

KOBANÊ CANTON DAMAGE REPORT - APRIL 2015

Detailed overview of damage made to the canton of Kobane during the war with ISIS.

As a result of the war that took place in the Kobane Canton, which damaged the city in all its aspects, the executive Council in the province established a committee with the task of documenting the destruction in detail.

The war against ISIS has come at a heavy cost for the Kobanê Canton. It has rendered all aspects of life impossible. All that which makes up a habitable environment has been destroyed; infrastructure, hospitals, agriculture, education, economy and social capital specifically, but not exclusively. Consequently, the Executive Council of the Canton has created various committees to document the destruction.

The return of civilians is underway, however, unassisted. The documented damages and respectively the work required in all areas are of the utmost urgency for a smooth transition for the civilians of the Kobanê Canton.

HEALTHCARE DAMAGES

- There were 51 pharmacies in the city prior to the escalated war. All of these range from moderately (40%) to entirely (100%) destroyed. In addition to the physical destruction, considerable damage or looting has been made by ISIS to medicine, and equipment.
- Additionally, there were approximately 86 medical clinics specializing in different areas of the profession.
- The damage rates of these services vary from 10% to 60%, and some of them are completely destroyed.
- There were also 4 hospitals in the canton, wherein two of them are severely damaged and the 2 are 55% destroyed.
- There were 9 medical laboratories, of which the damage rates are 20% to 99%.
- Furthermore, there was a temporary medical clinic which was offering its medical care services for citizens during the war, this medical clinic is also subjected to some destruction.

URGENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RECOVERY OF HEALTHCARE

- Ensuring adequate medical appliances reach Kobanê.
- Guaranteed supply of medicines.
- Guarantee a safe and hygienic space for medical staff to carry out surgical operations.
- The formation of an emergency ambulance service.
- Building hospitals to meet the needs of the inhabitants.

AGRICULTURAL DAMAGES

- There are three main areas of agriculture which affect the recovery of Kobanê. They are as follows:
 - The Agricultural Crops and the area of arable land- The measure of non-irrigated land is 1439400. Every measure of land produces 200 kg of wheat and barley. The total annual production is 287800 tons.
 - The irrigated land measures at 200000. Each one produces 450 kg. The total annual amount here is 90000 tons. The amount of damage to agricultural crops (wheat, barley, legumes, fruit, and trees) for the harvest season in 2014 has been 97%. As for the 2015 seedtime, the agricultural land has not been cultivated, thus the damage is at the maximum level.

Animal stock

Livestock- The amount of livestock in the canton was 333 800 sheep. These in turn gave birth to 308 250 lambs. In addition there was approximately 200 000 non-fertile sheep. Lambs were sold at an estimated value of 20 000 Syrian pounds during summers. The number of cows was 2706. These in turn had 2206 offspring. In addition there was 500 bulls.

The damage made to the livestock of the city was almost complete (98% of cows, sheep, poultry and hives).

Agricultural Machinery

The damage caused to agricultural machinery (tractors, harvesters, plowing machines, and other equipment) stands at 64%.

ACTIONS REQUIRED TO MEET AGRICULTURAL NEEDS

- The provision of seeds and seedlings.
- Obtaining fertilizers (azote, phosphate, potash, rare elements).
- Insuring agricultural pesticides and veterinary drugs are accessible.
- Attaining agricultural machinery (tractors, harvesters, and other machinery).
- The provision of modern irrigation systems (spraying/ distillation).
- Providing poultry animals with the required assistance i.e. poultry feeds, a sufficient number of chicks, plus the necessary vaccines.
- Rearing of a sufficient number of cattle which are suitable for the climate of the Kobanê Canton (i.e. Vrizan, Shami) and providing the artificial vaccination kits.
- Providing sufficient numbers of sheep (Awassi), which can be adapted to the climate of the area. Establish a high quality Beekeeping and production system.

THE DAMAGES TO ENERGY SOURCES

With the onset of the civil war, the Assad regime has cut off all electricity supplies to selected areas (Kobanê being one of them). Despite this obstacle in the daily running of civilian life, a generator power system has been running in the municipality. ISIS have, however, destroyed the fuel depot from where the generators have been getting power from.

