



Annual Report

2020



Content

Annual Report 2020

I. About us / Kafa Overview	2
II. FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT	6
III. ANTI-TRAFFICKING UNIT	26
IV. CHILD PROTECTION UNIT	36
V. AUGUST 4 BLAST	42

About KAFA



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

Ever since its inception in 2005, Kafa has been working relentlessly to eliminate gender-based violence and exploitation. The NGO seeks to achieve substantive gender equality through the adoption of multidisciplinary approaches, specifically: advocacy for law reform and introduction of new laws and policies; influencing public opinion, practices and mentalities; research and training; empowering women and children victims of violence and providing them with social, legal, and psychological support.

Introduction

KAFA Overview

OUR VISION

Kafa envisions a society where individuals are free from violence and exploitation, have equal opportunities and in which their human rights are respected, protected, and valued. Women and children's rights are essential to building a fair society, as they contribute to the economic productivity and human capital formation. Therefore, Kafa addresses the different forms of violence and exploitation against women and children namely family violence, physical and sexual abuse of children, labor trafficking and domestic labor exploitation as well as prostitution and trafficking for sexual exploitation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The road to equal rights is a long and bumpy one. Kafa's journey has witnessed a great deal of successes throughout the years. All this was made possible due to the generous support of donors, partners and every individual who contributed to achieving the organization's goals.

Kafa's main goal will always be to protect women in Lebanon, regardless of their nationality, background, race or socioeconomic statuses. All women are subject to violence by current laws that have not ensured their protection and their rights, and Kafa's lifelong mission will always be to advocate for their freedom and ensure they are granted their due rights. This is why we whole-heartedly thank these women for their trust in Kafa and we will keep our commitment in supporting them to share their stories and make their voices heard.

Our funders, namely are: UNICEF, UNHCR, OCHA, UN Women, UNDEF, Norwegian People's Aid, Kvinna till Kvinna, Amica e.V, Oxfam, Open Society Institute, African Women Development Fund, Brot, Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, George Washington University/Global Women's Institute, International Labour Organization, Jida Bittner-MJBGB GmbH, Madre, Apsos, The Sisterhood is Global Institute.

All of them are the essential cornerstone of Kafa's success and the reason for its wider outreach.

Kafa's outreach wouldn't have been nearly as effective without the groups and organizations that helped spread our mission, be it our civil society partners or media entities. These partners work on raising awareness around the many issues Kafa advocates for.

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Kafa is divided into four units:

The Child Protection Unit (CPU), the Family Violence Unit, the Anti-Trafficking Unit (ATU) and the Support Centers. Each unit operates semi-autonomously, with activities coordinated and supervised by Kafa's director and board members.

Every division has a specific focus area, yet they all work towards the same goal: to improve the lives of women victims of violence and exploitation.

The units operate a wide range of activities, such as service provision, capacity-building, awareness raising, research, and advocacy.



+961 3 018 019
KAFA HELPLINE



Introduction

The year 2020 was not an ordinary year for us in Lebanon, as we had to face unprecedented challenges caused by the exacerbation of the multi-faceted crises that had begun in 2019.

Unfortunately, the uprising that Lebanon witnessed in 2019, in which both women and men took down the streets throughout Lebanese territory, did not materialize in fulfilling the aspirations of the protesters in establishing a non-corrupt, non-sectarian and transparent political system that can halt the collapse that started to materialize during 2019. Even worse, the novel Coronavirus breakout has placed further constraints on ground movements on the one hand and exacerbated the deterioration of the living conditions on the other hand.

All this was followed by the August 4th Beirut blast, which claimed hundreds of lives, displaced thousands of families, left thousands of people jobless, and came to steel the little hope we had for the revival of our national economy.

We at KAFA, like fellow workers in civil society organizations, had to reorient our priorities in an attempt to meet as much as possible of the basic needs of our target groups.

It was only natural that these crises affected the most marginalized and vulnerable population,

particularly women. We witnessed an unprecedented rise in the number of women victims of domestic violence, especially during the lockdown, and these numbers remained high during the months that followed due to the exacerbation of the socio-economic crises. One of the main groups affected by the crises were the foreign domestic workers, many of whom lost their jobs and were left without any support from any official national or international entity.

Against the backdrop of these compounded crises, KAFA's team had to stand by the women; we made sure to provide whatever assistance we could to meet their needs, whether by providing the listening and counseling service on phone during the lockdown or helping them obtain protection orders in cases of violence, or through the creation of groups on social media to maintain direct contact with women. This latter proved to be a very effective tool in breaking the isolation of the Syrian women living in the camps. We also established a temporary shelter at the time when shelters were not accepting any new comer during the lockdown, and helped some foreign domestic workers return to their home countries.

After the Beirut Port blast, we contacted our beneficiaries who live in the area affected by the explosion and provided them with in-kind and/or cash assistance; we also contributed to the restoration of dozens of houses, in addition to providing psychological services to women and children affected by the blast.

In view of our commitment to stand by the women who turn to us for help, we can only thank all the international actors who supported us financially and morally, enabling us to continue providing our usual services, as well as emergency services, and sustain our various programs. However, despite the crises we went and still are going through, we will never back down from doing everything in our power to put in place policies that would secure full protection for women and girls, and achieve full equality at all levels so that women in Lebanon can enjoy their full citizenship rights.

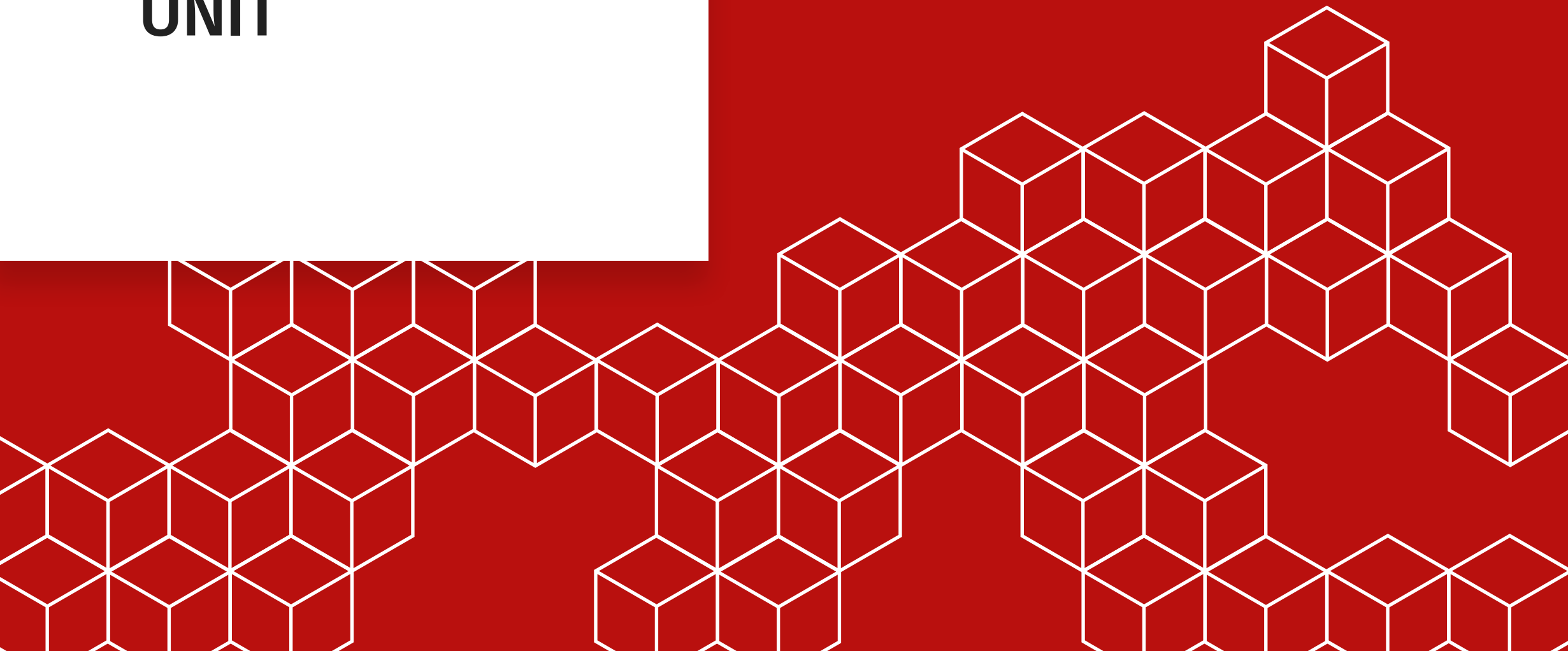
Zoya Rouhana

Director Of Kafa



Annual
Report 2020

FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT



FAMILY VIOLENCE UNIT

What we do

The Family Violence Unit's main focus is to advocate for the change of policies and laws that discriminate against women in Lebanon by improving current laws or proposing new ones. More concretely Kafa is currently working on a unified personal status law and continues to work on further amendments of the law 293 and providing capacity building trainings for the internal security forces trainings on this law.

Lobbying Activities for a Unified Personal Status Law:

After preparing the draft of a Unified Personal Status Law (UPSL) in 2019, Kafa pursued its activities to raise awareness on this law. Six community awareness sessions were conducted reaching 509 participants, most of whom were women. During these sessions the proposed UPSL was explained and discussions highlighted the need for this law and the challenges hindering its legalization by the authorities.

Between December 2020 and March 2021 as part of the lobbying activities, Kafa launched a massive media campaign entitled "Towards the adoption of a Unified Personal Status Law" in partnership with UNWomen and UNDEF.

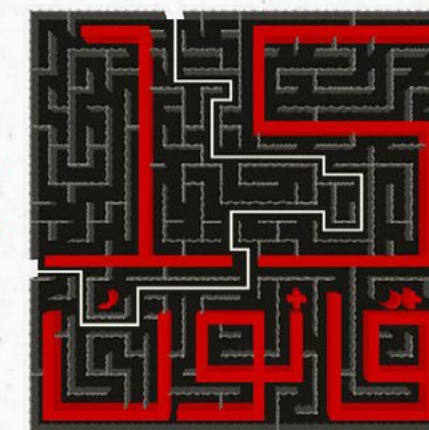
The campaign produced tens of materials about the Unified Personal Status law and the existing situation in the Religious Personal Status law. These included visuals, series of articles (<https://bit.ly/3zTCIBF>), videos (one video produced by Daraj <https://bit.ly/3hADXif>), podcasts with Megaphone and Daraj, copies of the USPL booklet and a music video clip (<https://bit.ly/3l1RGiE>).

