

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

REGIONAL SITUATION REPORT

FOR THE SYRIA CRISIS

ISSUE# 123
NOVEMBER 2022

“ THE THING I APPRECIATE MOST ABOUT THIS SAFE SPACE ARE THE MANY OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE TO EXPRESS OURSELVES AND FIND COMFORT IN THE IDEA THAT WE ARE NOT ALONE.

– SHIREEN, a Syrian refugee living in Iraq

SNAPSHOT

As the year 2022 nears its end, both Syrians and host communities throughout the region continue to face the escalating impact of a protracted humanitarian crisis, further complicated by mounting region-wide inflation, continuing hostilities, and chronic and emerging health threats, including an unrelenting pandemic and a worsening cholera outbreak.

The crisis region, which spans the Whole of Syria, Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt, continues to face a multitude of challenges, particularly in light of far-reaching economic crises that continue to exacerbate existing needs. A decade into this protracted crisis, people in need continue to endure the cumulative effects of years of instability, the risks of which are even higher now due to the impacts of a far-reaching economic meltdown.

The Regional Situation Report for the Syria Crisis offers a bird's eye view of UNFPA's operations within the context of the Syria crisis. The report is prepared by the UNFPA Regional Humanitarian Hub for Syria and the Arab States in Amman, Jordan, and spans operations conducted by UNFPA offices in Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt, in addition to operations conducted inside Syria from Damascus and cross-border via Türkiye.

In addition to providing aggregated quantitative results for each country involved in UNFPA's regional Syria response, this report also brings stories from the field that highlight the plight of communities inside Syria and in host countries, underscoring the positive impact of the response delivered by UNFPA in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence, youth engagement, and others.



ISSUE # 123

NOVEMBER 2022



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS HAS BECOME A SERIOUS PROBLEM AFTER THE WAR. WE SIMPLY DO NOT FEEL SAFE ANYMORE.

– YUSRA, a woman from Qamishli

IN THIS REPORT

SITUATION OVERVIEW	3
RESPONSE FROM ALL OPERATIONS	4
WHOLE OF SYRIA	6
SYRIA COUNTRY OFFICE	7
TÜRKIYE CROSS-BORDER	9
TÜRKIYE	11
LEBANON	13
JORDAN	15
IRAQ	16
EGYPT	17
COORDINATION	18
DONORS & PARTNERS	19

All photos shown in this issue, unless otherwise stated, are courtesy of the UNFPA Regional Humanitarian Hub for Syria and the Arab States (The Hub). Moreover, unless otherwise stated, photos do not directly correlate to the stories next to which they appear. Real names of survivors have been changed for confidentiality.

DEVELOPED BY THE UNFPA
REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN HUB
FOR SYRIA & THE ARAB STATES

www.unfpa.org
www.ocha.org
www.unhcr.org
<http://syria.humanitarianresponse.info>

THE SITUATION / 2022

FOR SYRIAN WOMEN & GIRLS, GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE REMAINS A DAILY REALITY.

As Syrians and host communities throughout the region prepare for another difficult year, the situation remains rife with far-reaching challenges, made worse by over a decade of instability and economic decline, the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the economic crises impacting Lebanon and Türkiye.

Despite the continuing efforts of humanitarian actors, the Syria crisis remains one of the world's most complex humanitarian and protection emergencies, with 14.6 million people estimated in need of assistance, among them 7.2 million women and girls. This reflects a steep increase from the number of people in need reported in 2021 (13.4 million) and in 2020 (11.7 million). Staggering inflation, which has resulted in an 800 percent rise in food prices since 2020, has further limited the ability of humanitarian agencies to meet growing needs. Conditions in displacement camps in the north-west of the country remain dire, with many left with little choice but to return to their homes in front-line areas where active hostilities and indiscriminate attacks against civilians have claimed countless lives and targeted food and water resources.

When the crisis passed the decade mark in 2021, the world was already a year into the COVID-19 pandemic, and an array of other humanitarian situations were emerging. Among the millions of Syrians who have spent the last 12 years surviving conflict, displacement, economic collapse, and mounting risks to their safety, many feel their calls for help have been increasingly drowned out. More than a decade of conflict has resulted in large-scale destruction of the water and sanitation infrastructure, leaving significant numbers of Syrian families in overcrowded displacement sites and poor WASH conditions. Up to 47 percent of the population rely on often unsafe alternatives to piped water, which constitutes a major risk factor for disease outbreaks, including cholera.

Women & girls continue to pay the steepest price

Meanwhile, assessments and focus group discussions conducted by UNFPA show that gender-based violence continues to pervade the daily lives of Syrian women and girls. Their lives are marked by mutually reinforcing forms of violence and gender inequality, often exacerbated by discriminatory attitudes based on age, displacement status, disability, and/or marital status. This has created an environment in which women and girls are consistently devalued, controlled, exploited, and then blamed for the violence they face.

"Physical, emotional, and sexual violence continue to take place," explains Mona, an adolescent girl living in Areesha camp, whose family forced her to leave school after learning that one of the teachers there had been sexually harassing female students. "Attending the UNFPA-supported Safe Space was an opportunity for me to live again, as I was considering suicide because of the pressure my family was putting on me."

The risks facing women and girls like Mona are further compounded by the deteriorating economy and widespread poverty, lack and loss of livelihoods, destruction and loss of housing and property, protracted and multiple cycles of displacement, substandard living conditions (even for people in areas of relative stability), and the shortage of natural resources. This is increasing reliance on negative coping mechanisms, such as early and forced marriages and sexual exploitation and abuse.

Even more alarming are the reports by women and girls stating that the violence against them has become normalized as a result of years of instabilities. Harassment, intimate partner and family violence, child and forced marriage and subsequent pregnancies, and sexual violence and exploitation are consistently reported, while new trends, such as various forms of technology-facilitated violence, have also been observed in recent years.

"We have people that consider a girl to be a spinster if she reaches age 16 while unmarried," explains Raghad, a woman from Dara'a, in a statement that highlights the normalization of child marriage in her community. A similar statement is made by Nour from Qamishli, who notes that "girls growing up in these circumstances have become accustomed to the violence and now think it's normal."

