

Annual Report 2019



WADI - Association for Crisis Assistance and Development Co-operation

info@wadinet.de • www.wadi-online.de

Phone: +49-69-57002440 • Fax: +49-69-57002444

Herborner Str. 62, 60439 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Iraq Office: *wadisul@yahoo.com*

Phone Iraq Office: +964-7701-588173

Cover illustration: Inauguration of a No-to-violence roadsign in a village in Erbil province, Dec. 23, 2019

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1. INTRODUCTION

Despite all the ongoing conflicts in the region, 2019 has been a good year for our work. WADI and its local partners have made quite some progress in encouraging public debate about civil rights, peaceful coexistence and environment issues in northern Iraq. The No-to-violence campaign has become very popular in schools and villages, media has covered it extensively and the staff received a lot of positive feedback from people assuring them that this is exactly what is needed now and what they would like to talk about in the community.

New generations want a modern life beyond the constraints and limitations of traditional roles. They want to enjoy personal freedom and individual rights. For them, „No to violence“ is getting it to the core of the matter, since it is reflecting a general notion that there is way too much violence in society, mostly directed against women and children.

WADI has been visiting schools, preschools and villages on a large scale, addressing children, teachers and also parents, organizing discussions and distributing awareness materials. The mobile playgrounds have been part of the campaign to address kids under 10 and their parents. Raising awareness on the dangers of female genital mutilation (FGM) – a topic deeply related to the “Stop the violence” message – is still part of the curriculum.

With their “Citizenship, Participation and Peaceful Coexistence” programme and the “Green City Halabja” campaign to promote the protection of the environment, Halabja Women’s Center is also substantially contributing to the No-to-violence campaign. Their programme is very popular with the local population and refugees and IDPs alike.

Both the struggle against violence and the commitment to environment protection receive strong positive resonance among the public. People see both approaches as deeply connected to each other because they both address aspects on how to establish communities that are based on peace, harmony and mutual understanding.

The total number of direct beneficiaries amounts to **32,013** persons in 2019, mostly women and children. We estimate another **50,000** indirect beneficiaries, which include listeners of the radio, readers and watchers of KirkukNow, 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	<p><i>Broadcasted 11 hours daily.</i></p> <p><i>398 listeners called in; 326 females and 72 males.</i></p>
Environment Protection Activities	<p><i>86 seminars and trainings: attended by 2,369 women</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>- 47 seminars were held in schools</i> <i>- 18 seminars in villages</i> <i>- 11 seminars in general directorates</i> <i>- 10 seminars in IDP camps</i> <p><i>5,000 cotton bags were produced</i></p> <p><i>32 women were able to generate an income</i></p>
No to Violence! Campaign	<p><i>156 seminars in schools, 4,049 participants</i></p> <p><i>393 seminars in villages, 3,667 participants</i></p>
Anti-FGM Campaign	<i>1,716 beneficiaries</i>
2 Mobile Playgrounds	<i>4,720 beneficiaries</i>
Jinda Center for Ezidi women and girls	<i>346 women</i>
School Transport	<i>33 students</i>
Education for Refugees and IDPs	<i>14,683 beneficiaries</i>

2. ACTIVITIES

2.1. NO TO VIOLENCE! CAMPAIGN

After more than ten years of campaigning against FGM in Iraq, WADI has started a new approach of combatting violence against women and 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. WADI's non-violence campaign has so far led 17 schools and 16 villages in Iraqi Kurdistan to declare themselves publicly violence-free.



Campaign logo in Kurdish, Arabic and English language

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.

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 this 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.

17 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. 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.

An Example

For each of the schools it has been a rocky path to go. The Headmaster of Essyan School in the Baadre IDP Camp, close to Duhok, reported:

“So we decided to not use any type of violence from hitting with sticks or hands, after two weeks the school administration monitored and evaluated the situation, since some teachers were still using some violence, but for us this was the first step to work on successfully ending violence in school.

After continuous monitoring for a month, our school was free from violence by using wooden sticks, but still we noticed other types [of physical an psychological violence].

So we held another meeting, some of the teachers admitted to using violence, and one demanded to have the stick back for explaining things on the white board. Which the administration heavily rejected.



Children in Essyan School, Baadre camp for Ezidi IDPs

So the headmaster suggested using selfie sticks or radio aerials to use for grabbing attention as they say. The teachers agreed, and used this method for a month, and reported no use of violence.

Again another meeting was held for addressing teachers about raising their voices and cursing, this was the hardest to eliminate, because the teachers got used to it. But after months of working on it, we were able to reduce it, and for teachers to control their nerves.”

They introduced new non-violent teaching methods and gradually created a more peaceful environment in their school. After a year,

“our school became one of the best schools in the camps, we also received a sign that says ‘we teachers in Essyan camp2 school do not do violence’. Also the teachers received appreciation letters from Wadi for their commitment to the No to violence campaign.

The most important aspect in this campaign was the rate of success which raised to 95% in 2018-2019 academic year, which was unexpected as we thought it would drop. So the teachers all understood how much negative effect violence has on the learning process.

