agricultural land and water management;  2.6 Train farmers on environmental and climate-sensitive agriculture and irrigation techniques;  2.7 Develop policy brief on improving women’s access to aid support in the livelihoods sector, based from learning from the project. | | |
| **Prerequisites**  - Security situation does not hamper project interventions;  - Security situation allows continuous access to the project sites by Oxfam personnel;  - International banking system facilitates the transfer of funds to Oxfam in Syria for the purpose of implementing this project;  - Relevant authorities (line ministries and governorates) provide timely permission to implement the project, in a way that does not impinge on independent and impartial humanitarian action;  - Relevant authorities process international staff visas/work permits in a timely manner to facilitate project implementation;  - Skilled human resources are available in-country and in Deir-ez-Zor for the implementation of this project;  - Relevant project materials and equipment are available in the local market; | | | | |

* + 1. **More detailed information per outcome**[[11]](#footnote-11)
       1. **Outcome 1:** WASH - Conflict-affected Syrian women, girls, boys and men have improved access to adequate safe water, hygiene materials, and have improved hygiene and water conservation practices.
          1. ***At the proposal stage***
* **Sector: WASH**
* **Related sub-sector:** Water supply, hygiene promotion, capacity building, other
* **Beneficiaries (status + number)**

35,000 Beneficiaries residing in Al Mayadin District, including returnees. This includes 35,000 reached through water supply interventions, and 20,000 people to be reached through hygiene promotion activities.

* **Indicators for this outcome:**

1. 35,000 people have access to sufficient and safe water for domestic use
2. 60% of targeted women, men, girls and boys expressed satisfaction with reliable access to water by the end of the project.
3. 70% of women and men who have benefited from hygiene promotion activities know at least 3 key hygiene behaviours by the end of the project.

* **Outcome-related activities**

**1.1 Essential Rehabilitation of Water Supply Systems**

Given current issues with lack of access to clean safe water through the network, many people rely on the Euphrates river as their primary source, or on water provided by trucking which is an expensive alternative and not fully reliable in terms of delivery and quality. Furthermore, often women and children are mobilised to collect water, which not only keeps children away from education but also implies potential risks to women and children.

To address this, Oxfam proposes activities to rehabilitate the water pumping station currently out of order in Al Mayadin. The rehabilitation of the water pumping station in Al Mayadin will be upgraded from its current condition to ensure access to an efficient amount of water to be pumped to the villages in Al Mayadin. This includes rehabilitation of the primary and secondary water pumping station. The works will be conducted through a contractor which will include provision and installation of the horizontal pumps with electrical and mechanical accessories needed, in addition to the rehabilitation of the sand filters and the provision and installation of generators with control panels.

If by the time this proposal is approved, the described works have already been initiated by other humanitarian actors, Oxfam will refocus on spot rehabilitation of the water supply network which is partially functional. Based on experience to date, water supply networks in communities that have experienced armed conflict may be damaged on average from 30 to 50%. The rehabilitation works will include reconnecting, repairing and replacing water pipes in the local water supply network to ensure proper access to safe water for the villages in Al Mayadin and further minimising the dependence on water trucking. In addition, Oxfam may provide and install HH-level pipes of different sizes, connection pipes, and public tapstands. Exact works to be done will be evaluated at the beginning of the project.

The catchment population for either of these two WASH intervention options is 35,000 which will have restored access to safe and clean water for drinking and household use.

**1.2 Hygiene Promotion Awareness Activities/Campaigns with women, men, boys, and girls including distribution of IEC WASH related materials**

Oxfam will target hygiene interventions for vulnerable families living in the targeted communities. Oxfam will support hygiene promotion in targeted communities through trained Community Resource Persons (CRPs) to help address the public health issues in the governorate. CRPs will be trained: a) to conduct basic local WASH surveys; b) in a number of hygiene promotion topics which will be selected based on a local survey of health issues; c) planning and designing hygiene awareness campaign including curricula and hygiene sessions. Following these trainings, Oxfam will provide on-going support to the CRPs as they may require to perform their tasks. The CRPs will be selected from within the affected communities. Oxfam will aim to train at least 30 CRPs, with at least 60% female representation. CRPs will be able to conduct awareness sessions in their community for a total of up to 2500 people. This is a voluntary position with only daily cash incentive, taken up by the residents of affected villages, in IDP sites, or by staff based in location of local Syrian NGO.   
Hygiene is crucial for all family members, therefore these campaigns include sessions for women, sessions targeting communities as a whole, as well as activities for children in schools.

**1.3 Provision and distribution of Gender-sensitive Hygiene Kits**

To support returnees and local communities in the maintenance of their personal and domestic hygiene, especially those who are living in or have returned to partially destroyed buildings, Oxfam will provide and distribute hygiene materials to vulnerable households who struggle to practice adequate hygiene. The loss of income makes it difficult for many vulnerable households to adapt or manage hygienic practices in their current underprivileged situation. Oxfam in direct consultation with the communities will determine the specific content of hygiene kits based on local community needs, it will consider factors such gender, age, disability as well as local market availability, ensuring that items that are not available in the local market but required are included. Oxfam will distribute one hygiene kit per household, for up to 2,500 households whose members are participants in the hygiene awareness activities.

**1.4 Develop policy brief on the WASH response in Syria, based from learning from the project**

To ensure that future WASH assistance in Deir-Ez-Zor better meets the needs of vulnerable populations and is gender responsive, Oxfam will use data collected from FGDs, MEAL activities (including distribution monitoring and the feedback desk), Key Informant Interviews, and ad hoc engagement with beneficiaries to create policy briefs and communication products for key international stakeholders (including the donor community), that outline the support that vulnerable populations themselves want within the WASH sector in order to improve their lives. Oxfam will host a learning event to disseminate learning from the project to inform and influence others on challenges and opportunities to improving the WASH response in Syria. Such an event could take place at a Senior Officials Meeting, the Brussels IV Conference, or during the Belgian presidency of the UN in early 2020.

* + - * 1. ***Interim report***
* **Updating[[12]](#footnote-12) of the indicators**
* **Updating4 of the beneficiaries (status + number)**
* **Updating4 of the activities**
  + - * 1. **Final report**
* **Indicators for the outcomes obtained**
* **Beneficiaries (status + number)**
* **Activities carried out**
* **Resources and related costs finally committed and incurred**
  + - 1. **Outcome 2:** EFSVL -Conflict-affected Syrian women, girls, boys and men have increased access to food through increased food production and increased household income.
         1. ***At the proposal stage***
* **Sector: Food Security and Livelihoods**
* **Related sub-sector**: availability of, access to and consumptions of food, livelihood support, unconditional cash assistance
* **Beneficiaries (status + number)**

2,500 households (17,500 beneficiaries in total), with the aim to target vulnerable households according to the criteria specified in Section 4.2.3. This will include: 2,500 households with improved access to water for agricultural land irrigation; 400 farming households with access to wheat, seeds and farming tools; 200 farming households with access to poultry and fodder, for households who do not have access to land for farming.

