



PROJECT BRIEF

Enhancing Disease Control in northwest Syria through strengthening local health systems and improving environmental sanitation

After over a decade of conflict, Syria faces one of the most severe humanitarian crises globally, with significant loss of life, widespread displacement, and a strained health infrastructure. Northwest Syria (NWS) remains a hub for millions of internally displaced persons (IDPs), placing immense pressure on already weakened health services. The health system in NWS is fragmented and under-resourced, struggling to meet the increasing health demands of the population. This project aims to strengthen national health systems and enhance environmental sanitation in NWS by supporting central Vector-Borne Disease (VBD) management units and providing high-quality indoor-residual spraying (IRS). It will also offer solid waste management (SWM) services to highly vulnerable populations, ensuring a comprehensive approach to public health and sanitation. By addressing these critical needs, the

project seeks to improve health outcomes and build resilience within the affected communities.

Programme aims in figures:

- Establish and support two VBD Management Units, to standardise VBD management across 50 health facilities.
- Protect 172,772 people from leishmaniasis through planned IRS campaign.
- Enhance SWM conditions for populations in Al-Dana sub-district through transforming an existing solid waste dump site into a waste segregation, processing, and resource recovery centre.



OBJECTIVES

The project aims to enhance the health and well-being of vulnerable populations in NWS by strengthening local health systems, improving disease prevention and control, enhancing community practices, and promoting sustainable environmental sanitation practices.

- 1 Enhance the provision of leishmaniasis services at health facilities** through establishing central VBD Management Units.
- 2 Control and reduce the burden of leishmaniasis** amongst the vulnerable IDPs and host communities through IRS activities targeting at least 85% of the population.
- 3 Improve the environmental sustainability** of current waste disposal practices and reduce breeding source for leishmaniasis-carrying vectors and other communicable diseases.



PERIOD

20 February 2025 – 20 February 2026



EXPECTED RESULTS

By the conclusion of the programme, expected results include:

- Enhanced capacity of local health systems to manage VBDs.
- Reduced incidence of leishmaniasis through effective IRS campaigns.
- Improved environmental sanitation and waste management practices.



PROGRAMME LOCATIONS

The project targets **Afrin, Azaz, Jebel Saman, Ariha, Harim, Idleb Centre, and Jisr Ash-Shugur Districts** in Northwest Syria (NWS).

TARGETED POPULATION



30,448

Directly: IDPs, host communities, and other vulnerable groups



2,183,664

Indirectly: people who will benefit from improved health services and environmental sanitation.

DONOR

Aid Fund for Northern Syria (AFNS)

