



ANNUAL REPORT

2016 Highlights



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ABOUT KAFA

KAFA (enough) Violence & Exploitation is a feminist, Lebanese, secular, non-profit, non-governmental civil society organization seeking to create a society that is free of social, economic and legal patriarchal structures that discriminate against women.

KAFA has been aiming to eliminate all forms of exploitation and violence against women since its establishment in 2005. It seeks to realize substantive gender equality through the adoption of a combination of different approaches, such as:

Advocacy for law reform and introduction of new laws and policies; altering public opinion, practices and mentality; conducting research and training; and empowering women and children victims of violence.

Our focus areas are: Family violence; Exploitation and trafficking in women, especially in migrant domestic workers and women in prostitution; Child protection, particularly from family violence and sexual abuse.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

KAFA's team is grateful to all individuals, groups, organizations, the media, and other public or private institutions that encouraged our organization's mission and activities throughout 2016, in addition to all those providing moral or financial support to KAFA's efforts to eradicate all forms of gender-based violence and exploitation of women and children. The following actions and achievements would not have been possible without your support.

KAFA takes this opportunity to extend its thanks to the funding agencies, which provided financial support during 2016 for the protection of women and children from family violence, abuse, and exploitation. These resources assisted in achieving the noticeable progress in the promotion of legal reforms and change in policies, in addition to influencing public opinion regarding the adoption of relevant laws and their enforcement.

KAFA's appreciation goes to all civil society actors who partnered with KAFA, and to each of the following organizations that joined hands in working for the cause of women and children in Lebanon: UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, Anti-Slavery International, International Federation of Red Cross, Norwegian People's Aid, French Embassy in Beirut, Kvinna Till Kvinna, Amica e.V, and Christian Aid.

Special gratitude goes to the media for their partnership in providing wide coverage of KAFA's advocacy and awareness-raising activities and for courageously denouncing violence and abuse against women and children.

KAFA also thanks all its local partners, stakeholders, and recipients for their participation in the planning, monitoring, and implementation of all program activities, bringing their valuable contributions to the success of the different projects.

Finally, KAFA's gratitude goes to all women who approached KAFA's Support Center for the courage they have shown in facing the masculine powers that tried to oppress them, and for the trust they put in us, sharing their agonies, fears and concerns, and relying on our support to help them escape the violent situations they passed through. We promise that we will do our best not to let them down, in spite of all the obstacles and constraints that we might face and that are imposed on us by the patriarchal system we live in.

I. FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT

1- Campaigning against the personal status codes with a highlight on child marriage

Like every year, KAFA draws on the International 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence to shed light on an issue pertaining to women's human rights and their protection from violence. Five years ago, KAFA opened the debate on the personal status laws, with a campaign revolving around CEDAW convention and Lebanon's reservations on several articles in the convention, namely article 16 about equality in marriage life. After the approval of Law 293 on family violence in 2014 and its implementation over more than two years, KAFA thought that it was about time to remind people that one of the core obstacles to equality and women's full protection is the current family laws. Therefore, the 16 Days campaigns 2015 and 2016 following the approval of the law focused on the PSL with the objective of creating more awareness and knowledge about their content and how they affect women and girls living in Lebanon. In the end of 2015, KAFA produced diverse material to highlight unfair laws and practices related to early marriage, custody, and women's marital and financial rights. Several media tools were used to simplify and spread information (social experiments videos, print material, and digital content). The video highlighting child marriage (a social experiment produced in the 2015 campaign) gained 9 international media awards, and so, KAFA decided to produce another video on the same topic and with the same cast (the 11 year old girl/protagonist) to reiterate the **demand of raising the minimum age for marriage to 18 for all religious communities in Lebanon.**

The «raise the age» video was produced and disseminated in July 2016, gaining thousands of online views and a considerable coverage on local media channels.

KAFA decided to broaden the scope of the «raise the age» campaign. Hence, the 16 days campaign 2016 was used to increase the «raise the age» visibility and reach through multiple media channels and tools. «Raise the age» visuals were spread on important highways and road intersections and trucks, online pictures and texts were disseminated, and the video was screened on local channels, in cinema theaters, and shared and boosted again on social media platforms.



2- Training and capacity building

a) Training Internal Security Forces' officers

For the fourth year in a row, KAFA is still training ISF officers on their role in responding to family violence complaints and the family violence Law number 293/2014. This year, Training of Trainers (TOT) sessions were implemented at the Internal Security Forces (ISF) academy in Aramoun targeting 10 ISF officers on family violence and Law 293/2014. Eight trainings targeting 119 ISF officers were then conducted by KAFA and the trainers at the ISF academy. The new team of ISF trainers conduct the trainings with KAFA's follow-up and coaching in cooperation with the group of previous trainers on the family violence curriculum produced by KAFA and the ISF.



b) Training lawyers on Law 293/2014

Capacity building sessions on Law 293/2014 targeting lawyers were conducted. Six trainings targeting 145 lawyers were held. Two specialized trainings targeting 77 selected lawyers were later on held for lawyers who showed a will to help victims of GBV.



c) *Focus group with journalists*

A focus group with 10 journalists was conducted to discuss the issue of media and violence against women, and to collect their comments and inputs on the manual Kafa prepared on family violence and media's role and coverage in Lebanon. The manual targeting journalists and students was finalized and printed after this session, and hundreds of copies were distributed to journalists and university students.



