Citizens For Syria
Mapping the Syrian civil Society actors
Phase one
After prolonged years of despotism and absolute control over public and private life in Syria, the five years since the Syrian uprising in March 2011 have been characterized by the rise of a huge number of civil groups, active in many fields. “Citizens for Syria” conducted a grassroots survey of all Syrian regions as well as neighbouring countries in order to paint a picture of the Syrian civil movement and its activities, as part as a multi-stage plan aiming to publicize and support the civil movement.

In this report, we present the results of the pilot survey of the Syrian civil society, its organizations, fields of activity, and geographical location. The survey encompassed more than 900 civil entities, 802 of which we studied using a stringent methodology for data collection, classification, and review. The research, the first of its kind, indicated that humanitarian, media, and civil organizations formed the majority of organizations, followed by human resource development, health, research, and then others specializing in social services, human rights, culture, and arts. Our research clarified the distinction in specialties between organizations working inside and outside Syria. As an example, most research organizations operate from outside Syria borders. In addition, there were differences between Syrian governates. Educational organizations were the most prominent in Aleppo, whereas in Hassaka it was the political organizations and civil centers. The outcomes of this research are purely statistically. It future stages, it would be followed by detailed analytical research focusing on the credibility and maturity and of Syrian organizations. Our research output will be periodically updated in order to develop an interactive database of the civil society organizations, with the ultimate goal of creating a comprehensive understanding of the Syrian civil society to allow plans to be in put in place to develop it, as well as to facilitate cooperation and exchange of experiences.
1. Preamble

1.1. Civil society organization in Syria

Civil society started to appear in Syria by the end of the nineteenth century. The Syrian Associations Bill (bill number 47 issued in 1953) enforced the work of civil society and its expansion (1). However, its role receded after the Baath party rose to power in 1963, and the policies it implemented such as the declaration of a state of emergency, and the interference of State Security in civil society as well as making it very difficult to register new organizations. During this period, al-bath party formed many organization and unions, such as “al-bath youth” which targets kids, “women union” which targets women, labor union and others. Needless to say, forming organizations that target the same groups like women and kids is forbidden. (2).

With the exception of the civil movement in 2004 which lasted less than three months, there was no active civil society until the beginning of the Syrian uprising. From March 2011 onwards, many civil groups started to form and appear. Initially such civil groups were very fluid and with no clear structure or agenda. However, they developed quite rapidly, turning into civil societies and organizations. Being under the international spotlight and the evermore complex of the conflict in Syria contributed to this speedy transformation. The United Nations Office for Coordinating Humanitarian Aid (OCHA) documented 205 international partner organizations working on the Syrian issue (3), working either inside Syria or in neighboring countries.

Along with international efforts, Syrians took an active role in developing the performance of civil society organizations. Formal as well as informal organizations attempted to develop their structure and methods in order to ensure their sustainability and meet the standards of international donor organizations. Despite the scarcity of resources, these civil society organizations adapted to the war and rapidly changing events, and became capable of learning from each other and optimizing their workflow and efficiency. Many Syrian organizations established solid partnerships with international organizations, especially in the last few years. Many established offices and headquarters abroad, concentrated in neighboring countries, but also spread worldwide. Such offices serve to strengthen partnerships and establish new networks, coalitions, and unions. Although most of the active Syrian organizations work mostly in their local areas, they formed ties, coalitions and unions, of various goals ranging from short-term high priority services such as providing humanitarian aid, health services, social and psychological services to the conflict’s victims, in addition to the longer term goals of educational and peace building campaigns.
1.2. The project

This project aims to map the civil society actors in Syria. The mapping is a continuous process to follow-up the activities of these groups, organizations and other civil entities, regardless of their structure or domain. This serves our goal to build the foundations of an active cooperation between organizations and shed light on local groups and projects. We also aim to participate in and publish researches about the Syrian civil society.

The project consists of the following phases. First: an initial mapping to collect general information about Syrian organizations inside Syria and in the neighboring countries, or those have a branch abroad with focus on Syria.

Second: a detailed mapping focusing on the efficiency of organizations and its administrative maturity. The initial map would also be updated periodically. The results of the initial survey and subsequent updates will be available online on the organization’s website. However, profile information about each organization gathered in the second phase, will only be available for our partners, researchers and international organizations interested in partnerships with Syrian organizations. In addition, these data will be used as a preliminary needs assessment in the fields of administration, communication and maturity. Based on this corresponding solutions will be developed either through capacity building and direct contact with the network partners for mutual support.

1.3. Goal

The report aims to provide a general understanding of the Syrian civil society movement, by communicating the results of the initial (quantitative) survey and analyzing these results based on two aspects: Domain and location.

We decided to focus on information on domains and locations of organizations because the other data we collected (date of establishment, team size, structure and internal bylaws) were not consistent to process and yield useful output.

This initial survey provides the ability to search civil society entities based on sector and field of work, geographical location, specialization as well as the ability to access their social networks and websites. This will be followed by a comprehensive analysis of the data, to generate results and a comprehensive report of the survey.

1.4. Who we are

Citizens for Syria is a civil society organization established in Berlin 2013 with presence in Syria and Turkey. With many years of experience in the Syrian crisis, our team joins both a deep understanding of the Syrian context through long experience with the civil society activities.

Citizens for Syria is a catalyst for cooperation and exchange of experiences and information between Syria civil society actors and civil society organizations from around the world. We remove obstacles preventing such cooperation and help forge trust and mutual respect among organizations. To that end, we grow and sustain a network of civil society actors both in Syria and the Euro-med space to support democracy, diversity and development in Syria now and in the aftermath.
2. Methodology

2.1. Definitions

**The Civil Society**

The definition of the World Bank

“the term civil society to refer to the wide array of non-governmental and not-for-profit organizations that have a presence in public life, expressing the interests and values of their members or others, based on ethical, cultural, political, scientific, religious or philanthropic considerations. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) therefore refer to a wide array of organizations: community groups, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), labor unions, indigenous groups, charitable organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, and foundations”.[4]

**What is a Syrian civil society organization?**

In this research, we define a Syrian civil society organization as such:

A non-profit, non-governmental, non-partisan and non-violent institution, with a distinct Syrian flavor, such that the majority of its management team members are Syrians, it focuses on the Syrian cause, it primarily targets Syrians in Syria or in neighboring countries, or particularly social Syrian social sectors or ethnicities. The legal status of an institution does not affect our classification of it as a Syrian civil society organization.

