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UNFPA is committed to prioritizing supportingthe health sector, especially women's issues and continues to provide urgently needed aids in Al Hassake & Al Qamishly

UNFPA-Syria, during May, distributed approximately 80,000 sanitary napkins in coordination with Al Bir Charitable and sociable in Qamishli, Al Bir and AL Ihsan Charitable Association and UNHCR in Al Hassake. They reached out to different villages & centers affected by conflict as well as camps.

hygiene kits for males & females were distributed in camps, like 29,000 Roj Camp, Newroz Camp, Al Hol Camp and Mabrouka Camp. Moreover, the remaining amount was all distributed in areas like Ain Issa, Jurnyyeh, Tal Abyad and Suluk with only 3000 kept stored at the warehouse in Al Shaddadi.



To support the health of the increasing number of people in need, incl women & children in Al Hassake, UNFPA continues to support hospitals & local NGOs in AL Hassakeh & Al Qamsihli throughout the distribution of medical health care machines and equipment", Massimo Diana, UNFPA representative stated.

Furthermore, Health Directorate & National Hospital in Al Hassake received 116 boxes, including medical supplies, medicines, special tools and equipment for Doctors and midwives to ensure safe deliveries and healthy environment to pregnant women. According to Mohammed Rashad, Head of Health Directorate in Al Hassake: "Tools and equipment provided from UNFPA-Syria will cover the gap in the reproductive health sector. It will also contribute to safe deliveries."

Maan Alhosin, UNFPA program coordinator, noted that UNFPA is committed to prioritizing supporting the health sector, especially women's issues. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that during 2016 UNFPA-Syria distributed reproductive health kits in 3 installments.





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Entrepreneurship Boot Camps for Young Syrians Startups in Damascus, Homs and Lattakia





UNFPA closes its first "Entrepreneurship Boot Camp" in Lattakia in collaboration with the Information, Communication and Technology Incubator (ICT Incubator).

The training boot camp developed 40 projects in the technological field and covered 3 governorates: Damascus, Homs and Lattakia. Projects are currently preparing for the next & second phase.

The training workshops tackled a wide range of topics in business like, business canvas, customer analysis, market study, finance and accounting as well as training young people on pitching ideas techniques.

Supporting young people to reach their full potentials and be active citizens in their communities is our top priority during the" Syrian crisis," said Massimo Diana, Representative of UNFPA in Syria.

UNFPA launched its "Entrepreneurship Boot Camp" in Syria in April 2017 in cooperation with the ICT Incubator and Venture International aiming to empower young people, especially girls, (18 - 30 years old) throughout many programs, and to enhance their abilities and develop their innovation for a better future. The project targets the youth who are wishing to launch their new business/startups with a project idea in different fields such as informatics, programming and business management.





Qualitative Data Collection Training for UNFPA's partners in Homs

The training was very useful. As a new member joining the UNFPA organization, I have learned new information on Data collection which made me develop my skills and will highly enhance my new job in Aleppo," Mohannad, UNFPA coordinator in Aleppo, commented after finishing the training.

.Mohannaed is one of 22 participants who attended the day training on Data collection tools and 4Ws on 22nd May UNFPA- Homs Hub office implemented one day training for the UNFPA implementing partners from 5 governorates: Homs, Hama, Tartus, Lattakia and Aleppo, including: Syrian family Planning Association, (SFPA), RDC, Al-Birr NGO-Mosyaf NGD, Aoun NGO, SSSD and Al-Batool in addition to UNFPA coordinators from Aleppo.

The training tackled various subjects such as: Gender Based Violence (GBV), Data Collection Tools, Reporting Gaps, Challenges and examples: including introduction about Registration Book, GBV Registration Book and Training Book, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Guidance, Calendar (Activity Plan, Reproductive Health (RH) Data Collection Tool.









The training was useful and different from other trainings, it was enriching with diverse methods to deliver the ideas.





