OUR PROGRAMME

Funded by the European Union Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, the (EU “Madad” Fund), and implemented by UN Women, the two-year programme, “Strengthening the Resilience of Syrian Women and Girls and Host Communities in Iraq, Jordan and Turkey” is a multi-dimensional programme that enables women’s resilience and empowerment by addressing issues of economic vulnerability and violence. This is done by increasing access to recovery and livelihood opportunities, paired with comprehensive protection services and support to national justice structures to promote accountability for violence against women.

This programme also works to engage men as partners, champions and advocates for women’s increased empowerment, including their engagement in the labour market. Our newsletter highlights stories of our beneficiaries as well as partners supporting our efforts to build resilience in Iraq, Jordan and Turkey. The newsletter also includes some of the latest updates on the implementation of the programme. Read more on our website.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

MENTORING PROGRAMME PAIRS BUDDING SYRIAN AND JORDANIAN ENTREPRENEURS

Eman Salam has become a professional and personal mentor to Haneen Hussen on her journey to become a micro-entrepreneur and start her own business initiative in the rural community of Shobak, in southern Jordan. This mentoring programme seeks to overcome the societal, psychological and gender-related challenges that prevent women in Jordan from creating and growing their own businesses. Read more
FROM WAR TO PARIS PEACE FORUM’S TOP 10 SCALED-UP PROJECTS

SADA Women’s Cooperative, which was established in March 2019 by Turkish, Syrian and Afghan women in Gaziantep (Turkey), was selected as one of the 10 scale-up projects at the Paris Peace Forum. The cooperative is an excellent example of social cohesion initiative. Read more

“IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I FELT SUCH JOY. I WILL FINALLY HAVE A JOB!”

Nidal Abdul Ghani’s family lived in Mosul (Iraq) under ISIL’s ruthless rule. Her husband and two of her children were taken captive by the extremist group. Left with no breadwinner, Nidal and the rest of her family sank into poverty. But with the cash-for-work programme implemented by Tajdid Iraq Foundation for Economic Development, she now has a job to sustain her family. Read more

“I HAVE THE ETERNAL BELIEF THAT EDUCATION IS AT THE HEART OF EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES”

At 50, Syrian refugee Fatima Alhaj was afraid that the she was too old to work and provide for her family. But now she teaches English and literacy classes at the UN Women’s Oasis at Azraq Refugee Camp in Jordan. Hers, and other inspiring stories were captured in a photo essay on World Refugee Day. Read more

"IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BECAUSE OUR PREJUDICE MAY TURN OUT TO BE WRONG"

Akkaya is a Turkish woman who attended courses at UN Women’s SADA Women Empowerment and Solidarity Centre in Gaziantep. She shares her experience of how the SADA Centre strengthens social cohesion and solidarity between the refugees and the host community Read more
“I FEEL GREAT OPTIMISM. MADAD PUT AN END TO MY DARK DAYS”
Leila Afsan, a 45-year-old Iraqi woman, and her younger sister used to have a relatively good life until ISIL took over their town and destroyed their house. She and her sister took refuge in Tikrit where Tajidid offered her support and work to become self-reliant. Read more

“I FEEL VERY LUCKY TO WORK WITH REFUGEE WOMEN DESPITE ALL THE CHALLENGES.”
Beyza Nur Azizoğlu, a young lawyer, speaks about her commitment to empower and support vulnerable women and girls and combat gender-based violence through her work at the SADA Women Empowerment and Solidarity Centre in Gaziantep, Turkey. Read more

Vid eos

“I want to change the perception about women working in non-traditional fields, such as home maintenance.” Watch Aniesa speak about her training at the UN Women’s Oasis Center for Resilience and Empowerment of Women and Girls. Watch the video

UN Women’s SADA Women Empowerment and Solidarity Centre continues to be the hub of empowerment for refugee and Turkish women and girls. At SADA, women are empowered to be self-reliant and contribute to the economic growth and peaceful cohesion of their communities. Watch the Video
PROGRAMME UPDATES

UN WOMEN TURKEY CONTINUES TO BUILD THE CAPACITIES OF FIRST-LINE RESPONDERS IN GENDER-SENSITIVE REFUGEE RESPONSE.
UN Women Turkey conducted two training workshops in July on gender-sensitive refugee response for first-line responders. The trainings targeted staff working at non-governmental organizations and government institutions. Read more

UN WOMEN IN IRAQ ORGANIZED A TRAINING ON “GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING FROM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE.”
UN Women Iraq and the Baghdad Women’s Association conducted a three-day training in July 2019 for the Ministry of Labour staff aimed at developing clear gender concepts as well as budgeting mechanisms for gender-sensitive responses. Read more

STRENGTHENING THE JORDANIAN JUSTICE SECTOR’S RESPONSE TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
UN Women Jordan, in partnership with the Arab Women’s Legal Network (AWLN), the Judicial Council and relevant government officials conducted the fourth technical meeting in August 2019 to discuss guidelines for justice sector professionals on the management of cases of gender-based violence. Read more

EU MADAD PROGRAMME PARTNERS WORKSHOP.
The European Union Delegation to Jordan and UN Women convened EU Madad partners in August 2019 to discuss joint approaches in providing sustainable livelihood opportunities for vulnerable Syrian refugees and Jordanian women, taking stock of lessons learnt and good practices. Read more
ENGAGING MEN AND BOYS IN AWARENESS PROGRAMMES ON ISSUES OF EQUALITY AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.
UN Women Iraq in partnership with the Listening and Counselling Centre in Duhok, organized a football match in September 2019 between girls and boys. The activity aimed to advocate for gender equality and reject society’s traditional view on the role of women. Read more

SADA WOMEN’S COOPERATIVE CONDUCTED SEVERAL ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE ITS SALES AND MARKETING.
During September 2019, Syrian, Turkish and Afghan women of the SADA Women’s Cooperative participated in the annual International Gastronomy Festival in Gaziantep (Turkey), sharing their dishes and products. The cooperative forges bonds between Syrian, Afghan and Turkish women and contributes to strengthening social cohesion in their communities. Read more

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL FRAMEWORK ON GENDER-SENSITIVE TRANSPORTATION IN JORDAN.
Limited access to transportation is one of the key barriers to women’s economic empowerment in Jordan. UN Women, the Ministry of Transport and SADAQA organized a multi-stakeholder workshop to develop a national framework on gender-sensitive transportation on 25 September 2019. Read more
WHAT IS THE EU MADAD FUND?

Five years into its creation, and with more than EUR 1.6 billion of approved projects, the EU Trust Fund has amply proven its added value beyond its economy of scale and the pooling of contributions from 22 EU Member States donors, and Turkey, as well as different EU financial instruments. It also offers a reinforced approach in Europe’s response to the Syrian crisis, improving coordination and coherence, and addressing longer-term needs of both refugees and local communities.

To date, the EU Trust Fund provides support to 3 million Syrian refugees and local communities in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, the Western Balkans, and Armenia. Providing access to education, livelihoods and socio-economic opportunities, health care, water and hygiene as well as providing more opportunities for a sustainable income generation are at the heart of the Trust Fund mandate. The EU Trust Fund has a particular focus on women and girls.

For more information on the EUTF, please visit their website and YouTube channel.

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