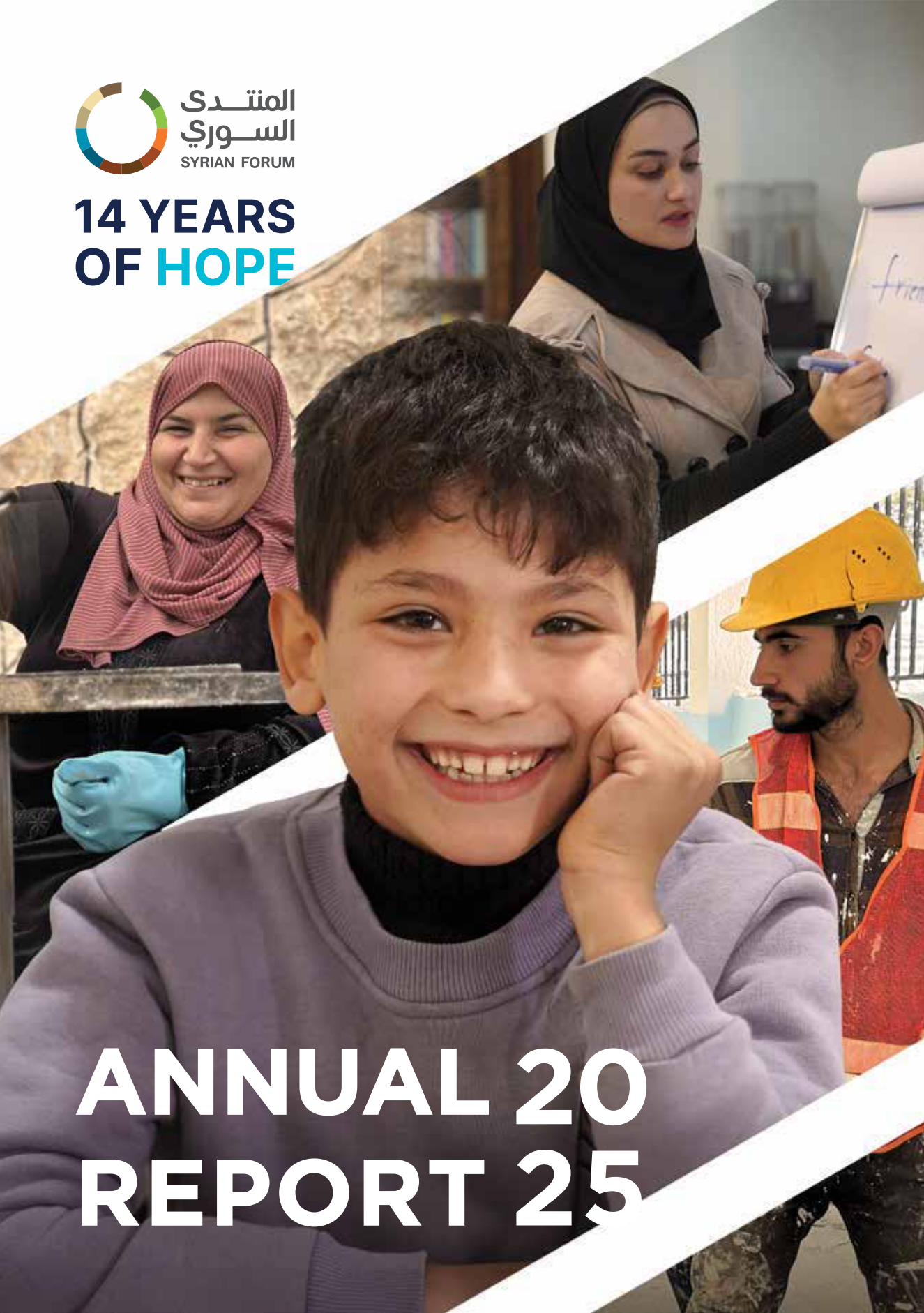
المنتدى السوري
SYRIAN FORUM

14 YEARS
OF HOPE



ANNUAL 20 REPORT 25

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358
Schools Rehabilitated

5
Schools Built and Established

462
Schools Fully Supported

12,439
Education Personnel Supported with Salaries

62,208
Farmers Trained and Supported

630K
Olive Trees Supported

1.8M+
Livestock Vaccinated

5,123
Families Received
Small Business Grants

42,738
Syrians Placed in Jobs
(in Syria and Türkiye)

11
Technical Bootcamps

9,054
Houses Built and
Rehabilitated

225
Water Stations & Water
Networks Built & Rehabilitated

22
Child Protection and Women
Empowerment Centers

872
Research Papers
and Studies Published

21
Books Published

A Message from Our CEO

Syria continues to face immense humanitarian challenges as families recover from years of conflict, displacement, economic hardship, and damaged infrastructure. Yet amid these challenges, we continue to witness extraordinary resilience.

Across Syria, children are returning to school, families are rebuilding livelihoods, and local communities are working toward a more stable and dignified future.

At Syrian Forum, we remain committed to supporting vulnerable communities through programs that address urgent needs while creating pathways to long-term recovery.

Behind every number in this report is a human story: a student stepping back into a classroom, a parent rebuilding a livelihood, a family gaining access to clean water, or a vulnerable child receiving care and protection.

These outcomes are made possible through the compassion and solidarity of supporters who continue to stand beside the Syrian people.

While meaningful progress has been achieved, the needs remain significant. Sustainable recovery will require continued commitment, partnership, and investment in people and communities.

On behalf of the Syrian Forum, thank you for standing with Syria and helping transform compassion into lasting impact.

Ghassan Hitto

Chairman of the Board
Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Partnership for Greater Impact

SYRIAN FORUM USA

المنتدى السوري
SYRIAN FORUM

This Annual Report reflects the work, activities, and achievements of the Syrian Forum and its programs across Syria, Türkiye, and the United States during 2025.

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PR & Advocacy

About Syrian Forum

- A nonprofit civil society organization founded in 2011, headquartered in Damascus, and operating across Syria, Türkiye, Europe, and the United States through a network of partners.
- The organization works to empower individuals, strengthen communities, and support effective governance and sound public policies, while aligning civil society efforts with the needs of stability and sustainable development.
- A dedicated team of 1,485 staff members.

VISION

For Syrians to regain personal agency and actively participate in building a prosperous, equitable, and inclusive society founded on good governance and sustainable development.

MISSION

To empower Syrian communities by advancing economic and educational development and strengthening the principles of accountability, contributing to the building of a democratic, prosperous, and just society.

