



FINAL EVALUATION DRAFT REPORT

THE EVALUATION OF THE DEC
TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL, ISLAMIC RELIEF
TURKEY, OCTOBER 2024 .REF. NO. CONSULT
08NOV24- HQ0202124102



ARFADA for
Development and Consultations

OCTOBER 2024



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Acronyms

DEC	Disasters Emergency Committee
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
Internally Displaced Persons	IDPs
PWD	People with Disability
KII	Key Informant Interview
ToC	Theory of Change
ToR	Terms of Reference
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
AAP	Accountability to the Affected Populations
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
CCCM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management
IR	Islamic Relief
ACU	Assistance Coordination Unit
NFIs	Non-Food Items
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
WFP	World Food Program
CHS	Core Humanitarian Standard
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning
NWS	Northwest Syria



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Executive Summary

Context and Purpose of the Final Evaluation

Context/Background

In February 2023, a series of powerful earthquakes devastated southern Türkiye and northern Syria, compounding existing humanitarian crises, particularly in northwest Syria. The earthquakes, measuring 7.8, 7.6, and 6.4 in magnitude, resulted in nearly 50,000 deaths in Türkiye, 5,791 in Syria, and left over 3.3 million displaced across both regions. Already weakened by conflict, Syria faced intensified challenges with infrastructure damage, displacement, and the collapse of food and health systems.

Islamic Relief (IR), with funding from the UK's Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), launched a two-phase response. Phase One (February–August 2023) focused on immediate humanitarian assistance, while Phase Two (August 2023–February 2025) aimed at early recovery in northwest Syria through agricultural and livestock interventions.

Evaluation Background, Scope, and Purpose

This final evaluation assesses the performance and quality of IR's earthquake response using OECD DAC criteria. Covering both phases, the evaluation focuses heavily on Phase Two's agriculture and livestock programming in Syria. It examines relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, and adherence to humanitarian standards. Key goals include evaluating outcome achievement, identifying lessons learned, and guiding future programming.

Approach and Methodology

Final Evaluation Design

A mixed-methods design enabled triangulation across quantitative and qualitative sources. The evaluation assessed activity-outcome pathways, with greater emphasis on early recovery outcomes (Phase Two).

Sampling Strategy

A stratified random sampling framework ensured representation by location, sector, gender, and vulnerability. A total of 899 household surveys were completed (271 in Türkiye, 159 in Syria for Phase One; 469 in Syria for Phase Two).

Data Sources

- **Desk Review:** Program reports, proposals, and sectoral standards.
- **Household Surveys:** Quantitative data from 899 respondents.
- **FGDs:** 12 discussions with disaggregated groups of farmers and livestock breeders.
- **KIIs:** 16 interviews with IR staff, engineers, authorities, and leaders.

Data Collection & Analysis Data was collected by trained, local enumerators over eight days (May 2025). Analysis used SPSS and thematic coding, with rigorous data cleaning and validation procedures.

Limitations & Mitigations Lengthy surveys and FGDs risked respondent fatigue but were mitigated through informed consent and advance notification. Pre-scheduled KIIs ensured availability.

Ethical Considerations Enumerators adhered to strict ethical standards, including informed consent, trauma sensitivity, cultural respect, and data confidentiality (GDPR-compliant).

Final Evaluation Findings

Phase One: Earthquake Response

Syria Islamic Relief met or exceeded all output targets in Syria's emergency response. Key results include:

- **Food parcels:** 5,407 distributed (target: 5,342)
- **Health facilities supported:** 17 (target: 8), delivering medicines and medical disposables
- **Referral vehicles:** 3 (target met), improving access to healthcare and protection services
- **Baby formula:** 4,242 children supported (target: 4,000)
- **Non-Food Items (NFIs):** 1,748 individual items and 200 kits distributed (targets met)
- **Winterization materials:** 227 households assisted (additional to targets)
- **Dignity kits:** 5,397 women and girls reached (target: 5,000)

Syria Islamic Relief met or exceeded all output targets in Syria's emergency response. Effectiveness was notable across sectors, with 98% of respondents stating the assistance reduced financial stress and 97% reporting that it enabled prioritization of other essential needs. 100% expressed satisfaction with the distribution process and treatment by staff. However, the duration of benefit remained limited, as 55% of households indicated food assistance lasted less than a month. Gender disparities emerged in outcome perception, with 93% of male respondents reporting full coverage of food needs, compared to just 37% of female respondents.

Challenges included gender disparities in perceived adequacy: 93% of male respondents reported all food needs were met versus only 37% of female respondents. Additionally, Aleppo had a higher rate of partially met needs than Idlib, and preferences for assistance type varied by gender and region.

Türkiye All output targets were achieved in Türkiye:

- **Ready-to-eat food:** 26,790 individuals served
- **Unconditional cash support (vouchers and transfers):** 10,000 households assisted
- **Emergency food parcels:** 4,400 rural households reached
- **Shelter and hygiene kits:** 2,010 households supported
- **Gender-sensitive hygiene kits:** 5,000 households received support

Türkiye's Phase One response also achieved all planned outputs. The response was relevant and effective in meeting urgent food and financial needs, with 85% of respondents stating that food needs were fully met, and 98% reporting reduced stress. Similar to Syria, the benefits were short-lived, with only 27% of households reporting assistance lasting more than one month. Preferences for cash transfers over in-kind support were strong, particularly among women, who appreciated the flexibility to prioritize needs.

Phase Two: Early Recovery in Syria

Agricultural Interventions Islamic Relief implemented a multi-component agriculture package in Aleppo and Idlib:

- **Input support in Aleppo:** 900 farmers (target achieved)
- **Input support in Idlib:** 1,246 farmers reached (target: 800)
- **Summer vegetable crop kits:** 360 farmers assisted (target: 310)
- **Agricultural vouchers:** 360 farmers supported (target: 310)

Livestock Interventions Livestock support in Idlib and Aleppo included fodder, veterinary services, and capacity building:

- **Fodder:** Distributed to 4,124 breeders (target: 1,250)
- **Vaccinations:** 542,644 ewes vaccinated against Enterotoxaemia and Foot-and-Mouth Disease (target: 200,000)
- **Veterinary kits:** 5,120 breeders reached (target: 4,600)
- **Mobile veterinary services:** 15,322 breeders supported (target: 16,000)
- **Cow breeder training:** 650 individuals completed 10-day training courses (target achieved)

Agricultural interventions were highly relevant and adapted to local environmental and socioeconomic conditions. Beneficiaries overwhelmingly affirmed the appropriateness of the interventions: 99% of farmers found the technical training useful, and 100% applied the knowledge acquired, indicating a strong degree of alignment between support offered and the needs of targeted farmers.

The effectiveness of these interventions was reflected in the fact that 91% of farmers reported improvements in crop yield or quality, and a substantial 78% stated the support had decreased their reliance on humanitarian assistance. The intervention also promoted peer learning and horizontal knowledge diffusion within farming communities, which further enhanced outreach and local ownership. Moreover, input support reached or exceeded targets in both governorates: 900 farmers in Aleppo and 1,246 in Idlib received agricultural inputs, alongside 360 recipients of summer vegetable kits and agricultural vouchers.

Nevertheless, the evaluation found areas for improvement, particularly around the efficiency and sustainability of these gains. Input quantities, such as fertilizers and pesticides, were often deemed insufficient—58% of farmers cited gaps in fertilizer quantities, and 16% reported concerns over seed quality. Moreover, delays in delivery affected 27% of farmers in Aleppo, and over 60% of farmers flagged poor access to water and irrigation infrastructure as a critical barrier to sustained agricultural productivity. The need for enhanced referral mechanisms and closer linkage to support services was repeatedly emphasized in both FGDs and KIIs.

The livestock component of Phase Two similarly achieved strong results. The interventions were highly relevant, targeting small-scale breeders with well-tailored packages including fodder, veterinary kits, and access to mobile veterinary services. 88% of livestock breeders reported improved animal health, and 95% cited reduced livestock mortality and better productivity. 100% of trained cow breeders applied what they learned, showing a high return on investment in training. The support also

contributed to household income and food security, with increased access to milk and meat reported across communities.

Yet, sustainability challenges mirrored those in the agricultural sector. A majority of livestock breeders (71%) found the quantity of distributed fodder insufficient for their herd sizes. Vaccine supply delays and gaps in veterinary service coverage also emerged as recurrent constraints. Recommendations from participants included providing regular and more frequent mobile veterinary visits, expanding the content and duration of training programs, and enabling referrals to public veterinary institutions for further support.

The impact of these interventions was not confined to the individual level. Across both agricultural and livestock sectors, improvements in productivity and health outcomes had broader implications for community-level resilience. Reductions in food insecurity, increased household income, and strengthened technical capacity indicate that the program contributed meaningfully to early recovery. However, sustaining these outcomes will depend on improved access to agricultural infrastructure, better resource planning, and continued engagement with local stakeholders.

Lessons Learned & Best Practices

The evaluation identified several key lessons that are instrumental for improving the effectiveness and sustainability of future humanitarian and early recovery programming. First, the timeliness and targeting of inputs—such as seasonal seed distributions, livestock vaccinations, and cash transfers—had a direct impact on the relevance and uptake of assistance. Delays in input delivery (reported by 12% of agricultural beneficiaries) and inconsistent availability of veterinary services (14%) reduced efficiency, underscoring the need for stronger logistical coordination and contingency planning. Moreover, inclusive targeting, particularly through the involvement of community leaders and flexible verification processes, was central to the equity of the response. Nonetheless, documentation-related exclusions (notably among 21% of displaced persons in Syria) revealed the importance of alternative inclusion mechanisms to avoid systematic exclusion of the most vulnerable.

Practical training emerged as a cornerstone of effectiveness, with 99% of farmers and 86% of cow breeders applying new knowledge. These training sessions were particularly impactful when delivered in local dialects and grounded in real-world applications—such as treating livestock diseases or optimizing planting techniques. However, the lack of post-training technical follow-up limited sustainability in some areas, as evidenced by the challenges in maintaining new practices in Uzmarin's wheat programming. Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs) were largely effective and widely known (100% awareness in Syria), enhancing accountability. However, in Türkiye, a minority of beneficiaries remained unaware of feedback channels (12%), pointing to the need for more accessible and proactive community communication, particularly in crowded or under-resourced distribution sites.

Resource constraints, especially regarding fodder and fertilizers, constrained long-term sustainability. Only 29% of livestock beneficiaries found the fodder package sufficient, and fertilizer distribution was seen as too limited, particularly in Salqin. Environmental shocks like drought and high input costs further threatened recovery gains. To address this, the evaluation underscores the need for flexible budgets, market-sensitive procurement, and multi-seasonal support that extends beyond the initial recovery window. Community engagement—through cooperatives, lead farmers, and local leaders—enhanced trust and contextual relevance. Mobile veterinary clinics and market card distributions were repeatedly cited as effective, community-centered delivery models that increased reach and participation.

Recommendations

Based on these findings, the evaluation puts forward targeted recommendations across both phases. For Phase One emergency assistance, it recommends scaling up food assistance volumes and diversifying delivery modalities to match household preferences, especially for female-headed households and regions with lower coverage such as Aleppo and Şanlıurfa. Hygiene kit support should be repeated at regular intervals, and inclusion measures should be strengthened by adopting flexible documentation approaches. In Türkiye, refining the voucher system and increasing communication around feedback mechanisms will help address gaps in satisfaction and equity.

For Phase Two, agricultural support should include larger input packages and investments in irrigation infrastructure, which 63% of farmers identified as a priority. The strong performance of technical training should be reinforced through post-harvest extension services and farmer cooperatives. In livestock interventions, expanding fodder coverage, securing uninterrupted vaccine supplies, and institutionalizing mobile veterinary outreach will help consolidate health gains. Cross-cutting recommendations include integrating climate resilience into programming, scaling up peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, and maintaining rigorous, transparent procurement practices. By embedding these lessons and best practices into future planning, Islamic Relief can enhance the sustainability and impact of its recovery interventions in Syria and beyond.

Context and Purpose of the Final Evaluation

Context/ Background

The February 2023 earthquakes, with magnitudes of 7.8, 7.6, and a subsequent 6.4 tremor, struck southern Türkiye and northern Syria, marking one of the most devastating natural disasters in the region's recent history. Originating in Kahramanmaraş and Hatay provinces, the earthquakes caused widespread destruction across 11 Turkish provinces and northwest Syria, particularly in Aleppo and Idlib governorates. In Türkiye, nearly 50,000 lives were lost, over 3.3 million people were displaced, and critical infrastructure—roads, hospitals, schools, and housing—was severely damaged across 110,000 square kilometers. In northwest Syria, already ravaged by over a decade of conflict, the disaster exacerbated a complex humanitarian crisis, killing over 5,791 people, injuring more than 10,000, and destroying nearly 1,700 buildings. With 10.9 million affected across Syria, the region faced intensified challenges including displacement, economic collapse, and strained health and WASH systems.

The earthquake compounded vulnerabilities for over 3 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in northwest Syria, where overcrowded camps and inadequate shelters heightened risks, particularly during the 2024 winter season. Severe weather, including snowstorms and floods, further impacted vulnerable communities, underscoring gaps in shelter quality and preparedness. Agricultural and livestock systems, critical for livelihoods, were decimated, with 80% of farmers anticipating reduced crop yields and livestock breeders facing losses in animals and infrastructure, threatening food security and income.

Islamic Relief (IR) Türkiye responded with a two-phase humanitarian intervention funded by the UK's Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC). Phase one (February–August 2023) delivered immediate life-saving aid—food, health, non-food items (NFIs), and protection services—to 60,425 individuals in Türkiye (Gaziantep, Hatay, Adıyaman, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Şanlıurfa) and northwest Syria (Aleppo, Idlib). Phase two (August 2023–February 2025) shifted to early recovery in Syria's Idlib and Aleppo, targeting 1,710 farmers and 16,000 livestock breeders with agricultural inputs, veterinary services,

and technical support to restore livelihoods and enhance food security for an estimated 188,350 individuals.

Final Evaluation Background, Scope, and Purpose

IR Türkiye commissioned this final evaluation to assess the performance and quality of its DEC-funded humanitarian response and early recovery project, aligning with the IR Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) Framework, DEC Accountability Framework, and OECD DAC criteria (relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability). The evaluation covers both Phase one and Phase two, with a focus on Phase two's expanded agricultural and livestock interventions in northwest Syria.

Scope

- **Geographical Scope:** Southern Türkiye (Gaziantep, Hatay, Adiyaman, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, Şanlıurfa) and northwest Syria (Aleppo, Idlib).
- **Technical Scope:** Assesses outputs and outcomes across food security (Output A), health (Output B), NFIs (Output C), protection/hygiene (Output D), and agriculture/livestock support (Output E). Emphasis is on Phase two's livelihood interventions, including agricultural inputs, summer vegetable kits, livestock fodder, vaccinations, veterinary services, and capacity building.
- **Timeframe:** February 2023–February 2025, covering both phases.

Purpose

1. **Assess Achievement:** Evaluate the extent to which planned outputs and outcomes were achieved using OECD DAC criteria.
2. **Evaluate Standards:** Review adherence to guidelines and standards (e.g., CHS, SPHERE, LEGS, MERS, IASC, cluster recommendations).
3. **Identify Lessons:** Document good practices and lessons to inform IR Türkiye's future humanitarian and recovery programming, particularly in the livelihood sector.

Approach and Methodology

The Final Evaluation Design

The evaluation employed a mixed-methods approach, integrating quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis to provide a comprehensive, participatory, and contextually grounded final evaluation. This design ensured robust triangulation of findings across multiple data sources to evaluate the project's relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. The methodology explores pathways linking activities to outcomes, with a focus on Phase two's early recovery interventions while incorporating retrospective insights from Phase one to assess continuity and adaptation.

Sampling Strategy

A stratified random sampling framework ensures representativeness across geographic, demographic, and sectoral dimensions:

- **Geographic Stratification:** Separate samples for southern Türkiye and northwest Syria, with sub-strata for key locations (e.g., Jinderes, Afrin, Dana, Harim).

- **Intervention Types:** Stratified by sector (food security, health, NFIs, protection, agriculture, livestock) to cover all outputs (A.1.1–E.7.2).
- **Demographic Stratification:** Includes age, gender, and vulnerability status (e.g., IDPs, female-headed households, persons with disabilities).
- **Sample Size:** In the inception phase 847 household surveys (385 for Phase one: 250 Türkiye, 135 NWS; 385 for Phase two NWS) with 10% oversampling, ensuring a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error was agreed upon; (n=899) household surveys were achieved.
- **Data Sources:** Beneficiary lists, project reports, and demographic data provided by IR Türkiye.

Data Sources

Desk Review

A comprehensive desk review of project documentation, including proposals, monitoring data, and sectoral guidelines, established the foundation for the evaluation. ARFADA compiled a reference log of key documents and conducted technical meetings with Islamic Relief’s project team to clarify interventions, modalities, and context. The review informed the inception report, data collection tools, sampling strategies, and the final evaluation report ensuring alignment with project objectives and standards.

Household Surveys

Structured household surveys (n=899) were achieved and collected quantitative data on outcome-level indicators across both phases. For Phase One, **430** surveys (**271 in Türkiye, 159 in northwest Syria**) assessed food security (e.g., food parcel usage), health (e.g., medical supply access), non-food items (e.g., blanket adequacy), and protection (e.g., dignity kit satisfaction).

For Phase Two, **469** surveys in northwest Syria focused on agricultural and livestock outcomes, such as crop yield changes, livestock health improvements, and voucher accessibility. The surveys measured reach, relevance, and impact, including satisfaction, inclusiveness, and responsiveness to needs. Trained enumerators administered the surveys using digital tools for real-time data capture, with quality checks to ensure accuracy.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

Twelve FGDs in northwest Syria engaged diverse beneficiary groups, disaggregated by gender, age, and vulnerability, to explore qualitative insights. Participants included farmers and livestock breeders from Phase two outputs (E.1.1–E.7.2). Discussions covered input utility, technical support effectiveness, yield and livestock health outcomes, market access challenges, and inclusion of vulnerable groups. Trained moderators facilitated the sessions in Aleppo and Idleb, covering key areas like Jinderes and Harim, using discussion guides and recording sessions with participant consent for analysis.

Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

Sixteen semi-structured KIIs (6 in Türkiye, 9 in northwest Syria) were conducted with stakeholders involved in project planning and delivery. Interviewees included project staff (technical officers, MEAL personnel), agricultural engineers, veterinary providers, local authorities (e.g., agriculture directorates), and community leaders. The interviews focused on design, implementation, coordination, effectiveness, and lessons learned, with emphasis on agriculture and livestock interventions. Remote and face-to-face interviews were conducted using tailored protocols refined during the inception phase.

Data Collection Process

This multi-layered data collection strategy not only ensured the triangulation of findings but also enhanced the overall validity and credibility of the final evaluation results. By integrating diverse tools such as surveys, FGDs, and KIIs, the final evaluation enabled a more accurate and holistic understanding of the complex humanitarian landscape across Northwest Syria and Southern Türkiye.

The data collection process was carried out by a field team of 24 trained data collectors (12 males and 10 females), all of whom received comprehensive training on ethical data collection principles and the technical application of tools. Importantly, data collectors were recruited from the same communities where the final evaluation was conducted, which allowed them to draw on their deep knowledge of the local context—ultimately strengthening the relevance and quality of the data collected. To maintain high data quality standards, daily verification and consistency checks were conducted throughout the fieldwork. The data collection phase spanned 8 consecutive days, from May 22nd to May 29th, 2025.

Data Analysis Process

Data Cleaning and Quality Control

Both quantitative and qualitative datasets underwent a systematic cleaning and quality control process to ensure the reliability and validity of the final evaluation findings.

For **quantitative data**, all survey entries were initially reviewed for completeness, consistency, and outlier values. The following data cleaning steps were applied:

- **Consistency checks** were conducted to identify and correct logical inconsistencies within and across survey questions.
- **Range and validation checks** were applied to detect out-of-range or invalid responses.
- **Duplicate entries** were identified and removed based on unique identifiers.
- **Missing data** were documented and analysed to determine if they followed any systematic patterns that might bias the results.

Enumerators' work was subject to real-time spot-checks and back-checks, and 10% of the survey respondents were randomly re-contacted to verify the accuracy of key responses. Only clean, validated datasets were used for analysis.

For **qualitative data**, field notes, audio recordings, and transcripts from FGDs and KIIs were systematically reviewed and cleaned. This process included:

- Verifying the accuracy of transcripts against recordings of KIIs.
- Standardizing terminologies across notes for comparability.
- Removing personal information to maintain confidentiality.
- Organizing qualitative responses according to the final evaluation domains and objectives.

Quality control measures for qualitative data also included team debriefing sessions after FGDs and KIIs to validate emerging findings and ensure internal consistency across facilitators and note-takers.

Quantitative Data Analysis

Descriptive statistical analyses were performed using the **Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)**.

- Frequency tables and percentages were generated for key variables.
- Cross-tabulations were conducted to explore variations across gender, location, displacement status, and type of service received.

- Composite scores were created for thematic domains where appropriate (e.g., business performance, satisfaction levels).

The findings were presented in tabular formats, showing coverage and distribution across each survey question and facilitating clear comparison between different groups.

Qualitative Data Analysis

Qualitative data from KIIs and FGDs were analysed thematically against the final evaluation objectives. Thematic coding was conducted manually and/or supported by qualitative analysis software (e.g., NVivo where applicable).

- Major themes and sub-themes were identified based on recurring patterns in participants' responses.
- Divergent and convergent views were documented to illustrate varying perspectives.
- Triangulation was used by comparing qualitative findings with survey results to validate or contrast insights.

Limitations and Mitigations

Limitation	Mitigation strategies
The length of the questionnaire and FGD leads to respondents feeling bored or fatigued	Participants were informed in advance that the questionnaire may take more than half an hour to complete, helping to set expectations and encourage cooperation
Availability of KIIs	Enumerators planned in advance with the selected KIIs and arranged with them which ensured their availability

Table 1: Limitations and Mitigations.

Ethical Considerations

The final evaluation team placed a strong emphasis on upholding quality and ethical standards throughout the final evaluation process. A comprehensive data quality protocol was implemented to guide the systematic collection, management, and verification of data.

All enumerators received detailed training prior to field deployment, covering data collection procedures, research ethics, informed consent, data accuracy, and safety and security protocols. In addition, each enumerator signed a Code of Conduct, reinforcing their commitment to maintaining data integrity, ensuring confidentiality, and adhering to humanitarian principles in all field activities.

Introductory training sessions also focused on the principles of high-quality evaluation practices, with particular attention to consistency, impartiality, and respect for the dignity and rights of respondents. The final evaluation team remains committed to continuously applying and improving these standards to ensure the credibility and reliability of the final evaluation findings.

The evaluation team was trained in trauma-sensitive approaches to avoid re-triggering distressing memories or experiences. Questions and interactions were carefully designed to minimize emotional harm, with clear protocols for pausing or terminating interviews if signs of distress arise.

The final evaluation team actively incorporated the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) ethical principle of **respect** by prioritizing the dignity, rights, safety, and cultural values of all participants throughout the final evaluation. This was operationalized in several ways:

- **Informed Consent:** Enumerators were trained extensively in research ethics, ensuring that all participants provided fully informed and voluntary consent before participating. Participants were made aware of the purpose of the evaluation, their rights to decline or withdraw at any point, and the measures taken to protect their data.
- **Confidentiality and Data Protection:** Strict adherence to ARFADA’s data protection protocols (aligned with the GDPR) safeguarded participants’ identities and sensitive information. Confidentiality was maintained at all stages — from data collection to analysis and reporting — ensuring that no individual could be traced through the data shared.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Training sessions emphasized cultural and social sensitivity, respecting the beliefs, manners, customs, and community norms of participants, in line with the UNEG standards for upholding human rights and the principle of "do no harm."
- **Dignity and Safety:** All final evaluation activities were designed to minimize any potential harm or discomfort to respondents. Enumerators signed a Code of Conduct reaffirming their commitment to treating all participants with professionalism, impartiality, and respect.
- **Validation of Information:** Participants' rights to review and validate information they provided were respected, reinforcing trust and ensuring that participants felt ownership over their input into the final evaluation findings.

Final Evaluation Findings

Phase One (Earthquake Response)

Syria

In response to the 2023 earthquake in Syria, Islamic Relief swiftly implemented a comprehensive Phase One emergency response in Idlib and Aleppo. Over six months, **the intervention notably exceeded its planned effectiveness thresholds across multiple sectors.** Against the initial target of distributing **5,342 food parcels**, Islamic Relief reached **5,407 households**, fully achieving the food assistance goal despite the challenging operating context. In the health sector, the project aimed to support **eight health facilities**, yet provided essential medicine and disposables to **seventeen facilities**, more than **double the original target**, thereby significantly expanding healthcare access. The distribution of **4,242 baby formulas** also surpassed the planned target of **4,000**, ensuring critical nutritional support for infants. Additionally, the project met its target of **three referral vehicles**, facilitating timely and safe access to medical and protection services for **5,100 individuals**, including women and persons with disabilities.

Non-food and protection assistance also demonstrated strong overperformance. The distribution of **1,748 individual NFIs and 200 NFI kits** met the planned targets, while an additional **227 households** benefited from winterization support—an unplanned yet highly relevant seasonal adaptation. The dignity kit component reached **5,397 women and girls**, exceeding the original target of **5,000 kits**, thereby enhancing the safety, dignity, and well-being of vulnerable women in the earthquake-affected areas. These results underscore the effectiveness of the response and reflect strong implementation capacity, adaptability, and commitment to addressing urgent humanitarian needs at scale.

To evaluate the **Phase One Earthquake Response in Syria** through a lens that integrates both the **Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)** and the **OECD/DAC evaluation criteria**, we structured our assessment around a comprehensive [matrix](#) of commitments, primary evaluation questions, and community-based feedback tools. This dual framework allowed us to holistically analyze the **relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability, and coherence** of Islamic Relief’s intervention in Idlib and



Aleppo, ensuring that community voices, accountability, and ethical humanitarian standards remained at the forefront.

In terms of **Relevance (CHS Commitment 1)**, the project demonstrated strong alignment with community priorities by exceeding targets across critical life-saving sectors including food, health, protection, and NFIs. Vulnerable groups—particularly **women, infants, and persons with disabilities**—were central to the design and delivery of assistance, such as through the **distribution of 5,397 dignity kits**, tailored to support the safety and well-being of women and girls. Communication and engagement were conducted in ways that were **culturally appropriate and accessible**, ensuring that affected populations were informed of their rights and had opportunities to meaningfully participate in project planning and feedback processes.