3- Research and publications

a) *Production of a guide on child marriage*

After a training/testing session in Kafa's center in Chtaura targeting 22 participants (3 outreach focal points, 15 community mobilizers, 2 animators, the center supervisor, and the social worker), the draft awareness guide Kafa prepared on child marriage was produced and later used as an awareness tool during several awareness and training sessions on the matter.



b) *Production of a glossary on the personal status laws*

A “Zalfa glossary” of terms related to the personal status laws was developed by Kafa. The glossary simplifies and explains the terminology used in religious laws, and specifically the terms that are most relevant to women. The guide is distributed in awareness sessions and in Kafa’s support centers.



c) *Production of a legal study on Law 293/2014*

A legal study on the implementation of Law 293/2014 was developed by lawyer Marie-Rose Zalzal in 2016. The study included observations on a number of family violence complaints in Mount Lebanon and answered questions related to how the judiciary system dealt with these complaints, and how women resorted to Law 293/2014. The study also recommended several amendments to the family violence law.



d) Monitoring the implementation of Law 293/2014 through the collection of protection orders; Production of a study based on these judicial orders

One hundred and forty five protection orders issued during the year 2016 were collected by a group of lawyers. A legal study was produced in 2016 based on the protection orders, mostly the ones collected during the years 2014 and 2015 by the legal expert Dr. Abdou Ghsoub. The study showed some gaps in the implementation of Law 293/2014 and suggested a number of recommendations.



e) Production of a guide for Kafa's call center's operators

After the establishment of a call center during 2016 (see more in section number II), a guide for the center's operators was produced. The guide includes the policy of Kafa's support center, and sets guidelines for operators on how to deal with the different types of calls and complaints, and how to respond to and communicate with victims of GBV. The guide contains annexes about safety planning and the contacts of important and relevant parties that operators reach to or coordinate with in emergency cases.

4- Discussions with judges around amending Law 293/2014

Law 293/2014, the studies around it, and the suggested recommendations were discussed with a group of judges and family violence prosecutors in Lebanon. The process of writing the draft amendment of Law 293/2014 with the Ministry of Justice began after this meeting.



II- Support Center

1- Overview

Since its establishment in 2005, KAFA operated a “listening and counseling center”, or LCC. But after years of experience in working with victims of gender-based violence, KAFA’s team realized that the center is more than just a listening and counseling one, and was growing year after year to become an exemplary center that provides victims with a support system covering a myriad of services as well as customized plans of action for each case following a survivor-based approach. Thus, the LCC was transformed into SC (support center), which continues to provide victims with social, legal, psychological services, and empowerment activities.

The main objective of the SC is to empower each woman who approaches KAFA by providing her with skills to better face, confront, and overcome her situation. It also aims at empowering women to become advocates and activists for the cause of fighting violence and discrimination against women.

In 2016, the SC witnessed an important addition with the establishment of a call center that became an important part of the space and its services. The call center’s recruited “operators” respond to the calls to the center, and to a 24/7 support line (03-018019) giving information and supporting victims with their cases, setting appointments with social workers, dealing with emergency cases during and after working hours and coordinating with the police and other official institutions and bodies.

The following table briefs the results of the services offered by the SC offices in Beirut and Chtaura during 2016:

New cases	911
Old cases/ follow-up	1536
Cases (psychological support)	427
Sessions (psychological support)	2381
Cases (legal consultations)	591
Sessions (legal consultations)	996
Court representations	81
Forensic doctors reports	72
Referral to shelters	44
Protection orders issued with KAFA’s follow-up	54
Number of calls	4844

2- Support Center, Beirut (Badaro)

From January 2016 until December 2016, the SC provided listening and counseling to and followed up with 1997 women victims of violence and exploitation who sought help and assistance from KAFA. The total number of recipients benefiting from the SC services exceeded the expected number predicted (1700 in Beirut) for the year 2016.

Among the 1997 cases, 722 new recipients benefited from the SC services, whereas 1275 old cases benefited from the regular social follow-up.

We noticed an increase in demand, which illustrates the impact and importance of KAFA's media and awareness campaigns, as well as the radical existence of family violence in Lebanon's patriarchal society.

The SC- Beirut covered 557 legal consultations, 59 court representations, and 34 forensic reports. Throughout the counseling, we stressed the importance of having a forensic report in order to document the incidents of violence, especially if the beneficiary needs to go through legal procedures.

The number of cases referred to shelters depends on the needs of the women approaching KAFA's center. During 2016, 38 cases were referred to safe houses to assure the women's safety.

a) Awareness sessions

Twelve awareness sessions were conducted with 130 women who receive support from KAFA. The topics tackled during these sessions included the following:

- Contraception methods
- Drugs and risks
- Defense mechanisms
- Non-violent communication
- Anger management
- Positive self-image
- Sexual education

b) Psychotherapist coaching sessions for social workers

Fifteen coaching sessions for 11 social workers at KAFA were carried out between January and December 2016 to increase the social workers' knowledge and skills in topics relevant to their work. The topics included the following:

- Victims of sexual abuse and violence/trafficking
- Psychosocial intervention with victims of sexual abuse
- Children's depression
- Pedophilia
- International legal context of GBV
- Approach to working with children

3- Support Center, Bekaa (Chtaura)

The SC-Chtaura covered 1006 psychological sessions, 439 legal consultations, 22 court representations, and 38 forensic reports. During 2016, 6 cases were referred by KAFA-Chtaura to safe houses to assure the women's safety.