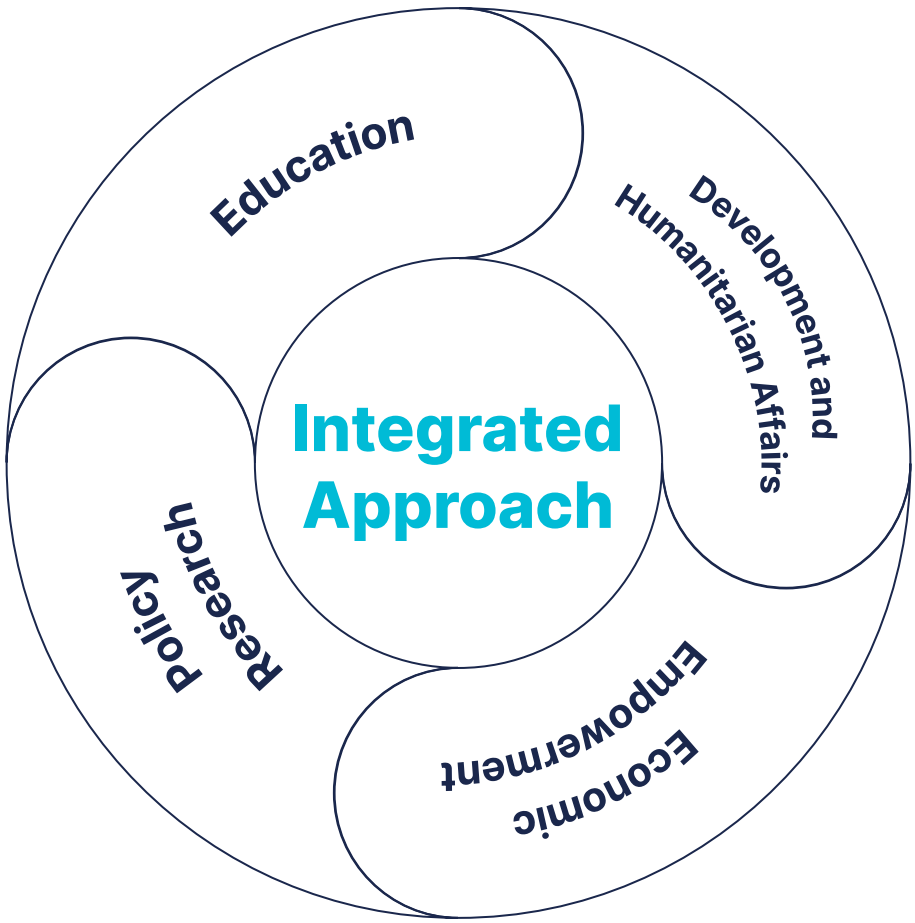
OBJECTIVES

- Invest in education and human capital development.
- Advance economic empowerment and sustainable livelihoods.
- Empower Syrian communities through integrated humanitarian and development interventions.
- Support effective governance through policy research, dialogue, and institutional development.
- Create cumulative impact through the Syrian Forum's integrated programs to contribute to Syria's recovery and prosperity.

WHY SYRIAN FORUM

- Our approach is authentically Syrian, and our programs are proven and innovative. We collaborate with organizations from around the world and on the ground to address the most significant issues facing Syrians.
- Our greatest strength is our staff. We invest continuously in developing the skills, knowledge, and leadership of our dedicated team.
- Our organization is diverse. From different sectors and professional backgrounds, each staff member offers unique knowledge and skills. Most importantly, our team reflects the diversity of Syrian society.
- Our mission is empowerment. We enable Syrian communities to help themselves and build their own future.

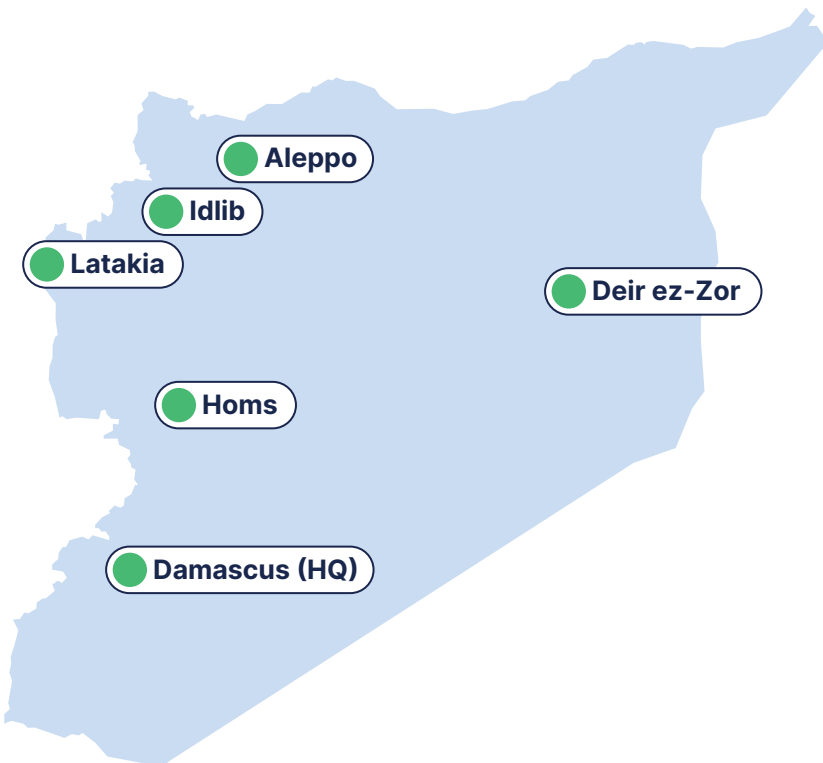
OUR PROGRAMS



Four programs. One integrated approach.

LASTING IMPACT.

WHERE WE WORK



SF Offices

Syria
Damascus
Aleppo
Deir ez-Zor
Idlib
Homs
Latakia

Türkiye
Istanbul
Gaziantep

SF Partners

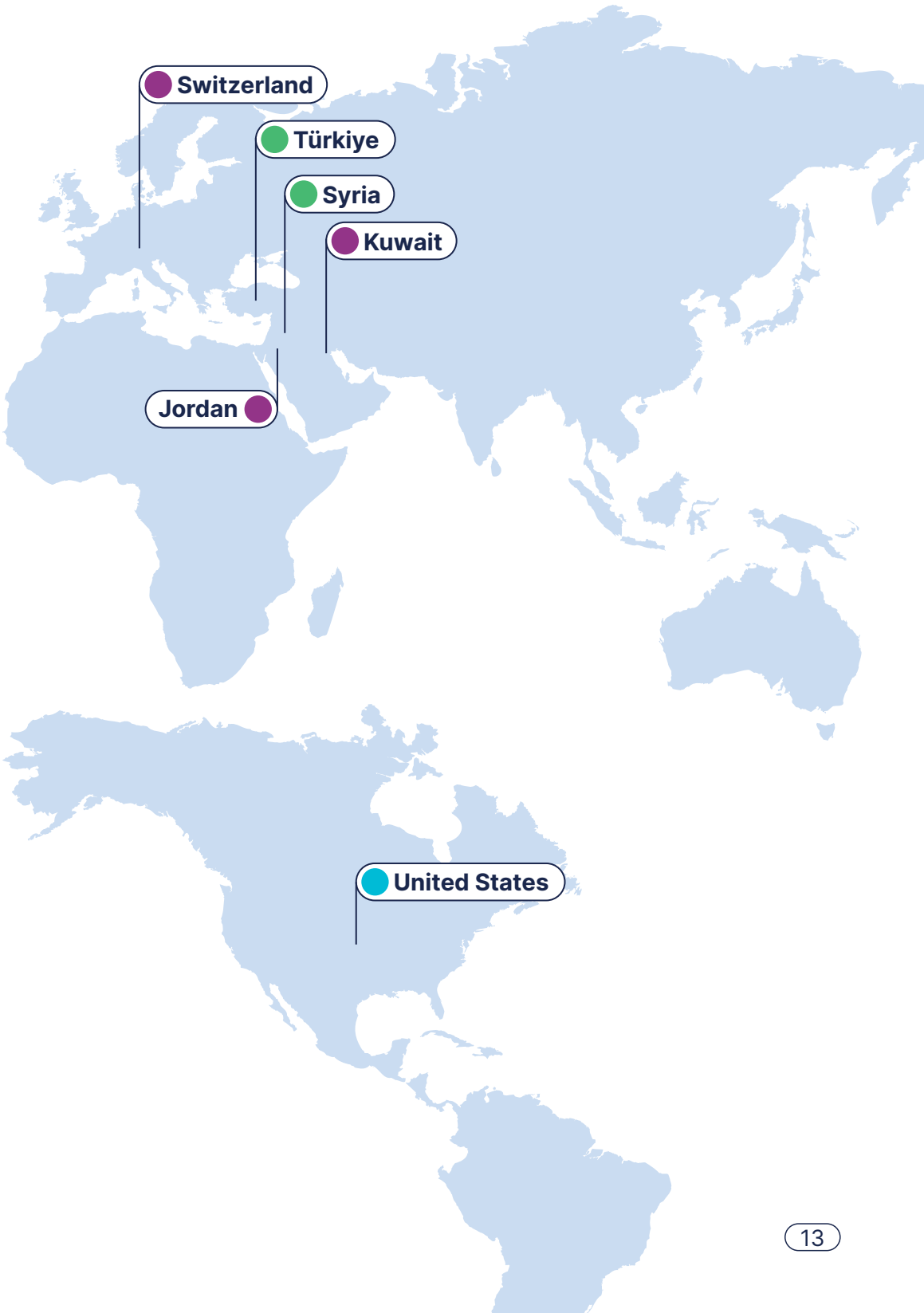
United States
Washington, D.C.
Los Angeles
New Jersey
New York
Chicago
Tampa
Dallas

