

Annual Report 2018

*Long-term Projects to Advance Women's
and Children's Rights, Support Refugees & IDP's
and Promote Freedom & Democracy in Northern Iraq*



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Cover illustration: No-to-violence seminar, Aug. 13, in Gakol village

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1. INTRODUCTION

2018, the year following the Iraqi-Kurdish referendum, was still very much shaped and shaded by the staggering consequences of this decision. Trust in the institutions and the government appears to have eroded further, and generally people's attitude seems to be more fatalistic than ever.

In this atmosphere, WADI experimented with new approaches to promote human rights. While continuing the long-term projects to improve the medical and social infrastructure in the rural regions of Northern Iraq, which have suffered severely under the long-term impact of poison gas attacks and the genocidal "Anfal" campaign, WADI intensified the new No-to-violence campaign launched in November 2017. This campaign stroke the right note and became rather popular soon. People supported demands like "*no to violence against children*" instantly, and they strived for violence-free schools wholeheartedly.

WADI started visiting schools and preschools on a larger scale, addressing children, teachers and also parents, organizing discussions and distributing awareness materials. Even the mobile playground joined the campaign to involve the very young kids and their parents. The teams are continuing to raise awareness on the dangers of female genital mutilation (FGM) – a topic deeply related to the "Stop the violence" message.

With their programs "Citizenship, Participation and Peaceful Coexistence" and "Halabja Summer of Peace and Non-Violence", Halabja Women's Center is also supporting the campaign as much as they can, and their program is very popular with the local population and refugees and IDPs as well.

For people in the region it has become evident that violence is a root problem of their society, and many, especially young people, are not willing to tolerate this and live with it any more. Denouncing violence is now a way to show discontent with the current living conditions, but without appearing political or partisan in any way. And indeed it is not a party issue. Violence is everywhere. And women and children are those who suffer the most from it.

Towards the end of the year, several WADI projects received considerable media attention, among them the community radio and the campaign against FGM. The Rudaw TV report "Kurdish woman dedicates life to combating FGM" (link see p. 25) is an outstanding piece of documentation of our committed teams' tireless work.

The total number of direct beneficiaries (audience of KirkukNow not included) amounts to **14,806** persons in 2018, almost exclusively women and children. We estimate another **50,000** indirect beneficiaries, which include listeners of the radio, families in towns and villages for which WADI services were provided, and families who were informed by the anti-violence campaign through the media.

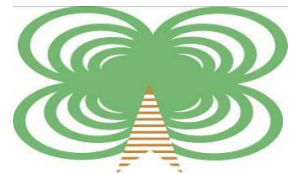
List of direct beneficiaries:

Denge Nwe Community Radio	1459 programs have been broadcasted. 435 listeners called in; 309 females and 126 males.
Halabja Community Activities	Radio journalist courses: 100 IDPs from Barica Camp Seminars and trainings: attended by 1567 women Children's activities: 150 children English courses: 239 children and youth
No to Violence! Campaign	93 schools and kindergartens 695 teachers, 320 parents, 2053 school children
Mobile Playground	4491 beneficiaries
Jinda	506 women
Access to Justice	2250 beneficiaries
Education for Refugees and IDPs	2000 beneficiaries

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1. COMMUNITY RADIO DENG NWE

Radio Denge NWE, the independent community radio, is dedicated to women's and youth issues in a community and local context.



Denge NWE is a community radio station managed by the local NWE organization and supported by WADI. It is broadcasting 11 hours daily, from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, on FM 88.6 MHz in Halabja governorate, Sharazoor, Hawraman and Arbat. Voice of America (VOA) programmes have been broadcasted in Kurdish language during two hours every day.

The morning programs are broadcasted in Kurmanji dialect and Arabic language. They are dealing with hot topics of local society, focusing especially on refugees and IDPs, but also including other health, social or cultural issues.

The afternoon programs include news, music time and various special programs on current issues, women, youths, environment, health, and sports. They are all aired in Sorani and Hawrami dialect.



Journalism training in Radio Denge NWE, January 15, 2018

The programme includes daily coverage of youth and women's issues, as well as daily awareness on health, human rights, women's rights, FGM, children's rights, refugees in Iraq and Syria, environment protection, electricity and water infrastructure.

Weekly programmes

- Special program about refugee situation : it is live program covering the refugees' situation in Halabja and Arbat. Refugees are invited to the studio to discuss there problems and needs, or the presenter is reporting from a camp or from houses of refugees. In 2018 there were 67 programmes and reports.
- Dangi zanko program : is a program about Halabja university activities presented by students every 2nd week. Till now 13 programmes have been broadcasted.
- Klili komalga: is a live radio debate about women's legal issues, including tips and advice. Every 2nd week they present legal awareness for women. Till now 11 episodes have been broadcasted.
- Halwest : is a live radio debate about Halabja government legal issues. Experts are invited. It also explains how citizens are dealing with corruption inside offices in the area. This program is produced by halwest and NED. It is presented every 2nd week. Till now 21 episode have been broadcasted.
- Hagbi shar: is a live program presented every 2nd week which focus on coexistence among minorities with different religion background. The program is presented every 2nd week. 6 programmes are presented till now.
- Dawakri gshti: is series of special legal live program which focus on general prosecutor in Halabja the program is prepared by general prosecutor in Halabja 7 episode are presented.
- Hoshyare tandrusti: is live health program prepared and presented every 2nd week. This program is focus on awareness and health guiding along with hosting doctors and nurse 12 program is presented
- Sport new : this program focus on national and international news 48 program is presented till now
- Blawkrawi Hafta : this program is about reading news in newspapers 38 program is presented till now
- Nwe Runakbere: this program is about reading news about arts ,artist, new clips, new albums, actors and newest film 48 program is made till now
- Presenting 7 program about 16 days of activism against women on November 25
- Presenting 3 special program for 8 march
- Zhngakaman :is weekly live program hosting environmental experts for guiding people how to protect environment. 29 program is presented
- Zansti Nwe: is weekly live program for informing listener about new invention in technology and IT 48 program are presented
- In cooperation with Amark 6 program are presented about health and healthy food .
- Presenting short subjects in different times like : environmental information ,science, economic, health.

