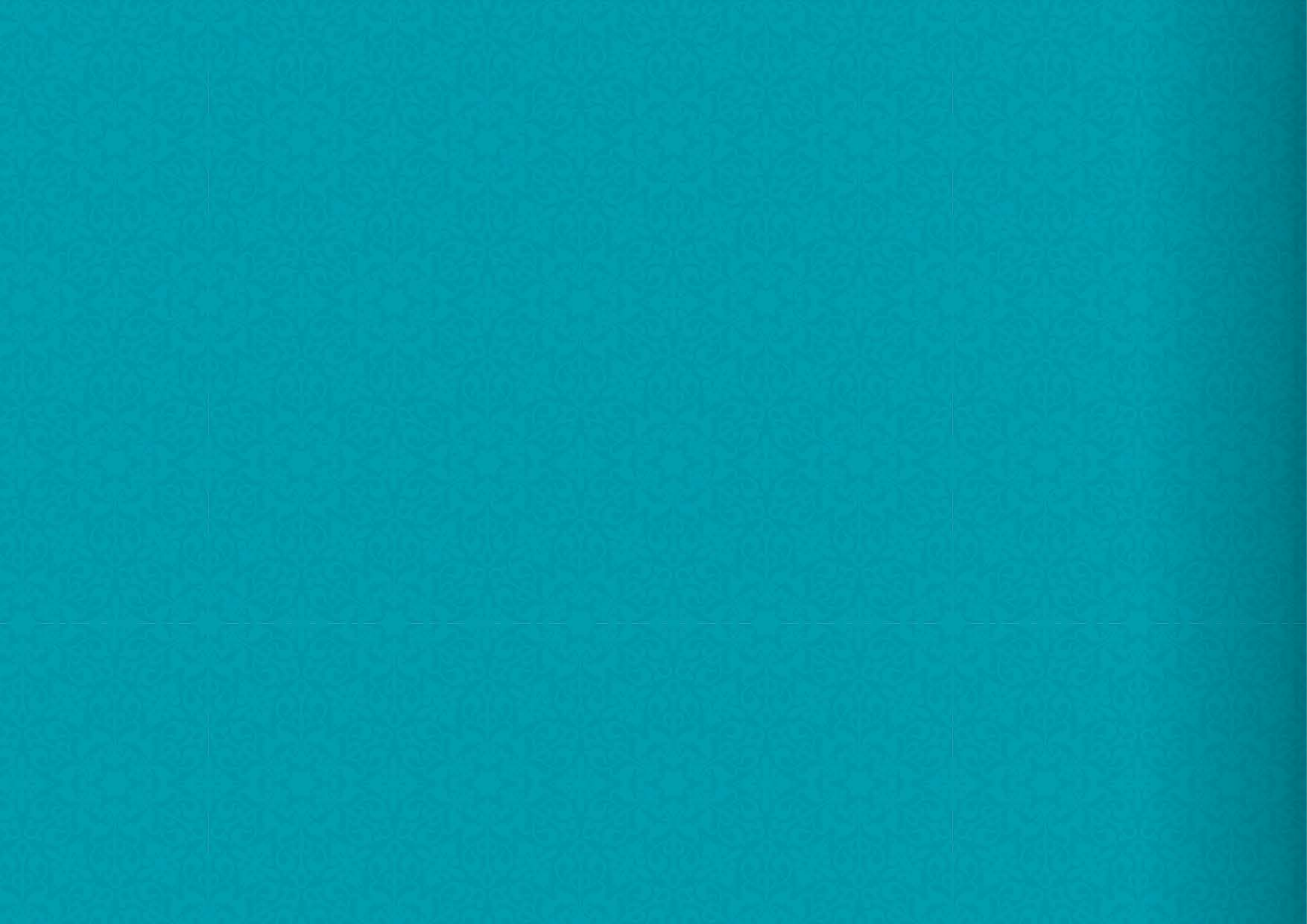


ANNUAL REPORT 2014



أبجد
abjad

مركز الموارد للمساواة بين الجنسين
resource center for gender equality



أبعاد
about
مركز الموارد للمساواة بين الجنسين
resource center for gender equality

CONTENT

- P1.** Acronyms
- P2.** A Word from ABAAD Board Member Dr. Jean Kors
- P3.** A Word from ABAAD's Founder and Director Ms. Ghida Anani
- P4.** About ABAAD
 - Vision*
 - Mission*
 - Values*
 - Strategies*
- P5.** Intervention Strategies
 - Protection and Prevention for Children and Youth*
 - Protection and Prevention for Women*
 - Protection and Prevention for Men*
- P6.** Operational Strategies
 - Advocacy*
 - Resource Development*
 - Direct Services*
 - Capacity Development and Technical Support*
- P7.** Resource Development Activities
- P8.** Advocacy Activities
- P9.** Capacity Development Activities
- P10.** Direct Services
- P11.** Community Engagement
- P12.** ABAAD Voluntary Support to NGOs
- P13.** Donors, Partners, and Allies
- P14.** Team Building
- P15.** Honours Received



Acronyms

AUB: American University of Beirut
BAU: Beirut Arab University
CCECS: Centre for Civic Engagement and Community Service
CCSAS: Clinical Care of Sexual Assault Survivors
CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
CLDH: The Lebanese Centre for Human Rights
CMR: Clinical Management of Rape
CPWG: Child Protection Working Group
CSO: Civil Society Organisation
CSW: United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
CVAW: Culturally Justified Violence against Women
DRC: Danish Refugee Council
ESCWA: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EVAW: Ending Violence against Women
GBV: Gender-Based Violence
GBV CMiE: Gender-Based Violence Case Management in Emergency and Post-Emergency Situations
GE: Gender Equality
GUPW: General Union of Palestinian Women
HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRW: Human Rights Watch
IEC: Information, Education, and Communication
IMC: International Medical Corps

INGO: International Non-Governmental Organisation
IRC: International Rescue Committee
MC: Men Centre
MENA: Middle East and North Africa
MoPH: Ministry of Public Health
MoSA: Ministry of Social Affairs
NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation
NLP: Neuro-Linguistic Programming
OXFAM GB: Oxford Committee for Famine Relief - Great Britain
PEP: Post-Exposure Prophylaxis
PHC: Primary Healthcare Centre
SDCs: Social Development Community Centres
SDC: Swiss Development Cooperation
SGBV: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SOPs: Standard Operational Procedures
SRHR: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
STI: Sexually Transmitted Infections
ToT: Training of Trainers
UN: United Nations
UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSCR: United Nations Security Council Resolution
USEK: Université Saint-Esprit de Kaslik (Holy Spirit University of Kaslik)
USJ - ESIB: Université Saint-Joseph - École Supérieure d'Ingénieurs de Beyrouth (Saint Joseph University - Engineering Campus)
VAW: Violence against Women
WELDD: Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation
WFP: World Food Programme
WILPF: Women's League for International Peace and Freedom
WLUML: Women Living under Muslim Laws
WPP: Women Peacemakers Programme
WRC: Women's Resource Centre

A WORD FROM ABAAD BOARD MEMBER



“Together towards bridging all gender gaps”

Although 2014 underscored the perpetuation of the crisis in Syria and Iraq and the emergence of additional challenges both nationally and regionally, ABAAD continued its struggle towards a world in which women and men are equal. The drastic events that took place during the past year highlighted the transcendent importance of the path we have chosen and reinforced our adamant determination to reach the most vulnerable women to help them improve their lives and achieve their full potentials.

From advancing women's leadership and participation, to working to eliminate gender based violence and providing protection and supportive services for GBV survivors and women at risk, to actively engaging men in promoting gender equality and building the capacities of the public and civil sectors, ABAAD has effectively recorded solid and significant achievements.

These achievements, however, were only possible because of the unwavering commitment of our partners who shared our vision and relentlessly battled with us against the numerous gender injustices that mar our region. We stood up together and we fought together... and with every rising sun, we

get closer to bridging gender gaps at all social, political and economic levels. Moreover, and to ensure that we are on target to achieving these ambitions and eliminating all inequalities, we have rigorously focused on collaborating and working with both men and women to lead this process of change.

We would like to thank all of ABAAD's team members who worked painstakingly and most often far beyond the limitation of their duties to bring about the wonderful achievements listed on the next pages. However, the apogee of this year successes was robustly accentuated when Ms. Ghida Anani – ABAAD's Founder and Director – was chosen to receive the “Women Leadership Achievement Award” in February 2015 in Mumbai, India. This prestigious award was conferred on Ms. Anani by the “World Women Leadership Congress” in recognition of her work as a woman leader who has achieved outstanding excellence in her field of work. Ghida made us all proud!

As we continue to target all inequities and strive to empower women to build their own futures, we dedicate this report to all the resilient women out there who, despite all the discriminations and atrocities committed against them, keep rising from the ashes just like the birds of phoenix.

DR. JEAN KORS

A WORD FROM ABAAD FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR



Dear friends, colleagues and partners,

The year 2014 started off as a somber year with the departure of a great person, Dr. Rita Sabat. Dr. Rita was a professor at Notre-Dame University in Lebanon, and a member of the advisory board for ABAAD. She was a visionary who contributed to a big extent how to shape the gender programs and the gender based violence programs at the organization. The feminist circle suffered a big loss with her departure, and so did the academic and research domain, and of course ABAAD! However, we saw an opportunity to persist in our quest to continue our journey and spread her teachings and research.

Achievements despite challenges...

Despite of the security and political challenges of the year 2014, in addition to the obstacles that the civil societies faced in Lebanon, the year was a positive turning point for ABAAD's work approach. ABAAD multiplied its advocacy and political dialogue work in an effort to encourage political will and the government's role in due diligence, especially when it comes to effective sustainable care for women and girls who are at risk of gender based violence. In previous years, ABAAD used to target the systematic and holistic factors that contribute to

the traditional gender stereotypes. In other words, ABAAD used to target the institutions that contribute to social normalization, such as religion, culture, and education; this year, ABAAD chose to shed light on the importance of having a holistic systemic political will that uses positive psychology to create sustainable change.

With regards to services, ABAAD was able to provide multi-sectorial services that include legal services, protection services, psycho-social services, and medical services; a holistic list of services that ensure that women and girls are empowered to make their own decisions. In this context, 450 women (with kids) received services through the Dar program, in addition to 100 men and boys who received psycho-social services that are free and confidential at the Men Center. On the training and programmatic level, ABAAD organized trainings and workshops to activists in the local and international civil societies, targeting around 1500 care givers and front line workers in the women's and children's rights fields.

ABAAD will continue its journey to end violence, in spite of the many challenges that appear along the way.

GHIDA ANANI



About ABAAD

ABAAD, founded in 2011, is a non-profit, non-politically affiliated, non-religious civil association that aims to promote sustainable social and economic development in the MENA region through equality, protection, direct service provision, and empowerment of refugee and host community groups who may be vulnerable, especially women. ABAAD comprises of a dynamic pool of resources, human rights activists, lawyers, consultants, social workers, and researchers, all of whom are dedicated towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. ABAAD is an equal opportunity employer that is committed to Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA).



