



## Disability and Age Task Force Minutes of Meeting

**Date:** 11 May 2022

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Venue:** Remote Via Microsoft Teams

**Chairs:** Huda Al-Shabsogh (UNHCR), Lauren Schoenster (UNHCR), Madiha Al-Jazi (HI)

**Minutes prepared by:** Shada Malhas (UNHCR)

**Participants:** HI, UNHCR BO Amman, HelpAge international, JOHUD, HCD, DRC, MPDL, IMC, UNHCR Irbid SO, IOCC, ARDD, AIDOS, TDH Italy, WVI, Habitat for Humanity Jordan, INTERSOS. Bayt Illiqa center for people with disabilities, Generations for Peace, Jordanian Society for Autism JSA, Rafeeq organization, CARE

### Meeting Highlights

#### **Agenda Item I. Disability, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and covid-19 emergency in Jordan: Integrated response for protection and prevention (AIDOS, IFH & HCD)**

**Presenter:** Dr. Muntaha Hrasis, PhD

- The Guidelines on Disability, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and COVID-19 Emergency in Jordan aim to provide operational tools for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in SGBV programs and, vice versa, of SGBV in persons with disabilities programs to facilitate the access of persons with disabilities from both refugee and from host communities to integrated and inclusive services for prevention and protection from SGBV in the COVID context.
- To determine the content of the guidelines, a need assessment was conducted by holding focus groups discussions with the Institute for Family Health rehabilitation team for people with disabilities and services providers team for the SGBV survivors in Amman, Zarqa, and Irbid clinics.
- The guidelines include the following chapters:
  - **Introduction** – This chapter includes the context in Jordan related to GBV, disability, and COVID-19, the need for the Guidelines, the Need Assessment Process, Methodological Approaches and Limitations, and Key Findings and Recommendations.
  - **Chapter 1** - Legal framework: existing national and international instruments on SGBV, and disability - This chapter presents international conventions (CEDAW, CRC, CRPD), national laws and the 2017 Jordanian Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). The aim is to highlight the context and the legal aspects, which can impact the work of organizations.

- **Chapter 2** - Understanding GBV - This chapter provides definitions of gender-based violence, most common forms of GBV, different approaches for addressing GBV, GBV in humanitarian settings and the impact of COVID-19.
- **Chapter 3** – Understanding Disability – This chapter provides the main concepts and definitions of disability, the guiding principles of working with persons with disabilities in GBV programs, and the impact of COVID-19 on persons with disabilities.
- **Chapter 4** - The intersection of disability and GBV – This chapter describes root causes of GBV, factors related to disability increasing vulnerability to GBV, barriers preventing persons with disabilities from participating in GBV programs, guiding principles for working with survivors with disabilities, attitudes and assumptions related to persons with disabilities.
- **Chapter 5** - Case management for Persons with Disabilities GBV survivors – This chapter provides practical inputs to manage cases of GBV against persons with disabilities including safe identification of survivors with disabilities, informed consent process, handling disclosures of violence, modalities to approach a person with a disability in a safe space and referral mechanisms.
- **Chapter 6** - Including disability in GBV prevention programs – This chapter addresses the prevention of GBV against people with disabilities and provides practical tools to raise awareness and sensitize community members and to identify persons with disabilities and caregivers in the community.
- **Chapter 7** – Working with caregivers of survivors with disabilities – This chapter provides inputs on how to work with caregivers of survivors with disabilities, how to identify and respond to caregiver needs.
- How the guidelines were developed:
  - First reviewed by AIDOS advisory team.
  - Then Reviewed by GBV experts in IFH.
  - Presented to GBV working group and the Disability Task Force.
  - Reviewed by Disabilities expert in HCD.
- At each stage, the necessary amendment was made based on everyone's feedback. AIDOS held a TOT for IFH workers and some experts in HCD, where they discussed any other amendments. The Guidelines have been translated into Arabic.
- Since March 2022, IFH has started training workers of institutions working in GBV and disability.

