



Making a positive impact for children

MENA Annual Report 2022



Terre des hommes

Helping children worldwide.



Table of contents

1- MENA context in 2022	2	<i>Access to Justice (A2J)</i>	14
Key data	2	Overall results in MENA	14
MENA regional context	3	Country focus: Iraq	15
		Success story	17
2- Key achievements in 2022	4	<i>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)</i>	18
Where and What	4	Overall results in MENA	18
Results in 2022	5	Country Focus: Syria	19
Prospects for 2023	6	Success story	20
Programs and expertise in the MENA region	7	<i>Child protection</i>	21
		Success story	21
3- Maternal, newborn and Child Health (MCH)	8	4- Overview of the beneficiaries	23
Overall results in MENA	8	5- Fundraising in the MENA region	24
Country focus: Afghanistan	8		
Success story	9	Special thanks	26
<i>Children and Youth on the Move (CYM)</i>	10		
Overall results in MENA	10		
Country focus: Egypt	11		
Success story	12		

Prepared by Federica Sciacca. Designed by Farah Miski

1- MENA context in 2022

Key data



In Afghanistan, an estimated 24.4 million people out of 40 million are in need of humanitarian assistance, including 13.1 million children. Moreover, following the extremely restrictive measures towards women and girls, there has been a 25 percent increase in protection need and in reported gender-based violence cases.



In 2022, Pakistan have been confronted with economic and political turmoil, and severe floods which affected a third of the country, about 15,000 dead or injured and 8 million people displaced.



Egypt is experiencing a deep economic crisis exacerbated by Covid-19 since 2020 and its heavy dependence on Russia and Ukraine for wheat supplies. This has led to an adverse impact on the entire population, and in particular the most vulnerable, including refugees and migrants.



In Iraq, an estimated 2.5 million people, including 1.1 million children, are in need of humanitarian assistance, including in-camp and out-of-camp internally displaced people (IDPs), and returnees. Nevertheless, the country continues to make progress towards a lasting solution and stability despite a very chaotic political context.



In 2022, Jordan had to face important economic challenges, reductions in World Food Programme (WFP) assistance, and continuing humanitarian needs. The country hosts the second-highest share of refugees per capita in the world with more than 760,000 registered with the UNHCR. Nearly half of them are children below the age of 18.



The level of tensions and violence have increased in Palestine in the last year. The civilian population, and particularly children's physical safety and mental wellbeing were severely impacted. Additionally, children continued to struggle with access to education and other basic necessities.



Lebanon's economic, social and security situation continued to deteriorate in 2022 reducing access to health, water and education. This instability has affected the most vulnerable populations, including women, girls, people with disabilities, migrants, and refugees.



Syria faces one of the most complex humanitarian emergencies which started in 2012 and has caused the world's largest refugee outflows and the largest internally displaced population. In 2022, an estimated 14.6 million people were in need of humanitarian assistance, including 6.9 million children, 4.2 million people with disabilities and 5.3 million internally displaced persons.

Source: UNICEF, UNHCR

MENA regional context

In 2022, in the MENA region, including Afghanistan and Pakistan, we could see an unchanged and even worsening humanitarian crisis due to armed conflict, climate change, and economic and political turmoil. Safeguarding basic human rights, forced displacement, and food insecurity have worsened since 2021. In addition, for what concerns Tdh operations themselves, the fragile political situation resulted in longer delays for government approval of a project or access to communities, resulting in delays in reaching people and providing them with the necessary support.

Moreover, two particular events had a significant impact on the regional context of the MENA region.



The impact of the conflict in Ukraine on the economies of numerous MENA countries.

The conflict in Ukraine has affected the economic situation of most people in numerous MENA countries, causing high inflation and shortages of fuel, food, and basic commodities. In addition, it has also made our operations more expensive and difficult. It has led to rampant inflation, from 25% in Egypt to 121 % in Syria. The cost of rehabilitating a school in rural Damascus increased by 50%, forcing us to rethink our plans and prioritize our needs.



The impact of the new policies put in place by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

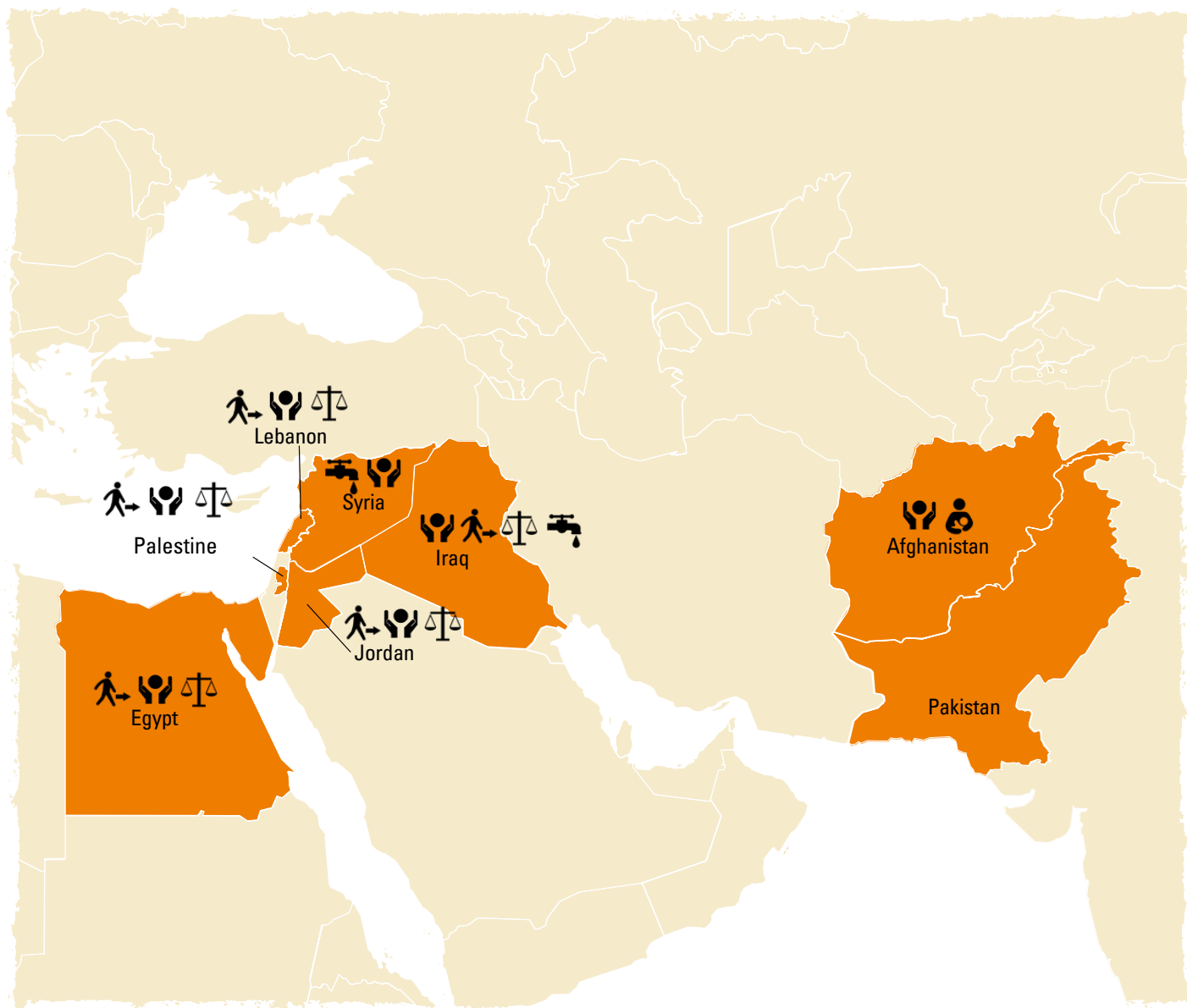
In Afghanistan, the Taliban authorities announced a series of policies and regulations throughout 2022 that rolled back the rights of women and girls. These measures have severely curtailed women's access to employment and education. Furthermore, by the end of 2022, women are no longer allowed to work in NGOs/INGOs. These measures strongly affect the overall humanitarian response and therefore the whole population, and in particular the most disadvantaged. Indeed, 65% of Tdh's workforce in Afghanistan are women, who are ultimately the only ones with access to children and women themselves. In this context, Tdh is constantly supporting its female staff so that they can continue to work until negotiations are initiated with the Taliban authorities. It has also found solutions for most of its female employees to work at home or in a medical setting. Tdh is also part of the collective humanitarian community effort to negotiate with the Taliban to review or adapt their decision.



