Breast Cancer is not a shame

In north eastern of Syria, there is a city called Al-Hassake. Al-Hassake is a city with a big number of habitants where minimum life needs are not being well provided. Most women in the area suffer from health issues, mainly related to lack of health facilities or the long distance between the service-providing center, if any, and many villages.

During October, which is the "Breast Cancer Awareness" month, Al-Ihsan Charity Association launched a huge local campaign to raise awareness on the subject. They aimed to introduce simple medical tips and self-diagnosis techniques.

Glimpses of Al-Ihsan Charity Association work in October 2016:

- 11 Villages were visited
- 15 Field visit were conducted
- 2060 People were served

Every Women deserves equal access to reproductive health despite her location or social level.
Giving Every Woman A Voice

With a different theme, new target group, new and interesting topics TEDxJahezWomen organizes a new event in Damascus, Syria on October 27, 2016.

The whole day local event took place simultaneously with the global event TEDWomen 2016 happening in San Francisco and almost 150 Syrian young people attended the event.

Four outstanding women stood on TEDxJahezWomen stage to bring up innovation and tell exceptional stories from their lives. Bisher, who spent her whole life as a deaf woman was incapable to continue her education in regular schools. That did not stop her; it rather motivated her to carry on to be a teacher for other deaf students.

Amina, like many others hated math when she was little. Now, she is a math teacher who is working to find innovative tools to teach kids math.

Dana, a girl who is living multiple lives in one. She believes that you get only one chance to live but no one said you could not have multiple experiences.

Marah, a pioneer in technology and a software developer. "I'm standing here to let girls know that being a girl doesn't mean you are opt out from STEM fields. Sometimes, you can even be better than males," Marah concluded her speech.

UNFPA continuous its full support to events being the main sponsor and targeting youth and women, aiming to reach every youth and woman in Syria despite their location and their social status.

Bringing Positive Change through Code and Passion

"ChangeMakers" is a friendly youth space where 20 young people comes for 15 weeks to learn coding basics and discuss interesting topics that help young people identify their passion.

Its goal, broadly, to create the future generation of innovators and problem solver, as well as minimize the gender gap in computer sciences. It was launched on Thursday, October 20th, 2016 and continuous to take place through January 2017.

Girls and boys should have equal opportunities in science and technology
Voices from the field

Colorful and Captivating “Four Seasons” Project in Tartous, Syria

In May 2016, “Youth Innovation” project second batch was launched. Around 55 young persons, from Homs and Tartous, participated in the ongoing workshops on “Business Startup and Communication” for 15 intensive days.

Eskandar is an outstanding example of successful graduated projects. Eskandar had been raised in a farm for his entire childhood. He used to go hand by hand with his father to plant seeds, grow them and take care of them until they are bigger trees.

“When I was informed about the workshop, I applied immediately. I’m grateful for the opportunity to progress that I have started when I was a child.” Eskandar says to Ms. Kinda Katranji Communication Officer at UNFPA - Syria.

In addition to Eskandar’s desire to invest in his father’s land, he decided to expand the business by renting the neighboring land and invest in both of them. Eskandar studies Automation Engineering at Tartous University. However, he has a special warmhearted to land and seeds that he wishes never fades.

Eskandar started implementing his project, entitled “four seasons”, on the 6th of July, 2016 when he met with the project coordinator to set out the structure of his project’s plan. The ground had been cultivated and fertilized with organic fertilizers to increase its productivity. Next steps included seeding different kinds of vegetables and fruits.

“I have a spring of water in my land, which, in result, saves a great deal of money for me and increases my net revenue income,” Eskandar says. He also explained the happiness he feels when he sees people are standing in lines to buy his products. “This gives me energy,” he said.

Today, Eskandar produces and sells almost 2000 kg of various vegetables and fruits, including green papers, beans, lemon, and eggplants. He does not skip university. He is actually more determined to graduate than ever because he feels that he is a productive member of a broader community.

During UNFPA team visit to Tartous

“I’m eating from what I’m seeding,” Eskandar, Project owner
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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