



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Advancing Palestinian Refugee Women Rights in Lebanon Gender Equality



Program Rationale

Palestinian refugee women are suffering from the violations of their rights, and they do not have, yet, the structured knowledge, and may be the confidence, as well as the support to raise their voice and elaborate on that. They have very crucial legal, health and living conditions situations and they are subjected to violence and discrimination on gender basis. PHRO considers that this program will be complementary to the other ongoing activities, programs and initiatives that are taking place within the Palestinian communities. Here, all active organizations/actors are considered supporters to our program and they will have an essential role during the implementation. By implementing this project in Lebanon, and particularly with youth and women organizations whom are active in the camps, beneficiaries will gain the knowledge and the mechanisms that will strengthen their access to justice (claim their rights), increase their capacities on leadership decision making levels, which consequently will lead to reduce discrimination and violations against them. In order to achieve successful implementation and as a consequence, successful achievements of the goals, PHRO is looking forward a high participation and support of all actors within the Palestinian Community including both genders.

We should not forget the very active Lebanese women civil society organizations who have advanced work on women's rights in Lebanon whose campaigns and actions become well known within both the Lebanese and Palestinian communities at different levels. PHRO considers them main supporters and we always consider that advancing and improving the human rights situation of Lebanese women will certainly have an impact on Palestinian women lives and vice versa as women from both nationalities are living within the same areas.

Aims and Objectives

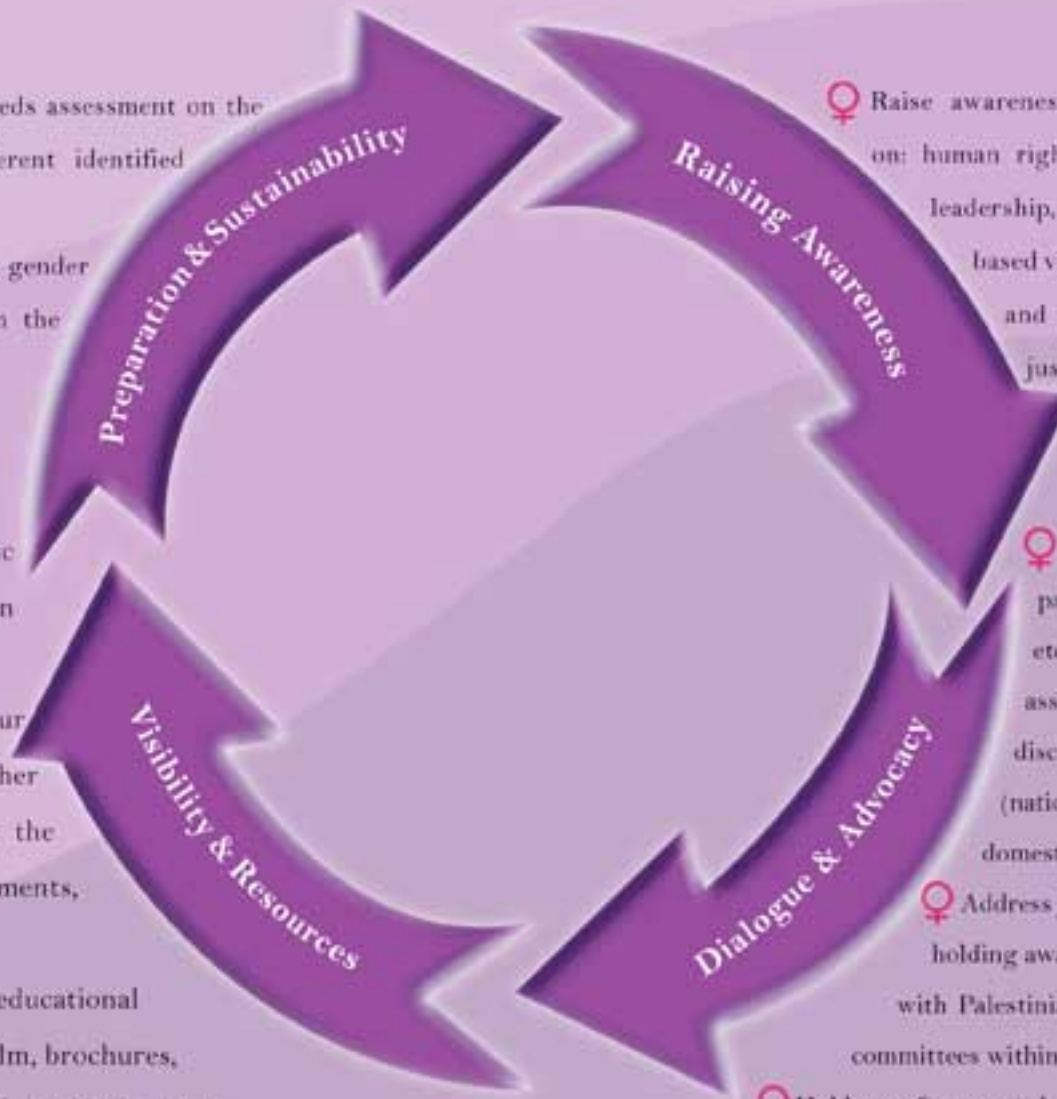
The whole program aims at supporting a process which is designed of a series of complementary activities that will raise the awareness and strengthen the targeted groups knowledge in the necessity to carry up collective/group initiative that contribute to combat gender discrimination against women in particular at the legal, leadership and participation levels. This process aims at:

- ♀ Raising awareness and build the capacity of Palestinian civil society organizations on women rights and gender equality.
- ♀ Supporting and strengthening Palestinian women's rights in Lebanon with the intention of reducing discrimination and violence against women.
- ♀ Strengthening Palestinian women role in decision making process within the camps through active participation in different social and, to some extent, political structures.
- ♀ Enhancing Palestinian women access to Justice through increasing their capacity to understand and claim their rights.
- ♀ Initiating gender equality-oriented dialogue to strengthening the solidarity between the Palestinian and Lebanese civil society organizations, particularly whom are active on women's rights.
- ♀ Developing an action Plan on combating gender discrimination against women within the Palestinian community in Lebanon with a particular focus on: Women and access to justice, Women participation in decision-making and Women in community and political representation.

