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ABAAD

Resource Centre for
Gender Equality

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



ABOUT ABAAD

Founded in 2011, ABAAD – Resource Centre for Gender Equality is a UN ECOSOC-accredited organisation that aims to achieve gender equality as an essential condition to sustainable, social and economic development in the Middle East and North Africa region.

The dynamic team is comprised of dedicated activists, lawyers, consultants, social workers, volunteers, and researchers, who creatively test new approaches as part of a larger effort to achieve an equitable society, free of hegemonic masculinities and violence against women.

OUR VISION

ABAAD envisions a world in which men and women live as equitable partners and work together to secure better lives for their future and the future of the societies they live in.

OUR VALUES

Integrity
Inclusion
Equality
Transparency

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A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER



Dear readers, supporters and friends,

The year 2019 marked a turning-point for women and girls in Lebanon as they took the streets during the "October Revolution" to fight against long-persisting injustices. We cannot but applaud the bravery of the women who broke their silence despite the persistent oppression and discrimination that the patriarchal system exerts on their rights and participation in all areas of society. ABAAD stands with all women and men who strive for a better future and for true equality, and continues to work towards its mission and seek innovative solutions to the challenges before us.

Amidst a complex political, economic and humanitarian crisis, ABAAD continued to provide life-saving services and holistic assistance to women and girls survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), reaching over 24,000 women and girls, men and boys to provide GBV prevention and response services. Our Mobile Unit "Jina Al-Dar" was recognized as one of the ten most innovative solutions advancing the sustainable development goals (SDGs) at the fifth annual United Nations Summit in New York, and was also among the finalists of the UNHCR NGO Innovation Award. The strong manifestation of patriarchal societies in the region pushed us to expand the geographical scope of our work on masculinities and engaging men to eliminate GBV, as we trained more than 450 front-liners from local and regional women-led organizations and government institutions in Lebanon, Kurdistan, Tunisia, Syria and Turkey.

In our efforts to pave the way towards sustainable social development in our country, ABAAD signed a partnership agreement with Lebanon's



Ministry of Education to integrate gender perspective into the country's public-school curriculum. We set the ground for renewed and intensified action in the coming years by bringing together diverse actors and stakeholders to produce national toolkits, policies, strategies and curricula, to adequately address gender equality, GBV prevention and response and mainstreaming in the area of women, peace and security on a national level. We also expanded strategic partnerships, joined national, regional and global alliances and increased our participation in high-level platforms to leverage our position as a long-standing independent NGO, committed to elevating grassroots concerns at all costs.

In response to emerging trends and new geographical focus areas, and as we continue to build and expand our programs, ABAAD expanded internally to now have more than 160 dedicated staff members across Lebanon fighting for gender equality. I cannot but mention the loss of a dear colleague and an activist, Nadya Jouny, whose dedication towards women's causes will remain forever in our memories, steering our advocacy work for justice for women and girls.

We at ABAAD remain a strong advocate for the rights of women and girls and accountable to the people we serve.

Ghida Anani



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

PREVENTION & RESPONSE

DIRECT SERVICES

Emergency Temporary Safe Housing – “Al-Dar”

Located in three different governorates in Lebanon, ABAAD's three Emergency Safe Houses are free and temporary safe shelters for women at risk or survivors of GBV offering:

- Immediate safe-housing (24/7)
- Crisis counselling
- Emergency support and information on legal rights and court representation
- Psychosocial support / healing through art activities
- Mental healthcare
- Life skills' building activities enhancing women's employability post-exit from shelter
- Forensic medical care/ Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) services for survivors of sexual assault
- Referrals for the provision of welfare, social services, and income assistance, as needed

268

single and married women, dependent children and adolescent girls accessed the services of “Al-Dar”.

81%

of the direct beneficiaries were provided with an efficient exit plan solution.