We hope other schools also benefits from our experience and we are ready to share our experience with other teachers and schools."

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.



Nov. 27, Rawsht female high school. Seminar about violence.

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 beginning will have a strong impact in Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraq and that many more schools will be able to 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.

Public campaigning

WADI has held a number of public seminars on violence prevention.

One took place on December 22nd in Erbil. Main goals were to collect feedback and thoughts on how participants tackle violence in their own field of work, and to sharpen the definition of the term "violence" by including important aspects such as emotional abuse. Among the participants were social workers, activists and representatives of the departments of education (DoE) and religious affairs, and the directorate of combating domestic violence. Consul General Barbara Wolf from the German consulate in Erbil attended as well. The seminar was covered by several media.



A school library in Kifri

Wadi built a school library for children in Nawroz School, Kifri District, Garmany area, around 150 km south of Sulaimaniyah.

The school is one of five violence-free schools in the area. The library will be used by the school children of the whole district and even during summer holidays. The administrative staff of Nawroz school supervises the management of the library.

The library has been equipped with novels, classic literature, fiction and non-fiction for children and adults in Kurdish, Arabic and English.



Reading room of Nawroz school library

Kifri is a multi-ethnic town in Garmyan inhabited mainly by Kurds, Turkmens and Arabs. Wadi has well experienced teams in Garmyan which monitor the project.

Around 300 students of Nawroz school and another 300 students from other schools will benefit from the library per month. This number may increase once the library becomes more popular.

The programme is supported by the German BMZ and GTZ and Wadi private donations.

2.2. MOBILE PLAYGROUNDS

In 2019, two playgrounds, one active in the Garmyan area and the other one in Ranya, offered their services mostly at remote schools and kindergartens.



The teams' 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 busses are 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 busses are sent as Mobile Playgrounds to the poor and remote villages in the hot plains of Garmyan and the isolated places in the mountains of Ranya. 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 these regions the Play Bus is the only pure 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 teams offer a combination of activities. Some of them are focusing on entertainment of the children, while others emphasize education, health or the prevention of domestic violence.

These activities include 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. In some cases parents lack the skill to see if their children suffer from diseases or sickness.



The teams are 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 teams find themselves 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 teams offer advice to parents and make efforts to moderate in family conflicts.

In 2019, the Mobile Playgrounds have visited 252 villages, some of them multiple times. Approximately 4,720 children benefited from the various activities offered in this project.

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

2.3. ENVIRONMENT FACTFINDING PROGRAMME

Two WADI staff members conducted an investigation about possible future environment activities and cooperations in Suleimaniyah and Garman areas.

When they were looking for possible cooperation partners, they found the local NGO Aina from Chamchamal. This organization has been working in the area since 12 years. Among others, they have provided environmental awareness at public schools like WADI is doing. Both sides exchanged their experiences and considered future cooperation.

In Garman, they found the Environment Protection Organization. They are concentrating on the dangers of the big highways because there were a lot of hit-and-run accidents in the area, with animals and also people affected. They are offering traffic education at public schools situated close to dangerous roads with much traffic. This organization may be another partner for the future.

Further on, the team focused on forestation. They contacted the Directorate of Forestry which is giving away tree plants to organizations for free. WADI received more than 100 trees which were distributed mainly to schools where they were planted together with the students.

With WADI's partner organization NWE in Halabja they also discussed how local farmers could be supported by establishing a shop for local products in the market.

The project is supported by Roselo Foundation.

2.4. ANTI-FGM CAMPAIGN

In 2019, the project was focusing on Ranya region in the north-east of the KRG region. The team visited a total of 137 villages and places to hold their awareness seminars on female genital mutilation (FGM). This harmful practice used to be widespread in the region (prevalence rate up to 90%). Nowadays, numbers are dropping, but it is still practiced.

In addition to FGM, the team also addressed other issues related to women's rights and children's rights like legal age for marriage, types of divorce, inheritance, child custody, early marriage, forced marriage and domestic violence.

Still many women believe in FGM and did not hear about the law No. 8 and that the practice is forbidden in Kurdistan.



Men were interested in learning more about the practice and its various harms.

Special achievement was the involvement of Mullahs, some of them were very supportive and arranged a special seminar in Ranya, where our team lectured about the harms of FGM. The backing of the mullahs in the fight against FGM is very important in the region, since the main argument of the village women why they practice FGM is because of religious concerns.

The project had a total of 1716 participants:

- 1502 women and girls
- 50 mullahs
- 138 men
- 26 head of village councils

The project is supported by World Women's Prayer Day

2.5. COMBATING AND LIVING WITH FGM

This 2-year project started in December. It was set up to target 300 villages with continuing high rates of FGM (Erbil, Ranya, Garbiyan) through women led mobile teams.

The teams work with local communities through dialogue, education, and engagement. The goal is to lower/end the practice of FGM.



The project includes a second part which is about working with women (and men) living with FGM. A specialized psychologist will train local social workers, health workers, local actors and multipliers on dealing with the physical/emotional effects of FGM on women's health and wellbeing.

Media, radio, TV, social media and leaflets will be used to increase the visibility of FGM, push the debate and encourage social change.

