

# #ThisIsNotNormal

DISRUPTING THE RISK OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE BECOMING NORMAL

## ASRO MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Issue June 2022

### ASRO



#### Joanna Arida

Actress and Artist from Jordan



## #ThisIsNotNormal: A UNFPA campaign to disrupt the risks of gender-based violence becoming normal

UNFPA ASRO launched the #ThisIsNotNormal campaign - on the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict - to push back against the risks of the normalization of gender-based violence, including sexual violence and harmful practices, in humanitarian settings. The #ThisIsNotNormal campaign comes in response to increasing reports by women and girls that violence against them is becoming so widespread and unchecked, that it is normalized in some communities. The ongoing campaign started with a [message from UNFPA Executive Director, Dr. Natalia Kanem](#), and is featuring the voices of artists and influencers, across Arab region, such as Ghada Saba, Joanna Arida, Maya Ammar, and Ala Hamdan, the campaign aims to counter this alarming trend, amplify the voices of women and girls GBV survivors, and reaffirm global commitment to ending GBV, including sexual violence in conflict, and providing justice and support services to all those affected. The campaign is part of UNFPA's continued efforts to engage communities, partners, governments, and other stakeholders to implement programmes and initiatives to prevent and respond to GBV. Photo © UNFPA ASRO

[Learn more](#)[Watch the videos](#)

## UNFPA in the Arab region: A regional campaign

UNFPA ASRO COMMs team launched a [regional campaign](#) to increase awareness about UNFPA mandate and work in the Arab region. The campaign consists of thematic videos that cover UNFPA work in the different areas: [sexual and reproductive health and rights](#), [human rights and gender equality](#), [humanitarian](#), [population and development](#), and [youth participation and leadership](#), to tell the story of UNFPA in the region, showcase its work and promote its mandate. Photo © UNFPA ASRO

[Watch all videos](#)[Watch the promo](#)

## Ensuring equal rights for persons with disabilities through

youth's needs are equitably addressed in this process. This overview targeted 15 countries: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen.

Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The objective is to support UNFPAASRO and country offices in understanding the situation of AYFHS in the Arab region and to inform initiatives aiming to strengthen these services.



Iraq



Jordan



Palestine

## SRHRR regulatory frameworks across the Arab states region

UNFPAASRO, in partnership with the AUB, developed policy guidelines focused on the situations of Iraq, Jordan and Palestine. These policy guidelines seek to ensure a comprehensive and holistic coverage of all necessary SRHRR policies with targeted recommendations to support related policies, programmes, interventions and advocacy.

## SOMALIA



## Empowering youth

On 23 June, UNFPA, [Shaqodoon](#), and the Somaliland Ministry of Youth and Sports held an [awards ceremony](#) under the EU-funded project 'Accelerated Socio-Economic Empowerment of Youth in Somaliland'. The ceremony included 39 startup ventures, two social-enterprise institutions and three awareness groups. The Youth Fund supports youth with grants to better shape their ideas into successful ventures, after having successfully completed ideation boot camps and undergone extensive mentorship and coaching. The Fund particularly targets youth startups that do not qualify for loans from credit facilities. Photo © UNFPA Somalia

## GCC

## Joint awareness campaign for youth



## Study women's status across all sectors



On 12 June, 17 staff members from the National Women Committee (NWC) received training on ethics of data collection with the support of UNFPA and ACAPS. The training aims at preparing the NWC's research team for the planned data and information collection on women in the coming three months. The collected data will be used as part of a study on the status of women across sectors, including education, protection, legal, reproductive health, policy participation, among others. Photo © UNFPA Yemen

## Saudi Arabia contributes US\$ 2.5 million to support RH programmes

On 23 June, Saudi Arabia's King Salman Humanitarian Aid & Relief Centre (KSrelief) announced a contribution of **US\$ 2.5 million** to support UNFPA in continuing providing life-saving reproductive health services to the most vulnerable women and girls in Yemen. The funding will help increase women's and girls' access to reproductive health services through 15 health facilities and 50 community midwives in southern parts of the country. This support aims to reach more than 350,000 women and girls in the next 12 months, enable pregnant women to deliver safely, and address other reproductive health complications such as obstetric fistula. An estimated 8.1 million women and girls of childbearing age in Yemen require help accessing reproductive health services. Only one in five of the functioning health facilities provide maternal and child health services due to extreme shortages of essential medicines, supplies and specialized staff. Photo © UNFPA Yemen



## EGYPT

### 'Everyone has the right to seek safety' - A call on World Refugee Day





Ministère de la Femme  
et de la Famille  
Protection-Égalité-Autonomie



On 13 June, UNFPA, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and youth influencers, organized an event to present a YouTube sitcom against FGM produced with EU funding. The event brought together more than 70 young people and officials, including the UN Resident Coordinator, the Chargé d'Affaires of the European Union Delegation and UNICEF Representative. The post-viewing session sparked a lively debate among the young audience on the persistence of the FGM harmful practice although it is rejected by Islam and the tireless advocacy efforts made by religious leaders calling for its abandonment. The initiative was positively received by the audience who recommended to maintain such initiatives to help reach a wider audiences on social networks with messages on accelerating the abandonment of FGM. Photo © UNFPA Djibouti

## Studying the prevalence of breast and cervical cancer and HPV



[View entire message](#)



→ Forward