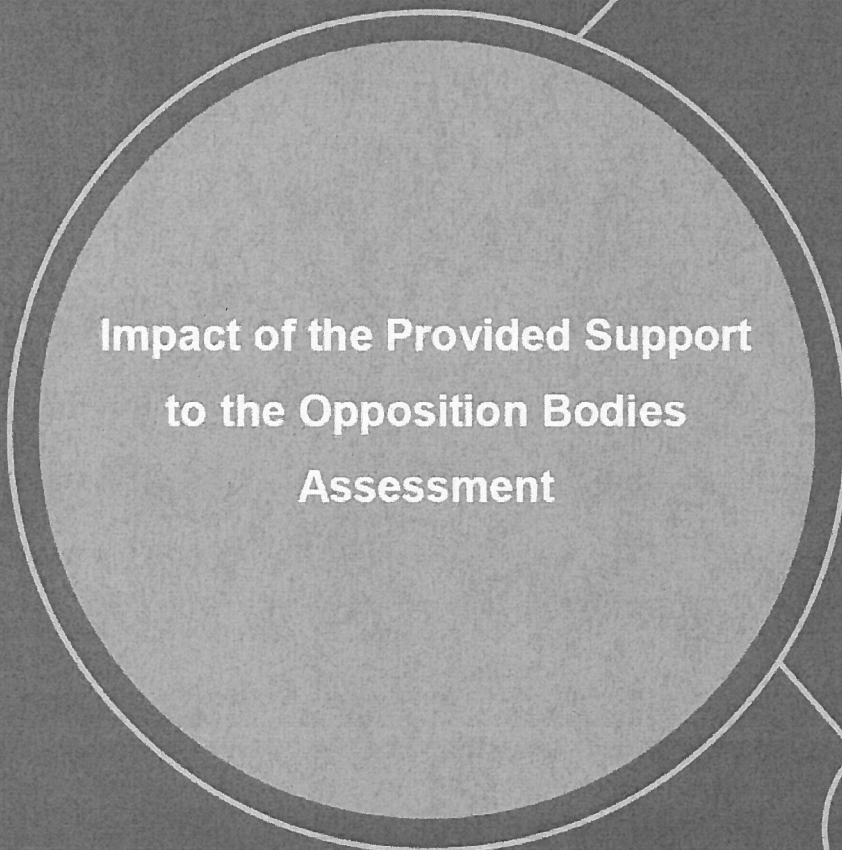
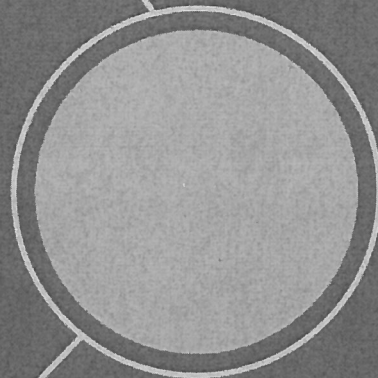
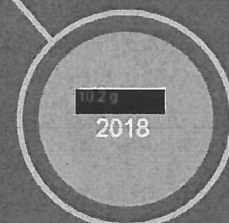


10 2 g



**Impact of the Provided Support  
to the Opposition Bodies  
Assessment**



10 2 g

2018

10 2 g



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of 102 g concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

This publication has not been formally edited.



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## 1. Executive Summary

The objective of this report is to provide independent third-party monitoring to assess the impact of the support provided to recipients under the objective of increasing the resilience and capacity of opposition bodies in northern Syria and included food and equipment. This report should help the donor assess current programming and the capacity of the recipient and provide important insight to improve future programming.

The monitoring visits took place between [REDACTED] and included site visits to three recipients of assistance, [REDACTED]. Total of 12 key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted during these visits with fighters and warehouse managers.

### Relevance of Assistance

Most interviewed fighters were able to provide the basic needs of their household through relying on the income and occasional food support provided by their units. Those who could not cover their basic needs, relied on borrowing money or limiting their expenditures. Moreover, the continuation of livelihood generated from their work with their respective units was named as the main factor that determined their future stay with their unit.

The food assistance was distributed to only two of the three units, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and was shared by vulnerable families in the host communities. While 26% of food baskets received and distributed by [REDACTED] were given to said families, 45% of the food baskets received and distributed by [REDACTED] was given to similar households. All food baskets received by [REDACTED] had been distributed whereas the second group still had a stock of food items that could be sufficient for a year under proper storage conditions.

The quality of food items was perceived "good" by all interviewed members of the two recipient groups while majority of them considered the quantity sufficient for their household needs.

The technical support on the other hand varied among the three recipient groups based on their assessed needs. It overall consisted of different types of vehicles, water tank, living quarters, uniform sets, power generators, and other equipment such as computers, a camera and video recorder, most of which was in use at the time of the monitoring visits with the exception of a few uniform sets and power generators while one of the pickup trucks was being repaired in Turkey.

The quality of equipment and vehicles was perceived as "good" by warehouse managers who described it as "serving its purpose with no issues whatsoever". However, in term of sufficiency, none of the unit had sufficient equipment to provide adequate protection and transportation for their members. Several additional equipment was requested by the interviewees including: Armored vehicles/ambulance, bulldozers, heavy vehicles for road repairs in addition to more pickup trucks.

The interaction between the armed groups and their respective host communities was described as good by majority of interviewees, who also believed that the said communities accepted them as representatives because of the services offered by the groups.



The services offered by these groups included providing protection for private and public properties, intervention and conflict resolution, night-patrolling to prevent robberies, in addition to provision of water and road repairs in some cases.

On the other hand, several services ought to be provided to the community according to the interviewees. Those services include: free healthcare provision, paving and repairing more roads and supporting skilled-trades acquiring tools required to resume their livelihood.

#### Impact of Assistance

The food assistance has improved the quality of life of the interviewed fighters and improved their performance at work. It has additionally made them feel food secure therefore focusing on their work duties and has reduced their food expenditures which gave them the opportunity to buy other necessities in addition to ensuring nutritional and diverse diet for themselves and their households. Further, members of the armed groups which received and distributed food assistance on its members reported higher confidence levels in their groups' ability to support them in the near future.

Similarly, the distributed technical assistance was considered by all interviewed members to have improved the operational capacity of their respective units and their ability to perform daily operations and frontline protection as the pickup trucks has increased their mobility and emergency/intervention response time, whereas the uniform sets have created a sense of increased unity and cohesion among the unit members and the mobile living quarters protected off-shift guards from harsh weather conditions.

The assistance, both food and technical, has improved positive interaction between the armed groups and their host communities. Food baskets were shared with vulnerable households while the technical equipment improved the quality of services offered by the armed groups.

#### Improvement and Further Assistance

*Several insights were provided by the interviewed members to improve the quality of their life, the capacity of their units and their positive interaction with host communities. They included:*

- *Increasing salaries*
- *Regular provision of food assistance and increasing the food baskets allocated for host communities.*
- *Providing winter clothing*
- *Offering incentives to competent members*
- *Providing continuous support for equipment*
- *Providing more vehicles including heavy vehicles*



## 2. Methodology

- Sampling:

- The monitor conducted three interviews with fighters were selected randomly in the headquarter;
- And an interview with the inventory keeper in each headquarter.

- Data Collection

Between [REDACTED] one monitor visited the headquarters of the military groups that were selected to receive the assistance:

- The monitors conducted 12 key informant interviews with four members from each unit, three fighters and the warehouse/inventory manager.
- The monitors also produced inventory checklists and took photos to support and document their findings.

- Limitations

- The sample size was significantly small to produce a statistical significance.
- Most interviews were attended by a third individual from the respective armed groups, which could have affected their answers. However, no observable variations were seen among the answers from interviews attended by said individuals and those that were only attended by the interviewees.
- Monitors observed several interviewees feeling uncomfortable about answering various questions.
- The key informant interviews did not include members of the host community therefore capturing interaction between armed groups and host communities was one-sided and reflected the perception of the interviewed members.

## 3. Findings

The assistance was determined through the baseline assessment thus varied among the three groups accordingly. The three groups received vehicles/equipment to improve the capacity and protection of fighters while only two groups received food assistance to improve the quality of life and loyalty of fighters and none received hygiene kits. The following section will present the received assistance, its perceived quality, sufficiency and impact in addition to what further assistance is needed.

### a. Relevance

#### a.1. Food Assistance

Most interviewed members of the three groups (75%) stated that they were able to provide the basic needs for their households and that their groups adequately contributed in achieving so through monthly salaries (100 USD) and occasional food baskets. On the other hand, the three members (one from each group) who could not provide the basic needs said they coped by reducing their spending accordingly to adapt or by borrowing money from friends and family as their salaries were not adequate for their household monthly needs.

Moreover, when asked about the factors that affected their decision to stay with their units, with their current units, the monthly livelihood provided for their households by their units was the main factor given by most members of the different units.