See more about the center's activities in the emergency response part number V.

III. Anti-trafficking and exploitation unit

The Anti-trafficking and Exploitation Unit at KAFA works on building a public opinion against trafficking and exploitation for two of the most vulnerable groups of women to these forms of violence: female migrant domestic workers and Lebanese and foreign women in prostitution. The Unit also aims at calling for better legal and social protection for victims and women and girls at risk. Several approaches are deployed by the Unit to reach these objectives, such as advocacy work, awareness raising, capacity building, and service provision to victims.

A highlight of the 2016's work of the Unit was the protection provided by *Amara* shelter, a refuge and empowerment center for women and girls victims of sexual and labor exploitation. Opened in late 2015, the shelter received throughout 2016 a large number of women who were sexually exploited or exploited in domestic forced labor.

Another highlight of this year was the outreach work done with new and rarely targeted communities of migrant domestic workers from African states; and the trust that KAFA managed to build with these communities.

1- Prostitution and trafficking for sexual exploitation program

The year 2016 witnessed the dismantling of the largest sex trafficking network in Lebanon known as Chez Maurice in reference to the name of the brothels operated by the traffickers. The police freed dozens of Syrian women who were recruited in Syria and forced into sexual slavery in two buildings in a town 20 km north of Beirut. KAFA's shelter has received a number of the network's victims and provided them with social support and legal representation.

Other actions undertaken by the Unit include:

a) Advocacy and raising awareness on the realities of prostitution and trafficking

Anti-prostitution social media campaign "Al Hawa Ma Byinshara":

In continuation of "Al Hawa Ma Byinshara" campaign (*you can't buy love*) launched in September 2014, KAFA produced in 2016, seven small videos on the popular myths about prostitution such as prostitution being the oldest profession in the world, and that criminalizing it would increase rape and would drive it underground. KAFA produced as well a short video gathering testimonies of women in prostitution that were collected during research interviews made by KAFA. The video shows the reality of prostitution and the violence that women in prostitution endure regularly.

b) Awareness sessions and interventions

During 2016, and with mainly the support of UNHCR, KAFA conducted several awareness raising sessions and discussions about prostitution and human trafficking for sexual exploitation to sensitize different groups to these topics. Students, midwives, lawyers, and NGOs were targeted in these sessions. According the specialization of each group, KAFA provided specific tips and tools on

how to identify victims and how to refer them to services providers, or provide them directly with assistance and protection.

On May 19, 2016, Kafa organized with the Syndicate of Lawyers, a seminar on "Human trafficking, Prostitution and the Role of the Client". The seminar highlighted the challenges faced by judges in implementing Law 164/2011 to punish trafficking in human beings, as well as the linkages between trafficking and prostitution. The seminar called for the adoption of the abolitionist model as a solution to end prostitution and trafficking. The seminar hosted Grégoire Théry, executive director of the International Coalition for the Abolition of Prostitution (CAP International), who presented the new abolitionist law recently adopted in France to combat prostitution, support victims and punish pimps and customers.

c) Capacity building of the law enforcement agencies

For the second consecutive year, a hundred of officers from the Internal Security Forces have been trained on the topic of human trafficking for sexual exploitation and the Lebanese anti-trafficking law. These training workshops were done in order to cover the gaps in the knowledge of the reality of the prostitution and the human trafficking in Lebanon. They provided tools to the officers who can be in contact with potential victims of sex trafficking on how to better identify and support them as well as better investigate cases and pursue perpetrators. These efforts will be pursued in 2017 and will be extended to target the General Security officers.

2- Migrant domestic workers program

2016 was uneventful in terms of legal and policy reforms and MDWs are still suffering from the lack of legal protection, the effects of sponsorship system, as well as the abusive recruitment processes and practices. This year has witnessed the arrest and deportation of two MDWs who have been defending the rights of domestic workers for many years in Lebanon. Shusila Rana (leader of Nari and member of the Domestic Workers' Union) and Roja Maya Limbu (member of the Domestic Workers' Union) were victims of conflict and bad intentions from people within and outside their community, as well as by the system of sponsorship in Lebanon that sanctions migrants by deporting them in case of any failure in residency terms.

During this year, the Unit's efforts involved:

a) International Labor Day: Advocating for better legal protection

For the seventh year in a row, Kafa co-organized the Workers' Day parade 2016 on the 1st of May, to demand the ratification and implementation of ILO Convention 189 "Decent Working and Living Conditions for Domestic Workers". Hundreds of migrant women and men, together with many supporters and organizations, marched from St. Joseph church in Monot to the St. Francis Church playground in Hamra where the workers organized a cultural festival and market. Participants in

the parade carried banners calling for the abolishment of the sponsorship system and respecting the rights of domestic workers. In conclusion of the parade, MDWs gave empowering speeches and performed traditional dances.

b) Public awareness raising

“Get Your Facts Straight” media campaign:

Early in 2016, KAFA launched an online, mass media, and outdoor campaign based on the results of a national survey on employers’ practices and perceptions of MDWs and the kafala system, conducted by the American University of Beirut (AUB) in partnership with KAFA and Anti-Slavery International, and supported by the International Labor Organization (ILO).