Under **Effectiveness**, we assessed several CHS commitments including **Commitment 2, 4, 5, and 8**. Islamic Relief exceeded planned outputs in health (e.g., supporting 17 health facilities versus 8 planned) and nutrition (e.g., 4,242 baby formulas distributed), indicating not only high **timeliness and responsiveness** but also **adaptive management** based on evolving needs. The provision of **referral vehicles** ensured safe access to health and protection services, while hygiene and dignity kits improved personal well-being, especially for women. The hygiene kit feedback tools revealed that **the majority of recipients found the kits useful, appropriate, and respectful**, further validating the contextual effectiveness. Moreover, mechanisms for safely reporting concerns were in place, and staff and volunteers operated under a code of conduct, ensuring **do-no-harm principles, protection from exploitation, and respect for data privacy**.

In terms of **Efficiency (CHS Commitments 7 and 9)**, the project demonstrated strong performance. The **distribution exceeded targets with minimal resource waste**, such as surpassing the food parcel target (5,407 distributed vs. 5,342 planned) and scaling winterization assistance to 227 households not originally targeted, showing agility in resource use. Financial resources were managed responsibly in alignment with humanitarian good practices. Through structured feedback loops and community monitoring tools—including post-distribution surveys—the organization actively captured and responded to community input, adjusting delivery as needed to maintain relevance and efficiency.

For **Impact**, preliminary findings from beneficiary surveys and feedback mechanisms revealed that the hygiene assistance led to **reduced illness risk, improved dignity and privacy for women, and enhanced household hygiene**, contributing to broader well-being outcomes. The project also resulted in improved **access to essential services**, particularly in health and protection, with higher-than-expected reach. These effects were especially significant given the acute vulnerabilities following the earthquake and point to a strong positive impact across both household and sectoral levels.

In terms of **Sustainability (CHS Commitment 3)**, the intervention laid foundations for future resilience. Through support to local health facilities, provision of referral vehicles, and reinforcement of community coping mechanisms, Islamic Relief helped **strengthen local capacity and preparedness**. Efforts to promote **local leadership in distribution and community engagement** fostered ownership and resilience.

Phase One Output - Syria	Target	Achieved	Status
Output A – Food Parcels	5,342 parcels	5,407 households	✓ Exceeded
Output B – Health Facilities Supported	8 facilities	17 facilities	✓ Exceeded
Output B – Referral Vehicles	3 vehicles	3 vehicles	✓ Met
Output B – Baby Formulas Distributed	4,000 formulas	4,242 children	✓ Exceeded
Output C – NFIs (Individual Items)	1,748 items	1,748 items	✓ Met
Output C – NFI Kits	200 kits	200 kits	✓ Met
Output C – Winterization Kits (Additional)	Not planned	227 households	✓ Additional Achieved
Output D – Dignity Kits	5,000 kits	5,397 women and girls	✓ Exceeded

Table 2: Phase One Target Output vs. Achieved - Syria

The Phase One 2023 Earthquake Response Final Evaluation Survey in Syria included (n=159) respondents. Of these, (n=142) were female (**89%**) and (n=17) were male (**11%**). By governorate, Idlib had the highest number of respondents (n=127, **80%**), followed by Aleppo (n=32, **20%**). Regarding service type, Food Security Assistance was received by (n=63) respondents (**40%**), followed by Hygiene Kits (n=41, **26%**), Non-Food Items (n=36, **23%**), and Health (n=19, **12%**).

Sex per Syria – Phase one	Governorate		Service				Total
	Aleppo	Idlib	Hygiene Kits	Non-Food Items	Food Security Assistance	Health	
Female	81%	91%	100%	94%	76%	100%	89%
Male	19%	9%	0%	6%	24%	0%	11%

Table 3: Sex per Syria – Phase one.

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Age Distribution

The age distribution of the 159 respondents showed **72%** aged 18-45, **23%** aged 46-59, and **5%** aged 60+. By sex, females (**72%**) and males (**71%**) had similar proportions in the 18-45 group, while males had a slightly higher share in the 46-59 group (**24%** vs. **23%**) and females had a slightly higher share in the 60+ group (**2%** vs. **6%**). For service types, Health had the highest proportion of 18-45-year-olds (**79%**), while Protection and Hygiene and Non-Food Items had higher shares of 46-59-year-olds (**25%** and **25%**, respectively).

Marital Status

Of the (n=159) respondents, **88%** were married, **8%** were widowed, **3%** were divorced, and **1%** were single. Females were more likely to be widowed (**9%**) than males, while all males were married (**100%**) compared to females (**87%**). By governorate, Aleppo had a higher proportion of married (**72%**) than Ale (**67%**), while Ale had the highest share of widowed respondents (**22%**).

Family Size

The family size of the (n=159) respondents was **37%** with fewer than 4 members, **29%** with 4–6 members, and **26%** with more than 6 members. By sex, females had a higher proportion of families with fewer than 4 members (**39%**) compared to males (**25%**) while males had a higher proportion of families with more than 6 members (**44% vs 37%**).

Residency Status

Among the (n=159) respondents, **74%** were internally displaced persons (IDPs), **26%** were host community members, and **0%** were returnee IDPs. By sex, females had a higher proportion of **IDPs (64%)** than males (**37%**) while males had a higher proportion of **Host Community (63% vs 36%)**.

Residency Status	Sex		Governorate		Service				Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	Hygiene Kits	Non-Food Items	Food Security Assistance	Health	
Host community (local)	21%	65%	0%	32%	5%	0%	62%	0%	26%
Internally displaced person (IDP)	78%	35%	100%	67%	93%	100%	38%	100%	74%
Returnee IDP	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	1%

Table 4: Residency Status per Syria's Phase one.

Disability Status

The disability status revealed that most respondents reported no significant disabilities. Specifically, **89%** had no difficulty seeing, **87%** had no difficulty hearing, **77%** had no difficulty walking or climbing steps, **93%** had no difficulty remembering or concentrating, **92%** had no difficulty with self-care, and **96%** had no difficulty communicating.

Females and males showed similar rates of no difficulty in most domains, except for seeing (**88%** female vs. **100%** male), remembering or concentrating (**92%** female vs. **100%** male), self-care (**92%** female vs. **100%** male), and communicating (**96%** female vs. **100%** male).

Accountability

CFM Awareness

All respondents (100%) were aware of or informed about the Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs). **97%** were consulted about their preferred ways to give feedback (e.g., phone, suggestion box, in-person, WhatsApp), while **3%** were not. Females (**99%**) reported a higher rate of consultation compared to males (**88%**), with males noting no consultation at **12%**. By governorate, Aleppo reported full consultation (**100%**), while Idlib had a small rate of no consultation (**3%**).

Understandable Language & Clarity of Information

Regarding the understandability of language, **99%** received project information in a language they understood, while **1%** did not. All respondents (**100%**) found the information provided (e.g., about services, selection criteria, duration) clear and easy to understand.

Pre-Project Consultation on Needs and Priorities

97% of respondents were consulted before the project started to understand their needs and priorities, while **3%** were not. Females (**98%**) reported a higher rate of consultation compared to males (**88%**), with males noting no consultation at **12%**¹.

Among those consulted, all respondents (**100%**) felt that their views and feedback were taken seriously by project staff, with no variations across sex, governorate, or service type.

Communication strategies were tailored to local needs, relying on direct engagement through field visits, community meetings, and regular updates to ensure accessibility. *“We held regular meetings with people starting from the verification stage, explaining project goals, and conducted field visits to keep communication open,”* a respondent explained. Beneficiary participation was facilitated through verification processes, where feedback influenced adjustments, such as adding agricultural or livestock support based on assessed needs. Preferred engagement methods, like face-to-face interactions, were respected, and advocacy communications were managed transparently, though fundraising details were not directly handled by the staff interviewed.

Raising Complaints or Suggestions

Overall, **6%** raised a complaint or made a suggestion during the project, while **94%** did not. Males (**12%**) reported a higher rate of raising complaints or suggestions compared to females (**6%**). By governorate, Aleppo had a higher rate of complaints or suggestions (**16%**) compared to Idlib (**4%**).

Among the ten respondents who raised a complaint or suggestion (n=10), **90%** saw changes or improvements based on their feedback, while **10%** did not.

Dignity, Safety, Accessibility, Respect, and Services Free of Charge

Unanimously, all respondents (**100%**) were treated with **dignity** and **respect** by staff during all interactions, moreover they confirmed that all services received were **free of charge**, the project activities were **appropriate** and **relevant** to their needs and priorities, the CFMs as **safe**, **accessible**, and all respondents reported they knew how to make a complaint or provide feedback regarding the assistance received during the project.

All respondents (**100%**) were satisfied with the available feedback channels, with no variations across sex, governorate, or service type.

Complaints were collected via phone numbers, text messages, and direct office visits, with routine issues addressed immediately and sensitive ones escalated internally. An IR staff member highlighted, *“When we received complaints about the quality of some agricultural inputs, the program team acted quickly to fix the issue during distributions.”* Disaggregated data (e.g., by gender, disability, and vulnerability) was collected during field verifications, minimizing beneficiary burden through targeted

¹ This 12% representation is from 2 male individuals (2 out of 17 males).

assessments. Monitoring data drove improvements, such as compensating farmers affected by floods in 2023, with details documented in project reports.

Relevance

The data confirms a **high level of relevance** of the food and NFI assistance to beneficiaries' immediate needs. With **98% reporting that urgent food needs were fully met**, and **100% affirming the appropriateness of timing and fairness of selection**, the assistance was delivered when most needed and reached the most vulnerable groups. The **slightly lower satisfaction among females (97%) and those in Aleppo (88%)** suggests **important equity considerations**, particularly around resource adequacy and regional needs. The **integration of community feedback and stakeholder consultations** demonstrates **adaptive and community-driven programming**, enhancing the contextual appropriateness of aid modalities. However, **different preferences across sex and location (e.g., food parcels vs. bank transfers)** highlight the need for **diversified response modalities** that consider gendered and geographic preferences for future programming.

Food Security Assistance

Meeting Urgent Food Needs

98% of respondents reported that the assistance fully met their family's urgent food needs, while **2%** said it partially met them. Females (**97%**) reported a slightly lower rate of fully met needs compared to males (**100%**), with females noting partially met needs at **3%**. By governorate, Idlib reported fully met needs (**100%**), while Aleppo had a higher rate of partially met needs (**12%**).

Among the two respondents who reported partially met food needs (n=2), **50%** each cited "The food materials were not sufficient in terms of quantity" Both respondents were female (**100%**) and from Aleppo (**100%**).

Appropriateness of Timing & Selection Fairness

All respondents (**100%**) reported that the timing of the assistance was appropriate for their household needs, and the beneficiary selection process was fair.

The IR staff emphasized a comprehensive approach to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion in beneficiary selection, targeting those directly and indirectly affected by the 2023 Turkey-Syria earthquake. The project prioritized vulnerable groups, such as women-headed households, persons with disabilities, and families with limited income, through coordination with local councils and the Humanitarian Aid Committee (HAC). A staff member noted, *"Our main focus was on the most vulnerable, like women, families led by women, people with disabilities, and households with multiple dependents."* Initial consultations with stakeholders, including local councils and farmers, informed the project design, which included emergency food distributions, non-food items, agricultural support, and winterization kits. This approach was **verified through multiple sources**, including a desk review of key project documents and reports, as well as **rightsholder data collected through both surveys and FGDs**. The triangulation of findings confirmed that the emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion in beneficiary selection was not only a staff-reported objective but also reflected in the experiences of the communities served. For example, rightsholders consistently reported that support was prioritized for vulnerable groups—such as women-headed households, persons with disabilities, and low-income families—aligning with both project design and implementation strategies described by staff.

Most Helpful Type of Assistance

66% of respondents found food parcels most helpful, while **34%** preferred bank transfers. Females (**75%**) favored food parcels more than males (**27%**), who preferred bank transfers (**73%**). By governorate, Idlib favored food parcels (**75%**), while Aleppo preferred bank transfers (**71%**).

Most Helpful Type of Assistance	Sex		Governorate		Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	
Bank Transfer	25%	73%	71%	25%	34%
Food Parcels	75%	27%	29%	75%	66%

Table 5: Most Helpful Type of Assistance per Syria's Phase one.

Among the 54 respondents who preferred bank transfers (n=54), cited “To buy other needs,” others noted “To meet other non-food needs (detergents, medicines).” Other reasons included addressing debts, medical needs, or disabilities”).

Among the 105 respondents who preferred food parcels (n=105), cited “Because it meets most of the family’s food needs.” Other reasons emphasized meeting daily food needs, reducing financial burdens, or saving money for other needs.

Preference for In-Kind Food vs. Cash/Vouchers

66% of respondents reported they preferred cash/vouchers, **27%** preferred in-kind food, and **7%** had no preference. Males (**80%**) preferred cash/vouchers more than females (**63%**), while females (**30%**) favored in-kind food more than males (**13%**). By governorate, Idlib had a higher rate of no preference (**9%**) than Aleppo (**0%**), while Aleppo favored in-kind food (**35%**) more than Idlib (**25%**).

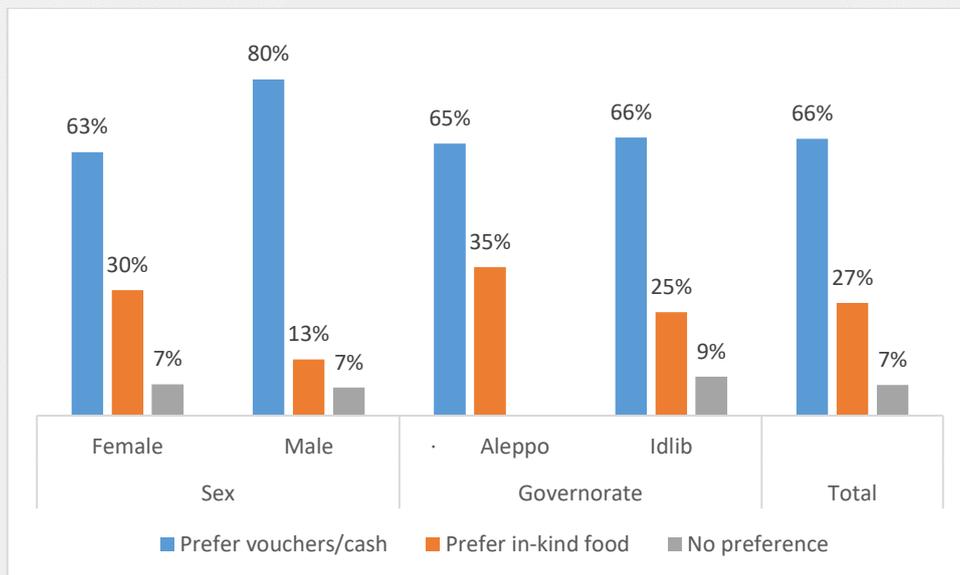


Figure 1: Preference for In-Kind Food vs. Cash/Vouchers per Syria's Phase One.

Non-Food Items

Types of NFI Assistance Received

Among the 36 respondents who specified other NFIs (n=36), the most common items were: **14%** Hygiene basket (soap, washing powder, chlorine tablets, shampoo, water containers, scrubbing sponge, bath sponge, dishwashing liquid, liquid soap, combs, towels). **8%** Hygiene basket containing similar items (as above). **17%** Sponges, cleaning tools, and insulators. Other items included combinations of sponges, kitchen tools, detergents, sanitary pads, towels, toothpaste, shaving cream, nail clippers, and prayer covers (**3–6%** each).

Preference for Cash Assistance

83% of respondents reported they preferred cash assistance over NFIs, while **17%** did not. Males (**100%**) preferred cash assistance more than females (**82%**), with females noting no preference at **18%**. By governorate, Aleppo (**93%**) had a higher preference for cash than Idlib (**76%**), while Idlib reported no preference at **24%**.

Among the 30 respondents who preferred cash, cited “to meet other needs (medications and food items),” and **10%** said “because it covers other needs.” Among the six respondents who did not prefer cash, cited “because there is no household provider, its better to have these items brought to us” All respondents were female.

Hygiene Kits

Unanimously, all respondents (**100%**) reported the hygiene kit contained all the necessary items and it was appropriate for their family’s gender/cultural needs.

Effectiveness

Effectiveness is evident, with **100% of respondents feeling respected and safe**, and **satisfaction with quality and distribution** indicating strong delivery mechanisms. Yet, the **gender gap in reported coverage of basic food needs**—with **males (93%) more likely to report full coverage than females (37%)**—warrants attention. This suggests **potential intra-household food allocation issues**. Additionally, **main challenges faced** (e.g., high prices, limited vendor stock) signal **external market constraints** that may limit the full realization of assistance goals. Overall, while **the program met intended objectives**, more **nuanced monitoring of gendered experiences and market dynamics** is critical for optimizing results.

Food Security Assistance

Coverage of Basic Food Needs

48% of respondents reported that the support met all their family’s basic food needs, while **52%** said it met most needs. Males (**93%**) reported a higher rate of all needs met compared to females (**37%**), with females noting most needs met at **63%**². By governorate, Idlib had a higher rate of all needs met (**49%**) than Aleppo (**41%**), while Aleppo had a higher rate of most needs met (**59%**).

Safety, Respect, and Satisfaction of Distribution and Quality

² Additionally, the perceived adequacy of assistance was frequently linked to household size, with some respondents—particularly women—indicating that the quantity of food parcels was insufficient to fully meet the needs of larger families.

All respondents (**100%**) felt safe, respected during, and satisfied with the distribution process (location, time, privacy), moreover all respondents reported they were satisfied with the quality of assistance.

Main Challenges Faced

Of the total responses to challenges (n=159), **88%** reported no challenges, **8%** cited prices being too high, and **4%** noted vendors had limited stock. Females (**71%**) reported a higher rate of no challenges compared to males (**18%**), with females also noting prices too high (**8%**) and limited stock (**2%**). By governorate, Idlib had a higher rate of no challenges (**68%**) than Aleppo (**20%**), while Aleppo reported limited stock (**4%**) and Idlib reported prices too high (**8%**).

Non-Food Items

Addressing Urgent Non-Food Needs

All respondents (**100%**) reported that the NFI assistance fully met their essential needs, was timely, the items functioned properly and met quality standards, satisfied with the distribution process (location, time, privacy), and felt safe and respected during the distribution process.

Hygiene Kits

Unanimously, all respondents (**100%**) reported the hygiene kit was useful, satisfied with the distribution process (location, time, privacy), and felt safe and respected during the distribution process.

Efficiency

Food Security Assistance

Timeliness of Assistance Delivery

Unanimously, **100%** of respondents reported that there was no delay in receiving the assistance.

Non-Food Items

All respondents (**100%**) reported that they received the correct quantity/type of NFIs and that there was no delay in receiving the assistance.

Hygiene Kits

All respondents (**100%**) reported that they received the correct quantity/type of Hygiene Kit and that there was no delay in receiving the assistance.

*The project demonstrated efficiency by integrating beneficiary feedback into decision-making. Financial transparency was ensured through a rigorous procurement process, with small purchases requiring three quotes, medium purchases overseen by a multi-departmental committee, and large ones reviewed by the UK head office. "Our procurement is strict—small purchases need three quotes, and larger ones go through a committee with technical and financial checks to ensure fairness," a respondent stated. Ethical resource management was reinforced by preventing conflicts of interest and conducting regular performance reviews. Continuous learning was fostered through weekly and midterm project reviews, triangulating data to assess intervention relevance. **Impact***

The intervention had **tangible positive effects** on household well-being. **99% of households reported reduced financial stress**, and **96% said the support helped them prioritize other basic needs**, illustrating significant indirect impacts. Notably, **females consistently reported lower perceived**

benefits, suggesting **persistent gender-based vulnerabilities**. Impacts such as **children returning to school (16%)** and **reduced food insecurity (34%)** indicate **positive spillover effects on education and household stability**. Similarly, NFI and hygiene kit impacts (e.g., dignity, reduced anxiety, improved hygiene) highlight how **even modest material support can affect psychosocial well-being and public health outcomes**. The findings suggest that **integrated aid addressing food, dignity, and hygiene** is crucial for holistic recovery in crisis contexts.

Food Security Assistance

Reduction of Stress/Financial Pressure

99% of respondents reported that the assistance reduced their family’s stress or financial pressure, while **1%** said it somewhat reduced it. Among the two respondents who reported somewhat reduced stress/financial pressure (n=2), cited “Due to the lack of some resources.” Both respondents were female (**100%**) and from Aleppo (**100%**).

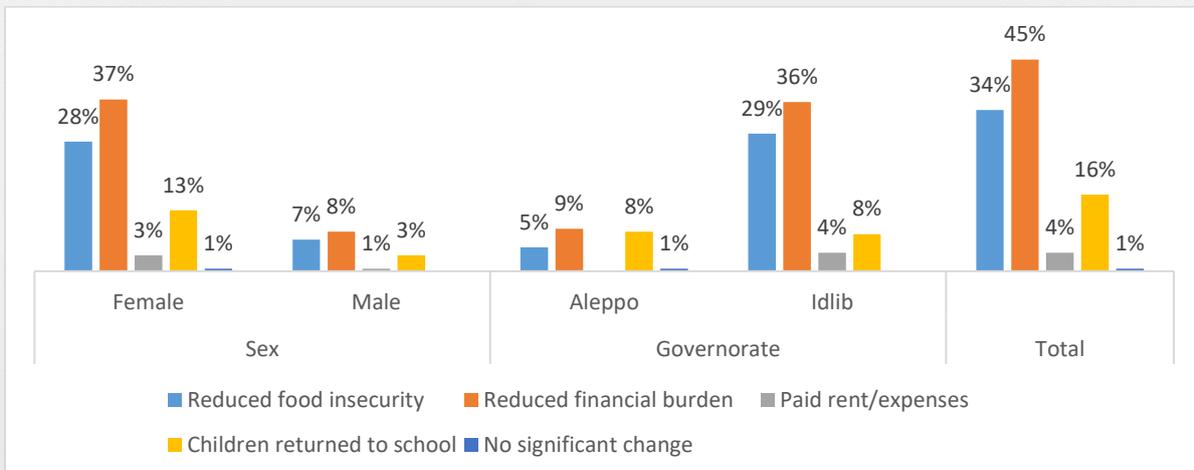
Prioritization of Other Basic Needs

96% of respondents reported that the support allowed them to prioritize other basic needs (e.g., rent, medicine), while **4%** said it did not. Females (**96%**) reported a slightly lower rate of prioritization compared to males (**100%**), with females noting no prioritization at **4%**. By governorate, Aleppo reported full prioritization (**100%**), while Idlib had a small rate of no prioritization (**5%**).

Among the six respondents who reported inability to prioritize other needs (n=6), cited “Because it only meets food needs”. All respondents were female (**100%**) and from Idlib (**100%**), with all receiving Food Security Assistance (**100%**).

Household Impacts

Of the total responses to household impacts (n=159), **45%** reported a reduced financial burden, **34%** noted reduced food insecurity, **16%** said children returned to school, **4%** mentioned ability to pay rent/expenses, and **1%** reported no significant change. Females (**37%**) reported a higher rate of reduced financial burden compared to males (**8%**), while males (**7%**) had a slightly higher rate of reduced food insecurity compared to females (**28%**). By governorate, Idlib had a higher rate of reduced financial burden (**36%**) and reduced food insecurity (**29%**) than Aleppo (**9%** and **5%**, respectively), while Aleppo had a higher rate of children returning to school (**8%**).



Non-Food Items

Of the total responses to the main impacts of NFI assistance, **37%** reported maintained family dignity, **34%** noted reduced stress/anxiety, and **29%** indicated prevented health risks.

Hygiene Kits

Of the total responses to the main impacts of hygiene kit assistance, **34%** reported improved hygiene/cleanliness, **31%** noted reduced illness risk, and **34%** indicated improved women's dignity/privacy.

Sustainability

Over half of the beneficiaries reported benefits lasting less than one month, with males and Aleppo residents most affected, indicating short-lived assistance and regional disparities. While **99%** felt better prepared for future shocks, this perception may reflect emotional reassurance rather than actual material readiness. The universal desire for continued hygiene kit support and short durations of impact for both food and NFIs suggest that one-off distributions are insufficient to build resilience.

Food Security Assistance

Duration of Benefits

55% of respondents reported that the benefits lasted less than one month, while **45%** said they lasted 1–3 months. Males (**80%**) reported a higher rate of benefits lasting less than one month compared to females (**49%**), with females noting 1–3 months at **51%**. By governorate, Aleppo reported all benefits lasting less than one month (**100%**), while Idlib had a mix of less than one month (**43%**) and 1–3 months (**57%**).

Duration of Benefits	Sex		Governorate		Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	
Less than 1 month	49%	80%	100%	43%	55%
1–3 months	51%	20%	0%	57%	45%

Table 6: Duration of Benefits per Syria's Phase one.

Preparedness for Future Shocks

99% of respondents felt better prepared to face future shocks due to the assistance, while **1%** did not. Among the two respondents who reported not feeling better prepared (n=2), cited "Because this assistance was not sufficient to meet their needs." Both respondents were female and from Aleppo.

Non-Food Items

72% of respondents reported that the NFI support remained useful for less than one month, **25%** for 1–3 months, and **3%** for 3–6 months. Males (**100%**) reported a higher rate of usefulness for less than one month compared to females (**71%**), with females noting 1–3 months (**26%**) and 3–6 months (**3%**). By governorate, Aleppo reported all support useful for less than one month (**100%**), while Idlib had a mix of less than one month (**52%**), 1–3 months (**43%**), and 3–6 months (**5%**).

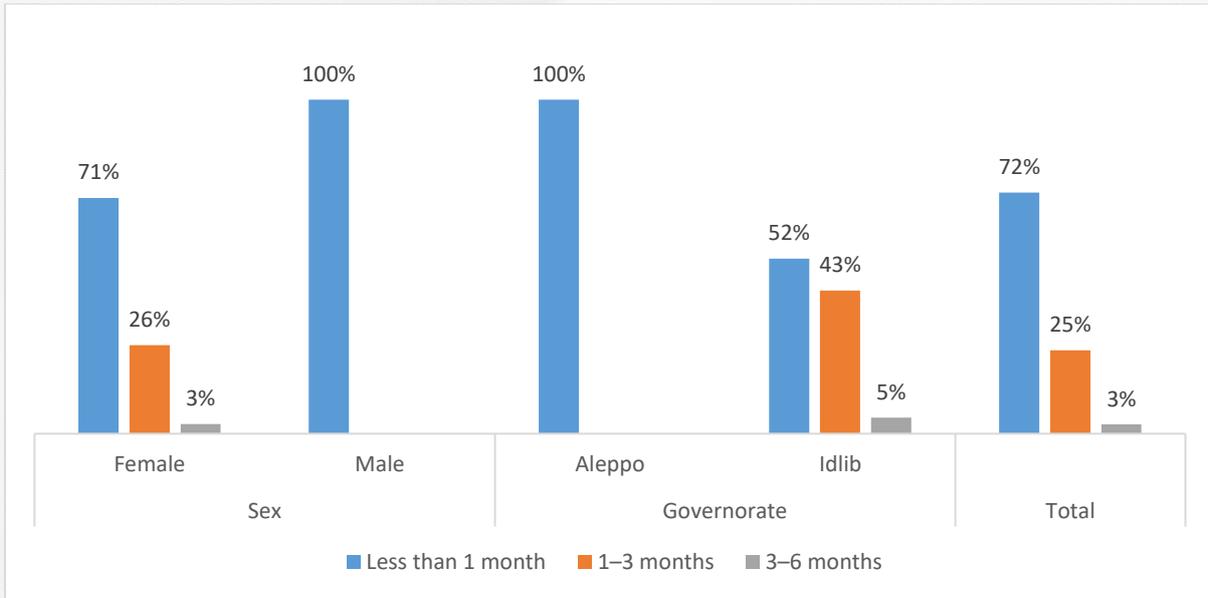


Figure 2: NFIs duration per Syria's Phase one.

