

**Ghada Rifai . Arch.**

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**Family Name:** Rifai  
**First Name:** Ghada  
**Date of Birth:** August, 7<sup>th</sup> 1978  
**Civil Status:** Single

**Education:**

<b>2001</b>	B. Sc. in architecture	<b>University of Aleppo, Syria/ Faculty of Architecture</b>
<b>2002</b>	Diploma in urban planning	
<b>2007</b>	Diploma in (construction management)	<b>University of Aleppo, Syria Faculty of civil engineer (tempus)</b>

**Language Skills:**

- English 5/5
- French 2/5
- Arabic – mother tongue

**Professional Memberships:**

- Syrian Syndicate of Engineers

**Special Skills**

- Computer skills: 2D, 3D AutoCAD, Office, Photoshop
- MS project
- Planning skills: logical framework, problems tree, appreciative inquiry
- Solving problems skills
- Moderating and facilitating skills
- Team work skills
- Working in cross-cultural environments.
- working under pressure
- Team work skills.
- Analytical Skills.

**Special experiences:**

- Awarded peace prize from livia foundation as a group of people working for peace in creative way in a war time. <http://liviafonden.dk>
- Attended SPI Summer peace Building Institute in Harrisonburg /West Virginia (USA) for 6 weeks sponsored by Mennonite.
- Participated in launching (Child Social and Financial education training manual) with Afaltoun organization (Amsterdam)

- Participated in a UNICEF work shop in Amman about tools of children needs assessment.
- Attend training with EU project in Syria (MAM) on writing proposals for EU fund.
- Participate in training tour in Marco "Casablanca" with the ministry of industry arranged by SEBC about development of vocational training
- Participated in Expert Group Meetings about social development indicators that took place in Beirut by ESCWA & UN-HABITAT
- Participated in organizing the fifth international conference about youth and children in MENA area, that took place in Aleppo city
- Participated in the training tour arranged by GTZ " Rehabilitation project of the old city of Aleppo" under the name of "Beautification of the Old City" , To Germany ( Heidelberg- Freiberg) and France ( Lyon – Marseille)
- Participated in conference in Tunisia arranged by "rehabimed" association for ten days under the name of " Rehabilitation and Sustainable tour
- Participating in two working group of Aleppo development strategy as volunteer ***“Administrative and Financial Modernization & Urban Spatial Development”***
- Participated in organizing several workshops & exhibitions

### **Professional Experience Record:**

#### ❖ **Mobaderoon – community organizer network** **April 2010- till now**

Mobaderoon is a network incubated by SEBC (Syrian Enterprises and business center)

- Co- founder and member in Mobaderoon strategic and communication group SPCG
- program managers for community development project
  - Empowering the network by establishing elected support group in each city and assure mobaderoon governance
  - Assure the well cooperation between the different support groups in the cities
  - Following up the implementation of the 5 years strategy Mobaderoon and participating in setting the next strategy of mobaderoon in participatory way.
  - Working on Strategic and communication in participatory approach
- Trainer for several interactive training:
  - Leadership in community development: Facilitating a “leadership in community development” workshop and participated in deliver it to about 100 participants.
  - Active citizen: Trainer of Active Citizen Program with British Council and SEBC “syrain enterprises and business center”
  - Afaltoun (social and financial education for children ) regional trainer with international Aflatoun network (Amsterdam) and member in Aflatoun network
  - Psycho- social support
  - Building peace bridges: trainer of conflict resolution
- Participating in developing a training manual of active citizen (rights and responsibilities) in cooperation with FEDCD (Lebanese NGO)
- Proposal writer, by taking the feedback from the community to define the needed activities needed to be implemented in the community

❖ **Syria Trust for Development**

**October 2010- December 2012**

The Syria Trust for Development (The Trust) is a newly-formed not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation. Funded by grants and donations, its aim is to provide people and communities throughout Syria with the tools, the skills, the confidence and the opportunity to take charge of their lives and to benefit society.

At present comprising 200 staff, and running three major public projects, The Trust aims to grow substantially as an organisation over the next few years. The scope of its project work will range from non-formal learning to rural development to cultural and heritage initiatives.