* **Indicators for this outcome:**

1. 60% of targeted families with improved coping strategy index scores and greater diversity of expenditure;
2. 60% of targeted vulnerable households with improved Food Consumption Score >42;
3. 60% of conflict affected women-headed households have increased household income.

* **Outcome-related activities**

**2.1 Conduct respectively vulnerability, market and land irrigation infrastructure engineering analysis**

At the outset of the project, Oxfam will conduct a vulnerability, a market and a land irrigation infrastructure engineering analysis for the proposed interventions. The aim of these assessments is to respectively:

1. target and identify the most at risk communities with the highest need of support;
2. to identify how livelihood interventions can be linked to local markets;
3. to identify what type of civil engineering works are required to restore irrigation channels to full use.

In Syria, many past agricultural livelihood interventions have had limited impact, as they had not factored in how to ensure market linkages for those benefiting from livelihood activities. The market analysis will be undertaken to ensure that vulnerable people benefiting from livelihood interventions can access markets to sell their produce, which will in turn increase food access and supply for other conflict affected Syrians, and enable value-addition of agricultural inputs.

**2.2 Rehabilitation of communal irrigation canals by labour-intensive schemes and provision and installation of irrigation equipment**

Based on the analysis above, Oxfam will identify areas and communities where agricultural land can be revitalised by rehabilitating canals and repairing and/or providing new water pumps and pipelines.

The first step in the rehabilitation of canals will consist of their cleaning and re-shaping through community led cash-for-work schemes. Oxfam will identify and select 200 farmer households that are willing to work on community-led initiatives of rehabilitating communal irrigation canals. Each initiative will be identified through the land irrigation analysis based on community identified needs. Around seven different community-led initiatives will be identified for support, with an average of 30 cash-for-workers working on these initiatives each of which will take on average two months to complete. Each worker will be paid on average 2000 SYP per day (about 4 USD per day) while employed on the project. The final amount will be determined based on the local labour market costs in order not to distort the local economies and to avoid creating tensions among community members, i.e. those directly participating in cash-for-work and those who are not. Oxfam will provide the necessary tools and workers’ gear to support the cash-for-work activity.

It is preliminarily estimated that eight water pumps serving land irrigation systems will be either repaired or replaced. Oxfam will aim to replace 8 pumps capable of feeding agricultural land. Once these works are completed, local community committees will be trained on the pumps’ operation and maintenance, they will be responsible for maintaining the pumps at a functional level. Oxfam aims through these activities to support 2,500 vulnerable farmer households to regain access to and use of viable farm land with the aim of restoring their agricultural productivity.

**2.3 Provide agricultural toolkits and poultry**

Based on the vulnerability analysis and the beneficiary identification criteria in 4.2.3, Oxfam will identify vulnerable households which will be eligible to receive agriculture toolkits or poultry for egg production. Four hundred (400) households will be provided three times with agriculture toolkits including wheat and vegetable seeds to cover the project’s four farming seasons, as well as small to medium size farming tools. Two hundred (200) vulnerable households who do not have access to land for farming due to disability or other serious reason will be provided with poultry and fodder which will allow them to engage in small scale farming.

**2.4 Provide unconditional cash support to extremely vulnerable households unable to participate in agricultural activities**

Through the vulnerability analysis, Oxfam will identify 200 households which have extreme forms of vulnerability, with a very limited ability to participate in livelihood activities. These may include child-headed households, households with members suffering from significant disabilities or illnesses, households that are otherwise totally destitute.

Oxfam will provide unconditional cash assistance to these 200 households to provide essential humanitarian support. The value of the cash assistance will be calculated based on the family food ration to meet a minimum 1,700 Kcal per person per day in a monthly family food ration, which is 70% of the minimum kcal needs. To meet the Kcal deficit from the monthly food rations, the sector recommends that households with extreme food insecurities or households with Persons with Specific Needs such as children, Pregnant and Lactating Women, Persons with Disabilities and vulnerable elderly receive access to supplementary food assistance. Sector guidance estimates the food ration to cost approximately USD 60 (30,000 SYP) with an additional USD 35 (17,500 SYP) for supplementary nutritious foods. Calculation for the value of the cash assistance is made on a reference to the food needs for a family for a period of 30 days. Given this, Oxfam will aim to provide support to 200 selected vulnerable households for a period of up to 3 months. The final basket value will be calculated during the assessment and coordinated with the Cash Working Group and other implementing agencies.

Sample Items for the top up basket may be provided to households on general food assistance by in kind, cash or voucher. Oxfam will coordinate and collaborate with other food security/nutrition actors (such as WFP and UNRWA) providing in kind and cash-based response (even for multipurpose cash) to ensure selected households can access appropriate top-up items: Pregnant and lactating women top up to access Fresh Food (dairy products, vegetables, fruits, chicken, meat, fish). (The PLW reference basket is calculated based on the micro-nutrient gap between a pregnant woman's requirement for key micronutrients and those provided by the GFA, not kcals). Oxfam will also coordinate with other humanitarian and protection actors, to help refer these vulnerable households for further support, given the likelihood that they will still require support once the unconditional cash assistance has been provided. In addition, Oxfam will undertake post-distribution monitoring to understand how cash assistance was used, and whether food intake improved in selected households.

The process for Oxfam Syria’s cash transfer modality is attached as Annex 7.

**2.5 Perform a pilot localized research on the effects of climate change on natural resources, i.e. land and water in agricultural areas with recommendations for climate sensitive adapted agricultural practices.**

Oxfam will commission at the beginning of the action a localized pilot research in Deir-ez-Zor to analyse:

1. the impact of climate change on agricultural land and water;
2. the impact of traditional farming practices on the climate change.

The research will include recommendations for:

1. improved farming techniques that are adapted and create resilience to the impact of climate change;
2. improved farming techniques that reduce their contribution to climate change.

Research exists that confirms a long-term trend of reduction of rainfall, higher temperatures and consequent drought in Syria due to increase of CO2 suggesting anthropogenic effect of climate change. Analysis also informs of inadequate agricultural and economic policies setting off overuse of ground water and liberalisation schemes removing subsidies to fuel and food which, combined with climate change impact, have led to significant internal population migration to urban areas and poverty, in turn playing a factor in the popular uprising in 2011.

With a return to relative stability in the region but with continuous droughts and resumption of traditional farming livelihoods in Deir-ez-Zor, the environment may no longer be able to sustain a high demand for water and other natural resources over the long run. Hence, this research is imperative to understand the adaptations that are required to provide sustainable climate-sensitive agriculture in the region.

The output of this research will be used:

1. to inform the training of farmers and encourage their use of climate change adapted agricultural practices;
2. to advocate to both government and civilian national and international stakeholders for the integration of climate-sensitive approaches to agricultural strategies and interventions in water-scarce areas.