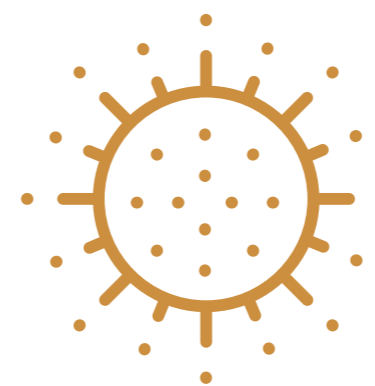
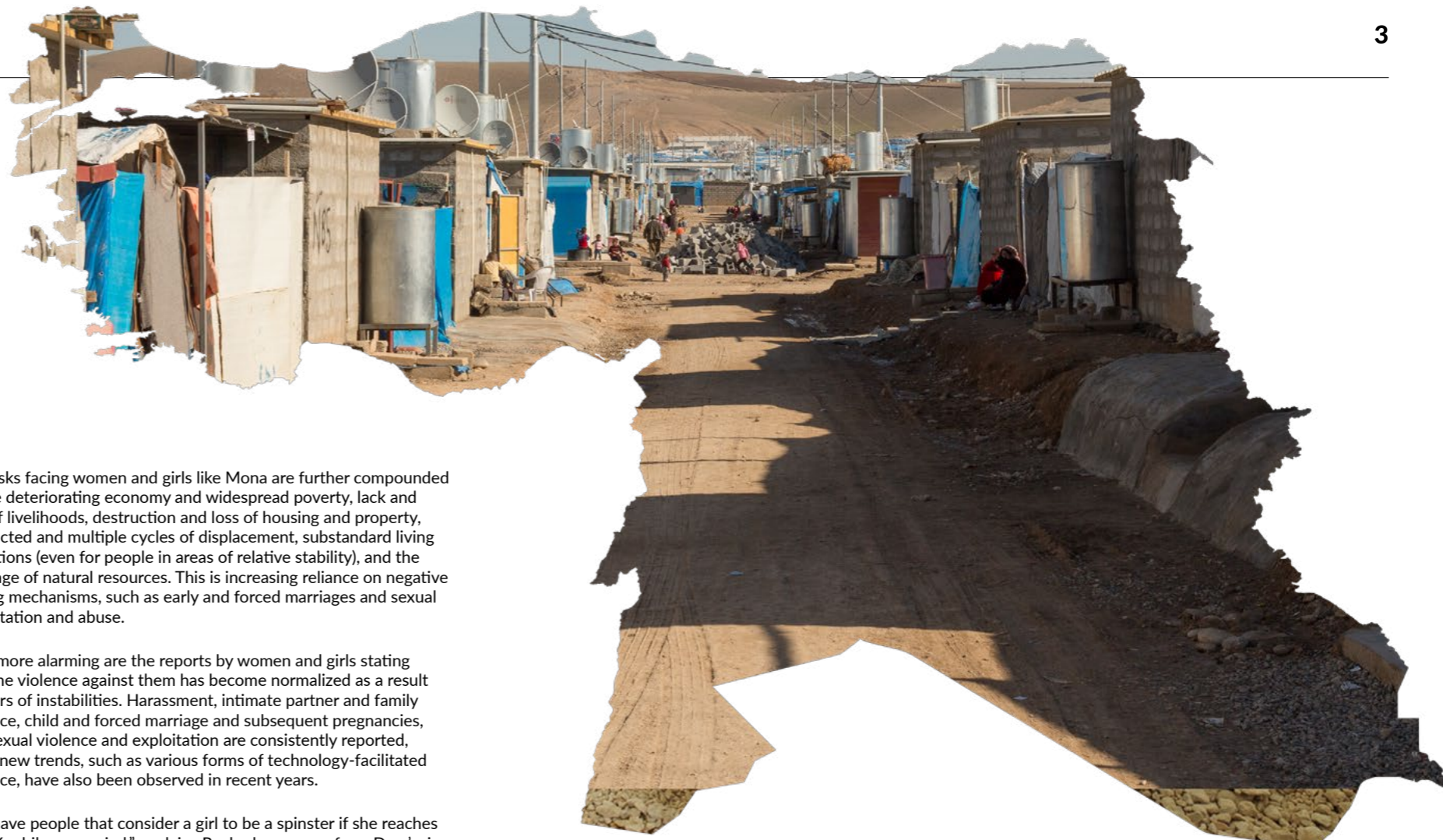
And yet, despite the enormous challenges levelled against them, Syrians throughout the region refuse to give up. People of different ages and backgrounds, including women and girls who have survived gender-based violence, continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience and determination. Many rise above their challenges and traumas to provide better prospects and opportunities for their children and loved ones, while others defy circumstances to become artists, activists, innovators, and influential voices in their communities.

UNFPA continues to show up

UNFPA and humanitarian actors will continue to advocate for the rights and well-being of women and girls.

Between January and November 2022, as part of its regional response to the crisis, UNFPA delivered sexual and reproductive health services to around 1.7 million people, while around 735,000 were reached with services designed to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, including more than 245,000 adolescent girls. More than 141,000 women were provided with cash and voucher assistance to cover basic and protection needs, and nearly 11,000 LGBTQI+ individuals were served.

In 2023, UNFPA is appealing for a total of USD 141.9 million to fund its regional Syria crisis response, which spans the Whole of Syria, Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt.



CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19 **

SINCE THE START OF THE PANDEMIC

SYRIA	TÜRKIYE	LEBANON
57,200	17,042,722	1,220,602
JORDAN	IRAQ	EGYPT
1,746,997	2,463,724	515,493



14.6 MILLION
Estimated people in need inside Syria



3.7 MILLION
Women and girls of reproductive age in need in Syria



500,000
Estimated pregnant women and girls in the crisis region



7.1 MILLION
Refugees, asylum seekers, or stateless people in the region

The impact of this crisis stretches far beyond Syria to include Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt.

** As of November 31, 2022

RESPONSES FROM ALL OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS IMPLEMENTED THROUGHOUT THE REGION, INCLUDING THE WHOLE OF SYRIA, TÜRKIYE, LEBANON, JORDAN, IRAQ, AND EGYPT.

1,734,678

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

95% FEMALE

22,508

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

81% FEMALE

734,963

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

92% FEMALE

245,122

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

59,414

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

71% FEMALE

10,957

LGBTQI+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

141,444

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

99% FEMALE

18,983

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

81% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	897,267	99%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	27,901	100%
C-Sections	13,216	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	585,381	100%
Post-natal care consultations	120,144	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	7,794	91%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	77,590	98%
People provided with GBV case management	31,783	95%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	571,707	92%
People trained on GBV-related topics	8,664	73%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	2,525	77%



147

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES*



103

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



31

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITIES



20

YOUTH CENTRES



118

MOBILE CLINICS



86

OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS

* Above figures reflect fully-supported service-delivery points. Inside Syria, an additional 638 primary healthcare facilities are being partially supported through the Ministry of Health.

AS THE CHALLENGES DEEPEN, WOMEN AND GIRLS CONTINUE TO PAY THE PRICE.

The conflict in Syria has created one of the most severe and protracted humanitarian crises in the world today. Millions have been displaced both inside the country and outside as refugees, especially in Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt. The crisis has permanently altered the fabric of society in Syria itself, with far-reaching ramifications for its future resilience.

Assessments and interviews conducted by UNFPA since 2016 have also been able to illustrate the profound effect that years of instability have had on women and girls, particularly adolescent girls, who face a variety of unique risks. Lack of individual autonomy, movement restrictions, forced and early marriage, denial of resources and opportunities, and sexual and physical violence continue to be part of their daily reality, creating a web of violence that can transcend generations.

