

Share-Net Jordan

The Knowledge Platform on
Sexual and Reproductive Health
and Reproductive Rights



24th edition

Share-Net Jordan Newsletter

2nd Quarter

2022

Quarterly Newsletter



■ Foreword :

Share-Net Jordan is pleased to present its 24th quarterly newsletter covering the second quarter of 2022. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep researchers, decision-makers, policymakers, program developers and research entities informed about local and international updates and developments in the field of sexual and reproductive health.

This newsletter highlights the key studies, policy briefs, positionpapers, and reports launched in the second quarter of the year, including a study and policy brief on the “withdrawal of women from the labor market, and sexual and reproductive health in the context of Covid 19 Pandemic”, a study on “motives for ending marriage among those under the age of 18 in Jordan: a guide on the social implications, and a fact sheet on the role of media and communication in advocacy and raising awareness of SRH issues”, a working paper on the “connection between mental health and maternal health around childbirth among married Syrian refugee women under the age of 18 in jordan”.

The newsletter also overviews the activities and events implemented in the second quarter, including the release of SRH study findings, such as the study on "The Impact of Socioeconomic Factors and Gender Dynamics on the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women and Girls in Jerash Governorate", and the "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemicon access to family planning information and services in Jordan". The newsletter also

sheds light on meetings held with parents and local community organizations to test an online SRH knowledge platform for youth, a workshop held for members of the National Committee for the National Reproductive and Sexual Health Strategy for (2020 - 2030) to develop the executive plan for the next five years, the 1st international conference on the impact of climate change on the health sector, the first meeting of Share-Net Jordan steering committee, and a visit by a Share-Net International delegation to Share-Net Jordan.

In addition, efforts to maintain the research database on the SRH online platform continued and included the uploading of (44) new studies, and the addition of new members to the platform, bringing the total number of Share-Net Jordan members to (233) including (212) individuals and (21) institutions.

01 I. Sexual and reproductive health. 🔍

02 II. Population and Development. 💡

03 III. The latest local, regional and international reports and publications related to population and development issues.



■ One : Sexual and Reproductive Health

• Studies, policy briefs, Fact Sheets, working papers, and reports :

01

A study and policy brief on the withdrawal of women from the labour market, and SRH in the context of Covid pandemic.

02

Fact sheet on the role of the media and communications in SRH advocacy and awareness.

03

Working paper on “Connections between Mental Health and Maternal Health with regard to Childbirth for Married Syrian Refugee Women under the age of 18”.

04

Study on “the motives to end marriage for those under the age of 18 in Jordan: a guide to social implications”.

- A study and policy brief on the withdrawal of women from the labour market, and SRH in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic:

The tender for the study and policy brief was awarded to two experts tasked with looking into the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of currently working males and females and those who left the labour market based on data from the Social Security Corporation.

The study aims to look into the participation and withdrawal of women from the labour market, types of jobs women take up and abandon, the gender gap, the sectors and economic activities in which foreign women work based on Social Security Corporation data. The study also sought to learn more about the experience that women who left the labour market had with flexible work arrangements, the reasons that led women to withdraw from the labour market, and the connection to their sexual and reproductive health and the Covid-19 pandemic. The study aimed to review and analyze flexible work arrangements in the public and private sectors, identify weaknesses, gaps, and implementation challenges with respect to contradictions with some provisions in the Social Security Law, presenting possible amendments to enhance alignment between flexible work arrangements and social protection regulations (social security and health insurance), as well as presenting practical recommendations to reduce the withdrawal of women from the labour market, improve working conditions, accommodate the needs of women, achieve work-life balance, and amend current relevant policies and regulations.

- Fact sheet on the role of the media and communications in SRH advocacy and awareness :



The fact sheet aims to address key challenges facing the media, including the lack of regular and sustainable media programs on SRH, the inadequate utilization of innovative tools to communicate SRH issues, the lack of adequate investment in interactive methods such as social media platforms, the lack of trained media and communication professionals in SRH, the prevalence of false information about the side effects of modern family planning methods, weakness of education and communication programs to counteract this information, the weakness of SRH information systems, and the weakness of legislation, and mechanisms to apply a rights-based approach in SRH service delivery.

