

UN WOMEN COUNTRY OFFICE FOR JORDAN AND SYRIA

December 2013
Issue 4



Friday Notes

EDITORIAL

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the last UN Women Jordan and Syria *Fridays Notes* of 2013. This new issue covers a very intense period of activities and events over the past two months.

The recent 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign features in this December issue. This year, in order to raise awareness on violence against women in Jordan, UN Women organized the campaign in partnership with the Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) and with UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO along with a number of local and international NGOs. Joining efforts for this purpose has been, without any doubt, a very successful action with great impact.

Furthermore, I would like to highlight two other important events you will find in this issue. Firstly, the Gender Equity Seal Accreditation Ceremony in which the first nine companies within the Tourism and ICT sector of Jordan were accredited with the Gender Equity Seal making Jordan the third country in the world to have GES accredited companies. Also, the first graduation ceremony at the Women and Girls' Oasis in Zaatari Refugee Camp where 30 Syrian refugees graduated from the vocational training programme, focused on running a hairdressing business.

I hope you enjoy the reading of the *Friday Notes*. From the Country Office let us wish you a joyful holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Giuseppe Belsito
Representative
UN Women Country Office for Jordan and Syria

"We must unite. Violence against women must not be tolerated, in any form, in any context, in any circumstance, by any political leader or by any government. There can be no exceptions, no excuses and no delay." UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Inside this issue

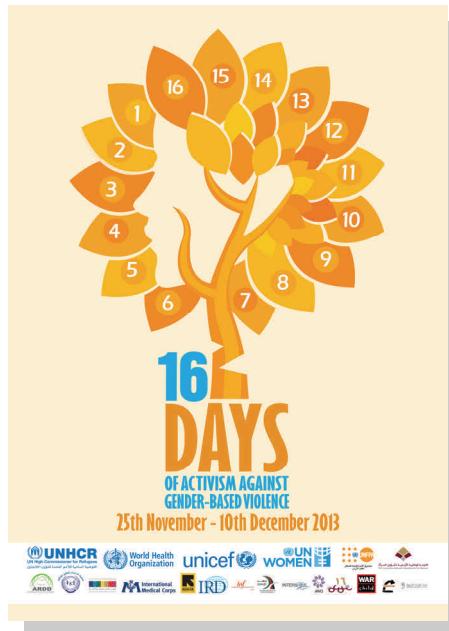
- Violence against Women Page 2
- Increasing Accountability in Financing Gender Equality Page 3
- Economic Empowerment Page 3
- Emergency Response Strategy to Syrian Crisis Page 4

Violence Against Women

Celebration of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence in Jordan

This year, the annual 16 Days of Activism against gender-based Violence Campaign, had hundreds of people gathering throughout the Kingdom.

On this occasion and in order to promote a joint UN initiative, UN Women led the campaign in partnership with the Jordanian National Commission of Women (JNCW) and UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, WHO as well as local and international partners. The Campaign was presented during a press conference which was



held at JNCW's headquarters in Amman on 24th November, with the presence of all the partners involved.

On November 25th, UN Women along with UNFPA and other partners commemorated the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women at the

Women and Girls' Oasis at Zaatari Camp in an event which has gathered more than 150 people.

16 Days of Activism against Gender violence campaign

- 1- Violence against women and girls undermines their dignity and humanity.
- 2- “real” man in every sense of the word respects women.
- 3- Let’s take a second and think about the dangers of early marriage.
- 4- ‘Those who are kind to women, are kind men, and those who humiliate women are depraved men’ (religious saying).
- 5- Let’s clean our homes and streets from harassment.
- 6- Stand up for the rights of women and girls...Don’t let them down. No to article 308 of the Penal code.
- 7- There is no honour in committing crimes.
- 8- It’s time to say no to violence...for help please call the free number 080022965.
- 9- Did you know that gender based violence has health, economic and social effects on women?
- 10- Allow women and girls to learn without fear...Say no to violence in schools and universities.
- 11- It’s everyone’s responsibility to respect and protect anyone who is being hurt.
- 12- Small arms in the household increases the threat of injury to or death of women and children.
- 13- Everyone has the right to inheritance.
- 14- Providing care for refugees and any refugees of armed conflict is a humanitarian duty.
- 15- Not all injuries are apparent.
- 16- Let’s create a workplace free from violence against women.

With the purpose to raise awareness on violence against women in Jordan, this years' Campaign was built around 16 key messages against GBV, which were introduced and discussed through different media channels every day during 16 days. A wide number of



different activities and events took place around the country within development and emergency settings.

A video of the Campaign can be checked online at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96Dxuk9JFAI&feature=youtu.be>

Increasing Accountability in Financing Gender Equality

Roundtable on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in the Arab Region

On 5th and 6th of December, the UN Women Country Office for Jordan and Syria co-organized a Roundtable meeting



on GRB in Casablanca jointly with UN Women offices in the region and the regional office.

The purpose of the event was to provide the participants and country offices, with an opportunity to ground and expand upon regional approaches that succeeded in implementing GRB.

The 50 participants had the opportunity to collectively explore how GRB tools have been or can be adapted, how they have succeeded, and how they can be improved and used elsewhere. But more importantly, the event was a good space for peer-learning drawing on the Egyptian and

Moroccan experience in implementing the GRB. The event was a good example of South-south as well as intra-Arab cooperation.

Economic Empowerment

Gender Equity Seal

UN Women celebrates the First Gender Equity Seal

Accreditation Ceremony in Jordan

On the occasion of the United Nations Day, the UN Women Country Office for Jordan and Syria held the First Gender Equity Seal Accreditation Ceremony on October 24th, under the patronage of her Royal Highness Princess Basma Bint Talal, his Excellency Minister of Labour and Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Professor Nidal Katamine and Ms. Gülden Türköz-Cosslett, Director, Programme Support Division of UN Women.

During the event, nine Jordanian companies within the ICT and Tourism sector: **Aramex, Jordan Applied University College of Hospitality and Tourism Education, Engicon, Petra Travel and Tourism, Integrated Technology Group, CrysTelCall, ESKADENIA Software, Mövenpick Resort & Spa Dead Sea and Dakkak Tours International** were accredited with the Gender Equity Seal which demonstrates their strong commitment to gender equity and their engagement to settle their policies and practices according to the GES model.

Since 2012 UN Women in Jordan is implementing the Gender Equity Seal (GES). It aims to institutionalize gender equity policies and facilitate equal opportunities for men and women in access to jobs, working conditions, as well as professional development, training, and participation in decision-making processes.



Economic Empowerment

Gender Equity Seal

UN Women signs a MOU with Ministry of Labour

UN Women and the Ministry of Labour signed on December 19th a two-year Memorandum of Understanding. The purpose of this new MOU is to provide a framework of cooperation and facilitate collaboration



between the parties to support gender equality and women empowerment in the Jordanian labour market. This is the second MOU signed by the UN Women CO with a Jordanian Ministry. The first one was signed with the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, last January.

UN Women paves the way for professional developmental networking and knowledge sharing group

The UN Women CO for Jordan and Syria paved the way for establishing a developmental network that serves as a working platform between all actors taking part in the women economic theme in Jordan. The meeting involved actors from the government, public, international and civil society entities who are all working on economically empowering women and combating the poverty problem in Jordan at societal, economic and cultural levels.

Emergency Response Strategy to Syrian Crisis in Jordan

Launching the 2014 Syria Regional Response Plan

On December 16th, the Sixth Syria Regional Response Plan (RRP6) was launched in Geneva on behalf of UN agencies and NGO'S by the Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos, and UN High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres.

The RRP6, which involves the hosting countries, Lebanon, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey and Egypt, was drafted through a broad participatory process in which UN Women Country Office for Jordan and Syria has taken part.

Specifically, the UN CO for Jordan and Syria appealed to donors for a US\$ 1.300.000 in funds, in order to expand and extend protection strategies and actions, both in the refugee and host communities in Jordan.

Inter-Agency Emergency Standard Operation Procedures for Prevention of and Response to GBV and Child Protection in Jordan

UN Women has recently endorsed the Inter-Agency SOPs that includes tools and strategies to better equip service providers to offer quality response to boys, girls, women and men affected by the Syrian crisis in Jordan. As part of this initiative UN Women will contribute to ongoing roll out and revision to the SOPs across the national and international humanitarian community.

Emergency Response Strategy to Syrian Crisis in Jordan

First Graduation Ceremony at the Women and Girls' Oasis in Zaatari Camp

Last October, a group of 30 Syrian Refugee women, part of the UN Women "Women and Girls' Oasis" in Zaatari Refugee Camp, received their graduation certificates of the vocational training programme focused on running a hairdressing business. This group of Syrian women was trained to run salons and received the equipment needed to sustain their skills and start their own hairdressing parlors.

The ceremony took place during the visit of the UN Women Director of Programme Division, Gülden Türköz-Cosslett, who actively participated in the event.

Since November 2012, UN Women has been supporting the "Women and Girls' Oasis", in the Syrian refugee camp of Zaatari, in the Governorate of Mafraq, not far from the Syrian border. A principal component of this initiative is the "cash for work" program which provides for Syrian women refugees, professional hairdressers and tailors, to work six hours a day in the workshops established for economic empowerment.



The other program component includes the establishment of a safe space for recreational, educational and psychosocial activities in the Women and Girls Oasis. This initiative allows Syrian refugee women access to a safe haven remote from the turmoil of life in Zaatari camp setting.

Visit of the Swedish Minister for International Cooperation

On the 26th of November, the Women and Girls Oasis in Zaatari Camp received a new delegation visit. On this occasion, the Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation, H.E. Ms Hillevi Engström, had the opportunity to gather and chat with Syrian women refugees and staff to learn more about their work and about UN Women projects in the camp.

Ms. Engström had a tour in the Oasis visiting the tailoring center where refugee women told her about the projects they are currently involved. Also, the Minister had the chance to stop at the hairdressing center and to be part of some of the activities running during the day.

The visit ended at the English class caravan where she gathered with female students who attend this daily workshop at the Oasis.