Despite testing their limits, however, the crisis has also revealed the remarkable resilience of women and girls, many of whom defy enormous odds to build brighter futures for themselves and their families.

#ThisIsNotNormal

Disrupting the normalization of violence against women and girls

[Watch](#) the launch video by UNFPA Executive Director, Natalia Kanem.

The [#ThisIsNotNormal](#) campaign comes in response to increasing reports by women and girls that violence against them is becoming so widespread and unchecked, that it has been normalized in many communities.

Globally, women and girls continue to bear the brunt of the worst impacts of natural and human-made disasters, and this includes the escalating risks of multiple forms of gender-based violence and harmful practices.

In the Arab region, converging crises are affecting the lives and well-being of women and girls, including protracted humanitarian crises, armed conflicts, forced internal and external displacement, food insecurity and water scarcity, the worsening impacts of climate change, and countless other serious challenges. Meanwhile, the continuing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and high food and fuel prices driven by the ongoing war in Ukraine, are exacerbating the challenges women and girls face in communities across the region and beyond.

In the wake of these unprecedented challenges, more women and girls report to UNFPA that violence against them is becoming increasingly normalized, particularly in humanitarian settings.

Harassment, intimate partner and domestic violence, child and forced marriage, and sexual violence and exploitation are consistently reported, while new trends, such as various forms of cyber violence, have also been

observed in recent years. Women and girls also report that this sense of normalization is eroding their resilience, particularly for those living in humanitarian settings.

The normalization of violence against women and girls poses a serious risk to sustainable peace and security and could derail progress towards the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The international community must act with urgency and in solidarity to reject the risk of the normalization of violence against women and girls, and ensure that programmes designed to respond to this trend are at the front and centre of humanitarian responses.

Featuring the voices of [artists and influencers](#), across Arab region, such as Ghada Saba, Joanna Arida, Maya Ammar, and Alaa Hamdan, the campaign aims to counter this alarming trend, amplify the voices of women and girls survivors of gender-based violence, and reaffirm global commitment to ending gender-based violence, including sexual violence in conflict, and providing justice and support services to all those affected.

#ThisIsNotNormal is an extended campaign that will continue over the coming months. UNFPA is inviting donor countries, UN and partner agencies, gender-based violence experts, journalists, and other opinion influencers to participate.

“**WOMEN AND GIRLS EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE AND OFTEN ACCEPT IT, NOT KNOWING THAT IT IS NOT NORMAL.**”

— SERENA, a young woman from Lebanon



ACROSS THE WHOLE OF SYRIA

ENSURING THAT ALL COMMUNITIES INSIDE SYRIA HAVE ACCESS TO LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE AND QUALITY SERVICES, EVEN IN LOCATIONS THAT ARE HARD TO REACH.

1,274,788

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

95% FEMALE

10,724

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

93% FEMALE

569,720

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

94% FEMALE

207,880

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

30,452

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

66% FEMALE

8,826

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

80% FEMALE

136,812

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

99% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	467,559	99%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	26,209	100%
C-Sections	13,112	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	521,279	100%
Post-natal care consultations	99,377	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	3,364	92%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	19,487	99%
People provided with GBV case management	25,661	98%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	464,887	94%
People trained on GBV-related topics	5,096	72%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	366	73%



107

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES*



53

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



29

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITIES



14

YOUTH CENTRES



102

MOBILE CLINICS



71

OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS

* Above figures reflect fully-supported service-delivery points. Inside Syria, an additional 638 primary healthcare facilities are being partially supported through the Ministry of Health.

In 2014, the Whole of Syria (WoS) approach was introduced across the United Nations, authorised initially by UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2165 in 2014. This allowed cross-border humanitarian assistance from Iraq, Jordan, and Türkiye. Successive UNSCRs extended and adapted this, eventually reducing to cross-border assistance from Türkiye exclusively. In July 2022, the resolution was extended until 10 January 2023. The continuation of this large, UN-led humanitarian operation is vital to reaching those most in need. In addition to the Whole of Syria approach under the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), there has been a succession of comprehensive Regional Refugee and Resilience Plans (3RPs) since 2014, which aim to coordinate and align responses to Syrian refugees and affected host communities across Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Türkiye.



WHEN I FINALLY FOUND MY WAY TO THE SAFE SPACE, I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW QUICKLY I BEGAN TO FEEL A CHANGE. THE KIND PEOPLE THERE GAVE ME THE HOPE I THOUGHT I'D NEVER GET BACK.

– RULA, a Syrian woman from Damascus

SYRIA COUNTRY OFFICE

1,142,038

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

99% FEMALE

5,713

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

95% FEMALE

460,862

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

97% FEMALE

176,095

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

4,721

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

88% FEMALE

30,452

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

66% FEMALE

128,529

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	347,138	99%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	8,776	100%
C-Sections	7,695	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	391,294	100%
Post-natal care consultations	51,749	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	2,914	92%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	19,487	99%
People provided with GBV case management	21,641	98%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	329,423	98%
People trained on GBV-related topics	1,205	82%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	366	73%



97

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES*



37

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



19

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITIES



14

YOUTH CENTRES



99

MOBILE CLINICS



71

OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS

* Above figures reflect fully-supported service-delivery points. Inside Syria, an additional 638 primary healthcare facilities are being partially supported through the Ministry of Health.

“ WE AS WOMEN SIMPLY DO NOT FEEL SAFE ANYMORE. MANY OF US DO NOT EVEN FEEL SAFE IN OUR OWN HOMES, WITH OUR OWN FAMILIES, WHILE OTHERS FEAR BEING KIDNAPPED, RAPED, OR KILLED.

– MARIAM, a woman from Aleppo

‘SOMETHING TRANSFORMATIONAL HAPPENED TO ME’

AMIDST GROWING NEEDS, WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AL HASAKAH INCREASINGLY RELY ON THE SERVICES PROVIDED AT UNFPA-SUPPORTED FACILITIES.

“When I visited the clinic to check up on my pregnancy more than a year and a half ago, something transformational happened to me,” recalls Zahra, 34, who lives in Tal Majdal, a village in rural Al Hasakah, north-eastern Syria. “After participating in a few awareness sessions, my thoughts and beliefs about procreation changed completely.”

‘Since her marriage at age sixteen, Zahra has delivered six children’

Since her marriage at age sixteen, Zahra has delivered six children. She received comprehensive healthcare services during her last pregnancy, offered at the UNFPA-supported Loulooa static reproductive health clinic in the city of Al Hasakah. The awareness sessions on family planning that she attended are offered at every UNFPA-supported facility, where participants are given vital information by health educators in order to make better decisions about their sexual and reproductive health. On any given month, the Loulooa clinic offers such sessions to more than 600 women and adolescent girls.

“The important information provided in these sessions convinced me to use family planning methods for the sake of my well-being and that of my family,” explains Zahra.