Presence

Jordan
Amman

Kuwait
Kuwait

Switzerland
Geneva


Switzerland
Türkiye
Syria
Kuwait
Jordan
United States

Syrian Forum USA

Established in **2015,** it operates through its offices in Chicago and Washington, D.C.

Syrian Forum USA works in partnership with the Syrian Forum to support programs related to development and humanitarian affairs, economic empowerment, research and public policy, and advocacy to shed light on the humanitarian situation and the Syrian crisis.

STRATEGIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT IN 2025:

- During Ramadan **2025**, over **80** fundraising and outreach events were held across more than **20** states through masjids, universities, and community centers.

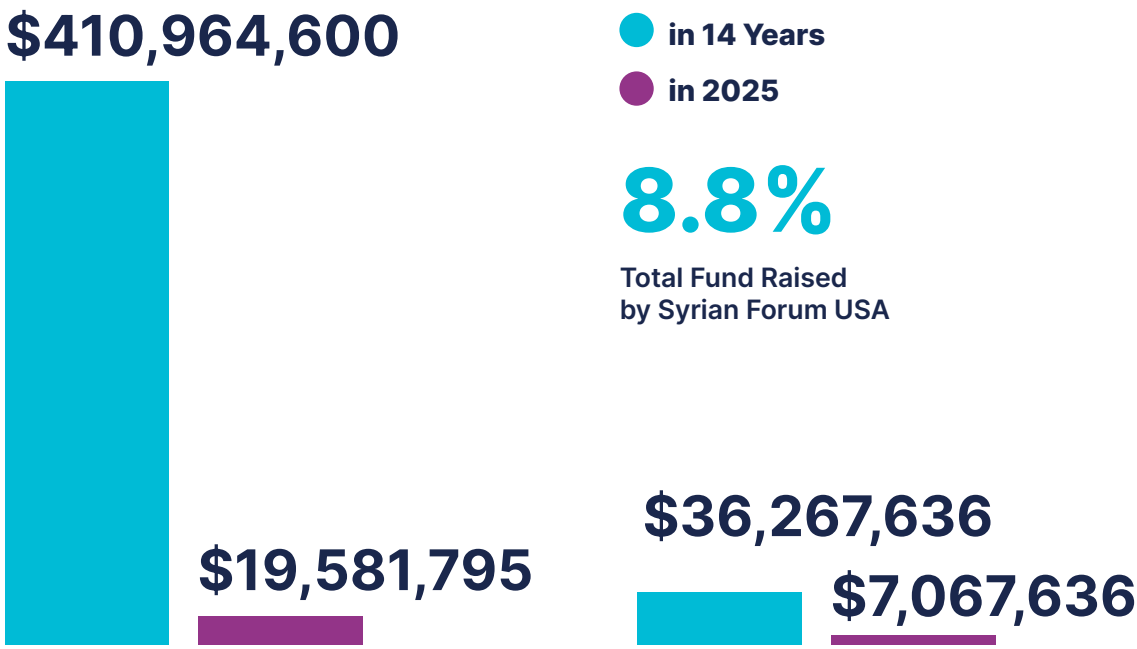
  These engagements combined fundraising appeals, donor interaction, awareness-building, and community outreach, significantly expanding visibility and supporter engagement during one of the most impactful giving seasons of the year.

- More than **100** Friday khutbas and masjid fundraising appeals were conducted across key U.S. states, including Texas, California, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Florida. These events aimed to strengthen awareness of the humanitarian situation in Syria, expand donor outreach, and contribute to sustained community support and recurring giving.
- More than **25** fundraising and donor appreciation events were held, helping secure crucial resources while deepening relationships with our supporters and celebrating their generosity and commitment.

- Over **10** educational and awareness sessions were delivered through universities, community forums, and policy discussions, including engagements at institutions such as Harvard and UCSD, as well as forums in Washington, D.C. Sessions focused on humanitarian conditions in Syria, policy developments, and mobilizing community awareness and engagement.
- Participation in more than **40** conferences and conventions strengthened national visibility and community engagement. Major events included ICNA, ISNA, MAS, MUNA, AMJA, AMP, and SAMS conferences across multiple cities. Activities included sponsorship visibility, speaker participation, leadership engagement, information booths, and direct donor interaction, enabling meaningful connections with thousands of attendees.

- Syrian Forum USA received the Vetted Organization recognition from GlobalGiving in **2025,** acknowledging strong standards of transparency, accountability, and organizational effectiveness, while reinforcing trust with donors and partners.

Financial Highlights and Operational Progress



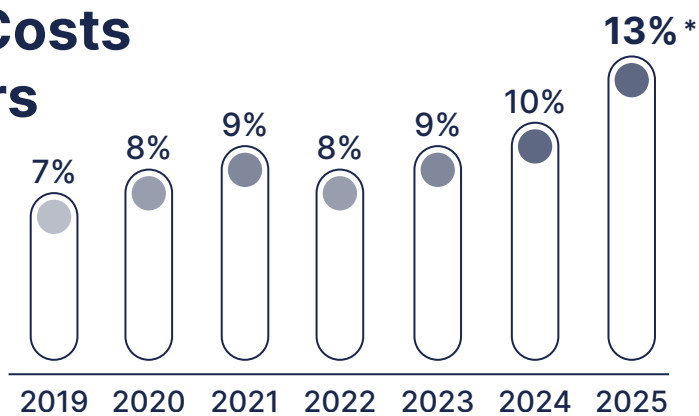
8.8%

Total Fund Raised
by Syrian Forum USA

Total Grants from
Institutional Donors

Total Fund Raised
by Syrian Forum USA

Administrative Costs for the Past Years



9%

Average Administrative
Costs Over the Years

* Based on actual impact.

