

### Women & Adolescent Girls Assessment Needs, Safety and Access in Homs Countryside

On 19 February UNFPA Homs sub office visited Al-Manzoul, East Homs, aiming to assess the needs of the women and young girls' inhabitants. The population in Al-Manzoul is 6,000, 2,000 were internally displaced (IDPs) coming from different areas in Syria. The assessment interviewed 50 women in Focused-Group Discussions (FGDs). UNFPA is looking forward to increase its response to fulfil the needs of women in Al-Manzoul and provide them with awareness sessions and RH services through outreach volunteer's team of the Islamic Charitable Organizations - Aoun for Relief and Development (Aoun NGO). The assessment outputs will contribute to the designation of activities in Al Manzoul.



"I did not know that I'm capable of different jobs except agriculture. I'm happy I have more choices now," one woman expressed her content after the FGD was closed.

### Youth "Make a Difference" In Homs



UNFPA supports the youth-led initiative "Make a Difference" through its partnership with the local NGO "The Islamic Charitable Organization - Aoun for relief and development" in Homs. The initiative organized 2 awareness-raising session on legal issues. Sessions included discussions on marriage rights, inheritance and family registration as well as divorced women's rights. It is worth mentioning that facilitators presented the legalizations on the marital status law to women and girls in the shelter in Baba Amro. An awareness-raising session on sexual harassment was also included due to the immense need while girls are very vulnerable to sexual assaults and women are late at their work.

Batool, 14 years old: "I wasn't aware of sexual harassments. Today, I can realize when I'm exposed to such actions and I know how to respond them. I feel empowered to raise awareness among me fellows.

### Winter Dignity Kits To Areas In Dire Conditions

UNFPA on 22 February in cooperation with its local partners, distributed 2750 dignity winterized kits in the Twihina camp where the conditions are dire. The camp is located in the Raqqa countryside near Al Tabqa, where UNFPA runs a clinic. UNFPA mobile teams also visit the camp twice per week to provide reproductive health services. As well as, UNFPA distributed 400 winterized kits in Abou Khashab area (DeirEzzour) in cooperation with AlYamama NGO.





### Promoting Legal Awareness And Information For Syrian Women

Supported by UNFPA, Nour Foundation for Relief and Development is running a women safe space in Al-Zahera, Al Husayniyah, Rural Damascus, where they organized legal awareness sessions on the 1st of February on women's issues and rights. Ghassan Tamim, a Lawyer at UNRWA, facilitated the session. He presented the most pressing challenges faced by women, for example child marriage and lack of official registration for children in the governmental records. He also emphasized on how women proved their resilience and powerful role in supporting their communities regardless of the bitterness the crisis has caused and is continuing to cause. Mr. Tamim commented on his impression: "Women had never been victims. We shall salute the sacrifices she made and the responsibilities she is in hold of."



### Empowering and raising awareness of women on Conflict Management and Negotiation



UNFPA organized between 6- 8 February a "Conflict Management and Negotiation" Training workshop in Damascus. The training covered multiple topics related to the main concept of conflict, root reasons of conflict, stages of conflict, how to suggest suitable solution, needed skills to apply the solutions and negotiation skills as a main tool to reach a compromise which achieves all parties interests.

female participants from the Family Protection Unit and 21 Syrian Commission for Family Affairs and Population (SCFAP) joined the workshop which aimed to develop their abilities to deal with the daily life conflicts related to the workplace and to their personal lives.

UNFPA believes the quality of implementation will improve through bringing staff together and building a friendly working environment. "The training opened a new gate for me to understand conflicts inside workplace and among the survivors," Nebal Mohammad.

### Syrian Women Stitch Together Trust and Hope

Nour Foundation for Relief and Development, supported by UNFPA organized a sewing workshop for women at the Women and Girls Safe Space (WGSS) in Sweida Governorate. 17 Participants joined the workshop which extends from 17 February to 17 April and aims to improve women's skills in sewing and knitting. The trainer expressed her content to see women coping with their hard conditions of living: "I sensed the positive spirit in women here and their strong desire to learn and acquire a skill to become more productive to support their families." While one of the beneficiaries commented: "I'm happy that I'm taking a profession with me. This will



help me support my family and find an income course." It is worth mentioning that the WGSS is continuing to provide women and young girls with the tools they need to improve their lives.



### Introductory Workshop on The Family Protection Unit In Lattakia

The Syrian Commission for Family and Population Affairs in cooperation with the Syrian Family Planning Association, UNFPA and UNICEF organized on 20th of February an introductory workshop on the Family Protection Unit in Lattakia. With the participation of a number of stakeholders in the departments of social affairs and labor, health, planning, endowments, education, social workers and a number of NGOs in Lattakia.



### A Workshop On Food Safety At the Women and Girls Safe Spaces In Damascus Countryside



Nour Foundation for Relief and Development, supported by UNFPA, organized a one-month workshop on food safety at the Women and Girls Safe Spaces in AlZahira, Damascus. The workshop, extends from 3 February to 3 March, engaged 15 women in discussions on best practices of storing food. Riham Ammar, facilitator, said: "We aim to introduce women to basic food safety knowledge and provide accurate techniques to deal with spoiled food."

### Winter Kits Help Syrians In AlRaqqa to Cope with Cold Weather

UNFPA & UNHCR and AIYamama charity organization distributed on 15th of February winterization kits in the Areesha camp in Al Hassakeh governorate. 13220 winterized kits were distributed so far this week at the camp. The thing I wanted most from my work was feeling I" could draw a smile on the face of a young girl, or elderly man or woman", Mouhannad UNFPA-Syria team told us from Debsi Afnan village, south west rural Raqqa Syria. UNFPA-Syria team distributed also 1.500 winterized kits in collaboration with our local partner MSJM to ensure women & girls are kept warm and comfortable in cold days ahead in South West Rural Raqqa Syria.





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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