Hygiene Kits

Duration of Hygiene Kit Contents

71% of respondents reported that the hygiene kit contents lasted less than one month, while **29%** said they lasted 1–2 months. All respondents (**100%**) reported that they would need such assistance again.

Türkiye

Islamic Relief's **Phase One emergency response in Türkiye, following the 2023 earthquake, successfully achieved all planned output targets**, demonstrating a high level of effectiveness in meeting its core humanitarian objectives. The intervention reached earthquake-affected populations across **Gaziantep, Hatay, Adıyaman, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, and Şanlıurfa provinces**, delivering timely and targeted support. A total of **26,790 individuals received immediate food items**—including dates, cake, and fruit juice—while **10,000 households benefited from unconditional vouchers** (such as 1,000 TL BIM Cards and Sadaqa Transfers), ensuring continued access to essential nutrition. In rural areas, an additional **4,400 households received emergency food parcels** to cover urgent dietary needs.

The project also met its objectives in the shelter and hygiene sectors: **2,010 households were supported with blankets, tents, and hygiene kits**, and **5,000 households received gender-sensitive hygiene kits**, promoting public health, dignity, and protection for vulnerable communities. These achievements underscore the overall effectiveness of the response in delivering critical, life-sustaining assistance aligned with the intervention's stated outcomes.

The **Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS)** across each stage of implementation and evaluation, while aligning closely with the **OECD/DAC evaluation criteria**. This framework ensured the intervention was not only operationally effective but also grounded in humanitarian accountability and community engagement. Each of these program components was evaluated against key CHS commitments and DAC criteria to ensure relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact, and coherence.

The application of **CHS Commitment 1 (Relevance)** ensured that **diversity, equity, and inclusion** were integrated from the outset. Through targeted assistance the intervention directly addressed the needs

of women and vulnerable groups. Beneficiary surveys assessed perceptions of fairness in **selection processes, timing, and modality of aid (cash, vouchers, or in-kind)**, allowing for community-preferred forms of assistance to be identified and adapted in real time. Feedback and complaint mechanisms allowed individuals to report challenges related to stock availability or delays, fulfilling **CHS Commitments 5 and 7 (Effectiveness and Efficiency)**. Monitoring data and learning from this feedback were systematically analyzed and used to adjust distribution processes and vendor coordination, ensuring timely delivery and respect for local preferences.

Under the **Effectiveness criterion**, the project demonstrated a strong commitment to CHS Commitments 2, 4, and 8. Survey results confirmed that the majority of recipients were able to meet their food needs, felt respected during distribution, and reported reduced financial stress. These outcomes reflect a coherent approach that was responsive to the specific vulnerabilities and cultural context of affected populations, while also minimizing harm and upholding **safeguarding and data protection protocols**. Additionally, staff and volunteers operated under clear codes of conduct, and the organization ensured **safe, confidential channels** for reporting misconduct—strengthening both internal accountability and community trust.

From an **impact and sustainability** perspective, the response contributed to short-term household recovery while also enabling longer-term coping strategies. Many households reported that the assistance helped them **cover other essential costs such as rent or medicine**, indirectly supporting broader well-being outcomes. The project also contributed to **community preparedness and resilience (CHS Commitment 3)** by promoting **community ownership** in targeting and distribution and by reinforcing **local coordination mechanisms**, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

The **coherence** of the response was ensured through strong alignment with **local partners and government-led coordination structures** (CHS Commitment 6). Islamic Relief collaborated closely with local stakeholders to avoid duplication and maximize reach, and provided capacity-strengthening support to ensure that humanitarian principles and accountability standards were upheld across all implementing partners.

Phase One Output - Türkiye	Target	Achieved	Status
Food Items Distributed (dates, cake, juice)	26,790 individuals	26,790 individuals	✓ Achieved
Unconditional Vouchers (BIM Cards, Sadaqa Transfers)	10,000 households	10,000 households	✓ Achieved
Emergency Food Parcels (Rural Areas)	4,400 households	4,400 households	✓ Achieved
Shelter & Hygiene Kits	2,010 households	2,010 households	✓ Achieved
Gender-Sensitive Hygiene Kits	5,000 households	5,000 households	✓ Achieved

Table 7: Phase One Output - Türkiye.

The Phase One 2023 Earthquake response final evaluation survey in Türkiye, included (n=271) respondents. Of these, (n=154) were female (**57%**) and (n=117) were male (**43%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest number of respondents (n=88, **32%**), followed by Hatay (n=84, **31%**), Şanlıurfa (n=35, **13%**), Kahramanmaraş (n=33, **12%**), and Kilis (n=31, **11%**). Regarding service type, BIM Cards (1,000 TL) were received by (n=164) respondents (**60%**), Orphan Building Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) by (n=55) (**20%**), and Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) by (n=52) (**19%**).

Sex	City					Type of service			
	GAZIANTEP	HATAY	KAHRAMANMARAS	SANLIURFA	KILIS	BIM Card (1,000 TL)	Bank Transfer (Sadaqa)	Orphan Buildings Bank Transfers	Total
Female	84%	39%	48%	54%	39%	51%	31%	98%	57%
Male	16%	61%	52%	46%	61%	49%	69%	2%	43%

Table 8: Sex per Türkiye - Phase One

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Age Distribution

The age distribution of the 271 respondents showed **58%** aged 18-45, **35%** aged 46-59, and **7%** aged 60+. By sex, females had a slightly higher proportion in the 18-45 group (**60%**) compared to males (56%), while males had a higher share in the 46-59 group (**38%** vs. **32%**). Across cities, Hatay had the highest proportion of 18-45-year-olds (**65%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the highest share of those 60+ (**12%**). For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest proportion of 18-45-year-olds (**73%**), while BIM Cards had the highest share of 46-59-year-olds (**37%**). No beneficiaries aged 60+ received Bank Transfers (Sadaqa).

Marital Status

Of the (n=271) respondents, **64%** were married, **26%** were widowed, **6%** were single, and **4%** were divorced. Females were far more likely to be widowed (**41%**) than males (**6%**), while males were predominantly married (**86%**) compared to females (**47%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest proportion of widows/widowers (**61%**), while Hatay, Kahramanmaraş, Şanlıurfa, and Kilis had high proportions of married beneficiaries (**80%, 67%, 80%, and 84%**, respectively).

Family Size

The family size of the (n=271) respondents was **51%** with 4-6 members, **32%** with less than 4, and **17%** with more than 6. Males had a slightly higher proportion of larger families (>6, 22%) compared to females (**14%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest proportion of 4-6 member families (**60%**), while Kilis had the highest share of families with more than 6 members (**29%**). Across service types, BIM Cards and Orphan Building Bank Transfers had similar distributions for 4-6 member families (**51%** and **53%**, respectively), while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had a balanced distribution across family sizes.

Family Size	Sex		City					Type of service			
	Female	Male	GAZIANTEP	HATAY	KAHRAMANMARAS	SANLIURFA	KILIS	BIM Card (1,000 TL)	Bank Transfer (Sadaqa)	Orphan Buildings Bank Transfers	Total
Less than 4	36%	26%	28%	35%	36%	37%	23%	30%	31%	36%	32%
From 4- 6	50%	52%	60%	49%	45%	40%	48%	51%	50%	53%	51%
More than 6	14%	22%	11%	17%	18%	23%	29%	19%	19%	11%	17%

Table 9: Family Size per Phase One Türkiye.

Residency Status

Among the (n=271) respondents, **44%** were host community members, **42%** were refugees, **14%** were internally displaced persons (IDPs), and **1%** were returnee IDPs. Females had a higher proportion of refugees (**53%**) than males (**27%**), while males were more likely to be host community members (**53%** vs. **37%**). By city, Kilis had the highest proportion of refugees (**74%**), while Hatay and Şanlıurfa had higher shares of host community members (**67%** and **66%**, respectively). For service types, Orphan Building Bank Transfers were almost exclusively received by refugees (**98%**), while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) were mostly received by host community members (**65%**) and IDPs (**35%**). BIM Cards were distributed across the host community (**52%**) and refugee (**36%**) beneficiaries.

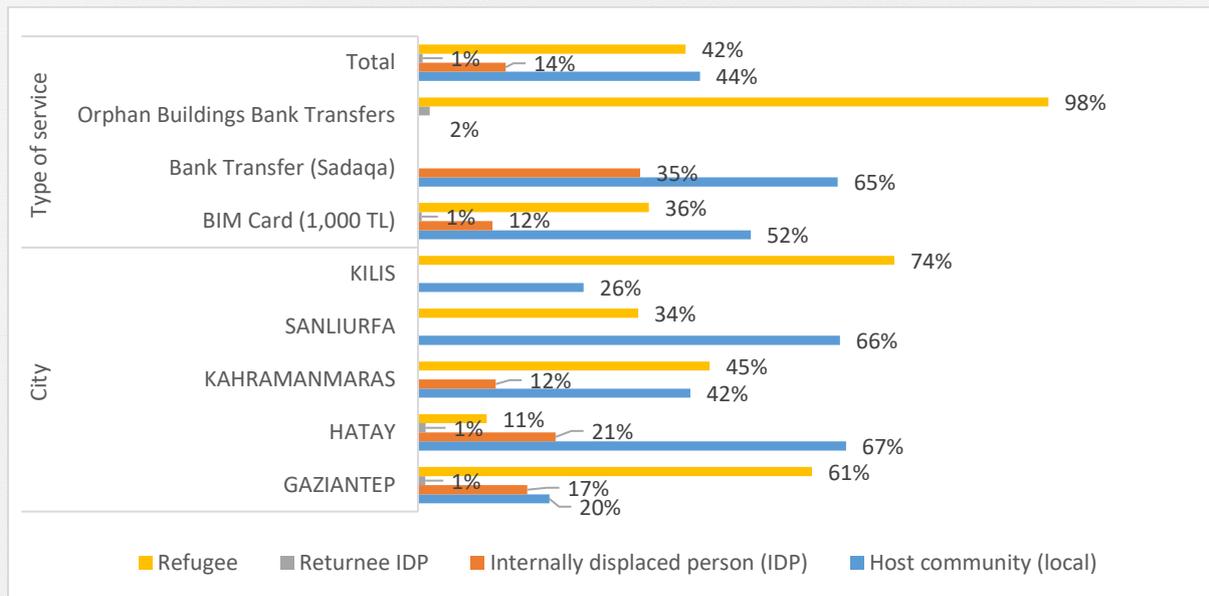


Figure 3: Residency Status per Phase One Türkiye.

Disability Status

The disability status revealed that most respondents reported no significant disabilities across six domains. Specifically, **79%** had no difficulty seeing, **90%** had no difficulty hearing, **83%** had no difficulty walking or climbing steps, **84%** had no difficulty remembering or concentrating, **93%** had no difficulty with self-care, and **88%** had no difficulty communicating. Females and males showed similar rates of no difficulty in most domains, except for hearing (**92%** female vs. **87%** male) and communication (**91%** female vs. **85%** male). Across cities, Hatay consistently had the highest proportions with “no difficulty” (ranging from **93%** to **99%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the lowest (ranging from **52%** for

communication to **76%** for hearing) and the highest rates of “some difficulty” (up to **33%** for communication).

For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) recipients reported the highest rates of “no difficulty” (ranging from **92%** to **98%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers recipients had the lowest (ranging from **65%** for seeing to **87%** for self-care) and the highest rates of “some difficulty” (up to **29%** for walking).

Accountability

CFM Awareness

Among the 271 respondents, **88%** were aware of Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs), **10%** were not, and **3%** did not know. Males reported higher awareness (**92%**) than females (**84%**). By city, Kahramanmaraş and Kilis had full awareness (**100%**), while Gaziantep had the lowest (**78%**) and the highest rate of “don't know” (**8%**). For service types, BIM Cards had the highest awareness (**98%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest (**69%**) and the highest rates of “no” (**18%**) and “don't know” (**13%**).

Of the respondents unaware of CFMs or unsure (n=35), **42%** cited lack of awareness, stating “I was not aware of the existence of this mechanism” in Arabic, **18%** provided no specific reason, and **12%** noted that “No information was provided” in Turkish.

Feedback Consultation

84% of respondents reported that they were consulted about their feedback preferences, **14%** were not, and **2%** did not know. Females (**84%**) and males (**85%**) reported similar consultation rates. By city, Kahramanmaraş had the highest consultation rate (**91%**), while Kilis had the lowest (**74%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**26%**). For service types, BIM Cards had the highest consultation rate (**90%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest (**76%**) and a higher rate of “no” (**16%**).

Language & Clarity of Information

Of the 271 respondents, **87%** received information in an understandable language, while **13%** did not. Females reported a slightly higher rate (**89%**) than males (**85%**). By city, Hatay had the highest rate (**99%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the lowest (**45%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**55%**). For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest rate (**98%**), while BIM Cards had the lowest (**81%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**19%**).

85% found the information clear and easy to understand, **13%** did not, and **2%** reported “no.” Females (**88%**) reported higher clarity than males (**81%**). By city, Hatay had the highest clarity rate (**98%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the lowest (**42%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**55%**).

Pre-Project Consultation

Of the 271 respondents, **86%** were consulted about their needs and priorities, while **14%** were not. Females reported a higher consultation rate (**90%**) than males (**80%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest consultation rate (**94%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the lowest (**64%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**36%**). For service types, Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest consultation rate (**93%**), while BIM Cards had the lowest (**82%**) and the highest rate of “no” (**18%**).

Among those consulted (n=233), **86%** felt their views were taken seriously, while **14%** did not. Females reported a higher rate (**90%**) than males (**80%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest rate (**94%**), while

Kahramanmaraş had the lowest (**64%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**36%**). For service types, Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest rate (**93%**), while BIM Cards had the lowest (**82%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**18%**).

Dignity, Respect, and Services Free of Charge

All respondents (**100%**) reported being treated with dignity and respect by project staff across all sexes, cities, and service types. Furthermore, all respondents (**100%**) confirmed that all services received were free of charge across all sexes, cities, and service types.

Appropriateness of Activities

99% of respondents reported that they felt that the project activities were appropriate and relevant, and **1%** did not know. By city, Kahramanmaraş and Şanlıurfa had the highest appropriateness rates (**100%**), while Kilis had the highest rate of "don't know" (**6%**). Orphan Building Bank Transfers had a slightly lower rate (**98%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**2%**).

Safety of CFMs

Of the 271 respondents, **96%** described CFMs as safe, **2%** did not, and **2%** did not know. Females (**97%**) reported slightly higher safety perceptions than males (**95%**). By city, Kahramanmaraş, Şanlıurfa, and Kilis had the highest safety rates (**100%**), while Hatay had the lowest (**90%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**6%**). For service types, BIM Cards had the highest safety rate (**100%**), while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the lowest (**85%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**10%**).

Among the 11 respondents who did not perceive CFMs as safe or were unsure (n=11), **10%** cited various reasons, including "No information was provided," or "I was not aware of the existence of this mechanism".

Accessibility of CFMs

Overall, **95%** described CFMs as accessible, **2%** did not, and **3%** did not know. Females (**95%**) and males (**96%**) reported similar accessibility perceptions. By city, Kahramanmaraş, Şanlıurfa, and Kilis had the highest accessibility rates (**100%**), while Hatay had the lowest (**90%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**6%**). For service types, BIM Cards had the highest accessibility rate (**100%**), while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the lowest (**85%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**10%**).

Among respondents who did not find CFMs accessible or did not know (n=13), **15%** provided no specific reason, while **8%** cited various reasons, including lack of information, not knowing that the CFMs are available.

Complaints or Suggestions Raised

Among the 271 respondents, (n=68) **25%** raised a complaint or suggestion, while **75%** did not. Males (**35%**) were more likely to raise issues than females (**18%**). By city, Hatay had the highest rate of complaints/suggestions (**63%**), while Kilis had none (**0%**). For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest rate (**67%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest (**2%**).

Among those who raised complaints or suggestions (n=68), **93%** saw changes or improvements, **6%** did not, and **1%** reported "not applicable." Males (**95%**) reported slightly higher rates of improvements than females (**89%**). By city, Hatay had the highest rate of improvements (**96%**), while Şanlıurfa had the lowest (**50%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**50%**). For service types, BIM Cards and Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest rates (**94%** each).

Satisfaction with Feedback Channels

99% were satisfied with feedback channels, and **1%** were not satisfied. By city, Hatay, Şanlıurfa, and Kilis had the highest satisfaction rates (**100%**), while Kahramanmaraş had the highest rate of dissatisfaction (**3%**). For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest satisfaction rate (**100%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest (**96%**) and the highest rates of "somewhat satisfied" (**2%**) and "not satisfied" (**2%**).

Relevance

The assistance clearly aligned with beneficiaries' urgent needs, as **85% reported their food needs were fully met**. However, significant disparities exist across **locations (e.g., only 57% in Şanlıurfa)** and **types of services (75% fully met among Orphan Building transfers vs. 98% for Sadaqa Bank Transfers)**. These differences highlight the **critical need for tailoring aid modalities to local market conditions and household characteristics**. Community consultation efforts—especially direct engagement in Hatay—enhanced contextual appropriateness, but the **varying depth of participation** suggests room to improve **systematic inclusion of local voices across all regions**. Gender and modality preferences further stress the importance of **offering diverse assistance options: males favored BIM cards**, while **females leaned toward bank transfers and vouchers**, indicating that **one-size-fits-all approaches may not meet nuanced household priorities**.

Assistance in Meeting Food Needs

Regarding if the assistance met the family's urgent food needs, **85%** reported that the assistance fully met their family's urgent food needs, while **15%** said it partially met them. By city, Kahramanmaraş had the highest rate of fully met needs (**94%**), while Şanlıurfa had the lowest (**57%**) and the highest rate of partially met needs (**43%**). For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest rate of fully met needs (**98%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest (**75%**) and the highest rate of partially met needs (**25%**).

Among respondents whose food needs were partially met (n=41), **7%** cited that "It was partially sufficient," **5%** provided no specific reason, and **2%** mentioned various reasons, including "Only some needs were met," "We couldn't meet most of our needs," "Rising prices, many expenses, and the size of the family," and "Not sufficient due to rising prices."

Assistance in Meeting Food Needs	City					Type of service			
	GAZIANTEP	HATAY	KAHRAMANMARAS	SANLIURFA	KILIS	BIM Card (1,000 TL)	Bank Transfer (Sadaqa)	Orphan Buildings Bank Transfers	Total
Fully met	82%	92%	94%	57%	94%	84%	98%	75%	85%
Partially met	18%	8%	6%	43%	6%	16%	2%	25%	15%

Table 10: Assistance in Meeting Food Needs.

Appropriateness of Assistance Timing

99% of respondents found the timing of assistance appropriate for their household needs, while **1%** did not. For service types, BIM Cards and Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had fully appropriate timing (**100%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had a slightly lower rate (**96%**) and the highest rate of "no" (**4%**). Among the two respondents who found the timing somewhat or not appropriate (n=2), **100%** cited "There was a slight delay."

All respondents (**100%**) were satisfied with the appropriateness of the assistance, with no variations across sex, city, or service type.

Community leaders reported that consultations were conducted to identify urgent needs post-earthquake, though the depth of engagement varied. In some areas, IR staff directly engaged leaders to assess needs, such as food and market cards, while in others, support types were pre-determined. A leader from Hatay stated, *“They called us before coming, asked about our needs and the number of residents, and welcomed our suggestions warmly.”* Interventions were highly inclusive, targeting vulnerable groups like the elderly, widows, orphans, and persons with disabilities. *“The aid reached everyone without exception—women, men, children, the elderly, and those with special needs,”* the same leader noted.

Preferred Type of Assistance

As to the preference of the type of assistance, **55%** of respondents found BIM Cards most helpful, and **45%** preferred Bank Transfers. Males (**64%**) preferred BIM Cards more than females (**47%**), who favored Bank Transfers (**53%**). By city, Kahramanmaraş had the highest preference for BIM Cards (**97%**), while Hatay had the highest for Bank Transfers (**64%**).

Among respondents who preferred **BIM Cards** (n=149), **11%** provided no specific reason, **11%** cited "Reducing financial burdens," and **5%** noted "It was easy." Other reasons included "BIM includes everything a person might need" and "Meets household needs" (**2%** each).

Among respondents who preferred **Bank Transfers** (n=122), **9%** cited "Many options," **5%** noted "We can meet all our needs," and **2%** mentioned various reasons, including "Better and easier, to meet priorities," and "To buy from places with better prices than BIM."

Preference for In-Kind Food vs. Cash/Vouchers

When asked whether in-kind food is preferred or cash/vouchers, **61%** of respondents preferred vouchers/cash, **26%** preferred in-kind food, and **13%** had no preference. Males (**38%**) preferred in-kind food more than females (**17%**), who favored vouchers/cash (**65%**). By city, Şanlıurfa had the highest preference for vouchers/cash (**74%**), while Hatay had the highest for in-kind food (**42%**). For service types, BIM Cards preferred vouchers/cash (**69%**), while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the highest preference for in-kind food (**62%**).

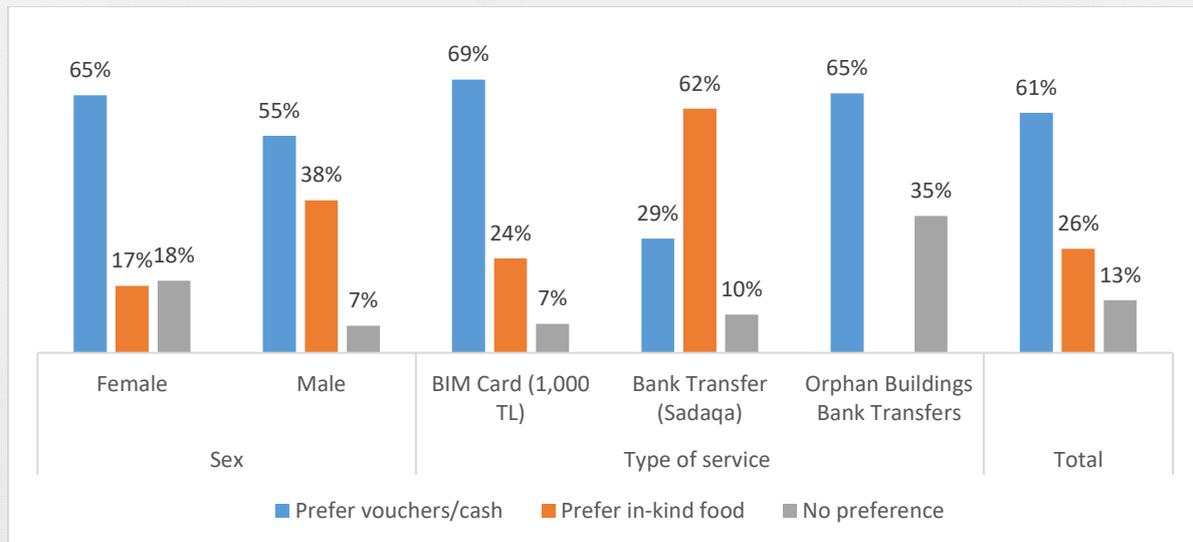


Figure 4: Preference for In-Kind Food vs. Cash/Vouchers per Türkiye.

Effectiveness

Effectiveness was strong in terms of **process satisfaction**—100% of respondents felt safe, respected, and satisfied with the distribution and 99% were happy with the quality. However, the **real-world utility of the assistance shows gender and geographic disparities**:

- **45% said all food needs were covered**, with females less likely than males to report this (38% vs. 55%).
- In Şanlıurfa and among Orphan Building Bank Transfer recipients, **coverage and satisfaction were significantly lower**, pointing to potential **modal mismatches or insufficient transfer values**.

These findings suggest that while **operational delivery was smooth**, the **effectiveness in achieving food security varied significantly**, especially for women and those in specific governorates. The fact that some respondents did not use BIM cards fully due to product preferences also reflects a **need to better align assistance tools with household purchasing habits**.

Ability to Cover Basic Food Needs

Of the 271 respondents, **45%** reported that the support met all their family’s basic food needs, **52%** said most needs were met, and **3%** indicated few or no needs were met. Males (**55%**) reported a higher rate of all needs met compared to females (**38%**), who noted most needs met (**60%**).

Among the nine respondents who provided explanations for limited or unmet food needs (n=9), **44%** gave no specific reason, **11%** each cited “Very few of my needs were met,” “Due to the economic crisis,” “Because there are many expenses,” “I didn’t use the full card since I don’t prefer BIM’s products,” and “I wasn’t given any amount.”

Ability to Cover Basic Food Needs	City				Type of service				Total
	GAZIANTEP	HATAY	KAHRAMANMARAS	SANLIURFA	KILIS	BIM Card (1,000 TL)	Bank Transfer (Sadaqa)	Orphan Buildings Bank Transfers	
All needs met	42%	52%	67%	26%	32%	56%	46%	11%	45%
Most needs met	56%	48%	33%	69%	52%	40%	54%	85%	52%
Few or no needs met	2%	0%	0%	6%	16%	4%	0%	4%	3%

Table 11: Ability to Cover Basic Food Needs per Türkiye.

Satisfaction with Distribution Process

Unanimously, **100%** of respondents were satisfied with the distribution process (location, time, privacy). Furthermore, all respondents (**100%**) felt safe and respected during the distribution process, with no variations across sex, city, or service type.

The interventions, primarily market cards distributions, were timely, aligning with critical periods. A Hatay leader noted, “*The BIM market cards were distributed, helping families who couldn’t afford.*”

Satisfaction with Quality of Assistance

99% of respondents reported that they were satisfied with the quality of assistance, and 1% were somewhat satisfied. By city, Şanlıurfa had the lowest satisfaction rate (94%) and the highest rate of somewhat satisfied (6%), while Hatay and Kahramanmaraş were fully satisfied (100%). For service types, Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the lowest satisfaction rate (98%) and the highest rate of somewhat satisfied (2%).

Among the three respondents who were somewhat satisfied with the quality of assistance (n=3), 33% each cited “It didn’t meet many of our needs,” “Preference for bank transfers,” and “If possible, provide larger amounts so my children can continue their education.”