Power sector

The electricity grids have been damaged to a staggering 66.38%,

- Distribution centers is not far off with damages of 57.5%.
- There has been 65.1% overall damage in the cables,
- with 93.8% of damages to the low- frequency current cables
- 90.2% to high- frequency current cables.
- The damage to the electricity columns and towers stands at 30.1 %,
- 100% machinery is completely destroyed.

The 5 fueling stations have sustained a large degree of damages too, the documented damages stand at 51.8%, with considerable damages to reservoirs and pumps.

SEWAGE AND SANITATION NETWORK DAMAGES

Currently a high number of sewage channels remain closed after a strategic move to block them in order to prevent infiltration by ISIS via these channels. Some sewers are full of many machineries, other channels are broken because of shells of airstrikes and mortars, and others were already closed.

URGENT ACTION REQUIREMENTS TO RELIEVE SEWAGE AND SANITATION DAMAGES

- Various modern machinery is required on the ground to open the roads and sewage channels in order to restore the affected areas.
- There is also the need for sewage treatment experts to guide the local professionals, as well as teach them valuable and sustainable methods to continue the upkeep of the systems.

DAMAGES TO THE DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

Before the war, drinking water used to be pumped from the main reservoir and distributed to the city through two branched pipelines. All of the water channels in the eastern and southern neighborhoods of the city are damaged and out of service.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE DRINKING WATER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

- Machinery and equipment to dig water channels.
- Machinery for carrying and welding channels.
- Mounting accessories for water channels.
- Technically skilled and specialized workers.

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC FIELD

The economy of the canton is driven by the private sector, in particular by the traders who import goods including food, cars, construction materials, machines and spares. After the city was attacked by ISIS, 80% of the local market was destroyed including machinery and cars. There are no commercial activities anymore because of the displacement of the population. Following the liberation of the canton and normalization of the life in the city, there is a need for a local market to meet the needs of the citizens. However, because of the ongoing blockade on Kobanê, it is not possible to bring food from the neighboring regions.

THE URGENT LIFTING OF BLOCKADES

There is an urgent need for a crossing to be opened for the import of goods and services, ensuring that all the needs of the local community are met. This should enable the free flow of trade and future projects and investments in the city.

DAMAGES OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Following the liberation of the city from the regime, it was divided into 13 administrative neighborhood councils. 13 committees were established to identify and measure the damage in private residential areas as a result of the war. According to the findings of the committees, damages to the residential areas varied from 20% to 80%.

- Kaniya Kurdan Council: 26%.
- Martyr Akif Council: 48.35% .
- Martyr Serhed Council: 60%.
- East Botan Council: 50.20% .
- West Botan Council: 84.35%.
- Martyr Yehya Council: 17.52%.
- Martyr Moro Council: 79%.
- Martyr Ebdo Council: 20.16%.
- Martyr Kawa Council: 50%.

The work on statistical information aiming to show the damages according to the area and the number of residential buildings in other councils is still underway. Also, it must be noted that the statistics indicate the damages on the cities only. Due to the mines in the villages, no statistical documentation conducted as of yet.

URGENT NEEDS TO RECTIFY THE DAMAGES TO RESIDENTIAL AREAS

- Construction materials.
- Construction equipment.
- Equipment to remove rubble and debris.
- Equipment for processing of rubble and debris.

Note: A report detailing all aspects of the needs regarding the damages to residential areas will be issued during the next week.

DAMAGES TO THE EDUCATIONAL FIELD

There were 25 schools in the city with 12, 000 students from all grades. There was also at least one school in every village of the canton.

The damage to the education sector is as follows:

- 6 schools have been totally destroyed and they cannot be restored or renovated.
- There are damages ranging between 5% and 10% to 10 schools, though these could be renovated.
- Although a further 9 schools have higher rates of damages ranging between 30% and 50%, the structures seem to be safe and the buildings could be restored.

REQUIREMENTS TO FORWARD WORKS ON EDUCATION

- Building new schools according to the population density.
- Restoration of the damaged schools.
- School furniture.
- Educational tools and equipment.
- School publications and books.
- Health services for schools.

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