

UNFPA delivers aid to previously unreachable Sheikh Maqsoud in Aleppo

Two mobile reproductive health teams have been deployed to the Sheikh Maqsoud area of Aleppo following the arrival of a UNFPA and Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) mission on 28 December, the first time a UN agency has entered the area with aid for distribution. On 30 December, UNFPA's mobile reproductive team provided services to over 80 women, reaching those in need of antenatal care, family planning services, postpartum care, and other essential health assistance. Many women had been without care for years.

UNFPA and its partner, Syrian Arab Red Crescent, distributed 1,200 dignity kits, which contain hygiene supplies such as soap, sanitary napkins and underwear.

They are also planning to open three reproductive health centers in the area as soon as possible, which will provide not only reproductive health care but also services for survivors of gender-based violence.



UNFPA Staff Mission in Hama & its Countryside



Between 11 & 13 December, a delegation from the UNFPA visited the city of Hama & its countryside (Salamieh & Misyaf). The delegation was headed by Mr. Massimo Diana, the UNFPA's Representative in Syria, with a number of officials from the main units of the office. The visit to the city of Hama included a visit to the Governor, Dr. Mohammad Al-Hazouri, to discuss among other issues, the existing cooperation between the two sides and means of developing it and activating it in order to achieve humanitarian support and deliver aid to its beneficiaries. The UNFPA is currently implementing several activities, programs and projects in Hama.

The visit to Misyaf included the health center and the women & girls safe space. The delegation, met with the medical staff and attended the vocational training courses held at the women & girls' safe space. The visit was concluded at the youth center and attended a theatre show on the early marriage and met with the Young Peer Educators Group.

How Information Technology is helping to Outline a New Future to the Syrian Youth

The Syrian Computer Society concluded on 13 December the 3-months programming competition after it began in September. Nine winners from different fields were honored and received prizes to complete their projects. This project is one of the projects supported by the Canadian Funded project.



A Letter of Peace to Syrian Women in Aleppo Marathon

People of Aleppo started a marvelous marathon on 22 December. 150 people, including children, youth, women and elderly people from both genders participated to raise awareness on breast cancer and highlight the importance of its early detection. They also aimed to raise their voices on child marriage and emphasis on the necessity of family planning.

The marathon is supported by UNFPA in Syria under the “Education for All” project, funded by the Japanese Government. UNFPA with its partner SEBC made this marathon a remarkable success.



First Interactive Theater Festival in Damascus



On 13-14 December, Damascus celebrated its first Interactive Theater Festival organized by YPEER. The festival paved the way to a healthy environment where youth can share their talents and develop their art skills related to interactive theater and supported spreading the culture of interactive theater. While the festival was based in Damascus, different people from Damascus, Rural Damascus, Sweida, Tartous, Hama (Mesyaf), Aleppo joined and 12 youth teams showed plays on different topics including GBV, child marriage, drugs, stigma and discrimination. Only one winning team was awarded a financial prize.

“It is important for the public to engage in the discussion that comes afterwards the play only as important as it is to deliver our messages,” Sara Al-Malki, YPEER Educator. “The discussion raises debates and that is what stirs people’s curiosity to learn more,” she continued. Open discussions are usually moderated by one interactive theater trainer after each plays and focuses on its message.

Integrating Young Girls in Coding Programmes

The “ChangeMakers” initiative concluded its third training camp, which included 15 intensive sessions of programming skills and entry into entrepreneurship, on December 15. Fifteen participants came to expand their vision of the programming world and learn how programming can greatly contribute to facilitating our lives. “Change Makers” also aims to integrate girls and encourage them to enter the technology field. During the final ceremony, the teenagers presented a presentation explaining the march of technology and explaining some of the basic concepts in a creative and narrative way.

The event was also attended by a network of Y-peer educators that enriched the concert with two plays to highlight the importance of girls entering the world of echnology.



16 Days of Activities to Raise Awareness on Gender Based Violence

UNFPA launched the 16 days of activism against GBV in partnership with the local partners such as, Syrian Family Planning Association, Relief & development Center (RDC), Al Tamayouz NGO, ALBatoul NGO, the Syrian society for Sustainable development (SSSD), Center of Saint James the mutilated, and Nour foundation. The campaign included several activities such as raising awareness sessions, art, paintings, and open discussions on reproductive & sexual rights, interactive theaters plays on violence topics. In addition to holding workshops to develop women skills in numerous areas.



First Training to Journalists in Aleppo on Gender Based Violence Concept



The UNFPA organized the 1st training of its type in Homs targeting 30 journalists from Lattakia, Tartous, Homs, Hama, and AL Sweida. The workshop training lasted for 3 days to train the journalists on reporting on GBV during the Syria Crisis .It tackled several topics, incl. Introduction on GBV concept, ethical principles, GBV specialized coverage, seeking positive change, Social Media and GBV; awareness or more exploitation, in addition to Syrian legal conventions and agreements in relations to human/women rights.

Overview of Qualitative And Quantitative Data Collection Methods in Homs

The UNFPA organized a training workshop in Homs on data collection tools for UNFPA programs, including the Reproductive Health Program, the Youth Program and the Gender Violence Program. The workshop also included a session in which the UNFPA local partners showed the difficulties they encounter during data collection as a task that was supposed to be very accurate and in accordance with specific criteria. The partners and experts of the Monitoring and Evaluation Section discussed the change or modification of tools in the New Year. The workshop included 8 local partners, including 30 participants from the respective departments of Hama, Tartous, Lattakia, Homs and Aleppo.





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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