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Community Development Institute

Enhancing Women's Capacity to Prevent and Respond to Gender Base Violence in the Gaza Strip

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Submitted by: Zakher Association

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
CBO	Community Based Organization
MIRA	Multi-sectorial Initial Rapid Assessment
IDP	Internally Displaced People
CWLRC	Center for Women’s Legal Research and Consultancy
GBV	Gender Based Violence
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNWRA	The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Project Context and problem analysis

On July 7, the Israeli army launched a military operation in Gaza code named ‘Protective Edge’. The 50 day long bombardment resulted in over 2000 dead and many injured with wide scale damage to private and public infrastructure and properties. The interagency MIRA (Multi-sectorial Initial Rapid Assessment) assessment was done by many INGOs to capture the extent and depth of humanitarian needs. Gender Based Violence (GBV) was identified as one of the key protection concerns. A meeting organized by UN women with around 11 women’s organizations in Gaza revealed many instances of GBV in sites that were meant to offer safe spaces to fleeing civilians including IDP centers (mostly but not only UNRWA schools), host families and interactions with service providers. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) commissioned a Study on GBV during the last days of the military operation to go deeper into the findings thrown up by the MIRA assessment. The UNFPA Study examines the conditions and rights of Internally Displaced Girls and Women in UNRWA shelters and host families during that operation.

GBV can lead to severe physical, reproductive, and mental health consequences. While these health outcomes also occur in non-conflict settings, they may be exacerbated in conflict settings by a lack of access to or improper medical care, concurrent infectious disease, malnutrition, stress, and other psychosocial problems. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable to GBV during outbursts of violence through the separation of families, disruption of community and institutional protection, service structures, and increased obstacles to access to justice for survivors amongst others. Furthermore, for a number of other reasons, including shame, stigma, low awareness of or access to services, and lack of protection, vulnerable security and justice system and impunity, GBV is often under-reported and available services under-utilized.

Project Justification

Gender Based Violence (GBV) is a major human rights issue in many countries across the world. The incidence of GBV escalates in societies prone to conflict, and post conflict situations, like the Gaza Strip. In Gaza, the pressures of the Israeli blockade and occupation exacerbate tensions in a society in which women often suffer acutely under

traditions that can discriminate against them. Gaza has been marked with decades of conflict. The most recent war on Gaza took place in July 2014; and the 50 day long bombardment killed over 2000 people and resulted in many injuries and wide scale damage to private and public infrastructure and properties. About 28 per cent of the population has been estimated to be internally displaced as a direct consequence of the military operation. Those factors play a key role in increasing the percentage of GBV.

Statistically speaking, an assessment conducted by the UNDP and the Center for Women's Legal Research and Consultancy (CWLRC) revealed that nearly a quarter of ever-married women had been exposed to physical abuse, 62% to psychological violence, and 10% to sexual violence.

Zakher Association has arranged various focus groups to retrieve more details about GBV in the Gaza Strip. The results of the focus groups have shown that there is no set procedure to follow for cases of GBV in the Gaza Strip. Some women go to the police as a final resort; others seek medical advice under false pretexts or contact their relatives to get support. Most of them however do not seek any official help. As there is strict customs and traditions besides the absence of coordination between the different institutions, the total extent of the problem cannot be estimated. Further accurate data and statistics will be retrieved through the needs assessment that will be conducted within this project.

More and over, Palestinian women and girls suffer from limited access to justice. According to a UN Gender Needs Assessment, while 37% of women in Gaza perceive domestic violence as a main security and safety problem for women and girls, a mere 2% said they would go to the police for protection and help.

Beneficiaries

Direct Beneficiaries

- 12 persons who will be hire for the project.
- Students at schools – from both sexes.
- Women from all regions of the Gaza Strip.
- Victims of GBV from all regions of the Gaza Strip.

- People seeking counseling and legal support from the legal clinic.

Indirect Beneficiaries

- Many of local vendors and service providers.
- At least 3 persons from each woman's family or close social circle benefiting from seeing billboards in streets.
- People who will be reached by radio spots and shows.

Strategies

Some of the key strategies to be used are:

- Research/ Needs assessment.
- Sensitization and awareness creation
- Education and Capacity Enhancement
- Gender, Women, family and girl empowerment strategies
- Collaborative management and coordination
- Resource mobilization
- Psychosocial counseling and support
- Youth and male involvement
- Socio-cultural integration and elimination of negative traditional cultural practices that influence GBV in all regions of the Gaza Strip.
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Project's Main Activities

- Conducting rapid needs assessment to put hands on the reality of GVB situation in the Gaza Strip.
- Producing standardized material that meets the needs of awareness campaigns/training.
- Recruiting a group of skillful trainers who are ready to lead the project.
- Coordinating with Ministry of Education and concerned governmental bodies to facilitate training.

- Arranging for public awareness sessions in all regions of the Gaza Strip through various media channels.
- Preparing guidelines for monitoring and evaluation and create a database for GBV at Zakher.
- Preparing final report on all project's activities.

P.S. In-depth details on project activities are provided in Annex I (Logical Framework).

Expected results

- Increased women's awareness on their legal rights.
- Women take a more active role in preventing and responding to sexual and gender based violence.
- A team of GBV trainers established and ready for any similar interventions.
- Women have more positive image, self-worth, and ready to protect their rights.
- Women are more informed of Gender Based Violence service providers and Zakher's legal clinic in Gaza and ready to report GBV cases and seek other support services.
- Formation of grassroots community based GBV action groups established.

Partnerships

In order to ensure a smooth workflow, Zakher is going to coordinate with the following competent authorities and organizations:

- **Ministry of Interior:** Charities Department at MOI is responsible for registering the charities and facilitate a variety of tasks related to projects executed.
- **Other Governmental Bodies:** Zakher contacts many of governmental bodies to ensure a smooth and rapid fulfillment of official arrangements and necessary coordination. Some of these bodies are:
 - **Ministry of Health:** there is a coordinating-based relationship between Zakher and MOH where contacts are made for the any medical information.

- **Ministry of Education:** Zakher is going to coordinate with MOE to facilitate the implementation of training session at schools and educational institutions.
- **Ministry of Social Affairs:** Zakher, when needed, coordinates with MOSA to get clear data about the GBV and general social conditions.
- Other governmental bodies (When needed).
- Banks, basic services providers, contractors, suppliers, consultancy firms and semi-public organizations.

Institutional profile

Licensed under number (7341) by Ministry of Interior – PNA in the Palestinian territories, Zakher is an independent, society-oriented, non-governmental organization. Zakher was established by highly recognized, community-driven personalities in Gaza Strip in 2000, nonetheless, Zakher has been recognized as an NGO since 2003.

Zakher is active and runs its various units upon the international standards related to women empowerment, family support, and all related Humanitarian Laws which are concerned with the significant needs of the community in terms of Art & Culture, Training & Education, Environment & Health, and Women's Empowerment issues by emphasizing various critical aspects namely, social contribution and ethical responsibility.

The central area of Zakher's interest includes but is not limited to those aspects closely related to involving active women in the community and their input to the overall welfare of the Palestine community in the Gaza Strip; particularly, in the heavily populated, remote areas lacking essential resources; infrastructure, and support services such as health, education, rehabilitation, culture or entertainment.

Annex I: Logical Framework

****P.S. The indicators will be developed after conducting the needs assessment, which is projected to cover all regions of the Gaza Strip.**

	Indicators**	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<u>Goal: To increase women's capacity to prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence (GBV).</u>			
<i>Outcome: The capacity of the community, CBOs and schools is enhanced to mitigate and response to incidences of GBV.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness level of female and male community members increased by significant percentage on GBV & mitigating mechanisms. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Official and unofficial reports. 2. Routine surveillance 3. Focus groups conducted by Zakher. 4. Questionnaires and interviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project receives 100% funding. • The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.
<u>Output A: Accurate data and statistics about the GBV and community situation in the Gaza Strip.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # of assessments conducted • # of people per communities targeted • # of interviews conducted • # of focus group discussions held 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment reports. 2. Case studies. 3. Routine surveillance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period. • Continuous and active cooperation of concerned government offices, and CBOs.

	Indicators**	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<u>Activities A:</u> A.1 Forming a team of professionals in field surveys and data collection. A.2 Taking all related managerial procedures to enhance the workflow. A.3 Conducting rapid needs assessment to put hands on the reality of GVB situation in the Gaza Strip.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period. Continuous and active cooperation of concerned government offices, and CBOs.
<u>Output B:</u> Standardized Training modules developed and in ready to be in use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # and type of training modules developed 	1. Training Modules Produced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiring procedures go as planned.
<u>Activities B:</u> B.1 Hiring consulting body according to the followed procurement procedures. B.2 Taking all related managerial procedures to enhance the workflow. B.3 Checking the validity and ratability of the designed modules. B.4 Printing the training materials.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.
<u>Output C:</u> <i>Quality response especially as regards counseling to all GBV survivors identified through adequate training of social workers, women group leaders, etc.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of staffs recruited # of staffs trained # of trainings conducted 	1. Training Reports (pre and posttest reports) 2. Follow up reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.

	Indicators**	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<u>Activities C:</u> C.1 Hiring staff. C.2 Training Staff. C3 Following up the work progress.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.
<u>Output D: Students (from both sexes) at schools are aware of GBV nature and background as well as able to deal with it.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of awareness sessions. # of students who talked about their experience. Attendance records and feedback forms Students' behavior. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reports Routine Surveillance Attendees' list 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of education and governmental bodies are committed to deliver their services.
<u>Activities D:</u> D.1 Coordinating with Ministry of Education and concerned governmental bodies to facilitate training. D.2 Deciding over the training methods and places. D.3 Delivering training. D.4 Following up the work progress.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.
<u>Output E: Enhanced community and family awareness of GVB and how to response to it.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> # of females trained. # of responding families. # of interagency meeting on GBV Local media. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reports Direct observations through field visits Focus groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active participation and willingness from project stakeholders, law enforcement bodies and concerned CBOs.