The campaign was the result of the two significant trends coming out of this study; the first was the stark gaps in employers’ knowledge of the legal requirements of the sponsorship system. For this phase of the campaign, KAFA produced an animated video focusing on the gaps in the employers’ legal knowledge regarding the contract stipulations and kafala system requirements. The video was launched in January 2016 on KAFA’s social media platforms.

The second substantial finding of the survey was the obvious contradiction between how much employers rely on domestic workers in their everyday life on the one hand, and the low and negative perceptions they have of them on the other hand. Despite entrusting the worker with the spectrum of domestic responsibilities, from taking care of children and parents to managing their households, employers have negative, low and borderline racist perceptions of the workers. A significant percentage of them believe the worker is not to be trusted, or comes to Lebanon with psychological problems.

The main findings of the national survey which were highlighted in KAFA’s campaign visuals were:

- 41% of the Lebanese consider that the migrant domestic worker has psychological problems but, have no problem with her staying with their parents when they’re away
- 51% of the Lebanese consider that the migrant domestic worker is not to be trusted but, have no problem with her staying with their kids
- 27% of the Lebanese consider that the migrant domestic worker is not clean but, have no problem with her cleaning and cooking
- 36% of the Lebanese consider that the migrant domestic worker is stupid but, have no problem with her managing the household in their absence.

The visuals were disseminated outdoors and on mainstream offline media through 4 TV spots – each highlighting one of the findings above; unipoles, rooftops and mobile trucks with our messages toured around Beirut and other major cities in Lebanon.



The campaign was picked up massively by online and offline media outlets: newspapers, online news portals, blogs, television and radio shows. KAFA was featured on several live television and radio shows to discuss the campaign and the issue of MDWs in general. While the campaign did get a lot of momentum and praise and triggered a lot of discussions, it did as well provoke a lot of angry comments and reactions from employers mainly on Facebook, the matter that proves that the campaign was able to reach people and serve as food for thought to reflect and question their behavior, perceptions and attitudes towards migrant domestic workers.

The #WhyDontYou social media campaign:

Members of the Nepalese group Nari held, with the support of KAFA, a social media campaign on the right of MDWs to have a day off per week. The messages of the campaign were positive and highlighted the good practices of employers who do give rest time and days off to MDWs, so other employers on social media can see and follow suit. Nari members held statements such as “My employer gives me an hour break for lunch every day”, “My employer allows me to go out every Sunday”, etc., and for two Sundays, they toured a number of public spaces in Beirut where they posed and had their pictures taken by a professional photographer. The campaign was on social media for a week in the month of May 2016.

c) Awareness targeting youth

In 2016, KAFA had conducted public sessions with youth, namely university students at the American University of Beirut (AUB), the Faculty of Engineering at the Lebanese University (LU), and the Youth Department of the Lebanese Red Cross, on the failures of the Lebanese system to

protect migrant domestic workers, and the issues that the different MDWs communities face in Lebanon.

d) Building the capacity of migrant communities

Reinforcing the capacities of the Domestic Workers' Union:

KAFA organized four capacity building workshops for members of the Domestic Workers' Union. These workshops were based on the needs expressed by its members, in particular the need to know how to receive and document workers' complaints and how to refer to other organizations providing services, and the need to acquire negotiation and bargaining skills.

While KAFA conducted the workshops for complaints' reception, documentation and referral, Zoukak group, a renowned theater company and cultural association, was hired to train over two Sundays, the members of the unions on collective bargaining, negotiations, communications skills, and group cohesion.

Outreach to African migrant communities: Empowering and Informing:

In late 2015, KAFA had started reaching out very small African communities with the support of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. For years, the focus of programming for decent work and forced labor prevention in Lebanon has been on migrant communities of larger constituencies such as the Ethiopian and the South East Asian. Smaller communities of domestic workers coming from various African states are seldom targeted and are often excluded involuntarily from the outreach and empowerment work carried out with migrant domestic workers' communities in Lebanon.

In 2016, MDWs from five different nationalities - Cameroon, Madagascar, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal were reached out by KAFA through a mapping activity that aimed at collecting information about the situation of these communities, identifying the types of support networks that exist among them and highlight the main challenges faced by these communities in Lebanon.

Several other activities were conducted with these communities with the aim of reinforcing existing networks and relationships among the workers, and raise their awareness on the situation of MDWs in Lebanon, and the challenges faced by them within the existing Lebanese legal and social context. Outings in nature were used as a stress-free way to have a gathering for each community, and have a joint discussion about the challenges they face in their communities. Several demands and needs identified by the workers will be translated into awareness activities that will be conducted by workers themselves in 2017, namely a photo campaign highlighting the main violations faced by the community, and awareness videos including basic information about the trip to Lebanon and workers' rights and duties, to be disseminated among prospective migrants in countries of origin.

e) Support and assistance to victims of trafficking and physical and sexual abuse

KAFA continued providing services to MDWs victims of physical and sexual abuse and operates a helpline specific to MDWs. The Helpline (+961 76 090910) and the KAFA team offer MDWs socio-legal counseling, legal representation, and return assistance. During 2016, over 293 cases had reached or contacted the organization, with around 31 receiving comprehensive support and the remaining referred to other existing service providers.

