

SYRIA CRISIS

UNFPA, WITH GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION, LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS, USES A RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO PROVIDE MULTI-SECTORAL RESPONSE SERVICES SUCH AS MEDICAL CARE, PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT, PROTECTION AND LEGAL SUPPORT TO SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND TO PREVENT FURTHER INCIDENTS

ISSUES:

Gender-based violence occurs at every stage of conflict. It is feared that domestic violence may also be on the rise among Syrian crisis-affected populations due to over-crowding, the breakdown of social structures and limited employment and livelihood activities.

The breakdown of traditional social or economic structures may increase vulnerability and lead families to turn to early marriage or other unfortunate coping mechanisms.

INTERVENTIONS (January - November, 2013)

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC:

- Around 33,430 clients, mainly women, have received psychosocial support and psychological first aid services, of these 18,484 were referred for medical services.
- Around 14,000 clients visited UNFPA-supported reproductive health clinics for gender-based violence issues, of these 1,279 were referred for medical services.
- Around 400 professionals have benefited from awareness-raising sessions on gender-based violence and psychosocial support.
- Eighteen mobile teams with 72 staff have been established and are providing psychosocial support and psychological first aid.



Around 75,000 Syrian persons have benefited from the UNFPA regional response programme to gender-based violence.

UNFPA has established 31 women's safe spaces in countries neighbouring Syria: 4 women's spaces and one listening and counseling centre in Lebanon, 17 women's safe spaces in camps and in hosting communities in Jordan, 8 women's spaces in camps and hosting communities in Iraq, and one woman's friendly space in Turkey.

ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

LEBANON:

- More than 800 women and girls have received psychological support with focus on gender-based violence and parenting strategies, and more than 3,000 women and girls have benefited from awareness raising on gender-based violence.
- UNFPA has provided post-rape treatment to 17 hospitals and primary health care centres covering the potential needs of 1,020 survivors.
- UNFPA is supporting the roll out of the gender-based violence standard operating procedures and has printed 10,000 copies of referral pathway information.
- Twenty-two social workers have been trained on basic life skills, problem solving and psychological first aid, while 900 women have benefited from outreach sessions on basic skills, problem solving, and psychological first aid.

JORDAN:

- Approximately 75 GBV survivors per month access services supported by UNFPA in Jordan; 80 per cent of those survivors are women and girls.
- UNFPA has coordinated with partners the development of standard operating procedures to provide a comprehensive survivor-centred response.
- UNFPA has reached 20,945 women in the camps and hosting communities and provided them with awareness-raising sessions on gender-based violence, and trained 1,168 health professionals, Syrian volunteers, community leaders, and staff from the governmental and non-governmental organizations on GBV concepts, clinical management of rape, caring for survivors.

IRAQ:

- A total of 467 women have visited the UNFPA women's space in Dohuk, of whom 93 women were supported with basic counseling and psychosocial support while 10 were referred for other services.
- Eighteen outreach volunteers in Domiz camp have been mobilized and trained on maternal and reproductive health and gender-based violence. UNFPA provided training on caring for gender-based violence survivors to 22 medical staff and paramedics in Dohuk and has reached 102 women through five awareness sessions on gender-based violence and reproductive rights in Domiz camp.
- Forty-four Syrian refugees have participated in focus group discussions to understand their safety and security issues, including those related to gender.
- Social and recreational activities have been initiated to provide a platform for women's engagement.

TURKEY:

- UNFPA, in partnership with the Turkish government, has trained more around 512 workers on gender-based violence. Of these, 200 camp staff workers have been trained for better recognition, assessment and referral to services for survivors and 12 government social workers have been trained on first stage care for survivors of gender-based violence.
- Around 300 Syrian women and girls have been trained on first aid self-care for trauma survivors.