**2.6 Train farmers on environmentally and climate-sensitive agriculture and irrigation techniques**

To ensure farmers can utilise the revitalised communal farming land effectively and practice environmentally sensitive and climate smart farming techniques, Oxfam will conduct training for the targeted farming households. Oxfam will conduct a series of training and sessions which will include topics such as planting, cropping, water resource management, soil fertility, pesticide control, crop diversification, crop and seed type, planting and cropping, and business skills taking into consideration the specific environment in Deir-ez-Zor. These sessions will be led by trained facilitators. Oxfam will aim at training 960 farmer households through a series of 4 training sessions which will be conducted throughout the year, mirroring the different agricultural seasons. Once finalised, recommendations from the pilot research on climate impact on agriculture will be integrated into the training curricula.

**2.7 Develop policy brief on improving women’s access to aid support in the livelihoods sector, based from learning from the project.**

Utilising Focus Group Discussions, Key Informant Interviews and information from MEAL processes, Oxfam in Syria – utilising capacity from the in-country policy and gender teams, will develop a policy brief to outline how women are able to access humanitarian support in the livelihoods sector, how appropriate that support is for the needs in women and what their priorities would be for further humanitarian support. This policy brief will build on existing Oxfam policy work (in progress) on how the discriminatory elements of Syrian Law impact on how women receive aid and explore the formal and informal obstacles to women receiving livelihoods support.

Given the conservative nature of Deir Ez-Zor governorate, the research will gather the views of men also, to best understand how social norms impact on the ability for women to access vital livelihoods support. Such information would then be shared with national and international stakeholders, including through the production of a video to be utilised for international advocacy. The video will enable voices of vulnerable Syrians to be heard by key international stakeholders.

* + - * 1. ***Interim report***
* **Updating**[[13]](#footnote-13) **of the indicators**
* **Updating4 of the beneficiaries (status + number)**
* **Updating4 of the activities**
  + - * 1. ***Final report***
* **Indicators for the outcomes obtained**
* **Beneficiaries (status + number)**
* **Activities carried out**
  1. ***Work plan (e.g. annexed Gantt diagram)***

Please note that all international assistance projects within Syria, need approval from relevant line ministries of Syria before any activity can take place. This approval can only take place when funding has been secured, which usually takes around 3-6 months to process with different line ministries. As such, Oxfam has included and factored this into the workplan, attached as Annex 8, meaning the first month of the project will mostly be preparatory as Government of Syria permissions to implement are processed – this has been factored into the work plan attached.

* + 1. **[INT] Revised work plan in the event of changes following the proposal**
  1. ***Monitoring, assessment, auditing and other analyses***
     1. **Monitoring of the activities (explain how, by whom)**

The project's Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) plan will be developed in line with Oxfam's Common Approach to Monitoring Evaluation, Learning and Social Accountability (CAMSA), adapted to the project context as appropriate. The M&E plan will be drafted in the inception phase with clear monitoring activities scheduled for the project lifespan to ensure that indicators are tracked on an ongoing basis.

The monitoring tools which will be used include:

* **Data triangulation**: Oxfam gets data from various sources such as its site engineers and local actors, such as Local Water Establishments, etc. This data is then triangulated to ensure its accuracy. Oxfam uses the lowest number of targeted beneficiaries in its reporting. The sort of data received include numbers on catchment area, production capacity of the water infrastructure, hours of electricity shortages, share of water per capita etc.
* **Baseline and Endline**: these are especially crucial for sanitation and hygiene interventions since apart from the needs, they will measure aspects such as safety, current practices and knowledge, availability of materials etc. As noted above, since household level surveys are not possible given the context, Oxfam will rely on FGDs for this information. FGDs will be held separately for men and women as per local sensitivities.
* **Handover reports**: for any infrastructure that Oxfam installs or helps to rehabilitate, such as pumping stations and water networks, such as the Al Mayadin pumping station in this project, the completed work is handed over to local authorities for their Operation & Maintenance and is accompanied by appropriate handover reports. As per Oxfam’s modus operandi in country, the contractors that install the infrastructure are responsible for the O&M of the infrastructure for the first year of operation, after which relevant authorities are responsible for the maintenance and O&M of the infrastructure. These handover reports are also evidence of the infrastructure installed and working properly since it is signed by all parties involved.
* **Distribution Reports**: these are essential as a source of verification for hygiene material distribution that Oxfam undertakes either directly or through partners. If the distributions take place by Oxfam, the reports are produced by Oxfam’s own staff and CRPs. In the case of distribution undertaken through Interagency Convoys, these reports are provided by UN agencies of ICRC/SARC, depending on which agency is leading the convoy. In the matter case, the report is a snapshot of the interventions shared with all humanitarian actors in country.
* **Focus Group Discussions**: given the limitation of collecting household level data which limits Oxfam’s interaction with the communities it is serving, Oxfam relies on FGDs as a tool to build this interface with communities. These are conducted by site engineers, focal points, as well as Oxfam staff, including MEAL staff, visiting the areas, in consultation with Oxfam policy and gender teams. These are also conducted when team are undertaking technical assessments of the infrastructures. FGDs inform Oxfam of the needs of the communities and thus inform programming decisions. FGDs held at the end of the interventions are also used to measure the satisfaction of the communities as a result of the interventions, and the appropriateness of the interventions. This also serves as a feedback mechanism. In line with cultural considerations, FGDs are held separately with men and women, with male staff members leading discussions with male members of the communities, and female staff members with the female members of the communities.
* **Monitoring Reports**: these reports are generated from site engineers and Oxfam staff visiting the field. These capture the situation and progress of the interventions every step of the way.
* **Training reports**: these reports are generated as a result of the training sessions conducted for attendees, and include a snapshot of the training materials, the methodologies used, and the number of people trained, including pictures.
* **Attendance sheets from training sessions**: these will verify the number of people which attend the training sessions
* **Session Reports**: these reports are generated as a result of hygiene sessions carried out with targeted communities. These also include a snapshot of the composition of the communities, the number of volunteers, beneficiaries and Oxfam staff involved, the training materials and approaches used, and the approximate number of the targeted communities, including pictures.
* **Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM)**: in cases where the distribution is conducted in collective shelters by Oxfam, Oxfam also conducts PDM to get feedbacks from the communities on the appropriateness of the materials distributed, along with their usefulness and satisfaction of the communities.

Oxfam is committed to collect gender and age disaggregated data. Exact methodology and sample size for all data collection will be determined based on security and access considerations. Findings based on evidence will be discussed during regular team and program meetings to assess progress against targets, identify possible changes in context and needs in project implementation, as well as reflect on lessons learned. Technical MEAL oversight will be led by the MEAL Officer in Damascus, supported by a MEAL Advisor/Manager.