In 2016, the Amara Shelter received 53 women migrant domestic workers exploited in domestic labor and women sexually exploited in prostitution. The shelter provided a safe place for the beneficiaries, as well as case management (legal, social, psychological, and medical), and rehabilitation programs and empowerment.

IV. PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

1- Overview

The Child Protection Program (CPP) works on combating violence against children and adolescents, with a focus on gender-based violence and sexual abuse.

By working on the protection and empowerment of children, the CPP is participating in the creation of a safer future free of gender-based violence and discrimination.

The CPP action plan seeks to improve prevention and protection measures for children and adolescents, by reaching out to different target groups, namely children, adolescents, caregivers, and service providers, while always applying a child participatory approach and combining different tools and strategies, such as:

- Increasing societal awareness by producing tools, knowledge, research and campaigns, and developing informational and educational material for various target groups;
- Capacity building for service providers in public and private sectors;
- Advocating for better legislation for the protection of children from violence and abuse, and creating child-friendly policies and spaces in state institutions;
- Working on children's and youth's practices, behaviors and attitudes;
- Offering legal, social, and psychological support to children and adolescents survivors of gender-based violence, family violence and sexual abuse.

2- Main actions and achievements

a) Awareness raising on GBV (including early marriage and child sexual abuse)

Activities under this section are based on the assumption that vulnerabilities of children, adolescent boys and girls, and caregivers are reduced and their resilience strengthened, by increasing their awareness on GBV (early marriage and child sexual abuse) through awareness and outreach. In this respect, awareness sessions were conducted with around 500 children and adolescents in schools, NGOs, and SDCs from different regions in Lebanon.

b) Support services and activities for children survivors of GBV

Services are provided to children survivors of violence with the assumption that child protection violations are mitigated and addressed through case management and professional interventions to children survivors of GBV and abuse.

Results from KAFA's SC (Support Center) for the Rehabilitation of Women Survivors of Family Violence, the knowledge gained from this experience, and the realization that there is an important number of children who are survivors of abuse and violence in cases of family violence has led KAFA to confirm the need for supporting children (under the age of 18), from different backgrounds and nationalities (including refugees and migrants).

KAFA acquired an additional space in the same building hosting the SC for women and the organization's offices in 2015. Locating the SC for children within the same space facilitated the provision of holistic and comprehensive services to women/mothers survivors of family violence and at the same time to their children who have either witnessed abuse and violence or are also themselves survivors of abuse and violence and developed symptoms related to this violence.

All case managers working with children survivors of abuse have signed KAFA's Child Protection Policy that includes a transparent, confidential mechanism to submit complaints or feedback about services.

As a total, starting from January till December 2016, 89 cases were identified as child abuse, from different regions from Lebanon, divided as follows: 36 females and 53 males aged between 2 and 18 years old, from Beirut, Mount Lebanon, South, North and Chouf. They are survivors of physical, emotional, economic, sexual abuse, in addition to neglect, early marriage, sex exploitation, and rape. The abuser was almost a member of the family or from the enlarged family.

These children were provided with case management services such as social interventions, psychotherapy -individual and group therapy sessions- referral to forensic doctors, referral to psychiatrists and legal services.

One drama therapy and one music therapy groups were conducted, and were composed from 22 children between 8 and 14 years old.

These workshops were conceived as a pilot project in order to create a space for children and adolescents to think collectively and experiment practically drama therapy tools as a space to explore and empower themselves individually and as group of children.

The Music therapy is an allied health profession and one of the expressive therapies, consisting of a process in which a music therapist uses music and all of its facets—physical, emotional, mental, social, aesthetic, and spiritual—to help clients improve their physical and mental health. The Music therapist primarily helped the adolescents to improve their health in several domains, such as cognitive functioning, motor skills, emotional development, social skills,

and quality of life, by using music experiences such as free improvisation, singing, and listening to, discussing, and moving to music to achieve treatment goals.

Moreover, a series of twelve structured Psycho-social support sessions are conducted in the SC for children in Beirut, based on the “Citadel of Protection” toolkit developed by KAFA and UNICEF. These sessions targeted 30 children, 10 adolescents survivors of violence benefiting from case management services as well as 21 of their caregivers. Where the sessions entailed:

- Introduction to child rights, based on the convention of child right
 - ✓ Informing the participants about their rights
 - ✓ Encourage participants to claim their rights
- Introduction to Gender based violence
 - ✓ Sexual and physical violence
- Team building
 - ✓ Informing the participants on the importance of societal differences
 - ✓ Accepting these differences in the community
- Relationship building
 - ✓ Empowering the participants on choosing their friends/partners wisely
- Life style
 - ✓ Education on sexual abuse, indoors and outdoors
 - ✓ Self -defense technique in order to protect themselves
- Providing basic needs
 - ✓ Empowering participants not to accept gifts from strangers
 - ✓ Rejecting any gift if their parents are not aware of
- Sexual Violence
 - ✓ Introducing all types of sexual violence, that includes touches, looks, and hearing
- Gender-based violence
 - ✓ Encouraging the participants to recognize and combat gender-based violence
 - ✓ Minimizing the gender gap between the two sexes, through evidence-based approach
- Protection in public space
 - ✓ Informing participants that they may subject to violence at any place
 - ✓ Protection techniques in public spaces
- Ask for help
 - ✓ Help participants choosing wisely persons in their circle of trust

c) Capacity building, development and production of resources

Capacity building is an important aspect of the work of this program. It focuses on building the capacity and skills of service providers working with vulnerable children, adolescents and caregivers, through the development of training and IEC resource materials, and through training and coaching sessions.

