Urgent - Please convert to PDF

Lanka Ratnayakapathy

To: InfoTeam

Subject: Urgent - Convert to PDF

Dear InfoTeam,

Can you kindly convert this newsletter and share with me urgently, please?

Many thanks.

Lanka

Hi! I am Mariam

I am an Arab girl

One of 40 Million

ASRO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Issue October 2020

Shaping opinion

On the occasion of World Statistics Day, UNFPA-ASRO Regional Director, Dr. Luis Estebanez, presented four steps in English titled: "Statistics connecting the world with the data we trust with in.

"The data is used to highlight the importance of inclusive and authoritative data and its use in advancing the sustainable development goals. The steps were published in an Austrian weekly and 18th newsletter on 21 October. Upon a request to have four images.

Girls must feel safe
Girls must feel empowered
Girls must feel equal

"Mariam", an Advocate for the rights of adolescent girls in the
A region

On 11 October, UNFPA ASRO launched its “I have a voice” campaign to raise awareness about the rights of adolescent girls, in a joint press conference with the League of Arab States. The launch coincided with the celebration of International Day of the Girl Child under the theme, “No voice, no future.” UNFPA in the region is calling on all young girls in the Arab region to exercise their rights to advocate for themselves, enjoy a safe life, and access quality education and health at all stages. The girl child, symbolically representing 40 million girls in the Arab region, will carry her voice to call for the fulfillment of her and her parents’ dreams. Women close to her journey at this time, as the 19th anniversary of the 19th anniversary and decade of action. The campaign is part of UNFPA’s strategy to reinforce the commitments of young girls in the region to advocate for their rights, and raise their voices in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2019 Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s, and Newborn’s Health. The campaign is also part of the regional UNFPA-UNICEF-UNDP-UN Women joint initiative to bridge the gap between the fourth and fifth goals on women, children, and adolescent girls. The campaign aims to reinforce the commitments of young girls in the region to advocate for their rights, and raise their voices in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2019 Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s, and Newborn’s Health. The campaign is also part of the regional UNFPA-UNICEF-UNDP-UN Women joint initiative to bridge the gap between the fourth and fifth goals on women, children, and adolescent girls.

The 67th WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean: COVID-19 on top of the agenda

On 12 and 13 October, UNFPA ASRO Regional Director, Dr. Luke Shikabala, participated in the 67th WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, a platform that brings stakeholders of health from the region to discuss the most pressing health-related priorities and challenges in the region. The meeting was held under the theme of “COVID-19 and the region: joint action, joint accountability.” The two-day meeting brought together high-level representatives from the region, including heads of health and youth-focused ministries, to discuss the implementation of the 7th Ministerial Conference commitments and provide recommendations to help accelerate the process.

Efforts towards reducing maternal and child mortalities and morbidities in Africa

The UNFPA ASRO Regional Office participated in the celebration of International Day of the Girl Child under the theme “No voice, no future.” UNFPA in the region is calling on all young girls in the Arab region to exercise their rights to advocate for themselves, enjoy a safe life, and access quality education and health at all stages. The girl child, symbolically representing 40 million girls in the Arab region, will carry her voice to call for the fulfillment of her and her parents’ dreams. Women close to her journey at this time, as the 19th anniversary of the 19th anniversary and decade of action. The campaign is part of UNFPA’s strategy to reinforce the commitments of young girls in the region to advocate for their rights, and raise their voices in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2019 Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s, and Newborn’s Health. The campaign is also part of the regional UNFPA-UNICEF-UNDP-UN Women joint initiative to bridge the gap between the fourth and fifth goals on women, children, and adolescent girls.

ASRO KNOWLEDGE HUB

UNFPA ASRO conducted The Status of Implementation of Humanitarian Contributions in the Syrian and Yemeni situations. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the implementation of the Humanitarian Contributions to the region. The report also outlines key recommendations to help accelerate the process.

UNFPA Regional Office Reproductive Health and Nutrition in the Syrian and Yemeni situations. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the implementation of the Humanitarian Contributions to the region. The report also outlines key recommendations to help accelerate the process.

The Human Rights Corner: Managing Family Relationships during COVID-19

With many changes in lifestyle and social interactions due to the continued pandemic, many of us are finding ourselves in new and different relationships. In this scenario, managers face challenges in managing family relationships. This section of The Human Rights Corner provides a guide for managing family relationships during COVID-19. The guide is developed by Overseas Max Jon on 14 October.