-The campaign created controversial reactions. Although several political stakeholders such as the Lebanese President, MP Sami Gemayel, Mr. Walid Joumblatt, and MP Michel Mouawad issued statements in support of a UPSL, religious figures attacked the organization claiming that it was disseminating wrong information on the religious personal status laws, especially when pointing to the discrimination against women in this legal context. Through the interaction on the social media platforms, online supporters took the lead in the discussions and Kafa only intervened to correct some legal information.

Amendment of Law No. 293/2014

Following up on the implementation and activation of Law No. 293/2014 regarding the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence, which was approved on April 1, 2014, Kafa kept on monitoring its implementation and continued lobbying for filling the gaps that existed in it. Kafa contributed to building a partnership with the Ministry of Justice, the National Commission of Lebanese Women and the Internal Security Forces, in order to push towards the endorsement of the amendments that were presented to the Parliament. A draft was signed and submitted to the Parliament by 10 deputies belonging to different political blocs. It was approved in the plenary session on December 21, 2020, and published in the Official Gazette under No. 204/2020. Kafa welcomed the amendments that were adopted and calls for the adoption of additional amendments.

لنخرج من متاهة الطائفية
صار بدأ قانون موحد للأحوال الشخصية

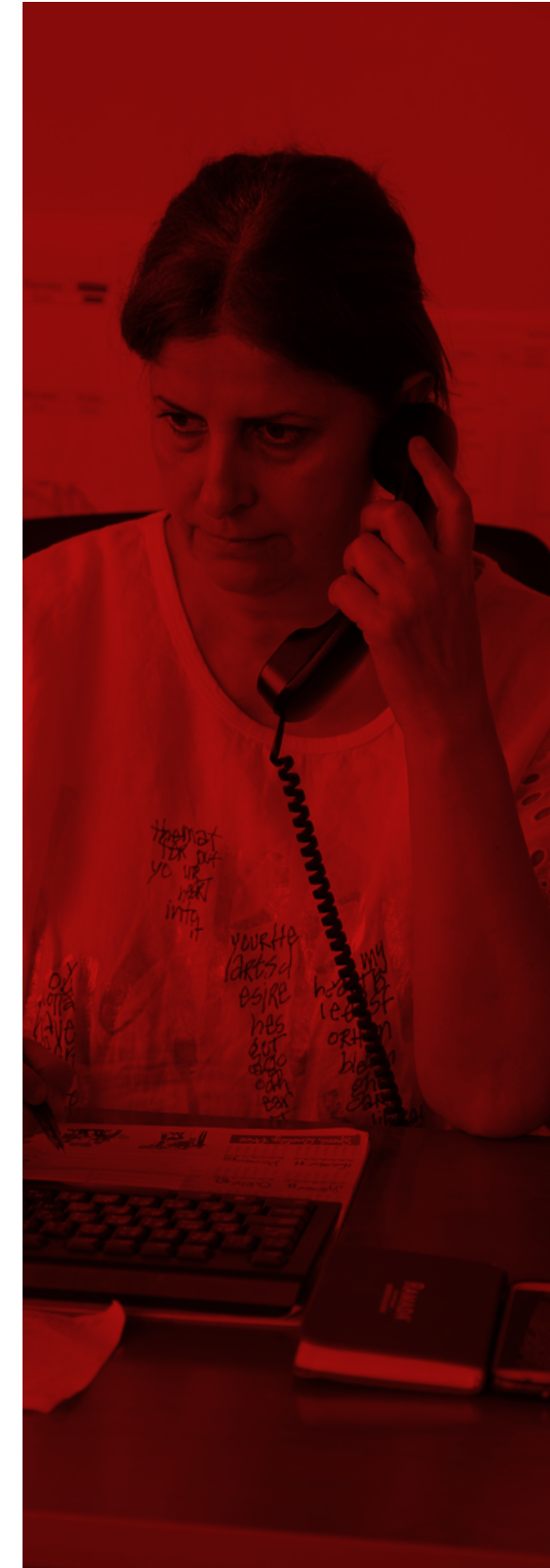


Amendments that were adopted	Amendments that were not adopted
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Criminalizing moral and economic violence and allocating a penalty for the perpetrator. 2. Implementing the protection order by the Public Prosecution. 3. Assigning a judge specialized in domestic violence complaints at each stage of the complaint. In addition to a family attorney general, there is a family Investigating Judge and a family Criminal Court Single Judge. 4. Allowing the victim to submit a protection request without the need for her guardian if she is a minor. 5. Partial amendment of Child protection request with the victim, regardless of the age of custody. A request for the protection of children aged 13 years was approved. 6. Increasing the penalty for violating the protection order to reach up to one year in prison, subject to an increase if repeated. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amending the definition of family to include either of the spouses during the establishment of the marital bond or after its dissolution. Furthermore, the definition of domestic violence was modified by adding the phrase "occurs during or because of a marital relationship." This suggests that the domestic violence covered by this law is marital violence, and this contradicts the first paragraph of Article 2 related to the definition of family. 2. Insertion of the concept of abuse of power within the family, by physical or any other force, in the definition of domestic violence. 3. Amending Article 3 related to the criminalization of domestic violence and considering it a crime. They kept the acts of marital rape and crime of adultery. Unfortunately, the aggravation of penalty affected women in prostitution, in contradiction to the spirit of the law, which aims to protect women from all kinds of violence and exploitation. 4. Including the rehabilitation sessions of the abuser within the protection order. 5. Assigning the protection measures to women only.

Selection of information materials:

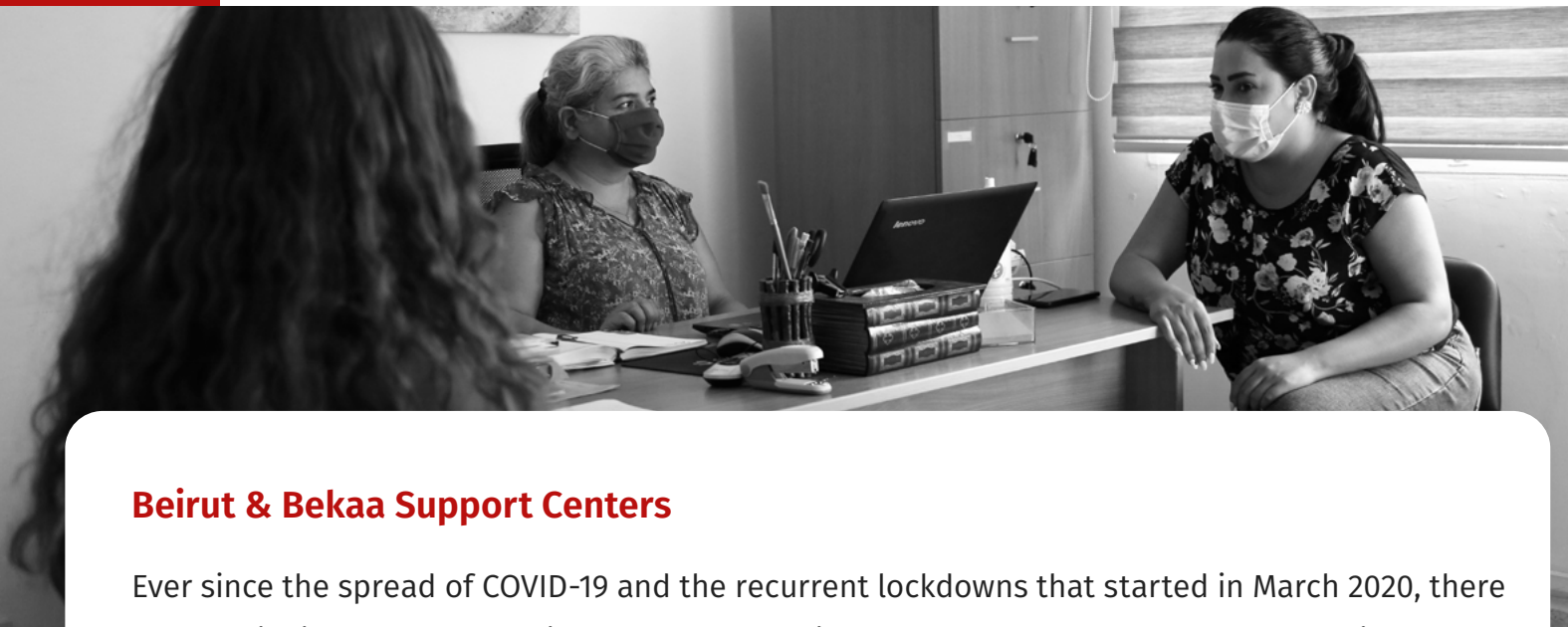


SUPPORT CENTERS



What we do

Kafa's Support Centers (SC) in Beirut and the Bekaa region provide women, victims/survivors of SGBV, with a wide range of services such as psycho-social support, legal consultations, court representations, referral to temporary safe-housing, forensic medical reports and 24/7 emergency support hotline. All services are provided in a safe environment, follow a woman and victim-centered approach and foster the sense of personal control through providing choice, autonomy and empowerment. Since the health and safety of the staff is also of high importance, the support centers organize staff-care activities to maintain a healthy and effective working environment.



Beirut & Bekaa Support Centers

Ever since the spread of COVID-19 and the recurrent lockdowns that started in March 2020, there was a reigning fear overcoming women and children who were stranded at home with one or several violent family members.

The household is considered as the most dangerous place for battered women, as most of the murders committed on women happen at the hands of a partner or a family member, according to a United Nations report.

The difficult economic conditions, further exacerbated by the unexpected pandemic were all contributing factors that increased stress and tension resulting in a rise in violence directed at vulnerable groups.