Development of training and IEC materials:

- A brochure about the SC services targeting women and children was developed. The brochure includes all services available within the SC in Beirut as well as location and support line number.
- Referral leaflets for the 16 sites in Central and West Bekaa targeting community residents were developed based on a mapping of services available for children and families affected by the Syrian crisis. The mapping included health centers, GBV focused NGOs and community centers.

Training and coaching sessions:

“Citadel of Protection” toolkit TOT:

A TOT on the “Citadel of Protection” toolkit was held in Lancaster Hotel – Mount Lebanon with 26 service providers (14 men and 12 women) within NGOs and INGOs working with vulnerable children and caregivers affected by the Syrian crisis.

The TOT came after recommendations for 3 years of implementation of training sessions on the CoP toolkit in order to aim sustainability in each organization. A group coaching session was conducted with all of the trained service providers in order to monitor and evaluate the newly acquired knowledge, skills and attitudes of service providers.

UNIFIL training:

A 10-day-training session was held in partnership with Tebnin SDC in South funded by UNIFIL with 30 service providers working in SDCs, NGOs and schools in Tebnin and surroundings. The sessions involved training on the COP toolkit and the “Caring for Child Survivors of Sexual Abuse” guidelines.

KAFA team monitored the implementation of the newly acquired skills through conducting visits and using the monitoring tools through direct implementation and group coaching sessions.

V- EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Although the main focus in emergency response has been on Syrian refugees due to the scale and sensitivity of the issue, the following programs are integrated in KAFA's work in a manner that provides services to the whole community and are not exclusive to Syrian refugees.

1- Activities targeting women, children, and adolescents

a) *Training and awareness sessions*

Community Mobilizers Training:

KAFA adopted a community mobilization approach in 2014 in order to ensure a wider outreach and meet our objective in regards to changing attitudes and practices and behaviors of individuals and groups in relation to Child protection and child sexual abuse and GBV in general. This approach will increase the participatory decision-making processes, contribute in inclusion of marginalized groups such as women and youth, who will be acting as community mobilizers, assist communities in reducing their dependence on aid and achieving a lasting change, and helping the community to be prepared to respond to any other crisis.

In 2014, training sessions for 15 days were held with chosen community mobilizers from the youth population (15-24 years) coming from the Syrian community to ensure youth engagement as a marginalized group in the process of decisions making in regard to their communities and to build their knowledge and facilitations capacities to become community mobilizers. Training included topics such as GBV, animations skills, the Citadel of protection toolkit, referrals pathways, communications skills and primary intervention.

In 2016, regular training sessions were held with the 15 community mobilizers based on the needs that emerged from the field, questions asked by children and caregivers during the awareness sessions, personal capacity building, etc. The topics revolved around Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights and how to deal with certain issues as well as around project development.

b) *Operating an Adolescent-Friendly Space in Chtaura and organizing various activities*

Thousands of families and children are fleeing Syria to Lebanon, and the number of refugees is still increasing on a daily basis. This situation created a state of poverty surrounding Syrian families who they live in crowded houses or crowded tented settlements. This overcrowding and extreme poverty leave adolescents with very little space to play and interact and express themselves. Moreover, many adolescents are subjected to different types of GBV and abuse and exploitation.

That is why KAFA created an adolescent-friendly space (AFS) in 2014, delivering case management for adolescent (aged between 10 and 17 years old) survivors of GBV and abuse, psychosocial support activities on sexual and reproductive health (SRHR), GBV and child protection, life skills sessions, trainings on child rights, photography, drama and music therapy sessions.

The AFS includes the following activities:

- Art therapy sessions: Around 60 adolescents benefited from art therapy sessions in the center including drama and music therapy.
- Empowerment sessions: Around 700 adolescents benefited from vocational and empowerment sessions in the center such as English and literacy courses, awareness raising sessions and life skill sessions.
- Case management: Around 60 adolescents survivors of different form of GBV and sexual abuse are receiving case management (legal, social, psychological follow up, referral) from two case managers.
- Group support activities: Around 60 adolescents benefited from group support activities such as drumming sessions, yoga sessions and self-defense sessions.
- Empowerment activities: Around 80 adolescents benefited from short movies workshop, theatre, and photography sessions. Three exhibitions were held in 2016 on the children's artworks in Bekaa and Beirut.
- Socio economic empowerment activity: Around 64 girls participated in gardening and flower arrangement sessions including lessons on: Wheat/olives/grapes/vegetables (parsley, lettuce, cabbage, tomato, cucumber...) roses, citrus, apples.

c) *Community mobilization:*

Mobilizing the community around child protection, child rights and GBV to address and prevent violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect against children

KAFA has focused this year on GBV through engagement of women and men from the communities and establishment of community groups based on a community-based approach aligned with UNICEF and sector's approach.