GCC

Building the capacity of lawmakers on CEDAW convention

On 1 and 7 October, UNFPA GCC country office and the Ministry of Women Development in Oman held a capacity building workshop for the parliamentarians and judges of the Supreme Judicial Council. The workshop reviewed the main provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and helped the participants to review the legal analysis conducted in UNFPA’s 2019 report on the national laws in the region. The workshop also addressed the obligations related to women and children’s rights, and the factors related to the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

LIBYA

Protecting the rights, safety and dignity of women and young people in Safe Spaces

In October, social workers at UNFPA-supported women and girls’ Safe Space in Tripoli, Tripoli, and Benghazi, conducted reproductive health awareness and information sessions on gender-based violence prevention, sexual and reproductive health, and rights of women and girls. UNFPA and the international Federico Lasore (Font) led the training of social workers and mental health professionals. The Safe Space is a community-based initiative that provides counseling and support to women and girls affected by gender-based violence in Libya.
Scaling up provision of SRH services

UNFPA continues expanding the provision of sexual and reproductive health services in Tanzania. The country is home to an estimated 30 million people, and the UNFPA Tanzania Office supports various programs to improve maternal health, reduce maternal and newborn mortality, and increase access to family planning services. The UNFPA Tanzania Office works closely with the government and partners to scale up services, especially in remote areas. The office also supports the development of a national reproductive health strategy and the expansion of health services in Tanzania. (Photo: UNFPA Tanzania)

Empowering journalists to achieve peacebuilding

On 6-11 October, UNDP, in partnership with the African Media Support Foundation and the UN, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and the UN Children’s Fund, organized the “Empowering Journalists for Peace” workshop in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo. The workshop aimed to equip journalists with the skills and knowledge needed to report on peacebuilding and conflict resolution issues. The workshop brought together journalists from various countries in the region to discuss the challenges and opportunities of reporting on peacebuilding. (Photo: UNDP)

YEMEN

Netherlands helps boost access to life-saving RH supplies

The Kingdom of the Netherlands continues its support to UNFPA in Yemen by providing emergency reproductive health supplies and support to the UNFPA Yemen office. The supplies include essential reproductive health supplies, such as condoms, contraceptive pills, and prenatal care services. The supplies are crucial in ensuring the continued provision of reproductive health services to women and girls in Yemen. The supplies are distributed through the UNFPA Yemen office, which works closely with the government and partners to ensure that the supplies reach the most vulnerable populations. (Photo: UNFPA Yemen)

Supporting health facilities in southern Yemen

In October, UNFPA supported the Ministry of Health in Yemen to improve reproductive health services in the southern part of the country. The support included the provision of reproductive health supplies, training for health workers, and support for the establishment of reproductive health clinics. The support is critical in ensuring that reproductive health services are accessible to women and girls in the southern part of Yemen. (Photo: UNFPA Yemen)

Strengthening skills of midwives

UNFPA supported a 15-day training program on emergency obstetric care for midwives in Yemen. The training was organized by the Ministry of Health and UNFPA Yemen office in collaboration with the World Health Organization. The training aimed to improve the skills of midwives in providing emergency obstetric care to women in Yemen. The training covered topics such as early diagnosis and management of obstetric emergencies, as well as the provision of quality maternal and newborn care. (Photo: UNFPA Yemen)

EGYPT

Raising awareness about population issues

UNICEF, in partnership with the Egyptian Journalists Union, organized a workshop on “Journalism and Reproductive Health” to raise awareness among journalists about the importance of reproductive health and rights. The workshop aimed to equip journalists with the knowledge and skills needed to report on reproductive health issues accurately and responsibly. The workshop covered topics such as reproductive health, rights, and the challenges faced by women and girls in accessing reproductive health services. (Photo: UNICEF)

The Improved Reproductive Health Services in Egypt

In Egypt, the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) has been working with UNFPA and other partners to improve reproductive health services. The Ministry has been working to expand access to reproductive health services, especially in remote and underserved areas. The Ministry has also been working to increase the availability of contraceptive services, improve maternal health services, and reduce maternal and newborn mortality. (Photo: UNFPA/ MoHP)
Using arts to fight GBV

Combating violence against women

The leadership council for Women, Gender, and Development Pacemakers (WGD) organized the day-long student-organized event to combat violence against women in the Benja University campus. One of the events included a support group discussion on gender-based violence and harassment, and the other included a group medical support for girls and women survivors of violence offering comprehensive care.

SOMALIA

A FGM and child marriage survivor leads the fight against harmful practices

29-year-old Maara Ali was a victim of FGM and child marriage. She dropped out of school when she was forced to get married at the tender age of 14, a ritual in class seven of primary school at the time. Prior to that, she was under the age of 13. Her parents sent her to a community health center to undergo a genital mutilation ritual and this was known as Qalbi. By the age of 17, Maara was delivered, and she gave birth to her son. After seeing the female basketball team in the country, Maara decided to fight FGM and child marriage. She encourages her son to break the barrier and to go to school. She said, “Education is the key to a bright future for all.”

Launching the SLHDS 2020 results

The Government of Somalia, through the Ministry of Health and Sport, has released the results of the Sidqiyah Lab (SLHDS) 2020. The survey conducted by the National Institute of Health Development measured the health status of the population using a variety of indicators, including fertility levels, child mortality, maternal health, nutrition, and access to health services. The survey covered all parts of the country, including rural areas, and aimed to provide a comprehensive assessment of the health status and other socio-economic indicators.

Fight against GBV intensifies amidst COVID-19

On 15 October, 33 additional frontline health workers in Portland received training on sexual and reproductive health rights, violence prevention, and gender-based violence in the context of COVID-19. The training aimed to increase the capability of health workers to identify and address cases of GBV, as well as to raise awareness among clients about the importance of maintaining safe and healthy relationships during the pandemic.