Other internal activities

- February 7, 2018 Radio and social media courses for Halabja youth started. 51 youth participated in three groups in the courses which included theory and practice training.
- June 7, 2018 NWE organization radio cooperated with social academic of German in Iraq holds a three days' workshop for 19 journalists in Halabja government about making fetcher.
- October 14, 2018 a special radio program with Francisco Disso, the manager of the radio community groups of the world, talking about radio communities in the world and Iraq.
- October 28, 2018 a special program with Steven Fagin. the US Consul General in Erbil. talking about their visit to Halabja NEW organization and the radio.

External activities

- April 22, 2017 in Memorial Day of 120 years of Kurdish journalist and giving appreciation to one of the members of radio by Kurdish institute of journalist in Halabja government.
- May 1, 2018 a meeting between the American Consul in Erbil and the radio members talking about the problems of media along with expressing freedom of press in Kurdistan.
- December 23, 2017 a report of KNN TV about radio Dangi NWE as a most active radio for women in Kurdistan and Iraq¹
- December 29, 2017 a report by American VOA about radio Dangi NWE as the most active radio for women in Kurdistan and Iraq.²

Media courses

Dangi NWE Radio has been implementing media courses since 15 January 2018. It offered theoretical and practical training based on youths' demands for 23 youths of Halabja. The training course covered topics of radio program production, working in other radio stations, news writing for the radio station, successful presentations of radio programs.

International Women's Day, March 8

On the 8th of March, Radio Dange NWE once again dedicated all programs to women's issues and topics. The programs of the international women's day included interviews of important people who advocate women rights, discussions about the women's day and selected music. All of these programs are presented by female journalists in three different languages and dialects: Sorani, Kurmanji, and Arabic.

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/halabja.knn.5/videos/219553502259125>

² <https://www.facebook.com/VOAKudish/videos/565164630576141>

NWE at the 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

Radio Dange NWE has been part of rural women and girls empowerment program via Radio Stories. In line with the theme of the 62nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (12 – 23 March), “Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls,” and in collaboration with the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC), UN Women brings to life stories of rural women from around the world, from Haiti and Canada to Iraq and Senegal to the Pacific islands of Fiji. Produced largely by women producers, these stories, told in the first-person narrative and are currently being aired on local community radio stations.



September 24, radio report about Yazidi life in Ashti Camp in Arbat



December 6, members of Radio Dangi NWE participated in the first conference of The International Association of Women in Radio & Television IAWRT in Sulaymaniyah.

On December 5, 2018, NWE Org cooperated with CGDS and Internews org managed open discussion about Violence Against Women And Role Of Media, in the context of activity of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign, in NWE Org office - Halabja.

This project is supported by MISEREOR and Roselo Foundation.

2.2. HALABJA WOMEN'S CENTER

Halabja women's center opened in 2004, right after the liberation from the terror regime of Ansar al-Islam. The center stayed popular until today. Many women are regular visitors. Refugee and IDP women have joined and are part of every activity.

Halabja women's center together with the independent women's and youth radio *Denge Nwe* constitute the core infrastructure for many community and women's rights activities in the town. Both projects used to be WADI projects and are nowadays managed by the local organization NWE. However, they are still supported and consulted by WADI.

The center is offering a variety of courses and other activities for local, IDP and refugee women from the region.

The center has a café which is the one and only public space in town where women can meet freely. It is not only a place to meet, but a location for lectures and seminars about women's rights, FGM, early and forced marriage, female health, environment issues... The café is very popular among the women and it has become an established institution in Halabja.



On November 20, NWE opened NWE Coffee – a second café in the garden, welcoming local and refugee/IDP women.



August 19, music course for children and adults



July 24, English Course for children and adults

Citizenship, Participation and Peaceful Coexistence

This project aims to create an environment where all IDPs, Syrian refugees, and host communities of Halabja can coexist and live in peace. Inclusion of refugees and IDPs is a key objective in this project, and

it has been successfully implemented in all its different aspects. All women were addressed and treated as equals irrespective of their backgrounds: Local citizens and new citizens.

It is all about mutual understanding. Different groups came together, got used to each other, learned a lot from each other. In the women's center it became normal to deal with each other, and some even became friends. Especially relationships between locals and Syrian refugees have greatly improved through the trainings and seminars which hold a special focus on communication between different ethnic and religious groups. The women are simply not afraid of each other anymore.

The project offers participants different types of cooperative activities to achieve life goals together, for example seminars, courses and self-organized groups for language exchange (Kurdish – Arabic).

Dange NWE radio is offering theoretical and practical journalism training for young women. Computer training (Word, Excel) is offered in the women's center, as well as knitting, sewing and beauty salon courses, and drawing courses for children. In addition, various kinds of awareness seminars (health, rights, environment protection) are conducted.

From November 2017 to June 2018, NWE held a radio journalism training course for refugees and host population in Barica Camp – Arbat, in collaboration with Fursa youth center- Un Ponte Per (UPP). It was supported by the European Union.

This programme is supported by MISEREOR and private donations.

No to Violence in Halabja

On February 2nd, 2018, NWE announced the 365 days campaign for # No to Violence in Halabja. The announcement was made on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Halabja & 5th anniversary of Ghouta chemical attacks. The campaign consisted of a variety of activities, such as gathering, reading statements, and mountain hiking for refugees and host community in Hawraman area.

The campaign is linked to WADI's No to violence campaign.

Tree planting initiative

NWE and Capital of Peace Organizations in cooperation with WADI, started a tree planting initiative for commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Halabja chemical attacks and the 5th anniversary of Ghouta attacks on March 14, 2018. Organization members announced in a press conference the building of a park and the planting of trees in Halabja.



Tree planting Campaign for commemorating the Halabja 30th anniversary chemical attacks and the 5th anniversary of Ghouta attacks, on March 14



Press conference for announcing the Campaign of commemorating Halabja's 30th-anniversary chemical attacks and the 5th anniversary of Ghouta attacks on March 14, 2018

Activities in Ashty Camp

NWE, supported by WADI, distributed clothes and equipment among the refugees in Ashty Camp on a monthly basis. Part of it was given and collected by Halabja citizens.