Training youth on using theatre to raise awareness on reproductive health & child marriage



UNFPA in cooperation with Y-Peer organized one-week workshop on interactive theater techniques for young people to practice new methods which will enable them to share social messages on different topics by performing short sketches. The workshop continued for 7 days, between 19-24 May in Damascus, Syria. It engaged 24 young people from different NGOs, i.e. from "The Islamic charitable Association" in Homs, "Aoun project for relief and development" and "Masyaf charitable association" for the first time.

I didn't want to join the training and I didn't think it would be interesting enough for me. However, after the second day, I had" discovered that there was a lot to explore about drama, theater and how I can use them to bring about positive change in the community," Kamar, one of the participants noted on the closure day.

Their future is our future," Massimo Diana, UNFPA Representative in Syria, noted emphasizing on the great role that UNFPA is" playing in engaging young people in the change process as well as unleashing their potentials.

On the 6th & final day, young people performed 4 sketches on stigma, child marriage, and motivated youth which definitely contributes to the overall raising awareness campaign UNFPA is implementing in Syria.











Creating a platform to inspire youth and deliver messages of hope restoration First batch of the coding boot camp.



It was such a remarkable experience where we were exposed to a new science of which we didn't know it exists or at least had known it was available," Loulia Hilal expressed the impact of "ChangeMakers" programme, especially the coding boot camp during the graduation ceremony.

ChangeMakers group organized the graduation ceremony for the first batch of the coding bootcamp that was fully supported by UNFPA - Syria at Damascus University, during which various ideas and projects were presented and implemented by young people. In spite of the variety of ideas, it all led to one conclusion of which young people are innovative and have the willingness to create a better world.

Ideas presented during the ceremony held motivating messages to other youth who didn't yet found their passion. Young "ChangeMakers" aimed to create a platform to inspire others and deliver messages of hope restoration as well as to encourage them to join future workshops. "ChangeMakers" runs free-of charge programs fully funded by UNFPA - Syria.

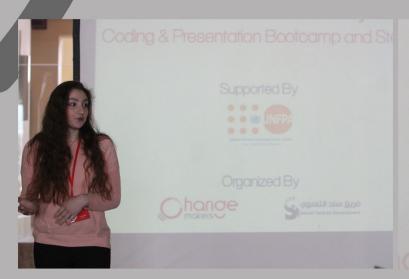
Massimo Diana, Representative of UNFPA in Syria congratulated ChangeMakers participants and team saying: "18 young people went through a life-changing experience with "ChangeMakers". They didn't only gain knowledge but also transformed their potentials into trained skills to spread hope in the midst of pain and they will, no doubt, pave the way to a future full of passion and achievements."

The graduation ceremony concluded after listening to 18 ideas and complimenting on the achievements young people have done during the training course.

UNFPA supported the launching of "ChangeMakers" coding and presentation bootcamp in October 2016 and it continued to fully support it for 15 weeks. The program focused on introducing coding to young participants, aged between 15-18 years old, as well as provide them with the skills they will need to pursue in the field because of the absence of technology at schools. Furthermore, the program aimed to reduce the gender gap in STEM by introducing women role models.



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During summer 2016, "ChangeMakers" team worked closely with 18 young people to explore "Ideas Worth Spreading" and learn coding.

ChangeMakers" program helped me to explore my passion and generate n<mark>ew ideas</mark>. I had a dream to share my ideas and it" became true," Baraa Al Salem shared his thought after succeeding in developing an idea despite his anxiety of not finding a suitable one worth sharing.

The program also used TED-Education curriculum that focused on improving participants' soft skills, including their presentation and communication skills. "ChangeMakers" believe it is essential for young people to gain the confidence they need to be active citizens in their communities and bring about positive change.



makers \smile



UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

While UNFPA assistance must remain concerned with saving lives and safeguarding human dignity, preparing Syrian people for future recovery, reconstruction, reconciliation and stability, is equally a priority.

UNFPA Syria focusses on:

- Improving access to high-quality reproductive health care.
- •Scaling-up gender-based violence prevention and response.
- Enhancing youth participation and inclusiveness.
- Supporting capacities to collect and use gender-and age-disaggregated data for tailoring response and recovery programming.

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