Wadi has held some preparatory meetings and assigned four teams. Two teams will implement the FGM prevention part and two other teams will conduct the living with FGM part.

Wadi Ranya team, one of the prevention teams, visited 12 villages and sub-districts around Ranya area and met with 91 people. In general in the seminars the team addressed the physical, psychological and social harms of FGM, the articles of the law no.8 of combating domestic violence and the law no.2 of personal status law focusing on marriage contract, legal age for marriage, types of divorce, inheritance, child custody, early marriage, arranged and forced marriage, exchange marriage, the negative effects of domestic violence, suicide attempts, strengthening family relation, peaceful conflict resolution, ending gender discrimination, puberty stage and how to deal with teenagers, child upbringing, the misuse of mobile phone and social media, and some health instructions.

The project is supported by the Netherlands' Consulate General in Erbil.

2.6. SCHOOL TRANSPORT FOR FGM-FREE AND VIOLENCE-FREE VILLAGE

Tutakal, a village situated in a remote area about 100 km north of Suleimaniyah, has been one of the first villages to declare itself free from female genital mutilation.

Before, the rate of girls affected had been 100%. In 2018, Tutakal also adapted the no-violence agenda, opted for violence-free education and promised to refrain from any violence against women and children at home.

Since this village is so remote, secondary school education used to be almost unaffordable for most children, especially for the girls. WADI provided the village with daily school transport to the nearest secondary school. Now, no child of Tutakal has to finish its education after 6th grade any more.

The project is supported by Roselo Foundation.



Women and children of Tutakal

2.7. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES AND IDPS



WADI, in partnership with the local organizations Jinda and Qubahan, continued implementing the project “Access to inclusive quality primary and secondary education for Syrian Refugees in KRI” for the third year in row under UNESCO supervision and EU funding.

The project will continue implementing its activities until 31 Aug 2020, targeting 15 primary and secondary schools in Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniah. The following activities have been implemented during 2019:

- Workshops and sessions in order to improve the capacity building for both local partners Jinda and Qubahan.
- Providing **14683** students with core support.
- **162** out of schools’ students enrolled with enhanced support.
- **1761** students enrolled in catch-up classes during the summer.
- **264** students provided with vocational training.
- **1383** students provided with stationery kits.
- **14350** students benefitted from the psychosocial support.
- **72** students benefitted from the case management.



- **7523** students benefitted from supporting the targeted schools during the registration period.
- **305** students benefitting from transportation support

Other material support:

- Distributing textbooks for **643** students.
- Renovating **8** secondary schools.
- Expanding spaces in **2** schools.
- Provide and improve water and electricity for **7** schools.
- Providing equipment for **7** schools.
- Providing learning materials for **15** schools.
- Hiring 23 guards and service workers for **15** schools.



Campaigns and trainings:

- Conducting back to school campaigns in all targeted camps.
- Conducting training for **178** members of Parents and Teachers Association.
- Hiring, mentoring and providing incentives for **327** teachers.
- Conducting “Modern Teaching Methods” for **214** teachers.

The project is supported by UNESCO, funded by EU and Wadi private donations.

2.8. WORKSHOPS FOR REFUGEES IN GERMANY

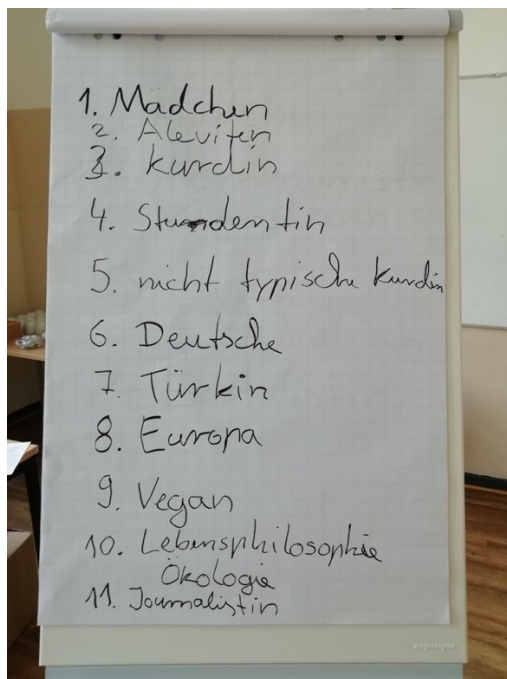
Wadi project *From Refugee to Citizen* continued its workshops empowering refugees on democratic participation in German society, also offering workshops on other societal issues like gender roles, racism and anti-semitism.

A few adjustments were made including more German history in the workshops. There had been from the beginning a small educational part on Nazism and the GDR in order to discuss different forms of dictatorships the participants know from their countries and to stress the point that dictatorships can be overcome. After our experience with workshops on anti-semitism in 2018, the team decided to include more information and discussion on Nazism and its links to Middle Eastern ideologies of Arab nationalism, Baathism and Islamism.

The team also developed a new workshop format on multi-identities. Participants were a heterogeneous group of refugees and Germans with migration background (Turks and Kurds) in a multi-ethnic district of Dortmund, a city in Germany's

industrial belt with a high number of migrants.