Why Did Administrative Costs Increase in 2025?

In **2025,** administrative costs increased to **13%,** compared to **10% in 2024.**

While this represents a temporary increase of approximately **3 percentage points,** it reflects a year of significant operational transition from Türkiye to Syria and changes in external funding rather than a structural increase in overhead.

Several key factors contributed to this change:

1. Reduction in International Funding

International funding, including support from USAID and other international NGOs, declined by approximately **33%** compared to **2024.** While Syrian Forum proactively reduced operational expenses by **25%,** the decrease in total program funding affected the ratio of administrative costs to overall expenses.

2. Operational Transition from Türkiye to Syria

As operations transitioned into Syria after liberation, the organization incurred one-time setup and transition costs.
These included office establishment and rental expenses, registration and legal setup fees, operational infrastructure costs, and severance obligations associated with staff transition.

3. Increased Outreach and Fundraising Efforts

Changes in donor giving patterns in the United States required additional investment in donor outreach, communications, and fundraising efforts to sustain humanitarian programs and diversify funding sources.

Despite this temporary increase, **Syrian Forum** remains committed to operational efficiency and financial accountability. Our goal for **2026** is to reduce administrative costs to levels comparable to those of previous years, **2024** and earlier, while continuing to strengthen program quality, humanitarian reach, and long-term organizational sustainability.

DEVELOPMENT & HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

Our program is designed to deliver critical services that address the urgent needs of Syrians, while laying the groundwork for long-term stability and growth.

Through targeted efforts across key sectors, we empower Syrians to achieve self-reliance and build sustainable livelihoods, helping shape a future rooted in dignity, opportunity, and resilience.

Accomplishments	in 2025	in 14 years
Implemented Projects	34	698
Services Provided	1,730,053	66.7M
Value of Implemented Projects	$17,417,567	$368,658,257
Value of In-Kind Donations	$852,645	$37,175,077
People Reached	592,570	

How We Work

Needs-Based

Our approach to programs is based on understanding and identifying the needs of local communities through various assessment tools, including interviews, focus group discussions, and surveys.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning

Through this function, we can monitor the outputs of programs and measure their impact through baseline and end-line assessments.

It also provides access to beneficiaries with channels to submit feedback and complaints. Our MEAL department allows us to learn lessons from previous projects and apply them moving forward to strengthen our future programming.

Strong Program Design

The Programs Department works to identify gaps and create a program aimed at addressing the root causes of needs.

Communities and local councils are consulted at this stage to better understand the feasibility of such programs and to ensure community participation.

Continuous Institutional Development and Capacity Building

Reviewing all the operations of the organization's departments and ensuring that the policies and procedures adopted are followed, in addition to developing suggestions and recommendations that enhance the internal control process and raise the level of professionalism and transparency within the organization.

We also make great efforts to build the capacities of the team, especially those working on the front lines.

Sectors

Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI)

Early Recovery

Child Protection and Women Empowerment

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL)

214,342
People Reached

$5,362,004
Value of Implemented Projects

- Projects in this sector created **95** job opportunities for field staff.
- Provided farmers with **5** training courses on best agricultural practices.
- Provided Ramadan Iftar meals for **+2,600** people in Daraa, Marret Al Numan, and Azaz.
- Supported **3,500** displaced children from As-Suwayda with baby milk, diapers, and safe drinking water.
- Rehabilitated **3** irrigation systems to provide reliable access to water for farming communities.
- Supported over **2,200** farmers with agricultural training, tools, and safety and security equipment.
- Supported over **26K** dunums with seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides.

- Distributed **25K** kg of meat portions during Eid al-Adha to over **80K** people in Azaz, Idlib, and Eastern Ghouta.
- Provided farmers with **2,400 m³** of organic fertilizers, more than **26.4** tons of seeds, and **1,200** liters of pesticides.
- Distributed over **8,300** food vouchers, **2,000** kg of bread portions, and over **2,000** ready-to-eat kits in Azaz, Idlib, Latakia, and Daraa.
- Established **1** food processing center to create a stable source of income for vulnerable families and strengthen the local economy.
- Established **6** community committees that empower farmers to organize, collaborate, and represent their needs more effectively.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (SNFI)

162,837
People Reached

$636,136
Value of Implemented Projects

- Projects in this sector created **9** job opportunities for field staff.
- Delivered Zakat al-Fitr to more than **1,400** people in need.
- Rehabilitated **323** houses in rural Idlib and northern Aleppo.
- Distributed **13K** liters of heating fuel and **800** winterization kits.
- Distributed over **1,000** multi-purpose cash vouchers totaling over **$160K.**

- Helped **86** families return home from displacement camps with transportation and cash support.
- Supported the Syria Civil Defense with **13,000** liters of fuel and motor setups during the Latakia fires.
- Improved the living conditions for **11K** people through site preparation and graveling across **9** camps.

Early Recovery

98,600
People Reached

$880,528
Value of Implemented Projects

- Projects in this sector created **16** job opportunities for field staff.
- Rehabilitated Al Dallah Square in Deir ez-Zor.
- Rehabilitated the IT training hall at the Ministry of Health in Damascus and provided **3** months' salaries for **70** employees.
- Provided Damascus University with camera systems.
- Performed maintenance on traffic lights in Aleppo city.
- Rehabilitated and furnished the training hall at the National Hospital in Daraa.

Child Protection and Women Empowerment

59,576
People Reached

19
Mobile Teams

$3,520,921
Value of Implemented Projects

7
Child-Friendly Spaces

$660,778
Value of In-Kind Donations

12
Women and Girls Safe Spaces

General Protection

- Projects in this sector created **45** job opportunities for field staff.
- Provided **450** legal consultations and individual assistance services.
- Provided over **100** awareness sessions on civil status and real estate documents.
- Conducted **380** legal protection monitoring surveys to detect risks and guide interventions.
- Established **2** community committees and launched **7** initiatives to raise awareness on general protection matters.

Women Empowerment

- Projects in this sector created **309** job opportunities for field staff.
- Distributed more than **12K** dignity kits for women and girls.
- Provided case management services to **415** women and girls to address risks and support healing.
- Empowered **395** women with vocational training to rebuild their lives and reclaim their economic independence.
- Provided over **7,800** psychosocial and recreational sessions, in addition to awareness sessions for young mothers.

Child Protection

- Projects in this sector created **98** job opportunities for field staff.
- Distributed over **1,100** adolescent kits and recreational kits.
- Supported over **1,200** vulnerable children with tailored case management services.
- Conducted **8** child protection monitoring surveys to strengthen child safety and well-being.
- Distributed Eid gifts for over **240** orphans and children with disabilities in Homs and Damascus.
- Provided more than **2,100** parenting skills sessions and over **4,400** awareness and psychosocial support sessions.
- Established **6** community committees and conducted **2** training courses on child protection against exploitation and sexual abuse.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

352,926
People Reached

$1,603,121
Value of Implemented Projects

$191,867
Value of In-Kind Donations

- Projects in this sector created **114** job opportunities for field staff.
- Built and rehabilitated **4** concrete water tanks and provided **60** plastic water tanks.
- Built **7** sanitation systems and **1** sewage system.
- Built and rehabilitated **13** water stations and **6** water networks.
- Distributed over **330K m³** of drinking water to people in the camps.
- Distributed more than **260K** bars of soap and over **41K** hygiene kits.
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene services targeted **68** camps and **16** schools.