Efficiency

The intervention was operationally efficient, with 98% receiving assistance on time and clear, timely communication from IR reported across locations. The feedback mechanisms (hotlines, in-person communication) were functional, and community satisfaction with response times was generally high. The high efficiency enabled trust and reduced community frustration, but efficiency in distribution should not be mistaken for sufficiency in outcomes, as the short duration of benefit (see Sustainability) indicates room for programmatic strengthening.

Timeliness of Assistance Delivery

Regarding the timeliness of the assistance delivery, 98% of respondents reported no delay in receiving assistance, while 2% experienced “some delays”. Females (97%) reported a slightly lower rate of no delay compared to males (99%), with females noting some delay at 3% versus males at 1%. For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) reported no delays (100%), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest rate of “some delay” (7%).

Among the six respondents who experienced some delay (n=6), 17% each reported that they were informed about the delays. “I was informed, and it was explained that it was due to circumstances.”

IR provided clear and timely information on intervention objectives and selection criteria, often through direct communication with leaders and public announcements. A leader from Kilis remarked, “They informed us clearly about the project goals and distribution details, including the timing for meat and market card distributions.” Feedback was gathered through phone numbers printed on distributed cards and direct interactions, with communities generally expressing satisfaction. Leaders reported minimal negative feedback, with requests for additional aid being the primary concern. “There were no negative comments; people were happy with the aid and training, and many wanted it repeated,” a Kilis leader shared. Response times to feedback were generally prompt, though some leaders noted logistical delays in crowded distribution settings.

Impact

The assistance provided had notable short-term impacts on households’ well-being and resilience:

- 98% of respondents reported a reduction in family stress and financial pressure, highlighting the intervention’s immediate psychosocial benefit during a crisis period.
- 97% said it enabled them to prioritize other basic needs, such as rent and medication—demonstrating that the aid not only addressed food insecurity but also indirectly alleviated other financial burdens.

- **40%** reported reduced financial burden, and **12%** noted that the assistance allowed their **children to return to school**, pointing to positive secondary effects on education and stability.

Female respondents reported a higher share of overall impacts (61%), particularly around financial relief, suggesting that the assistance may have been especially significant for **female-headed households or caregiving roles**. This reflects the gendered nature of household responsibilities and economic vulnerability in crisis contexts.

Reduction in Family Stress and Financial Pressure

In terms of reducing family stress and financial pressure, **98%** of respondents reported that the assistance reduced their family's stress or financial pressure, and **2%** said it somewhat reduced it. Among the five respondents who reported somewhat reduction in stress or financial pressure (n=5), cited "It didn't fully meet my needs," "Because it wasn't sufficient to continue my children's education," and "Because I benefited from the assistance for a short period, its benefit lasted less than a month."

The interventions improved household food security, particularly for vulnerable groups, by providing essential food and purchasing power. *"Families, especially widows and the elderly, had more food security and supplies, which lifted their spirits,"* a Kilis leader observed. Long-term impacts were limited, as interventions were emergency-focused, but they reinforced community solidarity. No negative social or environmental impacts were reported, though leaders noted that aid quantities were insufficient to cover all needs. *"Even a drop of water was valuable then, but the aid wasn't enough for everyone in Hatay,"* a Hatay leader reflected.

Prioritization of Other Basic Needs

97% of respondents reported that the support allowed them to prioritize other basic needs (e.g., rent, medicine), while **3%** said it did not. Males (**99%**) reported a higher rate of prioritization compared to females (**95%**), who noted no prioritization at **5%**. For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) reported full prioritization (**100%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest rate of no prioritization (**9%**).

Among the eight respondents who could not prioritize other basic needs (n=8), **13%** each cited "Food needs were met," "It was only sufficient for food items," "Because the amount was insufficient to that extent," "It wasn't enough to pay any rent," "Because the family's needs increased during the earthquake as we stayed outside our home for a week in parks, which led us to consume ready-made food, and that was a big expense."

Overall Household Impact

Of the total responses to how the assistance impacted households (multiple selection), **34%** reported reduced food insecurity, **40%** noted reduced financial burden, **11%** said it allowed payment of rent/expenses, **12%** indicated children returned to school, and **2%** reported no significant change. Females (**61%** total responses) reported higher impacts than males (**39%**), particularly in reduced financial burden (**23%** vs. **17%**). By city, Gaziantep had the highest total impact responses (**39%**), with reduced financial burden at **15%**, while Şanlıurfa and Kilis had the lowest (**11%** each). For service types, BIM Cards had the highest total impact responses (**54%**), with reduced food insecurity at **22%**, while Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) had the lowest (**16%**).

Household Impact	Sex		Type of service			Total
	Female	Male	BIM Card (1,000 TL)	Bank Transfer (Sadaqa)	Orphan Buildings Bank Transfers	
Reduced food insecurity	20%	13%	22%	4%	8%	34%
Reduced financial burden	23%	17%	21%	10%	10%	40%
Allowed me to pay rent/expenses	7%	5%	7%	1%	4%	11%
Children returned to school	9%	3%	3%	2%	7%	12%
No significant change	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	2%

Table 12: Household Impact per Türkiye.

Sustainability

Duration of Assistance Benefits

Regarding the lasting duration of benefits, **73%** of respondents reported that the benefits lasted less than one month, **21%** said 1–3 months, and **5%** indicated more than 3 months. Males (**77%**) reported a higher rate of benefits lasting less than one month compared to females (**71%**), while females (**8%**) noted benefits lasting more than 3 months more frequently than males (**1%**). For service types, BIM Cards had the rate of benefits lasting less than one month (**86%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest rate of more than 3 months (**22%**).

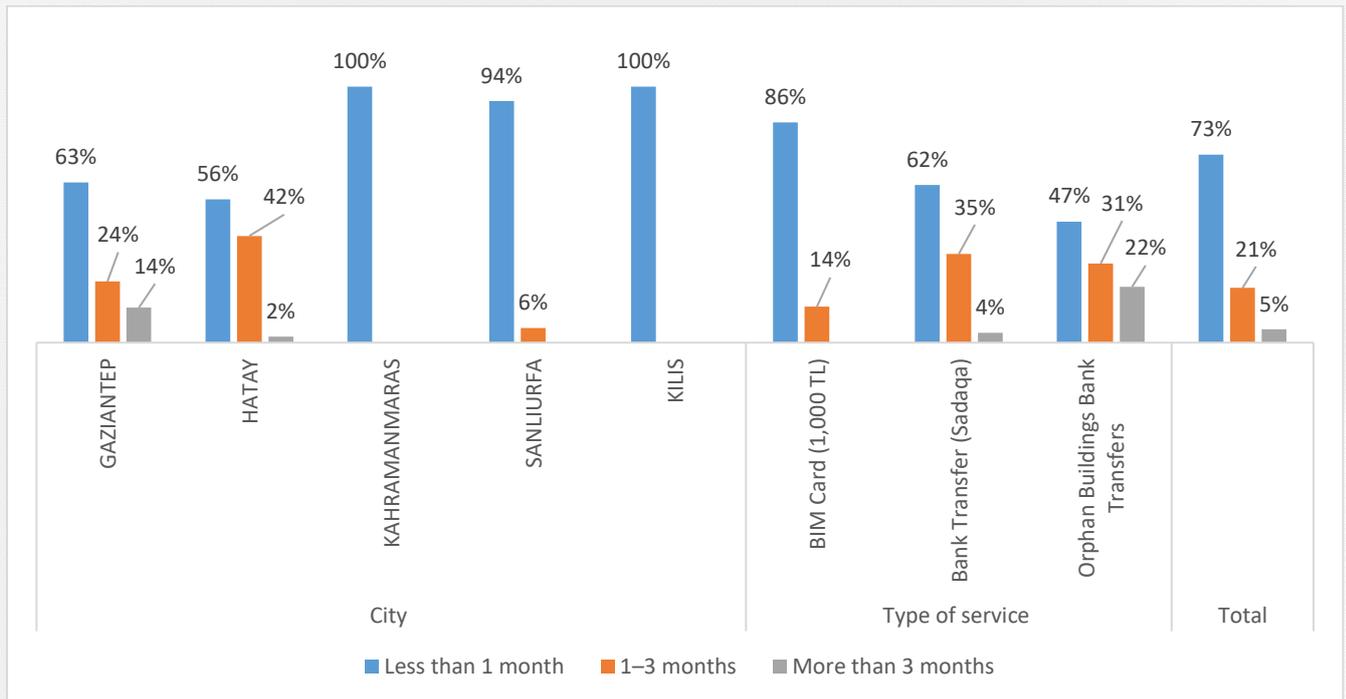


Figure 5: Duration of Assistance Benefits per Türkiye.

Preparedness for Future Shocks

97% of respondents reported that they felt better prepared to face future shocks due to the assistance, while **3%** did not. Males (**99%**) reported a higher rate of preparedness compared to females (**96%**), who noted no preparedness at **4%**. For service types, Bank Transfers (Sadaqa) reported full preparedness (**100%**), while Orphan Building Bank Transfers had the highest rate of no preparedness (**11%**).

Among the seven respondents who did not feel better prepared for future shocks (n=7), cited “Financial pressures,” “Fear of the future and facing difficulties,” “Because there are many expenses, most importantly my children’s university fees.”

Sustainability was limited due to the emergency nature of the interventions, which focused on immediate relief rather than long-term resilience. Community leadership was strengthened through coordination with local councils and municipalities, fostering ownership. Ongoing economic challenges, like rising costs, underscored the need for continued aid. *“People still need support because financial conditions haven’t improved much,”* a Kilis leader noted.

Phase Two (Early Recovery in Syria)

Agricultural Interventions

In Syria’s Idlib and Aleppo governorates, agricultural interventions under **Outputs E.1.1, E.2.1, and E.3.1 successfully achieved all planned targets**, effectively contributing to food security and livelihood recovery in the aftermath of ongoing economic and environmental challenges. Under **Output E.1.1**, a total of **2,146 farmers were supported** through the provision of essential agricultural inputs—including olive trees, wheat seeds, tools, fertilizers, and pesticides—alongside tailored technical guidance from agricultural engineers. This comprehensive support enhanced crop productivity and built resilience by equipping farmers with both the resources and knowledge needed to sustain agricultural practices.

In Aleppo, **Outputs E.2.1 and E.3.1** delivered targeted assistance to **720 farmers cultivating summer vegetable crops**, meeting the planned target. These farmers received specialized agricultural kits containing fertilizers and packaging materials to improve crop quality and marketability. Additionally, each farmer received a **voucher worth approximately GBP 39** to procure pesticides and fungicides from verified agricultural centers, ensuring timely access to vital inputs for pest and disease control.

Overall, the final evaluation confirms that the agricultural interventions fully met their output objectives—addressing urgent farming needs, improving yields, supporting household food security, and strengthening the resilience of farming communities in northwest Syria.

By aligning **CHS Commitments** with DAC criteria, the evaluation process was able to capture not just the **results**, but also the **quality and accountability** of the intervention. For instance, under the **Relevance and Effectiveness** criteria, CHS Commitment 1 (Participation and Dignity) and Commitment 2 (Timely and Appropriate Support) guided the design of inclusive targeting, local consultation processes, and participatory selection of inputs. Farmers were surveyed to assess whether their most urgent needs were met, whether they understood the information and guidance provided, and how support aligned with seasonal cycles and local agricultural conditions. **Efficiency and sustainability** were further reinforced through CHS Commitments 7 and 3, with mechanisms in place to collect and act upon feedback, reduce delays in input delivery, and enhance preparedness for future agricultural seasons.

CHS Commitments on Protection (4), Complaint Mechanisms (5), Resource Management (9), and Staff Conduct (8) were also operationalized across the **Impact and Coherence** criteria. These ensured ethical input sourcing, safeguarding during distributions, transparency in voucher use, and respectful, competent interactions between staff and communities. Moreover, the support contributed to reducing reliance on humanitarian aid, increasing market participation, and improving household

income and food security—demonstrating both **intended impact** and strong potential for **sustainable recovery**.

Output Description – Phase 2 Syria	Target	Achieved	Status
Agricultural inputs and technical support to medium/small farmers in Aleppo	900 farmers	900 farmers	✓ Achieved
Agricultural inputs and technical support to medium/small farmers in Idlib	800 farmers	1,246 farmers	✓ Exceeded
Agriculture kits to medium/small scale farmers growing summer vegetables in Aleppo	310 farmers	360 farmers ¹	✓ Exceeded
Agricultural vouchers to medium/small scale farmers growing summer vegetables in Aleppo	310 farmers	360 farmers ¹	✓ Exceeded

Table 13: Output Description – Phase 2 Syria.

The Phase Two Agricultural Intervention Final Evaluation Survey in Syria included (n=76) respondents. Of these, (n=73) were male (**96%**) and (n=3) were female (**4%**). By governorate, Aleppo had (n=46) respondents (**61%**), and Idlib had (n=30, **39%**). Regarding agricultural support services, fertilizers or pesticides were received by (n=40) respondents (**53%**), followed by seeds and agricultural tools (n=26, **34%**), and summer vegetable kits (n=10, **13%**).

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Age Distribution

The age profile of participants shows middle-aged farmers (46–59 years) as the largest group, comprising **49%** (37 farmers), particularly in Idlib (**70%**). Younger farmers (18–45 years) made up **33%** (25 farmers) and were more engaged with summer vegetable kits (**50%**), suggesting openness to innovative practices. Older farmers (60+ years) accounted for **18%** (14 farmers), with a notable presence among females (**67%**).

Marital Status

Most participants were married, representing **96%** (73 farmers), reflecting stable household structures. Widowed farmers, primarily females, comprised **3%** (2 farmers), with **67%** of female participants being widows, indicating a vulnerable subgroup. Divorced farmers were minimal at **1%** (1 farmer).

Family Size

Large families (more than 6 members) were the most common, representing **54%** (41 farmers), particularly among recipients of summer vegetable kits (**70%**) and seeds/tools (**65%**). Medium-sized households (4–6 members) accounted for **34%** (26 farmers), with a higher presence in fertilizers or pesticides (**48%**). Smaller households (less than 4 members) were least common at **12%** (9 farmers). The prevalence of large families underscores the high dependency on farming income, with interventions tailored to support households with significant food security needs.

Displacement Status

Nearly all participants were from local host communities, comprising **99%** (75 farmers), with internally displaced persons (IDPs) representing only **1%** (1 farmer). The IDP was in Idlib (**3%** of Idlib participants) and received seeds and agricultural tools (**4%** of that intervention). All female farmers and recipients of fertilizers/pesticides and summer vegetable kits were host community members (**100%**).

Disability Status

The disability status of the respondents reveals that most farmers faced minimal physical or cognitive challenges, enabling effective participation in agricultural activities. For **vision**, **91%** reported no difficulty seeing, with **92%** of males and **67%** of females unaffected; **89%** in Aleppo and **93%** in Idlib had no issues, though **15%** of fertilizers/pesticides recipients noted some difficulty. **Hearing** was unimpaired for **87%**, with **97%** in Idlib and **80%** in Aleppo reporting no difficulty hearing; **30%** of summer vegetable kit recipients showed had some difficulty hearing.

Mobility was strong, with **91%** reporting no difficulty walking or climbing steps, but **67%** of females noted some issues; **10%** of summer vegetable kit recipients faced significant difficulty with walking. **Cognitive function** was nearly universal, with **99%** reporting no difficulty remembering or concentrating, and only **3%** of fertilizers/pesticides recipients noting minor issues. **Self-care** was manageable for **97%**, with **10%** of summer vegetable kit recipients reporting some difficulty. **Communication** was effective for **99%**, with minimal challenges (**3%** for fertilizers/pesticides).

Overall, low disability prevalence (**1–13%** with difficulties) and higher challenges among females and summer vegetable kit recipients suggest the interventions were accessible, though targeted support for females and those with mobility or hearing issues could enhance inclusivity.

Accountability

Awareness, Information, and Respect

All farmers (**100%**) across sex, governorates, and intervention types reported full awareness of complaint and feedback mechanisms (CFMs), received project information in an understandable language, and found the information clear and easy to understand regarding services, selection criteria, and duration.

Additionally, **100%** confirmed they were treated with dignity and respect by staff, received all services free of charge, felt the project activities were appropriate and relevant to their needs, and felt safe and accessible and knew how to make complaints or provide feedback. Furthermore, **100%** expressed satisfaction with the available feedback channels, indicating highly effective communication, accessibility, and accountability throughout the project.

Consultation on Feedback Preferences

Most farmers (**92%**) were consulted about their preferred ways to give feedback (e.g., phone, suggestion box, in-person, WhatsApp), with **100%** of females, **92%** of males, **91%** in Aleppo, and **93%** in Idlib reporting consultation. The **8%** who were not consulted (primarily males and summer vegetable kit recipients) suggest minor gaps in ensuring universal feedback method consultation.

Pre-Project Needs Consultation

A high **91%** of farmers were consulted before the project started to understand their needs and priorities, with **100%** of females, **90%** of males, **93%** in Aleppo, and **87%** in Idlib reporting consultation. Among those consulted, **99%** felt their views and feedback were taken seriously by project staff. The **8%** not consulted and **1%** unsure indicate a need for broader pre-project engagement, particularly for seeds/tools recipients.

Complaint and Feedback Submission

Only **8%** of farmers raised a complaint or made a suggestion during the project, with **33%** of females, **7%** of males, **13%** in Aleppo, and **0%** in Idlib doing so. Among those who raised issues, **8%** (mirroring the submission rate) reported seeing changes or improvements, indicating that all complaints or suggestions led to actionable outcomes.

Clear Project Information

Nearly all farmers (**97%**) received clear information about the implementing organization, locations, and project activities, with **100%** of females, **97%** of males, **98%** in Aleppo, and **97%** in Idlib confirming this. The **3%** who did not receive clear information highlight a minor gap in communication, particularly for seeds/tools recipients.

Feedback mechanisms were available, including complaint boxes and contact numbers, though most FGDs participants reported no issues requiring complaints. In Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant said, *“Complaint mechanisms were explained, and examples were provided, but we didn’t need to use them because the staff’s handling was excellent.”* No significant resource wastage or duplication was observed, as the implementing organization was often the only one providing agricultural support in these areas. A participant from Jandairis (Wheat Support) stated, *“There was no duplication or wastage because the organization was the only one working on agricultural projects in the village.”*

Relevance

The project was highly relevant, with 64% of farmers actively involved in decision-making, 100% confirming consideration of local conditions, and 66% reporting that urgent farming needs were fully addressed. However, 34% noted unmet needs, particularly insufficient quantities of seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation support, with gaps more pronounced in Aleppo. IR staff emphasized inclusive consultations with cooperatives and local councils to identify needs, as noted by a Jindires leader: **“Regular meetings with community committees helped identify critical needs like better seeds and veterinary care.”**

The high relevance of the project, driven by active farmer involvement and tailored interventions, ensured that support aligned with local agricultural priorities, enhancing its impact on food security and livelihoods. The 100% consideration of local conditions, such as weather and market access, underscores IR’s context-sensitive approach, which is critical in agriculture-dependent regions affected by economic and environmental challenges. However, the 34% of farmers reporting unmet needs, particularly in Aleppo, indicates that while the project was broadly relevant, it fell short of fully addressing the scale of needs, especially for seeds/tools recipients. The exclusion of some families due to missing documentation further highlights gaps in inclusivity, potentially undermining equity.

The communication challenges with local councils, addressed through village visits and WhatsApp groups, suggest that reliance on formal structures alone is insufficient in rural settings with weak governance. The use of community influencers and repeated engagement, as noted by an IR staff member, **“We used WhatsApp with community leaders to bridge the disconnect with local councils,”** was a pragmatic solution but points to the need for more robust communication strategies to ensure consistent reach.

Involvement in Decision-Making

A majority of farmers (**64%**) were actively involved in decisions about the kind of support provided, with **100%** of females, **63%** of males, **67%** in Aleppo, and **60%** in Idlib reporting active participation. The **24%** with partial involvement and **12%** with none indicate a need for broader farmer engagement, especially for seeds/tools recipients.

Among those involved decisions about the kind of support provided, **87%** were satisfied with their engagement, with **100%** of females, **86%** of males, **83%** in Aleppo, and **93%** in Idlib expressing satisfaction.

Communication faced challenges due to gaps between local councils and rural communities, requiring multiple village visits and WhatsApp groups with community influencers to relay information. One IR staff noted, *“There was a big disconnect with local councils, so we visited villages repeatedly and used WhatsApp with community leaders to make sure everyone knew about the project.”*

Community leaders reported that the project consulted local communities through meetings with cooperatives and local councils to identify needs, such as improved seeds, drip irrigation equipment, and veterinary support. A leader from Jindires stated, *“We had regular meetings with community committees and cooperatives, discussing what we needed most, like better seeds and vet care for our animals.”* The interventions were inclusive, targeting earthquake-affected families, women-headed households, disabled individuals, and the elderly. However, some families were excluded due to missing documentation, limiting full coverage.

Addressing Urgent Farming Needs

The support fully addressed urgent farming needs for **66%** of farmers, with **100%** of females, **64%** of males, **76%** in Aleppo, and **50%** in Idlib reporting this. By intervention, **73%** of seeds/tools, **60%** of fertilizers/pesticides, and **70%** of summer vegetable kit recipients felt their needs were fully met, while **29%** reported partial coverage and **5%** none.

Unmet needs, cited by **34%**, included insufficient quantities of seeds (**12%**), fertilizers (**8%**), and pesticides/medicines (**4%**), as well as water well equipment (**4%**) and olive irrigation support (**4%**). These gaps were more pronounced in Aleppo (**24%** partial, **9%** none) and for seeds/tools recipients (**15%** not at all), highlighting the need for increased input quantities and tailored support.

Accessibility of Materials and Guidance

All farmers (**100%**) reported that the materials and guidance provided with the support were easy to access and understand. This universal accessibility ensured that farmers could effectively utilize the seeds, tools, fertilizers, pesticides, and summer vegetable kits, enhancing the interventions' impact on agricultural productivity.

Selection Criteria Awareness

Most farmers (**91%**) were informed about the selection criteria, with **100%** of females, **90%** of males, **87%** in Aleppo, and **97%** in Idlib aware. The **9%** unaware, primarily seeds/tools recipients, suggest a need for improved communication to ensure transparency in participant selection.

Inclusion of Community Groups

A majority (**79%**) reported no community groups were excluded from the interventions, with **82%** of males, **65%** in Aleppo, and **100%** in Idlib and for seeds/tools recipients confirming this. However, **21%**

(all females, **100%**, and **35%** in Aleppo) noted exclusions, identifying internally displaced persons (IDPs) as the excluded group (**20%**), with **1%** unsure.

The Islamic Relief staff emphasized that the project was designed to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion by engaging stakeholders early and tailoring interventions to community needs. Consultations with local communities, agricultural departments, and village leaders helped identify priorities, such as fodder, veterinary kits, and agricultural inputs. The project prioritized vulnerable groups, including women, displaced persons, and families led by elderly men or women, ensuring no bias based on ethnicity or residency status. A staff member noted, *“We made sure everyone was included from the start, holding discussions with stakeholders to design a project that worked for all, especially the most vulnerable like women and families who lost their breadwinners.”*

Consideration of Local Conditions

All farmers (**100%**) confirmed that the support considered local conditions, such as weather, water access, and market access. This tailored approach ensured the interventions were relevant and effective in addressing the specific environmental and economic challenges faced by farmers in Idlib and Aleppo.

The projects were generally perceived as relevant, meeting the agricultural needs of beneficiaries, particularly in the context of economic challenges and limited resources. Focus group discussion participants in the Wheat Support and Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher projects in Aleppo and Idlib expressed high satisfaction, noting that the support aligned well with their needs as farmers with suitable land. For instance, a participant from Jandairis (Wheat Support) stated, *“The support met my needs to a great extent because I am a farmer with agricultural land suitable for wheat cultivation.”* Similarly, in Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant noted, *“The support was very suitable for our agricultural needs, especially given the economic challenges; the seeds and fertilizers helped improve production.”*

However, the Olive Support project in Idlib (Salqin) received criticism for insufficient quantities of inputs, particularly fertilizers. A FGDs participant remarked, *“The support was very limited and only met a small part of our needs; the distributed fertilizer was only two bags per farmer, which is insufficient.”* Despite this, participants across all projects appreciated the consideration of their opinions through community consultations and field visits. For example, in Zinda (Olive Support), a participant said, *“Yes, the organization conducted interviews with farmers and field visits to identify the most needed services.”*

Communication was clear and accessible, often delivered through agricultural engineers, flyers, or community leaders. Focus group discussion participants in Uzmarin (Wheat Support) noted, *“Services were clear and known to everyone, shared through distributed brochures.”* The projects were generally inclusive, though displaced individuals without land benefited less, as highlighted in Jandairis (Wheat Support): *“The project treated everyone fairly, but displaced people without agricultural land benefited the least.”*

Effectiveness

The project achieved high effectiveness, with 64% of farmers highly satisfied with services, 99% finding technical guidance helpful, and significant improvements in yields and income reported. However, 33% were only somewhat satisfied, and 3% were dissatisfied due to insufficient input quantities and quality issues, particularly among fertilizers/pesticides recipients. FGD participants highlighted

reduced expenses and improved practices, as noted in Jandairis: **“Free seeds and fertilizers reduced expenses, allowing me to irrigate the land.”**

The high satisfaction and effectiveness of technical guidance indicate that the project successfully empowered farmers to improve agricultural outcomes, directly contributing to food security and economic resilience. The focus on practical training, as evidenced by **“Trainings increased my knowledge of optimal planting times,”** ensured that farmers could apply new skills effectively, enhancing productivity. However, the 36% of farmers with partial or no satisfaction, particularly fertilizers/pesticides recipients, points to a critical gap in input sufficiency and quality, which limited the project’s full potential. The minimal personal challenges (1%) suggest that the project was well-designed for accessibility, but environmental factors like drought highlight the need for climate-resilient strategies.

The referral rate of only 4% to other services, despite 63% believing they would benefit, indicates a missed opportunity to connect farmers with additional resources, such as irrigation or livestock support, which could have amplified effectiveness. The project’s focus on immediate agricultural needs was effective but may have overlooked broader systemic support that could enhance long-term outcomes.

The project’s effectiveness underscores the importance of tailored technical support and accessible inputs, but addressing input shortages and quality issues is critical to maximizing impact. IR should prioritize quality assurance for seeds and fertilizers, potentially through enhanced supplier vetting or local production partnerships. Establishing a robust referral system to connect farmers with complementary services, such as irrigation training or water management programs, could address unmet needs and enhance overall effectiveness. Integrating climate-resilient practices, such as drought-tolerant seeds, could further mitigate environmental challenges.

