

# 16 Days of Activism against Sexual & Gender-based Violence 2014- Jordan



'16 Days of Activism against Sexual and Gender-based Violence' (SGBV) is an international campaign originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991. The global campaign begins on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November and ends on the International Human Rights Day on 10 December, to emphasize that Sexual and Gender-Based Violence is a violation of human rights.

## In Jordan

The Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Sub-Working Group (SGBV SWG) again joined efforts with the United Nations Communication Working Group to unite refugee and host community members against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

**The SGBV SWG's country theme for 2014 was: Together Against SGBV and Early Marriage: Protecting, Preventing, Responding**

The 2014 campaign built on the ongoing Inter-Agency Child Protection and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence awareness raising campaign "Amani", with a special focus on the following three key messages related to SGBV:

- Prevent violence and stay safe
- Response for survivors of violence
- Early Marriage

A calendar with the activities of **more than 30 different organizations** working in all governorates across the country was distributed in a number of locations, including registration sites, help desks, clinics, women's & girl's safe spaces, child friendly spaces and schools, both inside and outside refugee camps. **Over 35,000 refugees and host community members** participated in the activities delivered during the 16 Days, including women, girls, men and boys.

Different events were organized and hosted each day of the campaign by national and international NGOs, UN agencies and government departments. Below are some examples of the events carried out by the members of the SGBV SWG:

**A conference** was organized at Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) to announce the beginning of the 16 Days campaign and present the calendar of activities for 2014. The event was attended by UN Senior officials, NGOs, members of Shams' network and the media.

*IMC Girls brainstorming about early marriage*

## In Refugee Camps



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**In Zaatari camp**, 300 refugee girls, boys, women and men campaigned against violence, reinforcing Amani messages during a two-hour event at the District 6 IRD tent, supported by NCFA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, IRC, Save the Children, and IRD. Refugees gave speeches, performed theatre shows and sang poems, and danced to prevent and respond to SGBV and early marriage.

During the event, 16 Days, Amani, and legal information materials (t-shirts, shopping bags, balloon, cards, posters, 16 Days of Activism Calendar of Events and Stickers, marriage exemption flyers) were distributed. An exhibition of women's handcraft products at the entrance welcomed the participants to the events.



*Hawari/ UNHCR: Amani event in Zaatari Camp*

Other organizations like OXFAM conducted awareness sessions with men and boys to discuss the '16 Days of activism' key messages in Districts 6, 7 and 8.

**In Azraq**, UNHCR, CARE and IMC organized an opening ceremony in the Village 3 Community Centre. The opening event included the presentation of refugees' messages on the impact of SGBV and early marriage through theater, music, handcraft and leaflets.



*ICMC's Awareness Campaign*

**In the Urban Areas**



**In Irbid, Ramtha, Jerash and Ajloun**, 855 refugee and host community members benefited from a two-hour consultation session on early and forced marriage, its negative consequences and the services provided by SGBV SWG members. The sessions organized by UNHCR, ARDD Legal Aid and JRC also clarified issues related to registration of undocumented marriages and the time-bound exemption of fines applied by the Shari'a Court across Jordan. During the event, 16 Days, Amani, and legal information materials were distributed among the participants.

MEDAIR's health volunteers conducted door-to-door awareness sessions with urban refugees on the key messages of the '16 Days of Activism' campaign. With the support of UNFPA, UPP/JWU facilitated discussions

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with women concerning legal and reproductive health issues related to SGBV. After these discussions, participants expressed their feelings through drawing under the leadership of the artist, Omar Abdallat.



Country Wide



IMC conducted movie sessions on domestic violence, theatre for children on early marriage and first aid training for women. INTERSOS/JOHUD/UNICEF, both in camps and urban areas, organized awareness sessions on women's rights and forced marriage. Save the Children held awareness sessions on education rights for children.

UN Women and JNCW facilitated a debate on Article 308 of the Jordanian Penal Code at the Hashemite University and a music show with the singer Yeha Hawwal. Students reaffirmed their intention to continue raising their voices against SGBV.

**On the last day of the campaign on December 10, 2014**, JNCW organized a closing conference under the patronage of Princess Basma Bint Talal where UN agencies and national institutions encouraged the Jordanian and refugee communities to continue working together against all forms of SGBV, including early marriage.

While significant advancements have been made in 2014, SGBV actors will continue working on improving refugee awareness and engagement in SGBV prevention and response, including through sensitization campaigns and training, as well as establishment and maintenance of safe spaces.

You can access to the Calendar of Activities of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign 2014 by clicking on <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/admin/download.php?id=8066>



**SGBV**  
Sub-Working Group

**Participating Agencies:** ARDD/Legal Aid, AVSI, AWO, FPSC, ICMC, IFH/NHF, IMC, INTERSOS, IRC, IRD, JHAS, JOHUD, JNCW, JRF, JRS, JWU, Medair, MercyCorps, NHF, Oxfam, RI, SCI, TdH, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNRWA, UN Women, UPP and WarChild UK.

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\*\* The SGBV SWG has the objective to strengthen multi-sectorial SGBV prevention and response in the context of the Syrian refugee emergency in Jordan. The SGBV SWG is chaired by **UNHCR and UNFPA**. Members of the Sub-Working Group include UN agencies, international and national NGOs, ministries and national institutions.