

ANNUAL REPORT

**Asuda Organization
For Combating
Violence Against
Women**

**Leading Actor in Supporting Survivors
GBV and SGBV in KRI and Iraq**

2022

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First: Asuda Organization

About Asuda

Asuda for Combating Violence Against Women is a non-for-profit local organization which was founded in 2000 and registered in 2001 with the Ministry of Humanitarian Assistance and Cooperation in Sulaimaniyah, Iraqi Kurdistan. Asuda is dedicated to combating violence against women through an institutional and systematic approach to enhance the status of women regardless of differences in ethnic grouping and religious background. Asuda's strategy underscores a multifaceted approach to addressing violence against women through protection, awareness, research, capacity building, and empowerment. Asuda opened the very first women's shelter in Iraq in 2002, providing protection for women who face domestic violence, abuse, and honor-related killings. The shelter provided rehabilitation, counseling, social mediation, problem resolution, support in finding job opportunities, and free legal service to destitute women. Asuda telephone hotline (110) assisted victims of violence through counseling, referral, and advice. Asuda ran the shelter for 14 years, until government-run shelters came into existence. After its closure, Asuda referred its cases to the governmental shelters.

Our Mission and Vision

Asuda's Vision

Asuda aims to build a world where women prosper through access to equal rights and resources and opportunities.

Asuda strives to eliminate all forms of discrimination and marginalization against women to address societal structural problems and challenge the norms and attitudes limiting women's freedom and agency.

Asuda's Mission

Asuda is committed to gender equity and the empowerment of women.

Asuda works to combat violence against women and girls by advocating for women's rights and providing quality multi-sectoral responses for gender-based violence survivors.

Asuda values and principles

Responsibility: we ensure the efficient and responsible delivery of supports with the means and the resources that have been entrusted to us. To fulfil this responsibility, we, as an organisation and as individuals, commit to being accountable, transparent and compliant towards beneficiaries, communities, as well as towards donors, partners and stakeholders.

Impact: we are committed to having the most sustainable impact for the communities and the people with whom we engage. All our actions aim to have impact which improves the living conditions of the people, contributing to reaching dignity every human being is entitled to.

Ethics: we base our action on legal and fair practices that follow ethical principles, including the nonexploitation of children and the respect of key social rights.

Impartiality: We operate with strict respect of political and religious neutrality and impartiality.

Non-discrimination: We do not accept any form of discrimination based on race, gender, age, sexuality, disability, culture, ethnicity, religion, nationality or beliefs.

Second: Achievements

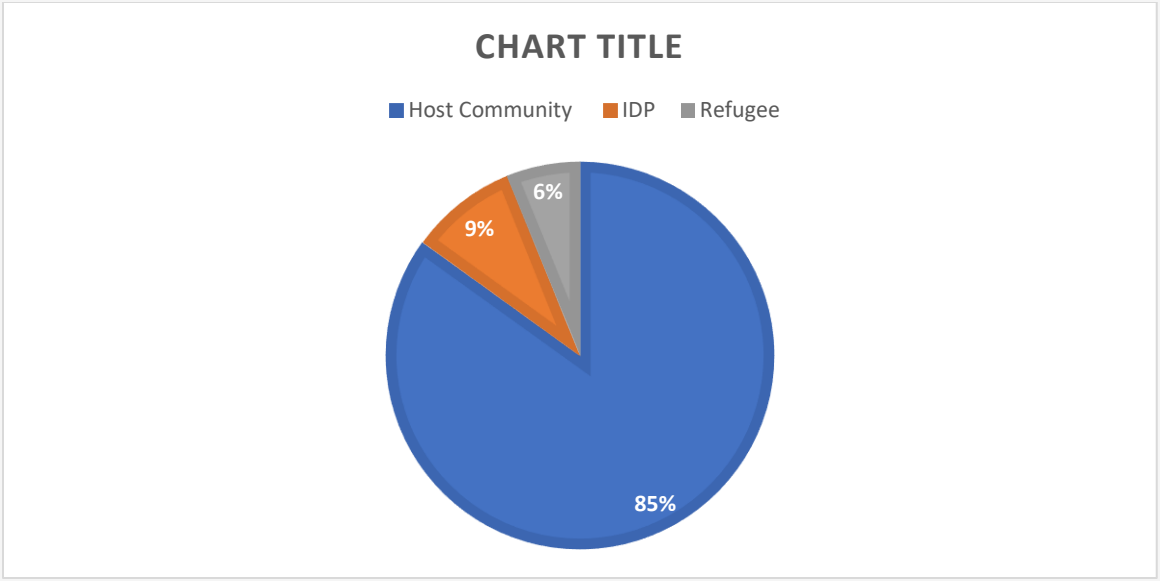
A. Ninety four GBV and SGBV survivors supported to cover their urgent needs

Throughout the program of urgent cash assistance, Asuda Organization was able to target most vulnerable survivors of GBV and SGBV across the whole country of Iraq.