Satisfaction with Services

Most farmers (64%) were “highly satisfied” with the services received, with 67% of females, 64% of males, 72% in Aleppo, and 53% in Idlib reporting high satisfaction. A notable 33% were “somewhat satisfied”, and 3% were “not satisfied”, primarily due to insufficient quantities of seeds (4%) and fertilizers (19%), late delivery (4%), and poor seed quality (4%).

Satisfaction stemmed from improved household income (11%), timely and free support (4%), and the provision of essential materials (2%). 36% of the participants with partial or no satisfaction, especially fertilizers/pesticides recipients, suggest a need for increased input quantities and improved quality.

The projects were effective in improving agricultural outcomes, with participants reporting increased yields, reduced expenses, and enhanced farming practices. In Jandairis (Wheat Support), a participant noted, *“Providing seeds and fertilizers for free reduced expenses, allowing me to irrigate the land instead of relying on rainfall.”* In Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), another said, *“Crop yields increased, and expenses for seeds and pesticides decreased.”*

Personal Factors Facilitating Participation

Farmers identified prior agricultural experience, owning arable land, and family support as key factors enabling participation and benefit. Other factors included motivation, passion for farming, and improved income. Females emphasized income improvement and experience, while Idlib farmers

highlighted being active farmers. These factors underscore the importance of leveraging existing skills and resources to maximize project benefits.

Personal or Internal Challenges

A significant **99%** reported no challenges, while **1%** mentioned weather and drought as challenges, primarily among seeds/tools recipients. The minimal challenges indicate that personal barriers were not significant impediments, enhancing the interventions' effectiveness.

Sufficiency of Support Quantity

46% of respondents found the support **sufficient in quantity**, with **67%** of females, **45%** of males, **43%** in Aleppo, and **50%** in Idlib agreeing. Summer vegetable kit recipients (**80%**) and seeds/tools recipients (**62%**) were more likely to find quantities sufficient than fertilizers/pesticides recipients (**28%**). The **43%** of respondents who found quantities **"insufficient"** and **11%** who found them **"partially sufficient"** cited low seed amounts, inadequate fertilizers, and insufficient materials relative to land size. These findings, particularly among fertilizers/pesticides recipients (**58%** insufficient), highlight the need for increased input volumes.

The agricultural inputs were timely and useful, aligning with planting and breeding seasons to boost productivity. A Jindires community leader shared, *"The seeds came just before planting season, helping farmers grow more and save on costs."* No significant gaps in coverage were reported, though documentation issues excluded some families, addressed through appeals processes. Guidance on safe pesticide and medicine use was provided through awareness sessions and leaflets, ensuring proper application. No major negative impacts were noted, though temporary market price drops due to free inputs affected local traders, mitigated by coordinating with local stakeholders.

Sufficiency of Support Quality

Most farmers (**87%**) found the support sufficient in quality, with **100%** of females, **86%** of males, **100%** in Idlib, and **78%** in Aleppo agreeing. All summer vegetable kit recipients (**100%**) and **90%** of fertilizers/pesticides recipients reported sufficient quality, compared to **77%** of seeds/tools recipients. The **11%** of respondents with **"partial satisfaction"** and **3%** reported **"bad quality"** cited poor or mixed seed quality. Addressing seed quality issues, especially for seeds/tools recipients, could enhance effectiveness.

Technical Guidance Effectiveness

Nearly all farmers (**99%**) found the technical guidance from agricultural engineers very helpful. The high effectiveness of technical support significantly contributed to the interventions' success.

Technical training was a critical component, with FGD participants valuing the practical guidance from agricultural engineers. In Uzmarin (Wheat Support), a participant shared, *"The trainings were useful and increased my knowledge of farming practices, such as the optimal time for planting."* New practices, such as timely pesticide application and reduced seed quantities, were adopted, as evidenced by a Jandairis (Wheat Support) participant: *"I learned to use weed pesticides early before they fully grow, which improved results."*

Referrals to Additional Services

4% of respondents were referred to other services, all to the organization **"Sadat"**. The majority (**96%**) were not referred, but **63%** believed they would have benefited from referrals, particularly to water services, general agricultural services, livestock support, and modern irrigation training.

Efficiency

The project was highly efficient, with 88% of farmers reporting timely delivery, 100% confirming transparent and fair resource distribution, and 99% experiencing no voucher usage issues. However, 12% faced delays, particularly seeds/tools recipients in Aleppo, due to logistical challenges. IR staff highlighted adaptive feedback mechanisms and rigorous procurement processes, as noted: **“Our procurement is airtight—open bids and a committee ensure fairness.”**

The high efficiency in delivery and resource allocation reflects IR’s strong operational systems, ensuring that support reached farmers when needed most, particularly for time-sensitive agricultural activities. The transparent procurement process and adaptive feedback mechanisms, such as rescheduling veterinary visits based on farmer input, demonstrate a commitment to responsiveness and fairness, fostering community trust. However, the 12% delay rate in Aleppo, particularly for seeds/tools recipients, indicates logistical vulnerabilities that could disrupt seasonal planting cycles, reducing effectiveness. The minor shortfall in promised support quantities (3%) further suggests that while the project was efficient overall, small gaps in planning or supply chain management persisted.

The suggestions for enhancing efficiency, such as increasing input quantities and improving irrigation, highlight that efficiency is not only about timely delivery but also about ensuring sufficient resources to meet needs. The absence of significant voucher issues indicates a user-friendly system, but the reliance on external suppliers for inputs may expose the project to market fluctuations or delays.

Timely Delivery of Support

Most farmers (88%) reported that the support was delivered in a timely manner for the planting or growing season, with 100% of females, 88% of males, 100% in Idlib, and 80% in Aleppo confirming this. All summer vegetable kit recipients (100%) and 95% of fertilizers/pesticides recipients received timely support, compared to 73% of seeds/tools recipients, where 27% reported delays.

Among the 12% who faced delays (all in Aleppo, primarily seeds/tools recipients), issues included delayed seed production (11%), delayed harvesting (11%), crop damage (11%), and late delivery of materials other than seeds (11%). These delays, particularly affecting seeds/tools recipients, underscore the need for improved logistics to align with seasonal requirements.

The projects were executed with high efficiency, with timely and organized distribution of inputs. Participants across all FGDs praised the lack of delays and the smooth delivery process. In Jandairis (Wheat Support), participants noted, *“The distribution was timely and well-organized; we were informed of delivery dates in advance, and it took less than an hour due to precise operations.”* Similarly, in Zinda (Olive Support), a participant highlighted, *“The project was highly organized; fertilizers were delivered to the homes of those with special needs.”*

Transparent and Fair Resource Delivery

All farmers (100%) confirmed that resources (materials, training, vouchers) were delivered transparently and fairly.

Voucher Usage Issues

Nearly all farmers (99%) reported no issues using vouchers, 98% in Aleppo, and 100% in Idlib confirming smooth usage.

Receipt of Agreed Support

Most farmers (**97%**) received the agreed amount of support, with **100%** of females, **97%** of males, **96%** in Aleppo, and **100%** in Idlib confirming this. All summer vegetable kit recipients (**100%**), **98%** of fertilizers/pesticides recipients, and **96%** of seeds/tools recipients received the promised amounts, with **3%** (seeds/tools and fertilizers/pesticides recipients) reporting insufficient quantities (**50%** cited “insufficient amounts” and **50%** “not enough”). The **3%** shortfall suggests minor gaps in resource allocation that could be addressed through better quantity planning.

Enhancing Project Efficiency

Farmers provided diverse suggestions to enhance project efficiency, each cited by increasing fertilizer and seed quantities, improving irrigation support (e.g., drip irrigation, water wells), providing modern farming tools, and ensuring timely material distribution.

Other suggestions included supporting multiple crop types, covering farming costs, and extending project duration. These recommendations highlight the need for increased inputs, timely delivery, and irrigation enhancements to maximize efficiency.

The IR staff highlighted the project’s efficiency in adapting to feedback and managing resources ethically. Feedback was gathered through complaint boxes, phone numbers, and community meetings, with adjustments made promptly, such as rescheduling veterinary visits to suit farmers’ availability. An IR staff member stated, *“When people asked for vet clinics to open later, around 10 or 11 when their sheep were back from grazing, we changed our schedule right away to make it easier for them.”* Disaggregated data (e.g., by gender, disability, and residency) was collected through field surveys and verified by the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL) team to inform equitable resource allocation.

Financial transparency was maintained through a rigorous procurement process, including public tenders, technical specifications, and multi-departmental review committees. Conflicts of interest were prevented by requiring IR staff to declare no affiliations with suppliers, with strict disciplinary measures for violations. One IR staff respondent emphasized, *“Our procurement is airtight—open bids, no brand bias, and a committee checks everything to keep it fair and transparent.”* Monitoring data was shared with communities via public beneficiary lists and feedback sessions, fostering trust. Continuous learning was promoted through regular team workshops to refine implementation based on field insights.

Impact

The project had a significant positive impact, with farmers reporting increased household income, improved food security, and enhanced community cohesion. Notably, **78%** reported reduced reliance on humanitarian aid, and **58%** increased market participation. FGD participants emphasized economic benefits, as noted in Jandairis: **“Free services reduced expenses, allowing me to buy materials for my family.”** However, **24%** reported a worse farming situation due to drought and insufficient inputs, particularly in Aleppo.

The project’s impact on household income, food security, and market participation demonstrates its role in fostering economic resilience and reducing dependency on aid, critical for long-term recovery in crisis-affected areas. The reduction in reliance on humanitarian aid for **78%** of farmers, particularly females and summer vegetable kit recipients, suggests that the project empowered vulnerable groups to achieve greater self-sufficiency. The social benefits, such as increased community cohesion and

youth engagement in agriculture, as noted by **“The project encouraged young people to engage in farming,”** indicate broader cultural shifts that could sustain agricultural development.

However, the 24% of farmers reporting a worse situation due to drought and insufficient inputs highlights the project’s vulnerability to environmental and resource constraints. The limited market participation among 42% of farmers, particularly fertilizers/pesticides recipients, suggests that while the project boosted production for some, external factors like drought and market access barriers limited broader economic gains. The absence of significant negative outcomes is positive, but the temporary market price drops due to free inputs highlight the need for better coordination with local traders to avoid unintended economic disruptions.

The impact underscores the value of targeted agricultural support in crisis contexts, but addressing environmental challenges and input shortages is critical to sustaining gains. IR should integrate climate-resilient inputs, such as drought-tolerant seeds, and enhance market linkages through partnerships with local traders or cooperatives. Scaling up input quantities and extending support to cover multiple crop cycles could further reduce reliance on aid and boost market participation, ensuring broader and more equitable economic benefits.

Household and Life Changes

Farmers reported positive changes, including increased household income, slight improvements in olive production, and enhanced family income. Other benefits included cost savings on seeds and improved living conditions. Females noted improved crop yields and income, while Idlib farmers emphasized income gains. However, some farmers reported no changes, primarily fertilizers/pesticides recipients. These changes suggest sustainable improvements in economic resilience.

The agricultural support projects had a profound positive impact on the beneficiaries’ households and communities, particularly in improving food security, increasing household income, and fostering community cooperation. Participants across all FGDs reported tangible improvements in their economic situation due to reduced farming expenses and increased crop yields. In Jandairis (Wheat Support), a participant emphasized the financial relief provided: *“The services were provided for free, which reduced expenses, allowing me to buy materials for my family that I couldn’t afford without this support.”* Similarly, in Uzmarin (Wheat Support), a participant noted, *“After the support, I started farming my land again after being unemployed, which improved my household income.”* This highlights how the projects enabled beneficiaries to redirect savings from input costs (e.g., seeds, fertilizers) toward other household needs or further agricultural investments, such as irrigation.

Areas of Improvement

The project improved household income (**25%**), skills/knowledge (**25%**), and food security (**22%**), with additional gains in access to services (**10%**) and health/wellbeing (**9%**); while **3%** of respondents observed no change, citing drought, poor seed/fertilizer quality, and insufficient quantities. These findings underscore the project’s role in building sustainable agricultural capacity, though environmental challenges have limited impact for some.

The interventions improved household food security and incomes by increasing crop and livestock yields. Vulnerable groups, particularly women and the elderly, benefited most, gaining financial stability. A community leader remarked, *“Families, especially those run by women, could sell more crops and milk, giving them a bit more to live on.”* Long-term changes included greater adoption of improved seeds and veterinary care practices, enhancing community resilience. No negative social or environmental impacts were reported.

Negative Outcomes

Most farmers (**96%**) experienced no negative outcomes, with **100%** of females, **100%** in Idlib, and **100%** of summer vegetable kit recipients reporting none; while **4%** of respondents noted issues, including delays, poor seed quality, and low rainfall, primarily among seeds/tools and fertilizers/pesticides recipients in Aleppo. The minimal negative outcomes enhance the project's sustainability by avoiding unintended harm.

Unexpected outcomes were minimal but positive. FGD participants across all projects reported no significant negative impacts, with most changes aligning with project objectives. However, an unanticipated benefit was the increased interest in agriculture among youth, as noted in Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher): *"The project encouraged young people to engage in farming after witnessing its success."* This suggests the projects not only addressed immediate needs but also inspired long-term community engagement in agriculture.

Farming Situation Compared to Last Year

Most farmers rated their farming situation as much better (**41%**) or slightly better (**33%**) compared to last year, with **100%** of females, **90%** of summer vegetable kit recipients, and **48%** in Aleppo reporting improvements. However, **24%** reported a worse situation, and **3%** saw no change, primarily due to drought, low rainfall, and insufficient fertilizer quantities. These external factors, especially in Aleppo, highlight the need for climate-resilient support to sustain gains.

Reduced Reliance on Humanitarian Aid

The project reduced reliance on humanitarian aid for **78%** of farmers, with **100%** of females, **87%** in Aleppo, and **100%** of summer vegetable kit recipients agreeing; while **21%** of respondents reported no reduction, and **1%** partial, citing insufficient support quantities, need for timely and adequate inputs, and modern irrigation techniques. These findings, particularly among fertilizers/pesticides recipients (**30%** no reduction), suggest that increased input volumes and irrigation support could enhance self-reliance.

The projects also enhanced food security by increasing both the quantity and quality of agricultural output. In Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a FGD participant stated, *"Food quantity and quality increased, positively impacting household income."* In Uzmarin (Wheat Support), another participant remarked, *"We now eat what we grow and save, improving our food security."* The provision of high-quality seeds and fertilizers contributed to higher yields, which not only met household consumption needs but also allowed some farmers to sell surplus produce, further boosting income. For instance, in Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant shared, *"We were able to sell the surplus, which positively affected family income."*

Market Participation

A majority of respondents (**58%**) increased participation in local markets, with **100%** of females, **90%** of summer vegetable kit recipients, and **59%** in Aleppo reporting gains. Reasons included higher production, better market access, and increased vegetable demand. The **42%** of respondents who did not participate in local markets cited drought, low crop yields, and insufficient support, particularly among fertilizers/pesticides recipients. Enhanced production and market linkages could further sustain economic benefits.

Application of Knowledge and Inputs

All farmers (**100%**) across sex, governorates, and intervention types effectively applied the knowledge and inputs provided and faced no challenges in applying the guidance. This universal success underscores the project's sustainable design, ensuring farmers could leverage support to maintain productivity.

Produce Quality and Quantity

Most farmers observed significant (**54%**) or slight (**37%**) improvements in produce quality and quantity, with **100%** of females, **100%** of summer vegetable kit recipients, and **72%** in Aleppo reporting gains. A minimum **9%** of respondents noted no change, primarily due to drought, weather conditions, and delayed inputs, affecting seeds/tools recipients. These improvements demonstrate the project's lasting impact on agricultural output, though environmental challenges require mitigation.

Beyond economic benefits, the projects fostered social and behavioural changes within communities. In Zinda (Olive Support), a FGDs participant highlighted increased community cohesion: *"There was an increase in friendly relationships among village members."* The projects also shifted attitudes toward agriculture, particularly among younger community members. In Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant observed, *"Some youth became interested in agriculture after seeing the project's positive results."* Additionally, the projects corrected long-standing misconceptions about farming practices. In Uzmarin (Wheat Support), a participant noted, *"The project had a positive impact by addressing misconceptions like excessive plowing."* These changes indicate a broader cultural shift toward valuing modern agricultural practices and community collaboration.

Sustainability

The project promoted sustainability, with 97% of farmers feeling better prepared for future seasons, 100% sharing knowledge and inputs, and 84% believing in lasting benefits. However, 16% were skeptical due to insufficient inputs and drought, particularly in Idlib. FGD participants highlighted the value of training and high-quality inputs, as noted in Uzmarin: *"I stored seeds for the next year, improving sustainability."* Challenges included limited follow-up and input quantities.

The high preparedness (97%) and universal knowledge sharing indicate that the project built sustainable agricultural capacity, enabling farmers to continue improved practices and share skills within their communities. This knowledge transfer, as evidenced by *"I'm still using the project's methods and working to develop them further,"* amplifies the project's impact beyond direct beneficiaries, fostering community-wide resilience. The focus on vulnerable groups, such as women and the elderly, further enhanced sustainability by empowering those most in need of long-term support.

The 16% skepticism about lasting benefits, particularly among fertilizers/pesticides recipients and Idlib farmers, points to critical limitations in input sufficiency and environmental resilience. The reliance on external inputs and lack of continuous technical follow-up, as noted by *"I couldn't continue some practices due to the absence of technical follow-up,"* suggest that sustainability is contingent on ongoing resource availability and support. The high interest in future training (74%) indicates a demand for sustained engagement, but the 26% disinterest may reflect satisfaction with current knowledge or skepticism about accessibility.

The project's sustainability highlights the importance of combining high-quality inputs with knowledge transfer, but long-term success requires addressing input shortages and environmental challenges. IR should establish ongoing technical support programs, such as regular field visits or digital training platforms, to maintain farmer engagement. Investing in local seed banks or cooperative input supply systems could reduce reliance on external resources, enhancing sustainability. Additionally, prioritizing climate-resilient practices and infrastructure, like irrigation canals, could mitigate drought risks and ensure lasting benefits across regions.

Preparedness for Future Seasons

A vast majority (**97%**) felt better prepared for future agricultural seasons due to the support, with **100%** of females, **100%** of seeds/tools and summer vegetable kit recipients, **98%** in Aleppo, and **97%** in Idlib agreeing.

3% (male fertilizers/pesticides recipients, **5%**) felt unprepared, citing insufficient support quantities and a need for more pesticides and fertilizers. The high preparedness level indicates sustainable capacity-building, though addressing input shortages could further strengthen readiness.

Knowledge and Input Sharing

All farmers (**100%**) across sex, governorates, and intervention types shared knowledge or inputs with others in their community. This universal dissemination amplifies the project's sustainability by fostering community-wide agricultural resilience and knowledge transfer, ensuring broader and lasting impact beyond individual beneficiaries.

Lasting Benefits Beyond the Season

Most farmers (**84%**) believed the support would have lasting benefits, with **100%** of females, **100%** of summer vegetable kit recipients, **96%** in Aleppo, and **96%** of seeds/tools recipients agreeing. However, **16%** (primarily fertilizers/pesticides recipients, **28%**, and Idlib farmers, **33%**) were skeptical, citing insufficient support quantities, low fertilizer amounts, and drought. These concerns, particularly in Idlib, suggest that increasing input volumes and addressing environmental challenges are critical for sustained benefits.

The project promoted sustainability by providing high-quality inputs and training, enabling farmers to continue improved practices. A community leader noted, *"The new seeds are still helping farmers are using what they learned."* Local ownership was fostered through cooperative involvement, but sustainability was limited by insufficient fodder and reliance on external aid. Leaders called for ongoing support to address drought-related challenges.

Support for Sustaining or Growing Farming Activities

Farmers identified continued technical advice (**30%**), water/irrigation solutions (**30%**), access to credit or grants (**29%**), and improved market access (**11%**) as key to sustaining or expanding farming. Females emphasized all areas except market access, while Aleppo farmers prioritized technical advice and irrigation. Seeds/tools recipients focused on irrigation, and fertilizers/pesticides recipients on credit/grants. These priorities highlight the need for multifaceted, ongoing support to ensure long-term agricultural sustainability.

Interest in Future Training or Support Programs

A majority of respondents (**74%**) expressed interest in future training or support programs, with **80%** of summer vegetable kit recipients, **83%** in Idlib, and **75%** of males showing enthusiasm; while **26%** of respondents were uninterested, possibly due to sufficient prior support.

Preferred training types included general agricultural training, livestock management, modern farming techniques, and provision of fertilizers/seeds. Females focused on crop care skills, while Idlib farmers sought diverse agricultural training. This interest underscores the potential for sustained engagement to reinforce long-term benefits.

The sustainability of the projects varied depending on the availability of ongoing resources and technical support. FGD participants in the Wheat Support and Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher projects were more likely to continue using improved practices, such as seed selection, drip irrigation, and timely pesticide application, due to the knowledge and inputs provided. In Uzmarin (Wheat Support), a participant explained, *“I stored seeds from the harvest for the next year, improving sustainability.”* Similarly, in Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant noted, *“I’m still using the project’s methods and working to develop them further.”* These responses indicate that the training and high-quality inputs enabled some farmers to maintain improved practices post-project.

However, challenges to sustainability were evident, particularly in the absence of continuous technical follow-up or access to resources like improved seeds and equipment. In Uzmarin (Wheat Support), a participant highlighted this issue: *“I couldn’t continue some practices due to the absence of technical follow-up after the project ended.”* Similarly, in Salqin (Olive Support), participants noted that the limited quantity of fertilizers and pesticides restricted long-term application: *“The fertilizers and pesticides were only enough for a short period,”* said one participant. This suggests that while the projects provided valuable initial support, their sustainability was constrained by limited input quantities and lack of ongoing guidance.

The projects enhanced beneficiaries’ resilience to future challenges, such as drought and pest outbreaks, through training on modern farming techniques. In Jandairis (Vegetable-Agricultural Voucher), a participant stated, *“I gained knowledge on handling diseases and precise pesticide application to avoid crop damage.”* In Zinda (Olive Support), another participant said, *“I’m better prepared because my knowledge has improved, especially about pest control.”* These skills equipped farmers to better manage environmental and agricultural challenges independently.

Livestock Interventions

The Phase Two early recovery interventions in Syria’s Idlib and Aleppo governorates, implemented as part of the 2023 Earthquake Response, demonstrated **strong effectiveness** in achieving and surpassing their intended outputs under Outcome E, which aimed to improve livelihood security for small- and medium-scale livestock breeders affected by the disaster.

Under **Output E.4.1**, the project exceeded its target of supporting 1,250 sheep breeders with fodder in Idlib by reaching **4,124 livestock breeders**, each receiving approximately 300 kilograms of nutritional feed tailored to the needs of Awassi sheep and cows. This intervention helped stabilize livestock nutrition during a critical recovery period and significantly improved the resilience of targeted households.

Under **Output E.5.1**, the program administered vaccinations against enterotoxaemia and foot-and-mouth disease to **542,644 ewes**, far exceeding the combined target of 200,000 ewes across Aleppo



and Idlib. These vaccinations benefitted **19,571 livestock breeders**, strengthening herd immunity and reducing the risk of disease outbreaks, thereby supporting improved productivity and food security.

To complement veterinary health efforts, **Output E.6.1** provided **5,120 breeders** in Aleppo and Idlib with veterinary kits containing vitamins, dewormers, and reproductive hormones—**more than double the planned target** of 4,600 beneficiaries. This extensive distribution ensured that farmers had the tools necessary to maintain herd health and reproductive success.

As part of **Output E.7.1**, the program delivered **mobile veterinary services** to **15,322 breeders**, exceeding the combined target of 16,000 across both governorates. These services offered preventive care, disease treatment, and technical guidance on good animal husbandry practices, contributing to the improved health and productivity of livestock.

Lastly, under **Output E.7.2**, the project successfully achieved its target by providing **capacity-building training to 650 cow breeders**. These 10-day training sessions focused on livestock nutrition, care, breeding, and veterinary treatment, equipping beneficiaries with essential skills to sustain and expand their livelihoods.

The final evaluation concludes that the livestock interventions under Phase Two were **highly effective**, having either met or exceeded all output targets. They directly contributed to restoring economic stability, improving animal health, and strengthening the resilience of earthquake-affected farming communities in northwest Syria.

Under the **DAC criteria of Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Impact, Sustainability, and Coherence**, CHS Commitments guided the evaluation questions and performance indicators to assess how well the intervention met community needs. **CHS Commitment 1**, for instance, ensured that people affected by the crisis were consulted on the type of livestock support they received and understood selection criteria and project communications. **CHS Commitments 2 and 4** shaped the evaluation of the effectiveness of fodder, veterinary services, and training by examining whether support was timely, appropriate, and caused no harm to beneficiaries or their environment. Efficiency and responsible resource management were assessed through **CHS Commitments 7 and 9**, capturing community feedback on delivery timelines, voucher use, and transparency. Finally, **Commitments 3, 5, 6, and 8** were used to explore the sustainability of outcomes, functioning of complaints systems, coordination with stakeholders, and the quality of staff engagement with communities.

Output	Activity Description	Target	Achieved
Output E.4.1	Fodder distribution to small-scale sheep breeders in Idlib	1,250 sheep breeders	4,124 livestock breeders (received ~300 kg of fodder each)
Output E.5.1	Vaccination of ewes in Aleppo and Idlib against Enterotoxaemia and Foot-and-Mouth Disease	200,000 ewes (100,000 Aleppo + 100,000 Idlib)	542,644 ewes vaccinated (benefiting 19,571 breeders)
Output E.6.1	Distribution of veterinary kits to livestock breeders	4,600 breeders (2,000 Aleppo + 2,600 Idlib)	5,120 breeders
Output E.7.1	Provision of mobile veterinary services to livestock breeders	16,000 breeders (6,000 Aleppo + 10,000 Idlib)	15,322 breeders
Output E.7.2	Capacity-building training for cow breeders	650 cow breeders	650 cow breeders (10-day training on nutrition, care, breeding, and treatment)

Table 14: Livestock Intervention Outputs - Targets vs. Achieved.

The Phase Two 2023 Earthquake Response Final Evaluation Livestock Survey in Syria included (n=393) respondents. Of these, (n=344) were male (**88%**) and (n=49) were female (**12%**). By governorate, Aleppo had (n=231) respondents (**59%**), and Idlib had (n=162, **41%**). Regarding livestock support services, Mobile veterinary services was received by (n=211) respondents (**54%**), followed by Livestock vaccination (n=114, **29%**), Fodder distribution (n=70, **18%**), and Veterinary kit distribution (n=60, **15%**)³.

Phase two (Livestock Support Services)	Sex		Governorate		Livestock Support Services					Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	Fodder distribution	Livestock vaccination	Veterinary kit distribution	Mobile veterinary services	Cow breeders' training	
	49	344	231	162	70	114	60	211	51	

Table 15: Phase two (Livestock Support Services)

Socio-Economic Characteristics

Age Distribution

41% of respondents were aged 18–45, **42%** were 46–59, and **17%** were 60 or older. Across services, Livestock vaccination (**46%**) and Veterinary kit distribution (**47%**) had the highest proportions of 18–45 respondents, while Mobile veterinary services (**45%**) had the highest proportion of 46–59 respondents. Fodder distribution (**23%**) had the highest proportion of 60+ respondents.