* + 1. **Tick the boxes corresponding to the analyses that may be undertaken:  
       🞎 External assessment during the action  
       X External assessment after the action  
       🞎 External auditing during the action  
       X External auditing after the action  
       🞎 Internal assessment or internal auditing relating to the action**
    2. **Other analyses:** 🞎 **Please provide information:**

Given the relative dearth of programmatic information and assessment in Syria, Oxfam will aim to utilise information generated from the project to inform and update information on ongoing needs. This information will be used to generate analyses which will be shared with humanitarian stakeholders and used to advocate for further delivery of humanitarian needs ongoing in Syria.

1. **CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

## Please describe the expected level of sustainability and/or of connectedness[[14]](#footnote-14)

The proposed action aims to respond to the immediate life-saving needs of IDPs, returnees and host communities, in Deir-ez-Zor Governorate. Oxfam's approach is to do so in a sustainable way. For example, emergency interventions aimed at providing agricultural support are coupled with resilience building activities, such as the restoration of community assets, and support to re-establish community livelihood assets for agriculture. Through these interventions, it is hoped to bridge a gap for those reached, to not only provide assistance in their time of need, but to help ensure that their coping mechanisms are improved so that they no longer depend on humanitarian assistance in the future.

Given the status of the civil conflict in Syria, it is not clear that an exit strategy will be possible in the immediate future – especially within the next couple years. However, Oxfam aims to enable ownership and sustainability by providing targeted support to restore community assets that have been disrupted due to conflict.

## Continuity strategy (links between emergency aid, rehabilitation and development)

Without a long-term political solution to the conflict, the continuity strategy for linking short-term humanitarian interventions with longer-term development interventions aimed at supporting the long-term capacity and needs of Syrians will be unlikely to happen. At the time of writing, there is much hesitancy from international actors who support humanitarian interventions in Syria, to approach more longer-term development interventions, as this could be seen as being more partial to one side of the conflict and jeopardising good humanitarian donorship principles. Thus, until a long-term political solution is agreed and endorsed by international stakeholders, interventions focused on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development are unlikely to be supported and get off the ground, as they will not be endorsed, and funded by the international community.

If there is an enabling environment for longer-term intervention to happen, Oxfam will look beyond emergency needs, and will aim to design and implement interventions which build on the learning from this programme, and focus on the long-term needs, opportunities and desires of conflict-affected Syrians recovering from conflict. Oxfam, however, takes an approach that delivering emergency response in a sustainable fashion can support communities both now and into the future, and this is evidenced by our proposed interventions.

## Integration (e.g. reduction of disaster risks, children, human rights, gender equality, environmental impact, others to be specified)

***Gender:*** Oxfam's humanitarian programming in Syria is conducted in accordance with Oxfam's Minimum Standards for Gender in Emergencies. Gender is integrated throughout the project cycle and to measure that IASC Gender and Age monitoring tool is used.

Oxfam will ensure that project staff and volunteers are gender sensitive by providing training and support. Oxfam will also aim to hire women as volunteers so that project staff can have unfettered access to, and communication with, women beneficiaries; Oxfam will aim to recruit at least 60% female community resource personnel. Additionally, in Deir-ez-Zor the Oxfam team will have a dedicated Gender Focal Point who will work closely with Oxfam Gender Team in Damascus. During activity design and beneficiary selection, Oxfam teams will take into consideration the different priorities, needs, vulnerabilities, protection risks, and capacities of both women and men, boys and girls including elderly and persons with disability, as well as factoring the different impacts that the conflict has had on them; this will reflect an adequate targeting criteria in this project to best identify the most vulnerable categories of beneficiaries to be prioritised. A learning session will be conducted to analyse assessment data and design practical recommendations of the team on how to adopt activities based on findings; primary focus will be on gender responsive cash modalities and analysis of implications to different gender and age groups

An ongoing gender analysis will be integrated into the MEAL plan to ensure that gender relevant information is collected, analysed, shared to adequately adopt activities to the deferential needs. Due to evident protection risks including different types of gender-based violence (GBV), male and female volunteers will be trained in caring for survivors (with UNFPA and UNICEF) and will be supported to initiate community-based child protection and GBV mitigation/prevention strategies.

**Safeguarding:** Oxfam Syria has agreed on an annual Child Protection (in March 2018) and Safeguarding (PSEA) Country Plans (in June 2018) to further promote staff and volunteers’ awareness of protection risks and vulnerabilities. The Safeguarding Country Plan is in line with [revised Oxfam policy framework (May 2018).](https://www.oxfam.org.uk/safeguarding) It aims to strengthening internal processes, re-enforcing a culture of zero tolerance towards harassment, abuse or exploitation, through prevention and increased engagement with partners, while further developing our focus on Gender Justice and prevention and protection form Gender Based Violence externally. The approach is intended to be pragmatic and adopted to conflict and restricted context in Syria where Oxfam and partners currently operate in a humanitarian life-saving mode in both IDP camp and non-camp setting. The plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Globally, the following progress has been made on safeguarding by Oxfam:

* Independent Commission appointed
* 119 new safeguarding investigators trained
* €2 million Euro investment in safeguarding across Oxfam globally
* Single staff reference system introduced with enhanced pre-employment checks
* Whistle-blowing hotline now in five languages
* New transparent reporting process on safeguarding introduced in line with UN guidelines

**Protection:** at the start of the project, Oxfam will identify specific potential protection risks as may be linked to its intervention based on which it will integrate safe programming measures into its interventions as will be appropriate. Oxfam’s intervention may in and of itself reduce or eliminate some protection risks such as the risks incurred for women and children having to walk long distances to fetch water. Oxfam will also monitor the impacts of its EFSL and WASH interventions on the longer-term, not only on water resources and livelihoods, but also how their implementation may positively or negatively affect protection issues of the target community. For protection areas for which Oxfam is not directly mandated, it refers cases to those organisations that are. Oxfam provides training to its staff on conflict sensitivity, Do No Harm, protection and safe programming. These trainings make staff more able to identify and respond to protection issues as appropriate. Oxfam regularly participates at Protection cluster meetings and sub-meetings.

**Conflict sensitivity:** Oxfam aims to reach the people Syria with the greatest humanitarian need; the reality is that all aid in Syria is subject to the limitations on access imposed by the different parties to the conflict hence and therefore, Oxfam continues to review its programme against humanitarian principles.

Oxfam integrates conflict sensitivity approaches into assessments and programme design by increasing focus on conflict sensitive community engagement in programming to ensure safe programming (this will improve our knowledge of the context, test our assumptions, make our programs more accountable and responsive, as well as better empower the community to take decisions on issues in their community life). This includes understanding community dynamics and tensions, including any resource conflict related to water and sanitation services, agriculture or livelihoods at community level, and designing interventions which do no harm, and do not exacerbate the root causes of local conflict.