Sixteen sites located in Saadneyel, Taalabeya, Bar Elias, Majdel Anjar, Jeb Jannin and Ghazze have been identified by the community mobilizers including 7 H.H. and 9 I.S. where they established 16 committees. Each committee is formed from women, men and adolescents from the community. The identification was based on an assessment that aimed to study the demographic characteristics of each site, identify vulnerabilities and risks, meet with

community leaders and influential actors, and map the existing resources and services in this community to feed the development of service mapping and referral pathways of each area.

A training was provided to each committee to empower them to conduct in their turn awareness raising sessions to their local peers at a later stage of this phase, and to transfer knowledge and life skills associated with child protection and GBV, including peer-to-peer education techniques, early marriage, marriage registration, birth registration, with particular focus on GBV risk reduction and child marriage prevention.

Many subjects were addressed in the training such as: child rights, stages of child development, violence and its effect, GBV, sexual abuse, sexual development, early marriage and early pregnancy risks.

Transferring knowledge and skills related to CP and GBV, including peer-to-peer education techniques and topics related to identification and safety referral of protection cases, early marriage, marriage registration, birth registration, Law 422 and Law 293, and receiving awareness raising sessions based on the citadel of protection toolkit, in addition to attending emotional support group activity leading to empower women and girls since they are the most vulnerable categories exposed to such violence, and contribute to develop their capacities and their ability to deal with all the issues that concern them, and know how to deal with any type of abuse they are subject to.

After receiving the necessary trainings and technical support through our volunteer community mobilizers, adolescent and adult peer educators started to conduct awareness raising sessions about GBV and CP based on the Citadel of Protection toolkit to their peers existing in their place of residence.

Eight sessions were provided to each group of adolescents, women and men which included the following themes: Child rights, gender & sex, types of abuse, early marriage and early pregnancy, child labour, sexual abuse, and gender based violence.

Based on the community mobilizers' assessment and requests of the beneficiaries, 12 groups of women were targeted under "Emotional group support" activity.

This activity aimed to achieve psychological support and stability of the women and dealing with all the issues that, to them, are creating a non-satisfying emotional state. The goal was also to prepare these women to provide to each other the same emotional support we're giving them.

The communication improved inside and outside the group which contributed in improving the family relationships; they can now sort out most of their problems and reach agreements that satisfy them all.

In total, 1,100 children, 1,500 adolescents, 1,400 women and 400 men were targeted in 2016 within the community based approach, the peer to peer mechanism, the psychosocial support activities and sensitization sessions.

d) Awareness raising sessions for women in the support center in Chtaura

Forty-eight awareness raising sessions took place at our center in Chtaura in which 120 women from the Syrian refugee community participated. The topics covered were mainly about SGBV (different forms of violence, causes of SGBV, recognition of violence), as well as going over the available services and solutions.

e) Training of female multipliers for outreach

Thirty of the most motivated and interested women from the refugee community who participated in the awareness raising sessions were selected to participate in the training of trainers' for outreach multipliers. The women were divided into two groups of 15 women and followed a training of 10 days each covering the topics of: SGBV, detection of SGBV and referral mechanisms, early child marriage and trafficking, and Law 293/2014 related to family violence. The training was given by specialized members of KAFA team. It also focused on building the capacities of these women in communication/training skills and in the detection of violence and referral mechanisms. The aim of this TOT was to form outreach officers who are able to represent KAFA and convey KAFA's messages on topics related to GBV and early marriage within the Refugee communities.

f) Outreach and awareness raising activities in Syrian gatherings by female multipliers

KAFA started implementing its outreach activities in August 2016. A field coordinator was recruited to organize all matters related to logistics of the outreach sessions and coaching the multipliers during the sessions. The field coordinator thus held meetings with the parties responsible of the camps whether NGOs or local associations working in the camp and/or the camp's "Shawish" to get permission to conduct the awareness sessions prior to implementation. The coordinator made sure that there was a sufficient number of women who were willing to participate in the sessions and that there was a place to conduct the sessions in the camps. Two animators were also recruited to ensure animation sessions for the participants' children in order to avoid any disturbances.

The sessions' content was focused mainly on three topics: "KAFA's services", "Introduction to SGBV", and "Child marriage", as it was agreed that the other subjects given during the TOT such as Law 293/2014 and trafficking were either too hard to grasp by the multipliers or could put them at risk at a safety level. We have conducted 67 outreach sessions in more than 60 different locations (refugee camps and some houses) reaching a total number of **3051 women.**

g) Self-help groups

Five self-help group sessions took place at KAFA's center in Chtaura during the year 2016. Twelve sessions were given by psychotherapists to each group of 10 to 15 women with the aim of offering a safe space for participants to share their concerns and issues. Some of the women in the groups were SGBV survivors mostly from the Syrian refugee community. The last two self-help groups were the selected multipliers who we thought needed to let out their inner issues related to SGBV and early marriage in order to be able to conduct the outreach sessions at best given that they will tackle these issues in particular and given that we noticed an arising need during the TOT sessions. The sessions were based on a psycho-educative approach where the participants were given a space to express their feelings about their past traumatic experiences caused by the war (i.e. what they've seen, cultural/societal differences between Syria and Lebanon, loss of close people) and where the trainer gave sessions relating to the roles of both women and men in child education. The self-help's overall impact was positive, however, there was a reported need for more of these sessions. Moreover, some of the participants expressed the need for psychotherapy follow up.