“

I encourage every woman to speak up, raise her voice and demand her rights. I am grateful for the support I received from ABAAD, without which I would have been in a very bad place now. We as women we must acknowledge that we ourselves are capable of changing our lives for the better

Suha – 39 years old

”

The Journey of a 16 Year-Old Survivor At "Al Dar"

On July 20, 2018, ABAAD welcomed Leila (pseudonym), a 16 year-old Syrian girl, to one of its emergency temporary safe shelters. Leila, who sought asylum in 2012, was referred by the General Prosecutor in Tripoli as she constantly experienced rape, abuse and sexual exploitation by her own father. As a result, she was terribly traumatized. From the very first day, the team at "Al Dar" began to develop a tailored action plan that aims to not only preserve her wellbeing, but also enhance her self-agency, self-reliance, both financially and emotionally, especially because the "perpetrator" was detained and she did not have any supportive family members. As such, in addition to providing case management and psycho-social support services, the team involved her in life-skills building activities, such as sewing and bead making. Leila showed great commitment and capability to design and create accessories, to the extent that she started selling her products online. Only two months later, Leila left "Al Dar" and worked hard to make her small business flourish. She eventually became the breadwinner for her siblings and mother and was able to go to school and live in dignity. Leila stated that the support she received from "Al Dar" made her strong, independent and confident. She now looks forward to living a more stable and peaceful life.



Handmade products made by women at "Al Dar"

Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS)

Located at the Social Development Centres (SDCs) of the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, ABAAD's seven WGSSs provide direct GBV prevention and response services across Lebanon. ABAAD also operates four Family Support Units in different areas of Lebanon that provide holistic care for vulnerable women and girls, as well as men and boys, and offer free, confidential psychological follow-up in men's clinics.

17,913 women and girls, men and boys accessed ABAAD GBV prevention and response services through the WGSSs across Lebanon.

636 persons benefited from a total of 2,015 sessions comprising of a variety of holistic care treatment and support.

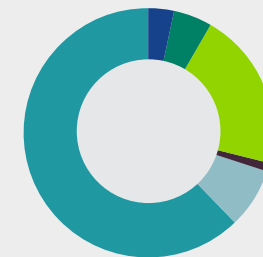
898 persons participated in community events

3,661 persons participated in psychosocial support activities

182 persons received sessions on engaging men in active positive fatherhood

1,417 persons were engaged in Basic Life Skills Program

11,119 persons went through sensitization and awareness raising sessions



From The Field

“

I was only 14 when I got married, I had two kids when I myself was still a kid. I suffered a lot during my marriage, my husband was abusive and I was raped numerous times. Getting out of this marriage was not easy as I constantly was afraid for my safety and that of my children. When I was introduced to ABAAD, I tried to benefit as much as possible from the support provided, starting with the psychological support. I then focused on enhancing my skills and signed up for a first aid course. I developed my expertise and ended up working in this field in a clinic where I live. Despite the difficulties and challenges that I faced after my divorce, I am happy to say that I am now an independent woman working to fulfill her dreams and care for her children. I hope every woman gets the help needed just as ABAAD helped me.

Zayna – 35 years old

”



Psychosocial support session

Men Centre

ABAAD's consistent community outreach through WGSS has led to an increased number of referrals for men to case management, anger and stress management, and support group sessions.

155

men and boys were served by the Men Center's qualified psychotherapists and social workers.

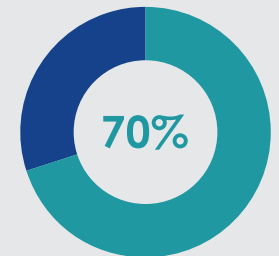
86

men received couples therapy.

ABAAD's Men Center is a safe space providing mental health and psychosocial support to men on individual, couple, family and community levels, to dispel singular and patriarchal notions of masculinity and commit to healthy, non-violent, and gender equitable behaviours upon which they can model their lives. It aims to promote human rights, gender equality and non-violent behaviors and reinforce positive familial and social relationships by offering sessions to:

- Men seeking change in their lives and behaviors
- Couples facing difficulties in their relationships
- Family members seeking to improve relationships
- Groups through emotional support therapy

According to assessments done by ABAAD's psychotherapists, more than **70%** of the ongoing cases have shown improvement when it comes to coping with stress and developing healthy ways of communication and emotional expressions.



MOBILE UNIT – “ JINA AL-DAR”

“Jina Al-Dar” is a bus touring the most marginalized areas, towns and villages in Lebanon, with a specialized team that provides services aiming to prevent and reduce all forms of GBV. The overall goal of “Jina Al-Dar” is to improve protection prospects for both refugees and host communities not only by providing life-saving services, but also empowering right holders to exercise their rights, gain full agency and fulfil their potentials as full and equal members of society.

WE LAUNCHED A WEBSITE DEDICATED TO “JINA AL-DAR”. FOLLOW THE STORIES OF THE INSPIRING PEOPLE WE MEET DURING OUR ROUNDS!

