Strengthening Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Sexual and Gender Based Violence Services for Syrian and Other Refugees thru Women and Girl Safe Spaces (WGSS)/Women Health Counselling Units Project

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(HUWRIC)
Current Situation

According to latest data of General Directorate of Migration Management, 3.603.888 million Syrians are in Turkey in the status of temporary protection (22.11.2018).

In this context, 87.147 Syrian migrant population are living in Ankara (22.11.2018)

Most of this population consists of women and children.
Within the Scope of the Project;

- 3 Women’s Health Counselling Units (HCU) were established.
- These 3 Centers are all inside the MoH-Migrant Health Center’s buildings belonging to Ankara Provincial Health Directorate.
The Project has started with a single center in March, 2015.

Still continues with three centers since February, 2016.
MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT

- Sexual and reproductive health and family planning services
- Supporting women who experience violence & Gender based violence prevention
- Empowerment of migrant women and girls
30 Personnel have been Working at the Centres...

- A project coordinator and a project coordinator assistant.
- 3 Turkish women social workers and 3 psychologists who can speak Arabic very well.
- 2 Iraqi doctor at Alemdağ and Yenimahalle Center,
- 1 Iraqi nurse at Gülveren Center.
- 2 Syrian women cleaning personnel.
- 3 Syrian women translators.
- A total of 15 Syrian women «health mediators» at 3 centers (5 at each Center)
- 3 Turkish women security personnel.

19 refugee women have been employed within the Project
Individual counselling and group trainings on SRH and Family Planning.
Awareness raising activities on gender based violence.
Psycho-social support for women exposed to gender based violence.
Empowerment activities (ex. Turkish language practices, city trip, bazaar trip, picnic, drama courses, jewelery design courses etc.).

Visit to Ankara Bar, ŞÖNİM (Violence Prevention and Center) and other public institutions
Programmed trainings of migrant health mediators who are employed within the scope of the Project.
Services Provided at the Centers (7)

Distribution of kits provided by UNFPA
Roles and responsibilities of women change when they come to Turkey. This transformation disturbs the familiar/usual balance of their relationships with their husbands.

Exposure to all kinds of violence (especially from husbands and mother in-laws)

Too many child marriage cases

Financial problems

Distress related to loss, trauma and forced migration

«Uncertainty» is a crucial problem while planning refugee women’s and young girls’ future
The research may seek to address key questions regarding diseases among refugee population in Turkey. Such as:

- What are the most commonly seen conflict related diseases and what kind of burden and patterns do they have?
- What are their risk-factors? Is uncertainty among those risk factors?
- Are prevention and treatment services are effective and sufficient for those diseases?
- How can health services, systems and policies be improved so that they could be more responsive to those diseases? What are the barriers and how can they be best overcome?
- What kind of research methodologies can be used to search and monitor this issue?
Within this research, in order to add value, multi-country study can be conducted and technical know-how and expertise could be transferred between the stakeholders of the research.

It would be a pleasure for us to be the part of R4HC-MENA through these kinds of researches.
Thank you for your consideration...