B. Psychosocial support to survivors of all kinds of violence

Throughout its listening centers, Asuda Organization has provided an extensive psychosocial support to the survivors of violence, in particular, GBV, SGBV and domestic violence. In 2022, Asuda was able to support 458 women and girl from different communities, namely: host communities, Internally Displaced Person and Refugees)

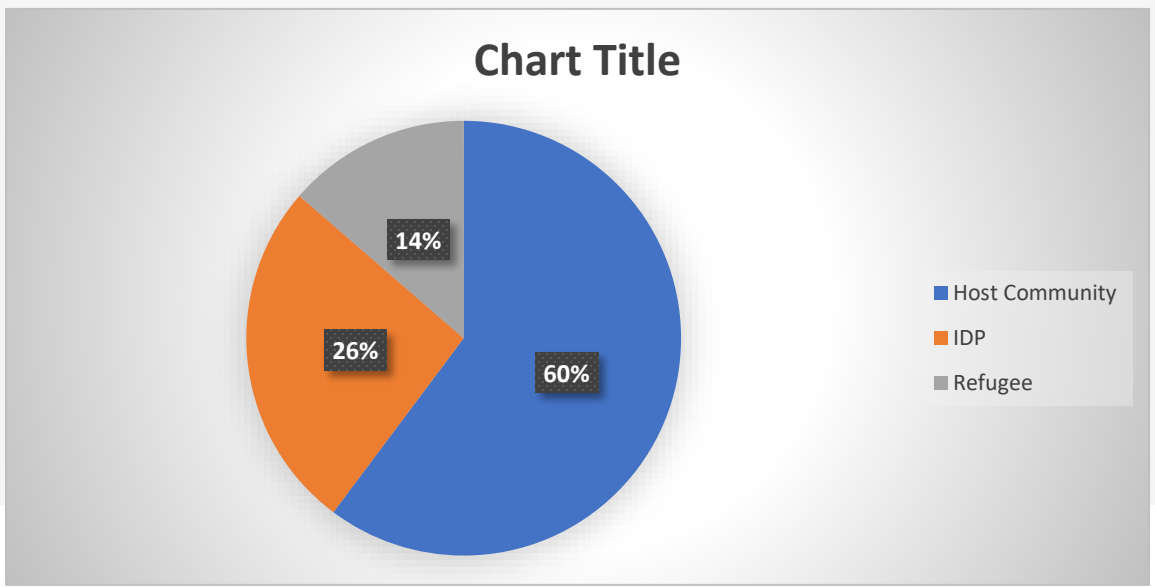
Host Community	Internally Displaced Persons	Refugees
389	41	28



C. Legal Support to survivors of all kinds of violence

Throughout its listening centers, Asuda Organization has provided legal advice and representation to the survivors of violence, in particular, GBV, SGBV and domestic violence. In 2022, Asuda was able to support 88 women and girl from different communities, namely: host communities, Internally Displaced Person and Refugees)

Host Community	Internally Displaced Persons	Refugees
53	23	12



D. Capacity Building

1. Targeting Human Rights' activists across Iraq by training them on monitoring and reporting mechanisms of Human Right violations. Asuda has trained 20 activists, journalists, lawyers and Human Right activists across Iraq to equip them with necessary tools to monitor and report Human Rights violations.



2. Capacity building training to Government entities in order to enable them better response to survivors. Asuda has trained 50 members of different government department such as Women Shelters, Directorate of Combating Violence against Women and all other related department.



