



**Preventing and Responding to SGBV with a special focus on Syrian Conflict Related Sexual Violence**

*UN ACTION MPTF PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT - 2017*

<b>Country</b>	Lebanon
<b>Project Start Date</b>	01/01/2017
<b>Project Completion Date</b>	31/12/2018
<b>UN Implementing Entities</b>	UNFPA-UNDP
<b>Name of Reporting Focal Point</b>	Alexia Nisen
<b>Title of Reporting Focal Point</b>	Project Manager/GBV Specialist
<b>Report Date</b>	31/12/2017

**1. Background**

**Lebanon** is hosting an estimated 1.5 million (registered and non-registered) Syrian refugees, which represent more than 30% of the population making Lebanon the country with the highest per capita host of refugees in the world. This large influx of displaced from Syria has resulted in overstretched government structures and services namely in the protection, health and education sectors/services. An unprecedented increase of violent incidents in the most deprived areas of the country has been witnessed and reported. This tension is the result of a clear asylum fatigue for the host population, coupled with a severe competition over limited resources and services. After five years of conflict and protracted displacement, poor living conditions coupled with increasing inter-communities tensions triggered serious protection concerns, including Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV). Women and children represent an estimated 79% of the refugee population in Lebanon. The context of crisis and displacement heightened the protection risks exponentially. Since 2014, nine SGBV cases identified out of ten has been affecting a women or a girl, while 85% of the incidents reported occurred in Lebanon. Although assistance is often life-saving for survivors, SGBV remains highly underreported due to fear of retaliation and social stigma and are still being considered a family matter to a large extent. Under-reporting is also a result of limited availability of, and access to quality services, including from the security, legal and judicial actors. After almost seven years of humanitarian response in Lebanon, the ownership of local stakeholders towards the issue can be further enhanced. The need of proxy actors, including law enforcement stakeholders at local level to be better tooled to contribute to prevent and respond to the risks of sexual violence faced by women, girls, men and boys in the specific context of the Syrian crisis.

This project aims at increasing protection of both refugee and host community women, girls, men and boys affected by the Syrian crisis through:

1. Enhancing the capacity of law enforcement actors (i.e. judges and police) to respond to the needs of SGBV survivors in a safe and ethical way;
2. Generating evidence and knowledge products to better target specific SGBV prevention and response intervention;
3. Raising awareness and advocacy efforts through involving media in improving SGBV perceptions.

These interventions built on former achievements from both UNDP and UNFPA and fill gaps identified as critical in the context of the Syrian crisis at inter-agency level. The two Agencies leading the project have been maintaining a long lasting strategic partnership valuing their complementary mandate. For this particular project, UNFPA is bringing technical expertise and operational support through national execution, while UNDP is supporting with resources and network including institutional support. The national organization selected for implementing the first component of the project (with the law enforcement sector), KAFA (Enough Violence and Exploitation), is a renowned SGBV stakeholder in the country. The NGO has been a traditional partner of UNFPA Lebanon since 2006. This critical long standing partnership with UNFPA has led to concrete achievements, including the passing of the law 293 against domestic violence in 2014, the training of over 800 Internal Security Forces Officers on violence against women, the rehabilitation and open of a safe shelter for survivors of trafficking and domestic workers, provision of key GBV services to survivors and women/girls at risk (case management, PSS, legal counseling and representation) in and from Listening and Counseling Centers (LCC), the National Campaign on Preventing/Ending Child/Early marriage, among others.

UNFPA and UNDP have adopted a sustainable and catalytic approach though implementing with local actors, involving relevant Ministries and national/local authorities, aiming at endorsement/institutionalisation of the initiatives by/within the national structures and systems, using Training of Trainers and peer to peer methods to ensure cascading capacity building etc. The project is expected to contribute meaningfully to the Special Representative of the Secretary General Strategy Paper on Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in the Middle-East and North Africa under pillars 3, 4, 5 and 6.

## 2. Project Implementation - Overview and Results in 2017

<b>Output 1.</b> Capacity of law enforcement sector enhanced to respond to the needs of SGBV survivors in a safe and ethical way	
Progress in implementing activity 1.1.	N/R - see challenges/lessons learned below.
Progress in implementing activity 1.2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Official Approval from the ISF Academy</b> to support the development of the SGBV curriculum for the Municipal Police and to institutionalize it within the Academy.</li> <li>• <b>Selection of the National Implementing Partner (KAFA)</b> to carry out and coordinate in partnership with UNFPA the needs assessment with the Municipal Police and the Heads of Municipality, the piloting of the course and the series of trainings of trainers/coaching.</li> <li>• <b>Finalization of the ToRs of the Training Needs Assessment on SGBV among the Municipal Police</b> and the Heads of Municipality in 25 selected Municipalities, approved by the Ministry of Interior.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recruitment of the SGBV Legal Consultant in charge of developing the curriculum for the Municipal Police</b>, in collaboration with the Project Board.</li> <li>• <b>Initiative presented at the National SGBV Task Force and at the Municipal Police Working Group meetings</b> to enhance coordination and collaboration among all concerned stakeholders, in particular UNFPA, UNDP, UNHCR and UNICEF. Progress reported back to the groups on monthly basis.</li> </ul>
Progress in achieving output:	<p>Perception Study implemented with the municipal police: initiated in 2017 an in progress</p> <p>Curriculum for Municipal Police developed and endorsed: initiated in 2017 and in progress.</p>

<b>Output 2. Generation of evidence and knowledge products supported in order to better target specific SGBV prevention and response interventions</b>	
Progress in implementing activity 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Prioritization of this intervention by the Education Sector led by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE):</b> the 2015 IASC GBV Guidelines roll-out with the education sector finalized in December 2017 demonstrated the need to invest in GBV prevention and response at the level of educational facilities. Following which, the 2018 Action Plan of the Education sector now contains the following priority: ensure that formal and informal education facilities are safe spaces for children and youth.</li> <li>• <b>2 coordination meetings held with UNICEF Youth/GBV Colleagues</b> to discuss the project and ensure complementarity with UNICEF interventions: UNICEF will focus their interventions in the formal sector while it is proposed that the UNA project will tackle the informal sector with a special focus on the most vulnerable areas, pending clearance/interested of the MEHE. Alternatively the private sector or Universities will be considered.</li> </ul>
Progress in implementing activity 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finalization of the Desk review</b> of guidance, tools and practices related to the engagement of men and boys (with a special attention on male youth) against violence against women and girls<sup>1</sup>. Thanks to great participation from SGBV TF members, the methodology used for the desk review and analysis was mixed: collect sources from the organizations, websites, internet; interactions with key stakeholders outside of Lebanon (AOR Coordinators and other key informants); interviews with key organizations (4 NNGOs, 5 INGOs, 5 UN Agencies and 2 Ministries); 6 FGD with youth, adults, religious leaders in 5 areas. The structure of the desk review was agreed based on feedback from various organizations: by type of intervention, then by level (global, regional, Lebanon) (according to discussions with organizations). The objective was to make the structure user friendly and the documents easy to find. The compilation as well as a pager explanation on how to search a document and the limitations of the desk review will be available under the Dropbox of the SGBV TF<sup>2</sup>. The compilation is a lively resource that will be continuously updated by the SGBV Task Force members<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Report available here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w5639nr0nvlkf4d/AABsSsqy0Zg4tYs8ZRaH0mwWa?dl=0>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1q4k59qqlgkr18s/AABFCx\\_5zG\\_Au3HWnKz8Y9Jya?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1q4k59qqlgkr18s/AABFCx_5zG_Au3HWnKz8Y9Jya?dl=0)

<sup>3</sup> For more details, see the “Desk Review Methodology” in Annex of the Report.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Compilation of Findings and Recommendations:</b> The main overall findings of the desk review are the following (see report for more details): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Type of doc available are: Researches on male engagement and the importance/necessity to integrate them in GBV prevention; Guidance on how to engage men and boys in GBV prevention; guidance on working with perpetrators; Case studies of successful experiences (in Africa and in the MENA region); tools shared by the organizations.</li> <li>❖ Limited exchange within the region -&gt; very few resources at the regional level.</li> <li>❖ Very few capacity building / ToT on how to engage with men/boys in all subjects.</li> <li>❖ Tools (especially adapted to Lebanese context) are not available on the Internet.</li> <li>❖ Only tools provided by organizations are translated into Arabic.</li> </ul> <p>Based on the findings collected, recommendations were developed in collaboration with SGBV organizations. These findings and recommendations were summarized in a pager reviewed, adjusted and endorsed in a technical meeting dedicated to the issue with UN Agencies, INGOs/NNGOs<sup>4</sup>.</p> </li> <li>• <b>Agreement on the tools to be developed to enhance Male Engagement:</b> Based on the summary of recommendations endorsed, organizations prioritized the following interventions to be carried out as part of the UNA project: 1. National 3W mapping of actors and interventions (who-what-where); 2. Contextualized Training Package on “Engaging with Males on VAWG” (outreach techniques and content); 3. Guidance Note on Soft Skills (incl. how to address gender/social bias) and Compilation of Good Practices related to Engaging with Males (Annexes to the Training Package); 4. Enhanced Coordination: initiation a thematic meeting in collaboration with the Men Engage Network to discuss priority interventions for 2018. It was agreed that the UNA project will focus on the three first priorities. SGBV Task Force members committed to participate in the development and the pilot of those tools. Once finalized the tools will be shared with all GBV organizations involved with males with the intention of harmonizing the practice and upholding quality standards. The remaining recommendations have been included in the 2018 SGBV Task Force action plan.</li> <li>• <b>3 draft mappings presented at the National SGBV Task Force meeting and shared with contributing organizations</b> for comments and inputs. The first map is a static map for internal use; the second map is a dynamic map for internal use; the third one is a static map for external use.</li> <li>• <b>Outline of a contextualized Training Package on “Engaging with Males on VAWG” developed</b> and submitted for review.</li> </ul>
Progress in achieving output	# tools developed/piloted in collaboration with SGBV partners: initiated in 2017 and in progress.

<sup>4</sup> See the pager in Annex of the Report.

<b>Output 3</b> Awareness raised and sustainable advocacy efforts supported	
Progress in implementing activity 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Media plan finalized</b> to ensure complementarity/cross-fertilization between the media interventions under the UNA funds and two other UNFPA multi-year funds aiming at engaging the media sector on Gender Equality, including Gender-Based Violence.</li> </ul>
Progress in achieving output	Nothing to report at this stage.

<b>Outcome 1</b> Capacity and technical expertise of institutional, operational, national and other key actors is strengthened to prevent and address CRSV	
Progress in achieving outcome	Nothing to report at this stage.

<b>Impact and results</b>	<p>See results above.</p> <p><u>Impact for Activity 1.2:</u> At this stage, the main impact is the understanding from the Ministry of Interior/Municipalities and the ISF Academy that developing the capacity of the Municipal Police on Gender-Based Violence in a crises context is a priority and the commitment of the ISF Academy to make it happen in 2018.</p> <p><u>Impact for Activity 2.2:</u> At this stage, the main impact is to have placed the topic of male engagement on the top priority of the organizations and SGBV TF agenda. All organizations are benefitting from the resources collected and have a common understanding of what is available and where the gaps/opportunities are. The recommendations issued by the UNA funded desk review have been endorsed by all stakeholders and included in the 2018 workplan for the SGBV Task Force. The intervention has already contributed to reinforce coordination and the information sharing on the topic.</p>
---------------------------	--

### 3. Sustainability

All components of the project are sustainable and will trigger catalytic effects per nature.

- All interventions are carried out by local partner(s) to benefit national/local stakeholders (such as the law enforcement sector, the media outlets, the education sector, the CBOs etc), with close collaboration with relevant line Ministries and national institutions.
- The GBV curriculum for the Municipal Police is to be institutionalized withing the ISF Academy. The capacity development will be led following a cascading model of training of trainers whereby the ISF will be able to continue delivering the curriculum independtly by end 2018 through a large pool of trainers/coaches.
- The findings and recommendations of the male component have been endorsed by the National SGBV Task Force and included in the 2018 workplan. Organizations will take the lead on one or more interventions under the umbrella of the Task Force, independently of

the UNA project. The tools that will be developed under the UNA project in close collaboration with the field organizations will be owned by them and used beyond the UNA project.