**Civic Activists and Community initiatives**

A group of citizens gathered in order to address a particular problem which was not addressed by the responsible authorities or other NGO’s. The initiative aims to advocate a cause or respond to an emergency by acting and deciding collectively. Such groups have no particular hierarchy or title.

**Which institutions are included in the survey?**

The above-defined institutions, civil initiatives or activists’ initiatives which have specific titles and a formal channel of communication.
Which institutions are excluded from the survey?

**Governmental organizations**
Organizations that declare their activity as a part of the Syrian Interim government or those dependent on the Syrian government and the ones created and affiliated with political parties. In addition, organizations that have an armed component or have been documented participating in violence. Finally, organizations that support or are under the control of armed groups such as Nosra Front and Islamic State.

**Facebook pages and Twitter accounts**
Projects using Social networks as their main outlet were not included due to the difficult nature of classification while ensuring information reliability. Almost three thousand Facebook pages, about four hundred of which provide unique content (information that is not replicated from other sources) focus on Syria’s issues, are being reviewed for inclusion in future reports. A table which includes links to these pages will be published on our website, as they are important initiatives, especially for advocacy and media communication.

**The semi-governmental institutions**
Local Councils and Health Directorates are interfacial bodies making their classification difficult. They have an independent structure, administrative body and funds, but introduce themselves publicly as attached to the Syrian interim government and its bodies. This is why we have decided to postpone researching them until the second phase, even though information about more than 300 local Council and Health Directorates was available.

**Continuity**
Inactive organizations and organizations that were only the temporarily active were not included. We also excluded organizations and media entities with no record of activity for six months from the start of our research on June 1, 2015.
2.4. Data Gathered:

- Name of the organization in Arabic and English, or in the native language.
- Contact information and main data source (Website, Facebook page, Twitter,)
- Work sector/domain: only three domains are considered, classified according to a modified ICNPO, which was expanded in brainstorming meetings among the team and was approved later by the research consultants.
- Location: we considered the headquarters of the organization and at least two branches. The Syrian governorates were used as a base for geographical classification. Organizations located outside were classified based on country, rather than state/provenance.

2.2. International Classification for Non-Profit Organization

We categorized the organizations upon the “International Classification for Non-Profit Organization (ICNPO)”, the ICNPO was published on 1996 and consists of 13 main categories with 30 sub-categories, and we expanded them based on the explanation of categories to a second and third level of categories. Finally we added a forth level to mirror the civic scene in Syria, the final result was 162 categories with codes for each one, the full list of categories are in Annex 1.

2.3. Information sources:

Primary sources of data: This data was gathered by interviewing organizations, institutions and Syrian teams. It includes:

* Direct observations by monitors. Monitors are spread in all Syrian governorates - each local team is directed by a Regional Manager- as well as a team in Turkey. Information is gathered and entered to an online platform so it can be cross checked with all other sources by the data review and processing team. This team reports to the main office in Berlin. (see figure 1)

* Direct interviews with organizations: interviews conducted by the monitors or area managers. This was especially the case with Syrian organizations and networks mentioned in this report.

* Published information about each organization on their official communication channels.

Secondary sources of data:

* Information provided by partners of particular organizations.

* Information published by previous surveys.

* Data harvesting, which was specifically applied to Facebook, and partial on other social media.
2.5. Outreach to besieged and dangerous areas

We depended on enumerators in the besieged areas and some dangerous areas controlled by extremist groups that we refrain from mentioning, besides received initial information from activists living there and representatives of organizations living in those dangerous areas via direct communication on internet.

2.6. Methodology of Gathering Data:

For the purpose of collecting data, Syria was divided into three main regions:

Northern sector: Al-Hassakeh, Deir Ezzor, Ar Raqqa, Aleppo, Idleb, Lattakia’s eastern countryside and Hama’s Northern countryside

Center: Damascus, Damascus Suburbs (Rif Dimashq) and Homs

Southern sector: Daraa, Qunaitra and As-Swaida

Each region has its own team of monitors and a regional manager. Together they collected data from the previously mentioned sources and checked the consistency of such data.

2.7. Data verification:

* Revising data during the process of data collection by local monitors
* Auditing monitors’ data by regional managers
* Auditing regional managers’ data by the data processing team.
* Comparing data collected with data provided by partner organizations.
* Auditing and coding data by a team of specialists in the organization
2.8. Life cycle of information

After the data entry by enumerators, their supervisor performs a preliminary review of information provided about the organization, its integrity, rationality, and whether the required fields were correctly completed. If any irregularities are found, the enumerator is requested to further investigate.

Content is then forwarded to the verification officer who cross-checks it with other data sources; either lists provided by our research partners or activists from the respective region. If gaps are present in the content, the verification officer send it back to the area manager for another round of checks.

We have also utilized data sources provided by our partners and a public search of social networks conducted by our IT team using data harvesting techniques, this has assisted us in discovering many organizations, especially those working outside Syrian borders.

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<tr>
<th>Phase I</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Management</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hire Enumerators</td>
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<td><strong>Verification officer</strong></td>
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<td>Cross-check with Partner lists</td>
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<td>Investigate</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td><strong>Area Manager</strong></td>
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<td>Train Enumerators</td>
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<td>Check Data Consistency</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td><strong>Enumerator</strong></td>
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<td>Get general information about Organizations</td>
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<td>Double check information</td>
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Figure 1: Data verification workflow
2.9. Reliability of information

We expect the survey and research to have a high credibility of information as the data entry is verified at least twice. However, we realize that some mistakes might occur given the limited time available to conduct the initial survey, and the large number of organizations we included in this research. Such mistakes can be corrected and adjusted in our future detailed mapping, as we will have more time and more experienced monitors at our disposal.

In case of any missing information or mistakes please report it to us by filling in the following table: www.CitizensForSyria.org/Reportingform
Or contacting us under mapping@CitizensForSyria.org

2.10. The team

The project team in the information unit consists of ten persons selected based on their qualifications and engagement within the civil society scene in their regions. Moreover, we were assisted by consultants who accompanied the research and reviewed the report. The team was supported by two administrators, three IT technicians and information technology security experts as well as many volunteers who assisted in gathering and reviewing information, translation, preparing and finalizing the report. We have also received significant support from the project’s partners, and Syrian organizations and networks who provided many data resources, consultations and many other forms of support.