- Rehabilitated a water well in Al-Shajara, Daraa, and connected it to the water network.
- Conducted more than **1,900** hygiene awareness sessions in schools and camps.
- Installed **4** solar energy systems to promote clean, alternative energy, and sustain service delivery.
- Distributed over **1,250** garbage containers, collected over **4,200 m³** of solid waste to landfills, and established **1** wastewater treatment plant.
- Provided operational support for **23** water stations, including electricity **(4M kWh),** fuel **(254K liters),** and chlorine **(3.8M tablets),** in addition to maintenance services, as well as training station workers and covering their wages.

EDUCATION

Our education projects are designed to address the multifaceted challenges faced by children and teachers in Syria.

Through our comprehensive efforts in school rehabilitation, distribution of educational materials, and targeted support for teachers, we seek to dismantle the barriers to education, fostering an environment where learning can flourish against all odds, because we believe that education is the most powerful tool for empowerment and change.

35,208

People Reached

$5,414,857

Value of Implemented Projects

- Created **106** job opportunities for field staff through education projects.
- Supported **35** schools with operational expenses and furniture.
- Distributed over **$1.18M** as salaries to teachers and administrative staff.
- Supported **4,376** teachers and administrative staff with salaries, **79** capacity-building training sessions and over **600** teaching kits.
- Distributed over **14.5K** textbooks, **21K** educational kits and school bags, and over **300** recreational and personal hygiene kits for students.
- Established and maintained **3** safe, accessible learning spaces and provided transportation to **200** children with disabilities, enabling inclusive education in Jandairis, Al-Dana, and Kelly.
- Provided **25** schools with **351** heaters and over **70K** liters of heating fuel.
- Improved sanitary facilities in **8** schools and provided safety and security equipment to **66** schools.
- Rehabilitated **23** schools in Damascus, Aleppo, Deir ez-Zor, Daraa, and other areas in NW Syria.
- Installed **15** prefabricated temporary learning spaces to expand access to safe, non-formal education.
- Established and supported **67** Parent-Teacher Associations and Parent-Teacher Groups to engage students, parents, and teachers in shaping the learning environment.
- Carried out **84** Back-to-School campaigns and education awareness initiatives to boost school attendance.

Our Education Model

Education is more than rebuilding classrooms; it is rebuilding futures, restoring dignity, and giving an entire generation the foundation they need to lead Syria forward.

Our Education Model is built on a simple but powerful belief: a child cannot reach their full potential without the right environment at school and at home. That is why our approach goes beyond curricula and technology; it places equal focus on the student, the family, and the teacher, creating a comprehensive ecosystem where every child is seen, supported, and given the chance to thrive.

Al Mountada Private Model Schools - Azaz

What began in **2023** with two schools has grown into a full educational complex serving children from elementary through high school.

Today, three schools operate within the Azaz complex.

206

Students

Elementary School

for Boys and Girls

Orphans **40%**

161

Students

Middle and High School

for Boys

Orphans **53%**

185

Students

Middle and High School

for Girls

Orphans **58%**

Teachers' Academy

Building Educators Who Build Futures

A school is only as strong as its teachers. That is why our Teachers' Academy continues to invest deeply in the professionals who shape our students every single day.

By bridging school and home life, engaging families in the educational process, and equipping teachers with the tools to lead, our Education Model creates ripples that extend far beyond the classroom.

Orphans and vulnerable children who once had no clear path forward are now sitting in classrooms, raising their hands, and imagining futures that felt impossible just years ago. Families are more engaged. Teachers are more empowered. Communities are more hopeful.

In **2025,** our capacity-building program equipped educators with the tools, skills, and confidence to transform their classrooms:

- Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)
- Risks of War Remnants and How to Handle Them
- Classroom Management and Teaching Methods
- Integrating Technology into Educational Activities
- Positive Discipline
- Staff Self-Care
- Peer Coaching

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Our Economic Empowerment Program enables Syrians to move from skills development to sustainable economic opportunities by connecting training with real market demand.

Through technical and vocational bootcamps, entrepreneurship development, small business grants, and employment services, we equip participants with the skills needed to access jobs and start businesses. Our goal is to promote self-reliance and contribute to Syria's long-term recovery and resilience.

Accomplishments	in 2025	in 14 years
Families Received Small Business Grants	85	5,123
Youth Placed in Jobs	892	42,738
Trainees	432	26,967
Bootcamps	6	11

Average Income for Graduate Trainees $300/Month

Small Business Grants

Our program turns entrepreneurial potential into viable economic opportunities by supporting Syrians who are ready to start or strengthen their own businesses, with particular attention to women-led households and persons with disabilities.

Before receiving funding, participants go through a structured entrepreneurship journey that includes business planning, budgeting, market analysis, pricing, financial forecasting, and practical business management.

By grant reception day, they don't just have funding; they have a plan. As these entrepreneurs become active in their communities, they generate income, respond to local market needs, create opportunities for others, and strengthen local economic activity.

$1,000 - $5,000

Value per Grant

The grants supported projects such as:

- Poultry shop.
- Sewing workshop.
- Women's beauty salon.
- Food processing centers.
- Household goods and tools.
- Dairy and cheese production.
- Beekeeping and honey production.

Dollani Initiative

This initiative is part of the Syrian Forum's broader effort to economically empower youth in Syria through the rapidly growing field of digital technology.

It's designed to equip young people with in-demand digital skills, ranging from coding and design to e-commerce and digital marketing, while also building entrepreneurial capacity through business planning and financial literacy.

This dual focus enables youth not only to access remote work opportunities but to launch and manage their own digital ventures, turning freelance skills into small businesses.

Dollani not only enhances individual livelihoods but also contributes to the economic resilience of entire communities.

By tapping into the global digital economy, these youth are transforming their futures, turning skills into stability, and potential into progress.

Bootcamps

Technical Bootcamps

Duration
3.5 Months

Training Hours
194-198 Hours

Skills Covered
Technical
Professional
Digital
English
Soft Skills

Economic Pathways
Employment
Freelancing
Entrepreneurship

Digital Marketing
6 Months | 280 Hours | 28 Trainees

UX/UI Design
3 Months | 194 Hours | 27 Trainees

Python
5 Months | 80 Hours | 7 Trainees

Digital Marketing
3 Months | 194 Hours | 25 Trainees

Web Solutions Development
3 Months | 194 Hours | 26 Trainees

E-Commerce
3 Months | 194 Hours | 26 Trainees

ICDL Training for War-Injured Individuals
1 Month | 60 Hours | 22 Trainees

Entrepreneurship Bootcamps

Training
13 Trainings

Training Hours
65 Hours

Skills Covered
Entrepreneurship
Business Planning
Marketing
Finance
Pitching

Economic Pathways
Launch a Business
Seek Funding
Investment

Omran Syria

12 Trainings | 61 Hours | 600 Trainees

Vocational Bootcamps

Duration
2 Months

Training Hours
160 Hours

Skills Covered
PLC
CNC
Quality Control
Occupational Safety
Production Line Management
Industrial Financial Accounting
Other Market-Driven Silks

Economic Pathways
Employment
Self-Employment
Apprenticeships

Hands for the Future

A **12**-month project aimed at developing a skilled workforce in Aleppo, Homs, and Damascus that aligns with the demands of the industrial labor market, while enhancing employment opportunities and promoting self-reliance among youth.