The fact sheet presented several recommendations, including the need to monitor health-related content in the media such as the published press investigation reports, news articles, radio and TV programs, and reports in order to have a clear indication of the volume and prevalence of content tackling population and reproductive health issues in Jordan. Recommendations also include conducting opinion polls on the effectiveness and impact of population and SRH content in programs, news, articles, press investigations, online portals, and social media, activating the role of liaison officers in ministries, institutions, civil society institutions, non-governmental organizations, the academia (universities and

research centers) to follow up on activities related to the national media and communication strategy, increasing understanding among media decision and policymakers such as TV and radio directors and editors in chief of the population and development nexus based on in-depth training courses, establishing specialized units in population-related communications within media organizations, increasing the budgets for developing and securing media production requirements and needs, and engaging public media institutions as partners in agreements and projects conducted with donors, so as to maximize their involvement in population and SRH issues by integrating SRH in media content in general.

- Working paper on “Connections between Mental Health and Maternal Health with regard to Childbirth for Married Syrian Refugee Women under the age of 18 in Jordan”:

HPC collaborated with the University of Jordan, Edinburgh University and Harvard University to jointly develop this paper with funding support from the Arab Council for Social Sciences. The purpose of the paper is to understand the experience of female Syrian adolescents and mothers with child marriage in the context of conflict and displacement and explore the various aspects that help to better understand vulnerability and



wellbeing in the context of emergency by focusing on factors related to resilience and fragility after child marriage.

The paper followed a qualitative research approach to ensure that the voice of women who experienced marriage under the age of 18 is heard. Narrative interviews were used as a key method to collect data from women at health care centers while receiving routine care.

The surveyed sample included Syrian women aged 18 to 24 years, who married before the age of 18, can give consent to take part in the research (mature adults), and live in Amman, Mafrq, Irbid and Zarqa governorates.

The study mainly found that the majority of participating women indicated that child marriage was a common practice in Syria, that became more prevalent during the conflict and in the context of displacement in Jordan. Many participants described child marriage as a tradition “passed on from one generation to another”. The study listed the main reasons why women would support child marriage under three main categories. The study revealed that marriage between relatives was common in the surveyed community, with the surveyed women noting that young women and their families would experience additional pressure to accept an offer for marriage coming from a relative.

Several participants confirmed that child marriage for some women is an escape from a hectic life at home. Other participants noted that child marriage increased among Syrians in Jordan because it was a way to escape life in the camp and related difficulties. Almost all participants could not complete high school.

- Study on “the motives to end the marriage for those under the age of 18 in Jordan: a guide to social implications”:

Funded by Harvard University, the study used female field researchers to collect data from Irbid, Mafrq, and Zarqa governorates. The data collection process has commenced.

• Events and activities organized or attended:

01

HPC released on 1/6/2022 the findings of two SRH studies at an event sponsored by a representative of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Health for primary health care and epidemics and director of primary health care, Dr. Riyad Al Shayyab and attended by representatives of public, civil society and international institutions.

02

Meetings organized by HPC for parents and local community organizations on 22 and 24 /5/ 2022 to test the online SRH platform for youth.

03

HPC and UNFPA held a workshop for National Strategy for SRH (2020-2030) committee members on 29/5/2022 to develop a five-year executive plan and the 2020-2021 M&E report.



04

HPC and ShareNet Jordan participated in the 1st annual conference on the impact of Climate Change on the Health Sector, organized by the Jordan Health Aid Society in cooperation with the Ministry of Health on June 7, 2022.

05

HPC and ShareNet Jordan participated in a training workshop organized by JNCW, ESCWA, UNFPA and the Department of Statistics on measuring the economic cost of violence against women.

06

A ShareNet International team visited Jordan on May 29 – June 3, 2022.

07

ShareNet-Jordan team participated in the following virtual meetings on Zoom.

08

The first meeting of the Share-Net Jordan steering committee held on 20/6/2022.

