

# ARAB STATES AND NORTH AFRICA

In 2011, the UN Trust Fund supported programmes in the following countries in this region:

## ARAB STATES

IRAQ  
JORDAN  
LEBANON  
SYRIA

## NORTH AFRICA

MOROCCO

### WHAT IS THE UN TRUST FUND?

The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund) is the only multilateral grant-making mechanism exclusively devoted to supporting local and national efforts to end violence against women and girls. Since its establishment by the UN General Assembly in 1996, the UN Trust Fund has delivered more than US\$ 78 million to support 339 vital initiatives in 127 countries and territories. By the end of 2011, the UN Trust Fund had an active portfolio of 96 active grants, covering 86 countries, with a total value of over US\$ 61 million.

### HOW WIDESPREAD IS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE ARAB STATES AND NORTH AFRICA?

- Prevalence surveys in the region indicate that 1 in every 3 women in Egypt and Morocco has experienced physical violence in their lifetime.
- 83 % of Iraqi women report at least one form of marital controlling behavior while 33% have experienced at least one form of emotional or psychological violence in their intimate relationships.

### WHAT IS THE UN TRUST FUND DOING TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THIS REGION?

The UN Trust Fund is currently investing more than US\$ 2.8 million in North Africa and in the Arab States, accounting for nearly 5 % of its active portfolio. These investments are supporting local and national initiatives aimed at transforming the day-to-day lives of women and girls throughout the region. The following provides a snapshot of the UN Trust Fund-supported programmes in Africa that are preventing violence against women and girls by addressing its root causes, delivering critical services to survivors, and strengthening the capacity of state institutions to respond effectively to these crimes:

#### Engaging Men and Boys in Prevention:

- In **Lebanon**, Oxfam Great Britain and its national partner KAFA (Enough) launched the region's first White Ribbon campaign, mobilizing young men to take a stand against violence. Male university

students from four universities in Beirut crafted messages emphasizing the benefits to society as a whole of ending violence against women, which were posted on billboards across Beirut. The campaign garnered the pledge of 128 members of Parliament—including a remarkable 50 % of male legislators—to publicly support the domestic violence legislation prior to parliamentary debates.

#### Providing Critical Services to Survivors of Violence:

- In **Jordan, Egypt, and Morocco**, the Jordanian Women's Union along with country-level partners is creating NGO networks to address trafficking and the rights of women migrant workers. The programme is promoting prevention and protection for domestic workers as well as trafficked women by training a cadre of lawyers and social workers in the target countries to address these crimes. These networks also support recovery and repatriation for survivors as well as criminalization of trafficking through strengthened legislation and law enforcement. This groundbreaking initiative has offered access to medical, psychological, and legal support to more than 1,200 trafficked and migrant women throughout the region.

#### Making Laws and Policies Work for Women:

- In **Morocco**, the Institution Nationale de Solidarité avec les Femmes en Détresse (INSAF) is expanding its pioneering work defending the rights of single mothers and female domestic workers. The initiative works directly with single mothers and girls engaged in domestic work to support their social reintegration through education, training, and employment opportunities. The programme is working to improve legal protections for these vulnerable groups, and reducing the social stigma they experience in the community through targeted advocacy campaigns. The grantee directly contributed to the inclusion of single mothers into the government's national plan of action that facilitates the employment of excluded populations by private companies.

**UN TRUST FUND  
INVESTMENTS IN THE  
ARAB STATES AND NORTH  
AFRICA:**

**ARAB STATES:  
US\$ 2,451,321**

**NORTH AFRICA:  
US\$ 432,732**

**TOTAL INVESTMENT SINCE  
1996:  
US\$ 5 MILLION, 6% OF  
TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED**

**ACTIVE GRANTS IN 2011:  
5 PROJECTS FOR A  
TOTAL VALUE OF US \$ 2.8  
MILLION IN 5 COUNTRIES**

**NEW GRANT AWARD IN  
2011:  
INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL  
CORPS**

**TARGET COUNTRY:  
IRAQ**

**GRANT AMOUNT:  
US\$ 998,455**



## SPOTLIGHT ON IRAQ

In 2011, the UN Trust Fund supported its first programme in Iraq providing a grant to *International Medical Corps* to support the primary prevention of violence against women and girls and pilot a stronger integrated model of care for survivors. The programme is expected to reach over 63,000 women and girls in Baghdad and 59,000 government officials and first responders including health

workers, lawyers, community social workers, and local council representatives between 2011 and 2013.

The project works directly with the Ministry of Health to ensure that all health care providers are trained to detect and treat survivors of gender-based violence. To improve the provision of health services to survivors of violence across multiple sectors of care in Baghdad, IMC is building the capacity of primary health care providers, including doctors and nurses, to respond to and care for survivors of violence, with a focus on mental health and the psycho-social needs of patients.

The program is training primary health care physicians and nurses working in clinics and hospitals across the country on the provision of support to survivors, including basic emotional support and mental health referrals if needed. Health care providers will also be provided with information on available psycho-social services, legal services and other welfare support services for survivors of violence. To improve the primary prevention of gender-based violence in Iraq, the grantee is developing public awareness and community outreach strategies in Baghdad, using a survey it is carrying out on gender-based violence and its destabilizing effects on Iraqi society as the basis.

IMC is also scaling-up its existing legal literacy workshops and other support programmes through nine community-based women's empowerment groups and four Women's Centers across the capital.