Green City Halabja

The urgency of climate change has pushed forward a new project to protect the environment in Halabja, by creating public parks and green spaces, recycling, planting flowers and trees, and working together to have immediate positive effect on the community. Halabja hopes to become the first city in Iraq to be 'plastic bag free', and set an example for how small change can have a big impact.

The temperatures in the summer of 2018 were record breaking in Iraqi Kurdistan. The immediate effects of the heat have made global climate change and environmental activism a top topic for the residents of Halabja.

A city that has suffered devastating human and environmental costs when it was bombed with chemical weapons by Saddam Hussein during his campaign against the Kurdish population in 1988. The death and injury toll is estimated to be between 3,200 and 5,000 and the violence and brutality of the chemical weapons has deeply scarred the community and the land, even now 30 years later.

The urgency of climate change has pushed forward a new project to protect the environment in Halabja. Since 2012 NWE organization, our long-term partner in Halabja, has focused on improving the environment and highlighting the area's natural beauty and regional products; and now a new, more comprehensive project 'Green City Halabja' will begin. The logo tells it all, out of the shell of a chemical weapon, emerges a beautiful tree, a hopeful symbol of a better life coming out of a violent past.

The idea of 'Green City Halabja' in simple terms is that when you treat your environment poorly by littering, destroying green spaces, and polluting: you also treat yourself and those around you poorly. Instead, by creating public parks and green spaces, recycling, planting flowers and trees, and working together you have an immediate positive effect on your community.

Simple ideas that have a big impact are at the core of the 'Green City Halabja' campaign. The first step they are taking is working to switch the city from one-time use plastic bags to reusable cotton bags. Cities and countries all over the world are taking this step to immediately reduce their plastic use, and Halabja hopes to become the first city in Iraq to be 'plastic bag free'.

Energy usage and waste is another topic that will be addressed. Most houses use diesel generators to produce electricity, but at the same time, there is no awareness about conserving resources in Iraq as it is historically an oil rich country. However even in places where oil is cheap, the reality is that it is extremely polluting and eventually those resources will run out. People are slowly realizing the negative effect that plastic waste, non-recycled trash, trash burning, are having on their lives. Providing people with simple tips on how to cut down their energy



November 29, 2018, students received environment awareness and later cleaned their school yard

consumption at home, how to use less plastic, and how to be more mindful of both what they use and the trash they produce (plastic water bottles are a big example) is a big part of changing behaviors.



October 23, Seminar for IDP school children about protecting the environment in Halabja



Cotton bags instead of plastic bags

‘Green City Halabja’ would like to be an example city for the rest of Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraq. Pollution, climate change, wasteful energy use, poor water quality, plastic waste, are issues that affect everyone, and to be solved many more cities will have to join Halabja in prioritizing their health through their environment, working together to improve the situation.

This project will also tie in with WADI’s ‘No to Violence’ campaign, which is working to end violence against children in schools and at home. Talking about violence against people and violence against our environment and how to change the culture and societies understanding of what violence is and how it affects individuals and communities is a big part of effecting change in the long-term.

Beneficiaries

In 2018, more than 2,000 women and children benefitted from the various courses and seminars which were offered in Halabja women center. Approximately 1200 women visited the cafeteria of the center.

This project is supported by Roselo Foundation and BMZ.

2.3. NO TO VIOLENCE! CAMPAIGN



Awareness on non-violent education for local women, November 2018, Garmyan

After more than ten years of campaigning against FGM in Iraq, WADI has started a new approach of combatting violence against children. Violence against children is widespread in families and schools. It is the outcome of disrespect for children as human beings perpetuating more violence in society as a whole. Combatting FGM and domestic violence needs a holistic approach also in institutions. WADI's non-violence campaign now started with five violence-free schools in Iraqi Kurdistan.

Violence is omnipresent in war and crisis regions. Long after the last fighters have withdrawn, long after the last shot has been fired, violence remains. It lives in people's memories and experiences and continues to grow in families and schools.

In Iraq and in Iraqi Kurdistan, the experience of violence and oppression is shared across multiple generations and all walks of life. Since the late 1970s, Saddam Hussein's Baath government waged a cruel war against the Kurdish people in the north of the country, in the systematic destruction of towns and villages, the deportation and forced eviction of hundreds of thousands of people, and the widespread use of chemical weapons against the civilian population. "Governance" has only been expressed through control and violence. This experience shapes public and private life to this day.



Campaign logo in Kurdish, Arabic and English language

Children are most affected

Children – who have the least power and are highly dependent on others – are particularly exposed to violence in crisis-ridden societies. Violence against children manifests itself through physical and mental abuse, punishment, neglect and sexual assault. It takes place in families and in schools. Parents pass on their own experience of violence to their children, teachers to their students.

WADI has launched an awareness campaign that starts right there: breaking the vicious circle of violence -which endlessly generates new violence- teachers are consciously deciding, along with their students, to renounce any form of violence. Our surveys have shown the urgent necessity of this campaign.

Five schools have committed themselves to stop beating and abuse of children by teachers. They became “Violence-free schools”. Other schools have registered to join the program.



Sept. 17, Gazna village, Erbil: One of the numerous seminars given. Topics: Peaceful coexistence in the family, non-violence conflict resolution and the articles of the domestic violence law no.8

The teachers of participating schools all receive anti-violence training and extensive support. Parents are also included in non-violence and conflict resolution training sessions. In conversations and events with the children, they are encouraged to stand up for their rights, learn how to behave in the event of abuses, and where to report abuses.

[The consequences](#)

The societal impact of a nonviolent education is far reaching. The violent implementation and maintenance of political and economic claims to power characterizes the political culture of Iraq and directly undermine all efforts to build democratic structures. All the abuses experienced – lack of democratic participation, legal uncertainty, corruption – are based on (the threat of) violence. Especially in these politically heated times after the referendum, the campaign deliberately sets a counterpoint:

away from the grand narratives, towards the concrete everyday life and interpersonal relationships between people.

Schools should educate children not as subjects, but as citizens who enjoy equal rights and duties and have the means to enforce them non-violently. Every day in Kurdistan there are more and more people who want to engage with each other and with their children this way.