WWW.JINAALDAR.ORG



During one of ABAAD “Jina Al-Dar” Rounds

6,348

women and girls, men and boys were reached by ABAAD’s Mobile Bus and provided:

- Awareness, education and information sessions on women’s and girls’ legal, sexual reproductive and health rights.
- On-the-spot psycho-social support.
- Recreational activities and community events targeting families and children, including interactive theatre performances, puppetry, poetry nights and screenings aiming at fostering social stability.
- Referral to relevant long-term psycho-social support, legal and medical services provided by ABAAD’s Safe Spaces and Case Management Units throughout Lebanon.

Testimonies From Rightholders Participating In “Jina Al-Dar” Activities

“We now know where to go and whom to reach out to for support.”

“We needed to breathe, you created the space.”

“The topics covered in the sessions are real, they strongly reflect our reality and meet our needs”



“Jina Al-Dar” Intervention

In 2019 The “Jina Al-Dar” Programme Was:

RECOGNIZED as one of the ten most innovative solutions advancing the sustainable development goals (SDGS) at the fifth annual United Nations Summit 2019 in New York

SHORTLISTED for the UNHCR NGO Innovation Award and received the mention “Runner Up” for the Connectivity Award category

SELECTED as one of 50 top-ranked solutions by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network 2019 and featured in SDSN Youth’s 2019 Youth Solutions Report

FEATURED in Global Compact Lebanon Network’s booklet: “Zooming on SDG Trends in Lebanon” as best practice



ABAAD at the UN Solutions Summit in New York

CAPACITY BUILDING

Shifting the Stagnant Narrative of Masculinities

During 2019, ABAAD worked to bridge local and regional understandings of masculinities and provided training to front-liners working to make real change in Lebanon and the region, including Kurdistan, Tunisia, Syria and Turkey.

460 front liners from local and regional women-led organizations and government institutions, such as the Ministry of Social Affairs in Lebanon, were trained on concepts of Gender and Masculinities.



Training staff members from Green Desert organization based in Kurdistan

Strengthening the Skills of Community Members and Front Liners on GBV and Health

ABAAD aimed at strengthening the skills of peer educators (parents and young women), and trainers in the field of social and health awareness to empower communities to reduce all forms of violence and build healthy communities that respect human rights and dignity.

245 women and men from both host and refugee communities participated in Standard Operating Procedures SOPs and peer-to-peer trainings and workshops on. "Innovative Ideas for Community Projects"

What Our Participants Say

"The context in Syria is very hard, but after participating in this training I am now more motivated to approach men and challenge their resistance towards concepts of gender and toxic masculinities."

"As a female in a conservative area, it was a challenge for me to give sessions to men on the ground, but after learning the approaches and the skills of working with them in this training, I feel more confident and capable to give sessions."

The team also engaged Syrian and Palestinian refugees across Lebanon to help understand issues around masculinities and how to shift social behavior to push for gender justice in the most difficult contexts.

Training of Trainers across Lebanon on the National Self-Care Manual

The national self-care manual for front-liners is considered a guide for organizations that are interested in training their front-liners on self-care and providing them with practical tools and techniques to help them take care of themselves.

412 front-liners participated in self-care sessions across six governorates.

500+ GBV and Child Protection (CP) front-liners across Lebanon took part in info sessions on the self-care manual, its objectives and the importance of its adoption and implementation.

Training National Service Providers on Women's Shelter Program

ABAAD organised a national training on the use of the "Safe & Sheltered" Toolkit, targeting service providers working in the field of women's shelters in Lebanon.

26

service providers from local and international NGOs working in Lebanon attended the training sessions.

One of the outcomes of the training was a proposal to create a network representing local and international NGOs working on shelter programs for women and girls survivors of GBV. In 2020, ABAAD will conduct a regional TOT training and take leadership in calling for a coalition in the MENA region and help build this important network, which will allow for sharing best practices and strategic analyses.



Participants of the "Safe & Sheltered" Toolkit Training

Capacitating Medical Staff on Clinical Management of Rape

ABAAD has been leading the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) taskforce in Lebanon in close cooperation with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health.

49

facilities across Lebanon were replenished with Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits. ABAAD also provided training on CMR to the medical staff.

The facilities were selected based on memo #339/204 s.4 issued by the Internal Security Forces in 2017, in cooperation with ABAAD, on "Standards of Interaction and Investigation in Human Trafficking and Sexual Assault Crimes", which includes a list of facilities in Lebanon offering CMR services.

Empowering Persons with Psychosocial Disabilities

ABAAD took part in a 5-day capacity-building and training of trainers on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and QualityRights Toolkit developed by the World Health Organization (WHO). After this training, which took place at the University of Cagliari in Sardinia, ABAAD partnered with The National Mental Health Program in Lebanon to adapt the QualityRights training material to take into account national legislative framework and culturally-specific language, to be able to strengthen the capacities of human rights civil society organizations to advocate for the rights of persons with psychosocial disabilities.

23

assessors from various backgrounds across Lebanon, including lawyers, social workers, medical doctors, public health practitioners and clinicians were trained on The Quality Rights Toolkit.



Training on QualityRights Toolkit in Lebanon

ADVOCACY & POLICY



Mainstreaming the Women, Peace & Security Agenda in Programme Implementation

ABAAD has been working at the grassroots and community levels through a participatory approach to raise awareness around the importance of integrating women in peace and stability processes. In addition, extensive work has been carried out at the institutional level targeting NGOs, the media, the Lebanese Army, the Internal Security Forces, the General Security organization, as well as the health sector to strengthen advocacy and activity implementation at the policy level.

In 2019, ABAAD conducted a KAP survey for women's rights NGOs to scope out their knowledge, attitudes and practices on the implementation/mainstreaming of SDGs as part of the women rights agenda for the coming years in Lebanon. A steering committee was formed representing all relevant sectors including the security sector, media sector the CSOs sector as well as the academic sector and UN agencies experts in working on UNSCR 1325 such as, ESCWA and consultations were held to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the toolkit.



Steering Committee Consultations

ABAAD will be producing a national toolkit, based on the results of this survey, to build the capacities of national and community based NGOs and CBOs around UNSCR 1325.

The aim is to mainstream WPS agenda in programme design, implementation, monitoring and documentation. This toolkit will serve as a practical tool for the implementation and execution of the UNSCR 1325 National action plan in Lebanon.

Integrating Gender Awareness into Lebanese Public Schools

ABAAD signed an agreement with the Ministry of Education and its Center for Research and Development to integrate a better understanding of gender into future curricula.



Ghida Anani and Head of CRDP

This initiative will help introduce gender awareness and sexual education into public schools' curricula, which is almost non-existent. As a part of this initiative, schools will hold seminars with students' family members to address issues such as positive parenting and gender-based violence as well as other topics such as cybersecurity.

Every one or two months, parents will be invited to seminars centered around issues that might be of concern to them. Keeping up with modern teaching techniques will also be an important aspect in the framework that the new agreement will produce. One of the aims of the strategy is to create space for innovative new education methods using IT, mobile phones, and apps.

Enhancing Access to Mental Health Services for Survivors of GBV

ABAAD signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health to help facilitate the implementation of the "Mental Health Strategy and the Use of Narcotic Drugs" and to ensure that victims of sexual and gender-based violence have access to comprehensive mental health services.

In the last years, policy briefs and studies conducted by the GBV sector in Lebanon highlighted the need to establish specialized services for GBV survivors with mental health challenges. ABAAD therefore consulted the National Mental Health Program within the Ministry of Public Health to

draft Accreditation Standards for a specialized service facility, which will serve as a guideline to establish and operate a mental health facility that targets women and girls survivors of GBV with mental health challenges.

The proposed mental health standards are based on: accessibility, appropriateness, continuity of care, effectiveness, efficiency, safety and continuous improvement of performance.

Engaging Religious Leaders and Institutions to Promote the Rights of Children in Lebanon

As part of ABAAD's efforts to engaging religious leaders to promote the well-being of their communities, we have joined efforts with UNICEF to build a number of realistic and efficient tools in the coming years, such as:

National Strategy on engaging religious leaders while initiating and establishing partnerships with religious leaders with a focus on child's rights.

ToT curriculum to train religious leaders on relevant skills and tools to deliver influential messages and promote child's rights, along with social and health practices and interventions that support these rights.



Under Prevention Plus Programme, ABAAD shared its past experience of successfully engaging religious leaders to end violence against women in the presence of religious leaders and NGOs from different countries, gathered in the Netherlands.