³ Note that respondents may have received multiple services, so percentages exceed 100% when summed.

Age Distribution	Sex		Governorate		Livestock Support Services					Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	Fodder distribution	Livestock vaccination	Veterinary kit distribution	Mobile veterinary services	Cow breeders' training	
18-45	55%	39%	36%	47%	39%	46%	47%	41%	45%	41%
46-59	35%	44%	42%	44%	39%	39%	38%	45%	41%	42%
60+	10%	18%	22%	9%	23%	15%	15%	14%	14%	17%

Table 16: Age Distribution per the livestock interventions.

Marital Status

98% of respondents were married, **2%** were widows/widowers, and **1%** were single. Females (**88%**) reported a lower proportion of married respondents compared to males (**99%**), with females also reporting **12%** widows/widowers compared to males. By governorate, Idlib had a higher proportion of married respondents (**99%**) than Aleppo (**97%**), with Aleppo reporting **2%** widows/widowers.

Family Size

56% of respondents had families with more than 6 members, **40%** had 4–6 members, and **5%** had fewer than 4 members. Females (**49%**) reported a lower proportion of families with more than 6 members compared to males (**57%**), with females having a higher proportion of 4–6 members (**45%** vs. **39%** for males). By governorate, Aleppo had a higher proportion of families with more than 6 members (**58%**) than Idlib (**53%**), while Idlib had more families with 4–6 members (**44%** vs. **37%**).

Residency Status

87% of respondents were from the host community (local), **11%** were internally displaced persons (IDPs), and **2%** were returnee IDPs. Females (**67%**) reported a lower proportion of host community members compared to males (**90%**), with females having higher proportions of IDPs (**27%** vs. **9%**) and returnee IDPs (**6%** vs. **1%**). By governorate, Idlib had a higher proportion of host community members (**94%**) than Aleppo (**82%**), with Aleppo reporting more IDPs (**16%** vs. **6%**).

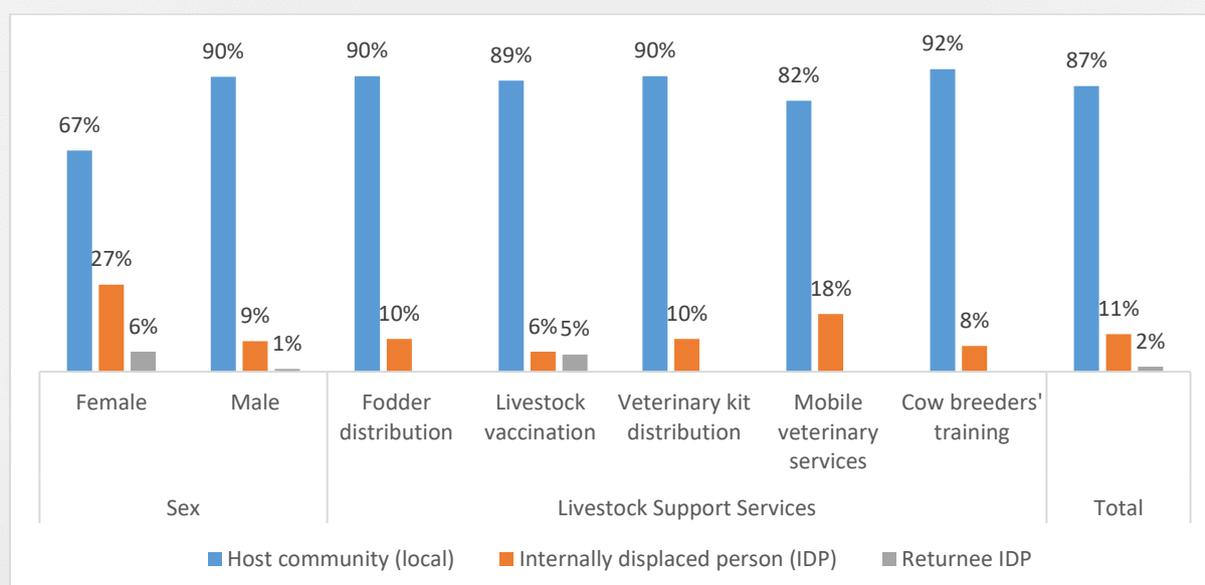


Figure 6: Residency Status per the Livestock interventions.

Disability Status

Most respondents reported no difficulties across various domains: **88%** had no difficulty seeing, **94%** had no difficulty hearing, **86%** had no difficulty walking or climbing steps, **98%** had no difficulty remembering or concentrating, **94%** had no difficulty with self-care, and **99%** had no difficulty communicating.

Some difficulty was reported by **11%** for seeing, **5%** for hearing, **10%** for walking, **1%** for remembering, **5%** for self-care, and **1%** for communicating, with females often reporting higher rates of difficulty than males.

Accountability

Awareness of Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs)

96% of respondents were aware of CFMs, **3%** were not, and **1%** did not know. Males (**97%**) reported higher awareness than females (**88%**), with females having higher rates of not knowing. Idlib (**99%**) had higher awareness than Aleppo (**94%**). Veterinary kit distribution (**100%**) had the highest awareness, while Livestock vaccination (**93%**) had the lowest.

Consultation on Preferred Feedback Methods

83% were consulted about preferred feedback methods (e.g., phone, suggestion box), **16%** were not, and **1%** did not know. Males (**85%**) reported higher consultation rates than females (**76%**). Idlib (**87%**) had higher rates than Aleppo (**81%**).

Information in Understandable Language and Clarity

95% received project information in an understandable language, while **5%** did not. Females (**96%**) reported slightly higher rates than males (**94%**). Regarding clarity, **94%** of respondents found the project information clear and easy to understand, **5%** did not.

Pre-Project Consultation on Needs

71% of respondents reported they were consulted about needs and priorities before the project, **28%** were not, and **1%** did not know. Idlib (**72%**) had slightly higher rates than Aleppo (**70%**). Among those consulted, **97%** felt their views were taken seriously, **2%** did not.

Information on project objectives and selection criteria was shared clearly through community awareness sessions, flyers, and direct communication with local councils. A leader from Al-Kafir noted, *"The organization told us the project goals and who'd get help in a community meeting, and they handed out flyers with all the details."* Feedback was collected via complaint boxes, phone numbers, and surveys, with adjustments made to distribution processes based on community input. Leaders expressed satisfaction with the responsiveness, though some felt response times could improve.

Treatment with Dignity, Respect, and Free of Charge Services

99% of respondents felt treated with dignity and respect by staff, while **1%** did not. **100%** of respondents confirmed services were free.

Safety and Accessibility of CFMs

97% of respondents described CFMs as safe, **1%** did not, and **2%** did not know. Males (**98%**) reported higher safety perceptions than females (**94%**). Idlib (**99%**) had higher rates than Aleppo (**96%**). **96%** of

respondents found CFMs accessible, **2%** did not, and **3%** did not know. Males (**97%**) reported higher accessibility than females (**90%**). Idlib (**99%**) had higher rates than Aleppo (**94%**).

Knowledge of How to Complain

96% of respondents knew how to make a complaint or provide feedback, **4%** did not. Males (**97%**) reported higher knowledge than females (**92%**). Idlib (**100%**) had higher rates than Aleppo (**93%**).

Raising Complaints or Suggestions

13% of respondents raised a complaint or suggestion, while **87%** did not. Aleppo (**17%**) had higher rates than Idlib (**7%**). Cow breeders' training (**18%**) had the highest rate.

Satisfaction with Feedback Channels

96% of respondents reported they were satisfied with available feedback channels, **3%** were somewhat satisfied, and **1%** were not satisfied. Reasons for dissatisfaction included insufficient fodder, lack of response to complaints, and lack of awareness.

Feedback mechanisms, such as complaint boxes and contact numbers, were in place, though rarely needed due to widespread satisfaction. A FGD participant remarked, *“They had posters and boxes for complaints, but honestly, we had no reason to complain.”* No resource wastage or duplication was observed, with support carefully distributed based on need. A participant noted, *“Nothing was wasted—everything went where it was supposed to, and everyone got what they needed for their livestock.”* The effective use of resources was evident, as another said: *“... They managed everything well—no waste at all.”*

Relevance

The project was highly relevant, with 75% of respondents hearing about it through community leaders, 92% reporting clear selection criteria, and 88% (70% good extent, 18% completely) feeling their needs were considered. Communication was tailored using loudspeakers, WhatsApp groups, and simple language, ensuring accessibility (100%). However, 8% found criteria unclear, and 12% felt needs were inadequately considered due to insufficient fodder, poor quality inputs, or lack of consultation. Veterinary providers emphasized addressing post-earthquake livestock losses, prioritizing vulnerable groups, but noted fodder shortages due to budget constraints.

The project's relevance stems from its community-driven design and accessible communication, which ensured broad awareness and alignment with local needs, particularly post-earthquake livestock recovery. The heavy reliance on community leaders (75%) and tailored communication strategies, as noted by an FGD participant, *“The mukhtar always gave us a heads-up the day before,”* facilitated effective outreach, especially in rural areas with limited connectivity. The 100% accessibility of communications and inclusivity for women, elderly, and disabled individuals reflect a commitment to equity, critical in crisis-affected contexts where vulnerable groups are often marginalized.

How Respondents Heard About the Program

75% of respondents reported that they first heard about the program through community leaders, **21%** through organization staff, **3%** via word of mouth, and **2%** via social media. Females (**73%**) and males (**75%**) had similar reliance on community leaders, but females had higher word-of-mouth rates (**12%** vs. **1%**) and males had higher organization staff rates (**22%** vs. **14%**). Idlib (**94%**) relied more on community leaders than Aleppo (**61%**), while Aleppo had higher organization staff (**33%** vs. **2%**) and word-of-mouth (**5%** vs. **0%**) rates.

Information about the support was shared clearly and promptly, mainly through community leaders (mukhtars) and loudspeakers. A FGD participant noted, *“The mukhtar always gave us a heads-up; if something was happening, he’d let us know the day before.”* The projects were inclusive, with no reported discrimination based on gender, gender, disability, disability, or displacement status. A participant confirmed, *“Honestly, it was fair—they treated everyone the same, whether you had one animal or forty, you got the vaccine.”* Training sessions were accessible and delivered in straightforward language, as one participant said: *“The training was clear and simple, with no complicated terms.”*

Clarity of Selection Criteria

92% of respondents reported clear communication of selection criteria, while **8%** did not. Idlib (**99%**) had higher clarity than Aleppo (**87%**). Reasons for unclear criteria included:

- Lack of awareness or information about criteria.
- Organization failed to inform beneficiaries.
- No explanation of criteria provided.

Consideration of Needs

70% of respondents felt their needs were considered to a good extent, **18%** completely, **10%** to some extent, and **2%** not at all. Females reported higher satisfaction (**80%** good extent, **6%** completely) than males (**69%** good extent, **19%** completely). Reasons for limited consideration included:

- Insufficient fodder quantity or lack of fodder support.
- Poor quality of fodder or medicines.
- Lack of proportionality in distribution based on livestock numbers.
- Limited or irregular support "Vaccines were provided once," "Visits were not regular".
- Environmental constraints like drought.
- Lack of consultation on needs ("Our opinions on fodder quantities were not taken").
- Need for increased livestock support ("Please increase support for livestock").

Communication strategies were tailored to local contexts, using loudspeakers for mobile veterinary clinics, WhatsApp groups for distribution schedules, and community leaders to relay information. Training sessions were delivered in simple, local dialects to ensure accessibility. One respondent explained, *“We used microphones on cars to announce vet clinic visits and held agricultural workshops in fields, making sure everyone understood in plain language.”* Community participation was facilitated through focus group discussions and daily field visits, allowing beneficiaries to influence decisions like distribution locations and activity timings. However, some felt the demand for fodder was not fully met due to funding constraints.

Veterinary service providers highlighted the project’s relevance in addressing post-earthquake livestock losses, exacerbated by damaged barns, high fodder prices, and disrupted access to markets. Comprehensive field surveys and meetings with breeders identified critical needs, such as

enterotoxemia vaccines, fodder, and mobile veterinary clinics. A veterinarian stated, *“We went village by village, talking to breeders to understand their needs—like the enterotoxaemia vaccine they kept asking for, which is safe and vital.”* The project prioritized vulnerable groups, including women-led households, disabled individuals, and small-scale breeders with fewer than 20 sheep, ensuring inclusivity. However, fodder support was insufficient due to budget constraints, limiting coverage for cattle breeders.

Providing Input

Overall, **13% of respondents reported providing input or feedback through formal mechanisms**, while the remaining **87% indicated they did not engage through official channels but noted that they communicated directly with IR staff** during implementation. While not captured through established CFMs, this **informal interaction still constituted a form of feedback provision**. Male respondents (14%) reported slightly higher rates of formal input than females (6%), with similar proportions observed across Aleppo (13%) and Idlib (12%). Methods of providing input included:

- Direct communication with organization staff or trainers.
- During training or sessions.
- Suggest providing more fodder or financial support.
- Requesting continued or increased support.
- Providing feedback on vaccines or medicines.
- Sharing information.

Accessibility of Communications

Unanimously, **100%** of respondents found project communications accessible and understandable. Moreover, **100%** of respondents reported that activities were inclusive of women, elderly, and persons with disabilities.

Effectiveness

The project was effective, with 82% feeding 1–9 animals with fodder, 98% reporting livestock health improvements, and 92% using veterinary kits effectively. However, only 29% found fodder sufficient, with 49% partially sufficient and 23% insufficient, particularly in Idlib. Fodder quality met expectations for 77%, but 23% cited poor quality or unsuitable types. Vaccinations and mobile veterinary services were highly effective (93–95% major health improvements), but inconsistent vaccine availability forced farmers to self-fund, as noted: **“Last year, vaccines were enough, but now we’re paying out of pocket.”**

The project significantly improved livestock health and productivity, reducing mortality and costs, which is critical for small-scale breeders reliant on livestock for livelihoods. The near-universal health improvements (98%) and high effectiveness of vaccinations and mobile clinics, as reflected in **“Our animals don’t get sick like they used to, boosting production,”** demonstrate the project’s success in addressing disease prevention and treatment needs. The practical training and clear veterinary kit instructions (100% clarity) empowered farmers to adopt new practices, enhancing effectiveness.

However, the limited fodder sufficiency (29%) and quality issues (23%) constrained overall impact, particularly in Idlib, where drought and economic pressures exacerbated shortages. The insufficient quantity relative to livestock numbers (81% of insufficiency reasons) and short supply duration (31%)

highlight a mismatch between project resources and beneficiary needs. The lower fodder satisfaction among males (26% sufficient vs. 60% for females) may reflect differences in livestock numbers or expectations, warranting further investigation.

IR should prioritize larger fodder quantities tailored to livestock numbers and explore local sourcing to ensure quality and suitability. Establishing a vaccine supply chain with contingency plans could ensure continuity, reducing farmer costs. Gender-disaggregated analysis of fodder needs could address disparities in satisfaction, ensuring equitable outcomes. Scaling up training to cover fodder management could further enhance effectiveness, particularly in drought-prone areas.

Fodder Distribution

Number of Animals Fed

82% of respondents fed 1–9 animals with distributed fodder, **11%** fed 10–19, **6%** fed 20–29, and **1%** fed 50–100. Females (**90%** for 1–9) fed fewer animals than males (**81%** for 1–9). Aleppo (**87%** for 1–9) had higher rates than Idlib (**75%** for 1–9).

Sufficiency of Quantity

29% found fodder sufficient, **49%** partially sufficient, and **23%** insufficient. Females (**60%** sufficient, **40%** partially) reported higher satisfaction than males (**26%** sufficient, **49%** partially, **25%** insufficient). Aleppo (**50%** sufficient) had higher satisfaction than Idlib (**13%** sufficient, **50%** partially, **38%** insufficient).

Reasons for Insufficiency: Among those reporting no or partial sufficiency they cited (Multiple Selection):

- Insufficient quantity relative to livestock numbers (**81%**).
- Short duration of supply (**31%**).
- Drought and grass scarcity (**6%**).
- High costs forcing purchase or sale of animals (**6%**).

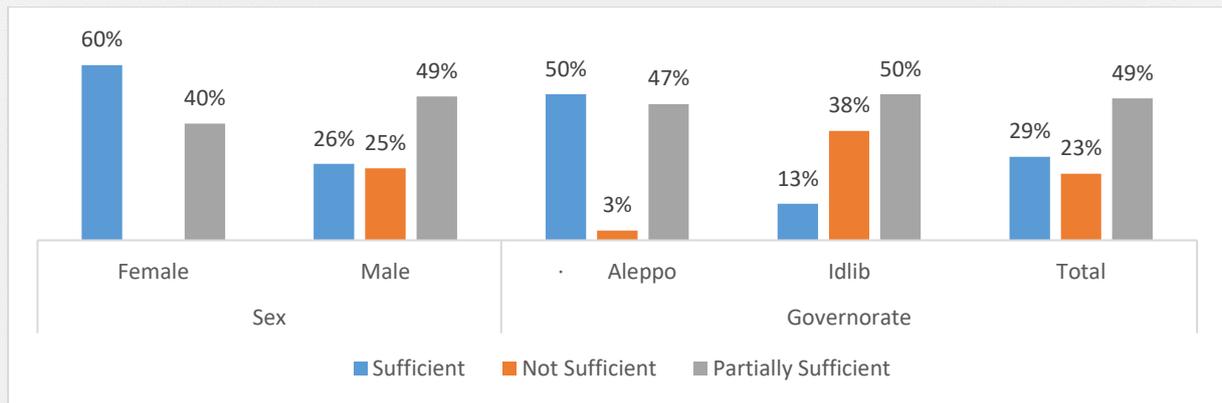


Figure 7: Sufficiency of Quantity of Fodder.

The projects effectively improved livestock health and lowered expenses, though the lack of fodder constrained overall results. FGD participants noted a significant drop in livestock diseases and sickness mortality, thanks to vaccinations and veterinary care. One said, *“Our animals don’t getting sick like they used to—their health has gotten better, and that’s boosted production.”* Another highlighted, *“The support saved us a lot of money since we don’t have to buy medicine from pharmacies anymore.”*

Fodder Quality Expectations

77% of respondents said fodder quality met expectations, while **23%** said it did not. Females (**100%**) reported higher satisfaction than males (**75%**). Aleppo (**83%**) had higher satisfaction than Idlib (**73%**).

Reasons for Poor Quality: Among those reporting unmet expectations (Multiple Selection):

- Poor quality or unsuitable type (**69%**).
- Expected barley/wheat or larger quantities (**6%**).
- Distribution not tailored to needs (**6%**).

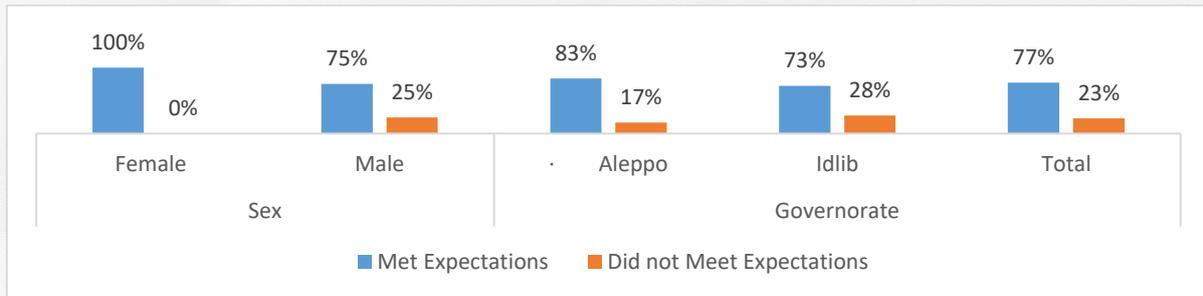


Figure 8: Fodder Quality Expectations.

Livestock Vaccination

Number of Animals Vaccinated

33% of respondents reported vaccinating 1–9 animals, **37%** 10–19, **19%** 20–29, and **11%** 30–150. Females (**42%** for 15–30) vaccinated more animals than males (**37%** for 10–19). Aleppo (**39%** for 10–19) and Idlib (**37%** for 20–29) differed slightly.

While vaccinations for diseases like enteritis, foot-and-mouth disease, and sheep pox were provided the previous year, their availability was inconsistent this year, forcing farmers to bear the costs themselves. A FGD participant remarked, *“Last year, the vaccines were enough, but now they’re nowhere to be found, so we’re stuck paying out of our own pockets.”* The projects incorporated community feedback through consultation sessions, as one participant explained: *“Yes, they held meetings to get our input, and everyone could share what they needed.”* However, some felt their requests, particularly for fodder, were overlooked: *“I didn’t feel like they really listened to us. We kept asking for fodder a lot, but nothing came of it.”*

Health Changes

98% of respondents reported noticeable health improvements, while **2%** did not. Females (**93%**) reported slightly lower improvements than males (**99%**). Among those reporting “no change”, cited lack of awareness and insufficient fodder to support change.

Among respondents reporting improvements they cited (multiple choices):

- Improved general health and activity (**32%**, e.g., "Increased activity," "Better health").
- Reduced disease and mortality (**20%**, e.g., "Fewer deaths," "Disease prevention").
- Increased production (milk, weight, reproduction) (**25%**, e.g., "More milk," "Cows became pregnant").
- Better appetite and grazing (**15%**, e.g., "Improved eating").
- Recovery from specific diseases (e.g., foot-and-mouth, worms, **8%**).

Veterinary Kit Distribution

Items Used

92% of respondents used dewormers, **95%** vitamins, **72%** reproductive hormones, and **2%** other items (e.g., anti-toxin drugs). For dewormers, vitamins, and hormones, **85%** used the full kit, **11–15%** used one dose, and **1–4%** used none. **100%** of respondents found the instructions clear and easy to follow across all groups.

The livestock support projects, particularly the vaccination services and veterinary mobile clinics, partially met beneficiaries' needs but were hindered by the absence of fodder and limited availability of inputs like pesticides. FGD participants voiced deep concern about the lack of fodder, which was critical amid economic challenges and drought conditions. One participant stated, *"To be honest, we got no help this year—no fodder, no pest control for the barns. It's really impacted us, especially in these hard times."* Another emphasized, *"We didn't receive any fodder at all, which made things extremely tough, especially during the summer when it's crucial for feeding our animals."*

Mobile Veterinary Services

Support Received

Regarding the mobile veterinary services and what support did the respondents receive, **97%** of respondents reported receiving treatment, **94%** diagnosis, **90%** advice, and **78%** vaccination. Females (**88%** treatment, **84%** diagnosis, **75%** advice, **69%** vaccination) received less support than males (**99%** treatment, **96%** diagnosis, **92%** advice, **79%** vaccination).

The project leveraged local knowledge by involving experienced farmers and breeders in training sessions, enhancing the relevance of interventions like artificial insemination and organic pest control. An IR staff member shared, *"We brought other farmers to learn from a top breeder in his barn, sharing his tricks for high milk yields and clean stables—it was like a masterclass."* Support allocation was transparent, with criteria like earthquake impact and livestock ownership clearly communicated. Women, elderly, and disabled individuals were prioritized, with separate distribution lines and home deliveries for heavy items like fodder.

Monitoring ensured timely interventions, with MEAL teams conducting 100% verification for agricultural distributions and spot checks for veterinary services. Technical standards were upheld through high-quality inputs and coordination with local agricultural departments. Negative impacts were mitigated by studying environmental risks, such as banning harmful pesticides and promoting organic alternatives. An IR staff noted, *"We checked pesticide risks with FAO standards and switched to safer options to protect animals and bees."* Data privacy was safeguarded through secure systems, and sexual exploitation risks were addressed via staff training and confidential reporting channels.

Availability

86% of respondents found the mobile veterinary services always available, and **14%** sometimes. Females (**91%** always) reported higher availability than males (**85%** always, **15%** sometimes). Aleppo (**88%** always) and Idlib (**84%** always, **16%** sometimes) differed slightly.

Among the respondents that reported the mobile veterinary services were sometimes available, they cited limited veterinarian presence (1 day/week, **72%**, e.g., "The vet is only available one day a week"). Infrequent or irregular visits (**22%**, e.g., "Visits every 3–4 months," "Once a month"). Lack of daily service or medicines (**6%**, e.g., "Service not available daily").

Cow Breeders' Training

Topics Covered

24% of respondents reported that the cow breeding capacity building covered nutrition, **25%** veterinary care, **25%** breeding, **25%** disease prevention, and **2%** other topics.

Application of Knowledge

86% of respondents reported that they applied the knowledge, while **14%** did not. Males (**88%**) applied more than females (**50%**). Aleppo (**100%**) had higher application than Idlib (**71%**). Among those not applying the knowledge from capacity building, respondents cited having prior knowledge of cattle breeding.

Technical training was highly impactful, equipping participants with hands-on skills for livestock care. A participant shared, *"We learned things we never knew before, like how to draw blood from the neck and use medicines properly."* Participants adopted new practices, such as giving injections and treating diseases like mange and enterotoxemia. One noted, *"We can now spot diseases by their signs and start treatment fast."* No inappropriate services or negative issues were reported, and participants felt safe and respected by project staff: *"They were respectful and really engaged with us, explaining everything and checking in with us."* Complaint processes were transparent and secure, with one participant noting, *"The way to report issues was clear, and I felt confident complaints would be handled privately."*

Efficiency

The near-perfect efficiency in delivery reflects IR's robust logistical systems, ensuring support aligned with breeders' needs and schedules, critical for time-sensitive livestock care. The use of mobile clinics and loudspeakers, as evidenced by **"Everything was on time, announced in advance,"** minimized disruptions and maximized accessibility, particularly for vulnerable groups like women and the elderly.

Delays or Issues in Receiving Support

98% of respondents reported no delays or issues, while **2%** did. Aleppo (**3%**) had slightly more issues than Idlib. Among those reporting delays or issues cited, delayed vaccinations causing disease spread, delayed veterinary visits, unspecified delays, and occasional delays in clinic visits.

The projects were highly efficient in delivering veterinary services with no reported delays or issues. Participants praised the timely and well-coordinated timely distribution of vaccinations and treatments, facilitated by mobile clinics and home visits. One FGD participant shared, *"Everything was on time—they'd use loudspeakers to announce their arrival, giving us enough time to get our livestock ready."* Another added, *"They came to our homes in teams, going house to house to vaccinate the animals."*

Timeliness and Organization of Support

96% of respondents found support always timely and organized, **2%** sometimes, and **2%** rarely. Females (**92%** always, **4%** sometimes, **4%** rarely) reported slightly lower timeliness than males (**97%** always, **2%** sometimes, **1%** rarely). Idlib (**98%** always) reported higher timeliness than Aleppo (**95%** always, **3%** sometimes, **3%** rarely).