The 2-day-workshop included discussions on how identity self-attributions change during one's life, how they are constructed from outside and can be used to pit one group against another. As in workshops on racism participants read and discussed parts of Amin Malouf's "Murderous Identities". The group also discussed how they relate to German society and what it would take for them to achieve a German identity.



Picture left: One participant's identity changes in her life: First she defined herself as a girl, then became aware of belonging to the religious group of Alevi within her town, only later learning that she was Kurdish. Later she defined herself as a student and non-typical Kurd. After

having moved to Germany she was defined as German by people back home, but as Turkish by the Germans, while she herself identified with being European. Now, she recognizes for herself the identity of being a vegan ecologist and a journalist.

Comparative study on refugees

As part of the project *From refugee to citizen* (<https://vom-fluechtling-zum-buerger.org/>) Wadi concluded a survey on democratic participation of refugees in German society which was part of an international cooperation led by *Civicus* comparing the situation of refugees in five countries: Mexico, Kenya, Jordan, Germany and Malaysia.

The study *Freedoms on the Moves – the Civic Space of Migrants and Refugees* (https://www.civicus.org/documents/reports-and-publications/freedoms-on-the-move/freedoms-on-the-move-report_oct2019.pdf) found among other things that refugees in Germany unsurprisingly feel more freedom to express their opinion and become politically active than in the four other countries – and in fact more than half of those questioned had participated in a protest since their arrival in Germany and most felt at ease and even protected by the police. On the downside, a much larger proportion than in other countries felt that their freedom of expression was impeded by non-state actors, namely by supporters of the right-wing party AFD.

Wadi's survey coordinator, Hannah Wettig, travelled to Geneva to discuss the findings at a panel on civic space for refugees and migrant workers during the UN Human Rights Council 41th session in June 2019.

The full study is available here: https://www.civicus.org/documents/reports-and-publications/freedoms-on-the-move/freedoms-on-the-move-report_oct2019.pdf

3. LOCAL PARTNERS, SUPPORTED BY WADI

3.1. ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

Halabja Women's Center started a campaign against plastic bags and produced thousands of cotton bags with environmental protection slogans and motives. This is an income-generating project. Local women as well as refugee and IDP women are the beneficiaries.

Halabja women's center opened in 2004, right after Halabja's liberation from the tyranny of the terror group *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.

Recently, and with WADI's support, the center developed new ideas to promote environment protection:

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 Kurdistan summer temperatures are now record breaking almost every year. 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.



Tree planting with children in Halabja

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 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.



Income-generating project for local women: Production of environmentally-friendly textile 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.

Activities

- Sewing and designing of a total of 5,000 cotton bags. Producers are women from the refugee , IDP and host communities
- Conducting seminars about environmental awareness in schools, camps and villages
- Distributing environment protection brochures
- Conducting environment cleaning campaigns
- Producing radio programs about many different environment topics
- Distributing cotton bags in the bazar, in markets ,shops and other public places



Dec. 16: Awareness on environment issues, Arbat refugee camp

The total number of seminars was 86. 47 seminars were held in the schools, 18 seminars in the villages, 11 seminars in the general directorates, 10 seminars in Arbat refugee camp.

Beneficiaries

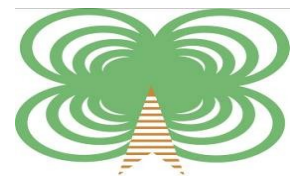
In 2019, 2,369 women benefitted from the various courses and seminars which were offered in Halabja women center. Approximately 1000 women visited the cafeteria of the center.

This project is supported by Roselo Foundation and the German consulate.

3.2. 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.

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. 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. It is aired in Sorani and Hawrami dialect.



Dec. 8: Interview with women's rights activist Bahar Munzar

The weekly program includes

- Special program: it is a live program about the hot topics and hosting the responsible people inside the area, sometimes three to four episodes are presented, 46 programs were presented.
- Special programs about refugees and IDPs: it is a live program focusing on the situation of refugees and IDPs in Halabja province and Arbat. The refugees and IDPs were invited to the studio to discuss their problems and needs, or the presenter visited their camps or their houses. During the year there were 74 programs and reports.
- Klili komalga: it is a live program about women's problems and how to solve them in a legal way. The program is hosted by a legal assistance organization. 20 programs were presented.
- A program about monitoring of the general directorates of Halabja province: it is a live program about the problems of the general directorates of Halabja province. The program is hosting experts. It is part of a project which was supported by Halwest and NED. 24 programs were presented.
- Hagbai shar: it is a live program which focuses on coexistence among minorities with different religious backgrounds. 12 programs were presented.
- Hoshyare tandrusti: it is a monthly live program about health. This program focuses on health awareness and health guiding along with hosting doctors and nurses, 12 programs were presented.
- Sport NWE : this program focuses on the national and international sports news, 24 programs were presented.



Oct. 22: Interview with Nawsherwan Muhamad about the Rojava campaign



Nov 17: Interview with M. Salh from Salahadin. She reports about her life as an IDP in Ashty Camp.