The two groups that received food assistance were [REDACTED] All received items were considered of good quality by inventory managers whereas the food items received by [REDACTED] had items such as jam and flour that were not included among the items received by [REDACTED]

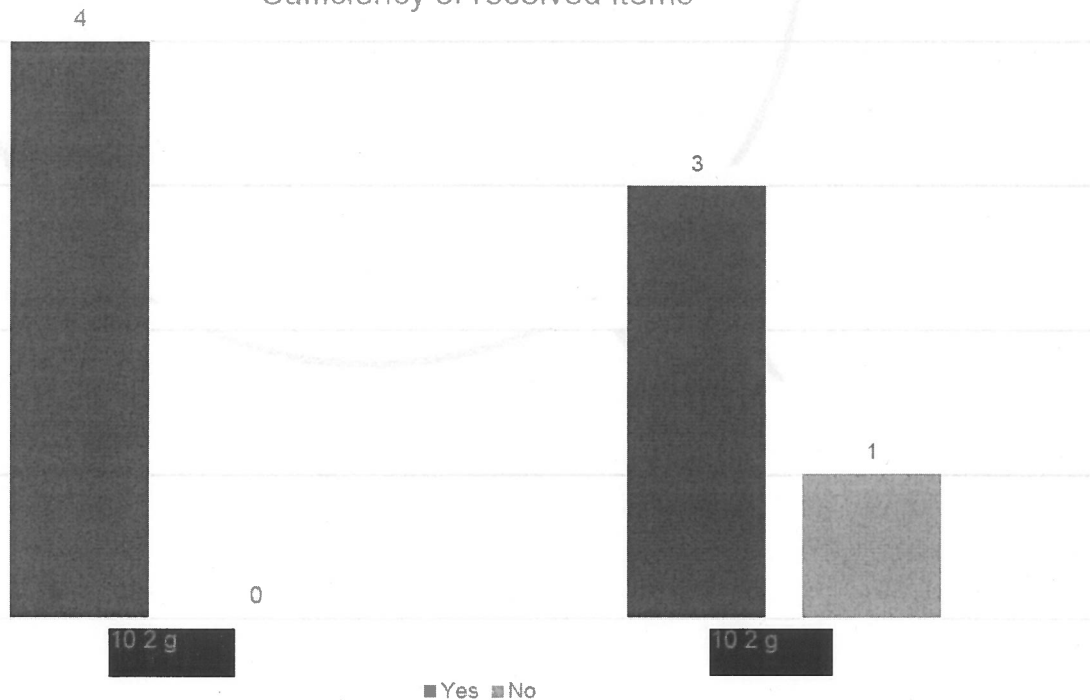
All food baskets (1175) received by [REDACTED] had been distributed to members and vulnerable families<sup>1</sup> in the community. Almost three quarters of the food baskets (74%) were given to members of the group, while the remaining 26% were given to said families.

Similarly, vulnerable families in [REDACTED] locale received 45.5% of the total distributed baskets (4400) while the group members received 54.5%. The group still had food items sufficient for an entire year, depending on storage, according to the warehouse manager, albeit with no details on the number of monthly baskets that would be distributed throughout this year. A table of the received and distributed food baskets/items can be found in **Appendix – A: Inventory Checklist – Food Items**

#### a.1.1. Quality and Sufficiency of Food Assistance

The food baskets, distributed to the members of [REDACTED] included oil, pasta, red lentil, canned meats, tomato paste, bulgur and sugar whereas the members of [REDACTED] also received jam and white flour. The quantity items per the food basket items varied between the two groups with members of [REDACTED] receiving almost twice the amounts of their counterparts at [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] reduced the quantity of items per basket to provide food baskets periodically for a longer period of time.

Sufficiency of received items



<sup>1</sup> No information on the selection criteria used.



However, all but one of the interviewed members in the two groups considered the quantity of items per basket sufficient for their household needs. The remaining member – the inventory manager from 1029 - said that while the assistance helped the members of his group, the quantity of items in food baskets received by fighters was not sufficient.

Additionally, members of 1029 said that the basket, although sufficient, still lacked rice, whole lentil (instead of split lentil), peas and chickpeas; while members of 1029 said it lacked essential items such as rice, tea and ghee. The table below shows list of items and quantities received by members of the groups.

Item	Food Basket Items		
	Unit	1029	1029
Jam	kg	1	-
Sunflower oil	liter	2	2
Pasta/Spaghetti	can/kg	4	0.5
White Flour	kg	5	-
Split Red Lentil	kg	2	1
Canned Chicken meat	can	5	2
Tuna	can	4	3
Tomato paste	kg	2	1
Bulgur	kg	2	1
Sugar	kg	5	5

The quality of the food items on the other hand was unanimously considered high by all interviewed members of the two groups who said they were satisfied with the quality of their food items. Some additionally considered the quality of the food items superior to the quality of all food assistance that had been received sporadically in the area.

#### a.2. Technical Assistance (Vehicles and Equipment)

All the received equipment had been in need and most of it was put in use as soon as it was received. The received technical assistance included vehicles such as pickup and dumper trucks needed for supply lines, transportation and logistics as well as road works. It also included uniform sets, laptops, cameras and recorders, power generators and mobile living quarters, all of which were in use at the time of the monitoring visits with the exception of a few uniforms sets at 1029 and power generators at 1029.

A table of the received vehicles/equipment by each unit can be found in **Appendix – B: Inventory Checklist – Vehicles and Equipment**

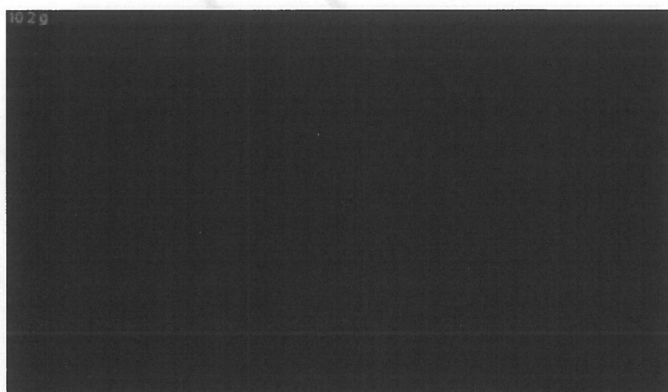


Image 1 - One of the pickup trucks received by 1029



as well as and a list of the components of the distributed uniform in **Appendix – C: Content of Distributed Uniform Sets.**

**a.2.1. Quality and Sufficiency of Technical Assistance**

The quality of the received equipment and vehicles was rated “Good” by all warehouse/inventory managers at the respective receiving units. The rating “Good” described an item as serving its purpose with no issues whatsoever.

None of the interviewed members of the three units believed that their units had the sufficient equipment and vehicles required for providing adequate protection and transportation. The following equipment/vehicles listed below were named by the interviewed members as needed to improve protection and transportation, while a list of the required equipment and support in order of priority can be seen in

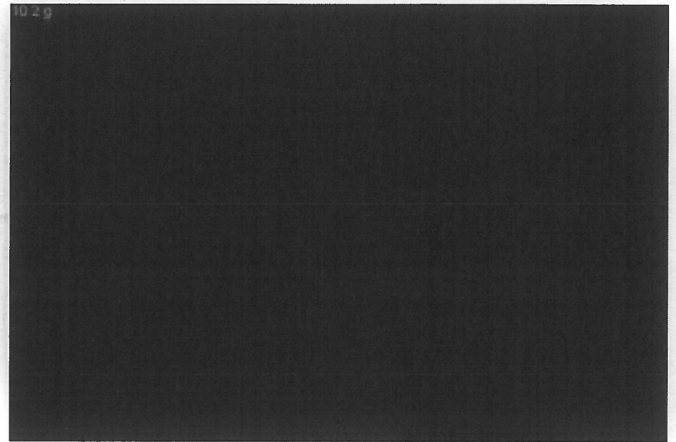


Image 2- Dumper Truck 10 2 g



#### 4. Appendix – D:

102g

- 102g trucks
- More pickup trucks adequate to the number of the unit members

102g

- 102g ambulance/truck to transport the wounded at the frontlines
- 102g, dumper truck to open roads and erect berms
- Water tanker and more pickup trucks

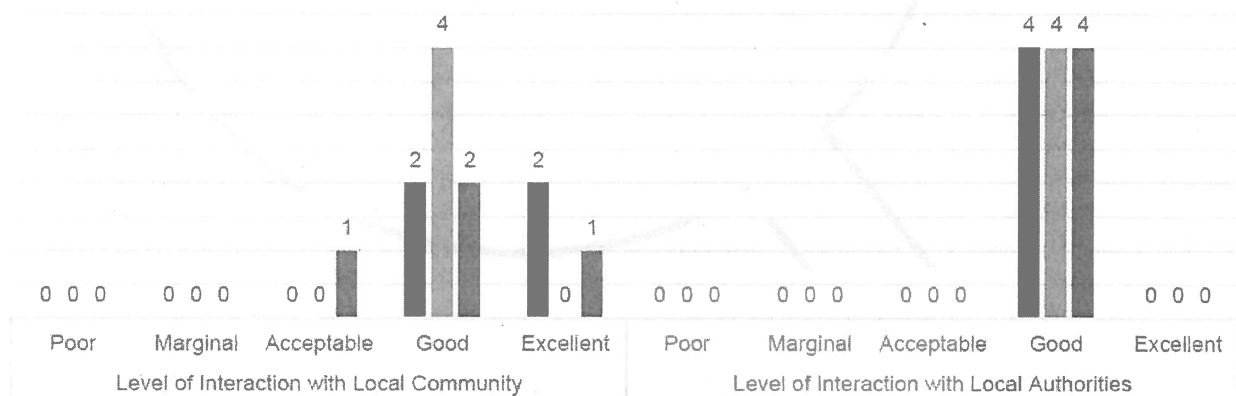
102g

- More pickup trucks adequate to the number of the unit members
- 102g vehicles
- Bulldozer and truck to open and pave roads.
- Laptops for the warehouse, HR and other administrative sections as only one laptop existed.

