

JANUARY 2022

PEACEBUILDING PROGRAMS: MONTHLY RESULTS IN LEBANON!

In January, the general assembly of the National Commission for the Lebanese Women launched its 2022 contextualized national action plan which focuses on: i) aligning the activities of the national action plan to implement the UN Security Resolution number 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, ii) applying the World's Bank program to empower women, and iii) establishing the National Lebanese Observatory for Gender Equality.

TOWARDS A GENDER EQUITABLE SOCIETY

Goal:

Contribute to an enabling environment in which social norms around GBV will be shifted and access to safe and quality prevention and response services will be increased.

Search concluded the implementation of the last part of the Media for Social Change workshop which started last month, and which gathered

20 Media Professionals
7 Males - 9 Females - 4 others
Including screenwriters, directors and producers.



During the course of this workshop, the media professionals were able to learn the main methods for creating social change through media such as storytelling, dialogue, social experiments, and others. The participants also learned gender-sensitive approaches and terminologies that should be taken into account when writing a script and/or producing a film or a series.

Moreover, the media professionals gained knowledge and skills that enabled them to write fifteen scripts using a gender-sensitive lens. The scripts tackle issues related to SGBV such as domestic violence, child marriage, toxic masculinities, discrimination and abuse against marginalized groups such as people with disability and people belonging to the LGBTIQ+ community. By producing and sharing these films and mini-series widely, we would be enabling an environment where perceptions around SGBV are shifted for both the filmmakers and the viewers.



Following the completion of the workshop, the media professionals visited four Social Development Centers of the Ministry of Social Affairs. In these centers, ABAAD-Resource Center for Gender Equality (ABAAD), our national partner under this project, is implementing its Women and Girls Safe Spaces program that aims at preventing and responding to SGBV cases across Lebanon. During these visits, the media professionals had the chance to meet with ABAAD's team including safe shelters' managers, SGBV case workers, psychosocial social workers, and other key personnel working on the program.

The visits allowed the media professionals to learn more about ABAAD's services on the ground and gain insights into the lives of SGBV survivors inside and outside the safe shelters which further helped them inform their scripts and ensure that their films and mini-series are scripted and directed in a way that accurately reflects the lives of survivors while abiding by the Do No Harm principle.

“ This training helped me learn more about myself as a media professional and reflect on my work from a gender-sensitive perspective. ”
- Trainee

PATNERS OF JUSTICE

Goal:

To reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Lebanon by transforming attitudes of women, girls, men, and boys towards patriarchal norms that define masculinities, and addressing the root causes of VAWG in public and private spheres.

As the project's cost extension started in January 2022, three reflection sessions were held with the project's key stakeholders including the organizations' focal points and their representatives and the media professionals to ensure that learning from the first phase is captured, and that the stakeholders' recommendations and concerns are taken into account.

The sessions aimed to:

- 1) Reflect on the implementation of the project, best practices, look back on the results and the changes that have emerged so far, and
- 2) Discuss recommendations for the cost extension and the upcoming activities.

Recommendations on the programmatic and operational level were produced and will be taken into consideration in the upcoming stages of the project.

PILOTING YOUTH PLATFORMS IN LEBANON & JORDAN

Goal:

Empowering youth in Lebanon and Jordan to utilize and govern online and in-person youth platforms as a means of collaboratively tackling issues impacting youth.

22 Youths

10 Males - 10 Females - 2 others
from across Lebanese regions were selected to become participants of the project. The youth have demonstrated leadership skills that will enable them to manage youth platforms and youth-led initiatives which will be established under the project.

The selection criteria was based on:

- 1) interest in online engagement, 2) availability shown, 3) commitment to the project's objectives, 4) displayed leadership skills, 5) experience as positive role models of civic engagement within their local communities, and 6) familiarity with Search's key approaches.