

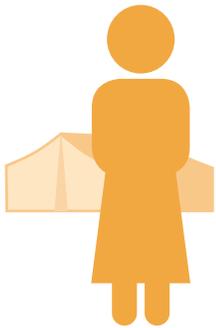


LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND THE UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



Women taking part in a tailoring class at a center working with Syrian refugee women in Iraq as part of the UN Trust Fund-supported Women for Women International project. Photo: Women for Women International/ Gina Weires

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRL REFUGEES



The refugee crisis has continued to intensify, with women and girls making up almost half of the world's 19.6 million refugees in 2016. Female refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) experience a heightened risk of violence, including domestic violence and early and forced marriage, due to the uncertainty associated with displacement. Services are often limited for such women and girls in the context of humanitarian crises.

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) has established a special funding window that supports organizations which specifically address violence against women and girls in the context of humanitarian crises and disaster response. Under this window, the UN Trust Fund is currently investing US\$2.5 million in five organizations. Three organizations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and two in Jordan are the current beneficiaries of this funding.

IRAQ

Refugee women and girls in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, in addition to having been subjected to or a witness to violence where they originated from, continue to

be susceptible to violence once resettled or in refugee camps. The grants awarded by the UN Trust Fund to organizations operating in Iraq, tend to the holistic needs of women and girl survivors of violence and reach beyond ensuring access to legal and health services - these programmes empower women and girls to successfully reintegrate into their communities by offering skills training and trauma therapy.

Estimated reach: The following programmes are expected to reach at least **2,050** women and girls over three years, including an estimated **1,350** women survivors of violence. In addition, at least **1000** men will be reached to improve knowledge about violence against refugee women and girls.

ASUDA for Combating Violence against Women

Project: *Combating sexual and gender-based violence against Syrian refugee women and girls in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq*

The project works with local authorities and service providers to develop response mechanisms and hold awareness-raising sessions for male and female refugees to educate them about sexual and gender-based violence and the support services available. A team of female researchers drawn from the local community are being trained to monitor and document cases of sexual and gender-based violence against Syrian refugees using an online, civilian-led reporting tool. This data will inform comprehensive reports on the experiences of refugee

women and girls, as well as strategies for addressing sexual and gender-based violence within this population.

Women for Women International

Project: Addressing violence against Syrian refugee women in the Kurdistan Region of Northern Iraq

The project aims to empower Syrian refugee women economically and socially. It offers women survivors of gender-based violence in Erbil and Sulaymaniyah leadership and advocacy training, trauma counselling, legal aid, information, and training on campaigning and advocacy. Awareness-raising and prevention workshops are convened for community leaders and other people of influence. It also focuses on improving the delivery of adequate services to survivors by local organizations, specifically addressing the needs of refugee women and girls.

Free Yezidi Foundation Women's Centre

Project: Expanding the centre's capacity

ISIS has targeted the Yezidi population, and women and girls in particular, in an effort to persecute the community and extort money. The organization is expanding the capacity of the women's centre, run in a camp for internally displaced persons (IDP) in the Khanke IDP camp in Dohuk, Kurdistan Region of Iraq. They provide targeted assistance to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and

other female IDPs, and introduce individual and group counselling and trauma therapy. The project is creating a Psychological First Aid unit, composed of volunteers who receive rigorous training to be better able to offer psychological aid to the clients of the centre and ensure sustainability after the project ends.

JORDAN

Of the **635,324** Syrian refugees registered in 2016 with UNHCR in Jordan, approximately **83 per cent** were living in host communities. Some **80 per cent** of women refugees in Jordan are vulnerable to sexual, physical and psychological abuse [UN Women 2013]. Due to various barriers, most of these women do not seek help from official sources. The projects implemented by UN Trust Fund grantees operating in Jordan address not only emergency needs of the survivors, but also find a way towards a sustainable long-term solution to the crisis.

Expected reach: Over the period of three years the following programmes in Jordan are expected to reach at least **6,000** women and girl survivors of violence and those at risk of violence. At least **1,300** men and boys, and leaders of community-based organizations will participate in awareness-raising campaigns and learn about services and referral pathways for survivors.

Arab Women Organization of Jordan

Project: Improving the well-being of sexual and gender-based violence

survivors among Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian women

The project aims to improve social protection and prevention mechanisms in Irbid and Mafraq and surrounding areas where there are particularly high numbers of refugees. Two centres for female survivors of violence will provide legal consultation, counselling, case referral, life skills, informal education and vocational courses. The project aims to address some of the root causes of sexual and gender-based violence through community awareness programmes and the engagement of men and boys as allies in prevention and response.

War Child Canada

Project: Safeguarding women and girls affected by the Syrian crisis in Jordan

The project works in the districts of Sahab and Nuzha within the Amman governorate, home to the largest number of Syrian refugees in Jordan. It works to raise awareness among highly vulnerable and isolated women and girls about available support services, women's rights and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence mechanisms. It works on establishing women's support groups; legal awareness raising, life skills and psychosocial support to survivors and those at risk. In addition, it offers childcare for women during sessions; provides out-of-school girls with literacy and life skills training; and establishes community-based protection committees.



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