2- Key achievements in 2022



Where and What



Access to Justice (A2J)



Children and Youth on the Move (CYM)



Mother and Child health (MCH)



WaSH



Child Protection (CP)



Tdh's activities





7 countries
of activities



102,464
people benefited from
psychological and
resilience support and
activities



**The Syria
Delegation**
became fully operational



44
projects

including
11,171
indirectly



19,088
people benefited from
educational activities



63%
girls and women
supported



537,615
children and members of
their communities directly
supported



89,037
people benefited from
direct health intervention



298,383
people benefited from
awareness-raising
activities



1,819
justice and child
protection actors
provided with
specialized capacity
development in child
justice



2,393
children in contact with
the law benefited from
education services and/
or legal assistance



11,548
children and members of
their communities indirectly
supported



Prospects for 2023



In 2023, we expect the economic and political crisis to deepen and basic needs to increase. With the protection and social systems in most MENA countries broken and very fragile, many people will be left behind. Uprisings and demonstrations can be expected in many MENA countries. This could lead to increased security problems. In some key countries, donors have already shifted the focus from humanitarian to development funds, while many philanthropic donors are turning more to domestic needs. There will be strict prioritization of needs to be covered. Hard-hitting inflation will be felt even more in 2023. In the MENA region, we are putting in place contingency plans to support our colleagues on the ground. Due to the greater needs in most MENA countries, we expect to reach and support even more beneficiaries than in 2022.



In 2023, we aim to develop new programmatic areas such as livelihoods while consolidating already strong programmatic approaches such as for example A2J by promoting greater gender justice by focusing on children affected by gender-based violence and including strong support to movements working for gender equity and equality. Besides, we aim to expand Tdh innovations such as the Resilience Innovation Facility in Jordan and Egypt, strengthen Tdh's health programs in the MENA region, identify pathways to respond to climate change in the whole region, particularly in the countries the most vulnerable to climate change such as Iraq and Jordan, enhance child and youth participation, and reinforce Tdh's visibility in the MENA region.



3-Programs and expertise in the MENA region

The MENA region focuses on three main programs, as identified in the global strategy, to address the main rights violations concerns in the region:



Children and Youth on the Move: Address the individual and collective needs of children affected by migration in countries of origin, transit, and destination. In addition, strengthen their own capacities while working on their protective environment, including families, communities of origin, and local populations.



Access to Justice for Children and Youth: Contribute to a significant improvement and promotion of child-centered justice that is safe, restorative, right-based, inclusive and non-discriminatory. This is done by reinforcing procedural safeguards across the child justice systems, fostering social cohesion through local justice mechanisms, including working with families and community leaders, and enhancing the coordination of plural justice actors, in formal justice, both lay and religious, and in traditional/customary justice bridging the gap among them and focusing on the development of innovative hybrid justice practices. Through the A2J program, networking, evidence-based advocacy and knowledge is promoted including through the Global Initiative on Justice With Children powered by Tdh, in collaboration with several partners. Children's agency, empowerment, and participation are at the core of A2J actions.



Maternal, newborn and child health: Help mothers, newborns, and children (up to 5 years old) access quality health care and contribute to a significant and sustainable decrease in maternal, newborn and child mortality, and morbidity rates¹.

Transversal to these three programs, Tdh has also established a center of expertise (CP, WaSH, ICT4D) whose objective is to primarily support the three programmatic pillars and help develop their strategic orientations and priorities. The expertise focus on strengthening the expected impact in order to make a significant difference for the beneficiaries.

For the MENA region, this includes expertise in:



Child Protection: provide children and young people in need the adequate means to improve their well-being. Central point of Tdh action and base of each project.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: Improve access to water, sanitation and/or hygiene services through participatory water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) management in different institutions, such as health care facilities and schools, juvenile detention facilities or at the community level.

Within the framework of Tdh three main programs, each country delegation defines its specific needs and target beneficiaries and consequently develops specific projects with the technical support of the concerned program. Tdh applies a multi-sectoral approach between programs and expertise.

Moreover, it promotes institutional priorities such as Nexus, Climate Change, Gender and Diversity. As a result, synergies are sought between the different areas of intervention.

¹ Activities developed from the Health Program are deployed only in Afghanistan and regards child health and maternal and newborn health. However, an assessment has been conducted in the remaining countries of the portfolio, and the objective is now to extend health activities to the whole MENA region.