Oxfam engages communities in a conflict sensitive manner, taking care not to exacerbate tensions - while supporting local capacities for peace, particularly among women-led initiatives, wherever possible. For example, for PHP activities, Oxfam conducts assessments of project locations (for example schools and collective shelters) through its focal points, volunteers, site engineers, to identify the needs, and accordingly designs its awareness sessions and IEC materials. Female and male staff of local health centres, as well as female and male teachers of schools are involved in design of sessions, and while awareness sessions are being conducted in schools and collective shelters. Needs and preferences of target beneficiaries inform the content of hygiene kits; for example: menstruation material support for women and adolescent girls. Our community resource persons (CRPs) are women and men belonging to the affected communities in project locations and can take over the hygiene promotion entitlements.

**Environment:** Oxfam globally is actively engaged on issues related to climate change impact and its effects on the poor. Oxfam Syria is keen on designing programs that take these impacts into consideration with a view to ensuring suitable mitigating measures. It equally wants to ensure that its activities do not contribute to climate change. Given the project’s focus on restoring agricultural land, including irrigation systems and the provision of clean water, Oxfam aims to ensure it eliminates or reduces any unintended consequences on the environment in the short term or in the years following the implementation of the project. The East of Syria where the project is to be implemented has been subject to increasing desertification, cyclical droughts and water scarcity. These factors must be considered at the outset of the project in order to ensure that Oxfam adopts appropriate agricultural practices mindful of water usage both for agriculture and household use. To address this, Oxfam will undertake a climate change impact research at the start of the project to identify how to adapt agricultural practices to the given environment as well as to analyse the potential effects that its proposed activities may have on the environment. Oxfam will incorporate the recommendations from the research on both these points into the activity design of the project. It will also use the recommendations for future programming and advocacy inside and outside the country.

**Policy**: As part of this programme, and Oxfam’s wider humanitarian programme in Syria, Oxfam will undertake programme analysis to identify the lessons learned, and key challenges from programme implementation. This analysis will also explore wider community acceptance, and how the proposed interventions can be best targeted – along with other interventions – to provide humanitarian support to the community as a whole, and how communities see the benefit of such complementary programming.

The analysis will focus on both WASH and EFSL interventions undertaken and will highlight the impact on and views of women and young people under thirty. Oxfam will develop an appropriate methodology for the research, including feedback from beneficiaries and community-wide discussions, among which the sub-branch of the Deir-ez-Zor Directorate of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and the Mukhtar. The research will consider the operating environment in Syria, and the product of the research will be used to develop policy briefs to influence key stakeholders, both nationally and internationally. Nationally to improve access to relevant and needed humanitarian as demanded by Syrians, and internationally, to improve awareness of, and willingness to fund community-based humanitarian actions in Syria.

## [INT] In the event of changes or issues to be dealt with, please provide information

## [FIN] In the event of changes or issues to be dealt with, please provide information

1. **SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MEASURES**
   1. ***Emergency measures (plan B/ mitigation measures to be taken if the risks and assumptions set out in the logical framework materialise)***

As Syria is an active conflict zone, there are multiple security constraints in the country; however, Oxfam has been successfully operating in-country since 2013. Safety and security remains a top priority for Oxfam, and in the scope of the action Oxfam is foreseeing the following security constraints:

*- Death or injury of staff in case of explosions or cross fire*: Oxfam has a security management and evacuation plan updated periodically, with inputs from the Regional Security Adviser, which all staff must follow. Oxfam also follows UNDSS security updates and safety advisories which are shared with staff. Moreover, while travelling to the field, all staff need prior permission from the safety focal point and the Country Director, and can only use approved routes. Oxfam field staff are being enrolled in safety trainings to strengthen their capacity to deal with exposure to UXOs as they sometimes come across in the field. Oxfam also maintains a strong conflict analysis of the country and identifies issues of social tension and conflict. If any conflict arises in an Oxfam area of intervention, than security management protocols are followed, which will lead to suspension of activities, and relocation of staff until the area becomes stable again.

*- Oxfam perceived to support and legitimize any of the conflicting parties:* Working in Syria being registered under the GoS, presents challenges related not only approvals, but also legitimacy. A general concern is whether INGOs operating under the administration of the GoS are able to apply humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality and independence. Oxfam’s leadership has been, and continue to be, particularly concerned that impartiality be adhered to. Hence, Oxfam has developed red-lines which sets out Oxfam’s parameters of engagement in Syria (see Annex 9). These address 4 main areas: Safety and Security; Impartiality; Voice for Protection and Participation; and Legality. Oxfam has and will continue rejecting requests for assistance made by the GoS if it does not itself assess that the request made reflect priority humanitarian needs. Oxfam will not accept pressure by national or local authorities to target particular individuals or groups of individuals that do not fall under Oxfam’s selection criteria.

*- Constraints on access limiting monitoring:* Given constraints and restrictions to unfettered access to project areas, Oxfam has devised a number of mitigation, alternative operating procedures, by using multiple sources and triangulation of data, for monitoring and estimating the numbers of beneficiaries reached for its water infrastructure projects. The estimated number of people in these catchment areas which benefit from these projects, are calculated from data sources such as Cluster data, data from strategic partners such as SARC and UN agencies. Beneficiary feedback for Oxfam's direct interventions is sought by Oxfam's focal points and Area Managers.

*- Access to implement activities*: To mitigate against access issues, Oxfam will continue extensive interaction and coordination with relevant authorities and non-state actors on humanitarian principles and Do No Harm Approach. Where access becomes a barrier to interventions, due to authorities’ restrictions or security, the situation will be discussed with Belgian DGD in order to consider alterative humanitarian interventions that can be delivered. In cases where Oxfam cannot directly access sites, (due to either conflict, or lack of bureaucratic approval), Oxfam will coordinate with other actors on the ground, such as SARC who are able to implement more freely and reach out to people in need.

*- Additional displacement:* In case of unexpected displacement, rapid assessments will be conducted as outlined in Oxfam Syria’s Alternative Operating Procedures (see Annex 10) in order to identify emerging crisis needs, and points of social tension. Accordingly Oxfam will develop a response plan, and will coordinate with other humanitarian actors for a wider response. If this happens in the Belgian DGD action’s intervention area, Oxfam will notify Belgian DGD of the change in context, and will request a change in activities to address the displacement needs. All proposed activities will incorporate a protection risk analysis of proposed interventions, to ensure that they do not cause unintended harm.

- *GBV:* Oxfam will coordinate with UNFPA and other partners in the GBV sub-group to mainstream GBV prevention and referrals into the project cycle. CRPs will be trained on prevention, care and referral, in order to support this at community level.

*- Limited equipment and supplies available in the Syrian market:* Oxfam has been active in Damascus since 2013, and has developed a strong domestic supplier base, who are vetted against international blacklists and are able to fulfil contracts and deliver to order. Currently all WASH items are sourced directly within Syria, with little need to for international procurement. Oxfam also has a number of framework contracts with different suppliers for different items, e.g. hygiene materials, who are able to guarantee a steady supply of project material.