In these dire circumstances, Kafa intensified its work to stand by the most vulnerable groups of the society and to provide psycho-social and legal support to women, MDWs, children and refugees.

Since the beginning of March 2020, Kafa's support centers shifted the delivery of services to the online modality and maintained regular service provision for high-risk cases in situations of emergency.

During the first month of the lockdown, Kafa received 75 calls from women who were getting in touch with the association for the first time. There was an increase in text messages and messages on social media, particularly on Facebook. Kafa's Support Center noted that during confinement women felt safer and more comfortable with written communication. As a result, Kafa has further activated this vector of communication.

The content of the communications received by Kafa's support Centers revolved around the following points:

- Legal advice related to beating and abuse cases, custody arrangements and alimony issues.
- Complaints related to the dire economic situation and requests for in-kind and food aids.
- Seeking refuge and shelter options.
- Reports from women subjected to violence.
- Child abuse by the spouse.



Amal's story
<https://bit.ly/3jZebpr>

In order to efficiently address the increasing requests of women to access a safe shelter following violence incidents, Kafa deployed a temporary safe accommodation to host these women.

the number of violence cases against women reached an all-time high in April 2020.

an increase in calls was observed following six heinous crimes that occurred that same month. As our annual reports show, the spike in crime rate pushed women to speak up in fear of facing similar horrifying fates.



Crimes of April 2020
<https://bit.ly/3l5MQ4g>

During and after the lockdown period, Kafa has received calls from women throughout the Bekaa provinces, most of whom are married adult Lebanese women. Most cases reported the abuse from the husband through psychological and verbal violence, which were later followed by a physical form of violence.

The callers also reported exposure to acts of humiliation, feelings of guilt and inferiority, threats of physical and financial harm, a strict forbiddance of communicating with the outside world, emotional blackmail and threats of being denied access to their children.

Kafa followed up with all callers by providing legal advice and protection services when needed, and offered psycho-social support to the women in this difficult phase in order to break their isolation and provide them with safety plans to protect them from further violence.

The gradual ease-up of the lockdown measures did not have any positive impact on women that are subjected to the domestic violence.

The explosion of the Beirut port on August 4, 2020, the devastating economic situation, the loss of many homes, jobs and livelihoods and finally the poorly-led political crisis were all factors that contributed to the increase of violence, especially against the most vulnerable groups.

In order to efficiently address the increasing requests, KAFA deployed a temporary venue to host women who had nowhere to go. With the forced quarantine of the abusers, the number of violence cases against women reached an all-time high in April 2020.

The increase in calls came as a direct reaction to six heinous crimes that occurred that same month. As our annual reports show, the spike in crime rate pushed women to speak up in fear of facing similar horrifying fates.

Civil Judges VS Personal Status Courts

As it is known, all matters and disputes related to the personal status are treated by the 15 religious courts existing in Lebanon due to the absence of civil courts. At such a critical time, all the religious courts that deal with family issues (the personal status) were closed thus affecting the lives of many women and children.

Many mothers were deprived from seeing their children, could not get their entitlements of alimony fees or were facing threats of being thrown out on the streets and deprived of their children.

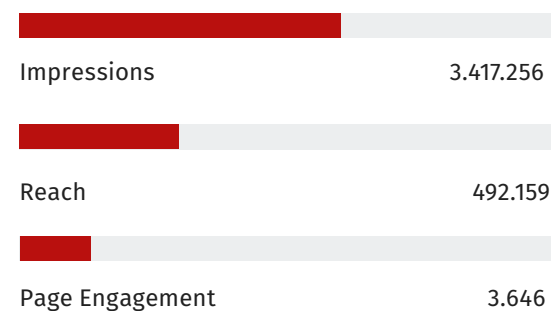
However, civil judges and judges of urgent matters who continued to be on call during the pandemic, used the social media as means of listening to women through video calls or even through emails. Kafa managed to get protection orders through which the judges were able to respond to requests regarding alimonies, parental rights and other personal status issues, using the temporary authority granted to them by law No. 293.

The Higher Judicial Council issued a statement allowing the concerned judges to receive demands for protection orders through a special email address created for each court. After two days, a judge of urgent matters issued a protection order in which he ordered the husband to stay away from his wife, hand her over her infant and pay her alimony fees with a penalty charge in case of disobedience.

Another judge of urgent matters listened to two women through a video conference and issued protection order accordingly.

Besides, with the rise in the number of femicides during April, and upon the request of CSOs and NCLW, the Public Prosecutor of Cassation issued a special circular asking the judicial police to immediately respond to all domestic violence calls, regardless of their severity, and report the case to the general prosecutor even if the victim is not able to reach the police station.

Reporting violence cases campaign



KAFA launched a campaign named “بكفي عنف” on the increasing number of reported cases of GBV due to COVID-19 lockdowns, and its impact on women victims of gender-based violence, calling upon the community to report and refer any case witnessed or experienced. This could be done via KAFA’s hotline. The results of this campaign are shown in the bar graph.



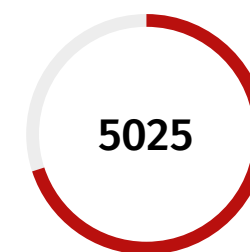
Phone Calls Received By Kafa In 2020

Total number of calls

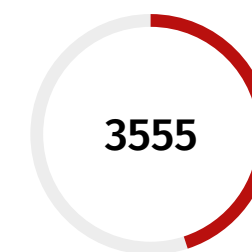
9763

- **6840** Follow up call
- **1780** New calls
- **471** Reporting / follow up with 1745
- **383** Inquiries on helping GBV victims
- **202** Other inquiries
- **45** Shelter request
- **28** Consultation
- **11** Investigation

Social Service



Legal Service



Total number of services (8580) provided for 3662 beneficiaries



CHOICE – A Program for Men

Introduction

With the purpose of increasing the victim's safety, and in response to the clause in the Protection Order further to the passage of Law 293 to "Protect Women and other Family Members from Family Violence" related to the referral of men with abusive behavior to rehabilitative sessions, Kafa has developed "CHOICE, A Program for Men" in collaboration with international experts. This program is affiliated to Kafa's Support Center and aims at assisting men who have been abusive towards women and other family members to change their behaviors and mindsets as well as to develop non-abusive relationships. CHOICE is available to men using any type of violent behavior (verbal, psychological, physical, financial, sexual) against women and children.

A dedicated team of professionals will undertake the following interventions:

- Assessing men's suitability and eligibility for the program,
- Delivering a modular structured program as individual work for 24 weekly sessions and as six-week complementary group sessions,
- Evaluating men's progress through continuous monitoring and risk assessment

Individual interventions with perpetrators of violence

Most of the men enrolling at CHOICE were referred through the beneficiaries at the Support Centre further to a safety assessment with their case workers. The beneficiaries were thus either men's partners or children subjected to abuse. A total of 7 men, who were either referred through the SC or joined CHOICE further to word of mouth or CHOICE's media campaigns, received a total of 71 sessions in 2020. The majority of these sessions took place remotely further to the COVID-19 pandemic. The men's progress was evaluated through triangulation of data between CHOICE team, the Support Center team as well as other institutions/parties when needed. Team meetings between CHOICE and SC were taking place on a regular basis for follow up. Progress has been noticed by the men and some of their family members in certain areas such as acknowledging the cost of violence, emotional regulation to avoid being abusive, fathering skills as well as communication skills.

Supervision of Individual Interventions

Given that working with perpetrators of violence is considered to be a new field of intervention in Lebanon, technical expertise was crucial to ensure the quality and efficacy of the interventions. Supervision sessions were therefore provided by the international expert who developed “CHOICE, A Program for Men”. As of January 2020, 30 supervision sessions were provided for CHOICE team on a weekly basis to ensure regular follow up and guidance. A couple of supervision sessions were directed towards staff support further to the Beirut explosion with the aim of maintaining the quality of interventions.

Discussion Sessions on “Redefining Masculinity for a Gender Equal Society”

Discussion Sessions on “Redefining Masculinity for a Gender Equal Society”

Violence against women is perpetrated from generation to generation through the continuous inheritance of rigid ideas about and practices of patriarchal masculinities. Besides working with abusive men in a clinical setting, CHOICE targets the Lebanese society through outreach activities aiming at creating change towards equality. Therefore, CHOICE team conducted a series of remote and on-site discussion sessions (2 full-day workshops and 6 online workshops) on “re-defining masculinity for a gender equal society”. The sessions targeted NGOs staff and university students and reached a total of 121 individuals. They aimed at triggering the participants’ curiosity for more self-exploration with regards to their perception of masculinity. The sessions were interactive and included exercises and discussions around the following main points:

- How masculinity is a social construct and the “man box” concept
- Nurturing “violence” culture which leads to sexual and gender-based violence
- How traditional masculinity is hurting men and the benefits of gender equality
- Introduction on “CHOICE, A Program for Men” by KAFA

The evaluation by the participants showed that these sessions helped them in noticing inherited patriarchal behavior/mentality that they'd like to work on.

CHOICE – series of videos

A series of videos was launched further to a spike in domestic violence during lockdown that was raising concerns worldwide. Lebanon was not exempt from this disastrous phenomenon as women were stuck with their abusers at home with limited possibility to seek help. CHOICE produced this series of videos with the slogan “It is in your hand to stop being violent” starring men who are influential in the Lebanese media scene. These videos challenged the prevalent masculine norms in the Lebanese society that are conducive to sexual and gender-based violence and encouraged change.

The following are the links to the videos and the number of views reached on KAFA’s Facebook and Instagram pages:

- Video by Mr. Hicham Jaber (also known as Roberto Kobrosly) theater director of Metro Al Madina, a well-known hub for underground arts (music, theater, shows, etc...). Mr. Hicham Jaber performs stand-up comedy shows using the persona of Roberto Kobrosly.

The video reached 22K views on Facebook and 901 views on Instagram.