Among those reporting sometimes or rarely cited delayed vaccinations, infrequent veterinary visits, lack of daily service, seasonal timing issues, sick animals awaiting treatment, and infrequent visits without clear reasons by some respondents.

Responsible and Transparent Resource Use

94% of respondents believed the organization used resources responsibly and transparently, **5%** preferred not to say. Females (**100%**) reported higher confidence than males (**94%** yes, **6%** prefer not to say). Aleppo (**99%** yes) had higher confidence than Idlib (**88%** yes, **12%** prefer not to say).

100% of respondents reported no requests for payment or favors to access support across all groups, sexes, governorates, and services.

The veterinary service providers emphasized efficient service delivery despite logistical challenges. Mobile clinics were scheduled to align with breeders' availability, and feedback was addressed promptly, such as clarifying vaccine side effects like fever. A veterinarian explained, *"Some breeders panicked when sheep got fevers after vaccines, so we stepped in fast to explain it's normal and gave them fever reducers for a couple of days."* Data collection was targeted, focusing on livestock ownership and earthquake impact, with field teams verifying information to minimize bias.

Resource constraints limited fodder distribution, forcing prioritization of the most vulnerable. A veterinary service provider lamented, *"We just didn't have enough fodder—the budget couldn't cover the huge need, so we focused on the hardest-hit families."* Procurement followed strict protocols, with high-quality vaccines and medicines sourced legally, though delays occurred due to external inspections, such as a month-long hold by Turkish authorities. Ethical resource management was ensured through transparent criteria and community oversight, reducing wastage.

Impact

The project had a significant impact, with **88%** reporting major improvements in animal health and productivity, **94%** noting positive effects on household income or food security, and no major negative impacts. Vaccinations (**97%**) and fodder (**96%**) were most effective, while training (**29%** neutral) and veterinary kits (**22%** neutral) had less consistent impact. FGD participants highlighted cost savings and increased production, as noted: *"We're now able to sell more milk and meat, lifting our income."* However, poor fodder quality and insufficient quantities limited impact for some.

The project's profound impact on livestock health and household economics demonstrates its role in stabilizing livelihoods and enhancing food security in a crisis-affected region. The high positive impact on income and food security (**94%**), particularly from vaccinations and fodder, as reflected in *"The project took a huge load off our expenses,"* underscores its effectiveness in reducing financial burdens and boosting productivity. The shift from culling to treating sick animals, as noted by *"Training changed everything—we now treat diseases,"* indicates a lasting behavioral change that enhances resilience.

However, the **6%** neutral and **1%** negative impacts, linked to poor fodder quality and insufficient quantities, highlight resource limitations that constrained broader economic gains. The higher neutral responses for training (**29%**) and veterinary kits (**22%**) suggest that while these components were valuable, their impact was less immediate or dependent on complementary inputs like fodder. The minimal negative impacts are positive, but the need to mix poor-quality fodder with hay, as reported, reduced cost savings, indicating quality control gaps. The higher female impact perception (**98%** vs.

93% for males) may reflect targeted support for women-led households, but further analysis is needed to confirm equity.

IR should implement stricter quality checks for fodder and explore local production to ensure suitability. Integrating training with ongoing input support could enhance the immediate impact of knowledge-based interventions. Scaling up fodder and vaccination support to cover larger livestock numbers would broaden economic gains, particularly for male breeders with higher neutral responses. Monitoring long-term behavioral changes, like disease treatment adoption, could inform future scaling efforts.

Impact on Animals' Health and Productivity

88% of respondents reported a major improvement in animal health and productivity across all support services. Mobile veterinary services (**95%**) and livestock vaccination (**93%**) had the highest rates of major improvement, indicating their effectiveness in enhancing animal health.

12% noted some improvement, with fodder distribution (**27%**) and cow breeders' training (**22%**) showing higher rates of partial improvement, suggesting these interventions may have less immediate or consistent impact.

By Support Service:

- **Mobile Veterinary Services (E.7.1):** 95% major improvement, reflecting the value of accessible, ongoing veterinary care.
- **Livestock Vaccination (E.5.1):** 93% major improvement, highlighting the critical role of vaccinations in disease prevention.
- **Fodder Distribution (E.4.1):** 69% major improvement, with 27% reporting some improvement and 4% no change, suggesting variability in fodder quality or sufficiency.
- **Veterinary Kit Distribution (E.6.1):** 80% major improvement, with 18% some improvement and 2% no change.
- **Cow Breeders' Training (E.7.2):** 78% major improvement, with 22% some improvement, indicating training benefits but possibly limited by practical application.

Impact on Animals' Health and Productivity	Sex		Governorate		Livestock Support Services					Total
	Female	Male	Aleppo	Idlib	Fodder distribution	Livestock vaccination	Veterinary kit distribution	Mobile veterinary services	Cow breeders' training	
Major improvement	88%	88%	87%	88%	69%	93%	80%	95%	78%	88%
Some improvement	12%	12%	13%	10%	27%	7%	18%	5%	22%	12%
No change	0%	1%	0%	2%	4%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%

Table 17: Impact on Animals' Health and Productivity.

Among the small percentage reporting no change (all male respondents from Idlib), reasons included, poor quality of medicines, poor quality of fodder, and sheep refusing to eat the provided fodder, requiring mixing with hay, which reduced cost savings. These issues were primarily associated with fodder distribution (100%) and veterinary kit distribution (100%), pointing to quality control challenges.

The projects also shifted community awareness and approaches to livestock care, moving away from culling sick animals to treating them. One FGD participant reflected, *“Before, I’d sell or slaughtered animals any sick livestock right away, but the training changed everything.”* An unexpected benefit was learning to treat diseases previously thought incurable. A participant remarked, *“We used to think some diseases had no cure, but the training showed us how to treat them.”* No negative impacts were reported, and the projects fostered community collaboration, with one noting, One FGD noted, *“Diseases are down, and we’ve got solid prevention for our livestock now.”*

The interventions reduced livestock mortality and improved animal health, stabilizing incomes for small-scale breeders. Training on artificial insemination and disease management empowered farmers to sustain gains. A veterinarian observed, *“Breeders now get more twin lambs thanks to the insemination sponges we introduced, and they’re treating diseases they couldn’t before.”* However, the limited fodder support constrained impacts, particularly for cattle breeders. The project also enhanced community awareness, shifting practices toward preventive care, though impacts were uneven due to resource shortages.

Impact on Household Income or Food Security

94% of respondents reported a positive impact on household income or food security. Livestock vaccination (**97%**) and fodder distribution (**96%**) were the most effective in improving economic outcomes. **6%** reported a neutral impact, with cow breeders’ training (**29%**) and veterinary kit distribution (**22%**) showing higher neutral responses. Regarding any negative impacts, a minimum **1%** reported this primarily linked to fodder distribution.

Females (98%) reported a higher rate of positive impact compared to males (93%). Males had a higher neutral response rate (6% vs. 2%) and a slightly higher negative response (1% vs. 0%), possibly reflecting differences in resource allocation or expectations.

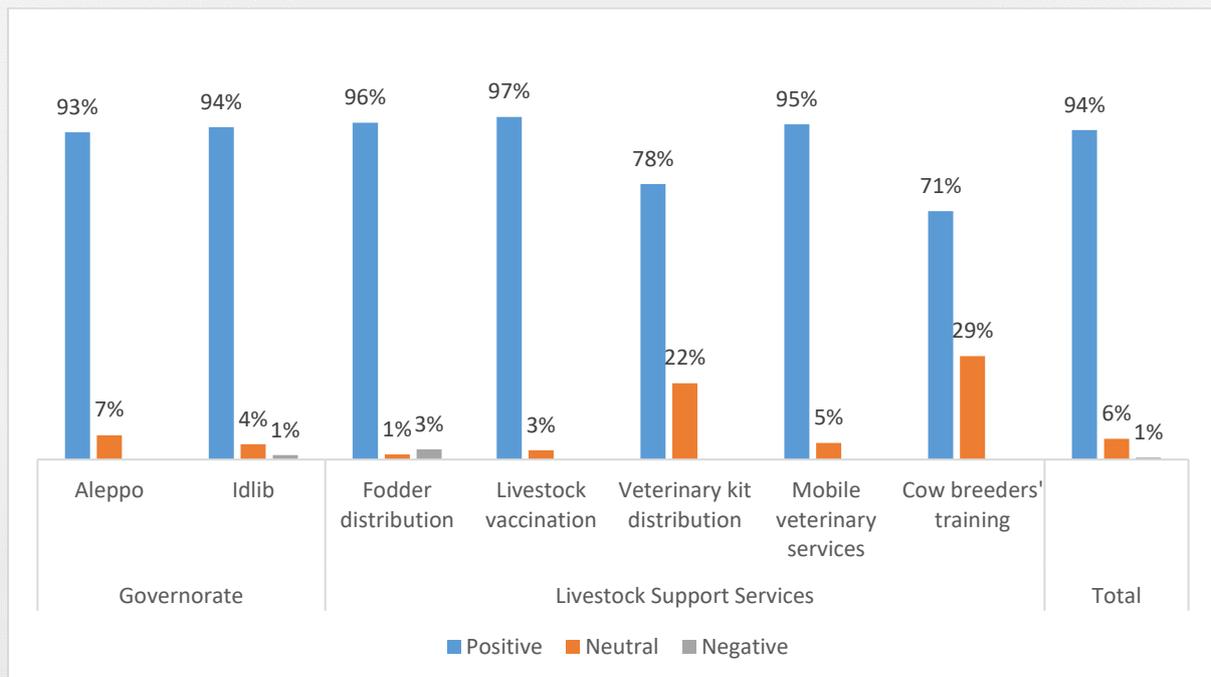


Figure 9: Impact on Household Income or Food Security.

By Support Service:

- **Livestock Vaccination (E.5.1):** 97% positive impact, likely due to reduced animal mortality and improved productivity.
- **Fodder Distribution (E.4.1):** 96% positive impact, though 3% reported a negative impact.
- **Mobile Veterinary Services (E.7.1):** 95% positive impact, reflecting the economic benefits of healthier livestock.
- **Veterinary Kit Distribution (E.6.1):** 78% positive impact, with 22% neutral.
- **Cow Breeders' Training (E.7.2):** 71% positive impact, with 29% neutral.

Explanations for Impact

- **Positive Impacts:**
 - **Cost Savings:** The most frequent explanation was reduced expenditure on medicines, vaccines, and fodder, allowing funds to be redirected to household needs like food, clothing, and education.
 - **Improved Productivity:** Many respondents noted increased milk and meat production leading to higher sales and income.
 - **Healthier Livestock:** Reduced disease incidence and mortality improved livestock numbers and output.
 - **Training Benefits:** Training enhanced livestock management skills, reducing veterinary costs and improving productivity.
 - **Food Security:** Increased milk and meat availability improved household nutrition, while income from sales supported other food purchases.
- **Neutral or Negative Impacts:**
 - Poor fodder quality led to limited economic benefits, as animals refused to eat it or required additional processing.
 - Insufficient support quantity reduced the duration of benefits.
 - Other financial obligations offset potential income gains.

The projects positively impacted household income, food security, and community knowledge of livestock management. By cutting the need for purchased medicines and vaccines, they eased financial pressures. A FGD participant stated, *"The project took a huge load off our expenses, helping us improve our lives a bit."* Improved livestock health increased milk and meat production, boosting income. Another said, *"We're now able to sell more milk and meat now, which has lifted our income."*

The project significantly improved household incomes and food security by reducing livestock mortality and enhancing agricultural productivity. Women and small-scale farmers particularly benefited from fodder and veterinary support, which bolstered their livelihoods. A staff member observed, *"Families could sell more milk and meat, easing their financial burdens and improving their lives a bit."*

Sustainability

The project promoted sustainability, with 92% feeling more prepared for future livestock management, 34% sharing knowledge, and training enabling continued practices, as noted: **“I’m still using the vaccination techniques I learned.”** Challenges included fodder shortages, high costs, and drought, with respondents emphasizing ongoing support needs (fodder, vaccines, veterinary services). IR staff highlighted sustained practices like artificial insemination, but noted barriers like **“Drought and high feed prices are killing sustainability.”**

The high preparedness (92%) and knowledge sharing (34%) indicate that the project built sustainable capacity, empowering breeders to manage livestock independently and disseminate skills, critical for community resilience. The continued use of training practices, as evidenced by **“I now identify diseases and treat them quickly,”** reflects a lasting shift toward preventive care, reducing long-term losses. The involvement of local cooperatives, as noted by **“Farmers use insemination techniques without our support,”** fostered ownership, enhancing sustainability.

The reliance on external fodder and vaccines, coupled with drought and high costs, poses significant threats to sustainability. The 8% unpreparedness and concerns about ongoing support needs, as noted by **“Drought is a tough, costly problem,”** highlight that without consistent resources, gains may erode, particularly in Idlib. The relatively low knowledge-sharing rate (34%), especially among females (20%), suggests untapped potential for community-wide diffusion, possibly due to gender norms or time constraints. The dependence on external aid, as emphasized by respondents, indicates that sustainability is partial without addressing structural challenges like fodder access to.

The project’s sustainability efforts underscore the value of capacity-building and local engagement, but long-term success hinges on overcoming resource and environmental barriers. IR should establish local fodder supply systems, such as cooperative feed banks, to reduce dependency and address drought risks. Targeted outreach to female breeders, through women’s sessions or incentives, could boost knowledge sharing, enhancing community impact. Advocating for policy support, like fodder subsidies, and securing long-term funding for veterinary services would sustain gains. Integrating climate-resilient practices, such as drought-tolerant forage crops, could further bolster resilience, ensuring lasting sustainability.

Knowledge Sharing

Approximately one-third (**34%**) of respondents reported sharing knowledge or inputs gained from livestock support services with others in their community, with males (**35%**) more likely to share than females (**20%**).

Methods of sharing were diverse, primarily involving informal networks such as family, friends, neighbors, and relatives. Common approaches included discussing the benefits of fodder quality, exchanging experiences, and providing advice on animal care. Specific methods included community gatherings, village councils, livestock markets, and women’s sessions (notably among females). Respondents also shared veterinary insights, such as treatment methods and medication use, learned from mobile veterinary services or training. The emphasis on sharing practical, actionable information underscores the community-driven dissemination of knowledge, enhancing local livestock management capacity.

Preparedness for Future Livestock Management

A significant majority of respondents (**92%**) felt more prepared to manage livestock in the future, with slightly higher confidence in Idlib (**96%**) than Aleppo (**90%**) and among females (**94%**) compared to males (**92%**).

Respondents highlighted improved understanding of animal diseases, appropriate medication use, and vaccination schedules, often gained through veterinary advice and training. Many noted enhanced ability to select suitable fodder types (e.g., for fattening or milk production) and implement preventive health measures, reducing animal mortality. Practical experience, peer knowledge exchange, and access to free services (e.g., vaccines, veterinary care) further boosted confidence.

However, challenges to sustained livestock management were noted, particularly high fodder and medication costs, drought, and limited financial resources. Respondents emphasized that ongoing support—such as consistent fodder supply, free veterinary services, and vaccinations—is critical for long-term sustainability. Without such support, some expressed concerns about their ability to continue, especially given economic constraints and environmental challenges.

To identify the additional support needed to improve livestock management and livelihood resilience respondents showcased these key observations.

Most Common Support Needs:

1. **Fodder/Feed:** This is the most frequently mentioned need across all segments.
2. **Medicines and Vaccines:** Frequently cited, often in combination with fodder.
3. **Mobile Veterinary Services and Clinics:** Responses like continuity of mobile clinic project and providing a permanent veterinary clinic are notable.
4. **Financial Support (Grants, Loans, Cash Assistance)**

The sustainability relied heavily on the knowledge and skills from training, as no physical tools were provided. FGD participants continued using learned practices, like administering vaccines and treating diseases. One FGD said, *“Even after the project ended, I’m still using the vaccination techniques I learned.”* Another added, *“We can now identify diseases by their signs and start treatment quickly.”*

The projects bolstered resilience against disease outbreaks by teaching timely vaccination and disease recognition. A FGD participant stated, *“I now know about diseases like enterotoxaemia and foot-and-mouth disease and when to vaccinate.”* However, sustainability was hampered by limited access to vaccines, fodder, and veterinary supplies. The lack of fodder was a major obstacle, with one participant noting, *“Drought is a tough, costly problem that causes huge losses.”*

The projects strengthened community capacity through increased cooperation. A FGD participant said, *“We’re much more aware now—before, we’d be clueless about a sick animal, but now we can identify diseases from small signs.”* Farmers gained confidence, with one stating, *“I’m now confident in my skills and knowledge after learning how to raise livestock properly.”*

Sustainability was driven by capacity-building efforts, with training on livestock care and organic farming equipping farmers to continue practices independently. An IR staff informant highlighted, *“Farmers now use the artificial insemination techniques we taught, even without our support, and it’s increasing their herds.”* The project fostered community leadership by involving local cooperatives

and agricultural departments in planning, enhancing local ownership. However, sustainability was constrained by ongoing fodder shortages and limited access to veterinary supplies post-project. One staff member noted, *“The drought and high feed prices are still a big hurdle, cutting into the gains we made.”* Community resilience improved through better disease management, but sustained external support was deemed necessary.

Sustainability was supported by training on veterinary care and artificial insemination, enabling breeders to apply skills independently. A provider stated, *“Breeders are still using the insemination techniques we taught, and it’s boosting their flocks without our help.”* Community resilience improved through better disease prevention, but ongoing fodder shortages and limited veterinary supplies posed barriers. One veterinarian noted, *“The drought and sky-high feed prices are killing sustainability—breeders can’t keep up without more support.”* Local ownership was fostered by involving community leaders in planning, though sustained external aid was deemed critical.

Coherence

Coordination and Complementary Support

Islamic Relief’s approach to coordination was a cornerstone of its project implementation, ensuring seamless integration with other humanitarian actors and avoiding duplication of efforts. IR staff reported a proactive and systematic strategy that began at the project’s inception and extended throughout its lifecycle. Coordination was facilitated through multiple channels, including direct engagement with local councils, agricultural directorates, and sector-specific clusters. This multi-tiered approach ensured that interventions were aligned with existing activities and tailored to fill gaps in service delivery.

IR staff emphasized the importance of early and continuous coordination, particularly during site selection. By consulting with central agricultural directorates and local councils, Islamic Relief ensured that its interventions complemented those of other organizations. One IR staff member articulated this process: **“From the outset, we prioritized effective coordination by engaging with agricultural directorates and local councils to map existing activities, ensuring our interventions were strategically placed to avoid redundancy and enhance impact.”**

The organization’s use of the “Who does What, Where, and When” (4W) system was instrumental in maintaining transparency and alignment with other actors. Monthly reporting to clusters and the submission of 12-month operational plans allowed for real-time coordination and adjustment of activities. An IR staff member highlighted this mechanism: **“Our monthly reports to the cluster, combined with our forward-looking operational plans, ensured that our activities were harmonized with those of other organizations, fostering integrated and non-overlapping interventions.”**

This coordination extended beyond information sharing to practical collaboration, where Islamic Relief’s interventions complemented those of other organizations. For instance, in areas where Islamic Relief provided heating materials, other organizations might offer health services or additional resources, creating a synergistic effect. IR staff noted: **“Even in cases of overlapping interventions, our coordination ensured complementarity, such as when we provided heating materials while another organization supplied health services, resulting in a holistic support system for beneficiaries.”**

Regular participation in cluster meetings and workshops further strengthened coordination. These platforms allowed Islamic Relief to align its activities with local authorities, government entities like the Ministry of Agriculture, and other NGOs. An IR staff member underscored the value of these

engagements: **“By actively participating in cluster meetings and workshops, we ensured our interventions were aligned with local priorities and complemented the efforts of other actors, enhancing overall project coherence.”**

This robust coordination framework not only prevented duplication but also maximized resource efficiency and impact. By fostering open communication and collaboration, Islamic Relief ensured that its interventions were part of a broader, cohesive humanitarian response, addressing the diverse needs of crisis-affected communities.

Support for Quality and Accountability

Islamic Relief’s commitment to quality and accountability was evident in its rigorous processes for supplier selection, material verification, and stakeholder engagement. IR staff reported a structured approach to ensuring that partners adhered to high standards, which was critical to maintaining the project’s integrity and effectiveness.

Supplier selection was governed by clear criteria, including material quality, cost-effectiveness, and delivery capacity. Contracts with suppliers included explicit clauses mandating compliance with approved samples, ensuring consistency in quality. An IR staff member explained: **“We meticulously select suppliers based on quality, price, and efficiency, and our contracts explicitly require that all materials match approved samples, ensuring accountability at every stage of procurement.”**

Upon receipt of materials, Islamic Relief conducted thorough inspections to verify compliance with agreed standards. Non-compliant materials were rejected, and suppliers were required to replace them promptly. This stringent process was highlighted by an IR staff member: **“Our rigorous inspection process ensures that any discrepancy in material quality is addressed immediately, with non-compliant supplies rejected and replaced to maintain the highest standards.”**

To further reinforce accountability, Islamic Relief relied on accredited laboratories and oversight committees to verify material quality and beneficiary selection. These independent checks ensured objectivity and adherence to project standards. An IR staff member noted: **“By utilizing accredited laboratories and oversight committees, we cross-check data and verify compliance, ensuring that both suppliers and beneficiary selections meet our stringent quality criteria.”**

Regular stakeholder meetings played a crucial role in maintaining accountability and addressing gaps. These meetings provided a platform for collaboration with local authorities and other partners, ensuring that project activities aligned with community needs. An IR staff member emphasized this collaborative approach: **“Through regular stakeholder meetings, we maintain open communication, monitor project performance, and address any gaps, ensuring accountability to both beneficiaries and partners.”**

The involvement of local authorities in distribution processes further enhanced accountability. Representatives from local councils were present to oversee activities, ensuring transparency and fairness. An IR staff member highlighted this practice: **“Local authorities provide representatives to oversee distributions, ensuring that our processes are transparent and equitable, which strengthens community trust and project accountability.”**

This multi-faceted approach to quality and accountability ensured that Islamic Relief’s interventions were not only effective but also trusted by beneficiaries and partners, contributing to the project’s overall success.

Partnership Quality and Effectiveness

Islamic Relief's partnerships were characterized by strong collaboration and minimal challenges, reflecting effective relationship management and continuous monitoring. IR staff reported that partnerships were generally positive, with issues addressed swiftly to maintain project momentum.

Minor challenges, such as delays in material delivery due to supplier constraints, were reported but did not significantly disrupt project implementation. These issues were resolved through direct communication and negotiation with suppliers. An IR staff member stated: **"While we encountered minor delays in material delivery from some suppliers, these were quickly resolved through direct dialogue, ensuring minimal impact on project timelines."**

Continuous monitoring reports were a key tool in assessing partnership quality and effectiveness. These reports provided real-time insights into implementation challenges, allowing Islamic Relief to address issues promptly. An IR staff member explained: **"Our continuous monitoring reports enable us to identify and address any issues related to partnership quality or implementation, ensuring that challenges are resolved efficiently."**

The complaints mechanism further supported partnership effectiveness by allowing beneficiaries to raise concerns, which were then investigated and addressed. This feedback loop ensured that partnerships remained responsive to community needs. An IR staff member noted: **"Our complaints mechanism allows beneficiaries to voice concerns, which we investigate thoroughly, ensuring that partnerships remain effective and aligned with community expectations."**

The absence of significant conflicts with partners was a testament to Islamic Relief's collaborative approach. IR staff reported positive and cooperative relationships, as reflected in the statement: **"Our partnerships were marked by positive and cooperative relationships, with no significant issues, thanks to our proactive coordination and open communication."**

Conclusion

Islamic Relief's Phase One emergency response to the 2023 earthquake in Syria effectively addressed immediate needs in Idlib and Aleppo through targeted interventions, including food parcels, non-food items (NFIs), hygiene kits, and healthcare support. The response reached 3,316 households with food aid, 1,948 with NFIs, 5,000 women and girls with dignity kits, and supported 20,000 individuals via health facilities, demonstrating a robust and inclusive approach. The evaluation survey (n=159) revealed high satisfaction, with 100% of respondents reporting clear communication, respectful treatment, and safe, accessible Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs). Notably, 98% confirmed food assistance fully met urgent needs, and 99% felt the support reduced financial stress, enabling prioritization of other essentials like rent and medicine.

The project's relevance was underscored by its focus on vulnerable groups—women-headed households, persons with disabilities, and low-income families—achieved through stakeholder consultations and equitable beneficiary selection. Efficiency was evident in timely deliveries, transparent procurement, and rapid feedback integration, with 90% of complaints leading to improvements. However, the effectiveness and sustainability of interventions were constrained by short-term benefits, with 55% of food aid and 72% of NFI benefits lasting less than one month, and 71% of hygiene kit contents depleting within the same period. External challenges, such as high prices and limited vendor stock, further limited long-term impacts.

Key impacts included reduced food insecurity (34%), financial burdens (45%), and improved hygiene (34%), alongside enhanced dignity and reduced health risks for women and girls. While 99% felt better

prepared for future shocks, ongoing economic pressures and insufficient aid quantities highlighted the need for sustained support. Lessons learned emphasize the value of direct community engagement, flexible feedback channels, and rigorous procurement processes. Recommendations include extending aid duration, increasing cash-based assistance (preferred by 66%), and targeting longer-term livelihood support to enhance resilience. Islamic Relief's coordinated, community-driven approach serves as a model for emergency response, though addressing sustainability remains critical for future interventions.

Islamic Relief's Phase One emergency response to the 2023 earthquake in Türkiye effectively delivered critical support across Gaziantep, Hatay, Adıyaman, Kahramanmaraş, Kilis, and Şanlıurfa, reaching 26,790 individuals with immediate food items, 10,000 households with unconditional vouchers, 4,400 rural households with food parcels, 2,010 households with shelter and hygiene kits, and 5,000 households with gender-sensitive hygiene kits. The evaluation survey (n=271) highlighted strong accountability, with 88% CFM awareness, 99% satisfaction with feedback channels, and 100% reporting respectful treatment and free services. The assistance fully met urgent food needs for 85% of respondents, reduced financial stress for 98%, and enabled 97% to prioritize other essentials like rent and medicine.

The response was relevant, targeting vulnerable groups—elderly, widows, orphans, and persons with disabilities—through inclusive consultations, though engagement depth varied by region. Efficiency was demonstrated by 98% timely deliveries and responsive feedback mechanisms, with 93% of complaints leading to improvements. Effectiveness was evident in timely distributions aligned with cultural events, ensuring food security and dignity, though incomplete social surveys excluded some beneficiaries. Impacts included reduced food insecurity (34%), financial burdens (40%), and enabled school attendance (12%), but sustainability was limited, with 73% of benefits lasting less than one month due to the emergency focus and economic challenges like rising costs.