Raising Awareness of Intersectionality in Lebanon



Interactive workshop on the "Force of Convinving"

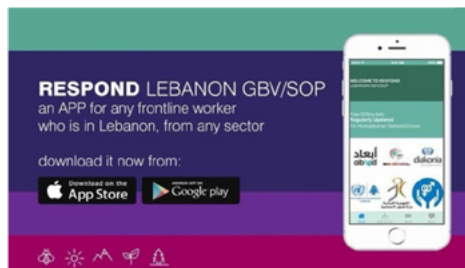
ABAAD partnered with the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) and the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities (LUPD) to conduct an assessment to determine how discrimination and political violence impact Lebanese citizens with intersecting social identities. The assessment includes key informant interviews with government, security sector,

political and religious leaders to glean their perspective on intersectionality in political life. Using the Intersectionality Assessment Report as a guiding document, LUPD and ABAAD convened a diverse group of CSOs working on gender equality, disability rights and LGBTI issues. The aim was to promote discourse around shared values, experiences and opportunities to pursue common goals to defend their rights and reduce violence and discrimination impacting political participation. IFES, ABAAD and LUPD are currently working to support CSOs to form cross-sector coalitions.

Enhancing SGBV Prevention and Response on National & Regional Levels

Respond Application

The Inter-Agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for SGBV Prevention and Response in Lebanon call for efforts that promote the participation of people of concern, and cooperation, collaboration, coordination across agencies and sectors.



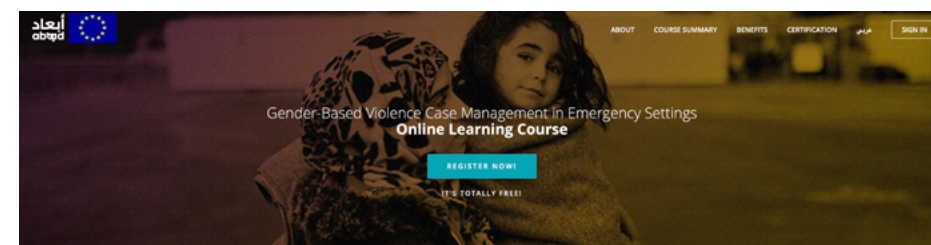
Based on the SOPs, ABAAD launched the RESPOND app which provides crucial information, guideline principles, procedures, roles, and responsibilities for actors involved in the prevention of and response to SGBV in Lebanon.

The app aims to develop guidance on the implementation of the prevention and response interventions to support individual SGBV survivors and communities through quality and holistic care. The content of the SOPs is enshrined in best practices and global guidelines on SGBV in emergencies and in the national legal framework.

Online Course on GBV Case Management in Emergency Settings

ABAAD, with the support of the European Union, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and Norwegian Church Aid, and ARK, developed the Gender-Based Violence Case Management in Emergency Settings Online Learning Course, a platform for training on gender equality and holistic care for survivors of GBV, especially in emergencies like those in Syria and Palestine.

The course is open to social workers, human rights activists, and anybody planning to use the training as a means to provide support or referral to GBV survivors and/or advance gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.



Sharing Expertise and Providing Technical Input to Relevant Stakeholders

ABAAD joined the Call to Action Steering Committee as the co-chair of the NGO Working Group.

The Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies (Call to Action) is a multi-stakeholder initiative launched in 2013 to fundamentally transform the way gender-based violence is addressed in humanitarian emergencies. The aim is to drive change and foster accountability so that every humanitarian effort, from the earliest stage of a crisis, includes the policies, systems and mechanisms to mitigate GBV risks, especially violence against women and girls, and to provide safe and comprehensive services to those affected by gender-based violence.

The Steering Committee is comprised of representatives from International Organizations and Donor States. **ABAAD is the first non-International NGO to hold the position of co-chair and joins CARE International to lead the NGO Working Group.**

On a national level, ABAAD is currently actively engaged in:

- Lebanon Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)
- Lebanon Humanitarian Fund/ UN OCHA (Member of the Advisory Board)
- Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGOs Forum (Member of the Steering Committee)
- Protection Core Group (Elected as representative of Local NGOs in 2019)
- National coalition to End Child Marriage
- Coordination Technical Working groups: SGBV Taskforce; National Child Protection Working Group; National MHPSS Task Force; CMR Working Group; PSEA Task Force

ABAAD joined new alliances and networks in 2019:

UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT: The world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with nearly 12,000 business and non-business participants in 140 countries.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES (ICVA): The global NGO network for principled and effective humanitarian action.

CIVICUS: The global alliance of civil society organisations and activists dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society throughout the world.

ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION NETWORK: The largest network of youth and civil society organisations working for intercultural dialogue across North Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Balkans.

Lobbying for Equality, Sustainable Development and Social Cohesion Regionally and Globally

At ABAAD, we are committed to amplifying women's concerns on a national, regional and international scale, to push decision-makers to do their due diligence and commit to advancing gender justice.

We addressed UN member states and the donor community on various occasions

The 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) – New York

As an NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC, ABAAD delivered an oral statement during the general discussion. It highlighted the challenges faced in the region such

as the lack of funds in response to GBV and Child Protection directed towards the humanitarian response

inside Syria and the neighboring countries. We stressed on the need to ensure funding for law reforms that will benefit both refugees and host communities, and the need to increase investment in building the capacities of public staff and institutions and building national mechanisms and standard operating procedures that will make the response more sustainable in the future. **ABAAD called upon member states to engage civil society, specifically women's organizations, as equal partners so as to ensure the integration and progress of the gender equality agenda.**



The International Conference on Ending Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Humanitarian Crises – Oslo

This conference, hosted by Norway, Iraq, Somalia, United Arab Emirates, UN OCHA, UNFPA, ICRC and other partners, aimed at mobilizing stronger political commitment to prevent incidents of, and protect people at risk of, SGBV and conflict-related sexual violence.



ABAAD Founder & Director, Ghida Anani delivered a closing statement, calling upon the donor community to mainstream gender-sensitive and inclusive interventions and ensure the use of evidence-based approach in the conceptualization and planning of programs to reflect country-specific priorities and problems. ABAAD also called for ensuring integrity across the donor community, zero tolerance for abuse and discrimination and full commitment to core humanitarian standards

The 2019 ECOSOC High-Level Segment – New York

A diverse group of high-level representatives from government, the private sector, civil society and academia gathered at the UN Headquarters in New York for the 2019 ECOSOC High-level Segment, under the theme: “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”. The High-level Segment, which took place the day following the closure of the ministerial segment of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF), represents the culmination of ECOSOC’s annual cycle of work.



ABAAD was chosen as one of the 38 ECOSOC-accredited CSOs to make a statement in front of the entire ECOSOC council. We called upon Member States and United Nations institutions to **invest in social protection over crisis response through multi-year funding for just and equitable governance that leaves no one behind.** We also stressed on the importance of addressing institutional fragmentation and enhancing downward accountability, diligent planning, monitoring and transparency.

We brought together major stakeholders to highlight challenges relating to sexual and gender-based violence

Side event at the 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63) – New York

ABAAD, in partnership with the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and MenEngage Alliance, organized a side event under the title “Patriarchal Masculinity, Militarism, and the WPS Agenda”, which brought together around 40 participants from diverse backgrounds including the United Nations system, country delegates attending the CSW63, civil society organizations, activists and researchers. The event included an expert panel discussion that explored the concept of security on the international level and the patriarchal ideals that it retains.



MenEngage Alliance Strategic/Board Meeting - Beirut

This meeting was hosted by ABAAD gathered more than 40 members from across the globe, who gathered in Beirut to discuss the structural causes of gender injustice and strengthen the alliance’s commitment to its collective agenda and diversity. Participants discussed ways to advance the Alliance's transformative work with men and boys and to address the complex realities that has a direct impact in the field of men and masculinities locally, regionally, and globally.



Seminar on working with men: survivors, perpetrators and agents of change - Oslo

ABAAD, together with Norwegian Church Aid, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Nobel Peace Center, hosted a seminar to understand the complex roles men take in acts of GBV; from perpetrator, to survivor, activist and agent of change. The seminar, which gathered more than 100 participants, built around a collection of short films in which male survivors and perpetrators talked about their direct experiences of both GBV and of receiving help.

Regional Workshop to Exchange Advocacy-Related Strategies - Beirut



This regional workshop provided a platform for exchange and increase of knowledge. Participants from different CSOs discussed a roadmap that would lead the campaigning and advocacy work in Lebanon, taking into consideration the work that has been done in different countries and how to build on the successes and lessons learned.

Workshop on the Criminalization of Sexual Violence in the Lebanese Law - Beirut



In our continuous efforts to raise awareness around crimes of rape and fight against all sorts of sexual assaults against women and girls, ABAAD hosted a workshop on the criminalization of sexual violence in the Lebanese law. Representatives from civil society discussed facts and assessed the reality on the ground, highlighting gaps in the legal framework together with ABAAD legal advisor, Ms. Danielle Hoyek.