The campaign

This anti-violence campaign has launched 30 years after the poison gas attacks on the city of Halabja. The campaign is locally supported by former Peshmerga, who were fighting the Iraqi government at the time, survivors of the Anfal campaign, and works in close collaboration with other organizations and local authorities.

Strong, confident children will become citizens who know how to enforce their rights and express themselves without fear of violence is an answer to the region's widespread violence.

Many other schools want to participate. Funding is needed to include them and many more in this campaign. We hope that this small beginning will have a strong impact in Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraq and that many more schools will participate in this program in the coming months and years.

Ending violence against children in schools and the home is part of our larger campaign against all forms of violence against children and women.



Campaign website:

<https://www.facebook.com/notoviolencecampaign/>



More than 100 seminars and lectures on children's rights, violence-free education and violence free means of conflict resolution have been given in 2018. Here in Chwarqurna highschool, Ranya, Oct. 25

The programme is supported by the German BMZ, GIZ and the EU.



Dec. 12, 6th grade of Arbat camp school. Games and awareness seminar for Syrian refugee kids.



Dec. 18th, the team visited Mstafa Shaeban primary school and met with the parents. They discussed with them the articles of the domestic violence law, forms of violence, and how to solve conflicts peacefully.

2.4. MOBILE PLAYGROUND

In 2018, the Play Bus team has operated in the villages of Garmyan. More than 1,000 children were entertained and educated. With the influx of IDP's from central Iraq and the refugees from Syria, the project concentrated on involving these children and considering their special needs.



Nov. 26: Bardasur village. School girls reading Wadi awareness leaflets they received from the play bus team.



Nov. 20: Berash village. It was the first visit and it was great fun!



July 2: The Play Bus in Zhalanaw village, Garmyan

After the earthquake in November which struck not only Iran, but also parts of bordering Iraq, the playbus concentrated on heavily affected Darbandikhan area.

The team's working hours are from 8.30 in the morning until two in the afternoon. Two female and one male staff are visiting selected villages on four days per week. One day they spend in the office for planning, preparations, evaluations, reporting and administrative duties.

The bus is equipped with toys, climbing frames, writing and coloring pencils and a children's library, music instruments, drawing tools, games, sports equipment and other materials.

The bus is sent as a Mobile Playground to the poor and remote villages in the hot plains of Garmyan. Villages with high percentage of refugee/IDP populations are preferred destinations.

The project aims to support the children through playing and learning, and is assisted by a team of educational supervisors. In none of these villages any facility for children is existing – be it playgrounds or anything similar. For almost all children in this region the Play Bus is the only entertainment and fun they have in their hard daily life. Moreover, most of these villages don't have any professionals who have any pedagogical or medical skills.

Activities of the Mobile Playground

The Play Bus team offered a combination of activities. Some of them were focusing on entertainment of the children, while others emphasized education, health or the prevention of domestic violence.



Dec. 3: Rany alixan village, Bawanur sub-district

These activities included a variety of lectures and awareness programmes for the children and their parents. Often parents are not aware of how to prepare healthy food for their children, therefore the teams are confronted with various forms of malnutrition. The teams developed a sustainable method to teach mothers how to prepare a proper diet including vitamins and minerals. Several times a doctor joined the team and assisted in basic health care services. In some cases parents lack the skill to see if their children suffer from diseases or sickness.

The team is raising awareness about:

- Healthy Diet
- Dental Hygiene
- Hygiene for body and clothes
- Food Hygiene
- Simple first aid assistance for minor injuries
- Non-violent child-raising

Many times the team finds itself confronted with severe problems in the families and various forms of violence. Many poor parents do not have concepts how to educate their children in a positive and non-violent way. The team offers advice to parents and tries to moderate in family conflicts.

In 2018, the Play Bus has visited 73 villages, some of them multiple times. Approximately 1283 children benefited from the various activities offered in this project.

This project is supported by Wachs Family Foundation, German Consulate in Erbil, Roselo Foundation and SALT Foundation.

2.5. JINDA CENTER – A CENTER FOR EZIDI WOMEN AND GIRLS

Jinda Center was established after members of WADI in Summer 2014 witnessed the unbearable situation of those Ezidi girls and young women who had fled or were liberated from Daesh captivity.

Many of these girls found shelter in the camps around Duhok City in Duhok Governorate: “Khanke”, “Shariya”, “Kabarto I and II”, or in unfinished buildings. They had been captured and then enslaved by Daesh jihadists who would turn the girls – often no older than 10 years – into forced laborers and sex slaves. They endured constant fear and torture for months or even years, some had witnessed family members being slaughtered. Now that their horrific ordeal is over, they have difficulties to adapt to “normal life” and find interest in life again. Almost everything their former life was made of is gone – property, house and home, source of income, family. Now they live in a tent with no hope to ever return to their land. Is life still worth living?



While they are usually in an unstable mental state, there is often a lack of understanding of what they have gone through among family members and community. Instead of getting support, some even become a target of insult and harassment. The precarious and monotonous conditions in the camps are not contributing to the women’s mental and physical recovery. Many suffer from depression and strong feelings of guilt, and some show suicidal tendencies.

In 2015 the German-Iraqi organization WADI established “Jinda”, a women’s activity center for Ezidi women and girls, especially for those who fled and/or were rescued from Daesh captivity. Jinda Center

became an independent local NGO in November 2015. The new organization is supported and counceled by WADI.

The idea of Jinda Center is to give these women and girls a break from this miserable and counterproductive atmosphere which only adds sadness to their suffering.



Dec. 5: computer courses for thirty girls from Kalabadry unfinished buildings



Training on childhood trauma in partnership with Bring Hope. The trained staff were using their newly acquired skills to help 100 Yezidi kids in Khanki camp.



May 15: Awareness on domestic violence and violence against women for Yazidi IDPs living in unfinished houses in Sharya.



Feb. 8: Handicraft and art course for 15 Yizidi women and girls in Kabarto 2 camp. Such courses allow the participants to escape for some time the environment they've tragically become accustomed to.

