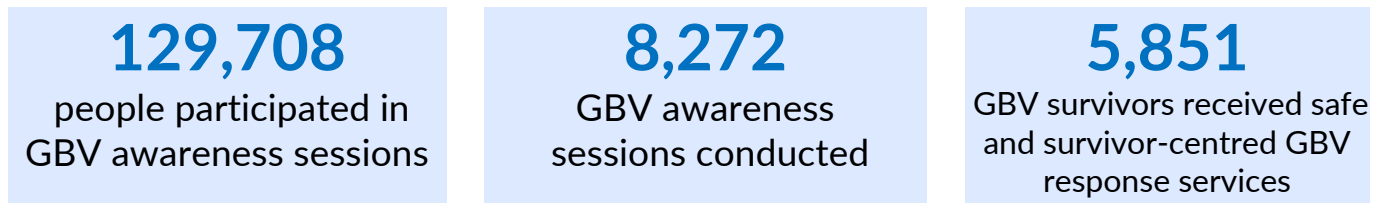
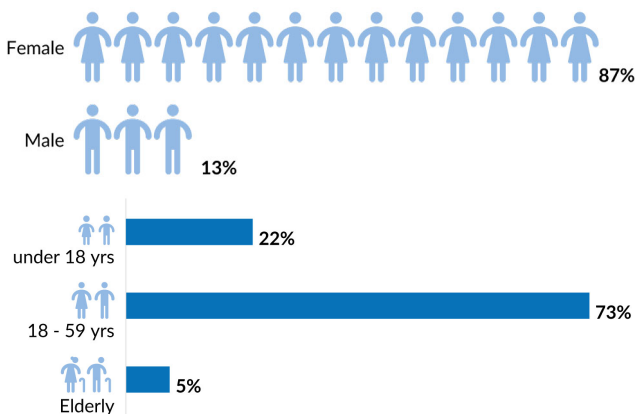


Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response in Syria

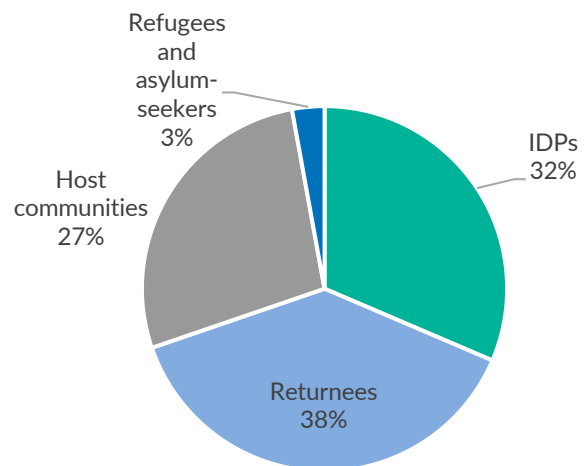
January- September 2022



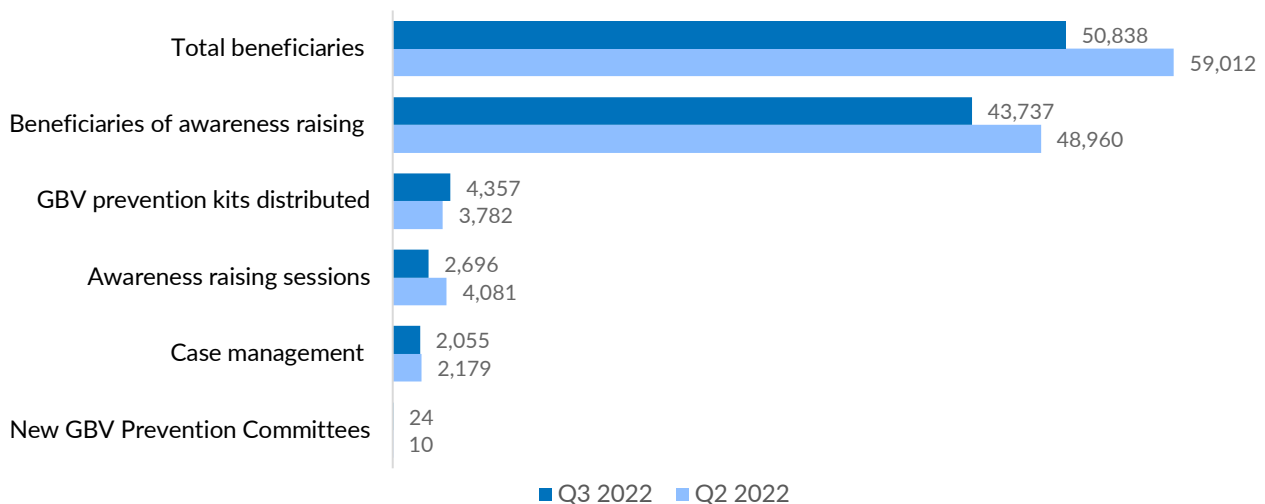
145,658 people reached with GBV prevention and response services