2.11. Challenges

The team faced some scientific and practical challenges:

Security challenges: due to the deteriorating security situation in the country, which negatively affected the ability to communicate with enumerators and organizations

Research-related challenges: it was not easy for the team to determine the main and secondary domains of organizations and their main base. It was especially hard to identify the correct classification of the organizations, not to mention the difficulty to define the Syrian civil society organizations

Technical difficulties with the technologies used to collect, process and visualize the data

Logistical challenges: the time available for this phase of the project was 2 months and it was not enough for a thorough survey which should be done in the next phase, lack of human and financial resources and the problems of bank transfers between the center in Germany, Turkey and enumerators inside.

Footnote

(2) Executive directions number 9/D/62 dated on 8/8/1979 related to associations law, requires the executive offices in governorates to reject applications of organizations and bonds with goals similar to the ‘public’ organizations (Baath youth, union of revolution youth, union of students, women union...etc)
3. Results:

Phase I – Initial survey

The first survey generated results which painted a picture about the reality of the Syrian civil society, shedding light on its activities, interests, the variation in their fields of work and specializations, amongst other information. This initial survey will be expanded in the future through a thorough survey, which will include a wider range of the active players and more details.

The initial survey included 802 active civil society entity. Moreover, we have data on 175 other organizations, which is being verified as this report is being produced but we have not incorporated it in this report to guarantee its accuracy. It will be on the website as soon as it is verified, and will be included in a later updated report.

Through this mapping we can navigate the geographical and thematic sectors of organizations, with references to its online outlets. Based on the collected data we were able to analyze and conclude many facts about the Syrian civil society, this report explains those facts and results of our analysis.

Phase II, detailed data collection

The next phase includes expanding the database to create a profile for each organization that contains verified, comprehensive and clear information about their history and most significant events they went through, maturity, expansion capabilities, strengths and weaknesses. This will help identify their capability to implement projects, as well as to identify the needs of each individual organizations and well as the Syrian civil society as a whole. Moreover, it will establish an efficient networking based on facts not speculations, to link non-Syrian civil societies abroad, providing support, and funds or interest in the Syrian issue.

Updates

The database will be reviewed and new entries will be added continuously, a cycle of 3 months is set as a goal for the regular updates, since the situation is rapidly changing.
3.1. Results Based on Nature of Work

We studied the distribution of organizations within each sector. We noticed that ‘Relief’, ‘Media’ and ‘Civil and Advocacy organizations’ are the most interesting domains for Syrian organizations, followed by ‘Development’, ‘Health’, ‘Education and Research’ followed by others domains like ‘Social Services’, ‘Human Rights, and ‘Culture and Arts’.

Throughout our research we focused on the main domain of the organization – whereas other fields of work were given a secondary consideration. A similar strategy was adopted with regards to the geographical distribution of organizations. We considered the location of the organization’s headquarters foremost but also took into account the locations of its fieldwork and branches.

Main domain is the most significant sector the organization itself focuses on, for example, a medical organization is classified as ‘Health’ organization as a main domain, it might take one or two sub-sectors of ‘Health’ like ‘Vaccinations’ or ‘prostheses’. however this is not always the case with Syrian organizations since each entity has several interests that are not necessary related to the main domain, i.e. a ‘Health’ organization that is active in relief, development or advocacy, this lead to a complex level of details.
3.1.1. Civil and Advocacy organization

The newly founded civil organizations have participated in advocating society’s most urgent causes like civil rights, human rights and liberties, independent of race, religion or politics. Those organizations are direct descendants of the much simpler form, the ‘coordination committees’ emerged with the public uprising mid-March 2011. With the increase of areas out of the Syrian government’s control and absence of its security service, the need for this kind of organized activism became clear, therefore around the fifth of Syrian organizations was working as Civil or Advocacy organizations despite the tough humanitarian and security circumstances.

In this study, 129 civil organizations were counted during the basic mapping and categorized under the international classification ‘Advocacy and Civil Organizations’, knowing that the number of organizations included in the deep research will increase in order to build more specific data.

The percentage of the organizations included under the classification (advocacy and civil organizations) has reached 16% of the Syrian organizations, 10% of them worked from outside Syria; and 22 organizations had branches abroad mainly in Europe.

Al-Hassakah has biggest share of active civil organizations 51 organizations, majority have a clear structure and a bylaw, and eleven have branches inside Syria in Aleppo, Idleb, Lattakia and As-Swaida.

Nearly half of those organizations worked in several sub-sectors of the main domain, while 23 are focusing solely on ‘Human Rights’ fields like ‘violation documentation’ and ‘Detainee support’ out of 48 working in Human-rights related activities. Advocacy is the main domain of 21 organizations and secondary domain for 13.

Notably is the rate of specializing in this sector very high, as 43% of those organizations worked in one general sector, only few worked in ‘Culture and Arts’, ‘Education and Research’ and ‘Development’ as a secondary domain.

![Figure 3: secondary domains for ‘Civil and Advocacy organizations’](chart.png)
3.1.2. Media and Communication

Media activism in Syria is considered to be one of the most dangerous fields for activists working in it due to the direct contact with battlefield and security concerns in the government-controlled areas, added to the pressure of some militants that is being applied on media activism in of government control areas.

Media activism was limited in working under the supervision of institutions dependent to the Syrian government, until 2001 when the legislative decree No.7 has went into force which allows the registration of independent newspapers; the decree was functional until 2005 when all the newly registered newspapers were closed.

Social media activism is the most popular kind of activism during the last five years, the mapping team has counted over 3000 Facebook pages, blogs and media groups being managed by activists, civil and local groups.

Looking at the large amount of media data especially that has been published over social media; our mapping team has decided to present it within a separate report that will be published soon.

The mapping shows that 141 organizations and media institutions; knowing that ‘Media and Communication’ are categorized as Subsidiary categories under the international classification ‘Culture and Art’; and according to the international classification, six subsidiary categories branch out of the communication and media category.

‘Printing and publishing’ sub-sector include the magazines and newspapers, and according to the mapping results, 67 newspapers are being printer which makes 33.5% of the media activism, most of the issues were distributed locally. 42.6% of publications covered the majority of areas outside the control of the Syrian government. Thirty percent of the printed magazines have monthly issues, while three half-monthly newspapers that print over 5000 issues per month were mapped.

Seventy percent of the issues distributed in Syria and neighboring countries are printed in Turkey, 90% of the printed issues have a reach in Aleppo and Aleppo Countryside while most of the printed issues cover northern Syria and Damascus suburbs.

Kafranbel area has performed outstandingly in this Domain, where five newspapers and one children’s magazine are being published.