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.
- Women are effectively empowered and participate in democratic processes that affect their lives and their communities.
- Women have fair access to the economic assets and the natural resources within their communities.
- Women live in freedom, dignity, and inner peace – without facing discrimination.

OUR MISSION

ABAAD is a non-profit, non-politically affiliated, non-religious civil association that aims to achieve gender equality as an essential condition to sustainable social and economic development in the MENA region.

ABAAD seeks to promote equality and active participation through policy development, legal reform, gender mainstreaming, eliminating discrimination, and advancing and empowering women to participate effectively and fully in their communities.

In Lebanon and the MENA Region, ABAAD is a pioneer organisation engaging men in work on masculinities and ending violence against women.

ABAAD seeks to support and collaborate with civil society organisations that are involved in gender equality programmes, engaging men, direct services for women and men, and advocacy campaigns.

OUR VALUES

ABAAD draws its values and goals from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Violence against Women (CEDAW), and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

ABAAD, as an association, also believes in the spirit and values of equality, protection, empowerment, inclusion, partnership, networking, good governance, accountability, and transparency.





OUR STRATEGIES

ABAAD works through:

#1 Prevention and Protection Interventions:

Responding to GBV through preventive and protective approaches directed at any woman, man, or child/adolescent (of all backgrounds) in Lebanon:

FOR WOMEN THROUGH:

- Al Dar: three free, safe, and supportive midway houses in the Bekaa, and the North and South of Lebanon providing psychosocial support (individual and group therapy), medical care, legal advice, educational and vocational trainings, and temporary residence
- Awareness-raising sessions

FOR MEN THROUGH:

- The Men Centre: a centre providing men with aggressive/violent behaviour with rehabilitation services (psychosocial support, anger management, stress management, support with perceptions of masculinity, deconstructing gender stereotypes...)
- Engaging men at all levels to effect change within the public and private spheres
- Awareness-raising sessions

PRIMARY PREVENTION FOR YOUTH AGED BETWEEN 8 AND 12 YEARS AND THEIR CARE-GIVERS THROUGH:

- Playing for gender equality via interactive and specialised games
- Awareness-raising sessions



#2

Resource Development:
Conducting action-oriented research as a baseline for work, developing resources and tools

#3

Capacity Building:

Providing capacity and skill building trainings for individuals and civil society organisations on a spectrum of issues related to gender

#4

Advocacy and Policy Development:

Developing and drafting policies; advocating for gender equality through policy dialogue, mobilising media, stakeholders and society, and networking with local, regional, and international organisations

#5

Technical Support:

Providing technical support and services to NGOs and other associations

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

PROTECTION AND PREVENTION



For Women:

The Lebanese Constitution stipulates that

“the Lebanese shall be equal before the law, equally enjoying civil and political rights, and they are equally subject to public duties and obligations without any discrimination.” (Article 7)

While the Lebanese Constitution tends to establish gender equality in rights and freedoms, it stipulates no affirmative actions, does not condemn discrimination as unconstitutional, and is often neither enforced nor supported by other types of laws which affect women more directly. This kind of gender discrimination is clearly evident in the three reservations accompanying Lebanon's ratification of CEDAW in 1996, where major gaps still exist in both the letter and the application of the law.

Thus, Lebanese women still live under a traditional patriarchal system and suffer from legalised discrimination and deeply-rooted traditions that subordinate them to men, which in turn exposes them to all forms of violence (Arab Report on Human Development 2009, 'The Human Security Challenges in Arab Countries', UNDP). Their reality as second class citizens is therefore continually shaped by traditions imposed by both a patriarchal culture and confessional system. In April 2012, the parliament, under President Michel Sleiman, passed a law protecting women from domestic violence. However, a large portion of the law's contents was voided, and although it was a positive first step, much more work is required.

GBV in Lebanon

In the year of 2008, the UNFPA study revealed that 35% of women presenting to health care centers were exposed to GBV, and more than 80% suffered domestic violence forms in the year of 2012.

Taking such cases into consideration, several studies on GBV were conducted in the year of 2012 with the support of UNFPA: "Situation Analysis in Gender Based Violence in Lebanon", "Assessment of Media Coverage on GBV issues in Lebanon", and a "Review of Gender Based Violence Research and Training Material in Lebanon".

According to these studies, insufficient resources are being devoted to address GBV in Lebanon. They identified the need for increased public awareness, and legislative and social reform. More specifically, they consider that a more comprehensive and well-coordinated response is needed to advance it on the national agenda and to end this human rights violation and obstacle to development.

Impact of conflict and post conflict on women survivors of GBV in Lebanon

During conflicts, women and children are often victims of unspeakable violence and abuse. The conflict in Syria is no exception. Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) has been used as a tool of war and as a means of torture. Thousands of women, children, as well as men, have been subjected to sexual abuse, many of which are now living among us as refugees. Although it is difficult to distinguish between different types of violence (domestic violence, child marriage, sexual harassment, rape, trafficking in women, forced prostitution, survival sex and forced sterilization and abortion)

From a GBV perspective, the scope and scale of gender-based violence experienced by Syrian women and girls is alarming and needs to be urgently addressed.

Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian women and children are disproportionately affected by SGBV. Recent assessments confirm that domestic violence, sexual harassment and exploitation as well as forced/early marriage remain the main protection concerns for women and adolescent girls. Unaccompanied girls, single heads of households, child mothers/spouses, and women/girls living with disabilities are particularly exposed to such risks. According to a recent regional report on the situation of women and girls affected by the Syrian crisis, in urban areas restriction on mobility limit women and girl's ability to access goods and services provided by the government and and/or humanitarian organizations.

According to participatory assessments conducted with refugees, men and boys reported stress and feeling powerless due to their inability to fulfil traditional roles as family providers and protectors.

Refugee communities, family and community networks are disrupted by failure to ensure more protection from the power abuse. Women and children are the most vulnerable groups in this scenario, solely by virtue of belonging to a particular gender, a certain age group or social status. Sanitary complications of an abuse can be particularly serious, but the psychological, emotional and social consequences are even worse. Post-traumatic stress, depression and anxiety may be associated with social stigma and separation from partner or family. In most societies, there is a tendency to blame the victim in cases of sexual violence, thus aggravating the psychological damage. While we acknowledge that many of the dynamics of violence against women in their intimate relationships are the same, whether the abuse is against immigrant or non-immigrant and refugee women, violence against women in relationships, in whatever context it occurs, is about power and control.

Initiatives taken by ABAAD during 2014 have included:

- Operating and maintaining ABAAD's three mid-way houses/temporary shelters, "Al Dar," which provide the different services women and girl survivors of GBV (as well as their children) require
- Building the capacities, on a national and regional level, of field staff working with refugee communities on GBV related issues, especially on GBV Case Management in Emergency and Post-Emergency Situations, and on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- Setting the framework for developing safe spaces for women and girls within the social development centres of the Ministry of Social Affairs; implementation set to begin in 2015

For Men:

While the concept of gender equality is not new, what is relatively new is the concentrated effort to revisit men's roles and identities in order to significantly increase men's involvement in working towards gender-equal societies. Changing individual men's and boys' understanding of acceptable behaviours that normalise violence is an essential component in ending violence against women and girls. "While men have long been addressed as perpetrators, now they are also being addressed as

"partners" in prevention." (Flood 2005-2006)

"A number of studies have argued that in associating men with violence, we should also ensure that men are part of the solution." (Lang 2002; Ruxton 2004; Flood 2005)

ABAAD believes that increasing men's involvement will not only promote gender equality, but will contribute to ending men's violence against women through a secondary prevention approach.

Thus, ABAAD has been working on the following projects in 2014:

- Operating and maintaining the Men Centre, which regularly receives voluntary calls from men and adolescent beneficiaries who are seeking its psychosocial support services
- Launching the MenEngage Lebanon Network through three cycles of trainings targeting representatives of local and international NGO partners who work with men and/or on ending gender-based violence
- Publishing a manual on engaging religious leaders in EVAW



For Children and Youth:

“From the time their children are babies, parents treat sons and daughters differently, dressing infants in gender-specific colours, giving gender-differentiated toys, and expecting different behaviour from boys and girls.” (Thorne, 1993)

“One study indicates that parents have differential expectations of sons and daughters as early as 24 hours after birth.” (Rubin, Provenzano, & Luria, 1974)

Hence, because gender is “done” or constructed, it can also be “undone” or deconstructed. ABAAD is committed to “deconstructing” gender stereotypes at childhood and early adolescent phases in order to educate about and promote principles of gender equality. Despite civil society efforts and attempts to eliminate gender stereotypes from society, the tendency to evaluate people on the basis of their sex remains a challenging social problem. By learning the terms and concepts associated with Gender Equality, children can begin the important process of questioning the inequalities they see around them, and having different perspectives of gender relations than those they have witnessed in their homes, culture, and the local media. This therefore begins building a generation of individuals who are sensitive to issues of gender and gender inequality.

During 2014, ABAAD conducted a number of activities with youth and children, or whose final beneficiaries are youth:

- Publishing and launching a context-adapted version of Programme P, a manual for fathers (and to-be fathers) and medical personnel on ending GBV, and supporting the men's partners during prenatal and post-natal periods
- Publishing the “How to Work with Parents” guidebook, which was incorporated into “Playing for Gender Equality,” a primary prevention toolkit for social workers, animators, and educators working with children and their parents
- Training groups of refugee adolescent boys on stress and anger management techniques through support groups moderated by psychotherapists
- Carrying out awareness sessions on gender and sexual and reproductive health for boys, girls, and adolescents at schools



OPERATIONAL STRATEGIES

ADVOCACY

ABAAD uses policy dialogue as a mechanism to promote an equitable and violence-free society. Knowing the pattern of power distribution in dialogue settings, ABAAD is committed to setting the foundations of dialogue and positive channels with the different concerned groups. The aim of engaging these actors is to achieve a gender equal and equitable society.



ABAAD believes that addressing GBV and promoting gender equality require the comprehensive and coordinated efforts of a number of actors, primarily governmental and non-governmental organisations. Additionally, ABAAD has a core role within local and international working groups and taskforces.

Hence, since its establishment, ABAAD has been proactively engaged in fostering policy dialogue and development to address GBV and VAW.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

An extremely important component of raising public awareness is the creation of effective, attractive, and suitably tailored IEC material. Combined with other communication techniques, (like carrying out launching events, trainings, and other relevant activities where the developed material is introduced and/or discussed) resources like flyers, brochures, educational pamphlets, documentaries, public hearings, baseline studies and needs assessments, public service announcements, artwork, literature, and others, become a crucial part of reaching out more comprehensively to each target group as required.

DIRECT SERVICES

In order to respond to GBV-related needs of both men and women, ABAAD has created two fronts to provide necessary services, the Men Centre (June 2012) and Al Dar (August 2013) respectively.

