United Nations Regional Gender Theme Group – Arab States Region

2019 Scope of Work

An initial discussion on the 2019 scope of work was held during the R-GTG meeting of 31 January 2019. Based on the achievements of 2018, it was proposed to include the same key elements from 2018 in the 2019 scope of work of the R-GTG, while exploring new avenues for coordinated and/or joint initiatives by R-GTG members.

A draft scope of work was shared with R-GTG members for their feedback and inputs on 24 March.

Accordingly, the scope of work for the R-GTG in 2019 is as follows:

1. The R-GTG membership will continue its advocacy to support the R-UNSDG participation in the 2019 Track II Training for Women from the Arab States, Leadership and the UN (training to take place in October 2019) and follow-up to track career advancement of previous graduates, including providing opportunities for Track I graduates to participate in the RC assessment;
2. As part of the EVAW Regional Joint Programme UN Women, UNFPA and UNDP, with the support of UNESCO, will coordinate on a regional youth event bringing together youth networks (Agora, Y-Peer, YLP) to elaborate national youth responses to address violence against women (Beirut, 28 – 31 March);
3. Also as part of the EVAW Regional Joint Programme, a country profile will be produced (by 31 March) for each of the ten Arab States countries that participated in the regional GBV services mapping exercise of 2018-2019;
4. UN Women, ESCWA, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and UNESCO will convene a Special Session on Gender during the Arab Forum on Sustainable Development (9 – 11 April), on the subject “Leaving No One Behind: Policy approaches to recognise intersectionality and promote inclusivity for women and girls with disabilities in sustainable development”;
5. R-GTG members will provide inputs to the TOR for a regional consultancy by UNICEF to review the situation of Women and Girls in the Middle East and North Africa region;
6. The R-GTG will convene a working meeting of the lead agencies (UN Women, UNFPA, UNDP, UNODC and WHO) to discuss how to move forward on phase 2 of the Regional Joint Programme on EVAW;
7. The Inter-Agency Committee led by UN Women and composed of UNFPA, UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS and WFP, will review the applications submitted under the annual cycle of the UN Inter-Agency Trust Fund to End Violence against Women;
8. UN Women and partner agencies (including UNFPA, WFP, UNESCO and others) will continue to promote women’s participation and leadership in the digital space via the HerStory initiative;
9. The R-GTG will conduct a coordinated online communications campaign to mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (26 November – 10 December).
In addition to coordinated / joint work, R-GTG members will be encouraged to post communications materials (particularly online) regarding key events / commemorative days during the course of the year through the sharing of a calendar of notable dates and the sharing of any hashtags etc.