3. Training young leaders and youth-led and youth-serving organizations in Qaladze to conduct quality "research-for-change" (implementation research); use data and learnings to improve their own cross-sectoral, positive youth development programs; synthesize data and learning; and engage in intergenerational dialogue with adult decision-makers so that together youth and adults can shape and advance data-informed development policies, agendas, and programs. Asuda works with 20 local youth-led and youth-serving organizations to enhance their program outcomes, learning cultures, networks, and leadership for positive youth development through "research-for-change" in Iraq.



E. Men and Boys engagement

Asuda believes that working towards gender equality by empowering women and engaging men is fundamental to achieving a host of development outcomes, including

reducing poverty, improving health and addressing other population concerns. Men's and boys' relationships with women and girls can support or impede improved health and development outcomes. In this regard, Asuda has worked toward involving men and boys throughout conducting a series of workshop targeting various stakeholders from religious leaders, teachers, social workers, doctors and university lecturers who can make influence in reducing violence against women. Asuda has conducted workshops for more than 80 participants.



053 339 0840

Sarwary, Sherko bekas street, behind Altun Supermarket

F. Psychiatric referrals

As part of Asuda GBV service provision, survivor who needs psychiatric support are referred to special psychiatrist in order to provide medical support. Asuda has referred 43 survivors in 2022.

Third: Networking

Asuda is leading many women advocacy networks in Iraq. Asuda believes that networks are a firmly entrenched facet of virtually every aspect of society and exist just about everywhere in the world. Since its establishment, Asuda was actively engaged in the works of many women networks in Iraq and Kurdistan Region of Iraq aiming at enabling NGOs to be self-confident, independent, creative, and effective organizations that make a difference in the lives of the people, communities, and countries that they serve, as well as make a contribution to the thinking and practice in their fields.

In 2022 specifically, Asuda was a dynamic member of 1325 Alliances, Tam network for Development Sustainability and many other discussions to advocate for issues related to the status of women in Iraq

Fourth: Highlights

Visited by (Officials, delegates from national and International NGOs, International figures and activists)

Invited by (National and International NGOs, Government Agencies, Embassies and Consulates, UN agencies, etc.)

Organized (National and International Conferences, workshops, trainings, round table discussions, meetings, etc)

Contributed (amendments to the KRG domestic violence law, Yazidi Survivors Law, Federal Domestic violence law, draft of small arms law in the KRG and many other policies, recommendations and reports)

Produced (6 short videos, 30 posters, 3 reports on different topics)

8th of March

Each year, International Women's Day is a time to reflect and recommit to challenging gender norms, empowering each other, breaking stereotypes, celebrating diversity and taking climate action. In 2022, the UN in Iraq commenced an advocacy campaign to remind us all that women and girls play a critical role in leading climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response within our communities, and it's time to recognize their contribution.

2022's theme, "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow," is designed to recognize the contribution of women and girls around the world and is aligned with the priority theme for the upcoming 66th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66): "Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs."

Asuda in Coordination with other women Organizations in the region is celebrating the events and emphasizes its commitment to support women and girls in need.

16 days of Activism

The theme and activities of the 16 Days of Activism in 2022, aimed at mobilizing all networks, civil society and women's rights organizations, women – led organizations, the UN system, government partners, human rights defenders, schools, universities, private sector, sports clubs and associations and individuals to become activists for the prevention of violence against women, to stand in solidarity with women's rights activists and to support feminist movements around the world to resist the rollback on women's rights and calling for a world free from VAWG.

Asuda is an active member of the UNFPA GBV cluster in Kurdistan region and eagerly participated in the campaigns of the 16 Days of Activism.

Fifth: Climate change, Women Rights, Asuda Organization

According to UNEP¹, Iraq has been named the fifth-most vulnerable country to climate breakdown. Detrimental effects of climate change can be felt in the short-term through natural hazards, such as landslides, floods and hurricanes; and in the long-term, through more gradual degradation of the environment. The adverse effects of these events are already felt in many areas, including in relation to, inter alia, agriculture and food security; biodiversity and ecosystems; water resources; human health; human settlements and migration patterns; and energy, transport and industry. Women's responsibilities increase with the resource scarceness since they are the household and resources' managers. While climate change originates environmental deprivation and resource deficiency, women's responsibilities are becoming more exhausting.