Maternal, newborn and Child Health (MCH)

The lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine have exacerbated food insecurity for millions of people in Africa, Asia, and the MENA region on an unprecedented scale, resulting in increasing numbers of severely malnourished children. The consequences of climate change and civil wars are also highly hindering people's access to health services and limiting their livelihood opportunities. As a result, Tdh health program strengthened the integration of its health activities into development and humanitarian aid contexts thanks to the application of the nexus approach.

Sustainable Development Goal alignment



Countries of activity



Overall results in MENA

In 2022, in the MENA region, Tdh's health activities reached 172,285 beneficiaries through 5 projects implemented in 1 country.

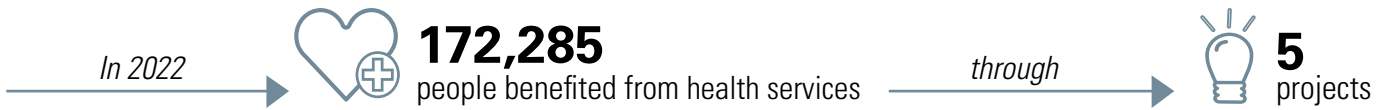
Until 2022, Tdh also undertook activities in the field of specialized health care in Iraq. Children, especially those suffering from heart disease, were able to undergo complex surgical procedures in Switzerland, Europe, their region, or country of origin when possible. However, in December 2022, Tdh decided not to transfer any more children to Europe, and to focus its efforts on facilitating access to the best possible care for the children locally.

Country focus: Afghanistan

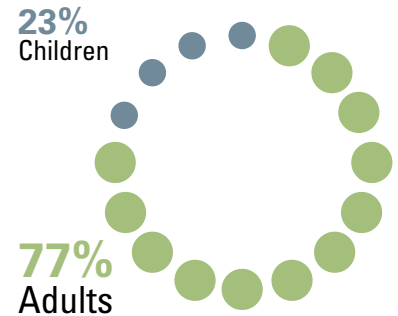
Learn more



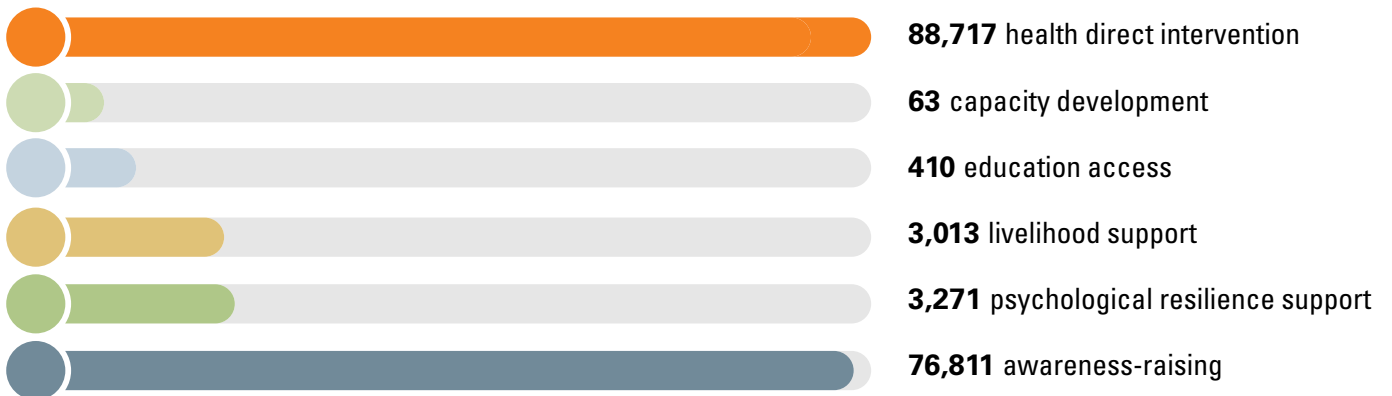
In Afghanistan, with the socio-political situation limiting access to health services for children and pregnant women, Tdh teams have expanded their activities to support primary health services, including mother and child, and nutritional screening in rural areas of Jalalabad.



Gender and Age



Indicators



Success Story



In Afghanistan, giving birth happens in the midst of chaos. Thanks to MCH projects implemented in Afghanistan, pregnant women, mothers, newborns and children below 5 years old are supported by brave midwives and not left alone.

Learn more





Children and Youth on the Move (CYM)

In response to the growing number of children and youth on the move, and their needs, in 2022, the CYM program has significantly increased its projects. New emergencies, such as in Ukraine, and protracted crises in the Sahel, Middle East and North Africa have resulted in the forced displacement of 100 million people worldwide, affecting the well-being, integration and development of children and youth.

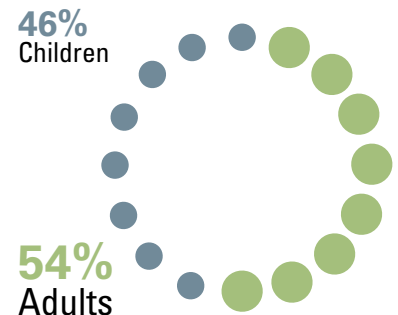


Overall results in MENA

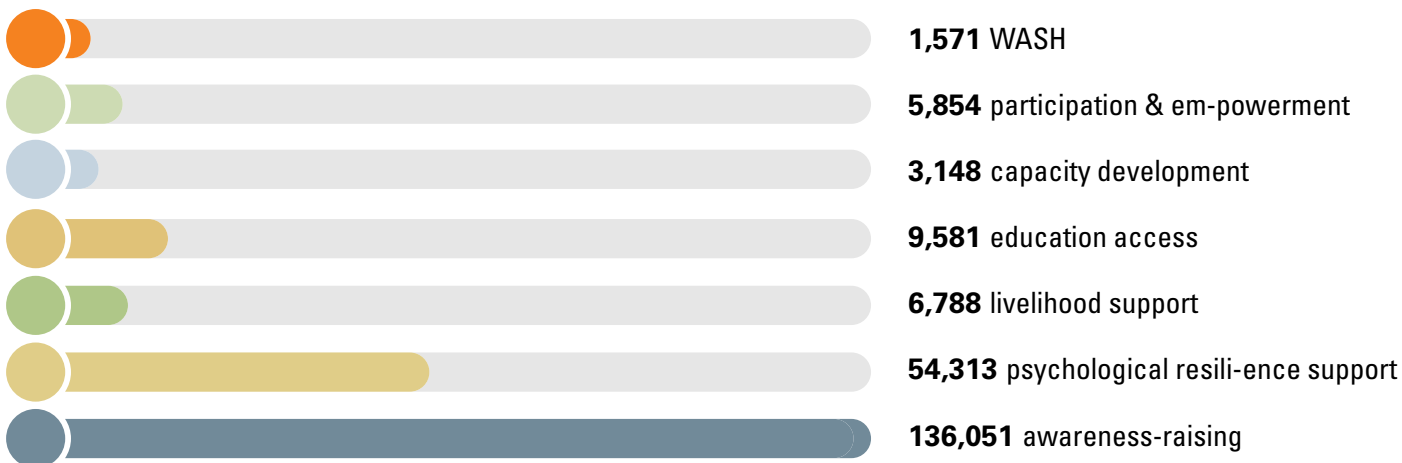
In 2022, in the MENA region, Tdh's CYM activities reached 217,306 beneficiaries through 19 projects implemented in 6 countries.