Three newspapers are publishing material in Turkish, while four electronic newspapers have published English content.

Radio stations take the biggest share of media sectors, radio stations are 31% of the overall media organizations. Therefore we made some detailed research on Radio stations on four factors:

Allocation and geographic coverage – broadcasting hours – online broadcasting over Tune in – FM Radio Broadcasting.

Forty percent of the radio stations had transmitting towers inside Syria that covers one city at least, 5% of those radio stations where relying on sharing other stations transmitting hours (2 hours Daily), Eighty percent of the radio stations have covered Aleppo city and Rural,

Fifty-eight percent of the radio stations were broadcasting through online (Tunein.com), 60% of the FM-transmitting stations work in Turkey either in Gaziantep or Istanbul, two in Amman-Jordan, the rest has offices in Egypt, France and UAE.

Only one organization was broadcasting in Idleb and has its main office in Kafranbel (Fresh FM) and three in the Kurdish areas: ARTA FM, Dengê Hêvî and Welat FM.

Ten news agencies are covering the updates in Syria, six of which are registered in the hosting country (four in Turkey, two in the USA)

Four institutions worked in visual arts under the ‘Film and Video’ category, two as a main domain and two as a secondary one.

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Figure 4: Media institutions and alternative media
3.1.3. Relief and Emergency

By ‘Relief and emergency’ we mean all activities related to humanitarian aid especially those needed in the emergency situations, quick intervention and disaster control. Many sub-categories are enlisted under this title such as food and livelihood, emergency telecommunication, sterilization and hygiene, we basically depended on the ‘Clustering System’ of Aids organizations to classify the organizations working in this field.

Majority of the Syrian Organizations focused on the «Relief and Emergency» as a main domain due to the deteriorated humanitarian situation in many Syrian regions, 172 organization worked mainly in the field which forms 21.4% of the total number of organizations in this research, 55% of them have an internal structure and a bylaws which runs the organizations work and operations.

Regarding the activities abroad, 14.5% of the Relief organizations are based outside Syria. Whereas 28% of the organizations have offices and branches outside the country, 20% of them have branches in Turkey, and only three percent have a presence in Lebanon, and due to the difficulties in cross-border operations from Lebanon.

The percentage of organizations active in northern Syria i.e. Aleppo, Idlib, Al-Hassakeh and Der Ezzor is 32% of the total relief organizations, 28 % in the southern region i.e. Damascus, Damascus suburbs, Daraa and Qunaitra And 22.3 % of relief organizations are based in and working in the central region i.e. Homs, Hama, Lattakia and Tortuous. Moreover our team could not register any organizations active in As Swaida in the relief field.

“Food and Livelihood» is the most important sub-sector for relief organizations, 20% of the 172 relief organizations are specialized in providing food for people in need, on the contrary the working in medical aid came below with 1.8% of organizations, and only 4 organizations worked in «Camp management»

According to the statistics, there are some common interests between the organizations specialized in development and housing and those working in relief and emergency, 23% of the organizations working in relief also work in one of the development sectors as a secondary domain. Twelve percent of the relief organizations has projects in education.

Team note: the traditions in Syria focus on the gifts and donations, the family ties and support-duties even among extended-family members it is very important and offers a safety net in cases of the absence of official support.

Civil defense is a major sector in times of crisis, the organizations working in this domain are building a strong cooperation and soon the Civil Defense will be centralized and coordinated under the bigger umbrella the ‘Syrian Civil Defense Commission’.

Figure 5: Relief organizations to their locations (base or branches)
3.1.4. Education and Research

This Sector includes the primary and higher education, and researches, it is remarkable that those institutions are to a great extent centralized, a single organization is supervising and supporting multiple schools, training workshops or studies.

3.1.4.1. Education

According to the statistics, 58 organizations work in the education field. About seven percent out of the total number of organizations covered by this paper.

A huge interest of Education was expressed by the organizations based in the neighboring countries, a 46.7% of educational institutions are mainly based and working abroad, the rest were scattered over the Syrian governorates, however Aleppo had the lead with 11 organizations where working in it, followed by Al-Hasakeh and Damascus Suburbs with five in each.

The majority of educational organizations focus on schooling and primary education with a rate of 75% of the total active organizations in the field, the rest worked in vocational training and adult schools, notably there was one kindergarten at least specialized in working with people with disabilities (mute and deaf), and one schools for teaching Quran.

Thirty percent of the organizations working in education are working additionally in other sectors too. Mainly child welfare and services where 20% of education organizations has projects in this domain. One organization worked with people with disabilities, and five took part of relief and emergency activities as a secondary domain, other secondary domains are health, family welfare, equality and research, whereas the technical education was only interesting for one organization.

Thirteen percent of educational organizations work in Damascus, Damascus suburbs and Daraa. Thirteen organizations that work in Aleppo are 20% of the total number of peer organizations. While only one has a presence in all the Syrian governorates except Raqqa, Der Ezzor and As Swaida.

Thirteen percent of the education organizations working in Syria have branches outside Syria in neighboring countries either in Turkey, Lebanon or Jordan. On the other side, the organizations with their headquarters is already abroad (17 organizations in total) consider Turkey as their best destination to work, Turkey hosts more than half of those organizations, the rest work in 4
3.1.4.2. Research

Six percent of Syrian organizations are working in researches, exactly 24 organizations worked in the political and social researches, economic researches, medical, surveys and science and technology.

The majority of these institutions work abroad, this could be easily accepted taking into consideration the need of stable circumstances for such activities. Nineteen organizations work abroad, 18 of them have presence in Turkey, with offices in France, UAE and other countries. Two organizations do not have (or we could not locate) any headquarters, and five organization exercise their activities mainly online.

Social and political researches were the most populated sector with 80% of organizations publish on social and political issues, followed by two organizations performing surveys, and one organization is working in each of the other sectors.

Two organizations offer consultations as a secondary activity, and one in advocacy.

Figure 6: Education organizations over governorates
3.1.5. Health

The ‘Health’ sector contains all medical services as sub-sectors like ‘Hospitals’, ‘Rehabilitation’, ‘Nursing houses’, ‘Mental centers’ and ‘psychological-support centers’.

Medical domains resembles 5.8% of the total Syrian organizations work that have been covered in the statistics. There are 47 organizations working in this sector, 10% among them work outside Syria. There are also 26 organizations that work in the health field as a subsidiary activities.