We contributed to expert panels and discussions



"Empowering in Emergencies"

Side event hosted by the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations in collaboration with the Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence (ICGBV) at CSW63 in New York.



HagueTalks

A meeting place for creative minds, peace inventors and game changers in the field of peace and justice.



2019 Annual Lisbon Forum

A global event that gathers high-level participants from Europe, neighbouring regions and other continents to share experience, good practice and expertise and justice.



"Resilience versus Vulnerability"

International Expert Round Table in Vienna on how to break the cycle of exploitation and human trafficking in the digital age.

Advocating for a more Gender-Equal Society for Women and Girls in Lebanon

International Women's Day

ABAAD reached out to its state partners who supported the #ShameOnWho Campaign in 2018 and asked for encouraging messages to all women and girls in Lebanon!



"This is a long term engagement from Sweden that we continue to pursue whole-heartedly together with partners like ABAAD."

Ambassador of Sweden to Lebanon

"Let us today celebrate the boundless potential of women and girls and commit to ending gender-based violence once and for all."

Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon

#MeToo

To mark the second anniversary of the #MeToo hashtag going viral, Human Rights Watch issued a video where activists from around the world, including ABAAD Founder and Director Ghida Anani, discuss the successes of the #MeToo movement and the need for further action to prevent sexual violence and ensure accountability against abuse.



Filming of the video in New York

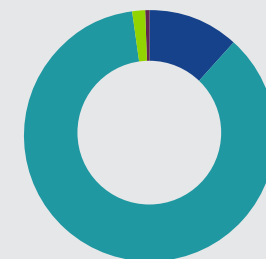
"The victim-blaming culture that is still prevailing is one of the key challenges hampering women and girls from speaking up"
Ghida Anani

#NotYourHonor Campaign



As part of its continuous efforts in Lebanon to eliminate the influence of patriarchy on legal structures, correct gender injustices and end all forms of GBV, ABAAD launched the #NotYourHonor campaign to support our advocacy work on amending Chapter 7 of the Lebanese Penal Code.

Public impressions **295 Million**
Digital media impressions **40 Million**
Reach **6 Million**
Engagement **1 Million**



The campaign's activities were picked up by 105 national, regional and international media outlets.

The campaign's key messages:

- Sexual violence is a crime and is in no way related to honor. A clear and distinct separation should be made between culture, traditions and legislation;
- Increasing the severity of punishment plays a role in deterring sexual violence crimes. The administrative and justice committee should start studying the draft amendment of Chapter 7 from the Penal Code, submitted by ABAAD and direct it to the General Assembly in the Parliament;
- Putting an end to sexual violence is a national responsibility in which everyone has a stake. Civil society members have a duty to prevent and respond to sexual violence as part of their prevention and protection responses;
- It is essential that families and community members get involved through awareness raising to understand the long-term impact of sexual violence and know how to act;

A march against sexual violence



ABAAD organised with other feminist groups a march against sexual violence, in which hundreds of women marched through the streets of Beirut holding banners, wearing "Not You Honor" black scarves with bold red hands painted over their mouths in an homage to those who are unable to speak out on the brutality they face. The march ended with a flash mob where activists used the lyrics to highlight their own experience of sexual violence in Lebanon.

#No_STIGMA



ABAAD joined the Beirut Marathon Women's Race to stand against the stigmatization of women and girls survivors of sexual violence.

International Day of the Girl Child

ABAAD celebrated together with children from our Women and Girls Safe Spaces.





We partnered with the Embassy of Canada in Lebanon and the Lebanese Ministry of State for Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth for an inspiring initiative that aims to help women and girls develop their full potential. A young woman spent one full day at work with Ghida Anani, who mentored her and provided answers to all her questions regarding daily challenges and the means to overcome them.

#MentalHealthAtWork

We partnered with the Ministry of Public Health in Lebanon for the National Campaign for Mental Health in the Workplace



The campaign aims to support employers in ensuring mentally healthy workplaces for them, their teams and their business to thrive.

Our campaigns continue to be recognized internationally



#Undress_522 Campaign was awarded the UN SDG Action Award for the most impactful campaign globally

Every year, the UN SDG Action Awards recognize individuals, civil society organizations, subnational governments, foundations, networks, and private sector leaders who are advancing the global movement for the Sustainable Development Goals in the most transformative, impactful and innovative way.