##### a. Community Interaction

All interviewed members of the three units considered the interaction between their respective units and local communities either “Good” or “excellent” while describing it as positive. Similarly, all the interviewed members described the interaction between their respective units and the local councils in their community as “Good” because of the support and assistance their units provided the community and the good coordination with the local councils. Moreover, all interviewed members of the three units believed that host communities accepted their respective units as their representatives due to their services and handling of their local affairs.

Rating of Community Interaction Levels



102g

The three units provided various services to their host communities which ranged from protection of properties to provision of water. According to interviewed members of each of the units, the services included:

102g

The services offered to host community included protection of public and private properties, provision of water, and conflict and dispute resolution and intervention upon request by community members or local authorities. Members also added that the unit is constrained by limited resources to provide any more services.



102 g

The services included providing relief assistance, protecting people and their properties, conducting night patrols to prevent robberies in the area; arresting criminals and drug users. Members also said that free healthcare provision should be available to people through a clinic supported by the unit, and that awareness on drug addiction should be raised.

102 g

The services included providing protection for the area, its people and their properties without discrimination; protecting the properties in the nearby camp and transporting emergency patients to the hospital as well as providing some financial assistance. Other services that should be provided to the community as suggested by the members including paving the road <sup>102 g</sup> and providing community members who had skilled trade (carpenters, blacksmiths, etc.) with support to acquire the tools required for to resume their livelihoods.

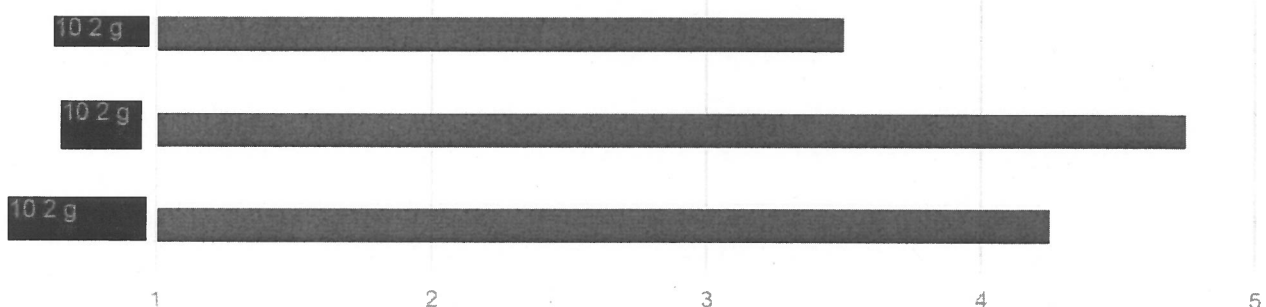
## b. IMPACT

**b.1. Impact of Food Assistance** All interviewed members considered the assistance they received have improved the quality of their life as well as their performance at their duties. They also believed the assistance improved their group ability to support them. The reasons given included:

- Making them feel food secure and not worried about feeding their families therefore focusing more on their work and duties.
- Reducing their monthly food expenditures and giving them the chance to purchase other necessities.
- Providing themselves and their households with a diverse and nutritional diet that includes fish and chicken meat.

Furthermore, there is an indication that distributing food baskets on their members have a positive impact on the confidence levels among their members. The members of the two groups who received food assistance reported higher confidence levels in their group's ability to address their basic needs in the near future compared to the members of the third group that did not receive and distribute such assistance. Additionally, a member of 102 g stated that the fact their group had a stock of food baskets for the coming months reflected positively on the morals of the fighters.

Members Confidence Level in their Group ability to address their daily basic needs



## b.2. Impact of Technical Assistance

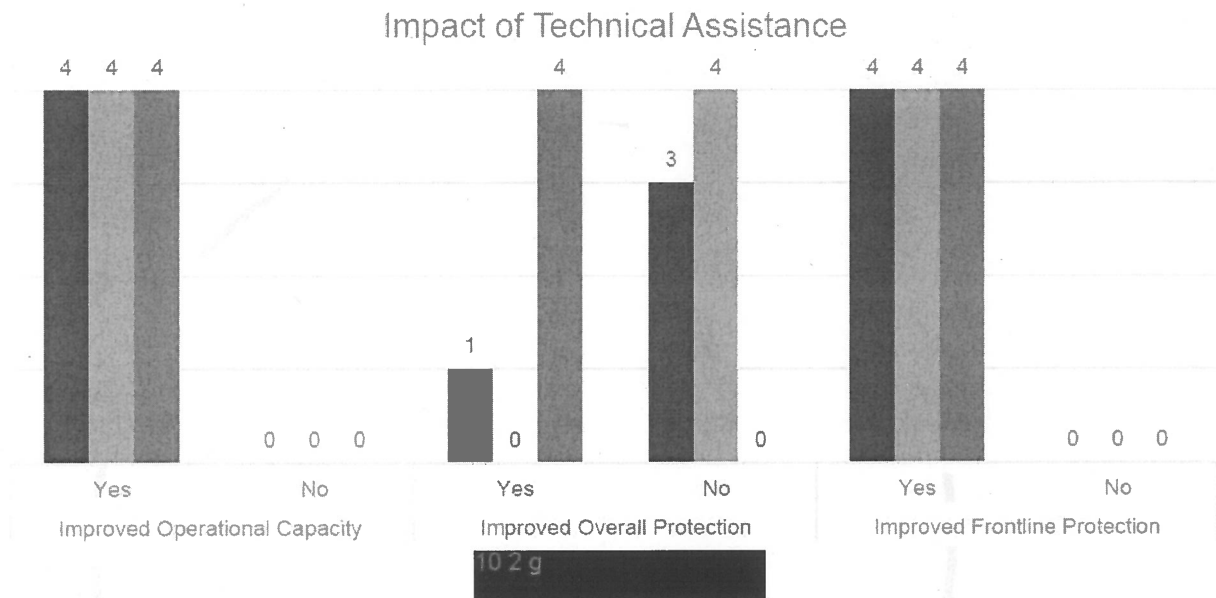
All interviewed members of the three groups stated that the technical assistance their groups received has improved the operational capacity of their respective units and their ability to perform

102 g

102 g



daily operations including offensive missions. Additionally, they all said that this assistance has improved their unit's front-line protection. Conversely, all interviewees in 102 g and most of 102 g did not think the assistance had improved their units' ability to offer overall protection as achieving so would require more equipment and vehicles, whereas their counterparts in 102 g on the other hand considered that the improvement in mobility which resulted from the received trucks had improved the overall protection through improved response and intervention time.



The realized benefits of the received assistance can be summarized as the following, according to the interviewees from the different units:

- **Uniforms**

Interviewed fighters 102 g, 102 g, said that the unified uniforms had created a feeling of unity and cohesion amongst unit members as well as improved morals.

- **Vehicles**

Vehicles have improved the mobility and effectiveness of the units in emergency response and intervention. Fighters from all units agreed that conducting missions and interventions had become more effective because of the trucks which gave them speed and off-road mobility. Moreover, the trucks had enabled timely movement to and from the frontlines improving supply lines and rescue operations, whereas the dumper truck which was received by the 102 g was used in road repairs.

- **Mobile Living Quarters**

Fighters from 102 g which received the quarters reported an improved protection of their head-quarters as the quarters were used for off-shift guards to protect them from weather elements while performing their duties.



- **Generators**

This equipment was reported to have facilitated the daily operations of the recipient group.