In order to engage and support men facing issues with aggression and/or masculinities, ABAAD piloted the Men Centre, a listening and counselling centre operating six days a week and providing individual and group therapy sessions focusing on issues faced, as well as on deconstructing masculinities and patriarchal ideologies, providing tips on healthy communication techniques, as well as holding anger and stress management workshops.

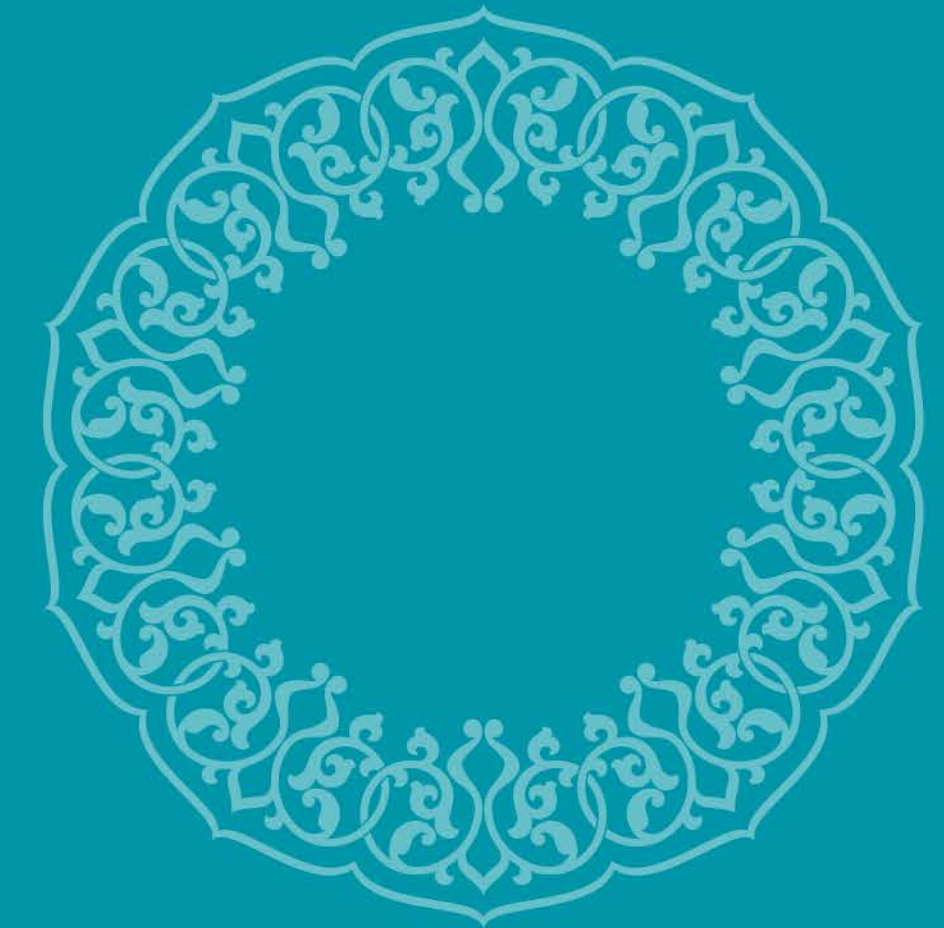
To support women and girl survivors of gender-based violence, ABAAD launched "Al Dar," three Midway Transition Houses in three different Lebanese governorates, that offer a free, safe, and supportive temporary house for women at risk or survivors of GBV, whether single women, adolescent girls, or women with their children. In addition to safe accommodation, Al Dar provides psychosocial support, legal support, as well as vocational and life skills training.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

ABAAD believes that skill building and capacity development are a key-in for bringing about sustainable change in promoting gender equality while addressing Gender Based Violence (GBV).

Thus, since its inception, ABAAD has been expertly developing the capacities of governmental and non-governmental institutions. ABAAD has also been working on developing the skills and changing the behaviour of men and women to prevent the incidence and recurrence of Gender Based Violence.

This has been done through different processes, including conducting cross-cutting and functional capacity development for individuals and organisations, and developing information, education, and communication resources on gender rights and GBV-related issues.





RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT



1. COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE ARAB REGION: MULTISECTORAL EFFORT (STUDY)

“Combating Violence against Women in the Arab Region: Multisectoral Efforts,” a new study by ABAAD, in partnership with ESCWA, aims to provide an initial outline of the services and programmes available to women survivors of violence in ESCWA countries. It also evaluates these countries’ referral systems that protect survivors of violence and provide them with necessary services, in order to pinpoint the best intervention practices to assist stakeholders in developing and/or improving their service provision in accordance with international standards. The study splits those services and programmes into three categories: protection services, rehabilitation services, and prevention programmes. The three parts of the report cover (i) government services for victims of violence against women, (ii) non-governmental services for victims, and (iii) proposals for the development of such services.

2. VARYING PERCEPTIONS, ONE OUTCOME (STUDY)

ABAAD, in partnership with World Vision Lebanon, published “Varying Perceptions, One Outcome: A field study monitoring the attitudes and perceptions of women and men towards women’s rights in Lebanon,” a study focusing on five major and important subjects, most of which relate to the family setting: gender equality, violence against women, respecting women’s choices (marital setting, and marital rape), passing on nationality to children, and ownership rights of elderly women.

The launching ceremony opened with welcoming words by Ms. Anita Delhaas-Van Dijk, the National Director of World Vision International and Ms. Ghida Anani, ABAAD Founder and Director. The study results were presented by Dr. Zuheir Hatab, followed by commentary notes by a panel of experts and women’s rights activists: Ms. Linda Matar, Dr. Azza Baydoun, and Ms. Jouman Merhi. The Master of Ceremony was journalist Ms. Najat Charafeddine. The ceremony closed with a Q&A session, where over 200 attending participants (representing ministries, national and international NGOs, local actors, and the media) were given the opportunity to discuss points of interest related to the study and the situation in Lebanon.





3. “AS WE GROW”

(animation video)

After the successful release of the cartoon documentary «As We Grow,» targeted at girls, adolescent girls, and their caretakers/parents, ABAAD complemented the animation video with a second version, this time targeted at boys, adolescent boys, and their caretakers/parents. The “As We Grow” series addresses sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as personal protection issues. This version was produced in partnership with the International Medical Corps and Save the Children, and was supported by the Government of Finland.



4. MAHA'S STORY

(photo booklet)

ABAAD, in partnership with the International Medical Corps, developed the photo booklet «Maha's Story». This photo booklet is a resource that provides Syrian families living in Lebanon with basic legal information related to protection from violence against women and girls, especially sexual violence and trafficking. The booklet tells a story through photos, and is followed by clear and simplified information in the form of questions and answers.





5. VIOLENCE IS NOT A GAME: PUPPETRY KITS (toolkit)

Under the title "Violence is Not a Game," ABAAD, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee, developed puppetry kits to be used by animators working with children and adolescents. The kits were developed through a participatory approach, where ABAAD conducted two focus groups with two different groups of adolescent girls in order to identify the two main GBV issues the girls found of utmost importance. The three main identified topics in both groups were early marriage, sexual harassment, and racism, of which they found the first two to be the most pressing. The two groups also discussed and agreed on the type of IEC material they felt most comfortable with using for spreading awareness and educational information. Based on the groups' feedback, ABAAD produced the puppetry kits, which comprise of seven puppets and an accompanying guide booklet, including two stories, one on early marriage, and another on sexual harassment. The puppetry kits assist frontline workers in organising interactive awareness-raising puppet shows on the two topics in local communities.



6. SHADOWS OF ALLEYS (photo booklets)

ABAAD, in partnership with UNRWA, produced "Shadows of Alleys," a series of three booklets enclosing a collection of 180 photos captured by young Palestinian girls and boys in Burj Chemali Camp, South Lebanon. Using the "pinhole camera" technique, the boys and girls captured some challenging aspects of Palestinian youths' lives, like the discrimination, violence, and gender-based violence that affect their communities. Each photo booklet is accompanied by a personal story, narrated in the first person, sharing deep personal sufferings caused by community-imposed norms, traditions, and social exclusion. Marginalisation, affliction, and constraints inside the Palestinian camps are reflected in the stories, mirroring what Palestinian youth have captured through their pinhole cameras, and through their perceptions of social challenges in their society.

On the occasion of International Youth Day, ABAAD and UNRWA launched the three booklets in an exhibition at Sanayeh Garden. The exhibition and the booklets were the result of a training ABAAD and UNRWA conducted in 2013 with a group of Palestinian youth at the Burj Chemali Camp. The launching event was attended by UN agencies, activists, Palestinian and Lebanese organisations, and the participating youth, who told the stories in person.



7 SYRIAN WOMEN REFUGEES' LEGAL RIGHTS (video series)

Within the framework of emergency humanitarian response efforts, ABAAD, in partnership with and supported by IMC, developed a video series targeting Syrian refugee women. The three short videos deal with three different problems Syrian refugee women in Lebanon may face, and provide basic legal information and guidance to deal with each.

“That is Not Uncle”

This short video addresses early and forced marriage with a short scenario, and then provides information on the relevant legal steps that can be taken.

“Survive on Just Bread”

This video addresses sex work and human trafficking of all types. After a short scene, certain key definitions are explained, followed by legal repercussions of engaging in relevant activities, and the steps that can be taken in the event of such activities.

“He Thinks He’s a Man”

This video addresses domestic violence, and provides information, within different religious sects, on the legal repercussions of violence, how to report such acts, as well as how to initiate divorce proceedings.

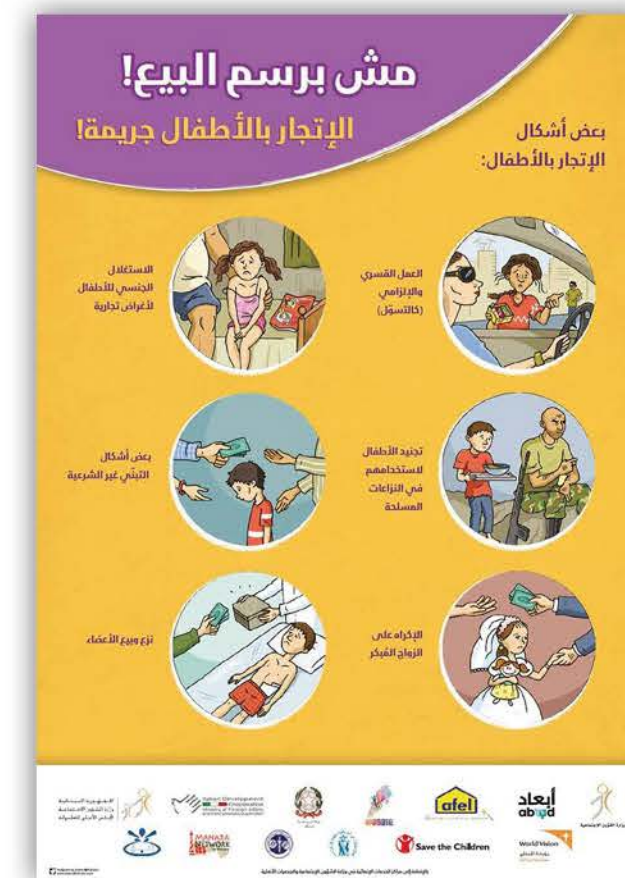
8 NOT FOR SALE! TRAFFICKING CHILDREN IS A CRIME! (poster and brochure)

On the occasion of the International Day for Ending Child Abuse, ABAAD, in partnership with AFEL and the Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs, developed a poster and a brochure addressing the trafficking of children; a critical topic given the current challenging context of protecting children’s rights in emergency situations.