The project agreement was signed in **2025,** during which planning, coordination, and preparatory activities were carried out. Implementation is scheduled to commence in **2026,** with training programs and field activities benefiting more than **600** youth.

She Leads

Designed to identify and accelerate the leadership potential of Syrian women, She Leads combines assessment, leadership development, practical challenges, mentoring, and access to professional networks.

The program equips emerging women leaders with the capabilities and experience needed to demonstrate leadership readiness, strengthen their influence, and progress toward positions of greater responsibility and decision-making across different sectors in Syria.

POLICY RESEARCH

Omran is an independent research institution that plays a leading role in advancing knowledge and research on Syria, its state, society, and regional context.

It seeks to serve as a trusted reference for informing public policy and shaping strategies for decision-makers and stakeholders engaged in Syrian affairs.

Through its work, Omran contributes to stronger institutions, good governance, the rule of law, justice, human rights, active citizenship, and a more empowered civil society.

Accomplishments	in 2025	in 14 years
Books	1	21
Studies	7	74
Opinion Articles	23	268
Research Papers	54	623
Media Appearances	250	1,911
Conferences and Events	422	1,974
Information Support Papers	176	
Reports	6	

Why Omran

- A strong reputation built on credibility, independence, and adherence to professional standards.
- An extensive network of strategic partnerships and relationships at the local, regional, and international levels.
- A balanced research discourse informed by reliable field data covering diverse geographic areas across Syria.
- A professional and adaptive team, responsive to evolving dynamics and capable of navigating rapidly changing contexts.
- Context-driven research outputs grounded in accurate data and in-depth analysis that reflect the realities of the Syrian landscape.

Omran's Goals

- Strengthening national decision-making through evidence-based knowledge and public policy.
- Empowering Syrian actors and communities through knowledge sharing and inclusive dialogue.
- Enhancing Syria's regional and international presence through impactful knowledge and research-driven advocacy.

Research Programs

- Research Training
- Syrian-Turkish Affairs
- Arab and International Affairs

Omran's Focus

Security and Defense

- Non-state and hybrid actors
- Security Sector Reform (SSR)
- Civil–security–military relations
- Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR)
- Counterterrorism and prevention of extremism
- Border security, organized crime, and narcotics trafficking

Political and Societal Affairs

- Youth, women, and diaspora
- Civil society and civic movements
- Transitional justice and accountability
- Political process and national milestones
- Foreign relations and Syria's regional role
- Social capital, social cohesion, and social contract
- Refugees, voluntary return, and a safe environment

Development and Governance

- Food and water security
- Economic empowerment
- Central–local governance relations
- Good governance and public sector reform
- Basic services: education, water, energy, transport, health, and livelihoods

Omran's Impact

Research Collaboration

- Published **32** research articles in various Arab and international think tanks.
- Delivered **19** academic lectures across universities and research institutions.
- Organized **57** events in collaboration with institutions and research centers inside and outside of Türkiye.
- Provided **16** consultations to researchers in support of their research papers in various political, economic, and social aspects.
- Trained **20** university and master's degree students to develop their research skills and tools in international mediation and negotiation, local administration, reconstruction, safe return, research methodologies, and human rights work paths.
- Signed **3** Memoranda of Understanding with the University of Damascus, Politics and Society Institute, and Mardin Artuklu University to strengthen collaboration and joint efforts in research and training.

Social Engagement

- Reached **+1M** individuals interested in Syrian affairs through various social media platforms.
- Engaged with over **19K** people to acquaint them with Omran's work and outputs.
- **76** local, regional, and international media outlets were reached to inform the public about the Syrian issue.
- **12** entities republished Omran's outputs, and **108** local and international institutions relied on the center's outputs as a primary source in their published materials.

Engagement with Decision Makers

- **190** meetings with Syrian government entities and local and community organizations.
- **114** meetings with local, foreign, and Arab think tanks, universities, and research centers.
- **93** meetings with representatives of local, regional, and international states and political figures.

Key Research Outputs

- Governance in Syria Before December **8, 2024** ***(January)***
- Syria **2024:** The Fall of Assad and Prospects for Stability and Reconstruction ***(January)***
- Northeast Syria and the Question of Its Future: An Analysis of Negotiation Dynamics and Potential Scenarios ***(February)***
- Developments on the Syrian Coast: A Test for the New Phase and Required Measures for Stability ***(March)***
- The Syrian Transitional Government: Complex Challenges, Conditional Opportunities, and Cautious Prospects ***(March)***
- Challenges of Syria's New Political Direction: Strategic Questions and Policy Choices ***(April)***
- The Riyadh Quadrilateral Summit: Stability and Development as Key Themes in the Local and Regional Landscape ***(May)***
- Assad-Era Military-Linked Companies: The Imperative of Disclosure, Accountability, and Resource Reallocation ***(May)***
- Why DDR Programs are the Missing Link to Syrian Stability ***(June)***
- Indicators of Communal Violence in Syria: A Socio-Psychological Approach to the Structure of Local Conflict ***(June)***
- As-Suwayda at the Heart of Syria's Transformation: From Local Impasse to State-Building Prospects ***(July)***
- Code of Conduct: A Necessary Step in the Path of Security Sector Reform ***(July)***
- Restructuring Syria's Electricity Sector: An Initial Assessment and Roadmap ***(August)***
- Integrating Northern Syria into the National Governance Framework: Pathways and Lessons Learned ***(August)***
- Syria's Security Dilemma: Five Recommendations for Shaping a New Security Strategy ***(September)***
- Between a Complex Legacy and Geopolitical Shifts: The Syrian–Russian Turn—Drivers, Opportunities, and Constraints ***(October)***
- Monthly Briefing on the Syrian Landscape ***(Arabic–Turkish)***

Omran's Memberships

euromesco
research dialogue advocacy

The membership helps bring Syrian perspectives to European and Mediterranean research and policy circles.

منتدى الشام والعراق

The membership helps provide strategic analysis and policy recommendations on political transition, governance, stability, and development in Syria and Iraq.

Research Project

Legal Dialogues for Syrian Society

This project, extending through **2026,** aims to strengthen the role of national legal professionals in shaping a stable and sustainable legal environment.

It supports the professional role of lawyers in promoting the rule of law and enhancing judicial effectiveness, while contributing to rebuilding trust in institutions through an independent, justice- and transparency-based framework.

The project also provides a professional platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange to address practical challenges and advance legal practices in line with established standards.

Project outputs:

4 Focus groups
(Aleppo, Homs, Latakia, Damascus)

20 In-depth Interviews
with experts and specialists

1 Report mapping
key challenges and opportunities

1 Legal and governance
guiding principles

Printed Publications

Early Recovery in Syria: Reality and Challenges

The book presents an analytical perspective on early recovery as a critical entry point for stability and post-conflict reconstruction.

It examines the key challenges facing this process in Syria before the fall of the Assad regime, drawing on eleven research papers produced during Omran Center's second research conference, held in collaboration with Mardin Artuklu University.