Despite 97% feeling better prepared for future shocks, ongoing financial pressures underscored the need for sustained support. Community leaders praised transparent communication and coordination, recommending increased aid quantities and women-focused livelihood programs. Lessons learned highlight the value of direct leader engagement, accessible CFMs, and flexible voucher systems (preferred by 61%). Islamic Relief's rapid, inclusive response mitigated immediate post-earthquake hardships, but transitioning to longer-term resilience-building interventions is critical to address persistent economic vulnerabilities in Türkiye.

Islamic Relief's Phase Two early recovery agricultural interventions in Syria's Idlib and Aleppo governorates effectively supported 2,010 farmers by providing critical inputs—seeds, tools, fertilizers, pesticides, and summer vegetable kits—alongside technical guidance, enhancing crop productivity and household food security. The evaluation survey (n=76) demonstrated high accountability, with 100% awareness of Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs), clear communication, and satisfaction with accessible, respectful, and free services. The interventions fully met urgent farming needs for 66% of respondents, improved produce quality and quantity for 91%, and reduced reliance on humanitarian aid for 78%, fostering economic resilience.

The project's relevance was evident in its inclusive design, targeting vulnerable groups like women-headed households and large families through consultations with local communities and cooperatives, though 21% noted exclusions of internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to documentation issues.



Effectiveness was driven by timely input delivery for 88% and high-quality technical training, with 99% finding guidance helpful, though insufficient quantities and poor seed quality affected 36% of farmers. Efficiency was achieved through transparent resource allocation, rapid feedback integration, and minimal delays, despite logistical challenges for 12% of seeds/tools recipients. Impacts included increased household income (25%), improved food security (22%), and enhanced market participation (58%), with positive social outcomes like youth engagement in farming and community cohesion.

Sustainability was bolstered by universal knowledge sharing, with 100% of farmers disseminating skills and inputs, and 97% feeling prepared for future seasons. However, 16% expressed concerns about lasting benefits due to insufficient inputs, drought, and limited follow-up, particularly for fertilizers/pesticides recipients. Community leaders and farmers recommended increased input quantities, irrigation solutions, and ongoing technical support to sustain gains. Despite challenges like economic constraints and environmental risks, the project's focus on capacity-building and local ownership provides a foundation for long-term agricultural resilience, underscoring the need for continued investment in inputs, training, and climate-adaptive practices to support northwest Syria's farming communities.

Islamic Relief's Phase Two livestock interventions in Syria's Idlib and Aleppo governorates provided critical support to 16,000 breeders, delivering 300kg of fodder to 3,250 breeders, vaccinating 200,000 ewes, distributing veterinary kits to 5,200 breeders, offering mobile veterinary services to 16,000, and training 650 cow breeders. The evaluation survey (n=393) demonstrated robust accountability, with 96% CFM awareness, 97% perceiving CFMs as safe, and 96% satisfied with feedback channels. The interventions significantly improved animal health for 88%, enhanced household income or food security for 94%, and reduced reliance on costly inputs through free vaccines and treatments, bolstering economic stability for earthquake-affected communities.

The project's relevance was evident in its focus on vulnerable groups—women-led households, small-scale breeders, and disabled individuals—through consultations with local leaders and tailored support like mobile clinics and training. Effectiveness was driven by high-impact interventions, with 95% reporting major improvements from mobile veterinary services and 97% from vaccinations, though fodder insufficiency (71% partial or insufficient) and inconsistent vaccine availability limited outcomes. Efficiency was achieved through 98% timely deliveries, transparent resource allocation, and rapid feedback integration, despite minor delays in 2% of cases. Impacts included reduced livestock mortality, increased milk and meat production, and enhanced community knowledge, with 34% sharing skills, fostering cooperation and shifting practices toward preventive care.

Sustainability was supported by 92% feeling prepared for future livestock management, driven by training on disease prevention and breeding techniques, but constrained by fodder shortages, high input costs, and drought. Respondents emphasized the need for ongoing fodder, vaccines, and veterinary services to sustain gains. Community leaders and breeders recommended increased fodder quantities, consistent mobile clinics, and financial support to enhance resilience. The project's capacity-building and inclusive design laid a foundation for long-term livestock viability, but addressing resource gaps and environmental challenges is critical to ensure sustained livelihoods in northwest Syria.

Lessons Learned & Best Practices

- 1. Timely and Targeted Inputs Enhance Impact:** The provision of high-quality, season-aligned inputs—such as sanitized wheat seeds in Jandairis, olive fertilizers in Salqin, and vaccinations for 200,000 ewes—was critical to meeting urgent needs and improving agricultural and livestock outcomes. However, insufficient quantities, particularly for fodder (only 29% found it sufficient) and olive fertilizers (noted as "too limited" in Salqin), constrained impacts. Timely distributions, like BIM market cards in Türkiye and seeds before planting in Syria, maximized relevance, but delays in seeds/tools (12% reported delays) and veterinary visits (14% found services "sometimes" available) underscored the need for robust logistical planning.
- 2. Inclusive Targeting Requires Robust Verification:** Prioritizing vulnerable groups—women-headed households, elderly, disabled, and displaced persons—was a cornerstone of success, evidenced by 100% inclusive activities in Syria's livestock interventions and 99% appropriateness in Türkiye's emergency response. Documentation barriers excluded some beneficiaries, such as IDPs in Syria (21% reported exclusions) and families in Türkiye due to incomplete social surveys. Appeals processes and field verifications mitigated these gaps, highlighting the importance of flexible inclusion mechanisms.
- 3. Effective Training Drives Sustainable Practices:** Practical, hands-on training was a standout success, with 99% of farmers in Syria finding agricultural guidance helpful and 86% of cow breeders applying livestock training knowledge. Participants valued clear, real-world examples, such as learning to treat enterotoxaemia in livestock or optimizing wheat planting in Jandairis. The lack of post-project technical follow-up, noted in Uzmarin's Wheat Support, sustained limited adoption of new practices, emphasizing the need for ongoing support.
- 4. Feedback Mechanisms Build Trust but Require Responsiveness:** Functional Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFMs), with 100% awareness in Syria's agricultural interventions and 96% in livestock interventions, fostered accountability. Excel-based tracking and contact numbers enabled rapid resolution, with 93% of complaints in Türkiye and 90% in Syria's Phase One leading to improvements. Slower response times in crowded distribution settings in Türkiye and limited awareness (12% unaware in Türkiye) suggest the need for broader outreach and streamlined processes.
- 5. Resource Constraints Limit Sustainability:** Insufficient fodder (71% partial or insufficient in Syria's livestock interventions), limited fertilizer quantities in Salqin, constrained long-term resilience. External challenges like drought, high input costs, and logistical delays (e.g., a month-long vaccine delay by Turkish authorities) further hampered sustainability. These underscore the need for flexible budgets and contingency planning to address environmental and economic barriers.
- 6. Community Engagement Enhances Relevance:** Direct engagement with community leaders, cooperatives, and "lead farmers" ensured interventions aligned with local needs, as seen in Jindires' consultations for seeds and Türkiye's distributions. Gaps in rural communication, noted by IR staff in Syria, required multiple village visits and WhatsApp groups, highlighting the importance of tailored communication strategies to bridge urban-rural divides.

Best Practices

1. **Leverage Local Expertise and Leadership:** Involving local cooperatives, community leaders, and experienced farmers enhanced trust and impact. In Türkiye, engaging leaders ensured fair distributions, with a Hatay leader noting, *“The staff’s kindness and competence made the process smooth and respectful.”* In Syria, “lead farmers” shared expertise, as an IR staff member described, *“We brought farmers to learn from a top breeder, like a masterclass,”* amplifying training effectiveness.
2. **Implement Mobile Service Delivery:** Mobile veterinary clinics in Syria were a standout success, with 95% reporting major livestock health improvements and participants praising doorstep care. A provider noted, *“The mobile clinics were a lifeline, bringing care right to the animals.”* Similarly, mobile announcements via loudspeakers in Türkiye and Syria ensured timely participation, demonstrating the value of accessible, community-based service models.
3. **Prioritize Practical, Accessible Training:** Training sessions using local dialects, field-based workshops, and real-world examples were highly effective. In Syria, a Jandairis participant lauded, *“The sessions were clear, using real-world agricultural examples,”* while a livestock breeder noted, *“We learned to draw blood from the neck and use medicines properly.”* This approach ensured knowledge retention and application, with 100% of farmers applying agricultural inputs effectively.
4. **Ensure Transparent and Ethical Resource Management:** Rigorous procurement processes, including public tenders and multi-departmental reviews, maintained transparency, as an IR staff member stated, *“Our procurement is airtight—open bids, no brand bias.”* Community oversight via public beneficiary lists and feedback sessions in Syria and Türkiye reinforced trust, with 94% of livestock respondents in Syria confirming responsible resource use.
5. **Foster Community Knowledge Sharing:** Universal knowledge sharing in Syria’s agricultural interventions (100%) and 34% in livestock interventions amplified impact. Informal networks, community gatherings, and women’s sessions facilitated dissemination, as a livestock participant noted, *“We shared veterinary insights at markets.”* Encouraging peer-led learning, as seen with “lead farmers,” strengthened community resilience.
6. **Tailor Interventions to Local Contexts:** Aligning interventions with local conditions—weather, market access—ensured relevance. In Syria, 100% of farmers confirmed agricultural support considered local conditions, while in Türkiye, a Hatay leader praised, *“BIM Market cards were distributed helping families.”* Context-specific communication, such as loudspeakers and WhatsApp groups, enhanced accessibility and trust.

Recommendations

Syria – Phase 1 (Emergency Response)

- **Food Security:** While nearly all households reported their urgent food needs were met (98%), a small number of women in Aleppo cited insufficient quantities. We recommend **scaling up food parcel volumes and/or providing multi-month rations**, especially for large or female-headed households. The evaluation found that benefits were typically short-lived – 55% of beneficiaries said support lasted less than one month – so future programming should plan *repeated distributions* or extend the assistance duration. Islamic Relief should also **diversify aid modalities**. A strong majority of respondents (66%) preferred cash/vouchers over in-kind food, and preferences varied by gender and location (e.g. Aleppo households favored

transfers while Idlib favored parcels). Offering conditional cash/vouchers (e.g. grocery vouchers or bank transfers) alongside food parcels would allow households to meet other needs and adjust for intra-household priorities. Importantly, the gender gap in coverage – male respondents were far more likely to report *all* food needs met than females (93% vs. 37%) – suggests Islamic Relief should monitor allocations at the household level and consider targeted outreach or top-ups for women-headed families to ensure equity.

- **WASH / NFIs (Hygiene and Dignity Kits):** Beneficiaries gave 100% satisfaction to hygiene and dignity kits (all items appropriate and of good quality). However, nearly three-quarters of recipients (71%) said the hygiene kit contents lasted <1 month. We therefore recommend **periodic follow-up distributions of basic NFI/hygiene supplies**, rather than one-off kits. For example, plan for 1–2 month intervals for essential consumables (soap, detergent, menstrual supplies) until households recover. Local procurement of hygiene items can expedite replenishment. The strong psychosocial impact of these kits (maintained dignity, reduced anxiety) indicates they should remain a staple of emergency kits. Consider adding **gender-specific follow-ups**, such as discussing safety at relief centers, since the evaluation noted that women appreciated respectful treatment during distributions. Collaborating with local women’s groups can ensure kits match evolving needs (e.g. fresh sanitary supplies or child items).
- **Targeting and Inclusion:** The program prioritized vulnerable groups (women-headed, disabled, IDPs) with community consultation, which contributed to high relevance. However, documentation gaps meant *some IDPs were excluded*: roughly 21% of IDP households reported being left out due to lacking papers. Future interventions should **build flexible verification processes** (such as community attestation or appeal mechanisms) to include those without formal IDs. This will prevent exclusion of transient or newly displaced families. Maintaining a robust complaints/feedback mechanism (as IR did) is crucial; 100% of surveyed beneficiaries knew how to complain. To further improve, IR can **broaden CFM outreach** (beyond distribution points) so even the small minority of beneficiaries unaware of feedback channels (currently ~3%) can easily engage.

Türkiye – Phase 1 (Emergency Response)

- **Food Security:** The response met all food output targets (26,790 individuals with food items) and most beneficiaries reported needs met. Still, only 85% of surveyed families said their urgent food needs were *fully* met – and coverage was uneven. For example, only 57% of families in Şanlıurfa reported full coverage. We recommend **targeting additional assistance to under-served areas**. This could involve topping up transfers or distributing food parcels in Şanlıurfa and other lower-coverage districts. The evaluation noted many households cited rising prices and large family size as reasons needs were unmet; future cash allotments should account for inflation and household size.
- **Cash and Voucher Assistance:** Unconditional vouchers (BİM cards and bank transfers) were popular: 61% of respondents ultimately preferred cash/vouchers over food. Females especially favored bank transfers. We advise **maintaining and expanding the cash/voucher component**, while also ensuring it aligns with local markets. For instance, households gave higher satisfaction scores for the Şefkat (Sadaqa) bank transfers (98% of those recipients fully met) compared to the “Orphan Buildings” transfers (75%). Islamic Relief should review and possibly replace or supplement lower-value/less-flexible voucher types. In particular, the “Orphan Buildings” bank transfers yielded poorer coverage and delays; consider consolidating

into fewer, more reliable mechanisms. Continually **monitor household spending** and vendor stocks: if some families cannot find preferred foods at BIM (as a few noted), IR could allow use at alternative shops or adjust the card value.

- **Cross-cutting (Accountability and Protection):** Accountability systems worked well, but IR noted that 12% of people in Türkiye were unaware of CFMs. We recommend **expanding communication on feedback channels** – for example, using local radio, posters in Turkish and local languages, and community outreach via NGOs – to approach full awareness. Keeping distributions respectful and accessible (IR achieved 100% satisfaction with process) is vital; ensure sites accommodate persons with disabilities and separate lines for women. Given the high transparency in procurement and selection, continue publicly displaying beneficiary lists and criteria, and involve local authorities in distributions as IR did, to maintain trust. Finally, where families missed aid due to incomplete surveys, implement rigorous pre-distribution verification (cross-check lists) to minimize such gaps.

Syria – Phase 2 (Early Recovery Livelihoods)

- **Agricultural Inputs (Seeds, Tools, Fertilizers):** Islamic Relief provided seeds/tools and fertilizers to 2,010 farmers, and nearly all respondents found technical guidance very helpful. However, many farmers reported **insufficient quantities and quality** of inputs. Only 46% of beneficiaries felt the package was sufficient, and over a third of fertilizer recipients (58%) found amounts inadequate. Participants explicitly urged scaling up supplies. We therefore recommend **increasing input volumes** to fully cover each farm’s needs (citing farmers’ request to “increase fertilizer to cover all needs”). Quality control is also key: 11% reported mixed or poor seed quality, so IR should institute seed certification and local germination tests. Timing is critical – ensure seed/tool deliveries align with planting seasons (delays hit 27% of Aleppo farmers). Planning for redundancy (secondary suppliers) and clear logistics can prevent such delays. Additionally, **enhance irrigation support**: many farmers face drought, so providing drip kits, water pumps, or well-digging initiatives (as recommended by beneficiaries) would protect yields.
- **Agricultural Training and Support:** The hands-on training was highly successful (99% found it helpful), yet sustaining new practices requires follow-up. We recommend **ongoing agricultural extension**: arrange post-season field visits by agronomists to reinforce techniques (weed control, crop rotation) and troubleshoot issues (as one farmer suggested, “technical supervision after the project”). Establishing farmer cooperatives or “lead farmer” groups (already practiced with local masters) can institutionalize knowledge-sharing. Also, link farmers to agricultural services (e.g. subsidized seeds, water trucking) by building referral partnerships; 63% of farmers said they would have benefited from referrals to services like irrigation and general ag support.
- **Livestock/Fodder/Veterinary:** The livestock component (fodder, vaccines, mobile clinics, veterinary kits) substantially improved herd health (98% reported gains), but **fodder shortages were critical**. Only 29% of breeders found distributed fodder fully sufficient, while 71% said it was partial or lacking. In future phases, IR should **scale up fodder provision** (explore subsidized hay purchases or vouchers for feed) to cover at least 3–6 months of supply. Vaccine coverage also faced challenges (cited delays); coordinate with local authorities to procure sufficient vaccine stocks in advance. The mobile veterinary clinics were highly effective (95% reported major livestock health improvements); these should be continued and made even more frequent (some breeders requested weekly clinics).

- **Livestock Training:** Continue practical livestock training (e.g. on disease management) in local dialects, which beneficiaries found “very clear”. To sustain animal health, consider forming local animal health worker groups (building on the 650 trained) and linking them to vets for referrals.
- **Market and Sustainability:** To maximize economic return, support market linkages. For crop farmers, invest in processing (e.g. olive presses) and market access (local collection centers), as participants noted the need for better outlets. For livestock, explore cooperatives for selling milk/meat. These efforts will help turn increased yields into income.
- **Inclusion and Targeting:** Ensure vulnerable farmers (women-headed, smallholders, IDPs) are not left out. In agriculture, 21% of respondents (all women, mainly in Aleppo) noted that displaced persons were excluded by documentation rules. Relax verification requirements (use community testimony or existing relief cards) to include IDP farmers. Continue prioritizing women and people with disabilities (as IR did) by giving them equal input packages and inviting them to all trainings.
- **Environmental Resilience:** Integrate climate resilience into all interventions. Use drought-resistant seed varieties, provide training on water conservation, and maintain contingency funds for emergency feed/water (the evaluation underscored the need for flexible budgets to address drought). Monitor weather forecasts and adjust distributions accordingly (e.g., front-load support if a dry season is predicted).

Annexes

Terms of reference for the review



TOR for Hiring
Consultant-DEC Turke

Inception Report



IRW_DEC_Final
Evaluation_Inception

Data Collection Tools



IRW_DEC_Final
Evaluation_Data Colle

Evaluation Matrix

Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
Relevance	<p>CHS Commitment 1: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability can exercise their rights and participate in actions and decisions that affect them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are diversity, equity and inclusion considerations are integrated into all aspects of the intervention with attention to the most marginalized groups? • How was relevant and timely information with people and communities, including on their rights in relation to the commitments and responsibilities of the organization was regularly shared? • For the project's communication strategies, how were languages and formats selected to ensure they were easily accessible, understandable, respectful, and contextually appropriate for diverse people and communities involved? • In what ways did the project facilitate meaningful participation of individuals in decisions and actions? • How did you ensure that their preferred methods of engagement were respected and incorporated? • How were communications representing people and communities managed throughout the project, particularly those used for advocacy and fundraising? How was informed consent obtained, and how were accuracy, respectfulness, ethics, and the preservation of dignity ensured in these communications? • Can you describe the organizational approach used to foster transparent information-sharing, communication, and meaningful participation of people and communities in the project's actions and decisions that directly impacted them?

Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
Efficiency	<p>CHS Commitment 7: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability access support that is continually adapted and improved based on feedback and learning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the organization actively listen to and respond to feedback and inputs from people and communities regarding the organization and its work? Can you provide examples of how this feedback was incorporated into decision-making processes? • How was disaggregated data collected and utilized for decision-making purposes to reflect the diversity of people and communities served? What strategies were employed to minimize the burden on individuals when collecting this data? • How did the organization use data obtained from monitoring, feedback, complaints, and learning to inform decision-making processes and enhance program effectiveness? Can you describe specific instances where data-driven insights led to improvements in the organization's approach? • How was the analysis and learning derived from feedback, monitoring, and related changes shared with the people and communities supported by the organization, as well as relevant stakeholders? • What methods were used to ensure transparency and accountability in this sharing process? • What measures were taken to establish a continuous learning and improvement approach within the organization to better meet commitments to quality and accountability? How were actions and ways of working regularly evaluated and refined based on lessons learned and feedback received from stakeholders? <p>CHS Commitment 9: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability can expect that resources are managed ethically and responsibly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the organization ensure it had adequate capacity and resources to fulfill its commitments during the project? Can you describe how resource needs were assessed and met throughout the project lifecycle? • How were financial resources managed responsibly in accordance with recognized good practices? Can you elaborate on the strategies used to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficiency in financial management? • What measures were taken to ensure that fundraising, resource mobilization, and fund allocations were conducted ethically and aligned with the organization's commitments and values? How were potential conflicts of interest addressed in these processes? • How did the organization manage and utilize resources to achieve their intended purposes while minimizing waste and environmental impact? Can you provide examples of sustainability practices implemented to reduce resource consumption and environmental footprint? • How were risks identified, prevented, and managed across all levels of the organization, including risks related to corruption, fraud, misuse of resources, and conflicts of interest? What actions were taken when such risks were identified?



Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What organizational approach was established to ensure that resources were managed efficiently, effectively, and ethically? How were policies, procedures, and guidelines implemented to promote responsible resource management and uphold ethical standards throughout the organization's operations?

Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
Effectiveness	<p>CHS Commitment 2: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability access timely and effective support in accordance with their specific needs and priorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the project incorporate and leverage local knowledge, capacities, and existing initiatives while planning and implementing programs? • Can you explain the process used to define program criteria and determine the allocation of support to individuals or groups within the organization? How was fairness, impartiality, and transparency maintained throughout this process? • How was program monitoring conducted to ensure that actions remained timely, accessible, and aligned with the priority needs of the people and communities served? What adjustments were made based on this monitoring? • How did the project ensure the application of relevant technical standards and best practices in all aspects of its work during the project? • What procedures were in place to identify and refer unmet priority needs to stakeholders possessing the necessary technical expertise and capacity to address them effectively? • How was support provided tailored to understand the local context, culture, and the diverse capacities, vulnerabilities, needs, and risks faced by different community groups? What strategies were employed to establish this coherent organizational approach? <p>CHS Commitment 4: Access support that does not cause harm to people or the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the organization identify potential negative impacts of its work on people and communities? What specific actions were taken to prevent, mitigate, and address both immediate and long-term negative effects? • Can you describe how the organization identified potential negative environmental impacts of its work? What measures were implemented to prevent, mitigate, and address these impacts in both the short and long term? • How did the organization protect and safeguard sensitive data and information that could pose risks to people, communities, and the organization? What practices and protocols were followed to ensure data security in line with recognized good practice? • What strategies and approaches did the organization adopt to ensure the safety, security, rights, and dignity of individuals involved in its projects? How was prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment by staff and volunteers addressed in accordance with recognized good practice? • How was the organization's approach structured to reduce its negative environmental impacts? Can you explain specific initiatives or policies implemented to minimize environmental harm in alignment with recognized good practice guidelines? <p>CHS Commitment 5: Can safely report concerns and complaints and get them addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the organization ensure that people and communities understood the expected behaviors of staff and volunteers to prevent harmful actions such as sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment? Can you describe the monitoring mechanisms used to assess this understanding? • How were safe, accessible, and appropriate feedback mechanisms planned and implemented to allow all community groups to provide feedback, report concerns, and make complaints? What steps were taken to ensure these practices aligned with recognized good practice?



Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was the understanding of reporting procedures for concerns and complaints communicated to people, communities, and other stakeholders? How were these procedures monitored to ensure clarity and accessibility? • Can you explain how the organization managed, investigated, addressed, and appropriately referred complaints in accordance with recognized good practice standards? How were transparency and accountability maintained throughout this process? • How did the organization apply victim/survivor-centered approaches to investigate and address complaints, particularly those related to misconduct such as sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment? Can you provide examples of these approaches in action? • What strategies were employed to establish a coherent organizational approach that welcomed and promptly acted upon concerns and complaints from individuals and communities? How were timeliness and appropriateness ensured in addressing these matters? <p>CHS Commitment 8: Interact with staff and volunteers that are respectful, competent and well managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What measures were implemented to maintain a safe and inclusive working environment that prioritizes the safety, security, well-being, and dignity of all staff and volunteers? How were these measures integrated into daily operations? • How was support provided to ensure that all staff and volunteers possessed the necessary skills and competencies to fulfill their roles effectively and accountably? Can you describe any training or development initiatives that were utilized for this purpose? • How was adherence to a code of conduct enforced among staff and volunteers to prohibit exploitation, abuse, harassment, discrimination, and resource misuse? What steps were taken to ensure understanding and compliance with this code? • What provisions were made to establish safe, confidential, and accessible channels for staff, volunteers, partners, and stakeholders to raise concerns and report misconduct? How were individuals reporting protected from reprisal or retaliation? • How were incidents of misconduct addressed among staff and volunteers in a timely and appropriate manner, aligning with recognized good practice standards? Can you provide examples of how such situations were managed within the organization? • Can you explain the organizational approach used to manage human resources effectively, ensuring fairness, non-discrimination, and transparency in line with recognized good practice? How were these principles integrated into recruitment, retention, and professional development processes?
Impact	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The extent to which the project has generated or is expected to generate significant positive or negative, intended, or unintended, higher-level effects. 2. What changes – expected and unexpected, positive and negative – were experienced by the targeted beneficiaries and stakeholders and were these changes felt equally across target groups? 3. How did the intervention cause higher-level effects (such as changes in norms or systems)? 4. What are the intended/unintended positive/negative results at the macro (sector) and micro (household) levels?

Criteria	Primary evaluation questions
	<p>5. What were the significant factors influencing the achievement of the project's outputs and outcomes?</p>
Sustainability	<p>CHS Commitment 3: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability are better prepared and more resilient to potential crises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you describe how community leadership and locally led efforts were supported during the project to strengthen the resilience of people and communities? What specific actions or initiatives were implemented to reinforce community empowerment? • How did the project contribute to supporting local capacities in anticipating and mitigating potential crises or disasters? What strategies were employed to build resilience at the local level? • What long-term positive effects have the programs implemented during the project had on people's lives, livelihoods, the local economy, and the environment? Can you provide examples of specific outcomes that demonstrate these impacts? • How did the project initiate early actions to promote local ownership of resources and decision-making processes within the community? What steps were taken to empower individuals and communities to take charge of their own development? • How was the organizational approach structured to ensure that the support provided reinforced locally led actions and decision-making processes? Can you explain the strategies or mechanisms employed to align organizational support with community-driven initiatives and priorities?
Coherence	<p>CHS Commitment 6: People and communities in situations of crisis and vulnerability access coordinated and complementary support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How was the coordination of the organization's work ensured to be complementary to locally led and community-based actions, as well as the efforts of relevant stakeholders? Can you describe specific strategies used to foster collaboration and alignment? • How did the organization support its partners in applying commitments to quality and accountability to people and communities throughout all stages of work? What resources or tools were provided to enable this support? • 3. How was the quality and effectiveness of relationships with partners regularly assessed during the project? What actions were taken to address any identified issues or challenges in these partnerships? • Can you explain the organizational approach used to ensure that collaboration and partnerships were based on equitable decision-making and resource-sharing? How were the characteristics, roles, and responsibilities of each partner respected and integrated into the collaborative framework?