- **Laptops, camera and video recorder**

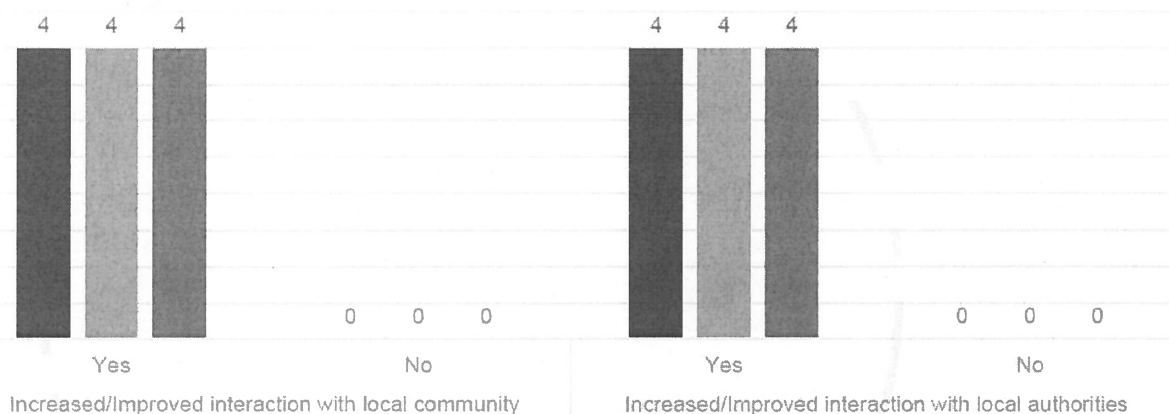
This equipment helped the group in managing archiving and documentation.

Image 4 - Mobile Living Quarters a 10 2 g

**b.3. Impact of Assistance on Community Interaction**

Members of the three units unanimously considered that the assistance received by the donor has improved their units' interaction with their respective communities and local authorities.

Impact of Assistance on Community Interaction



These improved interactions were attributed to the food assistance shared with the local communities and the improvement of units' mobility because of the pickup trucks which had enabled them to provide faster and timelier interventions and response when called for. The trucks also enabled them to conduct patrols to protect public and private properties. On the other hand, the water tanker and the dumper truck- 10 2 g - were used to help in providing water to the community and to paving some roads.

**c. Improvement and Further Assistance**

When asked about what could be done to improve the quality of their life, the capacity of their units and their positive interaction with host communities, the members of the three units provided the following suggestions:

**Improving the quality of life and loyalty of fighters**

- 10 2 g
  - Increasing salaries of unit members.
  - Providing regular monthly relief support.
  - Providing cash support.
- 10 2 g
  - Increasing salaries of unit members.
  - Providing non-military clothing for fighters.



- Providing a medical point for fighters and their households.
- Providing relief assistance and food baskets for fighters and their households.

- 10 2 g

- Increasing salaries of unit members.
- Providing cash support.

### ***Increasing the capacity and protection of fighters***

- 10 2 g

- Increasing salaries of unit members.
- Providing comprehensive and continuous support for fighters and their households.

- 10 2 g

- Increasing salaries of unit members.
- Providing continuous support as opposed to a one-time intervention.
- Providing laptops to HR and warehouse improve administrative capacity.

- 10 2 g

- Providing 10 2 g vehicles.
- Providing winter clothing for fighters.
- Providing relief assistance and food baskets regularly for fighters and their households.
- Offering incentives to competent members of the units as well as offering leaves.

### ***Increasing positive interaction with host community***

- 10 2 g

- Providing food support to the community through the group.

- 10 2 g

- Providing vehicles and equipment for paving and repairing roads.
- Providing food support to the community through the group.
- Increasing salaries/support for members to encourage more people to join the group and thus improving the group's human capital capacity for serving the community.

- 10 2 g

- Providing heavy vehicles and equipment for paving and repairing roads.
- Providing more pickup trucks to serve more people.
- Increasing the number of food baskets for local community.

Additionally, a list of the required equipment and support in order of priority based on feedback from the warehouse managers can be seen in **Appendix – D**.



## d. Appendices

## d.1. Appendix – A: Inventory Checklist – Food Items

Food Items		# of units Received by group	# of units currently in stor- age	# of distributed units:	
				To fight- ers	To vulnerable households
10 2 g	Food Baskets	1175	0	875	300
10 2 g	Food Items	Sun flour Oil 30000 ltr Pasta 40000 kg Red Lentils 20000 kg Chicken meat 60000 cans Tuna 30000 cans Tomato Paste 40000 kg Bulgur 40000 kg Sugar 40000kg	10 2 g	2400	2000

<sup>2</sup> Based on the estimate of the warehouse/inventory manager.



## d.2. Appendix – B: Inventory Checklist – Vehicles and Equipment

Vehicles and Equipment		# of received units	# of units in use	# of units in Storage	If stored, where is it stored?	Quality Based on assessment of Warehouse Managers	Current Condition		Comments
							Operational	Out of service	
Uniform Sets		750	740	10	Warehouse in town	✓ Good "Serves its purpose with no issues whatsoever"	✓		
102g Pick Up Truck (Used)	102g			0		✓	✓		
102g Pick Up Truck (New)	102g			0		✓	✓		
102g Pick Up Truck (New)	102g			0		✓	✓		

<sup>3</sup> One car was in a confidential mission, so the monitor couldn't see it, as the fighters sent the car's photos to him via WhatsApp.



10 2 g									
Uniform Sets	650	650	0						
10 2 g Pick Up Truck (Used)		10 2 g	0		✓	✓	1		One truck was being repaired in Tur-key
10 2 g Pick Up Truck (New)			0						
10 2 g Truck (Used)			0		✓	✓			
Water Tank (Used)			0		✓	✓			
Laptop			0		✓	✓			
10 Camera			0		✓	✓			
Video Recorder			0		✓	✓			
10 2 g									
10 2 g Pick Up Truck (Used)		10 2 g	0		✓	✓			
Mobile Living Quarters			0		✓	✓			
Generator 10 2 g			2	Nearby ware-house	✓	✓	1		One was given to 10 2 g



### d.3. Appendix – C: Content of the distributed Uniform Sets

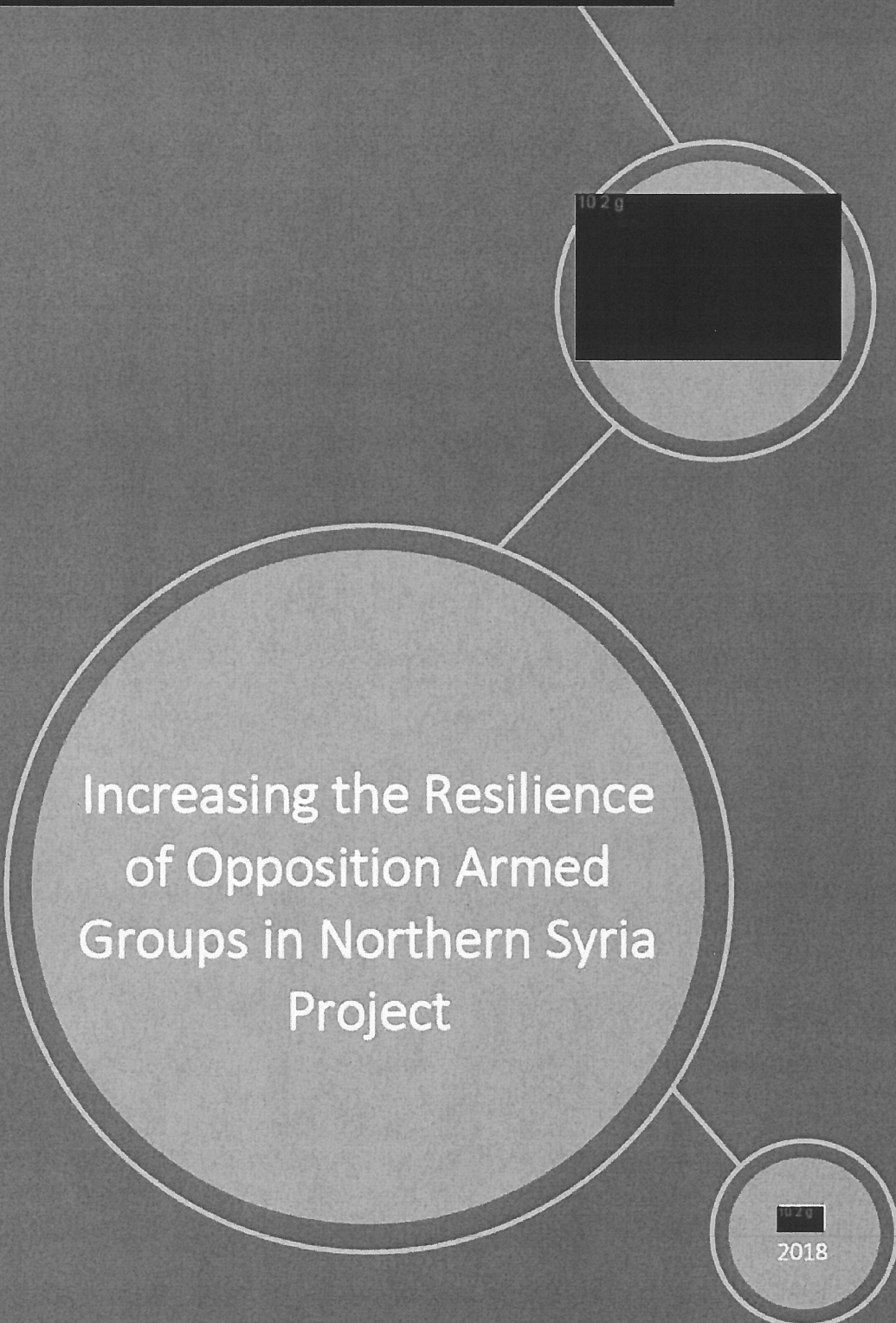
Item	10 2 g	10 2 g
Jacket	1	1*
Top/Bottom	1	1
Socks	6	1
T-Shirt	1	1
Interior Belt	1	0
Exterior Belt	1	1

