

Enhed: TILSKUD

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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to CARE Norway activities in Syria

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark has previously provided support for the Syria Resilience Consortium (SRC) through a cooperation with CARE Norway as grant manager. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is the grant manager of SRC. The aim is to equip individuals, families, and communities with tools and skills to obtain a better economic future in Syria. SRC is co-financed through a multidonor fund (MDF) with Sweden and Norway. A total amount of DKK 90 million has been granted and disbursed by Denmark to SRC for the period 2018-2022.

In 2021, one of the consortium members, International Rescue Committee (IRC), reported possible incidences by Raqqa Civil Council (RCC) in Raqqa, Syria. The misuse relates to IRC's activities under the Cash for Agriculture and Cash for Livestock programmes in Raqqa, both programmes implemented under the SRC. RCC has assisted in the selection of participants for the programmes and has threatened or enticed participants to give money, which they have received from the programme, to neighbours and specific members of the local community. The Danish share of misused funds is DKK 2,019.

In dialogue with IRC, the grant manager, CARE Norway, has updated the eligibility assessment process for each beneficiary referred by the RCC and informed beneficiaries that all the financial assistance that they receive is free of charge. The names of individuals involved have been shared with the Kurdish authorities' humanitarian office, and three individuals have been excluded from future IRC-related activities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed with a loss of Danish funds amounting to DKK 2,019.