Through vocational training, seminars and the possibility to talk in a stress-free atmosphere about their experiences, the girls and women shall be helped to regain hope and strength to start a new chapter in their lives. At the same time, vocational trainings will prepare them for a successful new start, either in the local area or after returning to their home district.

The center offers referral for first psychological aid, health aid and guidance, legal and social aid, recreational aid. The girls receive awareness training on women's rights, women's health and strategies to cope on a very basic and practical level with traumatic experiences. However, the main purpose of the center is to give these girls a pleasant place where they can meet, chat, relax and have a good time after all the traumatic events they experienced and considering the sad and precarious everyday life in the camps.

Everything is focused on the wellbeing of the girls. The concept is based completely on free choice. The girls decide if and when they participate and which activities they prefer to join. Hence, the schedule is kept flexible, activities are discussed with the girls and new ideas may be realized. In general, a group of around 25 girls from one of the camps is visiting the center on 5 days/week for 2-3 weeks.

They are free to choose among various kinds of workshops and vocational courses, i.e. sewing, art, beauty salon, jewelry making, computer, English, etc.

Women and girls who have stabilized and regained some level of self-esteem and self-consciousness are ready to participate in the vocational and farming courses offered through this project. The programme includes economic empowerment and increasing opportunities. Women are for example trained to produce traditional necklaces and other jewelry for the market. The center supports the women in finding distribution channels. The producers receive 100% of the profit. The same concept is applied to gardening: Instructed by a professional gardener the girls may grow crops in a nearby greenhouse and then sell the products on the market.



September: Gardening course for 15 girls. They chose and planted flowers in the organization garden. Each plant was named after a girl who took care of it. "We were brought back to life like these flowers", one girl said.



June 27: Jinda launched a new handicraft course for female ISIS survivors from Khanki camp.

In 2018, 218 affected women and girls have been guests of the center. Jinda also provided emergency relief and offered a number of courses in the camps.

Supported by Crosspoint Europe, SEZ (Baden Württemberg) and Salt Foundation.

2.6. ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS IN NORTH IRAQ

For various reasons, scores of women, men and children in Northern Iraq are denied their basic human rights. Particularly those who traditionally hold a low status in society: women, internally displaced, refugees and prisoners, are the most vulnerable. WADI, in cooperation with Jiyan Foundation and local partners like PANA, NWE, Jinda and the women's legal aid association WoLA, has launched a series of interventions on different levels to support these groups in obtaining their rights.

When it comes to human rights, the Iraqi-Kurdish justice and law enforcement system has a large variety of flaws and shortcomings which need to be addressed and criticized, publicly and in talks with politicians. The public must be informed about the situation in the prisons and the lack of support for victims of domestic violence and honor-based crime. Better access to justice is needed, prison conditions must be checked and improved, and protection mechanisms for women and children need much improvement as well. Hence, lobbying and background talks with government representatives and members of the Parliament are one part of the efforts to be made, in cooperation with other civil society organizations, media, lawyers, activists and survivors. In a joint effort, we will try to achieve some improvements in certain fields.



Dec. 10, Banishar village, Halabja, seminar about women's rights (personal status law, domestic violence law)

While the system is partly not working properly, widespread ignorance about the concept of individual rights is another factor contributing to the situation as it is. Especially women need to know about their rights in order to demand them. Accordingly, the advocacy efforts are accompanied by a public information campaign, including seminars for rural women, media publications, information events, flyers and posters in Arabic and Kurdish. Seminars on human



July 3rd, Ranya police station: Seminar about prisoners' rights and how to treat victims of gender-based violence

rights standards and the existing provisions of the law are provided to various professional groups, like teachers, prison guards, police officers, judges and politicians.

In addition, the programme has set out to offer individual advice and legal assistance to women who survived human rights violations and cannot afford a lawyer.

All these elements combined aim to improve the rule of law and access to justice for the most vulnerable groups.



Nov. 15, Shewana female high school, seminar about the harms of child marriage, marriage conditions, forced marriage, violence against family member and children, polygamy...

In 2018, Wadi, supported by WoLA, conducted 95 awareness seminars in villages and schools. A total of 1844 people attended.

Additionally, 21 seminars for professionals were conducted. 406 staff attended.

WADI is implementing this programme in cooperation with WoLA, the Women's Legal Assistance Organization.

More up to date information and pictures on <https://www.facebook.com/accesstojusticeforgv/>

The programme is supported by the European Commission.

2.7. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES AND IDPS

This 3-year project supports 6,000 Syrian refugee students in the Kurdish Region, along with 400 teachers in a total of 15 primary and secondary schools. As a lead partner WADI is providing capacity building through staff training, workshops and implementation monitoring of the local partner organizations Jinda and Qubahan.



Goals of the project

- 6000 Syrian refugee students will be enrolled/registered into primary and secondary schools.
- 15 secondary and primary schools for Syrian refugees will be provided with furniture, energy and water when necessary.
- 5000 vulnerable and out of schools Syrian refugees will be provided with education kits.
- 200 vulnerable Syrian refugee students will be provided with transportation (those who are living in the host communities).
- 400 teachers will be trained in the areas of management, supporting and monitoring the students' enrolment and teaching skills.
- Provision of adequate learning material for more than 300 teachers and 6000 students (Syrian refugees)
- 6000 Syrian refugee students will benefit from psychosocial support sessions and peace & co-existence education.
- 9800 Syrian refugees will be supported with appropriate curricula and learning materials in coordination with the Ministry of Education-KRI and other local authorities.
- 2000 vulnerable students will get support through catch-up-classes to fill the gaps.
- 130 qualified teachers will be recruited in coordination with MoE-KRG from the refugees community.
- 400 teachers will be provided with training manuals.

- 400 teachers will benefit from the International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) minimum standard, which they will be provided with.

Coordination

WADI has received approval letters for year 2 activities in addition to approval from the Board of Relief and Humanitarian Affairs (BRHA) for their work inside refugee camps and coordination with providers of other services for refugees. WADI has a particularly close relationship with the Departments of Education of Suleimaniyah, Dohuk and Erbil because they pay incentives for 120 school staff; this requires very intensive interaction with the DoEs and the Ministry of Education of the Kurdistan Regional Government on recruitment and contracting processes.