\*One of the interviewed fighters did not receive this item

### d.4. Appendix – D: List of required equipment and support in order of priority

Order of Priority	List of required equipment/ support Based on information provided by warehouse/inventory managers		
	10 2 g	10 2 g	10 2 g
1	Heavy vehicles (pickup trucks, bulldozer)	Heavy vehicles	Heavy vehicles
2	Relief assistance	Relief assistance	Relief assistance
3	Hygiene kits (detergents)	Hygiene kits (detergents)	Hygiene kits (detergents)
4	Medical supplies (medical point for the unit)	Laptops	Drinking water
5	N/A	Winter clothing	Uniform sets and clothing for member's households





# Increasing the Resilience of Opposition Armed Groups in Northern Syria Project

102 g  
2018



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- A. Relevance of Assistance
- B. The Impact of Assistance
- C. Improvement and Further Assistance

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- A. Data collection
- B. Limitations

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- A. Relevance
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  - A.2. Hygiene kits distribution
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  - B.3. Impact of Assistance on Community Interaction
- C. Improvement and Further Assistance

### **IV. Appendices**

- a. Appendix – Inventory Checklist – Vehicles and Equipment
- b. Appendix – Content of the distributed Uniform Sets



## I. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report was to produce an independent assessment of the impact of the support provided through 102 g to the recipients under the objective of increasing the resilience and capacity of opposition bodies in Syria.

The goal of this report is to analyze the impact of the programming, to help the donor assess the capacity of the support recipients, insight that will help improving the future programming.

The monitoring visits took place between the 102 g and included site visits to two recipients of assistance; 102 g

Total of nine key informant interviews (KIIs) were conducted during these visits with four fighters, two warehouse keepers, two inventory checklists, one manager of a bakery, one clinic admin manager and one pharmacist.

### A. Relevance of Assistance

#### ***Fighters Household Basic needs:***

According to key informants from both group, all fighters were not able to meet the basic needs of their households. However, the contribution of their units in providing monthly stipends and the assistance they receive is helping them to meet those needs. And they consider the continuation of this support as a key factor to consider staying in their current units or relocating to other units.

They expressed their satisfaction with the quality of food items describing it as "good quality, well packaged and component of the basket cover the families' nutritional needs". Regarding the quantity most of the interviewees expressed that the quantity is sufficient, a few believe that considering the number of household member is important to meet the needs of large families.

The 102 g fighters received hygiene kits (the kits were delivered to the group in the first phase of the project) and expressed their satisfaction with the quality of items they received. All key informants agreed that receiving hygiene kits helped them not to worry about the cost of detergents, soaps and cleaning materials, and also improved the quality of their lives.

#### ***Food baskets and hygiene kits for Internal displaced families***

The 102 g distributed food baskets and hygiene kits to the Internally displaced families 102 g 102 g, and also distributed bread in the camp areas.



### ***Operational support***

The interviewed fighters agreed that good quality uniform sets were provided. According to them, having uniforms is important, improves their performance, and gives them the sense of unity that brings all fighters together. They feel that they are all the same in the field with no discrimination and this raises their spirits.

Also, the units received vehicles and equipment, to serve them accomplishing their daily tasks and work task. According to the KIs the vehicles give them free mobility, saves them time and they were able to provide help for local community.

According to the key informants, including the warehouse keepers, the quality of equipment and vehicles was perceived as "Good." However, all of interviews mentioned that their units need more advanced equipment to provide better protection and transportation for their members, such as armored vehicles/ambulances, bulldozers, pickup trucks.

Moreover, the clinics received medical and laboratory equipment, which helped improve services provided from the clinics to its clients, including fighters and civilians.

Furthermore, [REDACTED] received 50 tons of wheat flour. 5 tons were distributed directly to the community and fighters' families, and 45 tons were delivered to the bakery in [REDACTED]. According to the manager of the bakery, the quality of the flour was very good and enough to make 54,000 packets of bread. All the packets of bread were distributed by the fighters to vulnerable families in the area.

### ***Interacting with the community:***

The key informants shared that the interaction between the members of the groups and local community members was defined as good.

The groups gained the trust of the local community by providing many services to the locals, including protection through checkpoints, day and night patrols, and transportation services for injured and sick civilians from and to the hospitals and clinics. [REDACTED] also distributed bread and food baskets to IDPs and vulnerable families. [REDACTED] believe that continuation of providing those services will strengthen the community's confidence in them and improves perceptions of them as a service provider.



## B. The Impact of Assistance

### *Food assistance:*

According to the interviewed fighters of both groups, the assistance the groups received has improved the quality of their lives, on the personal level and household level as well. It also helped improve their performance at work.

Fighters of 102 g shared that having adequate and safe access to sufficient food made them focus on their work duties and reduced the costs they have to pay for basic needs.

### *Hygiene kits:*

The 102 g said that receiving the hygiene kits saved them extra cost they have to pay for detergent and cleaning materials.

### *Uniform sets:*

According to the 102 g fighters, the uniform sets they received gave them a sense of belonging to an organized group where they can be recognizable at distance, and they distinguish themselves from the civilians.

Generally, the fighters who received the assistance expressed high confidence in their groups leadership knowing that they take care of their members' well-being.

### *Technical Assistance:*

102 g

102 g received the following vehicles and equipment:

- 102 g Pick-up trucks (manual and automatic)
- 102 g Trucks,
- 102 g Truck,
- Mobile living quarters,
- 102 g 8-seater Minivans,
- Vehicle Spare Parts and Motorcycles.

And to support the medical clinic in 102 g received:

- 102 g,
- Medical Equipment for the Laboratory.



102 g received:

102 g Trucks,

102 g Pick-up Trucks,

102 g with Windows operating system and Microsoft office.

The majority of interviewed key informants considered receiving this type of assistance very important for the improvement of operational capacity of the units and their ability to perform daily operations and frontline protection. For instance, trucks have improved their mobility and response. They all agreed that mobile living quarters and uniform sets has a great role in improving fighters' performance.

102 g received mobile living quarters that they used for office and lodging, which give them the sense of protection and comfort, because they have a protected the fighters from bad weather conditions.

### C. Improvement and Further Assistance

The interviewed key informants provided several suggestions expressing that this will help improve the quality of their life, the capacity of their units work and also will enforce the positive interaction with host communities. They included:

- Salaries increase,
- Periodical distribution of food basket taking into consideration the number of the households' member,
- Clothing distribution,
- Cash or vouchers distribution,
- Continue support for medical and laboratories equipment,
- Provide office equipment (printers, laptops, cabinets...)
- Armored vehicles and ambulances.



## II. Methodology

### A. Data collection:

- Between [REDACTED] the monitor conducted 9 interviews with:
  - 4 fighters were selected randomly in the headquarter,
  - 2 warehouse keepers,
  - 1 Pharmacist,
  - 1 Admin manager of a polyclinic,
  - 1 Bakery manager,
- The monitors also produced inventory checklists and took photos to support and document their findings.

### B. Limitations

- The interviews were conducted in the groups' headquarters with no complete privacy. They were interrupted several times by staff who are not involved in the interviews. The monitors believe that this affected the details of the shared information as they said this made the interviewees uncomfortable because they were distracted and needed to re-focus and repeat their answers.
- Some of interviews needed some explanation to understand the questions.
- The information about the satisfaction of the local community and the quality of interaction between them and the members of the units was only taken one side (the units side).



### III. Findings:

During the last six months, [REDACTED] received:

- Vehicles,
- Generators, mobile living quarters,
- Spare parts,
- Food baskets,
- Hygiene kits,
- And medical equipment.

In addition, the [REDACTED] received:

- Vehicles,
- [REDACTED]
- Food baskets,
- Uniform sets,

Interviewees from both groups agreed that assistance they received improve their work performance and state of motivation and therefore improve their groups performance.

