MoM 20/5/2019

**Joint Meeting between YTF and SGBV SWG in Zaatari**

**Subject: Sexual Harassment**

**Participants:**

YTF members, SGBV SWG members, UNHCR PWG and CP WG Chairs, UNHCR Protection Volunteers (42 participants in total)

**Presentation about GBV and Sexual Harassment by SGBV SWG:**

* GBV and Sexual harassment happens more to women and girls. Because of their gender women are more exposed and sexual harassment happens to them everywhere with a culture of impunity.
* Fear of what might happen after reporting sexual harassment forces people not to report those incidents.
* The stigma associated with seeking help when subjected to sexual violence constitutes a major barrier for survivors to come forward and report.

There are different negative consequences of sexual harassment:

* Dropping out from school
* Early marriage
* Women and girls are exposed to sexual harassment in public places, in the market, distribution points, hospitals, gathering points, and in isolated points in the camps (ring road)
* Cyber harassment and on the phone harassment from unknown people, or some individuals who work in providing services.
* From FGD we know that the affected population has identified needs of targeted awareness raising sessions for men and boys and also families.

How sexual harassment affects females’ movement in the camp.

* Women and girls movements are restricted by parents, husbands and family members who have concerns and fears of sexual harassment.
* Men of the family are not allowing the females to access services, to protect the family honor.
* One reason for the movement restriction is adherence to customs and traditions rooted in the community.

There was a question regarding GBV sessions from all NGOs who provide this service and whether they cover all details and kinds of violence or harassment, and the answer is yes there are services that respond to all needs in Zaatari.

Unfortunately, a lot of participants do not know what things could be considered as harassment, due to the environment, culture and traditions.

Most people do not recognize the difference between sexual assault and harassment, where

Last year under the global theme of 16 days of activism campaign “No for sexual Harassment” 57 activities were conducted in the camp that focused on messages on sexual harassment issues and how to stop sexual harassment.

Service provision in the camp for survivors from GBV and SH include but are not limited to:

Note: (the referral pathways is active between all sectors)

* Outreach services to give information about GBV
* GBV case management to all Female GBV survivors adults and children at IFH women safe spaces in districts (3,4,5,6,8) and male mobile team to deal with male survivors
* GBV case management for all GBV survivors adult and children females and males by UNHCR.
* individual PSS counseling sessions and support group
* Raising awareness to youth on GBV, RH, and life skills
* There is a referral pathways to make sure that the survivors can receive specialized comprehensive services
* Specialized sessions to adults
* case management for children , IMC
* Medical care ( Mental health) , IMC
* medical primary care at JHASi
* Survivors from the camp can go directly to family protection department , while service providers should refer only through UNHCR)
* Different activities through other NGOs

IFH established woman safe spaces supported by UNFPA in the camp called (Women and Girls centers) without mentioning what exactly the services they provide there so women and girls go there without fear and trusting they are in safe place.

**UNHCR presentation:**

Provided some insights from the UNHCR Participatory Assessment and identified that sexual harassment is an issue in the camp. The results showed that most of sexual harassment incidents happening in the isolated areas, crowded areas, distribution areas and around schools.

Most sexual harassment incidents are committed by boys under 18.

**UNFPA and NRC/ YTF Presentation:**

* YTF conducted FGDs over the summer 2018 where the issue of SH and bullying came up as a problem.
* An evaluation in QS/UNFPA youth center was conducted that reflected that 80% of females are getting harassed while coming to the center on the road. This is no doubt the case throughout the camp.
* Many of the youth said they would not interfere if they witness a harassment incident, but if they were the victim they would report to adults, teacher, or community police.
* Youth males said they would step forward to confront the problem, while females said they will ask others to do so.
* NRC conducted an assessment with the YTF in 2017 with youth in Zaatari and Azraq camps, and from the results: males and females believe that youth places are safe places that protect them and raise their confidence, wellbeing, and comfort.
  + A key recommendation was to increase targeted awareness of the community and parents for the value of youth, especially girls, attending youth friendly spaces. This will raise awareness to youth regarding the importance of having the centers and safe places because they are places in where you talk and express your feelings about problems you have and face in your daily life.

**Questions and Answers Session**

* Suggestion that NRC increase trainings to youth with different activities and open registration for more numbers and this will take male youth off of the street.
* Question around whether assessments that have been done are reflecting any changes? Or just you are telling us what happened and telling us solutions in theoretical frame. Eg: children labor, UNHCR knows this issue and there was no action taken by them to stop this.
* We have problems in the camp, regarding sexual exploitation which happened because of the financial need, where some people use children’s needs for money to harass them.
* What new sessions can we do regarding GBV or Sexual harassment, because people start to feel bored of getting the same sessions always.
* Another attendee noted that there is a big part of responsibility on parents shoulders regarding awareness, because if we just as parents attend the session with no follow up and implement it would be useless.
* NRC Volunteer talked about gathering points and walking with girls to schools etc. which was implemented by NRC with corporation of UNHCR, although that was great program which was reflected in decreasing the percentage of sexual harassment. But it was stopped because of fund cutting.
* As volunteers we interfere only when we see action near our centers but we cannot do any thing when see something happening 100m far from the center. As volunteers we need permissions from police to take action against sexual harassment, because as volunteers we do not want to put ourselves in situations that we are not interfering in things not relating to us.

UNFPA noted that sexual harassment is underreported, and that there is a need to find solutions to this issue from its root cause. We need to go directly to boys and men to stop this attitude and behavior.

**Action points:**

* + Share action points of this joint meeting with CP and Education sectors and actors.
  + Provide awareness sessions on sexual harassment for children into early childhood kindergartens and children centers and schools. This should be done by the CP actors and the Education Sector.
  + Have new regulations regarding volunteers’ responsibilities in confronting sexual harassment incidents to be more clear on their role to support safety and security in the street and how they can support in patrolling. This can be included in their terms of reference by UNHCR for the Protection Volunteers. Update ToRs of guards to enlarge their patrolling also on the street and to train them on SH
  + Define exactly the meaning of sexual harassment and the types, how we can address it, and what the laws are by issuing a definition paper. This to be done by the SGBV SWG and shared with the YTF to make it youth friendly. Then there can be 2 formats, one targeting adults and one for adolecents and youth.
  + Develop new content for awareness raising session on sexual harassment SGBV WG
  + Raise awareness to families about sexual harassment on girls. All protection actors in the camp.
  + Have monitoring points in different areas in the camp, like distribution areas, isolated areas around schools. UNHCR and IRD to follow up on the feasibility of this.
  + IRD to strengthen work in their empowerment activities and vocational training program to invest in the sessions and provide awareness sessions on SH at IRD centers.
  + Continue to conduct safe referral training for frontline workers in the camp. This to be done by SGBV SWG.
  + Increase youth training centers and services in the camp in order to fill their time and invest on their potentials in appositive way. YTF members as feasible.
  + Meeting with SRD/police to clarify what is their role on this
  + Continue to campaign on the issue in the camp during 16 days
  + Protection, CP, SGBV and YTF can meet again once work has been done on the ToRs of the Protection Volunteers to see which programmes can work together to raise awareness in a targeted and integrated manner and follow up on all action points