Gender and Age



 Indicators



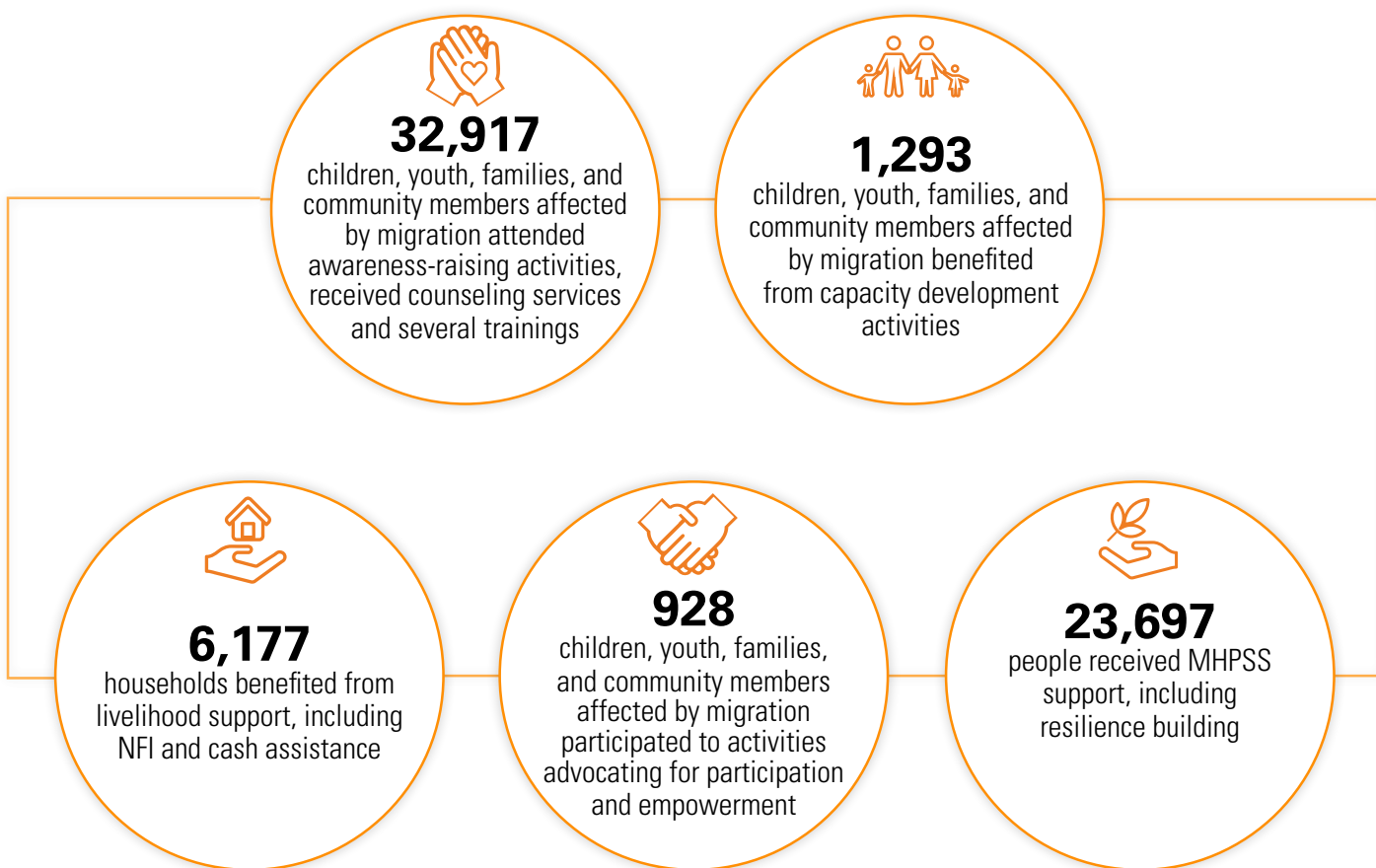
■ Country focus: **Egypt**

In 2022, the projects in Egypt responding to the protection needs of children, youth, their families on the move, and the host communities reached 65,123 beneficiaries. The vast majority of them (65,041) benefited from **PSTIC projects**. Since 2009, the Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo (PSTIC) has been offering a comprehensive range of interventions for the most vulnerable refugees and migrants living in Greater Cairo and the northern coast of Egypt. The PSTIC's interventions aim to improve the self-reliance and well-being of vulnerable refugees and migrants. PSTIC's multinational team from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen provides refugees and migrants of the same nationality with 24/7 HELPLINES support as well as home and community-based psychosocial and mental health care; community integration support; protective housing; assistance in accessing health care; school and community-based interventions for at-risk youth; awareness-raising information to minimize exploitation and promote understanding to cope with their environment; and support in accessing available services. PSTIC has an ongoing working relationship with the Ministry of Health's General Secretariat for Mental Health and Addiction Treatment (GSMHAT) and its WAHA trauma clinics, as well as the 24/7 suicide hotline.



The projects implemented in Egypt focused mainly on the following interventions:

1. Assist children and youth affected by migration through **MHPSS assistance**
2. Provide **community-based support protection** for children and youth affected by migration
3. Contribute to community and youth empowerment for children and youth affected by migration, their families, and the host communities, with a special focus on **developing new capacities**
4. Strengthen child protection system, through **awareness-raising** engagement and trainings
5. Improve **capacity building** of a professionally skilled multinational team, including Egyptians and refugees coming from other countries



■ Success Story

Qudra 2: Resilience for Refugees and Host Communities in Response to the Protracted Syrian Crisis is a project launched in 2020 in Lebanon that contributes to the improvement of protection outcomes for children, youth, and other marginalized groups affected by migration across the country. The project implements protection response and prevention activities for vulnerable populations in four Social Development Centers (SDCs) in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). Additionally, psychosocial support sessions and recreational activities are also delivered to children and youth to improve their well-being and self-confidence.