Population groups benefitting from services



14 Governorates | **121** Community centres | **98** Committees





Case management

UNHCR's survivor-centred approach to gender-based violence (GBV) case management seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing the survivor's rights, needs and wishes. This is done through ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate, accessible, and quality support services including health care, psychological and social support, and legal services. With this survivor-centred approach, UNHCR and its partners tailor each service to the needs of each survivor based on their wishes.

Until the third quarter of 2022, UNHCR and its partners had identified and supported **5,851 (2,055 in the third quarter)** survivors of gender-based violence through survivor-centred and multi-sectoral case management services.



Community engagement

Women's committees comprising women of all ages and backgrounds play a central role in GBV awareness-raising and community mobilisation. Women's committees were created to strengthen the role of women role in decision-making within their communities.

Women's committees focus on the promotion of gender equality, sensitization through awareness-raising in GBV prevention and response, women's legal rights and available services. The committees also coordinate with UNHCR to assist vulnerable women to find work. During the third quarter of 2022, UNHCR supported **98** women's committees spread across the different governorates.

Men also have an important role to play in preventing and responding to GBV, as well as in challenging deep-seated cultural norms and power structures. In 2022, **two** men's committees were formed and supported by UNHCR to enhance the engagement of men and boys in the prevention of and response to GBV in the communities.



Awareness-raising

Awareness-raising is a fundamental component of UNHCR's GBV prevention strategy. It enhances gender equality and gender inclusion, challenges preconceived ideas, attitudes, behaviours and beliefs that propagate GBV among communities, prevents women and men from becoming survivors or perpetrators of GBV, and informs communities and especially survivors of GBV about the available services.

Awareness-raising fosters communication and information exchange to improve mutual understanding of GBV and the related harms within the communities as well as mobilizes communities to bring the necessary change in attitudes and behaviour. UNHCR and its partners are working on a curriculum-based methodology for awareness-raising activities that will be implemented nationwide and will facilitate impact measurement on behavioural change.

During the third quarter of 2022, UNHCR and its partners conducted **8,272 (2,696 in the third quarter)** awareness raising sessions, reaching some **129,708 (43,737 in the third quarter)** beneficiaries, on various types of GBV, such as child marriage, sexual harassment, intimate partner and domestic violence, and women's and girls' rights, as well as on available services including legal, health and psychosocial services.

UNHCR additionally distributed **8,519** risk reduction kits (**4,357** in the third quarter) including hygiene materials and other items which enhanced the dignity of the beneficiaries and provided them with essential items necessary for their safety and personal hygiene.



Capacity-building

In 2022, UNHCR trained **249 (223 in the third quarter)** partner staff, government staff and community members on GBV through different capacity-building activities. These included trainings on life skills and specific topics, such as GBV case management, basics of GBV prevention and response, and women's committees' life skills. These trainings equipped partner staff with adequate skills and knowledge on GBV prevention and response and supported the women's committees to optimize their effective role within the communities.

In August, a five-day training on 'Coaching and supervision on GBV case management' was conducted by UNHCR and its partner Première Urgence Internationale (PUI) targeting a total of 23 GBV reviewing officers/coordinators of UNHCR's partners from all **8** governorates (Damascus, Rural Damascus, Homs, Hama, Tartous, Lattakia, Aleppo and Deir Ezzor) as well as field staff with GBV focal point responsibilities. The training aimed at equipping participants with adequate knowledge and skills to provide support and guidance to GBV case managers.



A focus group discussion at the community centre in Mouadamiyet al-Sham, Rural Damascus Governorate ©UNHCR/V.Toumeh