



DG Editorial

Dear Partners,

I am pleased to share the SRTF’s first Newsletter of 2025, highlighting key operational milestones and achievements from the first quarter.

We are especially grateful for the continued confidence of the Government of Japan, which contributed an additional EUR 3 million during this period bringing its total support to approximately EUR 56.36 million, and the total contributions from all 12 donors to an impressive EUR 372.73 million, a testament to the strong and sustained commitment of our partners.

Another major highlight of this quarter is the official approval of the SRTF’s budget extension, which paves the way for a significant expansion of our operations in newly accessible areas of Syria. This important milestone will enable us to establish representative offices, recruit additional staff, and explore new project opportunities across key sectors such as Health, Electricity, Agriculture, Waste Removal, and more. This expansion reflects our ongoing commitment to delivering impactful, needs-based interventions and furthering our mission of supporting stability and recovery in Syria.

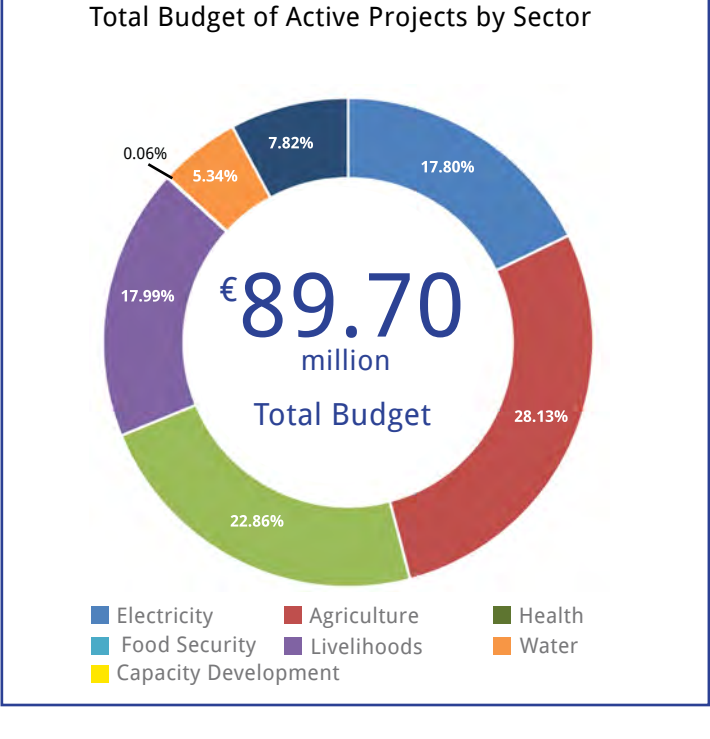
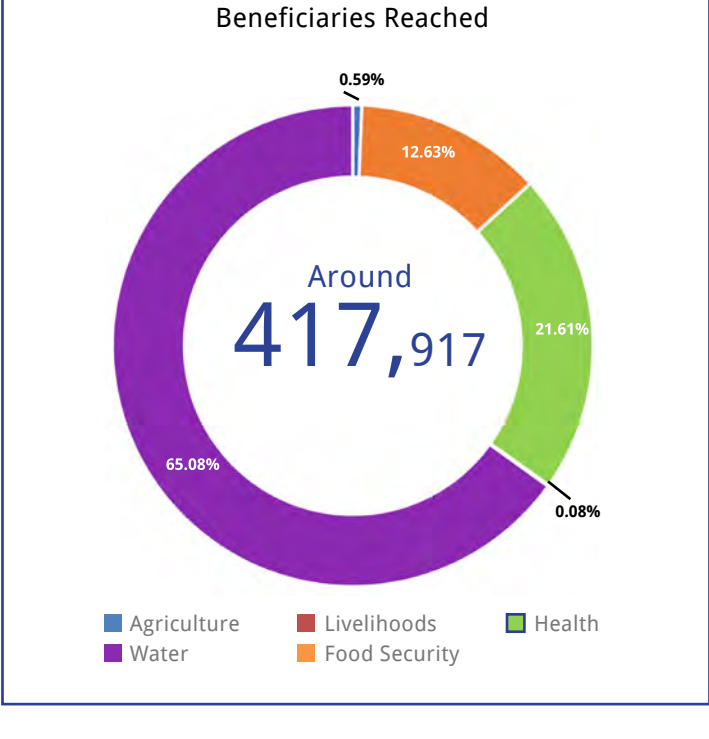
A total of 40 projects with a budget of EUR 89.70 million remained active in throughout the quarter. This enabled the Fund to reach over 417,917 individuals through its programmes on the ground. A total average of 52,768 individuals per month benefitted from greater access to food security, 90,316 patients received health care services, at least 2,483 farmers benefitted from the Agriculture sector, 272,000 individuals benefitted under the WASH/Water sector, and 350 took on livelihood opportunities.

Furthermore, in **Q1**, three new projects were approved, a project under the Food Security in Northern Aleppo, another under Agriculture sectors in As-Swaida, and a Livelihoods project in Northeast Syria, only portraying the Fund's resilience and commitment to contributing to achieving its mission and assisting individuals through the most vital sectors in Syria.

Such efforts and testimonies are only reminders of the dire conditions Syrians in Syria have been living in and the need for the international community's continuous and increased contribution, support and determination for addressing such a cause, which, of course, we are always grateful for and need more than ever now.