Meet Ibrahim, a young boy with a beautiful smile!

“Since Ibrahim started attending the sessions with Haidar [social worker] we noticed a remarkable improvement. He started to get out of the house and play with other children of his age. He started sharing his opinion and opening discussions, and his social skills have improved.” – Ibrahim’s father

Learn more



Today, Ibrahim feels closer to his classmates, participates in activities, and happily cries out “I am strong!”.

Also Asmaa , a fourteen-year-old Syrian girl, could benefit from the **Qudra 2 project**.

“My daughter was bullied, stigmatized, and abused by her friends at school, so she stopped going. Asmaa is overweight and has difficulties understanding things easily. Her behavior has improved since she started participating in the sessions you delivered. She is no longer afraid and anxious leaving her room to smile again.” - Asmaa’s mother.



Thanks to the **Qudra 2 project**, here she goes, Asmaa, regaining her confidence, getting out of her house, and making friends.





Access to Justice (A2J)

Realizing justice for children and youth in the MENA region remains still a challenge, while child justice has been highlighted as a key priority by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child following articles 37 and 40 of the Convention and the CRC General Comment No. 24 (2019). Excessive use of custodial sentences remains prevalent, discriminatory justice practices are still applied to vulnerable children and youth, particularly girls and youth women, and actors from both justice and child welfare sectors are in need of specialized tools and skills to ensure the best interest of children in contact with the law at all times.

Sustainable Development Goal alignment



Countries of activity

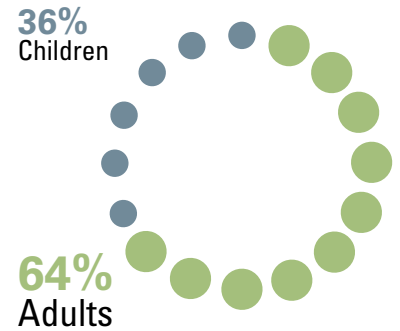


Overall results in MENA

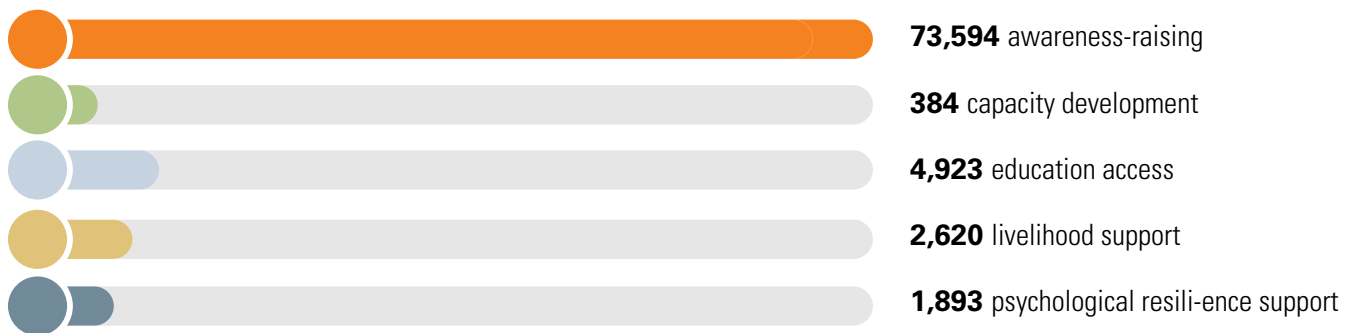
In 2022, in the MENA region, Tdh A2J activities reached 59,830 beneficiaries through 16 projects implemented in 5 countries. In addition, in Syria, Tdh has carried out assessments in juvenile detention centers. A slight decrease in the children and adults reached by the A2J program is noted compared to 2021, due to the arrival on the Taliban regime in Afghanistan which has forced to put on hold the gender justice intervention that was in there. 2022 has been particularly successful in terms of impact of Tdh's activities in the justice sector across the MENA countries. Tdh's work focused on non-custodial measures, with a particular focus on mediation as an alternative to detention, as well as in specialized capacity building of justice and child protection actors working with children in contact with the law. A higher number of women than men were supported, 38,752 over 21,078, which is a successful sign of the application of a gender-sensitive lens to the A2J program, following the Gender Justice programmatic approach in the A2J programme.



Gender and Age



Indicators



■ Country focus: Iraq

In 2022, the projects in Iraq promoting access to justice for children in contact with the law reached out 4,553 beneficiaries, including a majority of girls and young women.

The projects implemented in Iraq focused mainly on the following interventions:

1. Facilitate a rights-based, safe and restorative **access to justice for child and youth victims** and (alleged) offenders
2. Support **vulnerated children and youth** perceived to be associated with armed groups to enjoy a safe community environment by working on social cohesion activities
3. Support the **reintegration of children and youth** deprived of liberty, including by working on the **prevention of violent extremist** behaviors caused by the harsh situation lived by those children and youth socially and within the justice systems, as perceived to be associated with armed groups
4. Strengthen the **protection, education, and promotion of rights**, including **MHPSS**, of vulnerated children and youth in displacement who are in situations of deprivation of liberty
5. Cooperate with public authorities and local community actors to promote a rights-based approach through the application of **alternative measures to detention** for children through specialized capacity building and normative technical support



388

justice actors, customary and tribal judges, and non-justice stakeholders completed a cycle of training on child-friendly justice



1

curriculum has been designed on child-friendly justice (Child-friendly Legal Aid Guidelines)



2,033

children in contact with the law benefited from education services and/or legal assistance by Tdh or a partner



5

working groups in which Tdh participated to review and/or develop a normative framework



88

awareness raising campaigns on conflict prevention, child justice and children's rights held at community, national and regional levels



3

events (roundtables, workshops, training courses, awareness raising events) organized with the support of Tdh where formal and non-formal justice actors collaborated



11,787

people benefited from psychosocial and resilience-developing support



10,643

children benefited from MHPSS intervention, including Case Management



784

formal and non-formal actors completed a training on child protection



■ Success Story

The **“We Adolescent Girls, We Can”** project is a specialized response to child marriage in Lebanon as a response to the Syrian crisis. For Tdh in the MENA region, child marriage is embedded programmatically within the Gender Justice programmatic pillar. All Tdh interventions on Child Marriage follows the MENA Child Marriage Model of Action developed at Tdh.