Nwe Runakbere: this program is presenting the art news, new clips, new albums, actors and the newest films. 48 programs were presented.

- Zhingakaman :it is a weekly live program which includes hosting environment experts to discuss environment topics and provide awareness. 12 programs were presented.

- Prs program is a live program about the state of the general elections of Kurdistan. 12 programs were presented, supported by KIE (Kurdistan Institute for Elections).

- Simay parezga is a live program. 10 programs were presented. Simay parezga is covering news about Halabja governorate.

- Sayai partuk is a live program about literature. Authors are always invited. 14 programs were presented.

- Stop violence program is a live program which was designed as part of a project conducted by NWE and WOLA organizations and supported by INTERNEWS. The program is dealing with violence against women and girls in social media. 8 programs were presented.

- Facing corruption program is a live program. 10 programs were presented. The program was part of a Public Participation Platform (3P) in Halabja province, supported by RID and NPA organizations.

- Six special programs on March ,16, the Halabja chemical attack memorial day.

- 16 programs about “16 days of activism against women” on November 25.

- 3 special programs on 8 March, the International Women’s Day.

- Some brief topics : environment information,science, economy and health.

In 2019, Denge Nwe radio offered several media courses for women and girls from the refugees ,IDPs and host communities. The courses were implemented by NWE in cooperation with Misereor and Wadi.

3.3. JINDA CENTER

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?



Nov .28: Art course for 18 Yazidi girls from Baadre and Esyan camps

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.



Aug. 28: Handicraft course for 15 Yazidi girls from Khanki camp

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.

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.

Jinda Center plays an important role as a coordination hub between the target group and the community. It is recognized and valued by all parties, for instance the KRG Director-General of Yazidi Affairs said Jinda is one of the best examples for sustainable service in Duhok area. The center is maintaining excellent relations to the High Council of Women's Affairs (HCWA), the local hospital and all camp administrations. The female center staff is mixed, part of them is Yazidi.

In 2019, 346 affected women and girls have been guests of the center. Jinda also provided emergency relief and offered a number of courses in the camps.

Activities implemented in 2019

Courses for girls and women from the camps (Khanke, Sharya, Kabartoo, Baadre). 8 courses were offered in Jinda building. The participants chose between handcrafts, English, computer skills, First Aid. 346 girls and women participated.

Course for 22 local girls and women from Duhok governorate about social psychology, in partnership with Baghdad women union organization, and finding job opportunity for two months.

3 courses and workshops for the organization staff about Transitional Justice, social psychology, improving justice access services for survivors of violence, evolution of leadership. Supported by IOM and UN Women.

At least 10 hostings and meetings with important individuals from different organizations, sometimes with media and TV. Jinda had a meeting with a girl singer named Jazz from PCC organization, and a writer named Jon, and Middle East program officer Francis Toiham. Rudaw TV made a short film about one of Jinda's cases, and many other important guests.

Jinda has found job opportunities for 4 ambitious girls, survivors of the Daesh genocide. These girls found a purpose in their life again and they wanted to develop themselves, so, based on their different interests, Jinda staff found the right opportunity for each of them.

In 2019 Jinda organized a picnic for 113 girls and women from camps with 18 kids.

Jinda distributed 90 shampoos for the survivor kids in Essian camp, clothes for 138 survivors for 6 months, sanitary products for survivor women for 6 months, diapers and milk for their children for 8 months.

50 families received food supplies like rice and sugar and oil, in partnership with Khalsa Aid.

Jinda organized dental examination for 200 girls and women in Khanke camp, distributed stationery for 6 schools in Kabartoo1 and Kabartoo2 camps, bought clothes for 321 poor children in Duhok during the month of Ramadhan, funded by private donors from Duhok governorate, and distributed some tents and laptops to families.

Jinda offered courses for 81 persons in the camps Baadre, Sharya, Essian. The courses were about awareness on compensation. It was supported by IOM.

Jinda organized a cash for work project for 50 women. The project was about how to depend on yourself and find a job by yourself. Total beneficiaries of this project: 300 persons including the women's families. The project was implemented by GIZ and included job opportunities.

Jinda organization staff have participated in courses about compensation. The courses were held by IOM, Jiyan Foundation and British Council.

Rudaw TV in Suleimaniyah governorate produced a short documentary with Jinda about kids that have been trained by Daesh.

Total beneficiaries: 2164 persons.

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

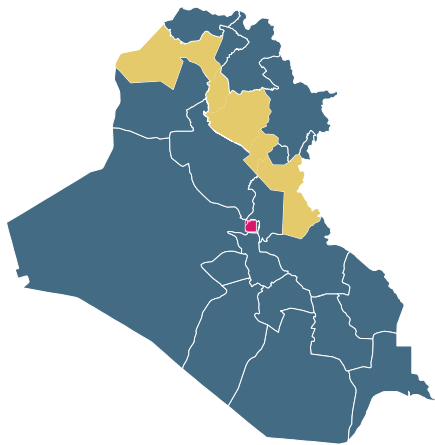
3.4. KIRKUKNOW AND AWENA - INDEPENDENT NEWS OUTLETS

KirkukNow is an independent electronic news website. It publishes stories and events taking place within or relevant to Iraq's disputed territories, as defined in the Iraqi constitution, with the aim of promoting coexistence in those areas and providing easy access to information.