Asuda will actively engage with the following strategies to cope with the impact of climate change on women status:

1. To engage in the decision making of recovery policy from climate risks.
2. To take part in awareness raising campaigns to create stakeholders to take decisive action to ease the reverse impact of climate change on women and girls.
3. Provide women with equal opportunities to ease their work's burden, increase economic opportunities, and decrease care responsibilities.
4. Engaging women, based on gender-equality perspective, and offering them opportunities in programs and initiatives to improve irrigation systems and manage resources, improve women's status and provide them rights of land ownership, and assist them to have access to technologies and awareness of their rights can help women with their resilience against climate change's impact.

¹ UNEP report GEO 6. See: <https://www.unep.org/resources/global-environment-outlook-6>

Sixth: Statement of Financial Positions

Asuda's funding comes from a variety of donations and fundraising activities. Most funds are given by organizations, bodies and individuals, either from the private sector (trusts and foundations), or the public sector (statutory and governments). Asuda is very grateful to all the partners who have worked with us in 2019 and to the decision makers who have provided financial support, without whom none of this important work could have taken place.

For 2022, we wish to give a warm thank you to the following donors who have continued to support us strongly:

1. US Government through DRL
2. Swiss Government
3. UN and UN Trust Fund
4. Norwegian Government

Seventh: Asuda Board of Trustee

Position Title	Name
Women's Rights Activist, Director of Deaf and Mute Society in Sulaymaniyah Acting Chairperson of Board	Ms. Rezan Yaseen
Expert at the Ministry of Finance	Ms. Dilshada Ismail Hassan
Politician and Women's Rights Activist	Ms. Narmin Osman

Asuda board of trustees are not involved in any decision making or management of the Organization and by far they do not receive any compensation of what they provide to Asuda Organization. Board members play very significant roles providing guidance to our organization by contributing to the organization's culture, strategic focus, effectiveness, and financial sustainability, as well as serving as ambassadors and advocates.

Roles and responsibilities of the board member

- To ensure an organization stays aligned with the mission and to proffer advice to management
- Review the organization's performance periodically to ensure viability and sustainability, and support the Chief Executive Officer and the rest of senior management in networking, advising, and any other capacity as needed.
- Making necessary connection and networks to support the Organization in fundraising.

Duty of Loyalty requires board members to act in the interests of the nonprofit rather than their own personal interests or the interests of some other person/organization. Duty of Loyalty is carried out by:

- Adhering to the conflict of interest policy
- Disclosing all conflicts
- Avoiding the use of the organization's opportunities for personal gain
- Maintaining confidentiality of information held by the organization

Eighth: Partners and peers

UN Trust Fund

The UN Trust Fund is the only global grant-making mechanism that is dedicated exclusively to addressing all forms of violence against women and girls. The Fund is managed by UN Women on behalf of the UN System. The funds raised support initiatives by grantees that have a tangible and sustainable impact.



Ceasefire Center for Civilian Rights

The Ceasefire Centre for Civilian Rights is an international initiative to develop civilian-led monitoring of violations of international humanitarian law or human rights; to secure accountability and reparation for those violations; and to develop the practice of civilian rights.



WILPF

On 28 April 1915, during World War I, a unique group of 1,136 women from warring and neutral nations gathered in The Hague, the Netherlands, to discuss how to end the war and ensure permanent peace. The meeting ended with the foundation of the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom.

The organisers of the congress were prominent suffragists, who saw the link between their struggle for women's right and the struggle for peace. They believed that the full and equal participation of women in the decision-making processes was necessary to achieve sustainable peace.



Vital Voices

Vital Voices Global Partnership is a global movement that invests in women leaders who are solving the world's greatest challenges. We are "venture catalysts," identifying those with a daring vision for change and partnering with them to make that vision a reality. We scale and accelerate impact through long term investments to expand skills, connections, capacity and visibility. Over the last 22 years, we have built a network of 18,000 change makers across 182 countries who are collectively daring to reimagine a more equitable world for all.



UN Women

UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.



Support Asuda

There are many ways for you to find out more or get involved with Asuda's work.

1. Donate

Make an immediate difference by supporting us, this will allow us to help combat violence against women. Donate now!

2. Subscribe on our website Asuda.krd

You can receive regular updates about our work and news from our partners around the world by subscribing to our website or Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AsudaOrganization>.

3. Get social

If you like our organization and work, please tell your friends on Twitter or Facebook!

Contact us

Email: info@asuda.krd
director@asuda.krd

Telephone: 053 339 0840

Web: www.asuda.krd

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AsudaOrganization>

Instagram: