

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

DURING AUGUST 2016

UNFPA Turkey, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, has supported six new health facilities, raising the number of UNFPA-supported health facilities to 23.

UNFPA Turkey opened three new women and girls safe spaces (WGSS), raising the total number of WGSS from 20 to 23.

UNFPA Egypt opened two new WGSS in Cairo, raising the total number of WGSS to four.



UNFPA maternity clinic in Domiz helps pregnant refugees have safe delivery

More than one year after delivering her first baby girl at the UNFPA maternity clinic in Domiz, a refugee camp in northern Iraq, Syrian Vian Mustapha is still a regular visitor to the facility and is currently considering having her second baby.

Mustapha met her husband in the same camp in 2014 after fleeing her home town in Qameshly, Syria, and got pregnant in that same year.

"The first pregnancy is not as easy as I thought, and some people around were advising me to go to hospital instead of coming to the clinic in the camp," said the 27-year old mother, while holding her baby in the clinic.

However, "I insisted on coming here to the clinic from the first month of my pregnancy, until I gave birth, which I did in the clinic," said Mustapha.

For Mustapha, having a clinic in the camp makes it easy for pregnant women residing in the camp to seek medical consultancy and checkups, but more importantly to access quality services.

"I felt safe here more than going to the hospital and seeing a different doctor or nurse each time I go," she explained, adding that since delivering her baby Goleh on March 27, 2015 she kept visiting the clinic regularly.

"Even if I get pregnant again, I will come here".

Mustapha was one of 2,348 women who gave birth in Domiz women's clinic, which has been supported by UNFPA over the past 20 months, according to Lava Abdul Rahman, a gynecologist at the UNFPA maternity clinic in Domiz. The UNFPA clinic was established when the Domiz Camp was set up in 2012.

Doctor Abdul Rahman, who is also a Syrian refugee in Duhok, which hosts 25,690 Syrians including 12,769 female refugees, said that in 2014 as many as 30 and 35 pregnant women came to the clinic each day for antenatal care.

"Although I used to run my own clinic in Syria, here the situation is different... More challenging to deal with such number a day, but I gained more experience, and feel more satisfied to help women have safe deliveries even when they are in refuge," explained Abdul Rahman.

"Now, the number of cases has dropped to an average of 25 patients per day," said Abdul Rahman, noting that the reason is due to a drop in number of pregnancies in the camp.

"Dozens of men emigrated to Europe last year, leaving their families here with the hope that they would be able to reunite soon... and this is one of the reasons for the drop in number of pregnancy cases visiting the clinic," she noted. Currently there are 6,423 women of reproductive health age in the camp.

The type of services that women are seeking has changed over the past few months according to Abdul Rahman. Although they still seek antenatal and postnatal care, in addition to medical checkups during pregnancy, there is a drop in number of those who come for family planning related services.

In addition, she said newlywed women also visit the clinic for consultations on pregnancy and attend the lectures organized at the clinic. To benefit women in the camp even more, Abdul Rahman said, a new registrar was introduced to register women who undergo breast cancer screening and classify cases based on their situation.

Source: UNFPA Iraq

Syrian Arab Republic from all channels

238,250 reproductive health services delivered to Syrians

17,868 deliveries supported, including 7,093 C-section deliveries

6,427 gender-based violence response services provided to Syrians

4,370 women accessed women safe spaces.



In neighbouring countries affected by the crisis

35,396 reproductive health services delivered to Syrian refugees

6,363 Syrian refugees benefited from family planning services and consultations

1,762 beneficiaries received gender-based violence services

10,690 Syrian refugees accessed women safe spaces and participated in activities in camps and host communities

3,741 Syrian refugees reached with gender-based violence related messages

3,917 dignity kits distributed.

UNFPA MISSION:

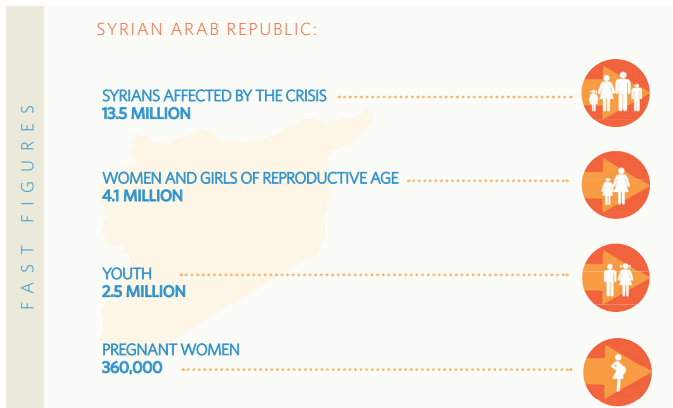
UNFPA believes that every Syrian woman and girl has the right to have access to affordable reproductive health care and be effectively protected from gender-based violence. UNFPA and partners are scaling up efforts to empower and improve the lives of Syrian women and youth and impacted communities inside Syria and in host countries, including by advocating for human rights and gender equality, to better cope with and recover from the crisis.

UNFPA: Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.



HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FROM ALL CHANNELS



SOURCES: UNHCR, OCHA and UNFPA May 2016

UNFPA RESPONSE IN SYRIA

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFE MOTHERHOOD

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

- 210,291** reproductive health services
- 9,359 normal deliveries
 - 6,535 C- section deliveries
 - 1,521 pregnancies under 18
 - 11,392 ante-natal care services
 - 8,658 family planning beneficiaries

OTHER RH SERVICES: **56,990** beneficiaries

RH KITS: **200** beneficiaries

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

RESPONSE SERVICES: **3,667** women and girls

WOMEN ACCESSING SAFE SPACES: **4,370** women and girls

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES: **11,818** beneficiaries

UNFPA-SUPPORTED FACILITIES IN SYRIA



Number of women's spaces

18



Number of field reproductive health clinics or mobile teams

50



Number of health facilities

930

RESPONSE THROUGH CROSS-BORDER MODALITY

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFE MOTHERHOOD

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

19,753 beneficiaries received services in the northern part of Syria:

- 674 normal deliveries
- 164 C-section deliveries
- 451 pregnancies under 18
- 5,443 ante-natal care services
- 300 post-natal care services
- 5,160 family planning services

8,206 beneficiaries received services in the southern part of Syria:

- 742 safe deliveries
- 394 C-sections
- 318 pregnancies under 18
- 1,936 ante-natal care services
- 700 post-natal care services
- 911 family planning services

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

6,706 women reached through outreach activities in the northern part of Syria.

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

RESPONSE SERVICES

2,351 beneficiaries received gender-based violence services in the northern part of Syria

409 beneficiaries received gender-based violence services in the southern part of Syria

GBV AWARENESS & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

2,198 Syrians benefited from awareness and outreach activities in the northern part of Syria

243 Syrians beneficiaries from outreach activities in the southern part of Syria

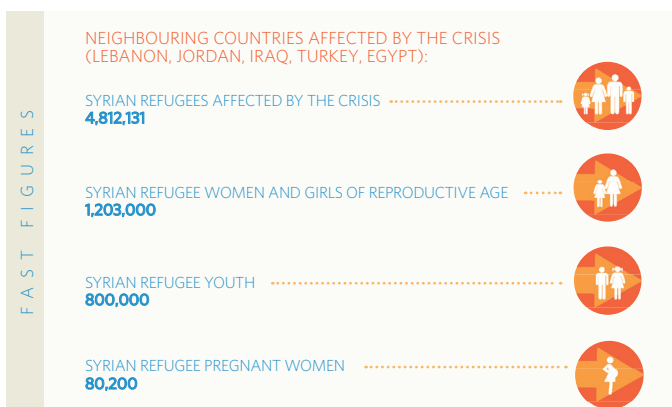
TRAINING

25 participants in the southern part of Syria

"Every day, more people are forced to leave Syria due to the conflict there. They hope to find a safe place to live in with their families without fear of losing their lives. Upon their arrival, those who fled to Turkey lack information about access to education, health and even about Turkish regulations related to the Syrian refugee. Therefore, the IMPR Humanitarian women community center has increased the legal counseling sessions regarding the scholarship and work permit for Syrians Turkey." IMPR (UNFPA partner NGO)

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY THE CRISIS



SOURCES: UNHCR, OCHA and UNFPA



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFE MOTHERHOOD

TURKEY	
SERVICES	15,616 services for Syrian beneficiaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 384 ante-natal care services 2,541 family planning services 52 pregnancies for women under 18
AWARENESS SESSIONS	4,777 Syrian beneficiaries
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	687 services
SUPPLIES	360 Syrians benefited from RH kits

LEBANON	
SERVICES	944 reproductive health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 89 family planning service

JORDAN	
SERVICES	13,946 reproductive health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 238 normal deliveries 29 C-section deliveries 54 pregnancies under 18 1,420 family planning services 3,713 ante-natal care services 539 post-natal care services
AWARENESS SESSIONS	2,227 beneficiaries in camps and in host communities

IRAQ	
SERVICES	4,890 reproductive health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 183 normal deliveries 49 C-sections 2,213 family planning services 783 ante-natal care services



GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

TURKEY	
SERVICES TO SURVIVORS	154 services
WOMEN AND GIRLS ACCESSING SAFE SPACES	5,113 Syrian beneficiaries
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	778 Syrian beneficiaries
SUPPLIES	3,398 dignity kits distributed 2,550 brochures on GBV distributed
TRAINING	82 participants

LEBANON	
RESPONSE SERVICES	259 services
WOMEN AND GIRLS ACCESSING SAFE SPACES	300 Syrian beneficiaries
SUPPLIES	519 dignity kits distributed

JORDAN	
RESPONSE SERVICES	1,349 services
WOMEN AND GIRLS ACCESSING SAFE SPACES	4,079 Syrian beneficiaries
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	1,246 Syrian beneficiaries
TRAINING	22 participants

EGYPT	
WOMEN AND GIRLS ACCESSING SAFE SPACES	558 Syrian beneficiaries
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	942 Syrian beneficiaries
TRAINING	45 participants



GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

IRAQ	
WOMEN AND GIRLS ACCESSING SAFE SPACES	508 Syrian beneficiaries
OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	256 Syrian beneficiaries
TRAINING	256 participants



SUPPORTING ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH

JORDAN	
ACTIVITIES	1,101 Syrian and Jordanian young people

LEBANON	
ACTIVITIES	547 Syrian young people

TURKEY	
ACTIVITIES	824 Syrian young people

IRAQ	
ACTIVITIES	469 Syrian young people

STORIES FROM SYRIA



Massimo Diana, UNFPA-Syria representative, addresses young Syrians in an event on youth empowerment. Photo credit: UNFPA Syria

On International Youth Day, UNFPA organised a two-day event to observe the annually celebrated day.

The event was conducted at Damascus University, in collaboration with the Syrian Computer Society (SCS), TEDxYouth@Jahez Team and the Y-PEER network.

During the event, 81 young people, brainstormed challenges that youth face in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and discussed how they, as key stakeholders, can contribute to making the world a better place.

In the first day of the event, facilitators introduced the SDGs. The second day started with an introductory session on TED and TEDxYouth@Jahez accomplishments. A short video on "How to manage for collective creativity" was screened.

Y-PEER Syria members performed two sketches during the celebration. On the first day, they introduced the linkage between global goals through an interactive theater performance. The concept of volunteerism was also highlighted during the workshop.

In an attempt to build bridges between people from the international community and local youngsters, a panel of United Nations staff was created. They shared different experiences. "The Syrian community has proved their resilience through tough times. They must expand on their capabilities to make greater things," Thawra from UNICEF said.

UNFPA-SUPPORTED FACILITIES



Number of women's spaces

61

Lebanon
5
Jordan
19
Iraq
10
Egypt
4
Turkey
23



Number of field reproductive health clinics or mobile teams

86

Jordan
24
(14 in host communities, 10 in camps)
Iraq
25
(12 in camps, 13 in host communities)
Egypt
12
Turkey
23
Lebanon
2



Number of youth centres and safe spaces

25

Lebanon
5
Jordan
11
Iraq
3
Egypt
4
Turkey
2

STORIES

JORDAN



Awareness-raising session conducted at the UNFPA-supported centre in Irbid. Credit: JWU

Roqaiyah breaks her silence

Roqaiyah, a 32-year old Syrian refugee, was referred to the UNFPA-supported women and girls comprehensive centre in Azraq camp by her neighbour. Three months ago, the neighbour informed the International Medical Corps (IMC), one of UNFPA partners, that Roqaiyah rarely leaves her shelter and did not talk to anyone.

The neighbour said that she met Roqaiyah once near one of the camp's bathrooms and she was very sad and depressed. Thus, she suggested to the IMC team to visit Roqaiyah without sharing who had informed IMC. The IMC team conducted a home visit and met her and informed her about services provided at the UNFPA/IMC women and girls centre.

Roqaiyah was very depressed; she started talking about what happened with her in Syria and her daughter who was burned and died and how she delivered under the attack. She was very sad and unsettled because she had no family in the camp to support her. Roqaiyah said she could not even leave her shelter because she has no clothes, and her only outfit got torn and she could afford to buy new clothes.

The case manager informed her about available volunteer vacancies with stipends in the camp, and encouraged her husband to fill out job applications. Roqaiyah showed interest in attending the sessions provided at the centre by the protection psychologist. She then took individual sessions, which had a positive effect then and started attending other recreational activities at the centre. After sometime, her husband was signed on as a volunteer with an NGO working in the camp.

Roqaiyah also managed to build friendships with those she met in the centre. In her last session, Roqaiyah said: "I was so lucky to meet the women and girls centre team, who were very supportive to me."

UNFPA, with the support from the government of Japan, has implemented a project in Jordan to ensure that life-saving services are available and used by refugees living in Azraq camp, with a focus on women and girls. This project complements existing health and psychosocial interventions by establishing a sexual and reproductive health (SRH) unit in the primary healthcare facilities and the women and girls' safe spaces in Azraq camp, providing essential SRH services in addition to ensuring comprehensive care for survivors of GBV. UNFPA also provides community outreach and education under this programme.



A recreational painting activity was organised at the UNFPA-supported women and girls comprehensive centre in Irbid, Jordan. Credit: IFH

TURKEY

Fadwa's story

When Fadwa and her family fled the war in Syria and sought refuge in Turkey four years ago, her husband tried to look for a job, but he was unable to find one. The father of four became desperate and this affected the manner he treated his wife and children and they became subject to verbal and physical assault.

After three years of continuous assault Fadwa, heard about services provided by UNFPA and its partner NGOs to help survivors of gender-based violence.

The 38-year-old woman visited IMPR humanitarian women's community centre and talked to the centre's team about her situation.

Fadwa's two daughters were also suffering. She was advised by the centre's team to bring her daughters and she did so.

After several psychosocial support sessions in the centre and also the efforts to counsel the father, the mother and her daughters said they feel better.

Fadwa benefited also from other recreational activities provided in the centre and even the reproductive health services.

"Our life has changed positively after coming to the community centre," said Fadwa.

She added that her daughters have a happier social life because they managed to make friends at the children's space in the centre.



One of the outdoor activities organised by IMPR women's community centre. Photo credit: UNFPA Turkey



During one of the peer education sessions organised at Diyar Baker youth centre. Photo credit: UNFPA Turkey

UNFPA Turkey opened three new Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS), raising the total number of WGSS from 20 to 23.

COORDINATION & CAPACITY BUILDING

TURKEY

The sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) working group meeting took place in Ankara with the participation of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, UNHCR, UNFPA and AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Authority). The latest version of standard operating procedures (SOPs) on SGBV was presented to the participants at the Ankara SGBV Sub-working group in Turkish.

UNFPA attended the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies' Protection meeting in Şanlıurfa.

UNFPA conducted the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) training for health service providers and social workers in Adana with Turkish and Syrian participants.

TURKEY- Cross Borders



A baby born in one of the UNFPA-supported hospitals in Aleppo.

The GBV sub-cluster conducted a training on GBV psychosocial support (PSS) and a training of trainers on the SOPs.

UNFPA contributed to a guidance paper for the key protection considerations in the provision of humanitarian assistance for the Syrian city of Manbij.

UNFPA organised a two-day workshop that targeted 21 medical workers to agree on how to enhance midwifery skills.

LEBANON



Youth peers posing near their art work conveying the goals to 2030 in the village of Qab Elias, Bekaa, Lebanon, on International Youth day - Photo credit SAWA for Development and Aid

UNFPA chaired a clinical management of rape (CMR) task force meeting where a mapping of facilities with staff trained in CMR and the convening of a national consultative meeting on CMR were discussed.