Fifty percent of the health organizations focus their activities in Aleppo and Damascus suburbs. Damascus suburbs is the governorate with the highest number of medical organizations.

Seventeen percent of health organizations inside Syria have branches in a one or more neighboring countries, 12.8% have a branch or more in Turkey, while eight percent have branches in Lebanon and Jordan.

Ninety percent of health organizations work in more than one competence, ‘logistics and medical warehousing’ and ‘Field Hospitals’ where at 8.5% each

A large number of organizations working in health sector work on other domains, 5.3% of them work on civil defense while 3.5% work on training and staff coaching. With a percentage of 17.4% working on it as a second competence, relief work is the most prominent one.

Monitoring the other organization working on other health sub-sectors, statistics show that 13% of them work in prosthesis, mostly in Damascus Suburbs. There is one organization working on psychological health as a main competence. 4 organizations, that resemble 8.7%, work on ambulance field, taking in consideration that 92% of ambulances have been affected in the country according to a report issued by the office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the United Nations.

Many civil society organizations work on health sector. Six percent of organizations working on relief and emergencies have shared interests with health work, thus they work in many health competencies as a secondary ones.

Some organizations working in medical services have branches in Germany, Canada, Switzerland UK and USA.
Social services are defined as the specialty that provides many forms of social services especially protection, such as providing care for children, youth services, family care, and women services.

Social services are at the center of Syrian organization’s attention, 62 organizations focus on providing social services as a main or secondary goal. 53 organizations declare that social services are the main activity they take, which equals 6.6% of the total number of organization registered in the first survey. According to distributed over cities, Al-Hasakeh has the biggest share of organizations focusing on social services, 17% of such organizations are located there. Damascus comes next with 15%. Eleven percent of total organizations providing social services are located outside Syria. 26% of such organizations operating in Syria have offices outside the country.

Thirty-four percent of the total organizations are active in northern Syria (Al-Hasakeh, Deir Ezzor, Aleppo, Idlib), 11% are centered in the middle of the country (Homs, Hama, Tartus). Thirty-four percent work in southern Syria (Damascus, Daraa, al-Swaida, Rif Dimashq), finally one organization provides social services on a country level (it covers more than 4 Syrian cities).

Forty-five percent of the organizations providing social services have a clear administrative structure.

Sixty-three percent of these organizations work with more than three sub-specialties. A substantial attention is directed to psychological care centers, where 5.5% of total organizations work in this field.

Many of the organizations providing social services work additionally to provide other services: 15% work in education, 7.5% work in child-care, and four percent provide protection for women.

Third of organizations worked in the northern region of Syria, another third in the southern areas and 11 % in the central area. The rest are based abroad.
3.1.7. Social and creative clubs

According to the international ranking of specialties, social and creative clubs are considered to be a culture and art specialty. The closest form of such communities is the civil society centers that have been active in the last two years. Organizations that work in this field are 21, which is 2.7% of total surveyed organizations.

Such centers are distributed over four cities. Aside from some clubs that are active outside Syria (two of the surveyed organizations are active in Turkey), 14 organizations work in Al-Hasakeh, Idleb has two organizations and finally Tartus and Qunaitra have one organization in each.

Many organizations take up cultural work as a secondary interest, especially in Al-Hasakeh where 6 organizations have established cultural centers beside their main focus on issues like “art”, “civil rights” and “empowering women”.

3.1.8. Development and Housing

Due to the absence of government in many regions in Syria, many organizations had to take steps in development like those working in reconstruction, and providing basic services, or in fields of social development like women empowerment organizations.

Eighty-nine organizations (11% of total organizations) work in development as a main domain, 136 organizations participated in such efforts as a secondary activity, and 87 worked solely in ‘Development and Housing’ and didn’t define or it wasn’t identified weather they have any secondary activities ones.

Development includes ‘Economic development’ activities such as ‘Reconstruction’, ‘Staff training’ and ‘Service Recovery’. The ‘Social development’ activities such as ‘Women Empowerment’. Community organizations like the ‘Local initiatives’ and ‘Local and citizens groups’. Or ‘job training programs’ and ‘vocational rehabilitation and sheltered workshops’. Those divisions and many aspects of development can explain why many organizations work and focus on more than one area.

Fifty-three organizations work in social development, more than 28 of which focus on ‘Women Empowerment’, 10 of the latter focused on women as a secondary interest.

Administrative training and training in general receives an important share of attention. Sixteen of the organizations focusing on development conduct trainings, three organizations provide continuous training and teaching adults.

Eight organizations work in reconstruction, one in rehabilitation public services, and one in infrastructure.

Most of the organizations working in development as a second domain are relief organizations. 27.2% of relief organizations focus on development as a secondary interest. To the contrary Development organizations were more interested in Education and Research, Human rights and networking as a secondary interest, only third of them focused solely on Development.

One important feature of organizations working in development is that they mainly work inside Syria. 78% of these organizations work inside the country. Al-Hasakeh has 25% of the total organizations, Damascus has 13 organizations, Aleppo, Idleb and Damascus Suburbs have seven organizations each. The Survey shows the intensity in developmental efforts in northern Syria, where half of total developmental organizations are active and 24% of the total work in the south.

The bases of 21 organizations are outside the country, half of these are located in Turkey, three in France.
3.1.9. Political organizations

What is meant by political organization is not a political party but rather the organizations that seek to spread political ideas and raise a popular political awareness and engagement.

According to the initial survey, the activity of 16 organizations is considered political, this is two percent of all civil organizations working in Syria (total number is 802 organizations).

There are eight political organizations active in Al-Hasakeh, a share of 53%, 26% of total political organization are active in Aleppo and 20% outside Syria.

The team’s notes:
Political work and activity in Al-Hasakeh, where in face most of the political organizations are active, is relatively easier given the relative freedom, the security situation and freedom of mobility compared to other Syrian cities. Most of the political activities are conducted by Kurdish parties and organizations that have a relatively good environment to work, such organizations have influence and activities in regions with Kurdish majority such as in Kobani and Afrin in Aleppo.

Fifty-three percent of the political organizations stated its main specialty to be a political entity and political alliance, 20% of the political organizations have offices and branches outside Syria, mainly in Turkey. Thirteen percent of total organizations stated its main specialty as youth organization for a political party. Six organizations are registered according to its main specialty as a “political organizations and parties”, five of these are active in Al –Hasakeh. The presence of such organizations in the north of Syria is clear as well. Two of the total organizations have civil activities and many others work in addition in human rights and coordinating and peace building.
3.1.10. Environment

Since Environment is the concern of this sector, some other sub-sectors have branched out of the main one, such as controlling pollution, sustaining natural resources, sustaining animal resources, wildlife conservation and some others.