Hani Khabbaz  
Director General

Impact in Q1 2025

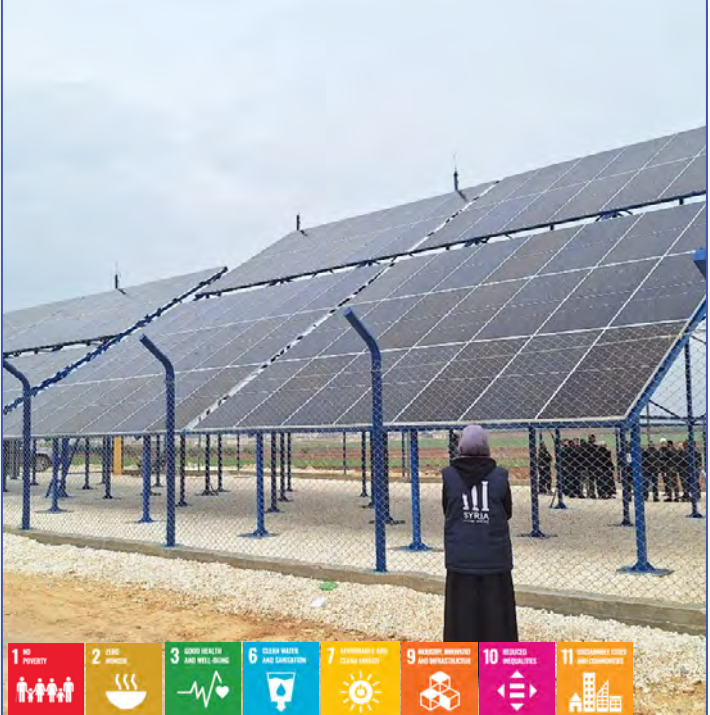


Q1 Highlights

Programme Updates

Under the multi-phased agricultural project **“Restoration of Sustainable and Safe Water Access to Six Communities in A Sub-District in Northern Aleppo”**, civil works on a water supply network and the rehabilitation of one (out of the planned four) water pumping station were completed during Q1.

The civil works included extension works and piping, rehabilitation works, creating and installing a steel structure for a solar system, installing solar panels, among other necessary equipment and testing the system for pumping water from the well to the main water tank. These improvements are felt by beneficiaries like Mohammad, who shared: “Previously, we used to bear a monthly cost of 700/800 SYP to secure water for our homes. But now, thank God, we no longer pay any fees at all, and the water is supplied 24 hours a day.”



Farmers in Northeast Syria continue to be empowered in **Q1**, under **Phase VIII of “Agricultural Support to Farmers in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor Governorates”**. This quarter, 116 sets of sprinkler irrigation kits started being supplied to farmers.

These farmers were identified based on the selection criteria and were required to purchase a kit sufficient to irrigate 0.1 hectare (HA) of land, so the SRTF can provide them with an additional kit to irrigate 0.2 HA.

Farmers will be using such inputs along with the 777 metric tonnes (MT) of high-quality wheat seeds, and other agricultural inputs, machinery and equipment that were previously delivered, for land preparation, planting and post-harvest operations.



Beneficiary Testimonial

Through **Phase II of “Supporting Potato Farmers in Ar-Raqqa and Deir-ez-Zor Governorates”**, Saleh, a beneficiary farmer out of the 1,000 farmers benefitting from such efforts, told us about his impressive experience while receiving support from the Fund in **Q1**.

He said: “The SRTF provided us with potato tubers, which we planted, so we can secure growing a staple food item and improve potato harvest in the area. The Fund also provided us with mesh packing bags and fertilisers. It is extremely important to plant potatoes in the area, as it will be produced and harvested locally, it will reduce its price in markets and will be more beneficial if cultivated using the correct techniques and expertise. We witnessed the positive outcomes other farmers experienced from last year [Phase I] so we decided to undergo the experience ourselves this year, hoping for even better results.

Cultivating potatoes enables for families to become self-sufficient as they secure their own food and of course allows them to sell their produce in local markets, allowing for great financial returns. My brother received net profit of around \$2,000 last year from planting his land.



IP Testimonial

As we wanted to learn more about our Food Security project, which has been continuously achieving great results, we met with Engineer Jamal, the Head of the Implementing Entity, Syrian Public Establishment for Grain (SPEG), Aleppo Branch. He told us: “With the SRTF’s support and within this project’s sphere, SPEG is currently receiving machinery to establish two new bakeries. Each of these two bakeries will have the productivity rate of producing 10,000 loaves of bread per hour. These bakeries will be set up with the best and most advanced technology to ensure the production of the best quality and maximum quantity of bread. We expect the bakeries to start operating in the next month, after the machinery and equipment are installed and training sessions are provided to the relevant staff, according to plan and the set criteria. This will of course positively impact the local community, as job opportunities and bread, as a high-quality and affordable staple food item, are provided. We thank the SRTF for continuing to extend such support, sustaining food security levels and long-term stability for residents in the area.”



Donor Testimonial

His Excellency Sultan Mohammad Al Shamsi, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Development Affairs and International Organisations, Vice Chairman of the UAE Aid Agency, said: “The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is proud to have been a founding member of the SRTF, reflecting our early and unwavering commitment to the Syrian people. We view the SRTF as a vital mechanism for delivering principled, effective support that directly addresses the needs of communities on the ground. Our engagement through the SRTF aligns with the UAE’s broader vision of promoting regional stability and alleviating human suffering. We reiterate the UAE’s steadfast position in supporting all efforts aimed at fulfilling the aspirations of the brotherly Syrian people—for security, stability, peaceful coexistence, and sustainable development.”



Contributions