Learn more



The main areas of intervention are:

Learn more

1. Prevention and awareness-raising activities on all the risks of child marriage aimed at changing social behavior within society and communities
2. Direct response, including legal, psychosocial and empowerment activities, financial and material assistance, creation of safe spaces for women and girls, school re-enrollment



Learn more about the the **“We Adolescent Girls, We Can”** project through Huda and Salama’s story.



“After knowing Terre des hommes Lausanne, I have the ambition for a better life, and I want to finish my studies and work in the field I love.” – Aya

Aya’s story!



Aya, a 14-year-old Syrian girl living in a camp in the Bekaa region who was able to benefit from the **“We Adolescent Girls, We Can”** project.



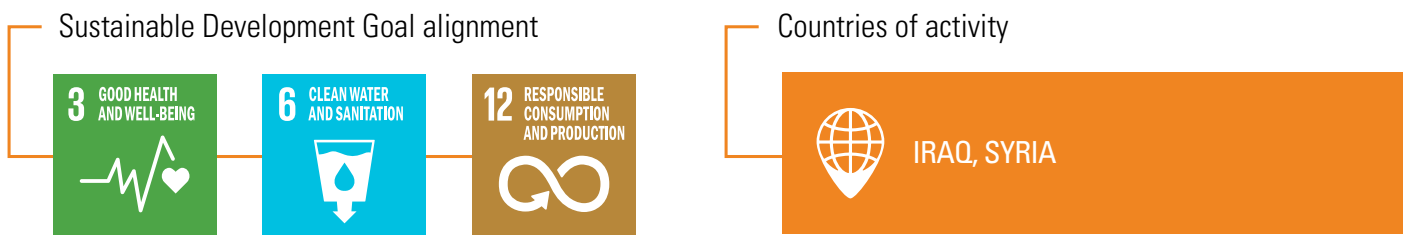
Terre des hommes
Helping children worldwide.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

2022 showed that lack of safe water, sanitation, and hygiene causes an estimated 829,000 deaths per year, including 297,000 among children under five, and diseases such as diarrhea. Climate change, war and conflicts also results in a weakened coverage of water, sanitation and hygiene services.

The MENA region is considered the most water stressed region in the world. According to 2018 data, 14 of the 17 most water stressed countries globally were in the region, including the top six. In addition to climate change, years of war, political crisis, lack of investment, electricity shortages, and widespread inflation have increased the risk of waterborne diseases due to poor WASH services. For example, in 2022 Syria and then Lebanon faced major cholera epidemics with nearly 100,000 reported cases and over 120 deaths.



It is important to note that, as expertise, WASH support can also be provided within the framework of projects that have other programs at their core. Indeed, while there are no projects that focus exclusively on WASH, in Lebanon, 172 people directly benefited from WASH services.

Overall results in MENA

In 2022, in the MENA region, Tdh's WASH activities reached 16,328 beneficiaries through 2 projects implemented in 2 countries. A slight decrease is to be noted compared to 2021, the reason being that the Iraqi delegation has decided to focus on development rather than humanitarian aid, and has therefore decreased the number of WASH projects, but not stopped completely. Moreover, the fundings for the WASH sectors have been drastically reduced while Tdh project with the SDC has not been renewed.

However, WASH projects remain highly relevant.