In April 2011, *kirkuknow.com* was launched as an online news agency, the only independent media outlet that covers developments throughout the disputed territories in Iraq in the three main languages of these areas - Arabic, Kurdish and Turkmen- as well as in English. The goal of the website was to publish news for all the people in Kirkuk and for everyone who is interested in unbiased news and information about the disputed territories which are home for Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen, Chaldean Assyrians, Sunni, Shia, Christians and other minorities. Any event in these areas will either positively or negatively affect the rest of the country, so an independent, unbiased media will support the process of nation building, stability and coexistence among the different ethnic groups in these areas.

KirkukNow's vision: To become the leading media outlet in the disputed territories of Iraq.

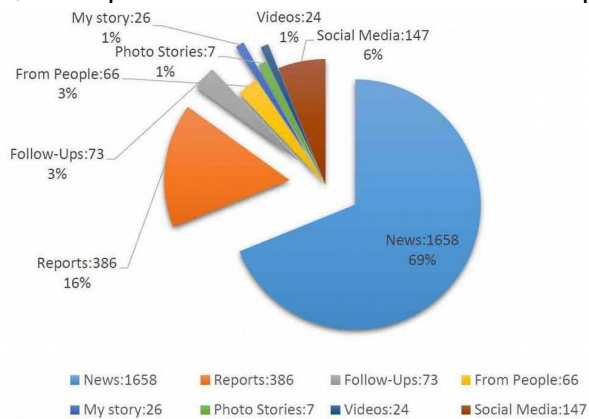
KirkukNow's mission: To inform and engage communities of the disputed territories in Iraq.



Territories covered by KirkukNow

promote the rights of women and show the suffering of the IDPs and the survivors of the atrocities of extremist groups and militias in these areas.

Over the course of 2019, KirkukNow worked to achieve to further strengthen our presence in the disputed areas as a credible source of information and as a watchdog on behalf of the people of those areas. KirkukNow has been reporting about all the groups live in those areas and been in contact with the authorities, They have published the plights of the underprivileged groups, took part in activities and media campaign to



2,387 articles, interviews and pieces from all genres were produced during 2019. The stories included news, reports, follow-ups, My story, From people, video and photo stories. Meanwhile, KirkukNow has been very active on social media platforms (see graph).

Wadi has been working in close cooperation with KirkukNow since many years. In 2019, KirkukNow trained 14 citizen journalists (8 male, 6 female) for Wadi during their daily work. Whenever Wadi activities need public attention and have a relevant message, KirkukNow is reporting. Wadi also supports actively KirkukNow's reporting on the situation of IDP's and refugees in the region.

The independent weekly newspaper Awena ("the mirror") was launched in 2006. People valued their objective coverage of events and their courageous reporting.

In 2009, Awena had a circulation of 17,000. With the decline of printing press, the paper edition ceased to appear two years ago. However, Awene still exists as a Kurdish newspaper: www.awene.com and its reporting is as independent and fearless as it always used to be.

In 2019, Wadi worked in close cooperation with Awena to promote reporting on the situation of IDP and refugee women in Northern Iraq. The cooperation included training of 5 female citizen journalists.

Supported by Roselo Foundation and Sterling Escrow



3.5. SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES IN LESBOS/GREECE

The “Academia” is a makeshift school for adult women refugees from Moria camp on the island of Lesbos, Greece. Most of the teachers are refugees as well.

Ten minutes’ drive from the holiday resort of Mytilene, the scene around becomes hard to bear. The Moria refugee camp was originally set up for 2,000 people, today it is home to more than 20,000. There is no electricity and very little water. Among piles of rubbish, thousands of people are busy surviving, pulling branches from the olive grove for fires to cook on, rolling flour into flatbreads, stringing tarpaulin over pallets to make new shelters. Women breastfeed on the muddy ground. Bin bags are everywhere and the temporary sanitary station has had no running water for days. At night, some camp residents get violent, and especially the women say they live in fear. The conditions in the camp in Lesbos have been described as “a kind of hell on earth in Europe”, by Doctors without Borders.

Just in walking distance from this notorious place, a group of local Greeks, refugees and international volunteers (*"Stand by me Lesbos"*) focus on non-formal adult education and empowerment of women offering regular English and Greek courses. The *Stand by me Lesbos Academia*, as they call their school, is one of the very few places around Moria camp that offers informal education to women and men. The institution also offers legal advice, as well as learning and entertainment for the children while their mothers are participating in the courses.



Refugees need a way to prepare for the A1 test in any European language. For example, female refugees arriving from Afghanistan are usually very motivated to learn, but don't have the basic tools of reading and writing since they have been prevented from attending school in their country. The school's objective is to make these first steps and get refugees to a baseline literacy level where they are able to begin the formal education.