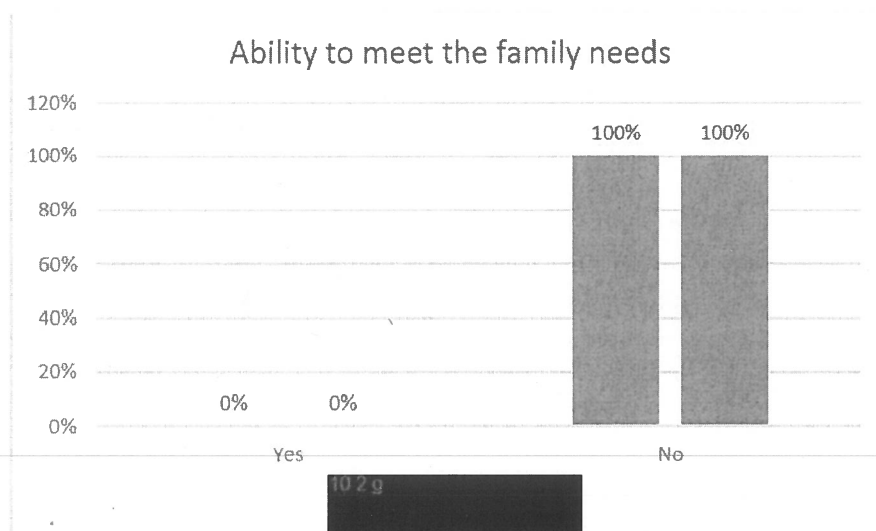
#### A. Relevance

##### A.1. Food basket distribution

[REDACTED] received a total of 22,300 food baskets. Those baskets were distributed in five rounds to the fighters.

[REDACTED] received 1,300 food baskets that were distributed to the fighters in two rounds.

Interviewees from both groups stated that they were not able meet the basic nutritional needs of their families. Their salaries are not enough to cover the daily living expenses (only 100 USD). The occasional food baskets gave them a sense of empowerment and economic support easing the burden of cost of living pressures.





Because of the high cost of living, the interviewed members expressed that the monthly salaries and the distribution of food basket is an important factor that can affect the fighters' decisions in staying with the group or not.

Also, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] participated in the response and distributed food baskets to displaced families in [REDACTED] to support them meet their needs a first response.

Majority of the interviews perceive the quality of distributed food assistance as good quality.

#### A.2. Hygiene kits distribution

The [REDACTED] fighters received 250 hygiene kits.

150 hygiene kits were distributed on the fighters and 100 kits were distributed to IDPs.

The interviewed fighters who received the kits agreed that the cost of detergent and cleaning materials is a burden. However, they know that it's an important need for the family.

#### A.3. Wheat flour Delivery

In [REDACTED], the [REDACTED] delivered 45 tons of wheat flour to the bakery and distributed 5 tons to the civilians of the local community and fighters' families. The amount made 54,000 packets of bread and all were distributed to vulnerable families in the area.

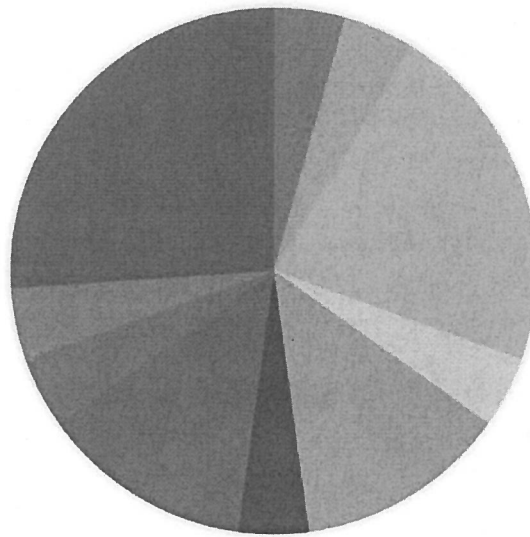
#### A.1.1. Quality and Sufficiency of distributed assistance

##### *Food Baskets:*

Each [REDACTED] fighter received five food baskets in last 6 months. Each basket included jam, pasta, white flour, red lentil, canned chicken meat, green lentil, chickpeas, tuna, tomato paste, bulgur, sugar and candy.



## ITEMS IN THE FOOD BASKETS DELIVERED TO 102 g

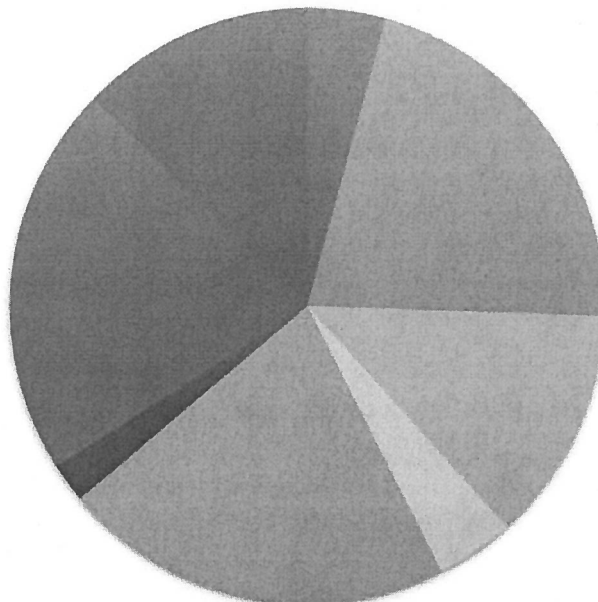


- Jam
- Pasta/Spaghetti
- White Flour
- Red Lentil
- Canned Chicken meat
- Green lentil
- Chickpeas
- Tuna
- Tomato paste
- Bulgur
- Candy
- Sugar (made in Syria)

The 102 g fighters received two baskets for each fighter in the last 6 months, and each basket included jam, sunflower oil, pasta, white flour, red lentil, tuna, tomato paste, bulgur and sugar.

## ITEMS IN THE FOOD BASKETS DELIVERED TO

102 g



- Jam
- Sunflower oil
- Pasta/Spaghetti
- White Flour
- Red Lentil
- Tuna
- Tomato paste
- Bulgur
- Sugar (made in Syria)

102 g

102 g



**Regarding the sufficiency:** In both groups, the majority of interviewed members were very satisfied and said that the quantity of distributed food baskets was sufficient and covers their family's needs.

100% of 102 g interviewed fighters were very satisfied with the received quantity of food baskets.

However, in 102 g, only 33.3% were very satisfied, 33.3% were satisfied and 33.3% were not satisfied saying that the distributed amount is not enough for families with large number of members. They requested that the distribution consider the number of family members. The rest of interviewed members think that the size of the food basket is good.

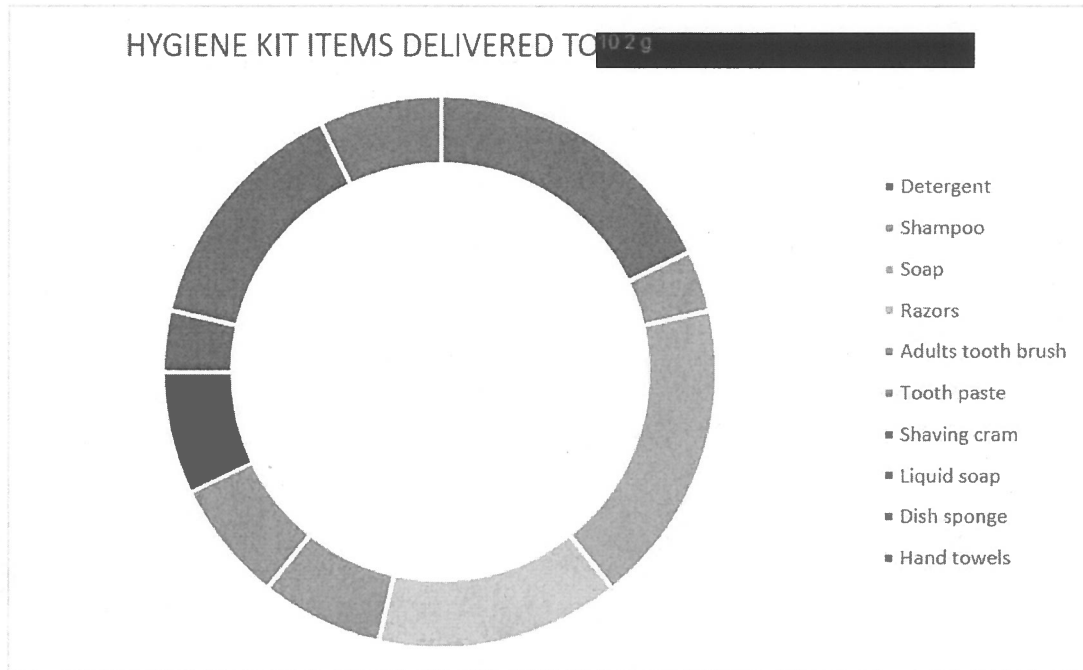
100% of interviewed members of [redacted] and 100% of interviewed members 102 g were very satisfied with the quality of the food items and considered as high quality.