Due to the on-going conflict in most Syrian territories and governorates only eight organizations are concerned with the environment as their primarily or secondarily specialty. According to the initial survey and its statistical outcomes, we found that the environment is the least field of work among the civil work fields in Syria. It accounted for 0.75% of the total civil activity in Syria, a mere six organizations working in this sector as their primary specialty, in addition to two organizations which had environmental work as one of their secondary specialties.

Geographically speaking, only two of the environment organizations work in Al-Hassakeh region, and three more work in Damascus, Tartus and Hamah (in Salamiyah precisely). While only two other organizations work on environmental issues as a secondary domain of theirs in Tartus and Hamah.

All environment organizations have worked under the banner of sustaining natural resources, while two organizations have worked on Development issues as co-specialization. According to the initial survey, only one environment organization has worked on Syria’s heritage as a secondary specialization protecting Syria’s heritage.

3.1.11. Culture and Art

Culture and Art domain branches to sub-categories: media, communication, visual arts, history, acting, etc. However in this part we have focused on organizations working directly in the fields of arts and culture, while media will be thoroughly discussed in another part.

Twenty eight Syrian organizations out of 802, included in the initial survey, worked in the culture and arts field; that is 5.7 % of the total number of organizations.

Nineteen of those organizations are located in Al-Hasakeh which equals to 68% of the total in the same domain. Aleppo ranks second with 10.7% of the total number of the organizations working on arts and culture. Some of the regions these organizations are located are Amuda, Tal-Tamer, Afrin and Al-Malikiyah (Derik). The initial survey states that 61% of those organizations have clear and focused visions.

Language is a domain were a single organization worked in as a primary domain, although many organizations are interested in this field and have it as a part of its activities especially in the Kurdish areas like Hasakeh, Kobani and Afrin.

Two organizations also working on civil human rights as co-specialization were identified, as well as two others working in media and communication.
3.1.12. Philanthropic Intermediaries and Voluntarism Promotion

Based on the ICNPO (see annex1) we enumerated 19 organizations working in this sector as a main or secondary domain.

These organizations worked in three main sub-sectors: networking and cooperation, grant making organizations and voluntarism promotion and support, whereas none of the Syrian organizations was specialized in fundraising at least to the extent of the research.

As for the main domains of organizations, four out of five of philanthropic and intermediary’s organizations worked in networking and cooperation as a main domain, Citizens for Syria is classified as one of them.

The secondary domains of the above mentioned organizations was in development-related sectors, like training, capacity building, two organizations are grant-makers and one is working in civil rights. Notably the grant-making organizations supported the voluntarily activities as a secondary activity.

Despite that 11 organizations are based on the voluntarily work we did not classify them under this category since their main activities are focused on other fields, mainly relief, development and advocacy.

3.1.13. Others

Two sectors were less populated by Syrian organizations.

Sports: one organization is interested in this field and works in Turkey but organizing some tournaments in Aleppo.

Religion: one organization was recorded to be working in a religion-related activity and is concerned in religious education and holy Quran teaching, and works in Turkey as well.
3.2. Results based on the geographical distribution

As mentioned in the previous sections, the geographical distribution of the Syrian organizations will be described in four major categories depending on the regions as follows,

Northern region: includes the provinces of Al-Hassakeh, Deir Ezzor, Ar Raqqa, Aleppo, and Idleb.
Central region: includes the provinces of Homs, Hama, Lattakia and Tartus.
Southern region: includes the provinces of Dara’a, Damascus, Damascus Suburbs, Qunaitra and As Swaida.

Neighboring countries: Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq
out of the 802 organizations in the database 643 are working inside the country, among which 80 organizations worked on the national level or covered more than five provinces, in addition
to 148 entities based abroad, 12 organizations is active online and do not have a specific base or office

Figure 10: Geographical distribution inside Syria and abroad
The civic activities flourished shortly after the loss of control of the Syrian government over the majority of northern region. This new situation created a vacuum in state-run services that gave the civil society organizations the incentive and need to expand their activities and work in several fields to bridge the gap.

Team note two provinces of the north of Syria, Ar Raqqa and Deir Ezzor enjoyed a strong civic movement for a while however it was soon stopped after the control of ISIS.

The northern region is the most active geographical area. So that 320 organizations work in the north distributed on provinces - in Al-Hassakeh 158 organizations, in Deir Ezzor 14 organizations, in Aleppo 109 organizations, in Idlib 39 organizations. However, the statistics do not show any activities in Ar Raqqa for the last six months.

Al-Hassakeh:
Is the province with the biggest number of organizations which work in the northern region, a total of 158 organization equals to 49.4 % of those working in the northern area are active in Al-Hassakeh.

Activities in the province of Al-Hassakeh is distributed over 10
districts. Qamishli has the largest community of civil society actors with 73 organizations then Amuda with 22 and 11 are based Malikiyah (Derik).

**Deir Ezzor:**
The pilot survey in Deir Ezzor shows that 14 organizations are working, which equals to 4.4% of the Syrian organizations in the northern area.

The sector in which those organizations work in are like follows, 8 organizations work in relief and emergency, three organizations work in social services and one works in each of the education, development and media communication.

Team note; due to security reasons the team decided not to publish any further details about those organizations and their activities in both of Ar Raqq and Deir Ezzor.

**Aleppo:**
Aleppo comes second after Al-Hasakeh in numbers of organizations based in the province. We registered 109 organizations practice their activities in the governorate, a 34.1% of the total number of entities in the northern area.

The organizations distributed over 17 districts in the governorate, Ain-Alarab Kobani came first with 24 organizations, then the city of Aleppo which hosts 14 organizations and Afrin 12, Atareb and the countryside have 5 active organizations each.

Many organizations have branches in other provinces, mainly five in Idleb, four in Hama, two in Damascus suburbs and one in Homs.

Organizations operating in Aleppo have branches in six countries, mainly Turkey where 21 organization has branches in it. Two organizations have presence in the United Kingdom and others have branches in Germany, Denmark, United Arab Emirates and Jordan.

With 29 organizations Aleppo has the biggest number of organizations working in relief and emergency sector among all other governorates.