 Gender and Age



32%
Adults

68%
Children



 Indicators

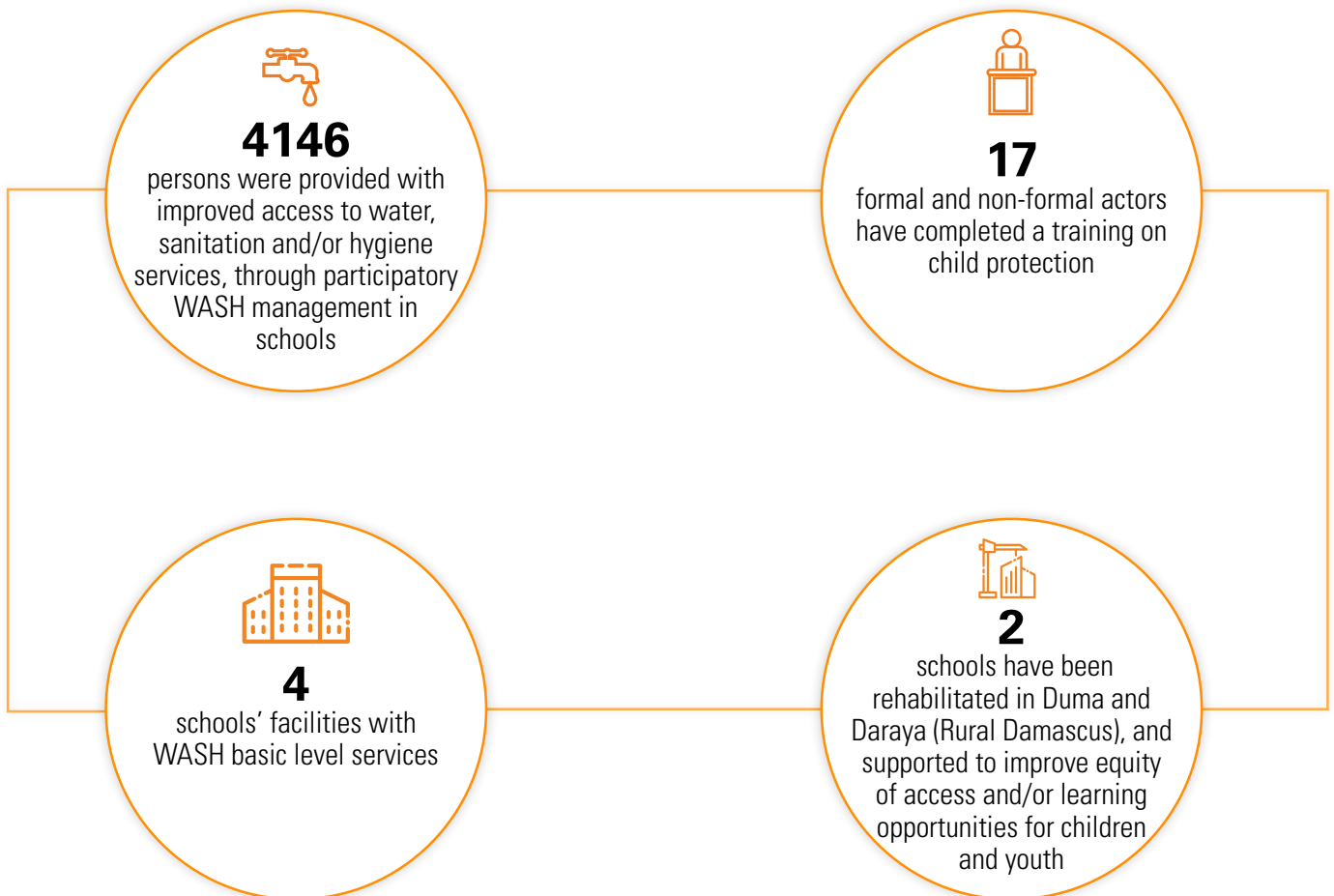


4,146 education access

197 capacity development

■ Country focus: **Syria**

In 2022, WASH projects in Syria reached out 8,477 beneficiaries, 97% of whom were children. Indeed, providing a better access to water, sanitation and/or hygiene allows to assure a better future for Syrian children on a long-term.



■ Success Story

In the Rural Damascus, in the Daraya Al-Mohdathe School in Daraya and in the Fatima Al Zahraa School in Duma, Tdh has enabled students who were already attending primary schools to improve their learning environment, by providing dignified and safe educational conditions.

Results



49

classrooms are fully equipped with educational, creative, sports and learning materials



4,056 students and 90 teachers

have access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and sanitizing items



17

partner staff have been trained/aware of child protection, post-trauma management and living together



Before rehabilitations



After rehabilitations



Child protection

Child protection is a central dimension of Tdh's work. It is a cross-cutting component of each project and is therefore implemented in all Tdh intervention countries, including the MENA region.

Child protection includes different aspects, all of which aim at fully protecting child rights. The last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as deteriorating economic situation have left children more exposed, more vulnerable, and more at risk to abuse, neglect and exploitation. Child labor, child marriage, sexual exploitation, trafficking, and recruitment of children into armed groups and armed forces are all on the rise. Climate change, war, displacement, and natural disasters continue to impact children's lives, making it increasingly difficult for them to access food, water, education, and other basic rights.

Sustainable Development Goal alignment



■ Success Story

1- From the streets to the classroom

In Lebanon, the project **Provision of quality and tailored prevention and response services for street-connected children and their families**, supported 750 children exposed to child protection risks in nine cadasters in Beirut district to get off the street and have the time to learn, play, and have fun like any other kid. The support is provided through individual case management and cash assistance. Families are thus strongly involved and are given the means to fight child labor, both on an economic level and through sensibilization and awareness-raising activities.





“I work daily on the streets; I am exposed to many dangers and bullying. I sometimes try not to listen to people’s insults and continue my day to ensure collecting my family’s daily allowance.”
– *Samer a nine-year-old Syrian boy, living in the Naba’a area in Beirut*

“I can’t explain to you how happy I am when Samer stopped going to work every day. Now he has time to play and have fun like any other kid.” – *Samer’s mother*



2. The importance of Trainings on Child Protection

Testimonies collected from participants who participated in the Safeguarding and Child Protection Training under the project Football Activities for Inclusion and Reintegration (FAIR) in Lebanon



Rania Al Masri, Sport Coach for girls and community outreach worker

“The training workshops that I participated in are among the most important ones that I participated in, as they combine “protection, integration and entertainment” and how to apply these factors in “Football.” One of the essential experiences gained is drawing up a clear plan to take the necessary preventive measures to provide a safe environment for the trainer and the child participants.”
























Talal Ibrahim, Boys and Youth football coach in Al Jalil club & Supervisor of the handicapped activities in Tyre Palestinian camps

“The experiences gained were significant, as we received the information in a new and creative way. It is essential to know the types of abuse, ways to protect children from it, and how to introduce safeguarding policies for children and sports. In addition, it is crucial to secure and prepare safe sports spaces for children to adequately implement the newly acquired policies since there is a promising future for child protection policies in our local communities.”



4- Overview of the beneficiaries

In 2022, in the MENA region, Tdh's activities reached 549,163 beneficiaries through 44 projects implemented in 7 countries. This represents an increase of 38% compared to 2021.

Country	Health	CYM	A2J	Child Protection	WaSH	Direct beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries
Afghanistan						346,846	0
Egypt						65,123	0
Iraq						45,946	4,090
Jordan						10,783	0
Lebanon						15,562	7,290
Palestine						45,046	0
Syria						8,309	168
Total						537,615	11,548



5- Fundraising in the MENA region

In 2022, despite the shift in donor focus from humanitarian to development, Tdh managed to secure a total budget of CHF 22,506,746. This figure corresponds to the total amount of funds committed by donors between January and December 2022, noting that most of these funds will be implemented beyond 2022. This represents an increase of 2.5 million compared to 2021, which is due to several reasons.

First of all, in terms of institutional donors, Egypt and Lebanon were able to renew awards with the Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) covering two years for projects:

1. *Facilitating mental health, psychosocial well-being and protection for refugees, asylum seekers and host communities in Cairo*
2. *Protecting adolescents and young women at risk of child/early marriage proving them with access to tailored and integrated Child Protection and Gender-based Violence response and prevention*