The book offers practical insights and recommendations to support effective early recovery efforts.

Conferences and Events

Organized by Omran

Syria

Damascus

- The Syrian Economic Landscape in the First Half of **2025:** A workshop attended by economic experts and stakeholders to assess key trends and challenges.
- Preliminary Approaches to Developing the NGO Law: A dialogue workshop organized in collaboration with Logarit, Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), and Equal Citizenship Center, under the patronage of the Ministry of Social Affairs, with participation from legal experts and civil society actors.
- Foundational References for Establishing a Legal Framework Regulating NGOs: A research seminar, bringing together legal specialists and researchers.
- Post-Assad Syria: Challenges, Opportunities, and National Priorities: A workshop attended by policy experts and stakeholders to discuss transitional priorities.
- Public Lecture Series at the Faculty of Law: Organized in collaboration with Damascus University and its Strategic Studies and Research Center, comprising **18** lectures and facilitated discussions with students and academics.

Aleppo

- Civil Society Perspectives on Centralization and Decentralization in the Political and Administrative Context: A dialogue session attended by civil society representatives and researchers.
- Public Policy Concepts and Their Distinction from Public Administration: A dialogue session, targeting students and practitioners.
- Governance in Syria: Reality, Challenges, and Future Trends – Aleppo as a Model: A workshop engaging governance experts and local stakeholders.
- The Teacher in a Transitional Context: From Economic Vulnerability to Educational Effectiveness: A workshop attended by educators and education stakeholders.

As-Suwayda

Potential Governance Models and the Challenge of Managing Diversity: A focus group involving civil society activists and local actors.

Daraa

Early Recovery and Livelihoods: A dialogue seminar engaging local stakeholders to explore sustainable livelihood solutions.

Hama

- Civil Society in Syria: Roles and Challenges: A dialogue seminar held in Salamiyah with participation from civil society actors.
- The Role of Civil Actors, Civil Society, and Local Communities During the Transitional Phase: A dialogue session organized in collaboration with Joua Foundation, with participation from local stakeholders and activists.

Türkiye

Istanbul

Post-Conflict Reconstruction in Syria: A conference organized in collaboration with the Middle East Waqf and Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University, bringing together academics and researchers to explore reconstruction pathways.

Ankara

Syria: A New Phase for Reconstruction and Stability: A workshop organized in collaboration with the Center for Strategic Studies at the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with participation from policy experts and researchers.

Jordan

Amman

Political Transition in Syria: Between Internal Challenges and External Dynamics: A research seminar attended by researchers and policy experts.

Online

A New Syria

Transformations of Identity, Power, and Influence: A research seminar organized in collaboration with the Politics and Society Institute, bringing together researchers and policy experts to examine evolving dynamics in Syria.

Managing Syrian Diversity

Between the Legacy of Authoritarianism and Aspirations for Change: A dialogue seminar engaging experts and stakeholders in discussions on governance, social cohesion, and inclusive transition pathways.

Conferences and Events

Attended by Omran

Conferences

- Mediation in a Fragmented World – Doha Forum **2025.**
- Shifts in Hegemony and Adapting to the New Global Order – **12th** Abu Dhabi Strategic Debate.
- The Political Landscape in Syria – Antalya Diplomacy Forum Session.
- One Year After Liberation: Prospects and Challenges. Held in Damascus by the Syrian Ministry of Information.
- A Day of Dialogue with Syrian Civil Society: A First Step Toward Structured Engagement with the Syrian Government and the European Union. Held in Damascus by the European Union Conference.
- The **21st** Regional Security Summit – Manama Dialogue. Organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Bahrain.
- Levant After Conflict: Recovery and Reintegration Strategies – MERI Forum **2025.** Organized by the Middle East Research Institute.
- Referral of Civilians to Military Prisons During the Syrian Uprising: Procedures, Pathways, and Judicial Gateways (Saydnaya Prison as a Case Study) – Museum of Syrian Prisons Opening Event. Held in Damascus, including the launch of a specialized research study.
- Reforming Higher Education in Post-Liberation Syria – Syrian Scientific Council Conference. Held in Damascus.
- Middle East and North Africa Dialogue Forum – MENA Forum. Held in Prague.

Workshops

- Inclusive Governance in Syria. Organized by the Swedish Dialogue Institute in Jordan.
- The Religious Field and Political and Social Transformations. Online workshop organized by the Carnegie Middle East Center.
- Education and the Future of Syria. Organized by the Carter Center in collaboration with the Forum for Development, Culture, and Dialogue in Beirut.
- Türkiye's Policy Toward Syria. Organized by the Turkish Presidential Foreign Policy and Security Board in Ankara.
- Syria after Assad: Security Reform. Organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies Europe in Berlin.
- Security Sector Reform and Governance in Syria. Organized by the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance.
- From Autonomy Demands to Integration: The PKK and YPG in Post-Regime Syria. Organized by SETA in Ankara.
- Deals or Disorder? The Trump Administration and the Middle East: A panel discussion organized in London by the Conflict, Security and Development Research Group at King's College London.
- Transformations in the Syrian Landscape: Factors Leading to the Fall of the Assad Regime and the Challenges of Building a New Syria: A panel discussion organized online by the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies.

Media Coverage and Engagement

ADVOCACY

Our advocacy efforts are dedicated to advancing progress in transitional justice and accountability, rule of law, reconstruction, and inclusive governance in Syria. Through effective advocacy strategies, we foster international cooperation, mobilize policy dialogue, strengthen partnerships, and advocate for accountable and community-centered reconstruction efforts.

We strive to ensure that Syrian voices, experiences, and aspirations remain present in international decision-making spaces and that pathways toward justice, dignity, and long-term stability remain at the center of discussions on Syria.

Accomplishments	in 2025	Overall Impact
Meetings with Key Stakeholders and Member State Missions	150	257
Workshops	7	10
Opinion Articles	40	131
Side Events	3	7
Media Engagements	35	182
Member States Reached	60	
Advocacy Tours Conducted	5	
Roundtables and Public Discussions	5	
UNSC Civil Society Briefing Hosted	1	

Our Impact

Reevaluating Sanctions on Syria: Balancing Accountability, Recovery, and Democratic Transition

January

A seminar convened in Damascus in January **2025** brought together leading experts in sanctions policy, reconstruction, transitional governance, and justice—including Yaser Tabbara, Dr. Karam Shaar, Dr. Jamal Mansour, and Zahra Al-Barazi—to assess the evolving sanctions landscape and its implications for Syria's economic and institutional recovery.

Discussions centered on the need to maintain targeted measures against individuals and entities linked to the former regime while easing specific sectoral restrictions to enable reconstruction and economic revitalization.

The seminar concluded with a set of policy recommendations aimed at strengthening societal resilience, mitigating unintended humanitarian impacts, and supporting a sustainable, accountable post-conflict transition for Syria.

Captagon Trade

February & August

In partnership with the New Lines Institute and MedGlobal, the Syrian Forum organized two high-level Captagon Trade Conferences bringing together policymakers, researchers, regional stakeholders, and security experts to examine the evolving dynamics of the Captagon economy and its broader implications for Syria and the region.

Each conference engaged approximately **30** participants, creating a focused platform for dialogue on regional cooperation, accountability measures, and sustainable approaches to addressing narcotics-related challenges.