**Idleb:**
The pilot survey recorded 39 organizations active in Idleb, makes to 12.5% of the total number in the north, activities spread over 14 districts, majority in Kafranbel of four organizations then two in each of Atma, Kansafra Jozef and Maaret Al-Nouman, one in each of the remaining cities.

Media and communication was the most practiced sector in the province of 14 organizations, while nine worked in relief and emergency and five in civil organizations and advocacy, at last is education and social services.

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Figure 12: Administrative segmentation in the northern area
3.2.2. South

**Damascus**
The first-level mapping showed 63 organizations in the capital that make up to 41% of the total number of organizations in the south, the organizations are spread over a wide spectrum of domains (14 domains in total), most visited was relief and emergency with 19% and development and housing 14.7%.

Organizations in Damascus are distributed on many neighborhoods, majority were in Yarmouk camp (seven organizations) and four in Jaramana

**Damascus Suburbs (Rif Dimashq)**
(63) Organizations work in Damascus country side which equals to 34.3% of those active in the southern region. Spread over 13 districts, 43.9% of those organizations are working in the western Guetta and four in Duma

5.3% of those organizations are registered before 2011.

Sixteen percent of organizations are focusing on health sector and 11 on development-related activities, others in civic and advocacy fields

**Daraa**
In Daraa 21 organizations spread over 6=six districts as follows:

Daraa city three organizations, and one in each of the rest towns like Yadouda, Busra Alsham and Tsil.

Notably many organizations have branches abroad in the neighboring countries and one in UAE.

The third of organizations work in relief and emergency.

**As Swaida**
The pilot survey stated ten organization working in the governorate in two districts, the city of As Swaida has eight organizations inside and two in its vicinity.

The organization worked in four major sectors as follows: four in civic and advocacy organizations, three in development and housing, two in social services and one provides services in the health sector
Qunaitra
The small governorate is the hometown of ten organizations spread over three districts, two organizations worked in Qunaitra city and one in each of Nasiriya and southern countryside.

The organizations in Qunaitra have branches in Daraa and Damascus, and one organization has an office in Jordan.

Three organizations working in relief and emergency, two are as civil and advocacy organizations and one in each of health and development.

Notable is that the Qunaitra has the smallest number of organizations compared to the number of inhabitants, with exception of Ar Raqqa and Deir Ezzor which have a bad security situation.

Figure 13: Administrative segmentation in the central area
3.2.3. Centre

Homs
Twenty organizations work in five districts, first was in ‘al Waer’ neighborhood of the city with five active organizations and three in Talbiseh.
Five sectors are available in Homs, relief and emergency took the lead with 11 organizations and four in media and communication, two in each of development and housing and health.
Two organizations has branches in Turkey and one in Jordan

Hama
Hama is the governorate with the largest distribution of organizations over districts, since 25 organizations are spread over 18 areas.
Sixteen of those entities worked in relief and emergency which makes it 64% of the total active ones, and two in civil and advocacy organizations, development and housing and media and communication.
Environment and social services have one organization specialized in each.

Lattakia
The 15 organizations working in the governorate are distributed into six districts, two in each of Oubin, Bdama, eastern countryside and Salma, one in Bakraya.
Many of those has branches in other governorates, mainly in Idlib, two in Homs and one in Damascus and its suburbs.
Organizations in Lattakia are generally active in relief and emergency, development and housing and health sectors.

Tartus
Seventeen organizations work in Tartus, 15 of which are based either in the city or non-classified and two organizations in Banias and Mina.
Six organizations worked in civil and advocacy organizations. Four in development and housing, two social services and five organizations. Another five organizations are active in sectors related to civil activities.

Figure 14: Administrative segmentation in the southern area
3.2.4. Abroad and Neighboring countries

Many Syrian organizations have moved to neighboring countries and some European states due to the deteriorating security situation that leads to creating a bad environment for any civil or administrative work, in some cases because the board of the organization already lives abroad.

One-hundred and nine originations are running their operations from abroad, 61% in Turkey, 17% in Lebanon, the remaining are five in France and the states, four in Jordan and three in each of Germany and the United Kingdom.

A quarter of those organizations are working in education and research sector, and 18% in relief and emergency, 16.3 in civil and advocacy organizations and only few social and recreational clubs are based abroad.

One hundred and seventy five organization have branches abroad, notably 110 of which in Turkey and 33 in Lebanon, 21 in Jordan and 4 in Iraqi-Kurdistan Region. Outside the Middle East region 18% of the organizations are in Europe and only three percent have offices or registered in the United States.

Team notes:

For many reasons, such as ease of registration and interaction with the donor community and the security situation many organizations prefer to work from abroad. Not to mention the large numbers of refugees who need care and services provided by those organizations.

The mapping focused only on the organizations either working directly inside or in the neighboring countries, we did not include those working with refugees in Europe or North America.

Majority of the media organizations are either based in Syria or work from abroad hence we cannot state definite numbers since they work all over Syria and abroad.

![Organisations abroad](image)

Figure 15: Organisations abroad
3.3. Civic Coalitions and Alliances

The Syrian civil coalition
An open assembly of Syrian civil activists and organizations inside and outside Syria, it aspires to build the culture of citizenship and dedicate the concept of human rights with a collective affective vision, seeks the good of the Syrian people in rights, freedom and social justice through involving the Syrian civil society in decision making and crystalize the public opinion and create fruitful initiatives.

* Specialties: governance, peace building, development and media.
* Founded in February 2014
* Member organizations: 64
* Offices located in most of the Syrian areas, neighbor countries and asylum countries.

* Syria Hope Alliance for Modernity and Liberty (SHAML)
This coalition is self-presented as: a pioneer active group that seeks avoiding the bad impact of the recent Syrian crisis that affected the Syrian society, through supporting the existence of a democratic civil Pluralistic system based on the principles of social justice, freedom. It seeks creating a collective form for all society categories working with high values and collective values.

* Specialties: Development, education, citizenship, human rights advocacy.
* Founded in early 2015
* Member organizations: 7
* Located in Homs, Dera’a, Aleppo, Damascus Rural, Turkey and Lebanon.

* (UOSSOM) The union of medical aid organizations:
This coalition is the union of the medical Syrian NGOs, works all around Syria hoping to decrease the suffering of Syrian people and improve the medical services status in Syria. It was formed through participation of many Syrian doctors around the globe, and it is now considered to be the biggest actor in the medical field in Syria.

* Specialties: Health, Capacity building.
* Founded: 29/1/2013
* Member organizations: 15
* Located in most of Syria and some countries.