‘The important information provided in these sessions convinced me to use family planning’

Zahra played the role of a health educator herself when she transferred what she’s learned about family planning to her husband, highlighting the risks posed to her well-being if they continued to have children without sufficient breaks. With the right information presented in the right manner, her husband was on board.

“I decided to have an intrauterine device inserted seven months ago and have been visiting the clinic regularly to check up on my health,” added Zahra. She is among the approximately 170 women who make use of the various family planning methods offered at the clinic on a monthly basis.

‘Both health facilities are our first destination in case we need medical support because of the quality of the services’

Zahra is a housewife, while her husband is a day labourer and the sole breadwinner in the family. Like many families in rural Al Hasakah, they struggle to make ends meet, particularly in light of the dire economic situation plaguing communities throughout Syria. Fortunately, UNFPA supports several health facilities in the governorate, including the static reproductive health clinic where Zahra accessed services, and a modern medical centre where Zahra’s children can receive medical care should they need it.

“Both health facilities are our first destination in case we need medical support because of the quality of the services and medicines they provide,” added Zahra.

In addition to sexual and reproductive health services and various gender-based violence interventions, the Loulooa clinic provides women and adolescent girls with services to support the clinical detection of breast cancer, given to around 120 women and girls on a monthly basis. Suspected cases are then referred to the adjacent medical centre for mammograms. Loulooa also cooperates with other UNFPA-supported partners in Al Hasakah to refer pregnant women to cash and voucher assistance, offered throughout the pregnancy and up to six months after delivery.

“AFTER PARTICIPATING IN A FEW AWARENESS SESSIONS, MY THOUGHTS AND BELIEFS ABOUT PROCREATION CHANGED COMPLETELY.

– ZAHRA, a Syrian woman from Al Hasakah



TÜRKIYE CROSS-BORDER

ENSURING THAT ALL COMMUNITIES INSIDE SYRIA HAVE ACCESS TO QUALITY SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES.

134,026

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

96% FEMALE

5,044

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

91% FEMALE

110,598

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

77% FEMALE

29,856

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

8,283

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

83% FEMALE

4,274

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

70% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	16,678	99%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	16,910	100%
C-Sections	4,960	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	78,157	100%
Post-natal care consultations	41,531	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	461	91%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People provided with GBV case management	1,912	97%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	83,164	72%
People trained on GBV-related topics	3,813	67%



10

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES*



16

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



10

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITIES



3

MOBILE CLINIC

“ BEFORE ATTENDING THE TRAINING ORGANISED BY UNFPA AND ITS PARTNER, I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO PROVIDE HEALTHCARE AND TREATMENT TO SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE.

– MONA, a midwife from north-western Syria

IN NORTH-WESTERN SYRIA, UNFPA CONTINUES TO RESPOND TO ONGOING DISPLACEMENTS, HOSTILITIES, AND EXTREME CONDITIONS

DURING COLDER WINTER MONTHS, UNFPA IS FOCUSING ON PREPAREDNESS, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE ONGOING CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN SYRIA.

In mid-November, 693 trucks containing food, cholera kits, and hygiene and shelter items were transhipped through the last cross-border aid corridor in Bab-Al-Hawa. Among them, six were dispatched by UNFPA, carrying 25,500 dignity kits containing hygiene and safety-related items for displaced women and girls aged 10 and above.

At present, 1.3 million women and girls, including pregnant and lactating women, are dependent on the humanitarian assistance provided through cross-border operations. An 82 percent funding gap is putting the lives of 2.5 million people at risk, particularly during the winter months when risks tend to be at their peak. In 2023, it is anticipated that at least 18 Safe Spaces – half of those currently operating – will have to shut down due to lack of funds. In north-western Syria, these facilities provide life-saving interventions that are not offered elsewhere.

Meanwhile, following the outbreak of cholera in the area, the overall health situation continued to worsen in north-western Syria. Overall, 2.1 million people live in subdistricts that face a high risk of developing a cholera outbreak. In mid-November, 2,035 suspected cases (out of a total 7,934 cases) and two cholera-related deaths (out of a total seven) were reported from camps and informal settlements. Humanitarian actors are closely monitoring the epidemic curve and providing timely assistance through 11 rapid response teams. Despite severe funding constraints, sustained efforts are being made to ensure the chlorination of drinking water and the monitoring of water quality.

During the 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-based Violence campaign, the GBV Sub-Cluster and its partners launched a campaign under the general theme of "Safety is everyone's responsibility." All participating stakeholders called upon service providers, community

leaders and members, and civil society to join forces to create a safe environment for women and girls and their families, including in informal settlements and camps. The campaign was also strategically used as an entry point to provide information to women and girls on existing GBV specialised services, thus reinforcing the referral networks between GBV actors and other humanitarian sectors.

Moreover, UNFPA's partners engaged more than 2,100 adolescent girls through life skills and vocational training. Among the most successful courses were robotics and mental calculation, which give adolescent girls a chance to challenge gender stereotypes and shatter that glass ceiling. These vocational programmes, which are particularly successful among adolescent girls, play a critical role in actively encouraging access to equal opportunities, including non-traditional and innovative livelihood options. Speaking on behalf of her group, one adolescent girl noted: "We become stronger when we realise that the support we need is always available at the Safe Space. When we have a robotics class, we get up earlier, quickly help our mothers with house chores, and rush [to the Safe Space] to attend the session."

UNFPA partners also continued to implement the "Adolescent Mothers Against All Odds" – or AMAL – initiative, which was conceived to raise awareness among adolescent mothers and other target groups on topics related to family planning, early marriage, early pregnancy, the risks of home deliveries, among others. In November, 359 adolescent girls, 27 healthcare providers, and 139 community leaders were engaged under the initiative. Grounded in a gender transformative approach, the facilitators worked closely with targeted health care providers to reflect on their own attitudes and biases toward providing sexual reproductive health services – including family planning – to adolescents.

In the words of Fatima, a 44 year-old woman who is among the millions displaced in north-western Syria

As a mother of five children, living in displacement was painful and harsh. My family and I became homeless because of the war. My children could not receive the education they needed to have a bright future, and my husband and I were not even able to cover their most basic needs.

'living in displacement was painful and harsh'

Despite these challenges, I've always had a sense of optimism that made me believe something will change for the better in my life. One day, I heard from a few women in my community about a Safe Space located nearby in the camp. I was curious, and I decided to visit to learn more about the services they provide.

A social worker gave me an idea of the activities available and I decided to enrol in arts and crafts training. During one session, the social worker said something that changed my life; she said that 'every person needs to have a goal and to work every day to pursue it.' Since then, I've developed the strength to strive to achieve my goals and make the right decisions, for my family as well as myself.

I decided to enrol in a programme offered at the centre to support small businesses. Since I had previous experience breeding livestock, I proposed a project in this sector, and I was fortunate enough

to receive training on business development and management, in addition to attending awareness sessions on gender equality.

