



Painting: Adamat, Mariam. Jin, Jiyan, Azadi. 2020.

SEED Foundation

# Annual Report Brief

2020



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Dear Friends,

Throughout 2020, SEED worked to protect, empower, and support the recovery and reintegration of some of the most vulnerable individuals and communities in the Kurdistan Region, including survivors of conflict, trafficking, and gender-based violence (GBV). Responding to emergencies and long-term needs, we supported refugees, internally displaced persons, host community members, and migrant workers across Kurdistan.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused greater challenges for those at greatest risk across the Kurdistan Region, including increasing rates of GBV as women and girls were trapped at home with abusers, a growing mental health crisis partly due to isolation, and increased economic hardship. Responding to this heightened need, SEED's service delivery teams adopted trauma-informed remote service provision using technology and other innovative interventions, successfully delivering life-changing services to 3,710 people in a safe manner.

Alongside our direct services for survivors, we strengthened the knowledge, skills, and capacities of those working on the front line to protect and serve survivors through our training and education programs. We also successfully moved the needle on the laws, policies, and practices of institutions in the Kurdistan Region that protect and serve those affected by violence, and promoted positive and rights-based norms and behaviors to push progress forward on gender equality, positive masculinity, mental health, human rights, and other social issues in the Kurdistan Region. At this time of increased need, we launched four new programs and recruited 79 new staff to serve greater numbers of those in need.

Reflecting our commitment to working in line with international standards, we designed and launched SEED Academy, an internal training program for staff to ensure the highest quality and consistent approaches across SEED's services. Recognizing the increased pressures faced by our staff, we shifted our staff well-being program on-line to maintain our strong team spirit and camaraderie, and support our staff.

As we emerge from the grip of this pandemic, we firmly believe a brighter future is attainable and stand resolute in working with and for the survivors and communities we serve in the Kurdistan Region. In 2021, we are committed to expanding our services, training and education programs, and advocacy efforts. We hope to count on your support on this journey to build a more inclusive, secure, and prosperous Kurdistan Region, in which the dignity, rights, and safety of all its people are protected.

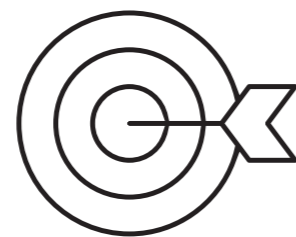


**Sherri Kraham Talabany**  
President and Executive Director



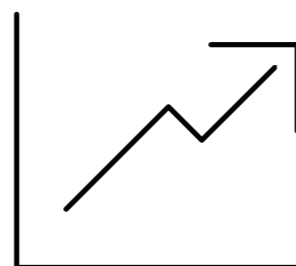
## Vision

A prosperous Kurdistan with equal opportunity and protection of rights for all.



## Mission

To protect, empower, and support the recovery of survivors of violence and others at risk.



## Goals

**Promoting Gender Equality and Countering Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** SEED is committed to promoting gender equality, empowering women and girls, preventing GBV, and supporting survivors.

**Strengthening Child Protection (CP):** SEED is committed to empowering vulnerable children, adolescents, and youth; protecting them from violence, neglect, abuse, and exploitation; promoting their rights; and advocating for systems which protect children; and support the recovery of survivors.

**Combating Trafficking in Persons (TIP):** SEED is committed to the protection of survivors of trafficking and those at risk, preventing human trafficking, and partnering with others to ensure a coordinated and effective response.

**Improving Mental Health and Psychosocial Well-being:** SEED is committed to improving the mental and psychosocial well-being of individuals and communities across the KRI, including those affected by conflict, and supporting the development of sustainable mental health and social service systems and structures to support vulnerable groups.

## SEED By The Numbers 2020



3,710

Clients served



570

Clients received case management services



294

Clients received mental health services



2,933

Individuals participated in psychosocial support activities



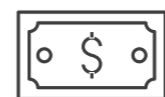
70

Survivors of human trafficking received shelter



157

Clients received legal services



349

Clients received an average of \$470 each in cash assistance



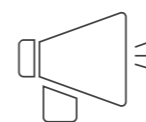
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KRG frontline service providers received GBV and protection training



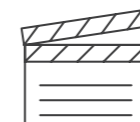
15

KRI journalists received training on ethical standards for GBV reporting during crises



6

Million people reached across multiple awareness campaigns



27

Short films produced for awareness-raising campaigns



9

Technical assistance briefs produced



29

Survivors of human trafficking supported with voluntary repatriation



927

KRI university students participated in outreach sessions on preventing sexual exploitation, harassment, and abuse



\$164,000+

In cash assistance provided to address urgent protection needs

## What We Do



### Service Delivery

SEED delivers survivor-centered, trauma-informed support to our clients through one or more of the following services: Case Management, Cash Assistance, Mental Health Services, Psychosocial Support Activities, Legal Services, Anti-Human Trafficking Services, and shelter protection.



### Training & Education

SEED strengthens the capacity of the Kurdistan Region's frontline service providers and protection systems, including in response to gender-based violence, human trafficking, and mental health and psychosocial well-being, through training, education, and supervision programs.



### Policy and Advocacy

SEED increases protections for survivors of violence and those at risk through research and analysis, strengthening government policies and protections, practical tools and recommendations, advocacy, awareness-raising, and social change.



## Populations We Support

SEED supports survivors of violence and those at risk, of all genders and ages, in the host community and among internally displaced persons, refugees, stateless persons, and migrant workers. In particular, SEED supports survivors of GBV, human trafficking, and ISIS atrocities.

## Where We Work