**Aleppo Program Manager / Massar Division January 2012- till now**

Massar is working on empowering children toward active citizen, by establishing discover centers in cooperation with local communities and other NGOs working in the same field, Massar working on providing the needed skills for children youth and activist working in this field

**Aleppo Program manager & EDC "entrepreneurship development center" national coordinator/ Rural Development/FIRDOS –Aleppo**

**October 2010- December 2011**

FIRDOS rural development division of the Trust emerges to implement work on the ground through FIRDOS, which is a project committed to improving the living conditions in rural areas by empowering individuals and communities to enhance their self reliance. FIRDOS operates in 60 villages in 6 governorates (Aleppo, Idleb, Lattakia, Homs, Hama, Quneitra). The purpose of my job is to To successfully deliver the targeted outputs of the EDC (entrepreneurship development Center) Programme in Aleppo and improving the living conditions in targeted rural area in cooperation with all local and national partners.

Our current activities:

- Entrepreneurship development center which consist "technical and management training and business development services"
- Youth empowerment and activating their role in community development
- Implementing participatory community projects

❖ **Aleppo urban observatory (AUO):**  
**/Aleppo city council/**

**September 2008- October 2010**

**Manager**

- AUO is working on following up the city development on a several levels, by setting indicators and following it, this indicators must reflect the specialty of the city plus there is other general indicators set by UN- habitat that the city has to follow, so we are working on:
  - collecting the data and analyze it to have an information about Aleppo city
  - Supporting the decision maker by providing them with the needed information and recommendations about the city development and suggesting projects
  - Dissemination this information by publishing a periodicity newsletter "each 3 months"
  - Working on a state of city report "SOCR" in corporation with GTZ and city alliance
- urban poverty alleviation in two informal settlements in Aleppo city in corporation with AUDI and Quest Scope association, the work includes:
  - PRA "Participatory Rapid Assessment" in the two informal settlement

- Setting the logical frame work of the needed interventions towards the most endanger group in the areas.
- Design the interventions " illiteracy, social guidance, small funds"  
All of the activities will applied in participation with the local community
- children and youth working group within city development strategy "Madinatuna" program, the working group are working on Aleppo towards child friendly city concept by applying the 9 blocks of child friendly city in corporation with NGOs, UNICEF, AUDI, education directorate, the work includes :
  - Children and their parents assessments
  - Stake holder analysis
  - Current situation analysis
  - Setting the strategy till 2025
  - Applying the strategy in corporation with all related partners.
- coordinating several workshops of Aleppo local agenda 21 “economic development” in corporation with (MAM) municipalities administration modernization

❖ **Project for the Rehabilitation of the Old City of Aleppo December 2001- August 2008 /GTZ/**

*Head of the planning section*

- Coordinating the study for an Action Area of about 70 hectares located at the western fringe of the old city. This project aimed at uncovering the western part of the old city's fortification, as well as the development of the adjacent area. cooperation with international and local experts
- Participating in preparing a furniture study for Shibani school in the old city of Aleppo-**2007**
- Preparing and executive dossier for restoration tasks of the traditional building in the old city old Aleppo.-**2006**
- Participated in preparing a use concept for about 10 monuments in the Old City of Aleppo. The assignment aimed at elaborating a marketing document for some vacant monuments-**2006**
- Participated in the elaboration of the Development and Conservation Strategy for the whole Old City of Aleppo in cooperation with local and international experts.-**2005**
- Participated in carrying out a social survey for all the schools in the Old City, and in uploading the collected data into a Geographic Information System **GIS**, “Geo media”.-**2005**
- Participated in designing urban furniture for the Tallet El Souda area in the Old City.**2004**
- Participated in the description of the “Al-Awameid” area in the Old City and a corresponding documented report.-**2004**
- Participated in uploading the collected data from various surveys into a Geographic Information System **GIS** “,Geo media -**2004**
- Participated in producing the "Building Guidelines" for the Old City in cooperation with a local expert.-**2003**
- Participated in social surveys as part of the project for the "Rehabilitation of the Area Surrounding the Umayyad Mosque".-**2003**

- participated in Preparing a maintenance program for historic buildings and monuments in the old city including inspection lists and a step by step manual-**2002**
- Participated in the study prepared for the restoration of the Shebani School -**2002**

#### ❖ **Aleppo Municipality**

- **Since April /2005 /** Working as a coordinator engineer in the project of producing the detailed master plans of the illegal and expansion area of the city of Aleppo, carried out by the Municipality of Aleppo, study groups cooperated with TERCON Immobilien (Projektentwicklungs-GmbH, Delegation of German Industry and Commerce), work includes project managing and supervision.