* 1. ***Security-related aspects***
     1. **Situation in the field. Please provide a brief description**

After the fall of Raqqa in August 2017 from ISIS to Kurdish-dominated Syrian Democratic Forces backed by the International Coalition Forces (ICF), the SDF advanced into Deir-ez-Zor governorate and currently control the north side of the Euphrates. Meanwhile, the GoS forces with Russian support have gained much grounds from ISIS in Deir-ez-Zor governorates and currently control the south side of the Euphrates. Currently, ISIS presence has further shrunk and is now concentrated along the Iraqi borders. Politically, the area has significance as the major oil fields of the country are located in the region. Since March 2018, no major armed incidents have been recorded between the GoS and SDF.

GoS/SDF Forces: These contesting forces are currently not in aggressive conflict against each other, however, small scale armed clashes have been reported between them in the recent past. If any significant clashes may trigger massive instability in the area and INGOs might be affected indirectly.

ICF/RF: US-led forces and Russian Forces are on the ground and are supporting the SDF and GoS forces respectively. Iranian and other pro-government forces might also operate in the area and if any interest of the said forces is hampered, eruption of armed clashes is possible.

In December 2017, the Russian President announced withdrawal of its bulk forces after successful military operations across the country. On 30 March 2018, the US President announced that the US troops would be withdrawn soon from Syria, which was reaffirmed in a tweet in December 2018. The Syrian president also said in May 2018 that all foreign troops must leave the country soon. Such announcements of withdrawals added a new dimension on the political arena in the area.

Although, it is not clear what political outcomes will shape the future, cooperation between the ICF and Russian forces determine overall safety and security environment in the area. Such cooperation between the major actors and effective de-confliction remains vital for INGOs operations in the area.Access to Deir-ez-Zor city from Homs/Palmyra has been re-established. GoS has also established its control over Deir-ez-Zor city and is currently working to re-establish basic infrastructures. With some limitations, Syrian mobile network is functioning in the governorate, however, there are some weak or very weak zones, where either no connectivity or very bad connections exists. INGOs operations must have alternate reliable means of communication to function effectively in the area.

INGOs require coordination and approval to cross from the GoS side to the SDF dominated areas and vice-versa in both governorates. The relationship with GoS and SDF remain generally positive so far and INGOs are expected to gain full support for its road missions/programme delivery from both forces.

ISIS is likely to continue their attacks against GoS troops in the western bank of the Euphrates River due to the recent operational pause announced by USA on the eastern bank, while GoS forces are most probably will focus on repelling ISIS attacks on the western bank in the short-term.

To-date Oxfam has been able to obtain the necessary GoS approvals to work in Deir-ez-Zor. In particular, Oxfam has developed a constructive and supportive relationship with the Deir-ez-Zor governorate level Directorates. They have been welcoming of Oxfam’s assistance. As recently as September 2018, these governorate authorities have placed no objections to Oxfam’s assessment visits to rural areas, to directly contact with farmers, and have allowed one WASH assessment at household level. Oxfam therefore expects that it will have at minimum a sufficient degree of access in a sufficiently timely manner to implement this project.

* + 1. **Has a specific security protocol been drawn up for this action?  
       yes 🞎 no 🗷 Standard procedures**

**If yes, provide information:**

* + 1. **Have the staff in the field and the expatriates received information and training concerning these procedures?  
        yes 🗷 no 🞎**

All staff are trained in Oxfam’s Security Management Plan for Syria. All field movements are planned, and are approved from the Oxfam Syria Security team, who maintain an overview of security conditions throughout the country. All expatriates working for Oxfam in Syria are trained on Personal Security and must attend a security training course ahead of working in Damascus, and all visitors are briefed on the Oxfam in Syria security management protocols both before commencing travel to Damascus, and on arrival in the Damascus office. In addition, the Oxfam Syria Security team, is supported by the Oxfam Global Security team who provide support and guidance on implementing security management protocols and on crisis management.

* 1. ***[INT] In the event of changes or issues to be dealt with, please provide information***
  2. ***[FIN] In the event of changes or issues to be dealt with, please provide information***

1. **COORDINATION IN THE FIELD**
   1. ***Coordination sur le terrain (veuillez indiquer la participation de l’Organisation humanitaire aux mécanismes de coordination avec d’autres parties prenantes, tels que les "clusters", les ONG, les agences des Nations unies, autres (à spécifier), ainsi que les liens avec la procédure d’appel consolidée, si nécessaire)***

Oxfam is an active member of the WASH, Early Recovery & Livelihood (ERL), NFI and Food Security and Agriculture (FSA), Protection (GBV sub-sector) sectors in Syria, and maintains bilateral relationships with FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA, OCHA and UNHCR. Oxfam also participates in HRP and HNO through different sector meetings held in Damascus including WASH, Protection, Shelter, NFI, FSA and ERL.

Oxfam is an active member of the Damascus-based INGOs group (DINGO), and as of December 2018, Oxfam sits on the Steering Committee and is one of four organisations in receipt of specific funding, from ECHO, to support DINGO coordination, including coordinating and agreeing policy messaging. Oxfam has also been elected as one of five INGOs to sit on the Syria Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) for the fourth year in a row, and is one of two to sit on the UN SMT.In addition**,** Oxfam's Syria CD has been elected by the Whole of Syria INGO community as one of few to represent them to the WoS Syria Strategic Group. Oxfam's regional management platform in Amman ensures coordination with relevant sectors and clusters at the Whole of Syria (WoS) level, and through the Inter-Sectoral Committees. Oxfam regularly reports against the 4W reporting matrix for the WASH and ERL Cluster to ensure that there is no duplication of efforts amongst the key sector actors.

* 1. ***National and local authorities (relationships established, authorisations, coordination)***

Oxfam operates in Syria through MoUs with the Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR), Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MoSA&L), the Ministry of Local Administration and Environment (MoLA&E), and with Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). With respect to more localised coordination, Oxfam supports the Water Establishment and Water Units, facilitated by Oxfam's site engineers. The Ministry of Water Resources also convenes coordination meetings between WASH agencies, of which Oxfam is a participant. In terms of national stakeholders, Oxfam currently coordinates with:

* Ministry of Water Resources (MoWR): MoU with MoWR. The MoWR oversees the state owned water and sanitation network, and approves all WASH sector activity in this regard.
* Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour (MoSAL): MoU with MoSAL. MoSAL oversees all international civil society engagement with Syrian civil society, and approves what partners Oxfam can work with within Syria.
* Ministry of Local Administration and Environment (MoLAE): MoU with MoLAE. MoLAE is important for all sanitation and public health management issues, and is a key actor to be consulted in this regard.
* Local Water Establishment (LWE): Oxfam is continuing to coordinate with LWEs at district level to work in schools and for rehabilitation of water supply systems. LWEs have the responsibility for maintaining water infrastructure on a day to day basis at local level
* Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC): Oxfam often works with SARC (the local affiliate of ICRC in Syria) to ensure continued access to project sites, especially in hard to reach and besieged areas. SARC is also an essential partner for Oxfam in terms of logistics, transport and facilitation for transporting goods across governorates, since SARC is accepted by most armed actors in the country. SARC is the largest humanitarian actor in Syria and is active delivering WASH activities in East Ghouta, and Oxfam will coordinate with them to harmonise activities.