#### 4. Lessons-Learned & Best practices

- **Human resources dedicated to the project:** a position of Project Manager was established to support and coordinate the project implementation on behalf of the two UN Agencies. The first year the position is funded by UNA and hosted by UNDP; the second year the position is funded and hosted by UNFPA as complementary contribution to the project. This modality allowed having one interlocutor for the joint project on behalf of the two Agencies, an enhanced coordination among the two Agencies and with other sectors, coordination groups, stakeholders. The project manager is supported by focal points within UNDP and UNFPA (technical, operational and management).
- **The project has been fully embedded within the inter-agency efforts** through alignment of the UNA framework with the existing strategic frameworks (i.e. UNSF, LCRP), reporting of the project achievements under the LCRP Activity Info platform, presentation at the National SGBV TF and the Municipal Police Working Group by KAFA and UNFPA and close coordination with other stakeholders, such as UNICEF or UNHCR. In particular, the desk review and analysis on resources and practices aiming at involving men and boys against SGBV at global regional and country levels has been carried out under the supervision of UNDP and UNFPA, on behalf and with the support of the National SGBV Task Force members. Indeed this intervention was raised as priority during the February SGBV Task Force Retreat and included in the inter-agency 2017 Workplan. In addition, the project has capitalized on the roll-out of the 2015 Guidelines for Integrating GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Actions carried out in country at national and field levels, jointly supported by UNFPA, UNICEF and UNHCR. Among the sectors trained, the Education sector has issued an action plan with concrete priorities to enhance the SGBV mainstreaming in their strategies. This plan will be extremely precious for the initiation of the Activity 2.1. "Youth Protection needs of Educational Facilities located in displacement affected areas assessed". The Education sector led by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education has welcomed the support of the SGBV sector to support the implementation of their priorities.
- **Close collaboration with UNDP Conflict Prevention and Recovery (CPR) portfolio** implementing a multi-year project on Community Security and Access to Justice with the Municipal Police in Lebanon (including perception study, development of a Code of Conduct and SOPs, development of curriculum etc). The project aims at improving and systematizing the MP's law enforcement capacity. The project managers coordinated in order to avoid all risks of duplication and to ensure fruitful synergy. The discussion points were the following:
  - ❖ The Community Security and Access to Justice project has a wide range of activities and does not contain any GBV elements, while the UNA project has a limited set of activity and focusses on GBV: no risk of duplication rather opportunity to complement each other. The UNA project could also benefit from the positive dynamic created by this large-scale project.
  - ❖ While the study of the governance project is aiming at seeking perceptions of community members on the Municipal Police, the UNA study will focus on the perception of the MP on gender/GBV issues. Agreement: 1. To associate the UNDP Community Security and Access to Justice team in the drafting of the ToRs of the UNA study; 2. To implement the studies in the same locations; 3. To mutually share findings.

- ❖ While the Community Security and Access to Justice project is developing a long term multi-facets curriculum, the UNA project is focusing on GBV. Agreement: 1. To associate the UNDP Community Security and Access to Justice team on the development of the curriculum to ensure harmonization with the other modules; 2. To discuss the full inclusion of the GBV curriculum as a mandatory module of the full fledged curriculum.

Thanks to this approach, the curriculum developed under the UNA project will be smoothly included in the capacity development plan of the Municipal Police and will allow promoting a gender/GBV lens in the global effort.

- **Implementation through/or in close collaboration with line Ministries and/or national institutions** in order to ensure full ownership and inclusion of lessons learned. In terms of line Ministries, UNFPA and UNDP engaged with MOJ, MOIM, MOSA and the new Ministry of State for Women Affairs, which has among its national priorities to address Women, Peace, and Security, and as such SGBV in conflict situation. In addition, the development of the SGBV curriculum for the Municipal Police is done in close collaboration and with the total ownership of the ISF Academy that will be in charge of training them. Due to their positive experience with the institutionalization of the curriculum on Violence Against Women (VAW) at the ISF Academy for the ISF students (past project of UNFPA-KAFA), the ISF focal points have themselves suggested to be actively involved with the consultant in developing and piloting the training material for the Municipal Police.

On the other hand, this inclusive approach adopted in the implementation, involving greatly Ministries, institutions and local actors and raising interest in order to ensure ownership and sustainability, has considerably slowed down the implementation.

- ❖ Regarding the curriculum for the MP, the ISF Academy and the Ministry of Interior recently approved the initiative. The engagement of the ISF Academy is granted but will likely increase the time required to develop the curriculum.
- ❖ Regarding the curriculum for judges, the Ministry of Justice. UNDP and UNFPA are assessing a couple of alternatives to be submitted to the UNA team for review, such as carrying out an assessment among the serving judges on their needs of capacity development when it comes to SGBV and the related legal framework; or again organizing a workshop/roundtables with judges and students to discuss their needs and interests at the level of the Institute of Judicial Studies. The objective would be to document the need for the intervention for advocacy purposes.