Training and capacity building for Iraqi organizations and staff providing education services

WADI Association has been working to develop the capacity of its own staff and staff of Jinda Organization and Qubahan, its two associate partners. This has included training on using the ASER type literacy and numeracy assessment developed by the project, strategic planning and regular quarterly reviews. Reviews provide team members with the opportunity to reflect on project progress and gaps and identify strategies to improve implementation of project activities, particularly in terms of interaction with schools and Departments of Education. WADI and its associate partners have also been focusing on improving the computer skills necessary for effective monitoring, data collection and analysis. In December 2018, UNESCO has conducted (Teacher Observation and Feedback) training to develop the capacity of Wadi-Jinda project staff. The training included the techniques of giving good and bad impact to the teachers and teachers conversation that helps the observer during the observation.

Providing school needs

Wadi provided air coolers, water coolers and installed it in the refugee's schools, the installation included repairing the electricity system in some schools. In addition to that, Wadi is providing the schools with water coolers filters when it is needed. The project team also provided the focus schools with teacher's/school kits in response to needs identified by each school and this typically included printer paper and printer cartridges or other administrative materials. It also included sanitation materials used for the hygiene of the schools.

Providing transportation

WADI and Jinda provided transport support to 47 students attending Dirk Secondary School for Syrian refugees. In host communities, schools are often far from students' homes and this is especially true for secondary students because there are few secondary schools. WADI and Jinda also provided transport for an additional 72 students in Duhok, Erbil and Suleimaniyah to attend exam centers which were far from students' homes.

During the current academic year 2018-2019, Wadi-Jinda is providing transport support for 58 students in Barkhodan secondary school in Suleimaniyah. After Direk school was closed, the students moved to Barkhodan school located in Arbat camp

Back to school campaign

Wadi-Jinda project team organized two Back to school campaign that targeted Syrian refugees in fifteen focus schools in KRG. The campaign targeted students, teachers, school staff and parents. It included distributing brochures and conducted focus group discussion for students to encourage them to attend school and its importance. The activity also included posting posters on the walls of the focus school's classrooms and corridors.



Conducting catch-up classes

WADI and Jinda offered summer catch up classes to Syrian refugee students from their primary and secondary focus schools. They began by identifying participants and recruiting 111 teachers recommended by the Departments of Education. The classes focused on core and examinable curriculum subjects including English, Arabic, math and sciences. WADI and Jinda initially expected to enroll 400 students, but as news about the classes spread in the camps where they work, additional students enrolled and there were 825 female and 595 male participants. WADI and Jinda staff observed classes and identified teacher strengths and gaps using a specially designed observation form. Data collected was analyzed to identify needed instructional support and reinforcement and plan for classes next year.

Providing students' kits

The project team distributed student's kits for 1678 students in the Syrian refugee's secondary students located in Duhok, Erbil and Suleimaniyah. The kits were distributed during October 2018. The contents of kits included, copy books, pens, pencils, erasers and sharpeners according to the student's needs.

The project is funded by UNESCO and the European Union.

2.8. KIRKUKNOW - INDEPENDENT NEWS AGENCY

The online news agency KirkukNow is the only independent media outlet covering developments throughout Kirkuk province, Iraq. The website concentrates on publishing stories and events happening within the "disputed areas" in order to encourage conflicting sides to work for a peaceful coexistence. Hence, the scope of the work of KirkukNow has expanded beyond Kirkuk and covers all other disputed territories in the country.

KirkukNow reaches its audience through KirkukNow website, social media (FB, Instagram for locals and Twitter for international audience, partner websites). We developed a social media strategy; we have an editorial social media strategy, every article will be manually edited and shared on our pages on the social media platforms. We concentrate on targeting the youth and connecting KN with youth and women platforms. The website is readable on mobile devices. We use twitter to interact with international audiences. It is planned to install a Facebook page for all the four sections to address our targeted audience in the targeted areas. Meanwhile, we will have only one twitter account in English for the whole website. We currently use Live Video and also Instagram to reach the youth; we also use YouTube to broadcast the videos we produce.



The fresh logo

Many media outlets use KirkukNow as the leading source of information in those areas; by now, we have signed with four local media outlets MOUs to share KirkukNow content in 2018. Many other media outlets take our content without our consent. At the same time, we have continued the capacity building for our staff. A number of our team took part in the safety and sensitive reporting workshops along with other training opportunities of for all the members of the team. As for our social media strategy, we are now much more active on those platforms, engagement is much more and we receive much feedback from our audience across the disputed areas.

[The situation on the ground](#)

The situation in Kirkuk and its surrounding provinces such as Nineveh, Salahaddin and Diyala has become more critical after the advance of ISIS into those areas and the displacement of tens of thousands of people to some parts of Kirkuk and areas under the control of the Kurdistan Regional government. Meanwhile, the post-ISIS era and the return of the Iraqi federal forces to the disputed areas and the withdrawal of the Kurdish Peshmarga have posed new challenges.

Meanwhile, another important dimension of the work of KirkukNow is to report about the living conditions of IDPs who left home from different parts of Iraq and took shelter in the disputed areas; and in 2018 another focus of the work of the website is to encourage IDPs to vote in the national and

provincial elections planned for May and December 2018. We do believe that accurate reporting will help connect refugees and IDPs to camp administrations, local officials and local and international NGOs.

After the 2017 Kurdish referendum, the whole situation in the disputed areas has reversed; a totally new political and security situation, from dealing mostly with Kurdish Peshmarga and local administration we have been faced with a new situation to deal now with the Iraqi army and Hashid Al-Sha'bi and many other forces with the threat of ISIS is present in many areas we cover north west of Iraq. One of our main objectives was to adapt to this new situation, reorganize our team, and train them to deal with the whole new situation. So far, we have been able to reorganize our team across the disputed areas, recruit new freelancers, train them and build the network over again. By now, our freelancers have been reorganized, with geographical focus in their work in addition to tasking them to do what they are mostly interested in and in which genre they can do their journalist work.