The material, designed under the slogan “Not for Sale! Trafficking Children is a Crime!” included awareness messages on the most common forms of child trafficking, namely: forced labour, sexual assault and abuse, child militarisation, forced marriage, and organ trafficking.

In addition to ABAAD, the poster was endorsed by a number of organisations and agencies, both local and international, which work in the field of child protection: the Ministry of Social Affairs – Higher Council for Childhood, AFEL, the Italian Development Cooperation – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Embassy of Italy – Beirut, Mosaic, World Vision in Lebanon, Save the Children International, Nabaa, Manara Network, Union of NGOs for Child Rights in Lebanon, and the Lebanese Union for Child Welfare.

The poster was also featured within MoSA Social Development Centres across Lebanon.





9. MARRIAGE IS NOT A GAME (animation video)

Within the framework of the European Union-funded project "Ending Gender-Based Violence: Towards Standardisation and Strengthening of Services and Direct Response," ABAAD, in partnership with UNICEF, produced "Marriage is Not a Game," an animation video highlighting the risks associated with early marriage.

During the preparatory phase, ABAAD collaborated with UNICEF to develop key messages for the animation video. Once ABAAD produced an initial draft of the video, UNICEF conducted field testing and focus group discussions in Bekaa and T5. Based on suggestions from the field, the script and visuals were modified, and the video was finalised. This was coupled with a complementary brochure carrying the key messages featured in the video.



Deprivation of rights to education



Decrease in the girl's ability to protect herself and her children



Increased risks on the health of the girl and the foetus during pregnancy



Deprivation of the ability to access decent work in adulthood

Marking the end of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence 2014 Campaign, ABAAD, in collaboration with UNICEF, organised a launching ceremony, where the issue of child marriage was addressed by the speeches of Ambassador Angelina Eichhorst, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Lebanon's representative, Ms. Annamaria Laurini, UNICEF Representative in Lebanon, and Ms. Ghida Anani, ABAAD Founder and Director. The event attended by over 170 representatives of UN agencies, local and international NGOs, civil society activists, and the media. Following the introductory words and the screening of the video, the floor was opened for members of the audience to pose questions and discuss the issue of early and forced child marriage.



10. PROGRAMME P (manual)

“Programme P: A Manual for Engaging Men in Fatherhood, Caregiving, and Maternal and Child Health” is a pioneer manual of its kind in the MENA region promoting gender equality within couple dynamics. Due to pressing societal needs, ABAAD found it crucial and urgent to develop and adapt Programme P, which provides concrete strategies and activities for engaging men in active positive fatherhood and caregiving, during the entire time period covering their partner's pregnancies through their children's early years. It identifies the best practices on engaging men in maternal and child health, caregiving, and preventing violence against women and children on the basis of equality and non-violence. The manual was developed by Promundo, REDMAS, and EME, as part of the international MenCare Campaign. Programme P was adapted to the Lebanese and regional context by ABAAD, supported by Save the Children International, to be used by social and health actors, animators, and front-liners working with men and youth in Lebanon.

Programme P comprises of three sections:

I) Fatherhood in the Health Sector: A Guide for Health Professionals on Engaging Men

This component targets medical personnel, providing guidance on engaging men in the prenatal, delivery, and child-rearing periods.

II) Engaged Fatherhood: Group Education for Fathers and their Partners

This component targets the men, and provides information on child health, caregiving, and the prevention of violence.

III) Mobilising Your Community: A Guide for Implementing a MenCare Campaign in Your Setting

This component targets men engaging with others on a community level.

Programme P, which was launched at a ceremony under the patronage of the Minister of Social Affairs His Excellency Mr. Rachid Derbas, was attended by approximately 200 people from different ministries, civil society organisations, international agencies, and independent activists. The Manual was launched through introductory speeches by Ghida Anani, ABAAD Founder and Director, Ian Rodgers, Save the Children Director, and HE the Minister of Social Affairs' detailing and stressing the importance of the initiative and utilising it. This was followed by Ms. Anita Nassar's presentation on the adaptation process of the manual and its various components. Ms. Nassar emphasised the following points related to the manual's objectives:

- Promoting gender equality within couple dynamics especially in terms of equitable division of caregiving and domestic work.
- Supporting the public health sector with tools to promote the involvement of both mothers and fathers in maternal and child health.
- Improving men's self-confidence and efficacy in caregiving for children to develop and thrive.
- Promoting positive parenting and healthy relationships with children through the rejection of corporal punishment as well as of other forms of violence against children.
- Preventing violence against women and promoting healthy and happy relationships
- Encouraging couples to teach values of gender equality to their children and to model such equality in their relationships.



11. HOW TO WORK WITH PARENTS

(guidebook)

ABAAD, in partnership with Save the Children International, produced "How to Work with Parents," a guidebook for social actors, animators, and front-liners working with children and their parents. The guidebook has been incorporated as an annex to the "Playing for Gender Equality" toolkit previously produced by ABAAD.

The guide, produced based on feedback received while conducting trainings on PGE, details the importance of parental involvement in any gender equality programmes designed for children and youth. Parents are key players whose involvement is crucial in any programme designed for children. In order to lay the proper foundations for a full partnership with parents, the latter's active involvement is essential. This is because it would lead to their full support and to the reinforcement of the facilitators' work at home with their children, thus resulting in cyclical effects in the struggle towards transformative social change.



12. SUPPORTING CHILD SURVIVORS

(guidebook)

This practical guide, developed for counsellors in UNRWA's education programme in Lebanon, was developed following a training entitled "Caring for Child Survivors," as well as an assessment of capacity-building needs conducted with counsellors in the UNRWA education programme between April and August 2014. The manual aims to strengthen the capacities of UNRWA staff (teachers and school counsellors) to apply the guiding principles for working with child survivors of sexual abuse and deliver primary support while respecting the "Do No Harm" principle.

13. CARING FOR CHILD SURVIVORS

(brochure)

ABAAD, in partnership with UNRWA, developed "Caring for Child Survivors," a tool addressed at social workers, front-line personnel, and educators working with children. The objective of this brochure is to provide knowledge on the following levels:

- How to receive child survivors
- How to provide support to child survivors
- How to identify indicators that a child is a (potential) survivor of GBV
- Effects and impact of GBV on children



14. 1325 RESOLUTION “MY RIGHT TO PROTECTION DURING ARMED CONFLICTS” (BOOKLET)

ABAAD, in partnership with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), developed “My Right to Protection during Armed Conflicts.” The booklet, which was written in Arabic, in a clear and simplified manner, aims at equipping relevant right-holders with the legal and practical knowledge about UNSCR 1325 in addition to its mandate, scope, and pillars. UNSCR 1325 acknowledges the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women and girls. It calls for the adoption of a gender perspective to consider the special needs of women and girls during conflict, repatriation and resettlement, rehabilitation, reintegration, and post-conflict reconstruction.

15. HOW TO ORGANISE SUPPORT GROUP SESSIONS FOR WOMEN AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS (manual)

“How to Organise Support Group Sessions for Women and Adolescent Girls At-Risk or Survivors of GBV Using a Survivor-Centred Approach” is a manual developed in partnership with the Danish Refugee Council, and a group of psychologists and humanitarian actors. The manual aims at providing actors with the detailed steps of how to organise support group sessions. These support groups would ensure a safe space for self-expression, where women and girls who have survived GBV or are at risk of it receive direct psychosocial support. The objective of the sessions is providing an opportunity to work on:

- The individual level, and develop their self-awareness and self-help capacities
- The relational level, to build a supportive social network
- The broader coping level, to deal with the daily stressors

16. APPROACHES OF WORKING WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (manual)

ABAAD, supported by KVINFO, developed a manual detailing different approaches civil society organisations working on women's issues can use to engage religious leaders in combating GBV and ending violence against women. The 32-page manual was developed after conducting a number of focus group discussions that were attended by religious leaders and representatives from women's CSOs. It was adapted and made relevant to the Lebanese society, taking into consideration the existing social norms and beliefs. The manual also provides an overview of the different religious structures within the Lebanese context, as well as means for NGOs to involve, collaborate, and build alliances with the aforementioned religious institutions.

The manual was peer-reviewed by lawyers, religious leaders, and activists in the field. All relevant comments were integrated and consolidated into the final version. After conducting validation testing and ensuring the manual was befitting of the context, the manual was designed, printed, and dispersed.



ADVOCACY



#1 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE 2014:

“WITH VIOLENCE... NOBODY COMES OUT AHEAD”.



For the fourth year in a row, ABAAD - Resource Centre for Gender Equality led a nation-wide campaign on the occasion of the International 16 Days of Activism to End Violence against Women (VAW). This year's campaign slogan carried ample weight; its message held concrete dimensions in the efforts to end violence against women and girls in Lebanon. The international theme of the 2014 campaign was 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World'. In Lebanon, the theme focused on taking violence against women from silent and suppressed spheres into the heart of the public sphere of State accountability, in order to mobilise public opinion, actors at the State level, and women's human rights stakeholders. The message clearly defined the "responsibility" each individual within a society has in ending violence against women. It stripped violence of all "social privileges" related to it, especially the patriarchal domination of men over women. It set indicators to eliminate violence through endorsing a commitment to the necessity of putting a stop to VAW. It therefore set a crucial framework of accountability.

“Through Violence... Nobody comes out ahead. The ultimate responsibility is putting an end to violence against women.” This declaration was made by His Excellency Former Lebanese President General Michel Sleiman, who carried the message to the public in his capacity as Lebanon's most recent President (prior to the current gap), and therefore as a representation of the position of Presidency.

Although there are still many necessary reforms that need to occur in Lebanon, from important legislation to missing structures and services that need to be established, during President Sleiman's term in office, and through the joint effort of civil society initiatives, a number of advancements

and legislative reforms related to women's rights took place. Additionally, the President also supported the endorsement of a law that criminalises domestic violence against women in Lebanon, after the latter's having been pending for eight years.

The statement above, when made by the President, leads the contents of the message to portray responsibility and accountability to a highly tangible extent. The President's assertion therefore held three implications: First, that ending violence is the responsibility of men in general, and decision-makers (on both the legislative and executive levels) in particular. Second, that ending violence is also the responsibility of the Presidency of the Lebanese Republic, as an executive authority. Third, that matters related to violence against women should be turned into social, protective, and preventive policies. The national campaign shed light on the importance of sharpening the political will both to end violence against women, and to handle women's issues in Lebanon in a more inclusive and sustainable manner. This means that the issue of violence against women needs to be taken out of the sole confines of women's organisations, and must no longer be dealt with as a women's issue exclusively.