09

Project Improvement Model using the SHIRIM collaborative approach .

10

Jordan participated in the 3rd SNI conference in Colombia.

11

HPC, with the support of ShareNet, held a preparatory meeting with the technical committee of experts for strengthening public private partnership in SRH service delivery in Jordan .

director of primary health care, Dr. Riyadh Al Shaiyab and attended by representatives of public, civil society and international institutions.

The studies conducted by HPC with funding support from Share-Net International entitled “Impact of Socioeconomic Factors and Gender Dynamics on the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women and Girls in Jerash Governorate”, and “the Impact of Covid-19 on Access to Family planning Information and Services in Jordan”.



The study on the impact of socioeconomic factors and gender dynamics on the sexual and reproductive health of women in Jerash Governorate” aimed to look into the impact of socioeconomic factors and gender dynamics on the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in Jerash and identify procedural policies to improve the outcomes of SRH communication and service programs to help enhance the level of SRH of women and girls in Jerash.

- HPC released on 1/6/2022 the findings of two SRH studies at an event sponsored by a representative of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Health for primary health care and epidemics and



The study presented several findings, including that:

- Social norms pertaining to gender showed a weakness of SRH indicators of the governorate.
- The lack of women's empowerment is the underlying reason for the significant difficulties preventing women from accessing healthcare when needed.
- That many discrepancies in indicators are attributed to the nationality or education level of women.
- There are specific areas within the governorate where child marriage, polygamy and the marriage of relatives is prevalent.
- The study further found that the lack of talk about sexually transmitted diseases in schools or universities is the reason for the lack of health awareness and knowledge among youth under the age of 25.
- The multiple opportunities lost in facilities and time of accessing reproductive and sexual health advice and awareness before and after marriage.

The study and related policy brief indicated a number of procedural policies that can address the reasons behind the weak SRH indicators in Jerash and help improve them, including enhancing local communities' knowledge of SRH and women's rights and correcting misconceptions, utilizing the numerous lost opportunities to provide SRH advice and/ or services to various groups of the population who need it the most,

and enhance protection and empowerment of women and girls.

On the Other hand, the study on the "Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Accessing Family Planning Information and Services in Jordan" sought to assess the status of family planning services in Jordan during the Covid-19 pandemic, the accessibility of such services, and the obstacles and gaps faced by different sectors in providing family planning services during full and partial lockdowns. The purpose was to set the necessary recommendations to address the issues that encounter family planning programs and ensure their continuation during crises.

The study reached various findings, including that :

- The delivery of family planning services during the pandemic faced numerous obstacles and challenges due to the restrictive government measures intended to prevent the spread of the pandemic. The study also indicated found that there was a shortage of qualified service delivery personnel, that service users feared catching the Covid-19 infection at health centers, especially those that offer PCR tests, the suspension of family planning field awareness and education programs prevented access of new or previous service beneficiaries.
- The study noted that the national response to the pandemic overlooked the importance of SRH



programs and did not prioritize them during planning and implementation.

- National and executive implementation plans did not include goals and activities that ensured the continued delivery of SRH services, including family planning at times of emergency, and that there were no procedural and training manuals on family planning activities, services, and information during an emergency.

- According to the study, 33.1% of women needed to visit a service provider/ health center for consultation and family planning services during the pandemic.

- 26% of those women (who wanted to receive family planning services) could not access such services due to different reasons including the closure of service delivery centers (60% of them).

- The findings also revealed that 32.5% of women preferred and sought long-term family planning methods such as the IUD, (21.8%) preferred methods that do not require visits to service providers such as traditional methods, which enabled them to continue to use the service without requesting frequent supplies.

- Study findings further indicated that upon reviewing the impact of the pandemic on child-birth preferences among women that around (44.2%) of them stated that the changing economic situation as a result of the pandemic

impacted their desire to have children, whereas (25,4%) stated that they are considering to delay pregnancy, and (23.6%) of them indicated their desire to have less wanted births.