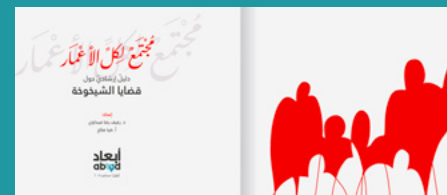
In 2017, ABAAD's #Undress_522 Campaign resulted in a historical vote of the Lebanese parliament repealing Article 522, the infamous "rape-marriage law", from the Lebanese Penal Code.

ABAAD #ShameOnWho Campaign won a GOLD EFFIE Award in the "Positive Change: Social Good - Nonprofit" category

The Global Effies recognize the most effective work that ran in multiple regions worldwide.



RESOURCES & TOOLKITS



"A Society for all Ages"

Release of a guiding and training manual in Arabic on elderly issues and ways to protect them from violence and neglect.



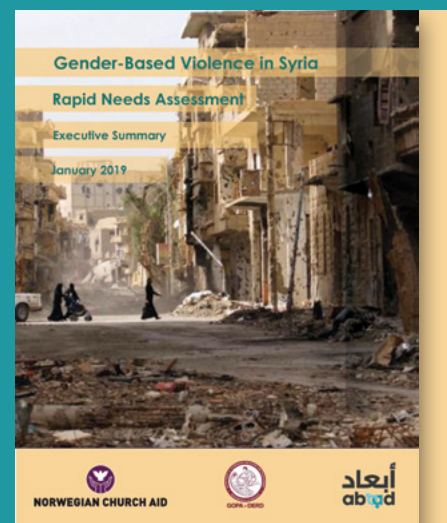
SenseMaker®

ABAAD, in collaboration with the International Rescue Committee, Queen's University and the United Nations Population Fund, published the findings from the feasibility study on the use of SenseMaker® as a Monitoring and Evaluation Tool for Gender Based Violence.



Sexual Education Awareness videos

ABAAD launched a series of awareness videos, with the support of UNDEF, that encourage parenting dialogues on sensitive issues around love, puberty, sexualities and violence.



Syria GBV Rapid Assessment

Within the scope of the partnership between NCA, ABAAD, and GOPA-DERD, this Rapid GBV Assessment in Syria was conducted with the aim of understanding the prevalence of GBV perpetrated against women, girls, men and boys. The qualitative assessment collected information from Syrian specialists providing direct services to local communities in 13 governorates, and captures both, community perceptions and service provider attitudes and practices.

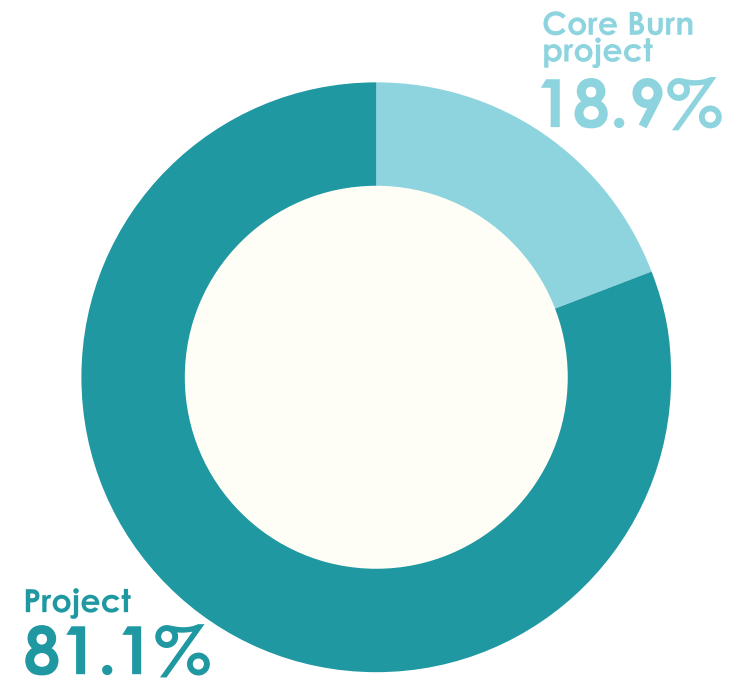
FUNDING

Funds received in 2019

9,138,974.93 USD

Expenditures in 2019

7,444,580.97 USD



DONORS & PARTNERS



Thank you all for your partnership and valuable support
We Couldn't have done it without you.

The Abood Team



www.abaadmena.org | abaad@abaadmeha.org



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