The campaign thus aimed to foster the Lebanese political will through highlighting the State's exercising of due diligence. The State is the authority that can shape the most effective human rights-based policies and programmes in their work on the elimination of VAW. The Lebanese State is therefore accountable, as its responsibility is to defend women's rights at the legislative level, and to continue such efforts until these theoretical rights become a reality. The campaign was also designed

to elicit a proactive response from the State and the general population alike, by raising awareness on the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) in Lebanon, as well as on the need to take action to protect survivors of GBV while simultaneously working on the rehabilitation of perpetrators of GBV.

Through this campaign, whose main component was a public service announcement in addition to billboards and unipoles, the President played an influential role in calling upon men to become engaged in ending VAW, affirming that step as a real responsibility. The campaign was another brick in the foundation where ABAAD sheds light on the concept of engaging men to end VAW as a key element in the effort to end GBV in Lebanon and the region. It was also a national reminder that remedying and ending violence is the responsibility of all, especially the State, headed by the President.

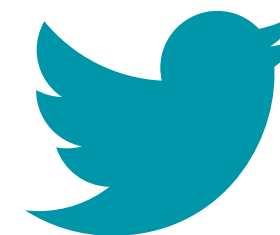
In conclusion, ABAAD asserted the importance of the role played by decision-makers in the collective responsibility of ending violence against women and girls in Lebanon. The campaign's messages defined responsibility from a perspective of the Lebanese state's due diligence to end this violence through promoting preventive efforts against violence, protecting women, and providing specialised holistic services for both, women survivors of violence, as well as for perpetrators of violence.

PARTICIPATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL ORGANISATION HEADS:



STATISTICS OVERVIEW:

 **31,645** views



 **4026** Likes
%49 women, %51 men
1,357,216 Posts

CAMPAIGN POSTS WERE RETWEETED BY THE INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES & PRESIDENT MICHEL SLEIMAN

TV. aired on 11 local channels, 6 times per day

RADIO aired on 6 local stations 6 times per day

Billboards 1300 billboards
44 unipoles

Digital Media Web banners with campaign visuals on five online newspapers, as well as on different social media websites, including Facebook – impressions delivered: 7,685,123

#2 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY NIGHT CYCLING RIDE



On the occasion of International Women's Day, ABAAD, in collaboration with CyclingCircle and Bike Generation, organised a night cycling ride to demand gender equality and safety for all women and girls both, on the streets, and at home. The initiative aimed to push for laws and regulations that protect women and girls in Lebanon from violence, discrimination, and marginalisation, especially in light of the recent increase in the number of women victims of domestic violence. Young men and women of different ages and nationalities, in addition to a group of professional cyclists, took part in the ride, during which they cycled throughout different areas of Beirut. They made multiple stops to distribute flyers to raise awareness on International Women's Day, as well as to engage people in the discussion around the situation of women in Lebanon.

#3 "PUT YOUR HAND WITH HERS, NOT ON HER. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS A CRIME." (PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT)



In the light of the recent killing incidents that took the lives of several women in Lebanon, ABAAD and World Vision launched a new media campaign with a public service announcement carrying the message "Put your hand with hers, not on her - violence against women is a crime!" Through a "suspenseful" approach, the PSA addresses the role men can adopt in order to transform the concepts of masculinity that bound and dictate men's behaviour, focusing on men being true allies in combating violence against women.

#4 THE MISSING OF LEBANON ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS PROJECT

Act for the Disappeared, in partnership with ABAAD and supported by the European Union, launched a project to empower the families of Lebanon's forcibly disappeared, and to help them through their struggles to discover the destinies of their loved ones. The project activities will therefore work to create a network for families of the disappeared, build their capacities to advocate for their "right to know," thus providing them with a platform to express their views to the public and to stakeholders. Information meetings for the families from different regions have already taken place, followed by one support group with the mothers and wives of the disappeared. In parallel, the project also aims to support the families' associations in an ongoing judicial process, which will be done in collaboration with the Legal Agenda. The objective is a judicial decision that recognises the existence of mass graves and protects them before their future exhumation.

#5 BEIRUT MARATHON RUN AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE

ABAAD, Esposa, OXFAM, UNICEF and Rotana joined efforts to run against child marriage at the Beirut International Marathon 2014. The team consisted of over 200 people, a number of whom wore symbolic wedding dresses, while other carried banners and called for an end to child marriage, coupled with legal protection for both girls and boys from early and forced marriage.

During the event, the team of runners promoted the following messages:

- Marriage after the age of 18 protects the girl's right to education
- Marriage after the age of 18 significantly reduces the risks on the health and lives of both the girl and the foetus
- Marriage after the age of 18 enables the girl to access decent work in adulthood
- Marriage after the age of 18 enables the girl to better protect herself and her children

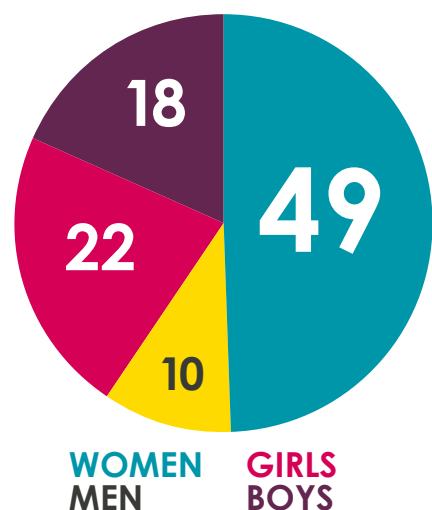




CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

TOTAL TRAININGS
149

TOTAL TRAINEES 2144



TARGETS:

Social workers
Case workers
Animators
Lawyers
Medical personnel
doctors / midwives / nurses / administrative staff
Psychologists
Youth

GOVERNORATES:

North/13
South/103
Beirut/9
Bekaa/8
Mount Lebanon/7

PLUS:
Egypt, Jordan,
South Africa,
Sweden

18 Engaging Men Programme
41 Gender Equality Programme
90 Emergency Response Programme

1. CARING FOR CHILD SURVIVORS OF HARASSMENT OR ABUSE

ABAAD, in partnership with UNRWA, trained over 100 UNRWA teachers and school counsellors working at UNRWA schools in Tripoli and Saida, on "Caring for Child Survivors." The training programme provided the staff with the information and skills to improve their capacities to detect behavioural problems. This included understanding behavioural indicators of child abuse, and offering listening and basic counselling to children enrolled at UNRWA schools.



2. MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS GENDER AND GENDER ANALYSIS TRAININGS

ABAAD conducted four training cycles, over the course of four months, for the staff of the Ministry of Social Affairs, within the framework of the MoSA's Gender and Gender Analysis Workshops (in collaboration with the National Commission for Lebanese Women). The 60 women participants, a group of social workers, Social Development Centre Directors, and MoSA Heads of Departments, were introduced to the concepts of gender and gender analysis. The trainings had an in-depth focus on general gender concepts, concepts of gender equality and gender-based discrimination, gender and gender-based violence, and gender analysis.

3. RECREATIONAL ART PSYCHOSOCIAL WORKSHOPS

ABAAD, in partnership with the International Medical Corps, conducted two recreational art psychosocial workshops in the areas of Tripoli and Baalbek, which were attended by 41 Syrian adolescents and children.

The workshops used art techniques (namely drawing and painting) to help participants overcome the daily challenges they face as a result of their displacement. This form of art therapy helps participants to de-stress and to focus on the positive aspects of their current situations, in addition to creating a safe space where the youth can express themselves and share their challenges. This generally results in fostering their self-esteem and interpersonal communication skills.

4. YOUTH AGAINST VAW FILMMAKING WORKSHOP

ABAAD, in partnership with IMC, conducted a four-day filmmaking workshop entitled "Youth against Violence Against Women" in Douris, Bekaa. The workshop aimed at providing a comprehensive introduction to filmmaking technicalities, from idea creation, to film production, until actual on-screen airing. Fifteen Lebanese and Syrian youths of both sexes came together to learn more about gender, gender equality, and violence against women. The workshop allowed the fifteen participants to express their solidarity towards ending violence efforts through film creation.

5. HOW TO USE THE "AS WE GROW" TOOLKIT

Trainings:

ABAAD, in partnership with Save the Children, conducted 12 capacity-building trainings on how to use the educational and awareness toolkit "As We Grow" in REGIONS. The Toolkit contains two animated cartoon films, one targeting girls and their parents/caretakers, and one targeting boys and their parents/caretakers. The films are produced by ABAAD, UNICEF, IMC, and Save the Children, and address sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as protection from violence and exploitation."

Training of Trainers:

Also using "As We Grow," ABAAD conducted five trainings of trainers, in partnership with UNICEF, in Tripoli, Akkar, the Bekaa, Tyr, and Mount Lebanon. The ToTs were attended by 82 social workers, case workers, and animators working with girls within UNICEF partner organisations.

6. PLAYING FOR GENDER EQUALITY TRAINING OF TRAINERS

"Playing for Gender Equality" is a cutting-edge training toolkit, considered one of the first toolkits of its kind developed and tested in the MENA region. The PGE toolkit, which targets children ages 8 – 12, includes a training guide composed of 10 games, the referential guide "What do I Need to Know about Gender Equality?", and support items such as posters, stickers, and colouring sheets. The kit is a tool for trainers and facilitators to work on gender equality with children through fun, interactive, competitive, and educational games and exercises, each followed by discussion components.

In partnership with Save the Children International, ABAAD conducted two trainings of trainers for 53 participants working with children, one in Beirut, and the other in Tyr. The trainings provided participants with the cognitive framework necessary to understand and therefore convey gender-related concepts, especially gender equality, gender roles, and gender-based violence, as well as how to work with children on addressing these issues.

The trainings also enabled the participants to adapt and use the toolkit, each in her/his direct field of work with children, by providing them with the needed knowledge and communication skills to successfully carry out the games included in the training curriculum. Upon completion of the ToT, each of the trainees conducted coaching sessions on PGE.

7. PUPPET-MAKING WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITIONS

In collaboration with UNICEF and the IRC, ABAAD held puppet-making workshops for 35 Syrian refugee and Affected Lebanese young girls and adolescents (ages 9 – 17) to empower them to express their GBV-related struggles through puppetry. At the beginning of each workshop, the girls were introduced to the different types of puppets, the techniques of puppet-making, and how to move puppets in theatrical manners to animate stories. This was followed by a discussion of the GBV-related challenges the girls are facing within their communities, with the prominent issues being verbal harassment in the streets, kidnapping and rape, parental refusal to allow the girls to spend time outside the house, as well as early marriage. The girls then crafted their puppets and formed them in a manner that portrayed the aforementioned issues.