However, this informal education from its very nature is not standardized, varies very much from teacher to teacher and as such is not recognized, so a certificate from Lesbos would mean nothing in other places. The Academia program is working on the solution by giving structure to non-formal education. They divided the informal education that prepares refugees to be able to later participate in formal education into 10 units. This is a curriculum, and has measurable outcomes and

inputs. This also allows internal consistency, so that two classes being taught by two different teachers are learning the same things.



Classroom built with Sterling Escrow funds

List of 2019 classes & participants

Month	Classes	Students
January	7	315
February	7	315
March	7	315
April	7	315
May	10	450
June	10	450
July	10	450
August	10	450
September	10	450
October	22	660
November	26	780
December	29	870
Sum:	155	5820
Mean:	12.91667	485

Goals for the future

- To create a non-formal curriculum that prepares refugees to take the A1 language test
- To coordinate an organized network of language learning organizations doing similar work
- To train volunteers, especially refugees, to become non-formal teachers (a certified skill)

Supported by Sterling Escrow and Wadi private donations.

4. ARTICLES & MEDIA

This is a selection of the media coverage WADI projects and initiatives received. Many TV and radio reports could not be listed here since they are not documented online.

06/02/ Kurdistan24, “Activists in the Kurdistan Region continue the fight to eradicate FGM” <https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/d2496d81-1221-4750-9a00-968b15b60aad>

09/02/ Radio Dang, “About the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation” <http://radiodang.org/detail.aspx?kod4it=2183&fbclid=IwAR2BU6WeLHbBl-nQCbkXPiU45ZqdFa8cnahfFkowAC-nWlTcWXhchwHTuuu>

14/02/ AGI, “L'attivista curda che si batte contro le mutilazioni genitali” by Sofia Nitti https://www.agi.it/estero/infibulazione_iraq_kurdistan-4977364/news/2019-02-14/

27/02/ Kurdistan24

<https://www.facebook.com/kurdistan24.official/videos/1068690769985919/>



05/03/ mena-watch, “ISIS Succeeded with its Genocide Against the Yazidis” <https://www.mena-watch.com//isis-succeeded-with-its-genocide-against-the-yazidis>

16/03/ KirkukNow, report about school transport <https://www.facebook.com/Kirkuknow/videos/273048420274351/>



01/04/ KirkukNow, "A Chamchamal village residents rewarded for abandoning FGM"

<http://kirkuknow.com/en/video/166>

05/05/ ORF, "IS-Terror an den Jesiden"

<https://vimeo.com/334259419?ref=fb-share>



15/05/ KirkukNow "More Schools in Kurdistan Region join Wadi's No to Violence campaign" [http://kirkuknow.com/en/news/59349/More-Schools-in-Kurdistan-Region-join-Wadi's No to Violence campaign](http://kirkuknow.com/en/news/59349/More-Schools-in-Kurdistan-Region-join-Wadi%E2%80%99s-No-to-Violence-campaign)

29/05/ KirkukNow "Fear of parents. The reason behind the increase of sexual abuse." by Layla Ahmed

http://www.kirkuknow.com/ku/news/59459/%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%B3%DB%8C-%D9%85%D8%A7%DA%B5%DB%95-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%8C-%D9%87%DB%86%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%DB%8C-%D8%B2%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%88%D9%86%DB%8C-%D8%AF%DB%95%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%AF%D8%B1%DB%8E%DA%98%DB%8C-%D8%B3%DB%8E%DA%A9%D8%B3%DB%8C?fbclid=IwAR3VEyGvc_G69nCH4yhRaRTAVIINAEI4B1RHNmIEEFr3ogorn-VDgM_2Fzc

01/06/ Radio Dang "Children's day. About the rights of children."
<https://www.facebook.com/RadioDang/videos/1094689094052229/>

<http://www.basnews.com/index.php/fa/news/kurdistan/569715?>

[illegible]

<http://www.basnews.com/index.php/so/culture-arts/book/555669?>

[illegible]

<http://www.basnews.com/index.php/so/multimedia/photo-gallery/560053>



19/11/ ROJNEWS “Greening the schools in the villages”

<https://rojnews.news/%D%A%98%DB%8C%D9%86%DA%AF%D9%87/%D8%AE%D9%88%DB%8E%D9%86%D8%AF%D9%86%DA%AF%D8%A7%DB%8C-%D%A%AF%D9%88%D9%86%D8%AF%DB%95%DA%A9%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%B3%DB%95%D9%88%D8%B2-%D8%AF%DB%95%DA%A9%D8%B1%DB%8E%D8%AA-44386>