h) Art therapy group workshops

Photography sessions:

Fifteen photography sessions were conducted for a group of 12 women survivors of SGBV from the refugee community with the age ranging from 20 to 45 years old. The sessions aimed at supporting these women in making their voices heard, encouraging their self-development and providing the means to generate income through photography. The participants got the possibilities to learn how to take a picture, how to tell their own stories and how to get the best out of their group.

Drama therapy workshop:

A drama therapy workshop was given by Zoukak Company for a group of 15 women. The workshop consisted of 7 sessions that lasted for 3 hours each. This workshop was created as a space for KAFA beneficiaries to think collectively and experiment practically drama therapy tools as a space to explore and empower themselves individually and as group of women. The women reported that they enjoyed the sessions.

Music therapy workshop:

Twelve music therapy sessions for 2 groups of 10 - 12 girls and female adolescents each were given at the centre in Chtaura. A psychotherapist who's also a certified music therapist, animated the sessions for female children and adolescents from the refugee community who have experienced traumas due to war and whose identities are scattered. The sessions therefore aimed at supporting the adolescents in discharging their traumas, regaining self-consciousness and self-identity, crossing from nonverbal expressions to verbal expressions, and regaining self-esteem (all previous objectives will contribute to this one). The first group are Syrian Refugees living in the UNHCR center in Taalabaya-Bekaa, and the other group are ex-beneficiaries of KAFA's support center for children who have not previously attended this kind of activities.

Puppetry:

To the reporting date, 4 out of 12 puppetry sessions were given for 2 groups of 15 female adolescents. The group workshop using puppetry offered support to adolescents from the Syrian refugee community who would benefit from structured psychosocial support by trained psychotherapists. The selection process was partly conducted in coordination with other organizations that have psychosocial support services for children and adolescents within the refugee community, through referral to KAFA. Other participants were referred by the field coordinator who undertook field visits with one of our case workers to meet with the children and their parents. Others were internally referred through KAFA's psychosocial support activities. Participation in these activities requires guardian consent, which KAFA requests directly from parents or through the organizations and schools with whom they're coordinating.

i) Awareness raising based on the Citadel of Protection toolkit

The program targeted children and adolescents within two age categories (8-13 and 14-17 years old). Syrian participants for the COP sessions were selected after discussions with the principles of formal and non-formal schools that are close to the SC and host refugee students. The Child Protection program at KAFA have produced the COP tool and has been rolling it out in underserved areas from the refugee communities. We coordinated with this Unit to cover new areas or institutions, such as schools. Lebanese participants were selected from an orphanage-cum-boarding school in the Bekaa. The orphanage was targeted because of the heightened vulnerability of male and female children and adolescents in alternative care settings, and

KAFA's recognition of the need to reach this institution which hadn't previously accessed the COP awareness-raising sessions. The COP is supposed to be a package of 14 sessions given by two animators to a group of 20 to 25 participants each. At the time of reporting, 44 sessions had been delivered to 6 groups reaching 106 participants (43 male and 63 female), 67 of whom are Syrian and 39 Lebanese. We have therefore increased their knowledge on the prevention and protection from GBV. An individual questionnaire was administered and focus group discussions (FGDs) held with the first 2 groups to complete the COP course, finding that participants reported increased knowledge on prevention and protection from GBV. Pre- and post-tests will be implemented for participants in future to more accurately gauge impact. KAFA also identified 6 GBV cases across 2 of the schools, which have since been referred to KAFA's case management services.

j) Literacy sessions

Literacy sessions on the Arabic Alphabet were introduced among KAFA's activities upon the request of women and girls in the targeted refugee communities, who felt that basic education was important and that it would contribute to the empowerment of beneficiaries, reduce barriers to further education and livelihood opportunities and encourage access to KAFA's center and associated services. When the potential participants were identified, the teacher then administered a literacy test and selected participants that were found to meet the illiterate criteria. One hundred and forty four sessions were given for 4 groups of 15 women and female adolescent at our center in Chtaura (36 sessions per group). The participants undertook a final exam to confirm their assimilation of the provided lessons and certificates were distributed at the end of the sessions.

k) Storytelling

A storytelling workshop was given to 8 women beneficiaries of Kafa's case management and psychotherapy services. Beneficiaries were selected upon their solid psychological structure and their ability to influence other women victims or potential victims of SGBV. Eight sessions were given to the participants during which a safe space was created to share their personal stories, starting from childhood until the present moment, while focusing on the triggers of violence within their families that lead them to the current status. Then, the participants were asked to focus on one message that they would like to convey to the readers that aims at preventing violent situations or breaking the circle of violence. The stories were edited, translated to English and German, and a booklet was produced.



Thank you for reading.