100,000 sqm of Goizha Mountain have been covered by cleaning and creating gradual lines.

768 food and hygiene packages distributed among health workers and volunteers serving Coronavirus patients.

CDO developed Code of conduct containing ethical principles to protect women rights in Kurdish media.

CDO started documenting the caves in Sulaymaniyyah and Halabja governorates.

June 2020
About CDO:
CDO is an independent non-profit organization registered with KRG and Federal Government

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Since the establishment of CDO, protecting environment from pollution was one of the aims that CDO has always been seeking for. Many activities and projects have been implemented so far and CDO have become member of some local and regional activities. Many accomplishments have been recorded such as developing local trainers; adding environment lesson to the curriculum of elementary schools and campaigns for planting.

This year CDO with the generous budget from Asiacell Telecommunications Company has started an important project which is greening up and afforestation of 50 Hectares of Goizha mountain. The project starts in a difficult situation because of the spread of COVID-19 but the activities are ongoing according to the plans with the efforts of the project staff and support from Asiacell Telecommunications Company and mayor of Sulaymaniyah.

The project contains different activities such as cleaning the targeted area, creating gradual lines, digging plant holes, establishing an irrigation system, and by the end of the preparation stage 35,000 plants will be planted. The project will create job opportunity for more than 120 individuals for 5 months and will lead to an increase in the percentage of green areas in Sulaymaniyah.

It’s worth to mention that the initiative of Asiacell Telecommunications Company must be well recognized as a high level of social responsibility of the companies toward the community and bringing to mind the previous initiatives during the mass flow of Syrian refugees in 2010 and the Iraqi IDPs in 2014.

Thanks to Asiacell for fully funding this project and we look forward for more support and mutual projects together that serves the community.
Youth Leadership Initiative Project focuses on youth capacity building and empowerment, in order to establish a new dream and renovation among youth communities. This project strives to empower the innovations, self-development, livelihoods, gender equality and self-dedication toward social welfare. It also strives to create a society that recognizes and highlights the role of youth in investing their capabilities, that ensures productivity and social justice. This project has emphasized on youth advocacy and generating novel ideas that help youths for fulfillment of future life dreams through attractive training and modern dialogue, enabling them to flourish their potential and skills.

Today, young people are so excited to search for a great opportunity, in order to enhance their capacities and find out stability in their future life career. Unfortunately, the current situation has put many obstacles in front of the dreams of young people as they have been suffering from unemployment and social injustice. However, the good news is, a lot of youth are still eager to be a crucial part of acceleration of economic growth and the civil development process in their society.
Call for application was announced as the starting point for establishing youth councils in targeted districts of Halabja, Chamchamal and Rayna. 339 young people filled out the application and were very eager to become part of the council. To ensure quality and gender balance of the teams, CDO selected top 30 qualified applicants of which were 15 males and 15 females from each region.

The challenge now is how to continue the project’s activities while practicing the social-distancing that COVID-19 imposed on all population. The management team conducted some meetings with the team leaders in order to establish a virtual communication mechanism so as to continue the applicant’s capacity building training while ensuring their well-being. Given the current challenging circumstances, the applicants are still eager to participate. This indicates their will and desire to improve and be part of a social coalition to achieve the goals of youth.
Afforestation and greening up Goizha Mountain project which is fully funded by Asiacell Company and implemented by CDO, is developing to new stages. Cleaning and creating gradual lines started in June and 100,000 sqm have been covered during this month with participation of 30 assiduous workers. On the other hand, digging plant holes in the gradual lines started and 1500 plant holes have been created for the seedlings which will be planted in autumn.

Natural fertilizer preparation is one of the main objectives of the project which ensures providing sufficient nutrients and minerals for the soil and increase success ratio of the seedling growth. The fertilizer is composed of three components which are manure, agricultural lime and soil by 1:1:1 ratio and for this project 230 cubic meter of each component is required.
During June one third of the manure have been collected from villages and farms then transported to Goizha orchard where it is kept and treated by adding chemical fertilizers and water then mixed so as to react and be prepared to be used after three months.
This project which is funded by Internews and implemented by CDO is going through the final steps of reaching the main objectives successfully which is to establish a detailed code of conduct that contains ethical principles to protect women rights in Kurdish media.

After the meetings with the network members in Sulaymaniyah, Erbil, Duhok and Halabja, CDO improved the first draft of the codes of conduct and then shared it with the network members in order to gain their feedback and opinion about the draft and make it more detailed and expressive. From June 3 to 6 the draft was revised by a professional team to consider the comments and feedback of the network members.
After meeting with both Kurdistan Journalist Syndicate and the Ministry of Culture representatives, from June 10 to 15 the final draft after revision and modification was shared with the media channels. The Ministry of Culture and Internews showed their approval to the ethical principles mentioned in the code of conduct.