Following the puppet-making workshops, ABAAD organised two public exhibitions featuring the puppets created by the girls, one in Taanayel, Bekaa and the other in Wadi Khaled, North Lebanon. The 250 attendees in Taanayel and the 400 in Wadi Khaled were given the opportunity to view the four different stands, each depicting a social issue the girls are facing: early marriage, violence, social cohesion, and harassment in public. The attendees visited each of the stands, asked questions, and had discussions with the IRC and ABAAD team members.



8. CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF RAPE

Facility-Based Trainings

ABAAD, in partnership with UNICEF, conducted several facility-based training on CMR in 14 different hospitals and PHCs in the Bekaa, North, South, and Mount Lebanon governorates. Overall, 223 medical staff members (81% female, 19% male) –OB/GYNs, paediatricians, nurses, midwives, medico-social workers, and some administrative staff – participated in the trainings. The targeted hospitals and PHCs were selected by ABAAD in coordination with UNICEF, UNHCR, the Reproductive Health Working Group, and the National GBV Taskforce based on CMR field assessments using pre-defined criteria. The training sessions, conducted by a prominent medical doctor specialising in Forensic Medicine, Medical Law, Emergency and Disaster Medicine, as well as GBV, communicated methods and skills of identifying and managing cases of sexual violence and assault using the internationally adopted curriculum and tools. In addition to the two days of intensive CMR training, the

medical and administrative staff at the different health facilities attended a one-day training on GBV, where they were introduced to the difference between sex and gender, the basics of GBV, violence against women and children, in addition to SOPs and referral pathways.

Training of Trainers

Upon finalisation of the facility-based trainings, ABAAD put out a Call for Participation for a Training of Trainers on the Clinical Management of Rape, in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, and in partnership with UNICEF. A number of medical staff applied, some of whom were personnel who had attended the facility-based trainings, and 20 were selected to attend the ToT. The ToT comprised of seven intensive full-day sessions conducted over the course of a month in Beirut. The in-depth sessions addressed GBV, how to receive survivors of sexual assault, the roles of the medical and administrative staff members, the Lebanese laws related to patient rights

and child protection, direct medical service provision to survivors of sexual assault, information about HIV and other STIs and the administering of PEP kits, in addition to training and coaching skills.

Coaching Sessions

Four medical specialists who attended the ToT, displayed exceptional skills, and expressed the ability to and interest in becoming coaches were then contracted by ABAAD to conduct coaching and follow-up sessions at the 14 different hospitals and PHCs that had received CMR trainings. The coaches provided support to help the medical staff at the different facilities overcome the challenges they are facing while providing CMR services, in order to better serve beneficiaries.

9. GBV CASE MANAGEMENT IN EMERGENCY AND POST-EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

ABAAD, in partnership with UNICEF, conducted two five-day GBV CMiE trainings (in the North and the Bekaa) and one refresher training (in Tyr) for social workers working with women and girl survivors of GBV in Lebanon, from both refugee and local communities. The workshops aimed at strengthening the case management capacities of the 53 participants through introducing them to the Conceptual framework of Gender, Gender Based Violence, Case Management, Humanitarian Emergencies; Steps of Case Management through the usage of women's human rights framework in line with internationally-recognised standards of good practice; Interactive IEC materials and tools for community education and outreach on GBV in emergencies; Understanding the legal framework for the provision of care to child survivors.

The training was conducted by global GBV experts and involved a mixed-method approach including seminars and plenary discussions, group work, role plays, and other creative means to ensure learning. The trainings were conducted in both Arabic and English (simultaneous translation).



10. WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY (UNSCR 1325) CONSULTATION AND AWARENESS SESSIONS

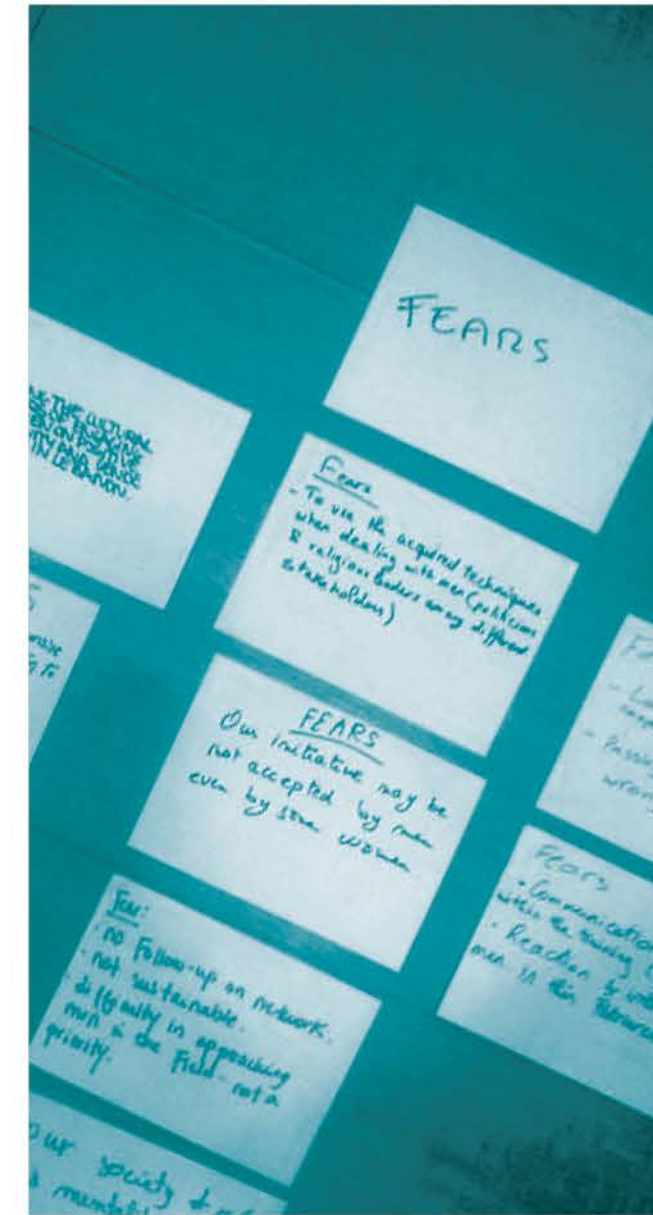
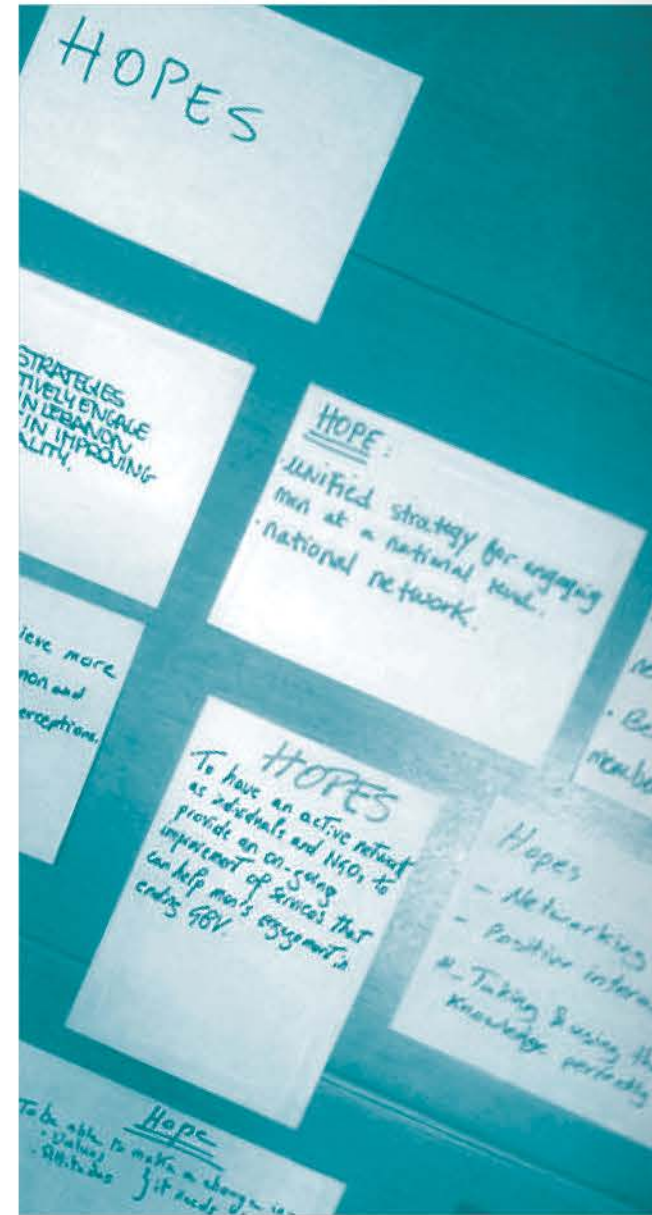
In partnership with Lebanese League for Women's Rights in Lebanon and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, ABAAD conducted a series of eight consultation and awareness sessions on Women, Peace, and Security over the course of three months. The sessions took place in the South (3 sessions), Mount Lebanon (1), Beirut (2), Bekaa (1), and the North (1), and were attended by 165 women and men, including youth between the ages of 18 and 25. The trainings sensitised participants on UN Security Council Resolution 1325, and assessed their perceptions of possible challenges (and priorities) pertaining to women's active roles in peace-building and security.

11. MENENGAGE LEBANON NETWORK LAUNCH AND TRAININGS

“For too long, men have been part of the problem. Now, it is time for men to become part of the solution.”

“Human rights should not discriminate between men and women, because men and women are all human.”

ABAAD, in partnership with the MenEngage Global Network, Sonke Gender Justice Network, and the International Medical Corps, kicked off the MenEngage Lebanon Country Network with three cycles of trainings over the course of three months on gender, masculinities, and engaging men in work on ending violence against women. Representatives from 11 local and international organisations in Lebanon attended and completed the trainings, which took place over the course of three months, thus officially becoming part of the MenEngage Lebanon Network on behalf of their organisations.



The trainings followed a parallel process: discussion and formulation of the network by all of the parties was done simultaneously while raising the organisational members' capacity and skills on how to engage men in gender equality and knowledge on masculinities. The training has resulted in a pool of organisations with an increased capacity and ability to engage men within their context in Lebanon, as well as sharing and learning among these organisations as a Network.

Through best practices cultivated from the MenEngage Lebanon Network, different county networks across the MENA region will be established. It is expected that once the different country networks are established and functional, the MenEngage MENA Regional Network will be launched.

12. “CULTURALLY JUSTIFIED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN” REGIONAL WORKSHOP

ABAAD, in partnership with Women’s Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratization and Women Living under Muslim Laws, conducted a regional workshop for participants from Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, and Lebanon. The workshop is one of three regional workshops (Africa, Asia, and the Middle East) being conducted by WLUML within the framework of the WELDD CVAW and Sustaining Activism Workshops.