- Video by Mr. Salam Al Zaatari, renowned former program producer, current anchor on a national TV station (MTV) and social media influencer

The video reached 6.6K views on Facebook and 1.3K on Instagram

- Video by Mr. Chaker Abou Abdallah, stand-up comedian

The video reached 13.4K views on FB and 922 views on Instagram

- Video by Mr. Alain Dargham, renowned TV reporter on MTV national TV station:

The video reached 27K views on Facebook and 952 views on Instagram.





Women's Center - Bekaa

What we do

The Women's centre, which is affiliated to the Support centre in the Bekaa region, aims at making outreach efforts towards communities from multiple nationalities residing in Central, West and North Bekaa areas. The Women's centre complements the work of the Support centre through empowering women with knowledge, skills and tools in order to become advocates for KAFA's cause within their respective communities. The Women's centre has been targeting communities mainly through thematic information sessions on various topics related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). In addition, the centre works on delivering peer-to-peer training programs to provide individuals with the right skills to enable them to help in refugee camps on SGBV related topics, case identification, and safe disclosure and referrals, thus ensuring a sustainable protection network against SGBV.

Information sessions and women group sessions

Women's centre Information sessions:

The Women's centre conducted information that targeted Lebanese women and Syrian refugee women in Bekaa.

These sessions introduced the women to SGBV core concepts, early marriage, and trafficking and exploitation as well as Kafa's available services. These sessions aimed at inducing changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that can help prevent SGBV and improve the response in times of humanitarian crises.

"Arab Women Speaking Out" and "Citadel of Protection" were group sessions that helped women express themselves freely and enabling them to take decisions in a more confident manner. These group sessions helped also beneficiaries acquire negotiation skills especially in resolving problems with their children at home. In addition, throughout 2020, KAFA has cooperated with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) to conduct several awareness sessions regarding different health-related topics for women from different areas in Bekaa. Kafa's staff who were trained by MSF, delivered the sessions to the beneficiaries via WhatsApp groups whereby videos and power point presentations were shared with the groups. In total, Kafa provided 463 sessions targeting 2736 women in North Bekaa and 62 sessions targeting 882 women in Central and West Bekaa.

Emotional support sessions

The Women's centre implemented emotional support sessions both on site and on an individual basis while making sure that COVID-19 precaution measures were respected. As a result, women were able to release and verbalize their emotions, to build their self-esteem, and improve the quality of their daily life.

Supervised by Kafa's professionals, the emotional support groups were also provided to Syrian women, offering them an opportunity and space to share their experiences in a confidential environment. These sessions were also used to inform women on Kafa's work and encourage them to disclose their experiences more openly. The women were referred to case management when needed.

In total, Kafa provided 120 individual emotional support sessions targeting 30 women in North Bekaa.

Local initiatives

The Women Centre's initiatives are meant to support the work of women groups and to create a community-based protection system by integrating elements from Kafa's "Transformative Leadership for Women's Rights" approach. Arab Women Speak Out" curriculum was used to support women in building/strengthening their collective power and were jointly engaged in problem-solving and decision making. Groups were also supported in taking collective action, through seed grants that contribute to local campaigns or community initiatives.

-Providing School stationery for 74 children

Kafa provided 74 children with school stationery to help reduce the economic burden on their families.

- First aid training

Kafa , in collaboration with the Lebanese Red Cross, conducted a first aid training for women and provided a certificate upon completion of the training.

Local committee

The Bekaa local committee was established in 2020 with the aim of creating a sustainable network to build local capacities on topics such as SGBV, domestic violence and personal status laws, and advocacy work. Members of the committee were chosen among influencers and key figures such as university professors, social activists, feminist activists, as well as people from the Bekaa municipalities. In addition to attending a series of trainings on the aforementioned topics, the committee used their resources and gained knowledge in conducting different initiatives to support women and increase protection opportunities in the Bekaa area:

-Online awareness sessions targeting 46 stakeholders, service providers, social workers, crisis volunteers, front liners and especially municipality workers, through 7 municipalities in the Central, West and North Bekaa. In fact, these categories are among the most exposed to violence due to the high-risk challenges of their duties.

Moreover, the Women's Center developed animation videos about the role of the municipalities and how to deal with domestic violence situations.

- Food Assistance: Although Kafa does not perform aid distributions per se, it decided to exceptionally adopt this initiative. After the assessment made by one of the committee members through the municipality of Mrayjat including families and women with low economic level and people with special needs, Kafa distributed 100 food baskets. This type of help was perceived as highly needed during the ongoing economic crisis marked by a growing need for food provisions among other needs.

-Awareness on COVID-19: One of the committee members produced an awareness video with the coordination of the municipality of Saleh and the video was shared in the area.



مشروع لدعم منظمات المجتمع المحلي

معاً
للمساواة بين المرأة والرجل

Men and Women for Gender Equality

Kafa implemented the second phase of the project “Men and Women for Gender Equality Program” funded by UNWomen to address the root causes of gender inequality. The program followed a bottom-up approach that addresses social norms, legislation and policies, and supported several organizations for that end. The project focused on:

- Implementing and replicating interventions for challenging social norms and promoting gender equality.
- Supporting civil society organizations to advocate for legal and policy change.
- Advocating for the government to reform and/or develop laws, policies, and strategies.

Kafa targeted 5 community-based organizations (CBOs) to build their thematic and technical capacities through various trainings on gender, gender-based violence, national and international legal frameworks on GBV in order to disseminate Kafa's feminist approach. The 5 CBOs were supported in designing, planning, and implementing community projects. To do so, Kafa had closely followed up and monitored the implementation of the community projects through field visits and continuous remote follow-up meetings.

The average learning gain for each CBO is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 3: CBOs direct & Indirect reach until December,2020

Each CBO implemented a community project that treated the following topics: positive fatherhood, gender-based violence, gender equality, and empowering women in social and political life.

- Fe-male implemented a remarkable social media campaign, “Women Stories” emphasizing the notion that women victims of domestic violence are not just numbers.
- Al Jaleel community project was to advocate for gender equality through engaging and involving women in sports when they are not allowed to exercise in their community.
- Abnaa Saida conducted an interactive online rally paper on the types of GBV on Instagram and Facebook, which allowed the community to discuss and learn from this topic while they were at home.
- Mosawat worked on the community’s popular proverbs and shed light on the gender inequality messages disseminated through these sexist sayings, then reformulating them so they become messages that embolden gender equality.

Learning Gain

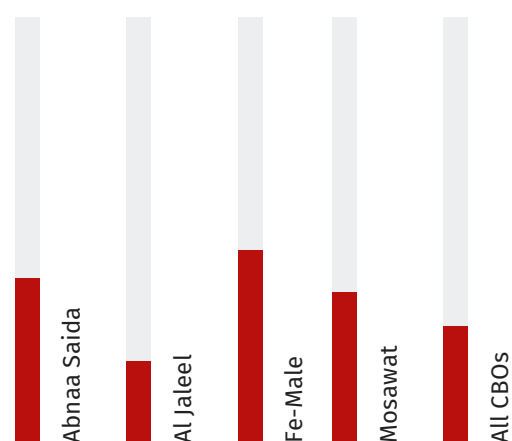


Figure 2: Average Learning gain for CBOs

CBO		DIRECT REACH	INDIRECT REACH
1.	Abnaa Saida	74	7000
2.	Al Jaleel	598	25400
3.	Female	51	770500
4.	Mosawat	212	7800
Total		935	770.5K

Figure 3: CBOs direct & Indirect reach until December,2020

Dealing with the past; memory of the Lebanese civil war from a gender perspective.

Reconciliation and peace building cannot be disregarded based on Kafa’s vision to create a society that is free of social, economic and legal patriarchal structures that discriminate against women. Therefore, Kafa implemented a project targeting women from different age groups, backgrounds and regions. The project revolved around talking about the past, finding common ground and building trust. These interventions provided a space for women from the war generation to meet and share their experiences during the war. This space was also an opportunity to open a dialogue on dealing with the past before transmitting the knowledge to the younger generation. This intervention aimed at supporting these women in leading initiatives that promote social peace and the role of women in conflict transformation, as a step for national reconciliation in Lebanon.



October 17 uprising: October 17, 2020 marked the first anniversary of the Lebanese uprising that started in October 17, 2019. This uprising was a turning point for women who played a major role as activists.

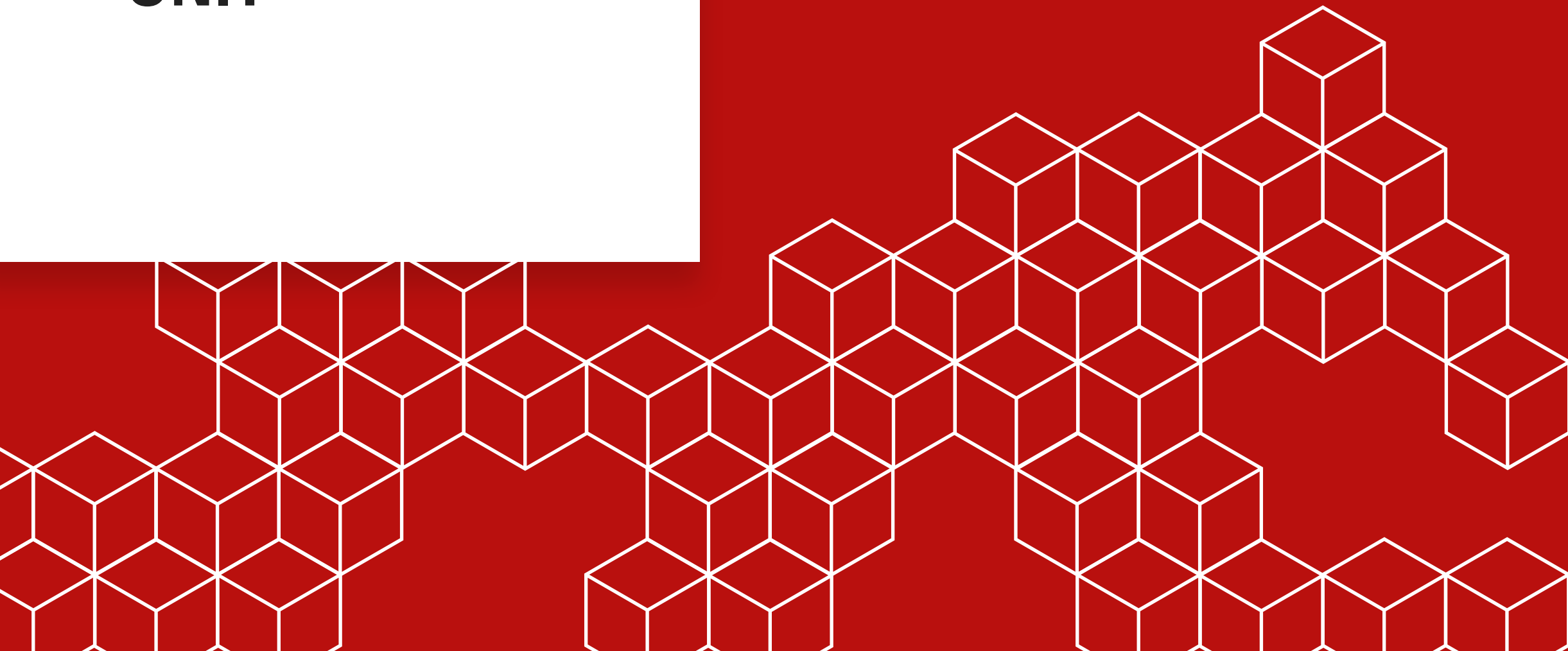
We developed a video on this milestone demonstration that aimed at highlighting the claims of the feminist movement and reminding the Lebanese people that the women’s demands for their rights did not only begin with the uprising.