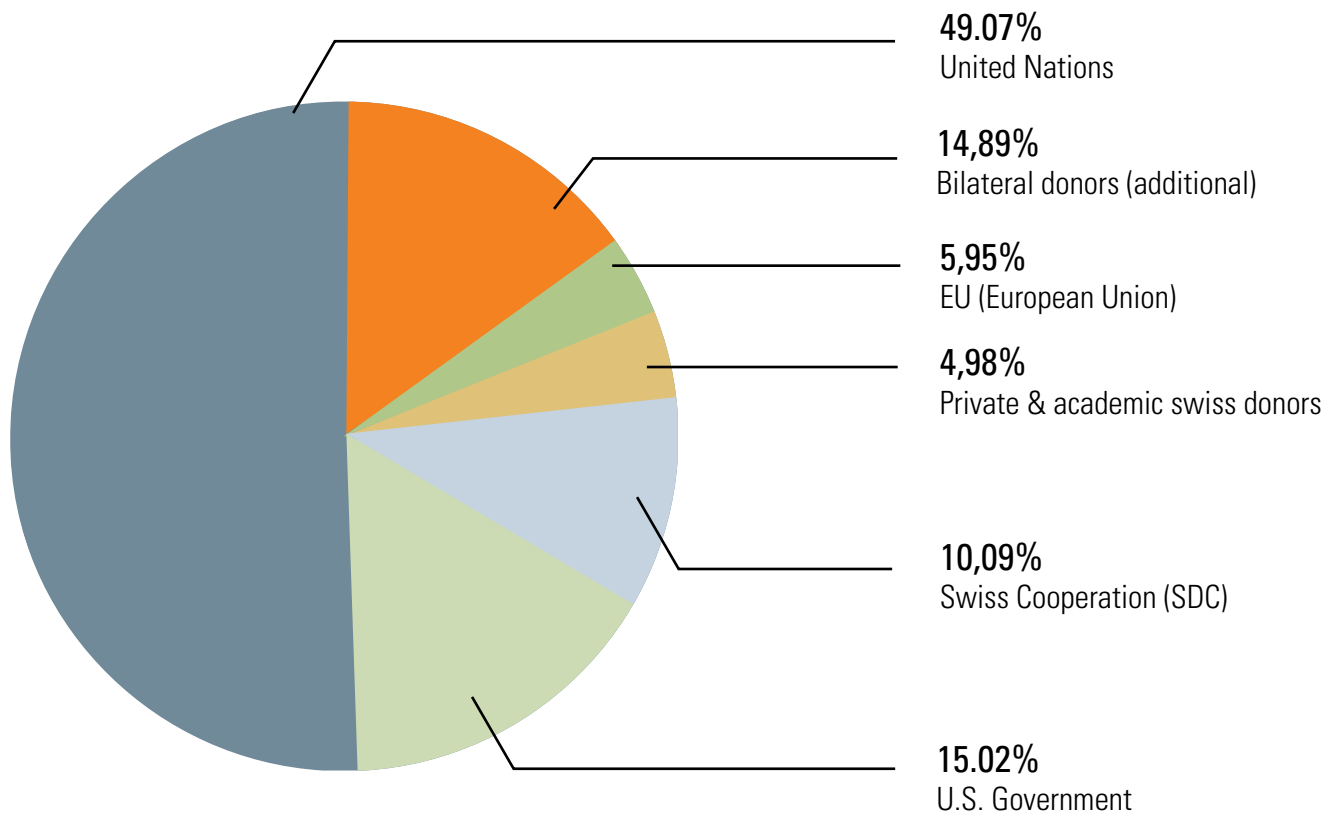
In addition, several delegations such as Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Afghanistan and Iraq have managed to secure substantial funding from Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) for a variety of projects, from improving maternal and child health for conflict-affected populations in Kabul, to community support for water, sanitation and hygiene, integrated protection and educational aid for post-conflict recovery in the governorates of Ninewa, Salah al-Din and Kirkuk, as well as tackling intersecting forms of violence against children and young people in Jordan.

Additionally, a number of other European bilateral donors also funded Tdh projects in the MENA region in 2022, including the EU (ECHO), Germany (GIZ), Italy (Italian Agency for Development Cooperation), France (The Crisis and Support Centre) and the Netherlands (Dutch government, Dutch Relief Alliance). However, due to the humanitarian nature of Tdh's work in most delegations, the UN (UNOCHA, UNICEF, UNHCR, IOM, UNFPA, UNRWA, UNICRI) remains Tdh's largest donor in 2022, with more than half of the funds.

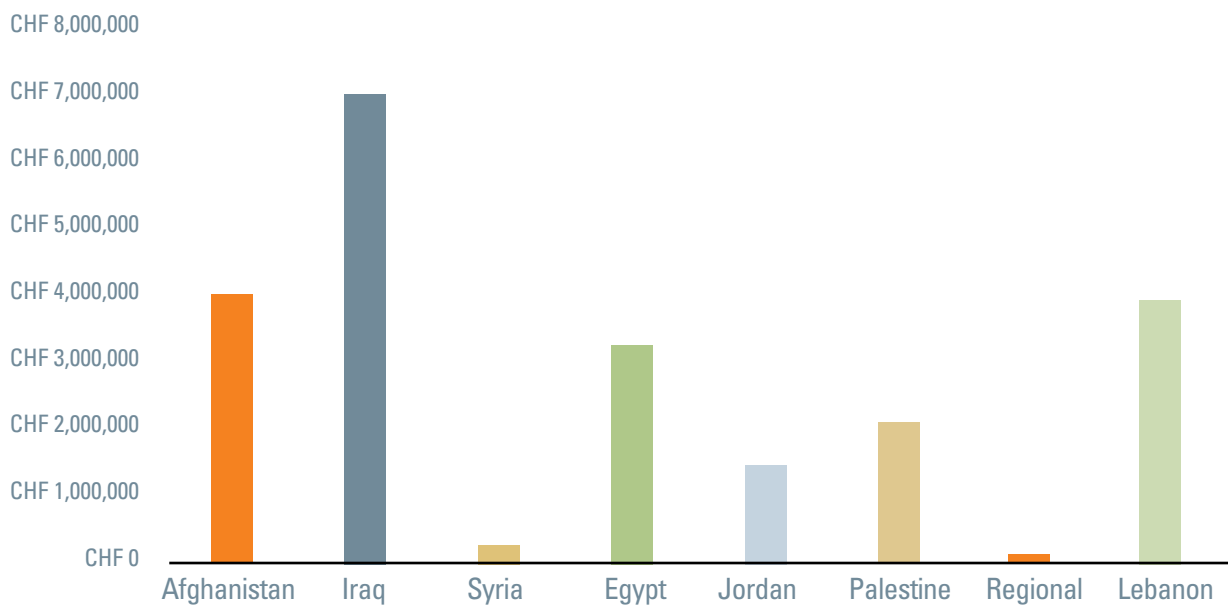
Given the changing donor landscape and focus, the main challenge in 2023 will be to diversify the donor base to ensure responsiveness to the needs of the most vulnerable populations across the region and to secure funding on the long-term.



Donor breakdown in 2022



Volume of funding raised in 2022 (CHF)





Special thanks

We especially wish to thank:

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Every child in the world
has the right to a childhood.
It's that simple.



Siège | Hauptsitz | Sede | Headquarters
Av. Montchoisi 15, CH-1006 Lausanne
T +41 58 611 06 66, e-mail: info@tdh.ch
www.tdh.ch, CCP: 10-11504-8

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