Although Oxfam is working with the above-mentioned stakeholders, there will be no transfer of financial resources to any of them. All financial resources for the project are directly managed by Oxfam.

* 1. ***Potential coordination with the Belgian diplomatic representation***

Although there is no current Belgian diplomatic representation in Syria, Oxfam will ensure coordination with Belgian diplomatic representation in Beirut, Lebanon, in the start-up of the project, and reporting back on the ongoing successes and challenges that the project faces, including key lessons learned and policy developments with regards to the humanitarian situation in Syria. Oxfam Belgium currently supports DGD financed projects in the region, including Lebanon. As these projects also include policy components and require regular updates to relevant policy makers. Oxfam Belgium will, supported by the colleagues in the region, make sure relevant briefings and messages reach the Belgian representatives in Beirut. In addition, the Oxfam Syria country programme will be supported by Oxfam Belgium to present these reports and provide updates not only for the project not only at Beirut level, but also at Brussels level.

* 1. ***[INT] In the event of changes or coordination issues to be dealt with, please provide information***
  2. ***[FIN] In the event of changes or coordination issues to be dealt with, please provide information***

1. **IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS**
   1. ***Name and address of the implementation partner(s)***

No implementation partners for this action. Oxfam will implement all activities directly, given direct access to project location, and experienced and vetted contractors in place to deliver WASH hardware interventions, and to facilitate cash transfer programmes. In Deir-ez-Zor, Oxfam does not have any local operational partners on the ground, which have been assessed and approved by both Oxfam and by GoS (GoS requires all INGOs work with only GoS registered partners).

* 1. ***Status of the implementation partners (e.g.: NGOs, local authorities, etc.) and the role played by them***

NA

* 1. ***Type of relationship with the implementation partner(s) and the reports expected from the implementation partner***

NA

* 1. ***[INT] In the event of changes, please provide information***
  2. ***[FIN] In the event of changes, please provide information***

1. **ACTIVITÉS DE COMMUNICATION, DE VISIBILITÉ ET D’INFORMATION** 
   1. ***Planned communication activities***

Oxfam will work to ensure that it promoted Belgian humanitarian assistance in the project as much as feasible, noting that the Government of Syria regularly restricts the display of international donor logos at field level, or that Oxfam and Belgian DGD assistance would need to appear alongside local authority logos. Oxfam will seek to influence the GoS to ensure visibility of Belgian DGD funded activities where possible, but will also consider any security risks which may favour a low profile in terms of visibility.

Oxfam will ensure press releases, social media posts and photos reference the contribution of Belgian DGD to the delivery of the humanitarian work and in the organisation of any public events held inside or outside of Syria.

As part of project inception, Oxfam will develop a project communication plan that will be shared with the DGD, alongside the required contact details for those working on project visibility and details of our social media channels.

Through the project, Oxfam will look to develop policy and communication materials based on the learning from project implementation. This will include a piece on the WASH response in Syria, and a piece on livelihood options for women in Deir-ez-Zor. For the latter, Oxfam will produce a video, which will enable voices of vulnerable Syrians to be heard by key international stakeholders.

* 1. ***Outreach on durable equipment, the main supplies and on the project location***

Through this intervention, durable equipment will be procured and used in the delivery of project activities, and will be handed over to local stakeholders. For example, WASH equipment will be installed to support the rehabilitation of the al Mayadin pumping station. This will be done via contractors – Oxfam in Syria has standard contract conditions for installation of equipment, to include a guarantee period of 12 months in case there are any issues with installed equipment, with Oxfam withholding a small percentage of payment until the guarantee period has passed. For the WASH pumping station, Oxfam will also ensure local water establishment staff are trained on operational and maintenance of installed equipment so it can be maintained in the long-run. The same contractual conditions, i.e. the guarantee period, will be applied to the procurement and installation of agricultural pumps for irrigation of communal land. Local community committees will be trained on the operation and maintenance of the agricultural pumps.

* 1. ***Publication activities planned***

Through the project, Oxfam will look to develop policy and communication materials based on the learning from project implementation. This will include a piece on the WASH response in Syria, and a piece on livelihood options for women in Deir-ez-Zor. This is expected to be achieved during the end of the first year of the project entering the second year. These planned public communication materials will draw analysis from the project, including analysis of evolving humanitarian needs, potential solutions, and lessons learned from Oxfam interventions so far. These public communication materials will be used to communicate the humanitarian needs which the project is aiming to address and to raise the profile of humanitarian interventions and need with key stakeholders. Crucially, this work will be used to inform, to advocate, and to lobby key humanitarian donors on the need to continue supporting humanitarian interventions in Syria which addresses community level needs.

* 1. ***[INT] In the event of changes, please provide information***
  2. ***[FIN] Report on relevant activities***

1. **HUMAN RESOURCES**
   1. ***Please state the overall figures by function and by status***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (function) | Status[[15]](#footnote-15) | Number of people | Number of people/months in the project | Comments |
| Deputy Country Director – Programme | Expatriate | 1 | 18 months (7%) |  |
| Deputy Country Director – Support | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (13%) |  |
| Humanitarian Coordinator | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (13%) |  |
| Project Manager | Local Staff | 1 | 24 months (50%) |  |
| EFSL Advisor | Expatriate Staff | 1 | 18 months (7%) |  |
| EFVSL Coordinator | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Livelihood officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (33%) |  |
| Livelihood officer – Cash-based program | Local staff | 1 | 18 months (27%) |  |
| Livelihood assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (27%) |  |
| WASH Coordinator | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Public Health Engineer (PHE) Team Leader/Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (33%) |  |
| PHE Assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Public Health Promotion (PHP) Team Leader/Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Programme Administrative Assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| MEAL Manager | Expatriate | 1 | 18 months (7%) |  |
| MEAL Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (27%) |  |
| Information assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Gender Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Funding Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (53%) |  |
| Logistics Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (36%) |  |
| Logistics Assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Finance Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (53%) |  |
| Finance Assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (27%) |  |
| HR & Admin Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (53%) |  |
| HR & Admin Assistant | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Media & Communications Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Safety Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (47%) |  |
| Cleaner | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (20%) |  |
| Driver | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (67%) |  |
| IT Officer | Local Staff | 1 | 18 months (47%) |  |

At the time of writing, the Oxfam in Syria programme is undergoing a staff restructuring to ensure an improved field presence and management of humanitarian activities on the ground. This process is ongoing, with a final restructuring plan to be finalised in March 2019. From April 2019, onwards a transition process will take place with staff recruitment and redeployment into the new structure. As such, Oxfam’s budget proposed to Belgian DGD may be subject to revision depending on the nature of the staff restructuring if there are significant changes in personnel - this will be discussed with Belgian DGD when the staff restructuring process is finalised.