The video is available on this link: <https://bit.ly/2X9X4Z9>



Annual
Report 2020

ANTI- TRAFFICKING UNIT



ANTI-TRAFFICKING UNIT

What we do

The Anti-Trafficking and Exploitation Unit (ATU) at Kafa works on supporting women migrant domestic workers (WMDWs) and Lebanese and migrant women who are forced into prostitution, and who are victims of abuse and exploitation. The Unit aims at building public opinion against the trafficking and the exploitation, and aims at establishing a national legal and social protection framework for victims (women and girls).

General overview

The year 2020 was particularly on women migrant domestic workers (WMDWs) and women subjected to prostitution, both groups being amongst the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of women in Lebanon today.

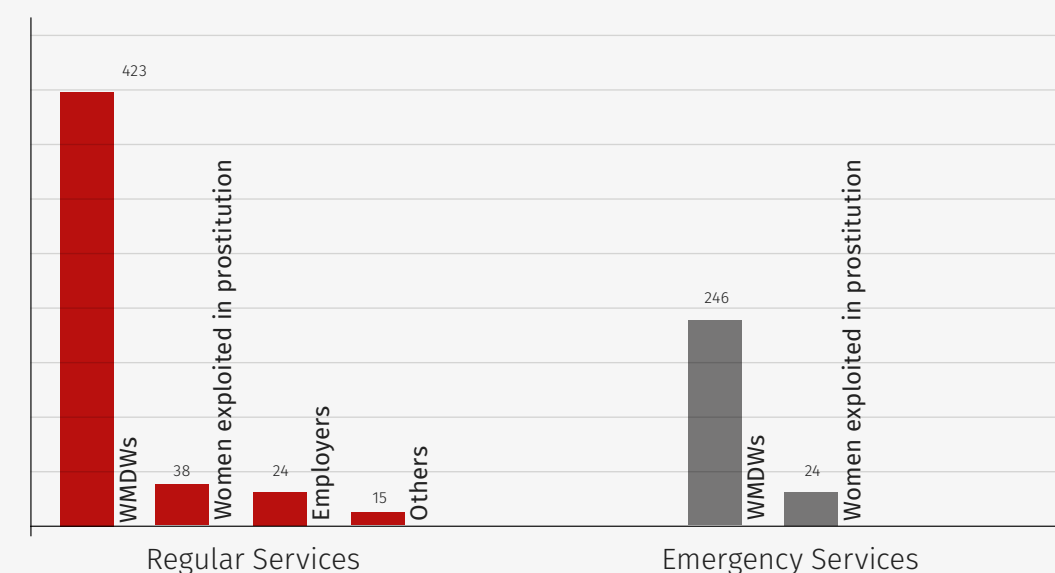
Women migrant domestic workers – who even under normal circumstances are at very high risks of abuse and exploitation due to the sponsorship or “kafala” system, in addition to the abusive practices of their employers – suffered from further social and legal protection violations during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Beirut port explosion and the ongoing socio-economic and financial crisis.

Due to the successive confinement measures and the financial crisis, many WMDWs were unable to cope with the increased tensions and abuse within the households, and were subjected to excessive working hours, poor working conditions, and non-payment of wages. There was also an emerging trend of arbitrarily dismissing live-in WMDWs from work and leaving them out on the streets and in front of their embassies without personal identity documents, or without wages or airfare tickets allowing them to travel back home. On the other hand, live-out WMDWs struggled to meet basic needs and were subjected to evictions from their rented housings. These two practices left out a significant number of WMDWs trapped in Lebanon facing numerous risks and protection issues.

Women engaged in prostitution accounted for yet another vulnerable and marginalized group that was highly affected by the multiple crises taking place that same year.

Women who had to turn to prostitution and whom under normal circumstances are denied support or access to resources, were even more deprived during these times of crisis, especially during lockdown periods. They also endured additional burdens and risks. Deprived from any source of income or support, they had no choice but to break the lockdown rules and expose themselves to COVID-19 in order to survive. Exploitation, abuse and detention lead to heightened risks on the lives of these women.

SERVICES



770 individuals were assisted through the ATU regular programs and the emergency responses in 2020.

Kafa's helpline on human trafficking continued to operate 24/7 to ensure access to WMDWs and women subjected to prostitution to the ATU services. The team was ready to respond to the increased needs and incidents of violence through providing information and counselling, referrals and direct legal

From January 2020 to December 2020, KAFA's helpline calls increased by 127% compared to the same period during 2019.

398 WMDWs received general legal and/or social and/or referral information services, mainly on issues related to abuses and violations, employment terms and obligations, residency permit, repatriation, access to shelter, medical assistance, and other needed assistance.

Kafa's shelter operated throughout the entire lockdown periods with full staff capacity while providing continuous care and services for the currently residing women. As the COVID-19 pandemic presented health risks to the safety of the shelter residents and staff, Kafa immediately adopted transitional shelter options to accommodate women victims of SGBV and trafficking who needed immediate protection.

Adapting the safe shelter method was effective in terms of life saving intervention during the different lockdown measures and the pandemic outbreak. From April to December 2020, 23 WMDWs victim of abuse and exploitation and women exploited in prostitution were admitted in transitional safe housings before their transfer to Kafa's shelter or their travel to their home country.

All the beneficiaries at the shelter benefited from individual follow-up and case management, legal assistance and representation when needed, empowerment and leisure activities, and workshops.

Simultaneously to the support provided by the helpline and the shelter, the ATU developed a multi-layered emergency response addressing first the emerging needs of MDWs and women exploited in prostitution after the COVID-19 outbreak, and the second after the Beirut Port explosion. Emergency assistance was provided to 270 WMDWs and women subjected to prostitution.

Kafa's ATU provided cash assistance, food assistance and social support to live-out MDWs and women subjugated to prostitution to support them during these crises, and reduce the risks of exploitation and other forms of abuse they might encounter due to the hard-living conditions and the lack of any alternative protection measures.

The Story of Tigest

Kafa obtained a written testimony from Tigest, a domestic worker from Ethiopia who was sexually abused and smuggled into in Lebanon, and published an article about her case. The article is titled "Domestic workers' journey with justice... Victims of exploitation and trafficking suffer silently".

Link to Tigest Testimony: <https://bit.ly/3zXc4l4>

Facilitation of voluntary return for WMDWs facing administrative detention in Lebanon

To contribute in alleviating the negative impact of the multiple crises on domestic workers, Kafa's ATU implemented an intervention targeting WMDWs facing administrative detention and subject to prolonged arbitrary detention. It successfully provided safe return assistance to 15 WMDWs and secured return tickets, PCR tests, administrative follow up and fee coverage, as well as essential needs.

Awareness campaigns

Raising the awareness of the Lebanese population on WMDWs rights:

- In an effort to eradicate accusations of malicious thefts by employers towards WMDWs and to raise awareness amongst employers about the effects of the sponsorship system, the ATU produced a short video depicting the testimony of a Lebanese employer who against his will was asked to accuse the WMDW of theft after she had fled his house.

Link to the full video: <https://bit.ly/3hjfD41>

- In the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, the ATU developed and broadcasted a mini social media campaign to raise awareness on the violations WMDWs were facing amidst the COVID-19 outbreak and consequent lockdown measures. "Do Not Abandon Them, Protect Them" called upon relevant stakeholders to take action to protect WMDWs in Lebanon and prevent the violations of their rights.

Link to the Facebook posts of the mini campaign: "Do Not Abandon Them, Protect Them":

<https://bit.ly/3E1u2vG>

<https://bit.ly/3jWjPIH>

<https://bit.ly/3hgpqrQ>

<https://bit.ly/2YxtTzA>

<https://bit.ly/38VvHUZ>

<https://bit.ly/3jUZOCk>

<https://bit.ly/3jYwmeA>

- The ATU identified a trend of employers broadcasting on online platforms sale ads about their domestic workers. In response to two sale ads which were published on social media, Kafa's ATU issued two reports to the Ministry of Labor and to the ISF's Human Trafficking Bureau and the Directorate of the General Security (DGS) to investigate the situation. Accordingly, the Human Trafficking Bureau investigated these incidents and the sale ads were removed. In response to the ATU's lobbying efforts, the Ministry of Labor issued a public memo against such actions.