UNFPA chaired the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) working group meeting where updates were provided on the family planning counseling manual and on the number of home deliveries identified by the Medair organisation. SRH-related information, education and communications materials were also presented.

UNFPA with the Ministry of Social Affairs co-chaired the national monthly SGBV task force meeting where the level of funding, achievements against inter-agency targets and 2016 priorities were revised. In addition, the meeting discussed the timeline and modalities of the sectorial development of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017-2020.



Men during an outreach session on the risks of early marriage in Chouf, Lebanon-Photo credit: INTERSOS

"We should teach our daughters to say NO when it comes to harassment!", said Abou Alaa -from the partner organisation INTERSOS in Lebanon.

"I learned a lot from this peer-to-peer training. I will transfer this knowledge to my community", said Ahmed- from the partner organisation SAWA in Lebanon.

JORDAN

UNFPA participated in the USAID health partner meeting as part of joint collaboration between the Ministry of Health, United Nations agencies and implementing partners. The meeting reviewed the USAID health sector strategy and the upcoming work plan development process for 2017.

UNFPA continued to co-chair the youth task force in Za'atari refugee camp.



Youth activity conducted at the UNFPA-supported youth centre in Za'atari camp in conjunction with World Population Day. Credit: Questscope

CHALLENGES

TURKEY

Economic problems faced by Syrian refugees still hinder them from reaching or participating in activities.

The security threat outside the borders of Turkey has had an indirect negative impact on the on-going programme.

The language barrier is still limiting access to some of the services especially in the field of health (lack of Arabic speaking psychologists, social workers, doctors, etc.).

JORDAN- Cross Border

While the border has re-opened for the transport of supplies and commodities, it remains closed to personnel. This barrier prevents UNFPA and its partners from bringing medical personnel to Jordan to receive training.

IRAQ

There is a continuing lack of resources to sustain the on-going programmes.

“The training I received in Domiz youth centre helped me develop my skills and find a job... It changed my life”, said Rai Rebaz, a Syrian refugee who took part in several training courses held at the UNFPA-supported youth centre in Domiz camp for Syrian refugees in Iraq.

EGYPT

New Syrian refugees enter Egypt illegally from Sudan and are still not registered with UNHCR.

Syrian women and their families are in dire need of food, shelter and education but do not have sufficient resources. When they approach the safe spaces, they expect to find these services. The safe space workers do their best to refer them to relevant partners who offer such services, but these are not adequate to meet their needs.



Photo caption: Children sing at the opening ceremony of one of the new WGSS in Cairo. Photo credit: UNFPA Egypt

DONORS & PARTNERS

UNFPA IS GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING DONORS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE SYRIA CRISIS:

Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Norway, OCHA/CERF, Saudi Fund for Development, United States, United Kingdom, UNDP.

Private sector: MBC

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

IN SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC: Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MOSA), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE), Syrian Family Planning Association (SFPA), Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) and International Medical Corps (IMC).

IN LEBANON: Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Social Affairs, Lebanese Family Planning Association, Palestinian Red Crescent Society, Humedica, Makhzoumi Foundation, Amel Association, International Medical Corps and Caritas Lebanon, KAFA (“Enough Violence and Exploitation”), Akkarouna, INTERSOS, SHEILD, LOST, Heartland Alliance, Makassed Primary Health Care Centers, Mazloum Hospital and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

IN JORDAN: Ministry of Health (MOH), Institute for Family Health (IFH), International Medical Corps (IMC), Jordanian Health Aid Society (JHAS), Family Protection Department (FPD), Jordanian Women’s Union (JWU), Youth Peer Education Network (YPE), NCF (National Council for Family Affairs), Questscope.

IN IRAQ: Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth (MCSP), Ministry of Labor & Social Affairs (MLSA), AL Massela, START NGO and Harikar.

IN EGYPT: Ministry of Health (MOH), Resala and FARD Foundation.

IN TURKEY: The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD) of the Prime Ministry of Turkey, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), and Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Family and Social Policies (MoFSP), Harran University in Sanliurfa, NGOs including the International Middle East Peace Research Center (IMPR), KAMER, TOG, RET International, HÜKSAM, ASAM, BUHASDER.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Daniel Baker,
UNFPA Syria Regional
Response Advisor
baker@unfpa.org
+962797225829

RELEVANT RESOURCES

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