The intended outcome of the workshops was to build the capacities of women activists and leaders at the forefront of resisting and challenging CVAW in their communities in order for them to (1) enhance the effectiveness of their advocacies and build strategies towards a rights-based framework in challenging culturally justified violence against women and (2) to sustain women’s rights activism in resisting VAW.

13. GENDER IDENTITIES, MASCULINITY AND ENGAGING MEN IN EVAW

ABAAD, in collaboration with Concern Worldwide, conducted a four day capacity building workshop for Concern staff on “Gender Identities, Masculinity and Engaging Men in Ending Violence against Women.” The interactive training’s different themes tackled basic introductions to gender, gender roles, gender equality, an in-depth training day on gender-based violence, as well as two components on masculinities, the first addressing the psychological profile and the social background of men with abusive behaviour, and the second dealing with the socialisation process and ways of engaging men in ending violence against women.

15. HOW TO ORGANISE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR WOMEN SURVIVORS OF GBV

ABAAD conducted “How to Organise Support Groups for Women Victims of GBV Using a Survivor-Centred Approach,” in the North and in the Bekaa with the aim of reinforcing the capacity and skills of participants in planning and facilitating support group sessions with female survivors of GBV, using a survivor-centred approach. The training provided a platform that improved the participants’ understanding of GBV and different psychosocial and contextual considerations in humanitarian and refugee settings; the survivor-centred approach; the process of support group planning, implementation, and documentation; and the necessity of personal “self-care” while working with survivors. Their communication skills were also strengthened, to complement their ability of facilitating support group sessions.





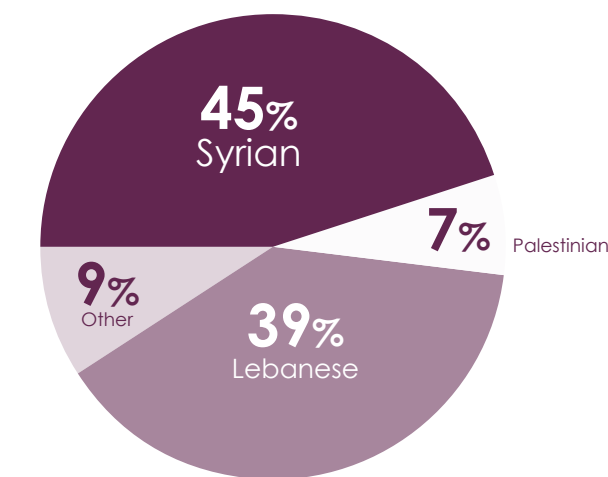
DIRECT SERVICES

AL DAR

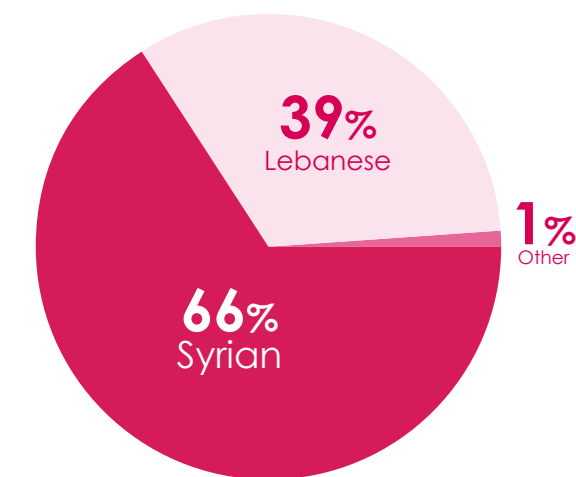
EMERGENCY SAFE HOUSING

Temporary Emergency Safe Houses in three Lebanese governorates providing women and girl survivors of gender-based violence (and their children) with temporary shelter, psychosocial support, legal advice, medical follow-up, empowerment activities, and other services as

**TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2014** **264**



DIRECT BENEFICIARIES 152



INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES (BOYS & GIRLS) 112

needed. In August 2013, ABAAD launched its Midway Transition House "Al Dar," a free, safe, and supportive temporary house for women at risk or survivors of GBV, whether single women, adolescent girls, or women with their children, in three different Lebanese governorates. The three Midway Houses operate in partnership with UNHCR, DRC, and UNICEF.

At the confidential and safe environment, women can seek services, gather information, and explore their different options with the assistance of trained, multi-disciplinary professional staff. Immediate safe-housing, crisis counselling, information on legal rights, psychosocial support, referrals for the provision of welfare and social services, income assistance, and access to resources are all available.

The services offered by Al Dar contribute to supporting women/beneficiaries in enhancing their self-esteem, increasing their life management skills, receiving emotional support, decreasing physical and psychological harm, and enabling women's long term safety and empowerment. This empowering environment provides women with opportunity to grow, mature, and escape abusive situations.

Al Dar also contributes to building community awareness and strengthening local capacities to better respond to GBV.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES:

- Providing women and adolescent girls at risk or survivors of GBV with immediate temporary accommodation, 24/7
- Providing emergency support, including health, psychosocial and legal support
- Raising society's awareness about GBV in general, and on the importance of safe-housing in particular through networking with local stakeholders
- Strengthening the referral system as per set SOPs and guidelines, and advocating the Midway Transition Houses as an option for breaking the cycle of violence
- Providing individual case management agencies with an alternative and immediate response to women and adolescent girls in need of temporary accommodation.

MIDTERM OBJECTIVES:

- Strengthening capacities of local actors involved in GBV prevention and response, especially in the field of case management
- Raising community awareness about GBV and the specific risks it poses to women and girls
- Empowering women and girls to break their social isolation
- Providing women and girls with psychosocial support essential to develop increased levels of resilience and to overcome social and emotional difficulties

LONG TERM OBJECTIVES:

PARTICIPATING IN THE DRAWING OF NATIONAL POLICIES AT BOTH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE LEVELS IN ORDER TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND ADOLESCENT GIRLS

TESTIMONIALS // Beneficiary Testimonials:

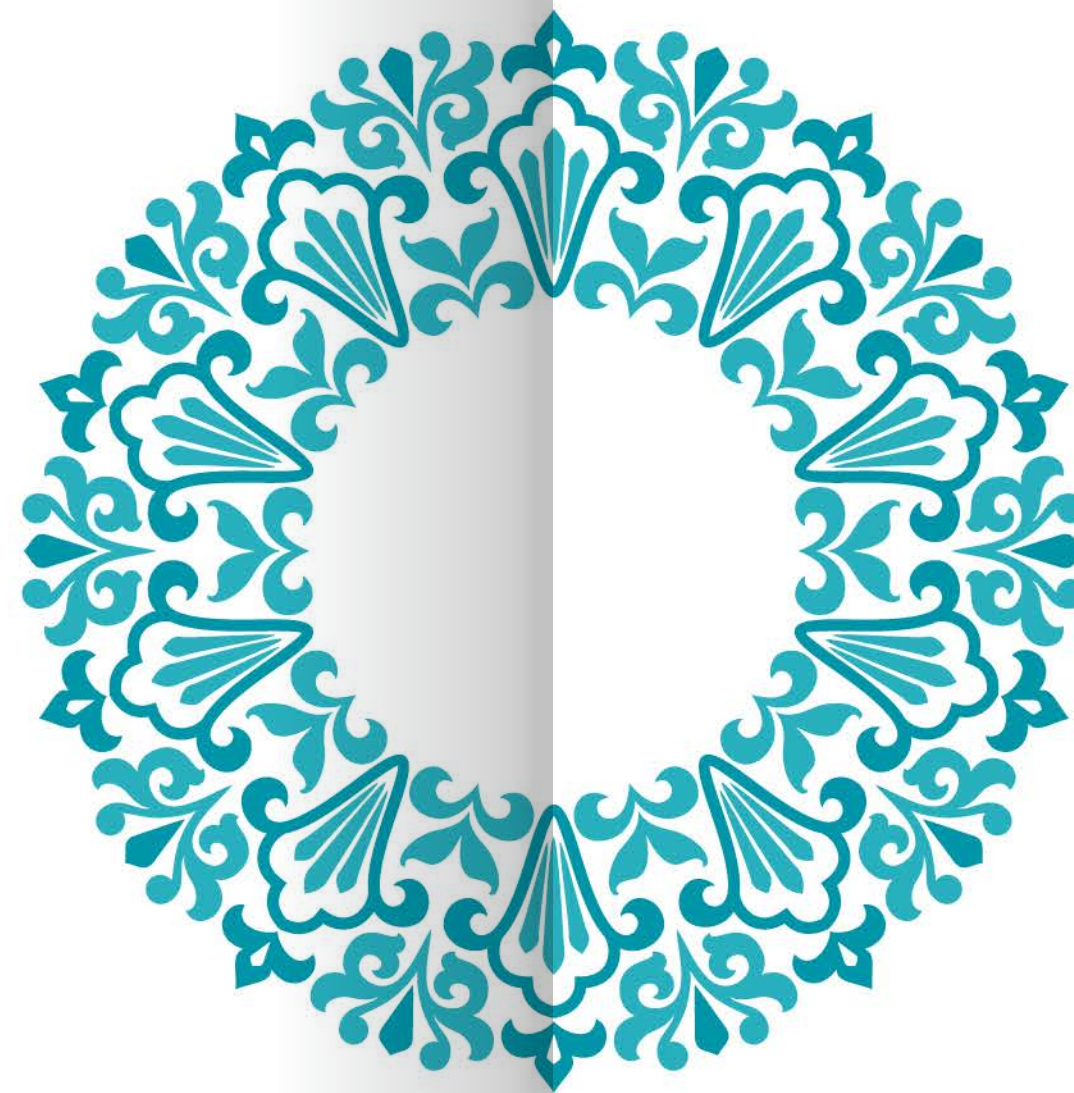
- *Had I previously known about Al Dar, I would not have made myself endure all the insults and violence I allowed myself to go through.*
- *I found all the support I needed here, and for that, I am thankful. However, I am still afraid of the outside world and life, where there is no law that will protect me.*
- *At Al Dar, I learned that I am a human being, and that I have the right to refuse violence and to live honourably.*
- *I am leaving this place, with my head held high. I feel very strong and very confident about facing all those who harmed and abused me.*
- *I wish I could tell each and every woman who may be at risk of violence and harassment about [Al Dar], that there exists this place where she will receive support based on a humanitarian approach rather than winding up feeling like nothing but a business case.*

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER EXPERIENCE:

“It is with passion that I come to meet all those women every day, believing in my mission of empowering women and helping them to protect themselves from violence.

From my own experience, psychosocial support and counselling is not enough to really end abuse and VAW; economic empowerment is needed, as it is the basic element for an independent woman to really end the cycle of violence and to confront life alone after becoming psychologically ready to do so. Most of the beneficiaries who left the MWH expressed this challenge and many of them prefer to go back to their abuser after they realise how hard it is to not be dependent and submissive when they are not economically strong enough.”