Link to the post:

<https://bit.ly/2Yx0GVu>

Link to the posts against ads "selling" WMDWs and the memo issued by the ministry of labor to address this:

<https://bit.ly/3jYdn4c>

- Kafa's ATU produced "Evacuate Now", a short video meant as an urgent appeal for the safe return of WMDWs. The video targeted the international community and instigated the Lebanese government to take action. "Evacuate Now" was disseminated online and on twenty-five local and international websites including major news and media outlets including CNN, BBC, The Guardian, Euro-news, Sky News Arabia, NY Times. A visual linked to the video was also produced and disseminated on 5 led screens outdoors.



Evacuate Now



Domestic work is work

- The ATU rolled out a media campaign titled “Domestic work is work”. The objective of the campaign was to represent paid domestic works as profession, therefore shattering the misconceptions that deprive domestic workers of their dignity and rights. The video was disseminated and boosted online and on local TV channels.



Kafa's ATU produced the first telefilm about WMDWs, "Meheret", a 70-minutes film that was successfully aired on national television in Lebanon. The telefilm presents the plight of WMDWs in Lebanon as a result of the sponsorship system, and the absence of legal protection. The events of the movie take place in conjunction with the economic crisis that struck Lebanon in 2019, the outbreak of the Coronavirus, and the explosion of the Beirut port, all of which were compound blows that particularly hit WMDWs. "Meheret" was launched in an avant-premiere in a movie theatre in Lebanon on December 14, 2020 attended by around 100 key stakeholders. On December 16th, 2020, the telefilm was aired on prime time on MTV, a prominent Lebanese television channel. Statistics showed that 360,000 people watched the telefilm.

The Facebook trailer on Kafa's page reached 153,164 people and the film was reported by various media outlets.

Trailer link: <https://bit.ly/3nkYOcM>

Morning show link with KAFA as a guest speaker:

<https://bit.ly/3hjlbeV>

The article “Meheret: The Stories of Domestic Workers and their Reality on the Big Screen”

<https://bit.ly/3yUvI6d>

Awareness raising sessions on the topic of prostitution, sexual exploitation and trafficking:

- In order to raise the awareness of men on men's role in exploiting women in prostitution, the ATU developed and broadcasted a series of social media posts, on the occasion of World Day Against Trafficking. These posts called on men to follow a number of steps to teach them to refrain from exploiting women through buying sex, but instead to play a positive role in preventing prostitution and trafficking of women.

Link to the posts:

<https://bit.ly/3hjhtlr>

- During the year 2020, the ATU conducted awareness raising session for 90 Syrian women refugees. Most of the sessions were conducted through remote modality. The participants were extremely interactive, shared valuable and powerful messages around the stigmatization of women engaged in prostitution and were able to identify the vulnerabilities and risks that these women face.

- Kafa's ATU produced the video “Alone” based on the result of the “EXIT” study depicting the experiences of Lebanese and Syrian women exploited in prostitution and highlighting the consequences of prostitution on these women. The video calls upon the authorities and all relevant stakeholders to decriminalize and protect the victims of the sex industry.

Link to the video: <https://bit.ly/3jWX9rL>

Advocacy

Addressing malicious theft accusations against WMDWs:

On September 23rd 2020, the ATU organized a roundtable on the issue of malicious theft accusations along with representatives from the Internal Security Forces (ISF), the DGS and the Ministry of Justice. During this event, the ATU presented the findings of its legal review on malicious theft accusations.

Link to the policy brief:

<https://bit.ly/3DYTvpn>

Following this roundtable, the ATU entered into bilateral discussions with the DGS and in February 2021, the DGS officially issued a decision that prohibits employers from filing “run-away” complaints against WMDWs. The decision was aligned with Kafa's previously presented recommendations which mainly included:

- Putting in place new administrative measures that enable employers to directly report to the DGS in the event that the domestic worker leaves the workplace. The significance of this measure is that it no longer recognizes the act of leaving one's employment as a criminal offense, but rather as an administrative measure.

- Issuing a circular prohibiting the use in official records of any expression contrary to laws or human rights principles when describing the act of a worker leaving her employer's house, such as "escape" or "runaway", and replacing them with legal terms such as "left work".

The former practice is now an administrative and a civil procedure. If well implemented, the DGS decision will improve the protection of MDWs and prevent malicious theft accusations that used to accompany the previously notorious "runaway complaints".

Link to the brief on the roundtable: <https://kafa.org.lb/ar/node/430>

Facebook link for the GS decision on filing run-away complaints:

<https://bit.ly/3jWlqNJ>

Supporting WMDWs with Voluntary safe return:

Along with other NGOs, Kafa's ATU lead efforts to put pressure on the DGS to support MDWs return to their countries. Kafa addressed several demands to the DGS to waive penalties and facilitate the departure of MDWs. The DGS has issued exemptions for all workers whose residency expired during the pandemic and were not able to renew it because of COVID-19. It also allowed workers to leave the country without paying any penalty. In addition, and until the end of 2020, the DGS has allowed domestic workers who were not issued a residency permit, and those who have left their employers, to move to another sponsor/"kafeel" without the notarized release paper that was previously requested from the first employer. These policy measures are extremely positive, especially the latter which constitutes a breach in the complex system of sponsorship. The ATU continued its support in regards to voluntary return in the case of workers that were left stranded on the streets, and has succeeded in supporting the repatriation of 125 Kenyan workers.

Link to the full story: <https://kafa.org.lb/ar/node/423>

Link to the post about the updates on the case of the Kenyan workers:

<https://bit.ly/3nemnUI>

<https://bit.ly/38VEqGK>

Shaping policies:

Kafa's ATU played a major role in positively shaping policies aiming at protecting MDWs in Lebanon through its participation in the Ministry of Labor Task Force – which purpose is to draft a new standard unified contract (SUC) for domestic workers. The Ministry officially adopted the new SUC that was drafted by the steering committee on September 8, 2020. The adopted SUC included revisions made by the ATU and introduced several key labor and human rights issues.

Unfortunately, the implementation of the new SUC was challenged by the recruitment agencies - a sector that highly profits from the vulnerability of the domestic workers and the absence of protection. The syndicate contested the SUC at the Shoura council which halted the implementation of the contract because it considered it as "causing important losses" to the agencies.

KAFA's position towards the new unified contract: <https://kafa.org.lb/ar/node/427>

Article on Shoura council against the new unified MDW contract: <https://kafa.org.lb/ar/node/434>

Studies and Research

On November 18th, Kafa's ATU launched the study "EXIT". It recounts the challenges and the needs of Lebanese and Syrian women in prostitution through a webinar that gathered Ghada Jabbour (head of the Anti-Trafficking Unit and author of the study), Sahar Assaf (principal investigator), and Manar Zaiter (Legal expert).

The study seeks to understand the risks and the challenges faced by Lebanese and Syrian women in prostitution that are living in Lebanon, including those that have been trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The study assesses their needs and identify gaps and reforms that aim at protecting and assisting prostituted women, including supporting them escaping prostitution should they wish to do so.

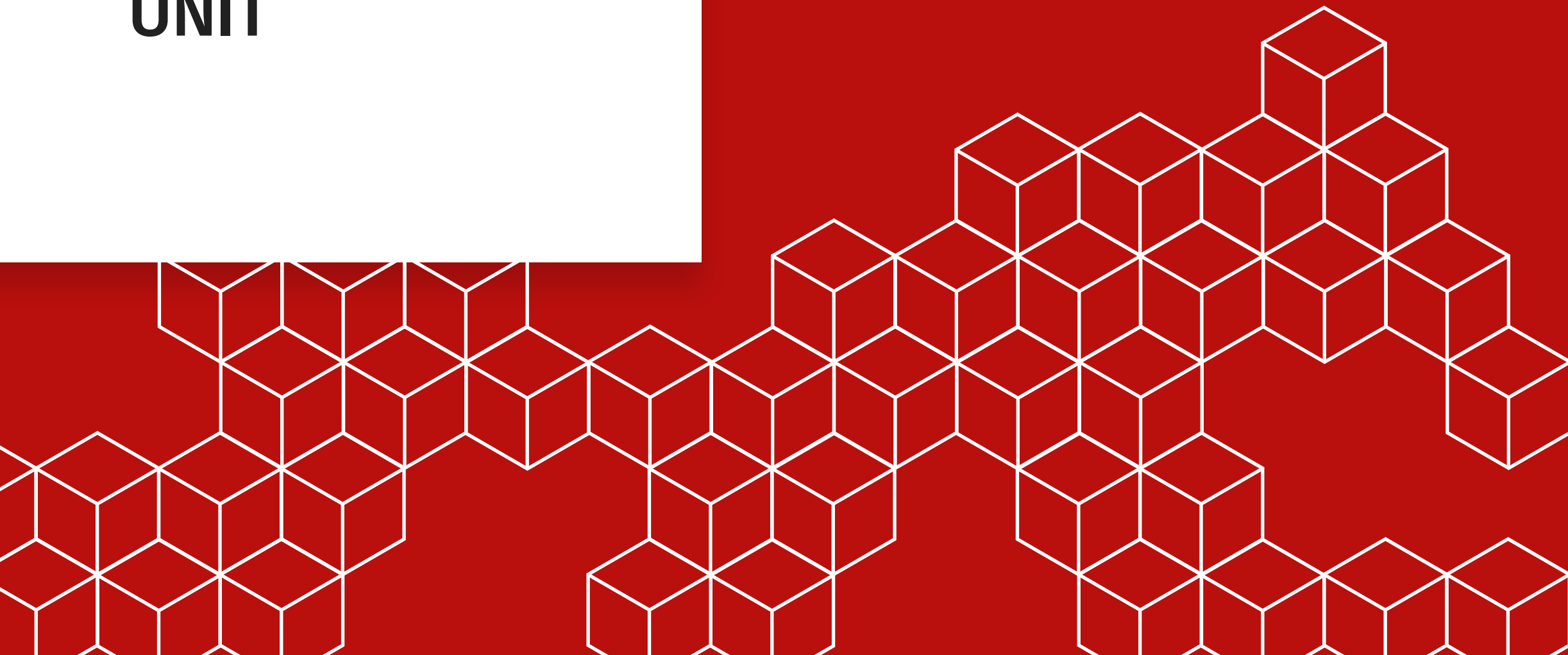
<https://kafa.org.lb/ar/node/440>

EXIT: Challenges and Needs of Lebanese and Syrian Women in Prostitution



Annual
Report 2020

CHILD PROTECTION UNIT



CHILD PROTECTION UNIT

What we do

The Child Protection Unit (CPU) works on fighting all types of violence perpetrated on children and adolescents, with a special focus on gender-based violence and sexual abuse. KAFA's CPU aims at engaging and motivating communities to embrace collective responsibility and agency to prevent violence and protect women and children; and creating a safe and protective environment for them, where violence is condemned, their rights are respected and they are supported to claim these rights. KAFA wants to ensure that all communities have equal quality access to information, support and resources that enable them to prevent violence against children and to promote gender equality.