The discussions explored key issues related to the evolution of the Captagon trade, regional security implications, public health considerations, and the need for economic alternatives and stabilization strategies in post-conflict contexts.

The Damascus edition represented a significant milestone in regional dialogue on narcotics policy and post-conflict governance, reinforcing the Syrian Forum's role as a convening platform for evidence-based policy discussions and cross-sector engagement.

Interactive Methods for Teaching Law Through Practice

May

In collaboration with the Faculty of Law at Damascus University, we organized a two-day training workshop led by Dr. Ahmad Khalifeh, where he introduced innovative, practice-oriented approaches to legal education aimed at bridging the gap between academic instruction and real-world application.

The participating students engaged in applied learning exercises, including simulated court models and problem-solving scenarios, designed to strengthen critical thinking, legal reasoning, and professional skills, fostering a more dynamic and experiential legal learning environment and enhancing the readiness of academic staff to adopt modern, interactive teaching methodologies aligned with international best practices.

Chemical Weapons Accountability

September

As part of its continued commitment to justice and accountability in Syria, the Syrian Forum joined the organizing committee of the International Chemical Weapons Conference held in Damascus in September **2025.**

The conference brought together more than **150** participants, including victims and survivors, civil society organizations, international organizations, researchers, and policymakers, to discuss pathways toward accountability for the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

The Syrian Forum contributed to panel discussions and collaborative dialogue focused on strengthening international accountability mechanisms, supporting victims and survivors, and advancing guarantees of non-repetition. The conference concluded with a joint set of recommendations emphasizing the importance of international cooperation, justice-centered approaches, and sustained efforts to address chemical weapons violations in Syria.

Advocacy Tours

Geneva *March*

In partnership with Legal Action Worldwide (LAW) and with sponsorship from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, the Syrian Forum convened a landmark side event during the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights' session titled **"Towards a Holistic Accountability Framework for Syria."**

Bringing together representatives from the Syrian government, civil society, and international justice institutions from more than **30** countries, the event marked the first public dialogue of its kind on justice and accountability for Syria.

Panelists examined the fragmentation of existing accountability efforts, the role of international mechanisms, including the Commission of Inquiry (COI), the International Criminal Court (ICC),the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), and the Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIMP), and the prospects for a Syrian-led transitional justice process supported by global institutions, highlighting the growing international momentum for a coordinated, inclusive, and forward-looking justice framework for Syria.

Washington, D.C. *April & October*

The Syrian Forum strengthened its policy engagement in Washington, D.C., contributing to critical discussions on sanctions reform, reconstruction, transitional justice, and Syria's economic recovery.

Through sustained engagements with Congressional offices, U.S. Department of State officials, Treasury Department representatives, the World Bank Group, and International Financial Institutions, civil society coalitions, and policy organizations, we helped elevate dialogue on pathways toward stability, institutional reform, and sustainable recovery in Syria.

Participation in the Seventh Annual Gulf International Conference in Washington, D.C. further expanded opportunities to engage policymakers, economic experts, regional stakeholders, and Syrian government representatives on Syria's reconstruction and regional integration.

These engagements strengthened partnerships, amplified Syrian perspectives in high-level policy discussions, and contributed to dialogue on investment, economic reform, public-private partnerships, international cooperation, and long-term development priorities supporting Syria's broader recovery efforts.

New York *July*

In partnership with the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations, the Syrian Forum organized a high-level side event titled **"Empowering Women in Syria's Future: Civil Society and Good Governance,"** during the High-Level Political Forum in July.

The event highlighted women's participation in governance and community-led approaches to Syria's recovery.

New York *September*

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Advocacy Mission

During the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the Syrian Forum conducted a high-level advocacy mission in New York to strengthen dialogue on peacebuilding, transitional justice, accountability, and inclusive governance in Syria while expanding engagement with international policymakers and diplomatic stakeholders.

Representation of Syrian Civil Society at the United Nations Security Council

- Facilitated and sponsored the participation of Syrian civil society representative Majd Shurbaji, Executive Director of Basmaat, in a United Nations Security Council briefing on Syria.
- Helped elevate Syrian civil society perspectives at one of the highest international decision-making platforms.

High-Level Diplomatic Engagements

- Participated in a series of meetings with diplomatic missions and international stakeholders during UNGA week.
- Advanced discussions on support for Syrian civil society, transitional justice, accountability, democratic governance, and pathways toward long-term stability.

Engagement with Syria's Diplomatic Outreach

- Attended President Ahmad Al-Shara's address to the United Nations General Assembly at the invitation of the Syrian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates.
- Strengthened engagement with national and international stakeholders participating in high-level diplomatic discussions concerning Syria's future.

Participation in International Policy Platforms

- Participated in the Concordia Annual Summit and additional UNGA-related events.
- Expanded opportunities for dialogue, strategic partnerships, and collaboration with international actors.

New York *September*

Organization of a High-Level Side Event on Civil Peace in Syria "Peace is More Than the Absence of War: Essential Elements for Ensuring Lasting Civil Peace in Syria"

- Organized a high-level side event co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Syria, France, and Luxembourg to the United Nations, alongside the European Union.
- Convened policymakers, diplomats, experts, and civil society representatives to discuss sustainable peacebuilding in Syria.
- Focused on transitional justice, accountability, victim-centered approaches, inclusive governance, and rebuilding trust between citizens and state institutions.
- Reinforced the importance of Syrian-led solutions and a new social contract grounded in justice, transparency, and equal participation.

Public Relations Outreach

Al Mountada Debate

The Syrian Forum launched Al Mountada Debate, a public discussion series designed to promote informed dialogue on key political, economic, and social issues shaping Syria's future. Hosted by political scientist Jamal Mansour, the series brought together policymakers, researchers, civil society representatives, and experts to discuss Syria's transition, recovery, governance, and regional relations.

Livestreamed across Syrian Forum digital platforms, the series expanded public engagement and strengthened evidence-based dialogue on Syria's evolving landscape.

Events & Conferences

Damascus

- Job Link
- Startup Syria
- TEDx Al Qassaa
- Syria Hackathon
- SYNC25 Conference
- Artificial Intelligence Forum
- SAMS **23rd** International Conference
- Kids and Codes: Innovation Challenge
- National IT Tournament – Public University

Aleppo

- Private Schools Exhibition

Homs

- National IT Tournament – Public University

Latakia

- National IT Tournament – Public University

Collaborations and Partnerships

SYRIAN FORUM

TEDx AlQassaa

SYRIAN FORUM USA

SCPC Syrian Collegiate Programming Contest

ULFED Uluslararası STK Federasyonu Civil Society Organization Platform منبر منظمات المجتمع المدني

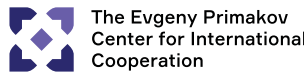
Startup Syria

YETİMLERİ KORUMA FEDERASYONU

UMRAN Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma Vakfı

DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

POLICY RESEARCH



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

ADVOCACY

Thank You

At Syrian Forum, we are deeply moved by the incredible generosity and unwavering support we've received over the years.
Because of you, families have been empowered, communities rebuilt, and hope restored.
None of this would be possible without your compassion and commitment.
But the real work for Syria has just begun. Liberation is only the first step, and we must come together to rebuild, to heal, and to give Syrians the future they deserve.

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Since 2012, external financial audit firms have been conducting annual comprehensive financial audit for the Syrian Forum.

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