#### ❖ **Loggia group, Aleppo, Syria.**

**July 2002 – May 2009**

##### *Architect*

- Participated in designing high education mall "interior& exterior" in Aleppo city- **2009**
- Participated in preparing templates of the projects process and deliverables- **2008**
- Participated in decorating an international money exchange company (IMEX) in Aleppo city -**2008**
- Working on preparing the "si experts network Experiences" **REHABIMED association** by filling the forms of building and urban rehabilitation summery forms – **2007**
- Participated in design a school complex for the Armenian Catholic Church in Aleppo, The complex occupies 50 hectares- **2006**
- Participated in social survey carried out as a part of the evaluation of the project to move Al-nerab Palestinian camp to Ein Al-Tel in Co-operation with **UNRWA -2005**
- Participated in designing and the production of work drawings of residential projects "villas" in areas surrounding Aleppo- **2005**
- Participated in the documentation and preparation of a study and architectural plans required for the restoration of the headquarters of the "Institut Francais d`etudes Arabes" in Aleppo- **2004**
- Participated in documenting the Syrian Urban and Rural Traditional Architecture including buildings' typology, construction methods and the elaboration of step-by-step manual guides for the reparation of the most common buildings' problems in the urban and rural Syrian traditional Architecture. This resulted in a guidebook on the restoration and rehabilitation of Syrian traditional architecture as well as a corresponding exhibition. -**2004**
- Participated in designing and producing work drawings of a rural house in Aleppo- **2003**
- Participated in designing and producing work drawings of a kinder garden- **2003**
- Participated in producing work drawings of an Old Building in Aleppo to reuse it as kinder garden. -**2003**
- Participated in the documentation and preparation of a study and architectural plans required for the restoration and change of function of a house in the Farafra quarter in the Old City of Aleppo- **2003**
- Participated in Design and produce working drawings of a 200 m2 Italien sports wears branch "DIADORA" in Aleppo. -**2002**
- Participated in designing and producing work drawings for 130 m2 travel agency branch for a Syrian chain company, wall paper shop and x-ray clinic - **2002**
- Theoretical study and planning of a university campus- **2002**

❖ **Education and illiteracy eradication association /EIEA/** **May 2004- 1/12/2008**

- preparing a study for the EIEA association to get the grants from the EU via Aleppo municipality, we were the only association which got this grant in Aleppo and one of three associations in Syria
- Working as volunteer in EIE association

Project for Population Educational, Social, Vocational and Environmental Development of residential areas in corporation with the municipality and other association (AL-Zakhour and AL-Furqan) the project includes several activities:

- Awareness campaigns
- Summer clubs
- Regular active gatherings of Winter club
- Objective celebrations and theatrical plays
- Cultural forums, lectures and workshops

My role in the project is preparing the study of the project, set and monitor the time, cost schedule and the implemented activities arranging with stakeholders, getting the needed agreements to establish the activities, writing a report to MAM (municipalities administration modernization) office in Damascus because the project is financed by grant from EU

❖ **The University of Aleppo** **2001 “one semester”**  
**Faculty of Architecture**

*Teaching assistant, part time*

- Assisted in teaching urban design courses to fourth year students.

❖ **Project for the Rehabilitation of the Old City of Aleppo** **1999**  
**/GTZ/**

*Trainee*

- Participated in documenting several monuments of historic value in various areas within the Old City, (mosques, houses, schools and part of the facades surrounding the citadel).

**Professional Courses:**

- Conflict sensitive development and peace building with SPI (Summer Peace Building Institute) in USA
- Building Justice with SPI (Summer Peace Building Institute) in USA
- Reconciliation and Forgiveness with SPI (Summer Peace Building Institute) in USA
- Community development in participation with youth and children submitted by UNICEF/ 2009
- The meaning of children's drawings submitted by Zeina Sabagh "French School"/ 2009
- PMP project management profession course for 5 days 63 hours this course qualifies me to PMP exam submitted "AUDI" Arab urban development institute /2008

- to training a trainer in Participatory rapid appraisal PRA method for 10 days /2008
- Participatory rapid appraisal (PRA) courses the first one for 5 days
- Online course entitled:” Basics on Development and Town Planning” for four months
- A GIS course “Geographic Information System” Geo Media, for one month.
- Course in (Rollei metric soft ware) “Close Range Digital Workstation” used in documenting, for one month.
- Training course on "Restoration Techniques 1"
- Training course on "moderation techniques"
- Training course on "management skills" at SEBC "Syrian Europe Business Center"
- Training course on "Strategic Management" at SEBC "Syrian Europe Business Center"
- Training course on "SMEs management" at SEBC "Syrian Europe Business Center"
- Training course on "creative thinking skills"