The year 2020 was truly unprecedented in terms of environmental, economic, health and emotional issues, and the impact they had on children. Home schooling turned out to be one of these challenges for both children and their families. Lockdown exacerbated mental health issues and triggered increased violence within families. Even before the devastating explosion in the port of Beirut, the socio-economic situation in Lebanon was not at its best to say the least. The pandemic exacerbated by the economic situation took a toll on families and led to all types of insecurities within households.

Assessment

The CPU conducted a situational analysis in April 2020 in Bekaa, Mount Lebanon, and Beirut areas with a total of 727 beneficiaries distributed as follows:

-379 in Bekaa

-165 in Mount Lebanon

-183 in Beirut

The assessment aimed at exploring the:

- Awareness among Syrian refugees and Lebanese about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) namely the symptoms, how to seek medical help/whom to report to and the precautions needed to protect themselves and others.
- Consequences of the lockdown on child protection and domestic violence among Syrian refugees and the host community.

The assessment showed that beneficiaries were under a lot of stress mainly due to:

- Increased domestic tasks including household chores and child-care responsibilities. In fact, for many beneficiaries, the burden of home-schooling, and having to meet their children's excessive demands were considered as major stress factors.
- Financial uncertainties with the "husband being out of work".

In Beirut, around 39% of interviewed beneficiaries mentioned detrimental changes in family dynamics. In Bekaa, 96% reported negative consequences on the family's environment. In Mount Lebanon, 36% of interviewees mentioned feeling anxious, worried, and stressed, as a result of the lockdown.

Child protection/domestic violence:

- When asked how they were spending their time at home, 51% said they spent a lot of time on household chores "cooking and cleaning", 36% said they spent it taking care of their children and helping them with their studies, while many caregivers mentioned that most of their time was spent resolving conflicts between their children.
 - When asked how children were spending their time, results showed that 61% spent their time watching television, and 19% on the phone playing games and watching YouTube videos.
- Beneficiaries were also asked about relevant types of support that NGOs could provide:
- 66%** asked for food rations especially with the currency collapse, and the men being out of work.
- 83%** asked for disinfectants, soaps, masks, and gloves.
- 25%** asked for at home activities, and coping mechanisms that will help children during lockdown.
- 10%** asked for emotional support for women and family members that might be helpful during lockdown.

KAFA's CP Response Plan:

- Implementation of The Arab Women Speak Out (AWSO) program, the Focused Psycho-Social Support sessions (FPSS), parenting skills, emotional support, PSS, and life skills' curriculums via WhatsApp, Zoom and other platforms. The sessions included audio notes, thorough discussion with the participants, a set of Q&A and a short recapitulative video..
- Distribution of positive parenting flyers ("Menkhul Magazine" about GBV prevention) and puzzles about early child marriage.
- Producing and disseminating short videos featuring psychosocial support activities for children and adolescents delivering key messages either on COVID-19 prevention or child protection.
- Organizing a rally paper with family groups to compete in answering general knowledge questions and topics related to GBV and CP.

Area		RALLY PAPER PARTICIPANTS	COVID-19 AWARENESS TARGET
1.	Beirut	113	269
2.	Mount	31	219
3.	Bekaa	327	470
Total		471	958

Role of committee members during the COVID-19 pandemic:

Committee members were actively engaged in responding to protection issues. They responded by raising awareness, referring cases when needed and sharing Kafa's helpline number.

Steps taken by committee members to respond to protection issues:

- In addition to the referral of women subjected to violence, committee members coordinated together, especially in situations of violence against children, in which case they contacted the parents to raise awareness.
- Committee members communicated with women via phone and provided them with information on how to deal with their children during confinement, how to manage anger and stress, in addition to offering parenting skills.

Working remotely: June 2020-August 2020

Due to the inability to meet physically as a result of COVID-19, Kafa's CPU had to tailor its programs and activities to online platforms. Despite the various challenges that aroused in light of the unprecedented and unforeseen switch to online mode, the CPU succeeded in adapting its curriculums and support programs to meet the needs and demands of its target population.

FPSS Adolescents/Children curriculum adaptation:

The FPSS curriculum for children and adolescents was adapted to fit the online modality. The sessions were reviewed and modified including the exercises and activities. Moreover, the CPU added stories and videos as new elements to the curriculum. These materials aimed at guiding the participants through emotional management.

• Parenting skills curriculum adaptation

Kafa's CPU developed videos on key messages based on the parenting skills curriculum to ensure a better communication. Those videos played a valuable role in helping the team achieve its goals, as well as in enhancing motivation and interaction among the participants.

•Life skills curriculum:

The CPU developed a life skills curriculum following an assessment exercise and based on observations and series of discussions collected from the field. The curriculum addressed the following topics:

Expressing Feelings, Self-Affirmation, Support Networks, Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Listening, Leadership, Team Work, Negotiation Skills, Communication Skills, Dealing with Anger, Decision Making

The life skills curriculum development is still ongoing along with a review of examples of PSS and SEL activities selected by the Child Wellbeing Task Team comprised of LCRP Education and

Child Protection partners. Coursera – Social change, Social norms Part I and II:

The CPU team members completed the Social Change course part I and part II and acquired a wide range of information and knowledge such as the differences between dependant and interdependent behaviours; the definitions of social norm, custom, collective practice, pluralistic ignorance; the different types of social expectations; the role of sanctions and the influence of the reference network on a specific practice; trendsetters and social change and many other. The course also provided team members with practices, theories and techniques that, on one hand, help producing an efficient social change and on the other hand improve the implementation of the sessions

Update service mapping:

- Kafa's CPU updated the service mapping due to the increase in needs amongst beneficiaries. This helped the team members refer cases adequately and according to the current needs encountered during the sessions.

Activities that were and still are undergoing by the CP unit (the numbers below cover the period extending from February 2020 until December 2020):

ACTIVITY		LOCATION	NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
1.	Specialized/focuses PSS for girls and boys	Bekaa	145
		Beirut & Mount Lebanon	37
2.	Training of individuals working within either		68
3.	Protection case management and specialized	Beirut	51
4.	Provide access to mobile phone and safe locations to women and girls	Bekaa	1162
		Beirut & Mount Lebanon	524
5.	Activities to engages caregivers to promote wellbeing and child protection.	Bekaa	299
		Beirut & Mount Lebanon	145

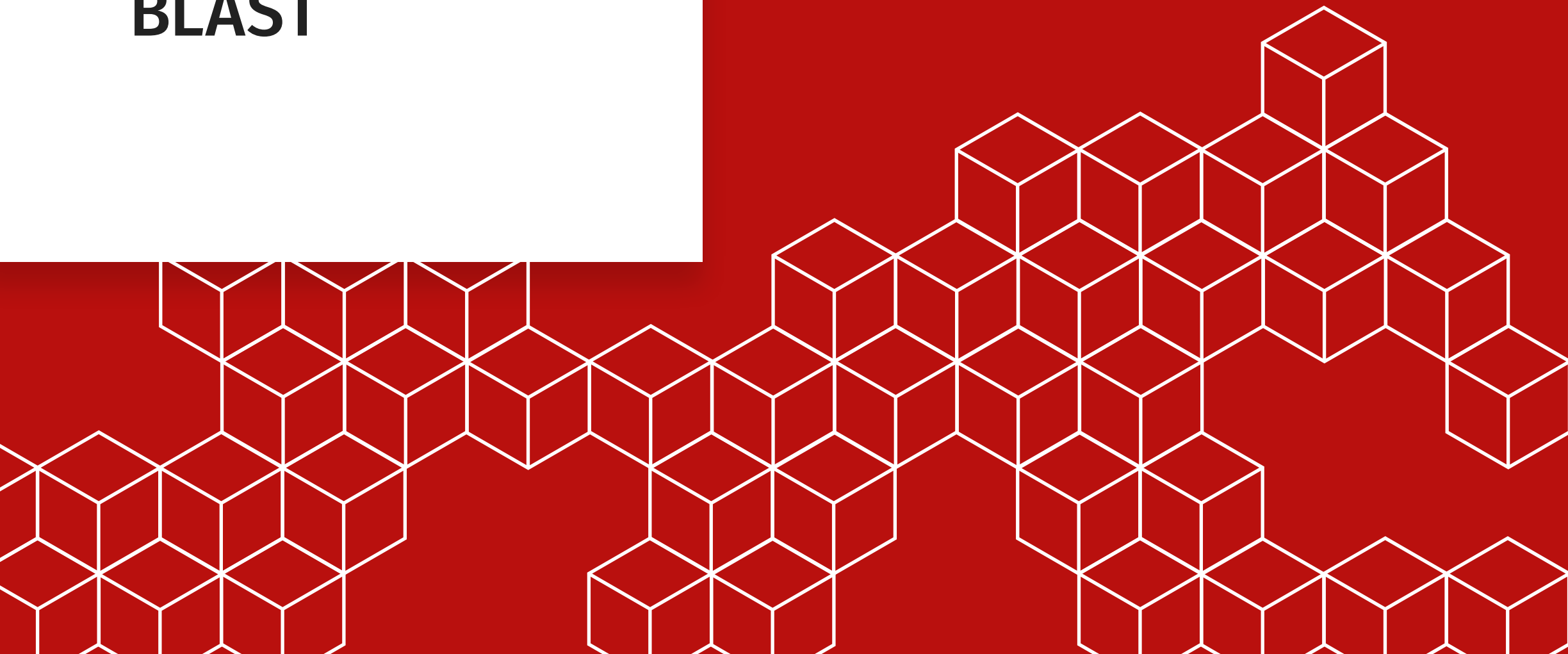


Annual
Report 2020

AUGUST

4

BLAST



AUGUST 4 BLAST

The August 4 blast had staggering repercussions on everyone in Lebanon. Whether physically, economically, or emotionally, the explosion affected nearly everyone across the country. During such difficult times, it's vital to offer assistance to the most vulnerable members of society. Today, Lebanon is going through a major turmoil, facing multiple crises of different natures, namely the financial downturn and the global COVID-19 pandemic.

