



UNRWA Baqaa Camp Amman © 2014 UNRWA photo by Guillaume Petermann

monthly updates on gender issues at unrwa and the region

update of the month

june 2018 | issue no. 92

UNRWA has finalized an e-learning course for staff on gender-based violence risk mitigation in emergencies. The course is one of the products developed under the Building Safety project. It will be launched in the coming months and will be available in Arabic and English.

stories from UNRWA

More than 100 participants take part in four Trainings of Trainers (ToTs)

Building on the last issue of the Gender Bulletin, UNRWA highlights feedback from staff who participated in a Training of Trainers (ToT) on the newly finalized module entitled, *Training Package on Enhancing Understanding of Gender-based Violence*.

Between April and May 2018, more than 100 staff took part in a 3-day ToTs on the *Training Package on Enhancing Understanding of GBV* in Lebanon, West Bank, Gaza and Jordan. The ToTs used a participatory approach to familiarize participants with training package materials, such as case studies, role play exercises and PowerPoint presentations with speaking notes, and allowed them to practice facilitation techniques.

The ToTs started off with sessions led by a Gender-based Violence (GBV) Officer from UNRWA Headquarters in Amman, who clarified the objectives of the ToTs, the Training Package's purpose and structure, and covered facilitation practices.

After these initial sessions, the ToT participants were divided into teams. Each team was tasked to deliver portions of the Training Package modules to fellow ToT attendees. Following each practice session, the trainer led a debriefing session, during which teams were provided with constructive feedback from the other ToT participants. This not only resulted in participants receiving targeted feedback, it also allowed them to benefit from their colleagues' experience working on GBV and facilitating trainings.

Five ToT participants from the Jordan Field Office (JFO) and Headquarters (HQ) agreed to share their thoughts on the ToT in this issue of the Gender Bulletin. Overall, interviewed participants agreed that, despite having previous knowledge and work experience on GBV, the ToT had strengthened their understanding

of the topic, especially on international standards of working with survivors of gender-based violence. Participants mentioned that the ToT helped them to better understand the risks related to non adherence to these standards and made them reflect on how their attitudes and views align with or differ from them.

Participants explained that they became more aware of the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication, as well as active listening skills, be it for interviewing survivors of GBV or facilitating trainings. One participant shared that the participatory style of the training had increased her confidence and that she felt empowered by it, while another stated having improved his time management and organizational skills.

The planned roll-out of the Training Package through further staff trainings by the ToT participants is imminent given positive feedback from future trainers. Trainings will enhance staff knowledge, skills and attitudes on GBV. Lastly, participants felt that the trainings will empower field staff and support them in better aligning their work with international standards, leading to improved services for Palestine refugees.

Over the coming months, TOT participants will roll out the GBV Training Package materials to frontline staff from various programmes in areas of UNRWA operations.

For more information, please contact: [Gina Bylang](#)



united nations relief and works agency
for palestine refugees in the near east

www.unrwa.org

Inspiring Story

Female reporter fighting against so-called honour killings

Rana Husseini is a Jordanian journalist advocating for the end to violence against women, especially so-called honour killings. The term refers to the killing of a relative who is perceived to have brought shame on his or her family. When Husseini joined The Jordan Times 25 years ago, these so-called honour killings "were deemed too controversial for public discourse". As she began to raise public awareness on the issue, she "met public hostility and a judicial system that too often handed down lenient sentences to perpetrators". Yet over the years, she has witnessed a shift in attitude, with a greater number of people opposing these killings in public and higher sentences for perpetrators. Moreover, the Jordanian government is now acknowledging the problem. As part of its responsibility to protect its citizens, the government is opening a shelter for women at risk of being killed by their relatives. [Read more.](#)

Events of Interest

Multi-sectoral Approaches for Management of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)

13-17 August 2018, Nairobi, Kenya
Organized by IDEAL Public Health and Development Consultancy, this five-day training is intended for UN, Government and NGO staff (especially programme coordinators, project managers and officers including medical practitioners). It aims to provide trainees with knowledge and skills for designing and implementing effective SGBV programmes. The registration deadline for this course is August 8, 2018. [Read more.](#)

Thematic Short Course: Sexual Violence in Conflict Settings and Emergencies
10-14 September 2018, Geneva, Switzerland

Provided by the Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action (CERAH), this one-week training will provide emergency programme managers with the critical analysis and practical tools they need to design, implement and evaluate multidisciplinary sexual violence programmes. The short course was developed with inputs from a variety of humanitarian organizations. [Read more.](#)



united nations relief and works agency
for palestine refugees in the near east

www.unrwa.org

UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5.4 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.

Regional News

Jordan

Tamara and Reem Al Baghdadi, two Jordanian sisters and businesswomen, won the Girls Going Global Inspire Scholarship to the International Business Accelerator (IBA). The scholarship offers access to fast-growing international markets to working women from all over the world. The Baghdadi sisters are co-founders of RimaraPak, a packing and plastic factory established in Amman in 2005. They believe in empowerment so that women can break the glass ceiling and can achieve their goals. [Read more.](#)

Jordan

Sawsan Zaideh, lead researcher at 7iber, a media organization and online magazine based in Amman, is conducting a study on fostering balanced and fair gender portrayal in Jordanian media content. Zaideh wants to issue recommendations based on concrete

findings to help combat the discrimination in media in the work environment. [Read more.](#)

Lebanon

Lina Abirafeh, a Lebanese-Palestinian gender rights activist, is mentioned alongside famous people like Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai on a list of the world's 100 most influential people in gender policy in 2018. The list — released by Apolitical, a platform that connects public servants worldwide — features only two influential persons of Middle Eastern origin. Abirafeh leads the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World at the Lebanese American University, and she sees the nomination as a call to action for Lebanon and the region. With her work, Abirafeh aims to achieve social, political and educational reforms to further advance gender equality in Lebanon and the region. [Read more.](#)

Reports & Resources

Turning promises into action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - UN Women

This report assesses progress, gaps and challenges in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from a gender perspective. Besides analyzing available data to highlight global and regional trends in achieving the SDGs for women and girls, the publication also includes practical guidance on how to implement gender-responsive policies and accountability processes. It serves as a reference and accountability tool for policymakers, organizations and other stakeholders. [Read more.](#)

Unrealized Potential: The High Cost of Gender Inequality in Earnings - The World Bank

As the first in a series of reports that focus on measuring the global economic costs of gender inequality, this one looks at the losses in national wealth due to gender inequality in earnings. It concludes that achieving gender equality would not only have significant benefits for women and girls, it would also greatly benefit their households and communi-

ties. Furthermore, it would assist countries in reaching their full development potential. A key finding is that the total wealth in the 141 analyzed countries could be 14 per cent higher if there were gender equality in earnings. [Read more.](#)

Gender at Work Podcast: Rethinking Change for Gender Equality - Gender at Work

In its podcasts, Gender at Work, a transnational initiative to end discrimination against women and foster gender equality, discusses emerging ideas in Gender and Development. The latest episode focuses on misconduct within humanitarian organizations. The three participants, who have significant work experience in UN organizations and NGOs, discuss organizational cultures that enable misconduct and the importance of feminist leadership. They also share strategies which can support the required culture shift to prevent misconduct from happening and enable a more equal work environment. [Read more.](#)

Facts of the Month

30 per cent

of formal Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) around the world are run by women. [Read more.](#)

4.7 per cent

is the percentage of seats won by women during Lebanon's last parliamentary elections. [Read more.](#)

For more information, please contact g.bylang@unrwa.org