## **Agenda Item II. Presentation of the Jordanian Autism Society**

Presenter: Ms. Aisha Abdullateef

- The Jordanian Autism Society (JAS) was established and registered officially under the umbrella of the Ministry of Social Development in 2005. It was the first registered society specialized in autism in Jordan.
- In 2010. the society could manage to open the first nonprofit service center for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

- In 2017, the center was closed due to lack of financial support. They kept doing their activities without the center.
- JAS Mission - JAS is a charitable organization that seeks to provide the best awareness services, initiatives, and activities in support of children with ASD and their families.
- JAS Vision - Pioneering charitable work to reach an inclusive, more equal, aware and accepting society for people with ASD.
- JAS has their office in King Abdullah Street building 143.
- JAS main activity is sponsoring the education of children with ASD by providing the financial support and the supervision as well.
- JAS are sponsoring 18 children in different places, Amman, Zarka, Rusifa, and Irbid.
- JAS is carrying on different kind of activities and initiatives, including awareness activities in schools, media and social media.
- JAS has also won a funded project from European Union through Expertise France. The project is entitled 'Empowerment of Mothers of Children with ASD' and will be implemented in Jerash.
- JAS participated in a training by MEDAIR on case management.
- JAS is open for collaboration and partnerships. Ms. Aisha can be reached through the following e-mail: [aisha.m971@gmail.com](mailto:aisha.m971@gmail.com).

الجمعية الأردنية للتوحد  
Jordanian Society for Autism

كفالة ودعم تعليم أطفال التوحد  
الأيتم والفقراء  
بدمكم نتعلم

رقم التوثيق: ٥٣٠٤٠١٢  
شؤون  
هل يجوز دعم الزكاة برعاية مرضى التوحد الفقراء والمحتاجين؟  
الجواب: الحمد لله والصلوة والسلام على  
سيدنا محمد رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم في قوله تعالى  
إِنَّمَا الصَّدَقَاتُ لِلْفُقَرَاءِ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْمُعْتَمِلِينَ عَلِيمًا وَتَمُؤَنَةً قُلُوبُهُمْ  
وفي الزكاة والمقرمين وفي سبيل الله وإنَّ السَّيْلَ  
مُرْتَبَعَةٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ  
التوبة: ٦٠  
ويجوز تخصيص المصاحبة من أموال الزكاة  
لرعاية التوحد المسكين الفقراء غير القادرين  
على حفظ ثروتهم معاداة ورعاية أسرهم أو بعتك  
الزكاة عنهم المفق أو يجهل ذلك فيه يجب ذلك  
لإفلاحة غيره وقد سبق تعيين ذلك في قرار  
مجلس الإفتاء رقم ٩٩ برصد مراحته  
والله تعالى أعلم

للتبرع : حسابنا في بنك صفوة الاسلامي  
رقم JO 64JDIB2240002224610013000001  
للإستفسار 0795762707  
# بإمكانك متابعة من تساعد  
Email : [jordansocietyautism@gmail.com](mailto:jordansocietyautism@gmail.com) الجمعية الأردنية للتوحد

### Agenda Item III. DATF Gap Analysis

Presenter: Lauren Schoenster (UNHCR)

- Shared the concept note of the DATF Gap Analysis workshop as well as the key priority areas which will be covered during the workshop.
- The objective of the Gap Analysis is to identify gaps and enablers, as well as recommendations to enhance disability and age inclusion of the response.
- Participants agreed to focus on the protection, GBV, livelihoods, child protection, education, MHPSS, and health sectors.

### Agenda Item IV. DATF partners updates

- IOCC concluded activities under the second phase of the “Empowering Persons with Disabilities through Education and Income Generation in Amman” project funded by the Austrian Cooperation Agency in partnership with IFH in East Amman. Key activities included conclusion of job coaching for Jordanians and refugees, livelihood support groups for women with disabilities and caregivers of persons with disabilities, sessions for employers on hiring and retaining persons with disabilities, and persons with disabilities who completed internships at three local companies. The new consolidation phase has started in May 2022 and they are accepting new referrals.
- JOHUD organized Ramadan Iftars in Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, Jerash, Ajloun, Karak, and Maan, targeting Syrian, Non-Syrians, and Jordanian persons of concern with disabilities and older

people and their families of all ages. JOHUD is continuing to conduct psychosocial support sessions, including group therapy, individual counselling, parental care, and elderly club activities.

- **NHF/IFH** continues to provide rehabilitation services for refugees and nationals of all ages. It provided GBV and health services under different projects in camps and urban areas in Amman, Zarqa, Rusaifa, Irbid, and Karak.
- **UNHCR Irbid** is inviting all DATF members to join the UNHCR Irbid DATF meeting. Organizations implementing activities in Irbid/Northern area can send an e-mail to [alzghoul@unhcr.org](mailto:alzghoul@unhcr.org).

#### **Agenda Item V. AOB**

- **Joint DATF activity during World Refugee Day** - DATF co-chairs invited all members to join a task force to organize joint activities to mark the World Refugee Day.