Planned

Activities

- ♀ Carry up a situation analysis and needs assessment on the targeted communities and the different identified stakeholders.
- ♀ Develop an action plan on combating gender discrimination against women within the Palestinian community in Lebanon.
- ♀ Produce four reports about thematic situation of Palestinian women within Lebanon.
- ♀ Develop a webpage within our website for the project for further awareness, and dissemination of the project's carried activities, achievements, outcomes ...etc
- ♀ Produce promotional and educational materials including documentary film, brochures, posters and simplified educational booklets about women rights and gender equality.



- ♀ Raise awareness and capacity building workshops on: human rights for women, gender equality and leadership, monitoring and documenting gender-based violations, claiming the rights "legal aid and psycho-social assistance for women", justice and rule of law and leadership.
- ♀ Carry up activities (seminars, discussion panels, advocacy meetings, public events... etc) that support the Lebanese women associations' initiatives in amending discriminatory laws against women such as (nationality law, personal code, criminalizing domestic and family violence...etc)
- ♀ Address justice and the rule of law issue through holding awareness raising workshops, and meetings with Palestinian political leader, popular and security committees within the Palestinian camps.
- ♀ Hold a conference at the end of of the project's life time to share the outcomes, results, lessons learned, challenges and difficulties

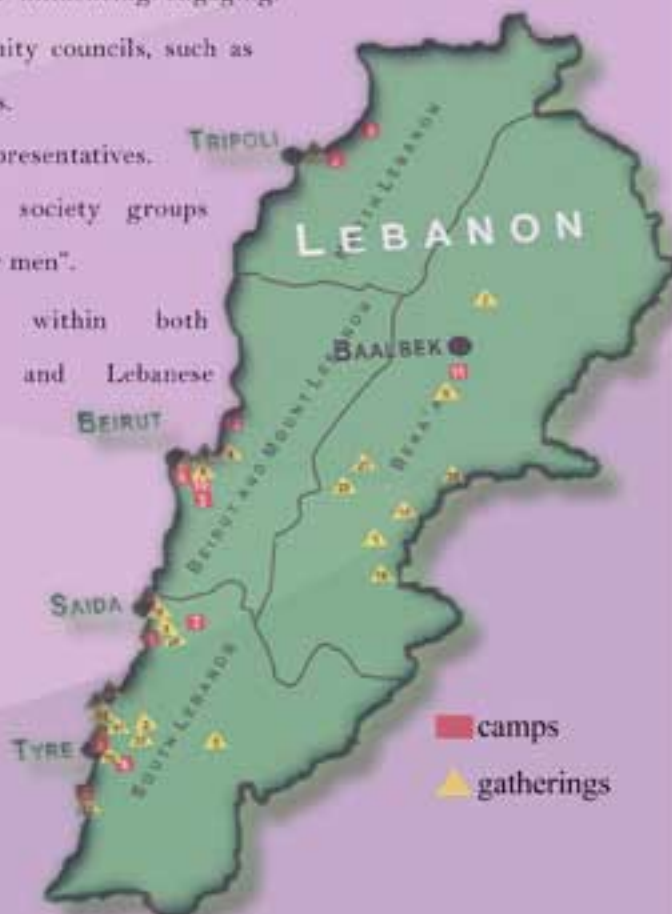
Location and Target Population

The program will be implemented in Lebanon mainly within the Palestinian Refugee Camps and Gatherings

Its main target population is Palestinian Refugee women in Lebanon whether adolescents, young or adult women from different socio-economic levels.

The program aims at influencing/engaging:

- Local and community councils, such as popular committees.
- Political parties representatives.
- NGOs and civil society groups "particularly led by men".
- Media Groups within both the Palestinian and Lebanese Communities.



PHRO

The Palestinian Human Rights Organization - PHRO is an independent non-governmental organization, established in 1997, recognized in Lebanon under registration no. 36/AD, and works for promoting, protecting and defending the human rights of the Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. PHRO is member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), the Euro Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN) and the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR).

PHRO raises the awareness of the Palestinian Refugees as to their rights in the international law and encourages the community to translate this knowledge into legitimate peaceful campaign to obtain recognition of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights in Lebanon, until the United Nations Resolution no. 194 is implemented and occupation of the Palestinian Territories ends.

www.palhumanrights.org

UN WOMEN

In July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. In doing so, UN Member States took a historic step in accelerating the Organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact. It merges and builds on the important work of four previously distinct parts of the UN system, which focused exclusively on gender equality and women's empowerment:


- Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW).
- International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW).
- Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI).
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

www.unwomen.org

Women's empowerment enhances women's participation and increases women's voice, leadership and influence over decision-making in all spheres of life. It advances women's civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights, which create a fair distribution of power and translate gender equality policies into concrete systems for implementation. It also transforms institutions and promotes access to gender justice.



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 *more information about this program is available on the gender page on our website.*