'Despite these challenges, I've always had a sense of optimism that made me believe something will change for the better in my life'

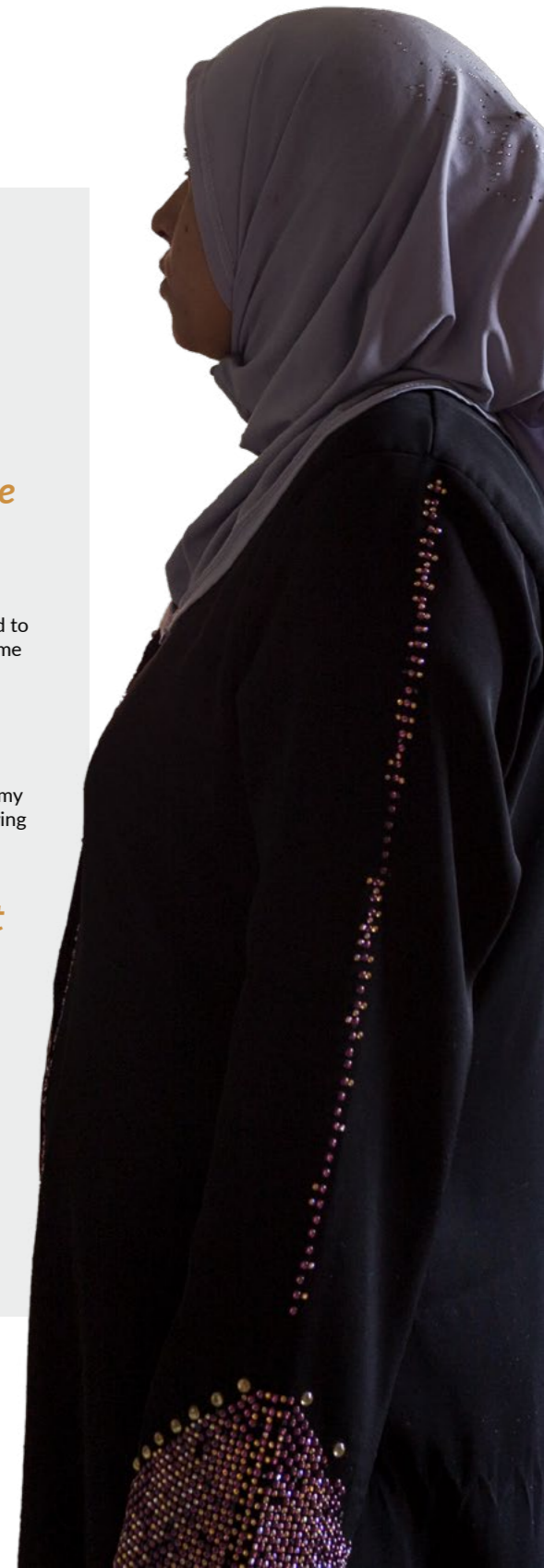
I was also supported throughout the process by the staff of the centre, which gave me the push I needed to get my project off the ground. The project has become very important to me as it has allowed me to make enough money to live a better life.

This is one achievement that makes me proud. With my new business, I'm now able to cover my family's basic needs. I've even made enough to send one of my children to college! Today, I feel strong enough to bring joy and hope to my children's lives.

'This is one achievement that makes me proud'

TODAY, I FEEL STRONG ENOUGH TO BRING JOY AND HOPE TO MY CHILDREN'S LIVES.

– FATIMA, a woman from north-western Syria



TÜRKIYE COUNTRY OFFICE

WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE CRISIS REGION, TÜRKIYE CONTINUES TO PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED ASSISTANCE TO DISPLACED SYRIANS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

88,868

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

82% FEMALE

7,911

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

56% FEMALE

64,136

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

77% FEMALE

13,447

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

19,714

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

85% FEMALE

6,689

LGBTQI+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

943

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

50% FEMALE

5,168

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

70% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	29,964	90%
Ante-natal care consultations	14,405	100%
Post-natal care consultations	8,572	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	1,070	64%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	21,803	94%
People provided with GBV case management	2,409	67%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	44,179	82%
People trained on GBV-related topics	2,221	63%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	1,877	81%



4

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES*



4

YOUTH CENTRES



14

OTHER SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS

* Safe Spaces in Türkiye are providing an integrated response to refugees in need, including both gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health services in the same facility.

“ THESE DAYS WHEN I FEEL THE LOSS OF MY MOTHER, I FEEL THE SUPPORT OF THE WOMEN HERE, AND I FEEL BETTER.

– RIMA, a Syrian woman from Raqqa, who accessed services at a UNFPA-supported Safe Space in Türkiye

IN TÜRKIYE, UNFPA CONTINUES TO CHAMPION THE RIGHTS AND WELL-BEING OF MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES.

AS TÜRKIYE FACES A MOUNTING ECONOMIC CRISIS, UNFPA IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL PARTNERS TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE NOT LEFT BEHIND.

Annual inflation in Türkiye rose to a record 25-year-high of 85.51 percent in October, according to official figures, driving up the price of essential goods and increasing overall costs of living (such as rent). This has hit the most vulnerable segments of the population, such as refugees, particularly hard, since many lack access to sustainable livelihood opportunities. Meanwhile, recent changes in national registration policies, together with more stringent regulations on residency and verification, are creating new at-risk groups and exacerbating risks for refugees with existing needs.

Given that those impacted by these policies face increased challenges accessing health and protection services, UNFPA service units are implementing innovative approaches to bridge existing gaps, including the use of one-off support and short-term cash support as part of case interventions for people with increased protection risks.

Meanwhile, UNFPA Türkiye marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, with supported service units intensifying their efforts to raise awareness on the topic. These efforts included in-person awareness-raising or group support sessions as well as more rigorous campaigning on social media.

Moreover, in line with UNFPA Türkiye's continued efforts to deliver more inclusive interventions, transportation services were provided for refugees with disabilities and their caregivers to facilitate their attendance of these awareness-raising sessions, in addition to tailoring some of the sessions around their needs and priorities.

UNFPA also continued to strengthen the capacity of partner staff. Outreach workers and psychologists were provided with a series of self-care sessions to further support them in carrying out their challenging responsibilities, particularly when it comes to coping with stress and trauma. UNFPA also conducted another round of five-day Nexus trainings for the staff of the

Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), which is the key national stakeholder for the coordination of the Government of Türkiye's refugee response. The training highlighted the protection and SRH needs of different vulnerable groups in Türkiye, with a focus on child, early, and forced marriage.

'I'm glad my path brought me here' – Alma's uphill journey towards a fresh start

"I feel less anxious now," said Alma, addressing the staff of the Diyarbakir Safe Space, where she'd recently sought support. "You've put my mind at ease and I'm glad my path brought me here."