In Lebanon, women and children are considered to be the most vulnerable members of society, more specifically single mothers, women victims of domestic gender-based violence and abuse, migrant domestic workers (MDW), and victims of human trafficking. Kafa's mission is to help women and children, and to cater to their needs through multiple channels and services. However, post blast, things have changed drastically and special measures had to be taken to ensure physical, emotional, mental, and economic wellbeing to the affected groups. KAFA's various units carefully came up with exceptional ways to increase their outreach and help as many vulnerable women and children as possible.

The Support Center, the Child Protection Unit, the Anti-Trafficking Unit and the Women's Center in Bekaa were quick to react right after the explosion. The teams immediately contacted Kafa's beneficiaries living in the affected areas in order to tend to their needs. The assessment showed that many beneficiaries had lost their jobs and were displaced due to the destruction of their homes. Some lost their breadwinners and others were physically injured by the explosion and needed hospital care visits.

The beneficiaries

In view of the vast demands for services of all types, Kafa defined a set of criteria to better identify the people who qualified for post-explosion assistance.

The below groups are among the beneficiaries who were eligible to receive Kafa's services:

Affected women and/or MDWs who:

- Suffered from physical injuries or the death of a family member.
- Had their houses partially, severely or totally damaged.
- Whose household items were damaged.
- Who lost their job after the workplace was damaged or shut down.
- Who were already unemployed and to whom the opportunity of finding another job had become extremely difficult.

Additional criteria were taken into consideration in order to prioritize assistance to the affected women/MDWs:

- Female headed household with children.
- Pregnant/lactating women.
- Women forced to relocate to another house after the explosion.
- Woman with chronic/ urgent medical conditions.
- Women and/or MDWs facing risks such as exploitation, abuse, trafficking, SGBV.



- Women and/or MDWs with limited coping mechanisms (limited access to income, limited financial resources, limited family and community networks, limited access to housing and poor living conditions).
- Evicted from employer's household (for MDWs).
- Women and/or MDWs who did not receive assistance from any other party able to address any of the above-mentioned needs.

Numbers of services accounted for

the response plan targeted newly identified beneficiaries and already exiting ones affected by the explosion. The assistance comprised the distribution of food boxes, packages of cleaning supplies and hygiene kits. Some emergency aid was also provided to pregnant women, infant and baby supplies such as diapers and formulas among other commodities, and some medical help where needed, in addition to the distribution of some in-kind support that Kafa received from individuals, such as shoes, clothes, blankets and home supplies according to the needs.

At a later stage, Kafa provided cash assistance to women who matched the criteria, airplane tickets to migrant domestic workers who opted to return back to their countries, and house repairs to partially damaged houses, mainly by repairing doors and windows.

Support Centers & the Child Protection Unit

By the end of 2020, the Support Centers & the Child Protection Unit were able to offer support to 711 beneficiaries, by helping them sustain themselves during these tough times. The services provided were divided as follow:

- 130 Cash assistance
- 629 Food boxes
- 695 Dignity kits
- 629 Detergent boxes

In addition to distributing a total of 1,468 sanitary pads and 940 mini Hygiene kits.

House Repairs

84 houses were fixed in the areas affected by the explosion. The priority was given to Kafa's beneficiaries, & later the scope of work expanded to reach women who fit the criteria listed above.

Psychological Support

Children and their mothers were also offered assistance by Kafa. Our team offered psychosocial support to children and caregivers. These services were offered in both areas of Rmeil-Ashrafieh and Mazraa.

Kafa conducted at its center 77 Psychotherapy sessions to 11 beneficiaries

Anti-Trafficking Unit

290 migrant domestic workers (MDWs) were identified as potential beneficiaries to be contacted for a quick post-blast assessment. 251 of them were successfully contacted and an assessment of their needs and situation was done. The remaining 39 could not be reached. Out of the 251 MDWs contacted, 202 were directly affected by the explosion (home damages, job loss, physical injuries), and 49 were identified as indirectly affected, and were facing problems in meeting urgent needs. Among the 202 directly affected MDWs, 189 had their houses partially to totally damaged, 138 had lost their jobs and became unemployed (lack of job opportunities or workplace was damaged or shut down due to the explosion), and 61 had physical injuries. The majority of needs were for cash assistance, food assistance and medical follow-ups. Kafa's ATU identified other needs that these women had, that were not directly related to the explosion itself, namely to find a job and to be assisted in applying for repatriation.

The Anti-trafficking unit offered support to 202 beneficiaries.

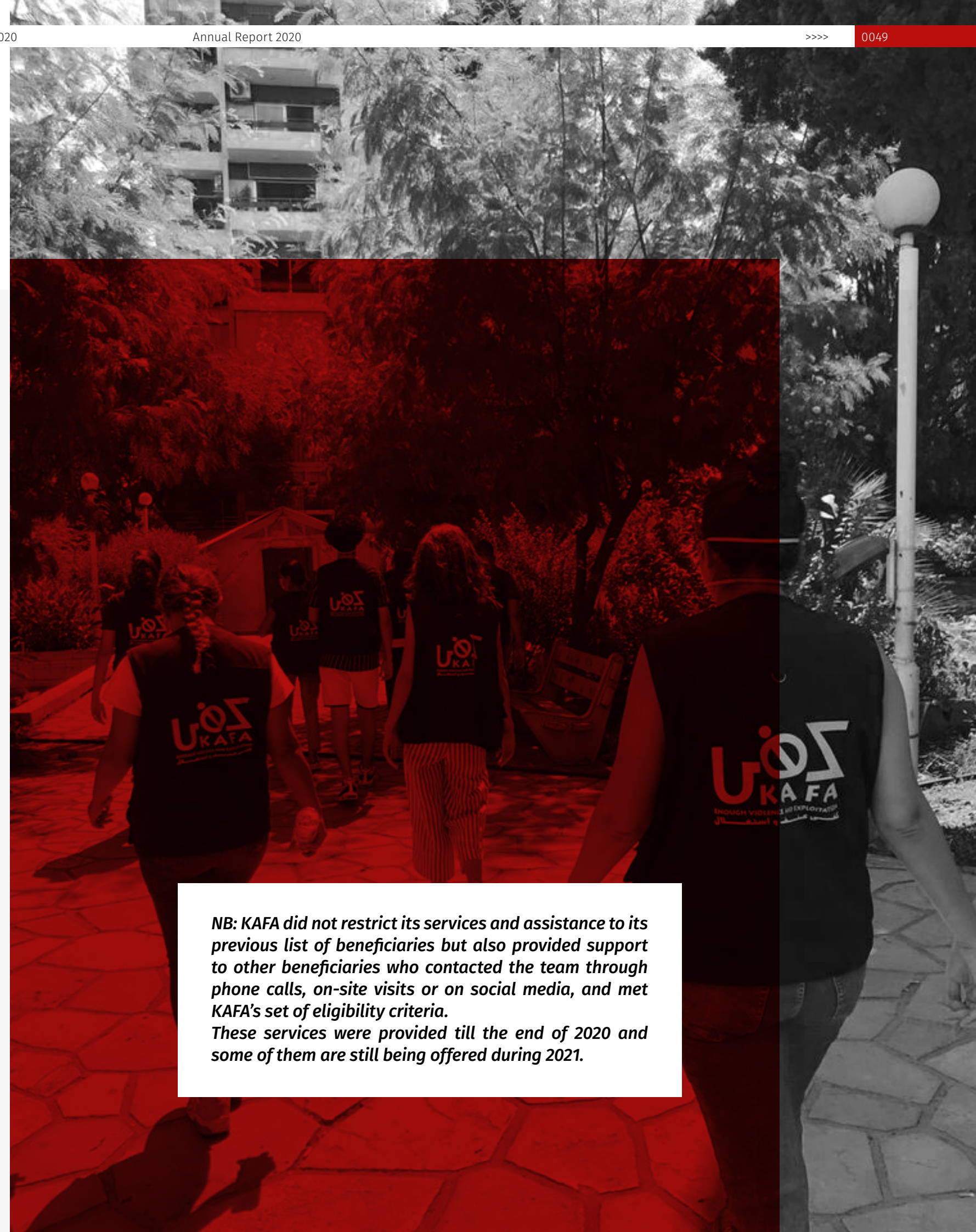
The services provided were divided as follow:

- 146 Cash Assistance
- 209 Food Boxes
- 265 Dignity Kits
- 4 Detergent Kits
- 14 Airline Tickets

Women's Center in Bekaa:

During the period extending from July to September 2020, the Women's Center local committee members surveyed 13 families harmed by the Beirut explosion and living in the Bekaa region. Rawya and Ruba took the responsibility of running the survey prepared by Kafa to evaluate the families' living condition, to build on the analysis data and to provide appropriate intervention.

Later on, during the period extending from October to December 2020, the committee held several coordination meetings in order to share updates on the local contexts and challenges that the community was facing, and where the committee could interfere, especially that Lebanon was still dealing with the consequences of the Beirut blast.



NB: Kafa did not restrict its services and assistance to its previous list of beneficiaries but also provided support to other beneficiaries who contacted the team through phone calls, on-site visits or on social media, and met Kafa's set of eligibility criteria.

These services were provided till the end of 2020 and some of them are still being offered during 2021.

Annual Report 2020



KAFA (enough) Violence & Exploitation
43, Badaro Street, Beydoun Bldg, 1st Floor
Tel: 961-1-392220
Fax: 961-1-392220
Email: kafa@kafa.org.lb