The newsroom

Achievements in 2018

KirkukNow has expanded to the province of Nineveh and has become a leading news source in all the disputed areas. At the same time, KirkukNow has become more active and present on social media. We received more posts, engagement from our audiences and more interaction on all platforms plus our website.

Facebook pages for all three local languages (Arabic, Kurdish and Turkmen) were installed. The Arabic page has now around 170,000 followers.

Locals were informed about the importance of voting in the local and national elections; this was part of our work that we are proud of in 2018, we have established a special section "Iraq Votes" and we produced dozens of articles with focus on the elections, namely producing 50 in-depth stories about the elections, women participations and concerns of the IDPs in many parts of the country. The content we

produced related to elections reached around three million people, with 1,577,043 of them through KirkukNow and its social media platforms, and the rest through partner media outlets and sponsorships.

Our platforms have been a neutral space for all to voice their concerns and reach local officials. What we are mostly proud of is that despite all the challenges, we have been able to continue to stick to our professional editorial line and code of ethics and improve our work and at the same time reach a larger number of audience.

According to our statistics, our services reached more than 2.5 million readers across all platforms. Up to 2 million were reached through our website and the rest was reached through our social platforms and the content taken and republished by other media outlets.

KirkukNow is supported by Free Press Unlimited, Hivos, Deutsche Welle and the US-Consulate Erbil.

3. ARTICLES & MEDIA

This is a selection of English language media coverage WADI projects and initiatives received.

February 7, *“Wadi: Combating FGM is not in the Spotlight”*, KirkukNow, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/iraqi-kurdish-activists-stamping-out-female-genital-mutilation-1.724981>

April 26, *“Iraqi Kurdish activists stamping out female genital mutilation”*, by Florian Neuhoof, The National, <https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/iraqi-kurdish-activists-stamping-out-female-genital-mutilation-1.724981>

November 14, *“Der Müll, die Stadt und das Giftgas”*, by Oliver M. Piecha, mena-watch, <https://www.mena-watch.com/mena-analysen-beitraege/der-muell-die-stadt-das-giftgas/?fbclid=IwAR1J2UMSi5Et2q9270m-WqQNNQhi1fjPU7-tSP0-raFzn1pn-b-fr6mamvE>

November 18, *“FGM Worldwide, It’s Worse Than You Think”*, by Dr. John Chua, Medium, <https://medium.com/@uscjohn/fgm-worldwide-its-worse-than-you-think-7aebb2d5f18c?fbclid=IwAR1vZybRRs2dlE8vczoW7bzWkNBclxjh1Ds7zwSsOT65Gx0L-Q4dLIYGY>

November 24, *“It was a win-win for Ali, WADI and the children”*, by Zhino Khalil, KirkukNow, http://kirkuknow.com/english/?p=23951&fbclid=IwAR1tgDOQ1amR_5iBQD2grIFN64DEkOiEGuXdiKklWL2qegShMdkjhFRLOz4

December 31, very recommendable documentation on one of our most committed social workers, produced by the most viewed Iraqi Kurdish TV channel:

“Kurdish woman dedicates life to combating FGM”, Rudaw TV, <https://www.facebook.com/RudawEnglish/videos/279179079415126/>

Kurdish language TV, radio and newspapers covered numerous activities and reported extensively (for example one of the most read Kurdish media reports about the activities of WADI's "No to Violence" Teams in Garmany appeared Nov. 23 in Awene). This is a selection of links:

1. <http://zagrosn.com/49677-1>

In Gamryan...Awareness is given on the harms of FGM. From Zagros news site. Published on 7/2/2018

2. <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1208>

Live Radio broadcast regarding international day of Zero tolerance of FGM, from Dang radio. Published on 7/2/2018

3. <http://zagrosn.com/50628-1>

The playbus project visits children in Garmyan. From Zagros news site. Published on 25/2/2018

4. <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1382>

In Garmyan villages, 8th of March is celebrated by planting trees. By Dang Radio site. Published on 8/3/2018

5. http://www.snurmedia.com/all-details.aspx?jimare=35006&fbclid=IwAR3RkpswICWYgqzJ4jKZ14teTizdgCUAU3j5Fztk1zAET70dq_nGptiLWCU

Wadi's Activities on 8th of March, by Snur media, published on 9/3/2018.

6. https://www.facebook.com/naliatv/videos/1861585707220822/?fref=gs&dti=594701087210025&hc_location=group

New ways had appeared to fraud people in social media increased. By NRT channel, published on 15-3-2018

7. http://www.snurmedia.com/all-details.aspx?jimare=35106&fbclid=IwAR3ywbhdgxXumeQpCglB-VFn-h9WJFtKMok_7AC_ZMVRq_fDCv8kdR8BRmA

this is how wadi commemorate 30 years of Anfal, By snur media, published on 17/3/2018

8. <http://www.wishe.net/details.aspx?hewal&jmare=42569&Jor=14>

People in Garmyan commemorating Anfal with planting trees. From Wisha net published on 14/4/2018

9. https://www.dwarozh.net/radio-show-detail.aspx?type=44&jimare=1409&fbclid=IwAR1Xhq5WAqCaoZm8BtdAHZ_wtPWGuJURP9qs3Lx0kt02jVXpKJuwaLD3lgw

Dwarozh Radio program, the condition of women Garmyan, published 7/7/2018.

10. <http://kirkuknow.com/english/?p=22912>

Rights group WADI delivers 246 seminars on justice for vulnerable people For EU project, by Kirkuknow. Published on 6/8/2018.

11. <http://kirkuknow.com/english/?p=22970>

WADI says awareness of FGM growing, published by Kirkuknow, on 15/8/2018.

12. <http://kirkuknow.com/kurdish/?p=73513&fbclid=IwAR1jHab7U29VjJSvm7vgdni2qCtAnEXbLm4YjMrzR-9jLsTFxbLlOYTUHe4>

Everyone won, Ali, wadi and the children. By Krkuknow news site, published on 23/11/2018

13. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAxu_2_62xo&fbclid=IwAR337YcUZ5_2Q6Rv4w-rwxkQ6p_jpJJoBUH3W878fkLLNyVy1QBdUDaTdJk

Ranya: Activists complain about the role of Judges. By K24 Channel, published on 25/11/2018

14. <https://xelk.org/77530/?fbclid=IwAR0ZKGliGPBvHUyFMYLgwNZsCNSMWVLaUwjrB4jiVigkXJq1xdPxwmaZzRo>

A German organization: The rate of Domestic violence in high in Kurdistan. By Xalk news site. Published on 25/12/2018.