Alma is a 20-year-old woman from Kobane, Syria, who fled her hometown in 2014 during the throes of the crisis to settle down in Diyarbakir, Türkiye. Despite the significant challenges that came with the transition, she was committed to making the best of her situation. Having been forced out of school in Syria when she was younger, she made the choice to complete her high school education after moving to Türkiye in the hope of broadening the prospects available to her.

'Our economic situation is extremely challenging'

In 2021, Alma entered a traditional marriage and is now the mother of a five month-old baby. Like many migrants in Türkiye, the family is in dire

straits, with her husband – the sole breadwinner – relying on odd jobs that he takes on without a legal work permit. Despite his efforts to become officially registered, his application could not be completed.

"Our economic situation is extremely challenging," explains Alma. "We're barely able to scrape by and cover our basic needs."

'The sadness I felt as a result of my baby's situation made me ignore my own health'

When she sought support at the UNFPA-supported Safe Space, Alma told the staff that her baby was also missing a birth certificate, having been born at home, which also prevented her from accessing basic public healthcare like newborn vaccinations and postnatal care. The staff took immediate action, scheduling an appointment at a maternity hospital to initiate the process of a post-facto birth

certificate, in addition to providing individual health counselling to address her most immediate health concerns.

Fortunately, the laws in Türkiye allow newborns to be registered up to two years after birth, even in the case of home deliveries. After receiving her baby's birth certificate and all mandatory vaccines, Alma was also referred to the proper authorities and partner organisations to complete her own registration and receive financial aid.

"I'm incredibly relieved," said Alma. "The sadness I felt as a result of my baby's situation made me ignore my own health, which I realised was wrong. I am so glad that I found my way to this Safe Space and I'm grateful to all the support I've received."

THE SUPPORT I RECEIVED AT THE SAFE SPACE SIMPLY CHANGED THE COURSE OF MY LIFE.

– BANA, a Syrian woman living in Turkey



LEBANON COUNTRY OFFICE

UNFPA CONTINUES TO ADAPT ITS PROGRAMMES TO PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING SERVICES TO PEOPLE IN NEED, WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN AND GIRLS.

81,077

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

100% FEMALE

11,658

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

30,318

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

91% FEMALE

4,263

LGBTQI+ INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS SERVICES

3,455

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

3,091

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

98% FEMALE

1,966

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

100% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	8,733	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	959	100%
Post-natal care consultations	4,121	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	1,853	100%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	34,273	100%
People provided with GBV case management	365	96%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	9,726	84%
People trained on GBV-related topics	1,216	96%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	22	100%



15

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES



8

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



7

MOBILE CLINICS

IN LEBANON, CONVERGING CHALLENGES CONTINUE TO PLACE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK.

AS PEOPLE IN LEBANON CONTINUE TO SUFFER SEVERE INFLATION AND POLITICAL DEADLOCK, UNFPA IS COMMITTED TO SAFEGUARDING THE LIVES AND WELL-BEING OF THOSE MOST VULNERABLE.

Lebanon is facing a multitude of challenges, including inflation, political deadlock, and a deteriorating public health system. The country's food insecurity has been exacerbated by the destruction of its strategic wheat reserves during the Beirut port explosion and its heavy reliance on imports from Ukraine and Russia. The depreciation of the Lebanese pound has further contributed to skyrocketing prices of food and staples, which reached as high as 332 percent according to the World Bank. Lebanon is also grappling with political instability as the parliament reached another deadlock, failing to elect a president for the sixth time.

UNFPA continues to respond to these challenges by tailoring programmes to address the most pressing gaps and ensuring that women and girls in need have access to quality sexual and reproductive health services as well as protection from gender-based violence, the risks of which become significantly higher during emergencies. UNFPA is also working with partners to continually build the capacities of their staff, including midwives, nurses, social workers, and other health workers. Additionally, UNFPA continues to promote effective SRH-GBV integration, ensuring that safe, confidential referral pathways are consistently maintained and used.

In November, UNFPA continued supporting vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugees in Bekaa, Beirut, and Mount Lebanon through the provision of specialised GBV services, including case management and psychosocial support. In addition, UNFPA continued to engage communities in these areas with awareness sessions on GBV-related issues and distributed dignity kits to participating women and girls.

All of these were provided as part of an inclusive response that is particularly conscious to the needs of vulnerable population segments, including LGBTQI+

individuals and persons with disabilities. Other interventions also targeted community leaders in Tripoli and Bekaa to promote social and behavioural change, with a focus on municipalities, religious leaders, and boys/men networks.

In an increasingly challenging environment, UNFPA supports efforts to deliver much-needed care to older women in need

Before the crisis in Syria, Ghada was known as a strong and determined woman who fearlessly fought for her family. She had married young and had four children with her husband, who abandoned the family shortly before the war broke out.

'I was determined to give my children the best life possible, despite the challenges we faced'

After her husband's departure, Ghada was devastated but refused to give up. "I knew that I had to be strong for my children. I did everything I could to provide for them and keep them safe. I worked long hours as a seamstress, using my skills to make and sell clothes in Syria. I was determined to give them the best life possible, despite the challenges we faced."

As the years passed, the situation in Syria only grew worse. Ghada knew that she had to take action to protect her family, and so she made the difficult decision to seek refuge in Lebanon.

It was an arduous journey, made even more challenging by the difficulties of finding work in Lebanon. "I was willing to do anything to provide for my family but nobody hired me. I had kind neighbours who always tried to support me with cash and food, but finding work proved virtually impossible."

As time passed, her children grew up and started families of their own. "Two of my children got married and one of them is living with me. He works as a personal trainer in a gym and tries his best to provide for us."

At age 65, Ghada's prospects keep shrinking, particularly as the economic situation in Lebanon grows more dire by the day. "This year has been the hardest for me, especially after the passing of my mother a few months back. It devastated me. The economic crisis in the country also destroyed our ability to cover our basic needs, to the extent that I put off visits to the doctor even when I am in desperate need just to save on the expenses."

Recently, Ghada was visited at home by a group of young trainees who provide companionship and health support to elderly women in need as part of a UNFPA-supported programme. The initiative, born

out of a growing need for interventions targeting older, economically challenged people, brings young and old people together to help mitigate some of these challenges, and has proven immensely beneficial to those who have been hit the hardest by inflation and recession.

'This year has been the hardest for me, especially after the passing of my mother'

"These visits have been incredible," reflects Ghada. "I can now use what little cash I have to pay for food, rent, and other essentials. I'm also enjoying meeting other people my age, having good conversations and listening to nostalgic music. They're taking care of us and helping us cover our most urgent needs."



THE SUPPORT I RECEIVED AT THE SAFE SPACE SIMPLY CHANGED THE COURSE OF MY LIFE.

— GHADA, a Syrian woman living in Lebanon



JORDAN COUNTRY OFFICE

WITH 1.3 MILLION SYRIANS NATIONWIDE, UNFPA IN JORDAN CONTINUES TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES NATIONWIDE.