The signing process by the media channels was planned to be conducted in a press conference in Erbil but due to the lockdown as a result of spread of COVID-19 the plan was cancelled, therefore each channel will be signing their copies and share it back with CDO.

By signing the codes of conduct that contains ethical principles to deal with women issues, Kurdish media will be more involved in protecting women rights and the Ministry of Culture as a governmental institution and CSOs will focus more on the issue so that all forms of violence against women and girls will be prevented and eliminated in Kurdish media.
CDO has started to define and document the caves of both governorates of Sulaymaniyah and Halabja in a comprehensive historical, geological and tourist project by assigning a number of photographers. The duration of the project will last for 1 year and it will include various types of activities.

More updates are coming up in the next newsletter, make sure you stay tuned!
Distribution is one of the most critical points in the food supply chain industry especially at a challenging time of COVID-19, yet the project team continues delivering the assistance to the targeted families on daily basis by staying committed to the instructions from the ministry of health.

During June:

300 families have been approached by the team:
- Population: 1,386 individuals
- Bread: 17,468 packages
- Food: 166 packages

Assessment and revision for the life condition for vulnerable families have been suspended temporarily due to the curfew and to stay committed to the health instructions on COVID-19.
Despite the critical health condition in Sulaymaniyah due to COVID-19, CDO lawyers continued provision of free legal representation and consultation to the vulnerable clients who visited CDO office seeking legal assistance.

Legal representation: 20 cases
- 8 Iraqi IDPs
- 9 Syrian Refugees
- 3 Turkish Refugees

Legal consultation: 69 cases
- 15 Iraqi IDPs
- 46 Syrian Refugees
- 5 Iranian Refugees
- 3 Turkish Refugees
As one of the main objectives of Minority Journalists Training Program, which is implemented by both CDO and Metro Center and funded by US Department of State, the project team paid several visits to a number of media channels to find opportunity for the participants of the previous trainings which were conducted in Erbil and Duhok for 46 minority journalists about reporting, monitoring human violation, case study and investigative journalism. The meetings were aimed to create a network between the minority journalists and media channels and increase their role in Iraqi and Kurdish media as well as amplifying their voices in TV channels, newspapers and radios.

There is no accurate statistics that shows the number of minority journalists in Iraqi and Kurdish media, therefore CDO in cooperation with Metro Center are currently thinking of a plan to establish a data system to record the number of minority journalists and use it as an accountable source of information.
Not only in journalism, the uncertainty of life condition of the minority communities continues in Iraq. ISIS has started over attacking the villages where minorities live in the disputed areas between Kurdistan Regional Government and Iraq’s central government mainly in Khanaqeen, Daquq and Nainawa. Recently, six people from Kaka’i ethnic minority were murdered by ISIS. Therefore, it’s essential to raise the voice of minorities and protect their rights because the minorities are caught in a power struggle between Baghdad and Erbil, while also navigating a constant tug of war between Iranian-backed Shiite militias.
In order to show appreciation for their hard efforts since the spread of COVID-19 and due to delay of their monthly salary, Civil Development Organization (CDO) thanked the healthcare workers for their efforts in the Coronavirus hospitals. In a 5-day campaign under the name of (Thank you for your efforts) CDO gave away 668 food packages for all the workers and volunteers in Asa Hospital, Shahid Tahir Ali Wali Bag, Shahid Aso, Ali Naji, Emergency Ambulance Center and Emergency Hotline Number 122 in Sulaymaniyah which are all serving Coronavirus patients.
On the 5th day of the campaign, 100 food packages and hygiene kits packages were distributed for employees and volunteers in Qala Hospital in Kalar where the virus has recently spread severely and the number of death cases has increased.

The campaign was part of the plans of the Emergency Unit of CDO to support vulnerable people who have been financially affected due to the curfews and also lack of monthly salary for the government employees.
**TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

Participate in an Online Course During Your Stay at Home

Fundraising in the time of the coronavirus

https://reliefweb.int/training/3648339/fundraising-time-coronavirus

Coursera: Public Health in Humanitarian Crises 1 (Free, Online)

https://reliefweb.int/training/3643498/coursera-public-health-humanitarian-crisis-1-free-online

How to Develop a Fundraising Strategy in Times of the Coronavirus

https://reliefweb.int/training/3639779/how-develop-fundraising-strategy-times-coronavirus

Food Security: Building Resilience in the Face of Crisis

https://reliefweb.int/training?advanced-search=28%COfree29%&view=online&page=1

Disclaimer: CDO is only announcer of these opportunities and is not part of the course organizers.