### *The Hygiene Kits*

All 102 g fighters who received the hygiene kits agreed that the quantity of items inside the kit was sufficient. Also, they expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the items as they consider it as high-quality items.

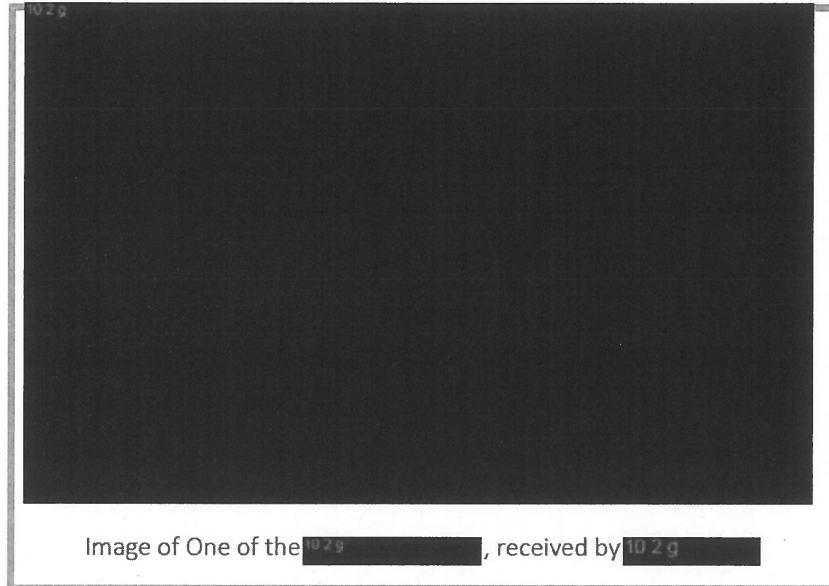




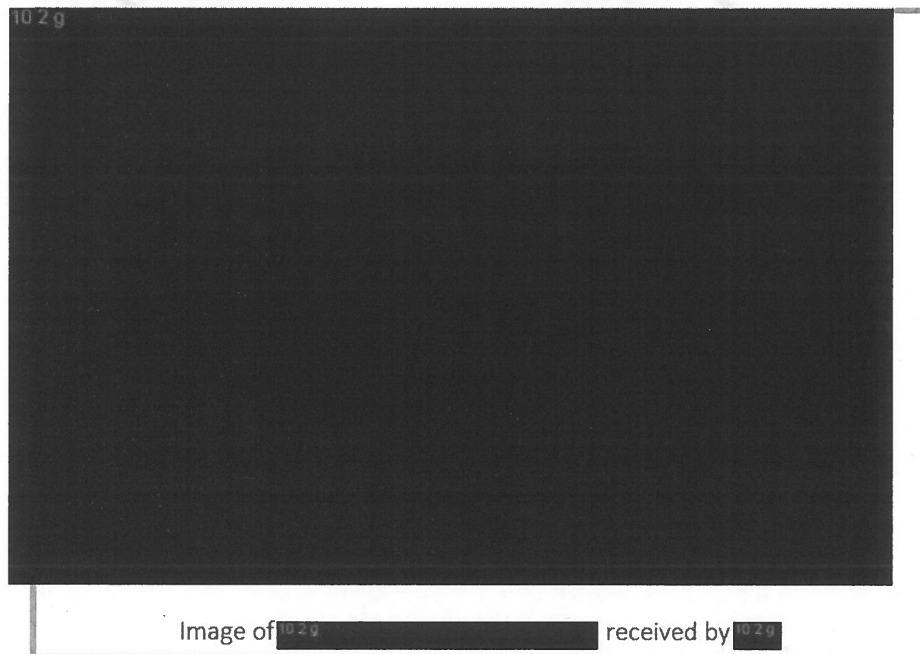
#### A.4. Technical Assistance (Vehicles and Equipment)

Under the 2nd phase of 102g project for Increasing the Resilience of Opposition Armed Groups in Northern Syria, 102g received uniform sets, generators, trucks, pickup trucks, and a laptop with Windows operating system and Microsoft Office.

##### *Appendix a: Inventory Checklist – Vehicles and Equipment*



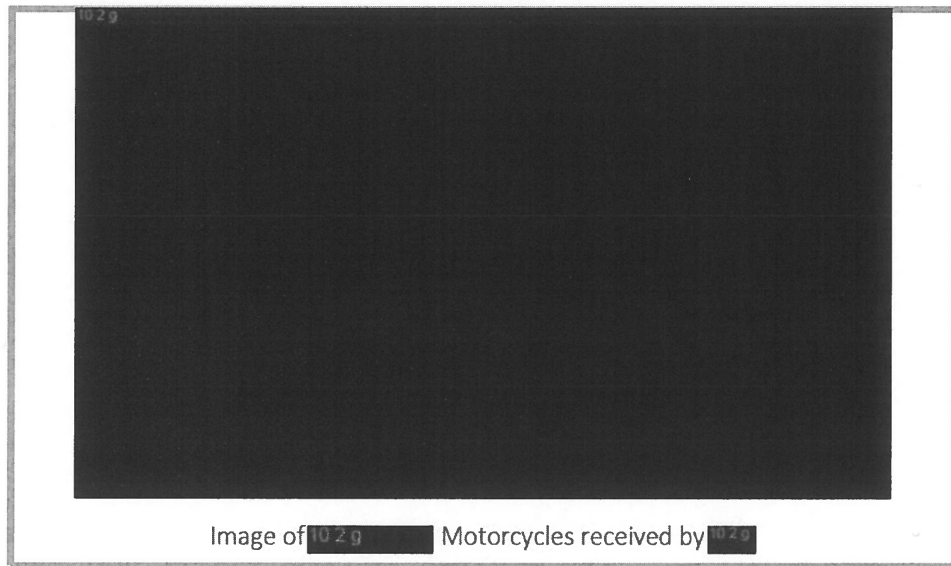
The 102g received 102g and 102g Trucks, 1.5 Ton 102g, 102g Truck, Caravans, and 102g minivans.



Also, the 102g group received vehicle Spare Parts and 102g Motorcycles



The clinic supported by [REDACTED] in [REDACTED], received [REDACTED] and set of medical equipment for the laboratory.



Moreover, 50 tons of wheat flour was provided to the community bakery.

According to interviews of both groups, the vehicles were directly used for transportation and logistics tasks.

The generators received by [REDACTED] were used to provide electricity power to the headquarters and offices.

Regarding the medical equipment received by [REDACTED] all were transferred to the clinic they support in [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. They received a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and set of medical equipment for the laboratory and the clinic serving the people in the area.

The flour was delivered to the bakery in [REDACTED] to support the daily production of bread.

#### A.4.1. Quality and Sufficiency of Technical Assistance

Regarding all received technical assistance, the quality was rated "Good" by majority of interviews. The rating "Good" describes an item as serving its purpose.

Regarding the power generators, they agreed that the generators are not the expected quality, and spare parts are expensive.

However, all interviewed members believed their units needs more equipment and the received equipment are not sufficient to providing acceptable protection and transportation.



The following equipment/vehicles listed below were named by the interviewed members as needed to improve protection and transportation, while a list of the required equipment and support in order of priority.

- 102g
- 102g and 102g Pick-up manual trucks,
- 102g Pick-up automatic trucks,
- 102g trucks,
- 102g truck,
- mobile living quarters,
- 102g minivans,
- set of vehicle Spare Parts,
- 102g Motorcycle,
- 102g 102g
- Set of medical equipment for the laboratory,

- 102g
- Generator 15 KVA,
- Generator 50 KVA,
- 102g Ton trucks,
- 102g Pick-ups manual trucks,
- 102g Windows operating system and Microsoft Office,

#### A.5. The Community Interaction

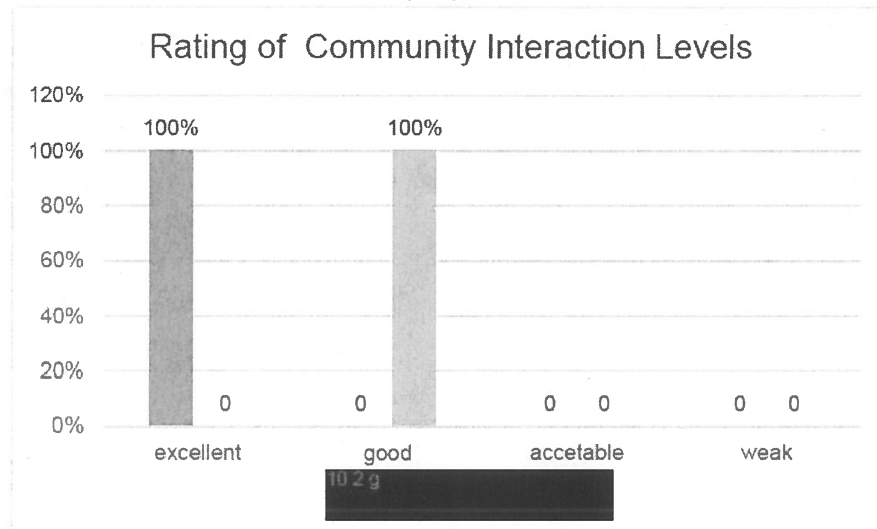
All interviewed members agreed that the interaction between their units and the local communities is very good and very positive. The units are serving the community by providing protection services and assistance of food baskets and bread when possible.