97,771

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

99% FEMALE

1,533

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

98% FEMALE

58,557

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

87% FEMALE

9,119

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

8,811

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

62% FEMALE

458

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

76% FEMALE

233

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH CASH & VOUCHER ASSISTANCE

100% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	15,564	100%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	1,165	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	30,650	100%
Post-natal care consultations	4,106	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	153	99%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People provided with GBV case management	2,068	93%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	28,959	83%
People trained on GBV-related topics	129	91%

YOUTH SERVICES

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People trained on youth-related topics	176	44%



16

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES



19

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



1

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITY



1

YOUTH CENTRE



1

MOBILE CLINIC

“ I FELL TO THE FLOOR AND BURST INTO TEARS, AND I SIMPLY RECALL MYSELF PLEADING FOR PROTECTION. THE ANXIETY HAD REACHED SUCH DEEP LEVELS THAT IT MADE ME FEEL OVERWHELMED.

– SALMA, who recently received gender-based violence support at a UNFPA-supported facility in Jordan

IRAQ COUNTRY OFFICE

IN IRAQ, UNFPA CONTINUES TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SUPPORT TO MORE THAN 316,000 SYRIAN REFUGEES AS 1.2 MILLION PEOPLE REMAIN DISPLACED NATIONWIDE.

13,365

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

100% FEMALE

353

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH VARIOUS SERVICES

99% FEMALE

3,163

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

91% FEMALE

1,453

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

356

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

49% FEMALE

86

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

65% FEMALE

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	16,263	100%
Normal and assisted vaginal deliveries	412	100%
C-Sections	104	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	14,315	100%
Post-natal care consultations	3,542	100%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	343	100%
People provided with GBV case management	121	100%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	17,582	84%
People trained on GBV-related topics	2	100%



9

PRIMARY HEALTHCARE FACILITIES



9

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES



1

EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE FACILITY



1

YOUTH CENTRE



1

GBV MOBILE TEAM

Despite three years of relative stability and an ongoing transition from a humanitarian emergency response toward one rooted in recovery and development plans, displaced populations in Iraq continue to have humanitarian needs.

The socio-economic situation remains fragile despite an expansion in the government's fiscal space. Furthermore, the political and security environment remains unpredictable. Iraq generously hosts over 300,000 refugees and asylum-seekers, mostly Syrians (over 260,000) residing in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), with limited immediate prospects for return. Over 60 percent of Syrian refugees reside in urban areas, while the rest reside in nine refugee camps and one transit centre.

Moreover, some 1.2 million Iraqis remain internally displaced, while five million have returned. Around 180,000 people are currently living in 26 camps for internally displaced persons, 25 of which are located in KRI and one – Jeddah 5 – in Federal Iraq. Many families continue to face security and protection risks, lack of local integration opportunities, limited livelihood opportunities in areas of displacement and return, and lack of civil documentation. Many face significant barriers to return, especially those with a perceived affiliation to extremist groups.

In line with the humanitarian community's transition efforts, interventions are aimed at enhancing displaced populations' self-reliance and socio-economic inclusion in public systems and development programmes. Support is also provided to public institutions to deliver basic services to all populations affected by forced displacement and vulnerable host communities.

UNFPA Iraq CO continues to provide sexual and reproductive health services in refugee camps through experienced and professional medical staff. Reproductive health services include antenatal care, family planning consultation, postnatal care, gynaecological consultations, and referral pathways to secondary hospitals for normal delivery, caesarian sections, and complication cases.

UNFPA also continues to provide services designed to prevent and respond to gender-based violence, including awareness-raising sessions, case management, referrals, follow-ups, training programmes for adolescent girls, male engagement sessions, and vocational/recreational activities.

Moreover, in an effort to scale up its efforts to empower women and girls, UNFPA is launching sustainable livelihood programmes designed to assist the most vulnerable unemployed women and girls who live without shelter, food, and other basic living necessities. UNFPA aims to provide women and girls with the resources they need to earn their way out of poverty, build better lives for themselves and their families, and exercise greater agency over their lives and choices.

EGYPT COUNTRY OFFICE

UNFPA EGYPT CONTINUES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE COUNTRY, WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN AND GIRLS.

178,809

PEOPLE REACHED WITH REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

100% FEMALE

1,354

PEOPLE TRAINED ON VARIOUS TOPICS

93% FEMALE

9,069

PEOPLE REACHED WITH GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE SERVICES

94% FEMALE



10

WOMEN AND GIRLS SAFE SPACES

81

YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGED THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

100% FEMALE



8

MOBILE CLINIC

21

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REACHED WITH SPECIALISED SERVICES

90% FEMALE

1,565

ADOLESCENT GIRLS SUPPORTED THROUGH VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
Family planning consultations	357,639	100%
Ante-natal care consultations	709	100%
People trained on SRH-related topics	1,354	93%

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

	TOTAL	% FEMALE
People reached with dignity kits	199	100%
People provided with GBV case management	946	94%
People reached with GBV awareness messages	2,740	94%

'I became stronger over time'

Growing up, Hager did not have the nurturing environment she'd yearned for.

As a younger adolescent, the 19 year-old suffered continuous physical and verbal violence by her parents, which created deep, lasting traumas that continue to this day. The rift that has grown between her and her family contributes to the sadness and anxiety she frequently experiences, all the while depriving her of a support network to help her take on life's many challenges.

When Hager visited the UNFPA-supported Safe Space, she quickly found the kind of support she had been seeking. A friend had encouraged her to go, as she'd been experiencing consistent harassment and abuse online, which further compounded her anxiety. After an initial consultation, the case management team suggested that she begin attending the theatre training sessions offered at the Safe Space, which would give her a much-needed, creative outlet for her thoughts and experiences.

Theatre was the perfect fit for Hager, becoming part of her regular routine and allowing her to express herself with neither shame nor inhibition. As she became engrossed in the experience, she also participated in a variety of programmes offered at the space, including yoga classes, dance therapy, and group support.

"I became stronger over time," reflects Hager. "I finally found the courage to talk to my parents about how their behaviour affected me negatively and asked them to support me and my siblings. Now, I have the insight to build better communication with my family, friends, and peers. I'm calmer and able to handle the obstacles in my life with ease and mindfulness, thanks to the support I found here in the Safe Space."



COORDINATION UPDATES

UNFPA CONTINUES TO LEAD THE GBV AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY, ENSURING THAT MINIMUM STANDARDS ARE IN PLACE TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES.

Whole of Syria

In the framework of the Whole of Syria Humanitarian Programme Cycle, the Whole of Syria GBV AoR reviewed its logframe and the coordination team engaged with other Whole of Syria humanitarian sectors (including Food Security and Agriculture, WASH, Health, Education and Nutrition food security and agriculture, WASH, health, education, and nutrition) to support them in mainstreaming GBV risk mitigation measures throughout their humanitarian response plan. The collaboration also aimed at reviewing HNO and sectoral assessments' findings to analyse how sectoral interventions contribute to GBV and the operational and programmatic risks associated with each sector. The collaboration has been operationalized and translated into concrete activities, indicators, and measurements that are now part of the HRP intersectoral section.