* 1. ***[INT] In the event of changes, please provide information***
  2. ***[FIN] In the event of changes, please provide information***

1. **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**
   1. ***Name and title of the legal representative signing the agreement***

Floor Overbeeke

Directrice du département Programme et Plaidoyer

60 Rue des Quatre-Vents, 1080 Bruxelles, Belgique

T : +32 (0)2 501 67 31

[Floor.Overbeeke@oxfam.org](mailto:Floor.Overbeeke@oxfam.org)

* 1. ***Name, telephone number, e-mail address and titles of the person(s) responsible for the management of the dossier***

Anne-Sophie Winckelmans

Institutional Partnership Manager – DGD Humanitaire

60 Rue des Quatre-Vents, 1080 Bruxelles, Belgique

T : +32 (0)2 501 67 41

[Anne-Sophie.Winckelmans@oxfam.org](mailto:Anne-Sophie.Winckelmans@oxfam.org)

* 1. ***Name, telephone and fax number and e-mail address of the representative in the intervention area***

Moutaz Adham

Country Director – Oxfam in Syria

Mohamed Naim Building, 1 Farabi Street, East Villa, Mezzeh, Damascus, Syria

T: +963 95 800 1272

[madham@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:madham@oxfam.org.uk)

* 1. ***Bank account***

Name of the bank: CBC Banque SA

Address of the bank agency: Boulevard du Souverain 36 B10, 1170 Bruxelles  
Account holder: OXFAM-SOLIDARITE ASBL

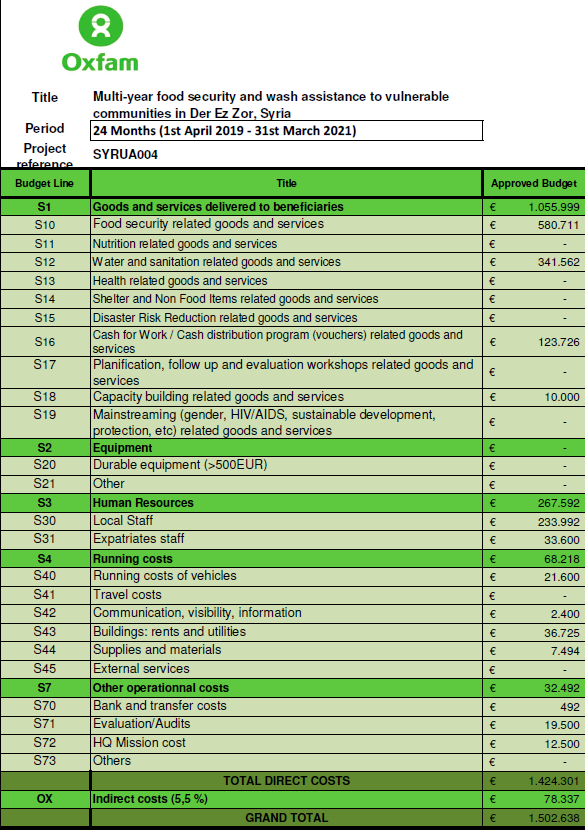
Complete account number (including bank code(s)):

IBAN code: BE73 7320 4947 0960

SWIFT code: CREGBEBB

1. **Financial overview of the intervention**

The use of the funds awarded for the Action must respect the modalities set out in the Royal Decree of 19/04/2014. The submitted budget must be result-orientated.

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1. **Implementation reports and final reports**

**These reports must follow the modalities set out in the Royal Decree of 19/04/2014**

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1. **List of annexes**

Annex 1 – Oxfam Assessment in Deir Al Zour

Annex 2 – Needs Assessment – Bouqras Fouqani

Annex 3 – Oxfam Syria Access Strategy

Annex 4 – Well Rehabilitation Sample Damascus

Annex 5 – Light Rehabilitation of Water Network Aleppo

Annex 6 – Oxfam Cash Pilot Herjellag-Rural Damascus

Annex 7 – Oxfam Cash Transfer Business Flowchart

Annex 8 – Workplan

Annex 9 – Oxfam Parameters of engagement in Syria

Annex 10 – Oxfam Syria AOP

Figure 1 – Target Locations Dair-ez-Zor

1. The specifications used in this form have largely been reworked on the basis of the “Single Form” in use, for the same type of actions, in the European Commission (ECHO).

   For a good understanding of these specifications, refer to the guidelines issued by ECHO:

   <http://ec.europa.eu/echo/about/actors/fpa_en.htm>

   The specific points relating to Belgian legislation (Royal Decree of 04 November 2014) are indicated and underlined in the text, following the specific point concerned.

   At the proposal stage, complete the numbered paragraphs, except for those that begin with [INT] (to be completed at the interim report stage) and [FIN] (to be completed at the final report stage). At the interim and final report stages, only amend (cross out) the main information in the numbered paragraphs. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. OCHA. (2018). *Humanitarian Needs Overview Syrian Arab Republic* <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/2018_syr_hno_english.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. http://www.fao.org/resilience/resources/resources-detail/en/c/878213/ [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. SYRIA - Deir-ez-Zor City WFP Assessment Food Security Update: February 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://fscluster.org/syria/document/food-security-situation-syria-expanded> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. ibid [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://fscluster.org/syria/document/food-security-situation-syria-expanded> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. O.A. Hallaj. (2017). *Who Will Own the City? Urban Housing, Land and Property Issues in Syria.* Retrieved 22 August, 2018 from Syrian Echoes:<https://syrianechoes.com/2017/07/31/who-will-own-the-city-urban-housing-land-and-property-issues-in-syria/> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Bakeries Assessment Report, Assessment Coordination Unit, 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. <http://www.reachresourcecentre.info/system/files/resource-documents/syr_deir_ez_zor_governorate_profile_may_2017_final_0.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. For each result identified in the logical framework, more detailed information necessary for a proper understanding of the proposal/report will be gathered here. A specific sub-section per outcome at the proposal, interim report and final report stages has been provided for (please do not update the information of a previous stage in this section, please comment on the change in the appropriate sub-section for the outcome). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Updates and explanations should target both progress and changes made to the proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Updates and explanations should target both progress and changes made to the proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Sustainability and connectedness are similar concepts that are used to ensure that the activities are executed in a context that takes account of longer-term and interconnected issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Expatriates, local staff, staff of the implementation partner, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)