15. http://www.speda.net/index.php/programs/entertainment/amroy-speda/40082?fbclid=IwAR24OkFAu0pa_UnY6703g-5bWZXr0XcHk3evfklO8PsJnhYzIdbm

Talk with WADI staff member regarding the role of women in home and at work. Speda TV, Dec. 3

16. <https://www.facebook.com/halabja.knn.5/videos/219553502259125/>

KNN TV report about Radio Dangi NWE, Dec. 23

17. <https://www.facebook.com/KNN.KRD/videos/580075489100362/>
<https://www.facebook.com/KNN.KRD/videos/218693345708867/>
<https://www.facebook.com/KNN.KRD/videos/2516257398401430/>

Protest demanding justice for Sewan Qadir's case. Wadi's participation, by KNN, 26/12/2018

18. <https://www.facebook.com/pari.abdulla89/videos/624459764643688/?t=2>

The playbus project in Ranya, By KNN channel, 30/12/2018.

19. [https://www.facebook.com/VOAKudish/videos/565164630576141/?_xts__\[0\]=68.ARAb3TgSlpzL8yT428jTHPoQ6OohnFS4bHE8G76mfFGixDiTsvmuj6Tm_kl-19HV-UWixDzRhDRqNHCTfEFGFyXpBmFRG6st0QSdeya3OOC4y3-Qy_OlnlPwYaf2aenguoMirOegrfsgh0Qrd9YDdvOXuLe6ci5d18P_ksAdVxABpQ7MxoYztZT7gjPAK_GcXaPA5a3HqBERxAErqmUqg7-Q28-OcaLFL6e51Pib6FE6kghgvvjEEhK-h7lKAFT4YVSdendGDbKsEpQXGPacNLgULXsj7rDLpCKwLHzPcXbA-uyh2xxl6Q8Twh61kYtxu8RmjvwAZLdZT9hZFoKMKQJgrCnqw07hFJ0l1MMpNXFzVcemNg92i-CN4NtLF8Rw5ifjIE1STGgbJFntvPDL3SuN9xsxQY7nWqV0ZfYFTljlyofi68yHYMsq62sl-SNnYAYMIww_QTMnkECVUSNsTa2CpTgZFmmc02kC9cPCSuYRAxpQXMfrKTYmFjv6JViE&_tn_ =H-R](https://www.facebook.com/VOAKudish/videos/565164630576141/?_xts__[0]=68.ARAb3TgSlpzL8yT428jTHPoQ6OohnFS4bHE8G76mfFGixDiTsvmuj6Tm_kl-19HV-UWixDzRhDRqNHCTfEFGFyXpBmFRG6st0QSdeya3OOC4y3-Qy_OlnlPwYaf2aenguoMirOegrfsgh0Qrd9YDdvOXuLe6ci5d18P_ksAdVxABpQ7MxoYztZT7gjPAK_GcXaPA5a3HqBERxAErqmUqg7-Q28-OcaLFL6e51Pib6FE6kghgvvjEEhK-h7lKAFT4YVSdendGDbKsEpQXGPacNLgULXsj7rDLpCKwLHzPcXbA-uyh2xxl6Q8Twh61kYtxu8RmjvwAZLdZT9hZFoKMKQJgrCnqw07hFJ0l1MMpNXFzVcemNg92i-CN4NtLF8Rw5ifjIE1STGgbJFntvPDL3SuN9xsxQY7nWqV0ZfYFTljlyofi68yHYMsq62sl-SNnYAYMIww_QTMnkECVUSNsTa2CpTgZFmmc02kC9cPCSuYRAxpQXMfrKTYmFjv6JViE&_tn_ =H-R)

VOA-Kurdish TV report about Radio Dangi NWE, Dec. 29

In September 2018, Wadi collaborated with Radio Dang in Garman to present a shared program with the objective of providing more awareness to people on social issues in society. These are the links to the radio broadcasts:

- <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1858&fbclid=IwAR2MFdqWKIWosSPUUqhTdD3nOCvXx2rWaFB26i80PkhTGKfkuZK4QQEo7sE>

Child marriage Radio dang program, published on 4/9/2018.

- http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1869&fbclid=IwAR3iDlMA14NTFaYShVJ_B8VsxKDXkSNmky6ruh_9aPvuWgPZUI1qEiO69Jk

Radio dang program, humiliation and violence against women. Published on 17/9/2018.

- <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1919&fbclid=IwAR0a8ZEKijj1eGaY5rLnfpPNWe6zoTitr4TyeIWHvJ-BIWHVhKofpE4925xQ>

Child labor and School deprivation, Radio dang program, published on 2/10/2018.

- http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=1975&fbclid=IwAR2FBM6L0BJvaPi_tbKJGur--HDGdvtco90K6p04TOynE6IKwFgqlyggu0Y

Radio dang program on Polygamy. Published on 22/10/2018

- http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=2003&fbclid=IwAR1pf3Od8gBGRTd2zB4s_7gSx3dR0nAF5kuMWQW3UYfxFBV-sclWfYPmb40

Gender discrimination Radio dang program, published 7/11/2018

- <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=2026&fbclid=IwAR0laO02FFcUuSCR3cLGwLF01psyTv5vWG7IH4ZtRBc2uRV9byNDaNi71NY>

Radio dang program: Family interventions and issues. 19/11/2018

- <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=2033&fbclid=IwAR1N7Qayqv8DalwnfkOpzEilCHJ48YgZ-XS5LjBYG894ZnvONA5CTHe3ToY>

Radio dang program on Combating violence 25th of November, published on 25/11/2018.

- http://www.radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=2057&fbclid=IwAR2_MzzAc4913jzm61UpRtpMq0L1SdTykebQKW5ktO9vIKWpWlb5zYRo2iE

Radio dang program on Women working and in business, published on 3/12/2018

wadi

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