MEN CENTRE



3 PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

31 SESSION PER WEEK

68 BENEFICIARIES
regularly attending appointments

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2014

It has become a more recognised concept, globally, that in order to end Violence against Women (VAW) and attain a gender equal society, we must engage men in our work as Women's Human Rights Activists. Failure to engage men in strategies promoting gender equality not only overlooks one of the most important aspects of combating the long-standing social epidemic of VAW – that men are the perpetrators of VAW and need to be rehabilitated – but it also leaves women alone in the fight to end the horrors of VAW in patriarchal societies.

It is for these reasons that the work on Engaging Men in ending VAW must begin now in order for true and sustainable change in building gender equal societies. This is specifically the reality when considering strategies to be employed in the MENA region, which is still an extremely patriarchal region with men dominating government, the workplace, religion, and the household. The understanding of Masculinity among the people also tends to be a very traditional one, where the father is the provider and head of the household, while the mother is the subservient and sacrificial "second in charge".

As part of ABAAD's pilot initiative to engage men, the Men Centre (MC), a psychological counselling centre for men to address issues of masculinities and rehabilitate men with abusive behaviours, was launched. The MC is a place that provides support to men residing in Lebanon (including Palestinian, Iraqi, and Syrian refugee populations) with services such as support groups, discussion groups, and individual psychological counselling. The focus of the MC is to have the men who come to the centre analyse and question the current stresses in their lives, through psychological counselling, from a gender perspective. They investigate societal gender roles, and how these roles are affecting their daily lives, attitudes, and behaviours, specifically in their relationships with others. The MC also provides stress management and anger management workshops, and teaches healthy emotional and solution-focused coping strategies, in addition to healthy and unhealthy communication dynamics (such as violent responses) in their lives. The MC aims to empathise with men, while allowing them to assume responsibility for any behaviours and attitudes that may be abusive or violent in nature. On an advocacy level, the MC succeeded in sensitising relevant governmental agencies about the need of a holistic approach in addressing the issue of GBV; discussions began with the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice and Ministry Of Social Affairs on the institutionalisation of such services within national structures and referral mechanisms under the GBV prevention and response efforts.

It is in the MC that men will begin to question what it means to "be a man" in our society. They will come to better understand the costs and rewards of traditional gender roles as well as those of assuming a more gender equal stance in their behaviours and attitudes.

The MC is open 6 days a week with an average of 50 beneficiaries who come on a weekly basis.

MEN'S CENTRE TESTIMONIALS:

"This is the only place where I can talk about everything without feeling I have to justify myself. I feel safe. I do not feel judged. I feel respected. When I go home, I feel that I carry within me an internal peace that allows me to remain calm and face all the difficulties."

"My temper is no longer controlling my thoughts and my actions. I am therefore able to strategise again now. I am rebuilding positive relationships with my wife, my children, and my family. I am finally able to pave the way to restart my career successfully."

ABAAD launched the Men Centre in June 2012. The Centre aims to improve men's reactions and emotions due to daily stress, and to support them in better dealing with and managing this stress. The Centre employs three therapists and offers one-on-one PSS sessions, counselling by phone, group therapy, and stress and anger management workshops.

All the centre's male beneficiaries have sought out its services voluntarily, especially since the latter are completely free and confidential. The centre's location is private and inconspicuous, and does not attract any attention.

ABAAD has launched two nation-wide media campaigns for the MC, to enhance and promote an institutionalised referral system to spread the word about the Men Centre throughout Lebanon. The slogan of the two campaigns was "Mest'eddeen Nisma'a Haki" ("We are here, and willing to listen," a phrase that carries a double meaning of someone speaking to another in an abusive manner), and were publicised through a TV spot, billboards, posters, and postcards of different men in stressful situations.

Additionally, ABAAD has conducted numerous field visits to different local organisations and institutions in order to initiate discussions about gender roles, GBV, masculinities, the necessity of engaging men in ERAW efforts, as well as raise awareness about ABAAD's pilot initiative, the Men Centre. The mission, vision, and services of the Men Centre were introduced, as were future steps to enhance referral systems between the different institutions and ABAAD's MC.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

ABAAD continuously engages with partners, sister organisations, community centres, as well as academic institutions and universities to build community awareness and understanding on issues of engaging men and promoting gender equality.

During 2014, ABAAD took part in a number of university talks, mobilisation street campaigns, seminars, as well as demonstrations. ABAAD team members also took part in different global panels and forums, conferences, and high level meetings, in addition to conducting sessions in at least 20 countries.



- Regional Consultation Workshop with Arab CSOs on Beijing+20 - ESCWA (Beirut)
- BAU Human Rights Centre: International Women's Day Celebration (Beirut)
- BAU NGO Fair
- 58th UN CSW 2014 Panel: MDGs, Post-2015 and Beijing+ 20 Regional Perspectives Series, an NGO/ Government Dialogue: Arab States (New York)
- 58th UN CSW 2014 WILPF Panel: Access and Technology: Breaking Down Barriers to an Inclusive Women, Peace, and Security Agenda (New York)
- 58th UN CSW 2014 Panel: Involving Religious Leaders in Women's Rights Work: Innovative Practices and Challenges from the Field (New York)
- CLDH Conference on the Occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination: National Conference for the Rights of the Refugees from Syria
- AUB Civic and Volunteering Fair 2014: Awareness-raising on Gender Equality and Equity, Engaging Men, EVAW, and ABAAD's work (Beirut)

- LAU – Byblos NGO Fair 2014
- Swedish Institute Alexandria – National Campaign to Fight Sexual Harassment: ABAAD Session on How to Stop Sexual Harassment (Alexandria, Egypt)
- Womanity Foundation Panel: Womanity Award Laureates, ABAAD and Promundo, and other MENA experts to speak on engaging men in EVAW (London, UK)
- AUB: Awareness and Discussion Sessions on Gender, Gender Perceptions, GBV in Emergencies, and Engaging Men for Psychology students (Beirut, Lebanon)
- Cinema in Our Neighbourhood, mobile cinema and awareness raising activities throughout Lebanon, in partnership with IMC
- Friends of Al Dar Youth Group; organised in partnership with ActionAid (Bekaa, Lebanon)
- Friends of Al Dar pit-stops introducing Al Dar's objectives and services (Baalbek – Hermel, Lebanon)





VOLUNTARY SUPPORT TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL NGOS

As part of its mission (the dimension of supporting other NGOs who share the same or similar visions), ABAAD has provided voluntary technical support to over 11 national, regional, and international organisations on several different levels, for example:

- Writing proposals
- Providing support for establishing and registering organisations
- Providing support in organising campaigns
- Organisational and staff capacity building



DONORS, PARTNERS, & ALLIES

ABAAD wishes to extend a special THANK YOU to all our donors, partners, and allies, without whom none of our successes would have been possible.

We are grateful to the valuable contributions and partnerships each and every single one of the following organisations has provided during our three years of work.

With vigour and excitement, we are looking forward to continued fruitful collaborations, each of which results in an important step towards social change and a healthier society.

The ABAAD Team, Management, and Board

- 16 Days Global Campaign
- Act for the Disappeared
- Action Aid
- AFEL
- Amel Association
- ARDD - Legal Aid in Jordan
- Association for Women in Development (AWID)
- Campaign Against Female Genital Mutilation
- Committee for the Follow-up on Women's Issues
- Concern Worldwide
- Danish Refugee Council
- ESCWA
- Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue – FDCD
- GBV Prevention Network
- General Union of Palestinian Women
- International Medical Corps – IMC
- International Rescue Committee – IRC
- International Women's Alliance
- Justice Without Frontiers
- KVINFO
- Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World - LAU
- League of Lebanese Women
- Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women
- Lebanese Ministry of Health
- Lebanese Ministry of Social Affairs
- MenEngage Global Network
- Mercy Corps
- Ministry of Social Affairs - Higher Council for Childhood

- Nabaa Organisation
- Najdeh Association
- National GBV Taskforce
- Norwegian Embassy
- Norwegian People's Aid
- OXFAM
- Prevent Gender Based Violence (GBV)
- Promundo Global
- Save the Children International
- Say No – Unite to End Violence Against Women Campaign
- Search for Common Ground
- SIDA
- Sonke Gender Justice Network
- Swedish Institute Alexandria
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- The International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict
- UN Women
- UNHCR
- UNICEF
- UNRWA
- Womanity Foundation
- Women Living Under Muslim Law
- Women Peacemakers Programme
- Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development for Democratisation
- Women's Empowerment Organisation in Kurdish Territory - Iraq
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
- World Vision

Team Building

As part of our striving for excellence and constant advancement, both on the organisational and individual levels, ABAAD regularly invests in team building activities for both, our staff and our volunteers.

This means that team members constantly find themselves in taxis heading to different areas throughout Lebanon, from the extreme North to the extreme South, and all areas in between. Others find themselves packing bags and boarding planes to head to trainings, meetings, seminars, and conferences across six continents (we have not braved Antarctica yet).

Additionally, ABAAD holds regular retreats and strategic planning meetings with global experts for the entire team, where members are encouraged to voice any concerns, ideas, or initiatives, as well as to engage, in a participatory manner, in setting strategic and action plans for upcoming projects to be undertaken by the organisation.



HONOURS RECEIVED

During 2014, ABAAD received two major honours:

World Women Leadership Award:

The World Women Leadership Congress (WWLC) honors the strategic and influential role of various Women leaders in the world. The WWLC hosts its annual Women Leadership Awards to identify and celebrate the outstanding leadership and achievements demonstrated by Women leaders that are reflected by the distinct innovations and initiatives brought in by them in various private and public sectors.

recognizes and appreciates the profound role played by women as leaders, executioners, and decision makers, in shaping the future of the region and nation, and who embody the qualities of leadership in displaying active, creative, and integrative efforts in achieving the best possible results in the national and regional development plans.

The Womanity award:

The Womanity Award was launched in 2013 to identify and support powerful, evidence-based solutions to the widespread problem of violence against women.

The Award serves to identify such powerful, evidence-based programs and support them in their expansion by finding and supporting partner organizations that can implement them in their own context.

Abaad, the Womanity Award Scale-Up Partner, is dedicated to the advancement and empowerment of women in Lebanon and in the Middle East and North Africa. They aim to increase social and economic development through the participation of women in society. The award supports Promundo and Abaad to adapt Program H for delivery in this region.

The campaign has been endorsed by the Lebanese President and stimulated national debates on the subject of gender-based violence in Lebanon, encouraging women and men to refer cases to Abaad





**THANK
YOU**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world” Margaret Mead

“Our utmost respect goes to the beneficiaries who trust ABAAD’s team and who help us make a change every day; our thanks to our donors and partners who facilitate our work in the community” ABAAD’s team

Furn El Chebbak, Sector 5,51 Bustani Str. Najjar
Bldg, P.O. Box 50-048 Beirut Lebanon
+961 1 28 38 20/1 | +961 70 28 38 20
abaad@abaadmena.org
abaadmena.org
facebook.com/abaadmena

www.abaadmena.org
facebook.com/abaadmena