* Union of Syrian civil society organizations (USCSO)
The first coalition between Syrian civil society organization in the modern history of Syria and it’s a Syrian civil society organization that concerned with the lands and citizens issues, it accepts for membership any Syrian civil society organization, inside or outside Syria, and it’s an independent, non-governmental, nonpolitical union, does not discriminate its members due to any sectarian, religious, national or race background.

* Specialties: relief, health, studies.
* Founded in January 12th of 2012
* Member organizations: 79
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.

* The Syrian Forum (SF):
Nonprofit organization officially registered in each of Turkey, Austria and USA
This association adopts the principles of professional work and aspires to support and build Syrian organizations out of dedication to serve the Syrians inside and outside Syria.
This coalition believes in the necessity of supporting the Syrian local administration, in order to serve Syria.

* Specialties: relief, research, health.
* Founded in 2011
* Member organizations: 6
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.
* **Syrian Relief Network:**
This coalition is a grouping of civil and local non-governmental organizations that work in the relief field in Syria and neighbor countries and registered according to the laws of the countries they operate in.

The founders and the members of this network are all non-governmental, nonpolitical, nonprofit organizations from all over the world which spreads wide to work on most of the Syrian land and the places where there are Syrian refugees.

* Specialties: relief, health and education.
* Founded in 15/4/2013
* Member organizations: 42
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.

* **Mobadron Network:**
Mobadron is developing integrated specialized programs to empower members and groups of experts that cover the local needs and make them able to activate their role in their societies through depending on local sources and building partnerships that can participate in launching fruitful initiatives and projects.

* Specialties: Education, capacity building, citizenship
* Founded in 2010
* Volunteers count: 5000
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.

* **Watan Syria:**
A System build of multi-directed civil society organizations, works on creating a general renaissance in the Syrian society.

Works on building the human and society through a group of active civil society organizations with professional specialized teams, and makes sure to be around the whole country of Syria conducting several developmental projects.

* Specialties: relief, health, education, capacity building.
* Founded in 2012
* Member organizations 7
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.

* **NAI network:**
This network presents a virtual meeting place for all media production that is related to Syrian children and adolescents.

* Specialties: Child protection, Adolescent protection, magazines.
* Founded in late 2014
* Magazines count: 6
* Located in each of Dera’a Aleppo, Idleb and Damascus Rural.

* **Syrian Radio Stations Network:**
A coalition between several Syrian radio stations to share reports and journal stories in addition to interviews and comments, all the partners can upload their radio reports and broadcast using any other stations air for free.

* Specialties: media, documenting.
* Member radio stations: 7
* Located in most of the Syrian lands and some asylum countries and other countries.

* **The union of charity and aid organizations:**
A coalition body which groups several Syrian organizations seeking the achievement of high standards of coordination and knowledge sharing in order unify their effort.
4. Results and conclusions

The basic mapping has lead us to form an idea about the reality of civil society organizations of Syria, its allocation and areas of work.

The pilot survey has covered 802 civil actors although there are more than 900 civil actors according to data;

The study tells that mapped societies’ work is generally focuses on three main domains: Media, Relief and civil and advocacy groups in all its sub-sectors.

* The Governorate that has the biggest number of active civil society organization is AL-Hassakeh where more than 158 organizations consider as main working area.

More than 44% of active actors in Al-Hassakeh are categorized as advocacy & Civil Organizations.

The Advocacy & civil organizations in Al-Hassakeh form 46% of the whole count of Syrian organizations that work on civil groups.

* Ar Raqqa And Dair Ezzor governorates are considered marginalized due to their difficult security situation

* Al Qunaitra Governorate has the smallest amount of active Civil Society organizations, where the mapping could only spot 10 active civil society organizations that consider Al Qunaitra as their main work place, which forms only 1% of the Syrian active actors.

* Neighboring countries (Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey) are rich with Syrian civil society organizations. Our mapping has discovered 147 Syrian Civil Society organizations based in neighboring countries; most of them are Advocacy & civil Organizations, Relief and Emergency Organizations. Neighboring countries based organizations are the most focusing on researching among the overall Syrian civil society researching organizations (74% of the overall Syrian researching civil society organizations are based in the neighbor countries). the Syrian civil society organizations based in the neighboring countries showed a clear interest in Education with 45% of total expatriate organizations.

* Aleppo governorate comes second in the number of active Syrian civil society organizations, where 109 Syrian civil society organizations were spotted (14% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) twenty-nine organizations that deal with emergency and relief (17% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) are in Aleppo, which is the highest percentage. Aleppo is also considered of the most media saturated cities, over 28 Media related Syrian civil society organizations (18% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) where spotted in Aleppo, which is also the highest percentage.

* In Dera’a Governorate, 21 Syrian civil society organizations (3% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations), but the percentage is low, Dera’a Organizations are considered as the most specialized among Syrian civil society organizations, where the deal mostly with Child services and welfare, Advocacy, Emergency and Relief.

* in Tartous Governorate, 17 Syrian civil society organizations were spotted (2% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) Five developmental Syrian civil society organizations were spotted in Tartous (8% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations), also there are specialties in Tartous that were not noticed in other governorates such as Cinema and environment.

* Damascus, the Capital of Syria, is rich with Syrian civil society organizations, 68 Syrian civil society organizations (8% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) were spotted in Damascus,

* Damascus Suburbs has witnessed active Syrian civil society organizations atmosphere due to the hard security situation and being besieged, Syrian civil society organizations (7% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) were spotted in the area. The relief related Syrian civil society organizations working in Rural Damascus are 12 (18% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations that work with emergency & relief).

* Also Lattakia Governorate has witnessed a lot of civil activism
due to the security situation, 15 Syrian civil society organizations were spotted in Lattakia, (2% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations) Nine relief Syrian civil society organizations (5% of the overall relief Syrian civil society organizations) were counted in Lattakia.

* In As Swaida, ten Syrian civil society organizations were spotted (1% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations), most of them civil society organizations.

* In Homs, 20 Syrian civil society organizations (2% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations).

55% of the civil society organizations in Homs deal with relief.

* Idleb is considered rich with civil society activism, 39 Syrian civil society organizations were spotted in Idleb (5% of the overall Syrian civil society organizations), and most of them deal with media and relief.
5. Annexes

5.1. Annex 1

International Classification of Non-Profit Organizations

Expanded as follows

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6. Acknowledgement

The Citizens for Syria team would like to thank all the partner organizations, their support and constructive communication was essential for the success of the project:

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* Badael

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