The Whole of Syria GBV team also worked on the second draft of the *Voices from Syria 2023* report and on the Whole of Syria [GBV Advocacy Brief](#) to support donors, GBV actors, and other humanitarian actors in their advocacy and programming.

Meanwhile, the process of adapting the Awareness Raising Toolkit in Iraq was initiated at the beginning of November. Over the course of the month, the Hub and the Iraq GBV Sub Cluster coordinators, with the support of a consultant, carried out four group consultations, gathered feedback through an online survey, and developed a draft toolkit. The group consultation targeted both local and international organisations working on GBV awareness raising in Iraq, and the main outcome was the need to incorporate technology-facilitated GBV as a new topic within the toolkit. A five-day training workshop was planned for December.

The Hub also continues to develop knowledge products on various key thematic areas. In November, The Hub finalised a new advocacy brief – *One Step Closer* – to underscore the importance of transportation in facilitating women and girls' access to GBV and SRH services.

Meanwhile, work continues on a knowledge product focusing on the rights and challenges of LGBTQI+ individuals. During November, a consultant conducted key informant interviews and focus group discussions with UNFPA and GBV organisations working in Lebanon, Turkey, and Jordan as part of the data gathering to inform this knowledge product. Additionally, the Hub supported the GBV Subcluster in Libya to initiate a GBV assessment, mostly based on qualitative data, based on the *Voices from Syria* experience. The research tools were revised and contextualised, and two on-line trainings organised for facilitators and notetakers. The focus group discussions are being conducted and translated in preparation for the analysis and writing of a *Voices from Libya* report in early 2023.

Türkiye

In November, the National Protection Working Group partners prepared the work plan for 2023, in addition to finalising and disseminating the Turkish version of the inter-agency social cohesion toolkit, which builds on existing international literature and analyses to provide practical recommendations on the design and monitoring of social cohesion interventions in Türkiye.

Meanwhile, during the Southeast Türkiye Thematic Coordination Group Meeting in Gaziantep, partners discussed the work plan activities for 2023 and identified the following topics as key priorities: accommodation, basic needs, third country resettlement, GBV, social cohesion, access to livelihoods, access to education, psychosocial support, and food security. Discussions also centered on the need for strengthening collaboration with partners in other sectors to mainstream the needs of key refugee groups (KRG).

During the Istanbul KRG Thematic Coordination Group meeting, UNFPA contributed to the organisation of a workshop designed to strengthen the capacity of partner organisations on protection risk analysis and case interventions for key refugee groups. Several protection cases and interventions were studied and gaps in service mapping and available programming were discussed. The workshop aimed to complement the documentation around assessment of key refugee group cases and GBV risk matrices available.

Meanwhile, the partners in the Syria Task Team discussed the progress of the 3RP Planning Process. It was announced that consultations with local and national civil society organisations were initiated, with a report outlining key findings currently in development, together with a desk review report synthesising over 20 assessments and studies done by various organisations.



AFTER LOSING YEARS OF MY LIFE AND EVERYTHING THAT WAS PRECIOUS TO ME, FINDING THIS SAFE SPACE ALLOWED ME TO FIND HOPE AGAIN.

– RIMA, a Syrian refugee who accessed gender-based violence programming at a UNFPA-supported Safe Space



DONORS & PARTNERS

CURRENT DONORS

Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, The European Commission, Finland, France, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), and the US Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM).

United Nations: OCHA/CERF, UNDP, SCHF, and UNFPA Emergency Funds.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

In Syria: (MOH) Ministry of Health, (MOHE) Ministry of Higher Education, (Mosaic) for Human Relief & Dev., (ICDA) Ihsan Charity Development Association, (NFRD) Nour Foundation for Relief and Development, (SSSD) Syrian Society for Social Development, (Al Tamayouz) Altamayouz for Orphan Sponsorship, (SFPA) Syrian Family Planning Association, (Yamama) Syria Al-Yamama, (Agha Khan) Agha Khan Foundation, (ASSLS) Amelioration of Sanitary and Social Level Society, (CCA) Circassian Charity Association, (Ghiras) Ghiras Ass. for Development, (PACA) Pan Arminian Charity Association, (Sham) Al-Sham Association for Health, (BSWH) Al Bir & Social Welfare Hama, (SARC) Syrian Arab Red Crescent, (SCFAP) Syrian Commission for Family Affairs and Population, (MAC) Mar Asia, (PRCS) The Palestine Red Crescent Society, (IECD) European Institute of Cooperation and Development, (Sanad) Sanad team for development, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, and WFP.

In Lebanon: Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW), AMEL Association, Lebanese Order of Midwives (LOM), AKKAROUNA, SIDC, Terre Des Hommes (TDHs), SALAMA, LECORVAW, CARITAS, CONCERN, NABAD, ABAAD, MAKASSED, Imam Sadr Foundation (ISF), INTERSOS.

In Jordan: Institute for Family Health (IFH), Ministry of Health (MOH), Society Aid Health Jordanian (JHAS), Jordanian Women's Union (JWU), the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA), National Women's Health Care Centre (NWHCC), Questscope, Higher Population Council (HPC), Generations for Peace (GFP), Health Care Accreditation Counsel (HCAC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Royal Health Awareness Society (RHAS), the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW), and Save the Children Jordan.

In Iraq: AL Massela, Harika, Zhian and Civil Development Organisation.

In Egypt: UNHCR, Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP), Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), Etijah, and CARE Egypt Foundation.

In Türkiye: ASAM (Association for Solidarity with Asylum Seekers and Migrants); KAMER (Women's Centre Foundation); Eskisehir Osmangazi University; Harran University; YAHA (Youth Approaches to Health Association); PLA (Positive Living Association); Red Umbrella Sexual Health and Human Rights Association. For the service units that are under direct implementation, UNFPA is collaborating with Ankara Municipality, Sanliurfa Municipality and RASAS (Refugees and Asylum Seekers Assistance and Solidarity Association).

Türkiye Cross-Border: International Rescue Committee (IRC), Relief International (RI), Shafak, Syrian American Medical Society (SAMS), Ihsan for Relief and Development (IhsanRD), and their sub-implementing partners Women Support Association (IhsanRD), Hope Revival Organization (IRC), Relief Experts Association- UDER (IRC) and Syria Relief and Development (Relief International).

DEVELOPED BY THE
UNFPA REGIONAL
HUMANITARIAN HUB FOR
SYRIA & THE ARAB STATES



THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES BEING DELIVERED TO SYRIANS REGION-WIDE WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Jennifer Miquel
Regional Humanitarian Hub for Syria &
the Arab States
miquel@unfpa.org
(962) 79 575 6755

RELEVANT RESOURCES

www.unfpa.org
www.ocha.org
www.unhcr.org
<http://Syria.humanitarianresponse.info>