	Indicators**	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<u>Activities E:</u> E.1 Coordination with all stallholders. E.2 Arranging for public awareness sessions in all regions of the Gaza Strip. E.3 Launching public awareness campaign through radio spots and street billboards. E.4 Connecting the target communities to the legal clinic at Zakher. E.5 Opening the door for all GBV victims in a secure and systematic manner.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community is highly responding to the activities. The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.
<u>Output F: Develop guidelines for monitoring and evaluation and create a data base for storage at Zakher</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of standardized guidelines for monitoring and evaluation of GBV activities. Monthly updates from database. Availability of past and present data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of GBV Guidelines. Experience of Zakher team. List of task force on monitoring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guidelines are well prepared. Community is highly responding to the activities.
<u>Activities F:</u> F.1 Recruiting professionals to set the guidelines and monitoring criteria. F.2 Starting the monitoring and evaluation for all project's activities. F.3 Running periodical updates for the project data. F.4 Utilizing data for future interventions.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The security is stable enough to allow for implementation of project activities throughout the Project period.

Annex II: Implementation Work plan Format

Outcome(s):					
Output (s):	Output Indicator	Key Activity	Implementing Partner(s)	Timeframe (24 Months)	Amount (US\$)
Accurate data and statistics about the GBV and community situation in the Gaza Strip.	Handy reports that contain accurate data on GBV status in the Gaza Strip.	Conducting rapid needs assessment to put hands on the reality of GVB situation in the Gaza Strip.	Zakher in cooperation with local consultancy providers.	Months 1 – 2	14,000
Standardized Training modules developed and in ready to be printed and used	Training Modules Produced and printed	Producing standardized material the meets the needs of awareness campaigns/training.	Zakher in cooperation with local consultancy providers.	Months 2-4	10,000
Quality response especially as regards counseling to all GBV survivors identified through adequate training of social workers, women group leaders, etc.	Expertise of trained staff.	Recruiting a group of skillful trainers who are ready to lead the project.	Zakher in cooperation with local consultancy providers.	Months 4-6	61,200
Students (from both sexes) at schools are aware of GBV nature and background as well as able to deal with it.	Students' awareness of GBV nature, which will be measured through surveillance and discussion.	Coordinating with Ministry of Education and concerned governmental bodies to facilitate training.	Zakher in coordination with Ministry of Education and concerned governmental bodies to facilitate training.	Months 6-12	18,300
Enhanced community and family awareness of GVB and how to response to it.	Community's awareness of GVB and methods of response	Arranging for public awareness sessions in all regions of the Gaza Strip through various media channels.	Zakher in cooperation with various media channels, governmental bodies and CBOs.	12 - 20	

Outcome(s):					
Output (s):	Output Indicator	Key Activity	Implementing Partner(s)	Timeframe (24 Months)	Amount (US\$)
Develop guidelines for monitoring and evaluation and create a database for storage at Zakher.	Existence of standardized guidelines for monitoring and evaluation of GBV activities.	Preparing guidelines for monitoring and evaluation and create a database for GBV at Zakher.	Zakher is responsible for all steps within this activity.	20-23	-
Final Report documenting all project's activities.	Complete Final Report	Preparing final report on all project's activities.	Zakher is responsible for all steps within this activity.	23-24	-

Annex III: Breakdown of Activities

Budget						
SL.No.	Budget Heads	QTY	Unit Cost	# of units	Total	%age
1	Personnel					
1.1	Project Coordinator	1	500/ month	24	12,000	11.48%
1.2	Project Assistant	1	300/ month	24	7,200	6.88%
1.3	Trainers	10	300/ month	14	42,000	40.19%
1.4	Consultancy (i.e. TOT and M&E) – outsourcing	Package	7,000/ year	2	14,000	13.39%
Subtotal Personnel					75,200	71.96%
2	Media and Printings					
2.1	Printed Material	30,000	0.2/ piece	-	6000	5.74%
2.2	Radio Spots	Package	200/ month	14	2,800	2.67%
2.3	Street Billboards	Package	250/ month	14	3,500	3.35%
Subtotal Media and Printings					12,300	11.78%
3	Administrative Costs					
3.1	Stationary	Package	1,200/ year	2	2,400	2.3%
3.2	Renting Halls	Lump sum	3,000/ year	2	6,000	5.74%
3.3	Transportation and communication	Lump sum	150/ month	24	3,600	3.44%
3.4	Margin of Safety	-	-	-	5,000	4.78%
Subtotal Administrative Costs					17,000	16.26%
Total					104,500	100%