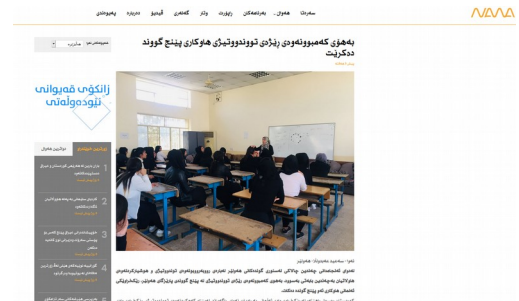
27/11/ Kurdsat News

<https://www.facebook.com/kurdsatnews/videos/450853995575775/>



30/11/ Gali Kurdistan TV [https://www.gksat.tv/details.aspx?](https://www.gksat.tv/details.aspx?jimare=88009&cor=Kurdistan&_cf_chl_jschl_tk_=c28a93abb9af463c21efac4fe0ac74ed42a3bd5b-1575213157-0-Afp41la5085-Dnae14qm1PuQCbvimNNK-cRr8aWQtQY6E78orriSowe0w1t9xGI7tbNnVv_noswTbL1WOKVes1HfzLjWHavoZJy9Ui9WhAjIN2ENCRVzOn2mMIXaci4U-bCh27FGzp-nMZINYAJTqPN2yvR4IbqX9YNtiYuHqF9RLTijIET6mc3RzxZu-ZPtjyemVsiqTFk_n94YoIKH1Z4cfBETctclckuaxhjFNo9zxmoHQDB7D22m8saVrRpzdNdHERYPxTBWLbxfABTfWi6R9TtS1-n8QuuwSS5vjNDe0xeytGjjqGslcPI21HjbepA)

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30/11/ RADIO NAWA <https://www.radionawa.com/Ku/all-detail.aspx?jimare=26861>



13/12/ KirkukNow “Nine-years-old Lawand, a scream that did not reach the ears”
by Layla Ahmed http://www.kirkuknow.com/ku/news/60905?fbclid=IwAR1VFzkgOx1PtNMZEB7n3dP-gkXETa_mBU3UKH8jtOC4LvChuV0oNrLbSbE

18/12/ Radio Denge Nwe, discussion with Wadi team members about No-to-Violence campaign in the school system https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1gUnCsEN3Q&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2EghivAtnTk_Ti1k62ieoxM-pkMV1bWdkYf0RaBcCIDfxauErC4PI2ReM

22/12/ Rudaw TV interview with German consul about no-to-violence campaign



24/12/ Esta media TV report about the Green City Halabja campaign
https://www.facebook.com/esta.mediaa/videos/1472764502876542/?fref=mentions&_xts__%5B0%5D=68.ARCgw5jbm4e5XhpuRdvuGKzWoGCE10ePqaocZKLZKyuLjtJ8xEmQVR-XDPhPzfcxxdGHkH261dot2qaQlfg1gZdMVTiHODrSE2ojmIS-3ks9T3mnUK5ygHlka0FIbnbrqv6Q3dv7SUhp8Mn1SQ3N5FW3mXgRTEvXfiSXhKbm_FAIW7DbINNyINBDiaxyxAdHxcX4pf4QMAqmYBB_k6rIMLP_3H6ZHu7ZluPz2e0XG5BSsepW5K-jHEa0qtZY9s47XqHD29kKFpRt-erDFhcFd2nznRbUEngordY8ennkuGLcKzp-uz2BRQFBV6k2zoalalGPoX6kNxydiZ34ExsWckP-IYCS3VKI41lyTuTlonLjB_F2rzUU4B1XRkxdXI2liHjr06X_66wyuRaBZ7gfmrnQXm1bXhrpig_WZYlfomFRstS-lqyla2P6sNzXHcDz3ijseulrDH-G0wMuPGYo15Kso9Cu2QuiVjCzmN6YIP6k6f14P04HsQ08k1Fiz6onXww&_tn__=K-R



25/12/ NAS-KURD TV about the Green City Halabja campaign
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=841208259671222>



27/12/ BASNEWS, report about one of the no-to-violence villages in Garmyan region http://www.basnews.com/index.php/fa/news/kurdistan/569715?_cf_chl_jschl_tk_=fef3b91035256756d0c56d3ee3a24ac3876c677f-1577725962-0-AZWWg2O8f5gNLM-qX2V12Rq39PS1UO3ViaiRO6e0VipltDr8wEe1ZxYbj6_pPX6DOledU0C8sx9FOTjc65JfIk-C3kF6ez6hp54Uir_AXt1XwRKpNfvAxFbDuKNRQr9d4jRO-GEWEpijY0GHRmZH_Pju2_kFLpTM9bSVwjD_OWKvDJU1JAq0leSkYAFG2llarvnBLsz7JoUMH0WTIXJSTJbZBMz41V7t_MGX XqKX1eyzLhSYnpc2BnXSMegwxHuj3EGTxDZcfr8O1K26ooR4SDF-h99kEgynJlvvg6GtenkKTNIIZ5mTE0OzAKIRIshAyg



27/12/ Nawzhen newspaper about a round table discussion of female activists in Garmyan, organized by WADI.

The event was inspired by a report from the directorate of combating violence in Garmyan according to which there were no recorded cases of physical violence against women in 2019. The activists agreed that physical violence has decreased, but they emphasized that violence has not ceased to exist. It has merely turned more psychological. Ways to deal with this disturbing trend were discussed at the event.



29/12/ VOA Kurdish TV report about Green City Halabja campaign and the bag production

<https://www.facebook.com/VOAKurdish/videos/544126882807583/>



For further information please contact wadisul@yahoo.com
or see contact details on page 2.