According to the interviewed members of 102g distributing the bread to families in 102g was totally neutral and according to the needs of people, without any interference or influence by any local council, civil society or other armed groups.



According to interviewed members, the services provided by their units to the community included:

- Providing bread and food baskets for vulnerable families and IDPs,
- Protecting people and their properties from threats and thefts,
- Transporting emergency patients and sick people to the medical centers and hospitals when needed,
- Conducting day and night patrols to protect the area,
- Furthermore, the clinic supported by 102 g in 102 g village provided services with subsidized fees for the people.



## B. impact

### B.1. Impact of Assistance

According to the interviewed, all types of the assistance received enforces the bond with their units because it improves the quality of their lives, helps them to provide focus on their daily tasks and provides better performance. Hence affecting positively, the general performance of their units was explained as:

- They feel secure and do not worry about meeting the high cost of living and meeting the needs of their families,
- Because of the high prices and lack of sufficient salaries, fighters said that they couldn't afford several items and considered them as extra. However, the assistance/aid they receive helped them reduce the monthly expenditures and gave them the chance to purchase these items they couldn't previously afford and enhance their livelihood situation

Also, when the leadership takes care of the well-being of the fighters, address their needs and works to meet those needs, this can make them gain the trust of the members knowing that their well-being is important for their leadership.



### B.2. Impact of Technical Assistance

The interviewed members agreed that the technical assistance their groups received affected their operational capacity positively, improved their ability to perform daily tasks, saved them time, gave them better mobility because of the trucks they received, and the protection they got from the mobile living quarters from bad weather conditions gave them the sense of protection and comfort.

According to the interviewees from the both units:

#### **Vehicles:**

Interviewees from both groups agreed that the vehicles they received has improved their ability to move faster and provided them with freedom of mobility in their daily tasks like patrols, check points, emergency response, intervention and missions.

All interviewed fighters stated that their performance has become more effective. Also, they were able to accomplish logistic work.

**Uniforms received by** [REDACTED] Interviewed fighters from [REDACTED] said that the uniform is important for fighters and affects their morale positively therefore improving their performance as it gives them the sense non-discrimination and unity which brings them all together and they can recognize each other in the streets or the battlefield.

**Mobile Living Quarters received by** [REDACTED]: According to the interviewed fighters, the caravans were used as offices and for lodging purpose, which provides space to work, protects them from bad weather conditions and give them the sense of protection and comfort during performing their responsibilities and duties

### B.3. Impact of Assistance on Community Interaction

All Interviewed members stated that the assistance received by the donor has improved their units' interaction with the local communities in their respective areas and gained the trust, respect and built the confidence of the locals in the groups.

Both groups [REDACTED] used the vehicles they received to serve the community by conducting patrols in the neighborhood, also to provide quick response when needed to transport injured or sick people to the nearest medical points/hospital.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

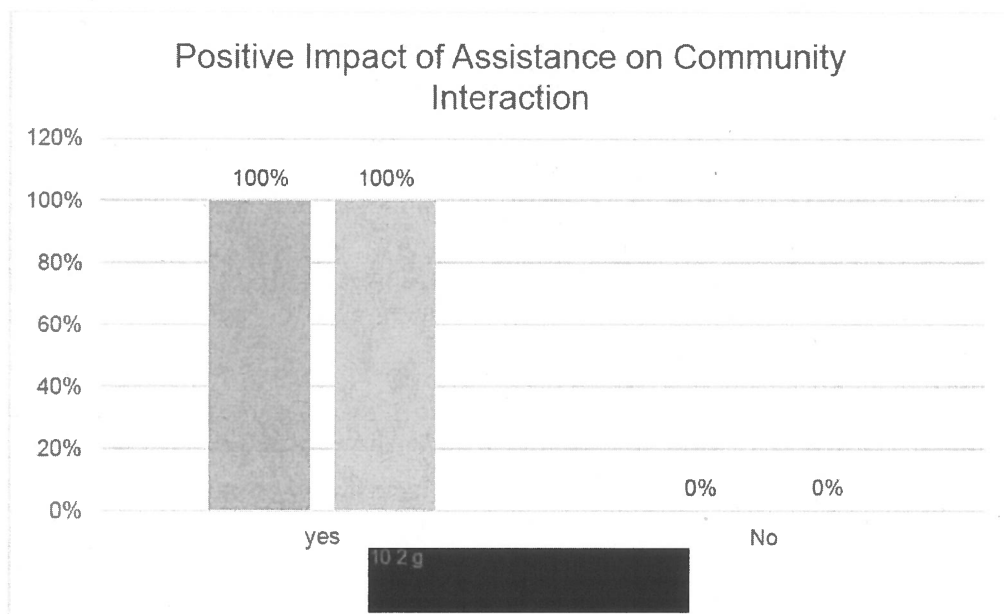


5 tons out of 50 tons of wheat flour were distributed directly to the fighters' families. The bakery in [REDACTED] received 45 tons and this amount covered around 54,000 packets of bread. The whole amount was distributed directly by fighters on the vulnerable families.

The selection criteria covered displaced families and underprivileged families in the area with no intervention of other actors (civil society, local council or other groups).

[REDACTED] supported the clinic in [REDACTED] with a [REDACTED], Medical Equipment for the Laboratory

The clinic is open 24/7 and provides medical services at subsidized prices for around 100 clients/patients daily where there is no other provider for medical services in the area.





### C. Improvement and Further Assistance

To improve the quality of their life, the capacity of their units and their positive interaction with host communities, the interviews shared several suggestions:

#### ***Improving the quality of life and loyalty of fighters***

- Providing higher salaries for unit members.
- Recruiting skilled people/fighters
- Providing relief assistance and food baskets on regular basis taking into consideration the numbers of the household members.
- Providing civilians clothing for fighters and their families
- Distributing vouchers (on fighters and their families)

#### ***Increasing the capacity and protection of fighters***

- Providing houses for fighters' families accommodation,
- Providing laptops and office supplies to improve the administrative capacity,
- Providing armored vehicles and ambulances,

#### ***Increasing positive interaction with host community***

- Increasing the number of food baskets allocated for local community.



IV. Appendices

## Appendix – A: Inventory check list – 1029

Items	Received Items	Used/Distributed	Stored in Warehouse	Quality		
				Good	Average	Bad
Pickup truck-1029 (used)	1029		1	X	-	-
Pickup truck-1029			0	X	-	-
Power Generator			1	-	-	X
cabover truck			0	X	-	-
1029 tray truck			0	X	-	-
1029 minivan			0	X	-	-
Mobile living quarters			0	X	-	-
Motorcycle – 1029			1	X	-	-
Food baskets	22,300	22,300	0	X	-	-
Hygiene kits	250	250	0	X		
Wheat Flour	50 Tons	50 tons	0	X		



## Appendix – B: Spare parts Inventory check list – 1029

Items	received items	items in use	Number of units in		Quality	
			stock	Good	average	bad
Vehicle spare parts: Air Compressor	1029		0	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: Air Filters			45	X	-	-
Auto spare parts: Rechargeable Drill			0	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: Diesel filters			43	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: fuel improvement materials			45	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: Lube Oil Hand Pumps			0	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: (3 Tons)			0	X	-	-
Auto spare parts and Accessories: Car Wash System			0	X	-	-
Auto spare parts: Castrol 4-liter engine oil			92	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: Spindle Machine - 1700W			0	X	-	-
Used Vehicle spare parts: coil			3	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: vehicle Repair Kit			0	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: Welding Apparatus			0	X	-	-
Vehicle spare parts: windshield wipers			16 sets	X	-	-



## Appendix C: Inventory check list - 1029

Description	Received Items		In use items	Items in stock	Quality		
					Good	Average	bad
Uniform set	1050		1050	0	X	-	-
Pickup truck-1029 (used)	1029			0	X	-	-
Pickup truck-1029 (New)				0	X	-	-
Pickup truck-1029 (New)				0	X	-	-
Pickup truck-1029				0	X	-	-
Power Generator				0	X	-	-
Food baskets	1300		1292	8 *	X	-	-
1029 cabover truck	1029			0	X	-	-
Laptop-1029				0	X	-	-

\* the remaining eight food baskets are for use in emergency situation