The study and policy brief proposed a number of policies to ensure the continued provision of family planning services at times of emergency, including the need to enhance emergency response in national policies and strategies concerning family planning to include training programs for remote consultation and service providers especially at time of emergency, enhancing mechanisms that facilitate access of target groups to family planning services and information, strengthening the provision of remote family planning consultations and services, enhancing partnerships between the public sector, private sector and civil society to ensure the continued provision of family planning information and services.



- Meetings organized by HPC for parents and local community organizations on 22 - 24 / 5 / 2022 to test the online SRH platform for youth.



The meetings aimed to present the online knowledge platform for reproductive and sexual health for youth "Darby", explain how the platform is used, and explain the information and data available on the platform. Comments and feedback from parents will be taken into consideration to make adjustments to the platform.

The platform reflects HPC's continuous efforts to strengthen community awareness of population-related issues, including SRH, especially among youth, as they are the future of Jordan and the basis for its development, prosperity, and investing in the next demographic window of opportunity, particularly population policies concerning family planning.

The platform aims to help raise awareness among members of society, improve their reproductive and sexual health, and correct misconceptions related to these issues, by providing an integrated information and data package.



- HPC and UNFPA held a workshop for National Strategy for SRH (2020-2030)

committee members on 29/5/2022 to develop a five-year executive plan and the 2020-2021 M&E report.

The workshop stressed the importance of integrating institutional interventions that reflect interventions listed in the National Strategy for Sexual and Reproductive Health (2020-2030), ensuring the achievement of desired outputs and outcomes, and identifying achievements of partners against the key outcomes of the strategy.



- HPC and Share-Net Jordan participated in the 1st annual conference on the impact of Climate Change on the Health Sector, organized by the Jordan Health Aid Society in cooperation with the Ministry of Health on June 7, 2022. The conference aimed mainly to measure the impact of climate change on the health sector as well as the impact of the health sector on climate change to achieve the following goals:



advocate the steps taken by Jordan to combat climate change, shed light on the impact of the transboundary impact of climate change, reviewing experiences of neighboring and distant countries in dealing with climate change, reviewing related government procedures in neighboring countries, increasing public awareness of climate change risks, stressing the need for cooperation to combat climate change, as well as reviewing and discussing working papers drafted by participating experts. During the conference, the link between climate change and sexual and reproductive health was presented.

- HPC and Share-Net Jordan participated in a training workshop organized by JNCW, ESCWA, UNFPA and the Department of Statistics on measuring the economic cost of violence against women.

The workshop aimed to establish a team that can interpret survey results in Jordan, conduct statistical analyses, use calculation formulae and draft reports.

Moreover, the workshop covered theory and practice to allow participants to use statistical tools to measure and analyze the economic cost, and receive training in measuring direct costs, healthcare service costs, the costs connected to

women going out to obtain services, legal services costs, costs related to replacing damaged items because of violence, and indirect costs.

- A ShareNet International team visited Jordan on May 29 – June 3, 2022.



The team comprised Dorine Thomissen, Share-Net International Coordinator, Kimberly Meijers, Hub Coordinator and Knowledge Specialist, Rhian Farnworth, Share-Net International online platform specialist. During the visit, the team met with HPC Acting Secretary General, Ms. Rania Al Abbadi, to discuss local priorities, review Share-Net International's activities, discuss overall progress, partnership between Share-Net Jordan and Share-Net International, the way forward, and learn more about the Jordanian context with respect to sensitive issues and the rights-based approach.

The team also met with Share-Net Jordan's team to look into means to attract more members,



diversify the membership base to focus more on grassroots and youth-led organizations and regional members, and discuss progress in the collaborative approach and regional work. In addition, the meeting discussed ways to exchange information and ideas within the scope of collaboration between Sharenet Jordan and Share-Net International, reviewed the communication strategy for SRH issues (2022-2024) and the related executive plan, and media coverage procedures at Share-Net Jordan.



The team met as well with the Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Netherlands in Jordan, Marc Hasselaar, and gave an update about new country hubs, mid-term reviews, and strategic planning. The meeting also explored ways to strengthen links between sexual and reproductive rights and human rights, increasing cooperation, and securing additional funding from other partners/ embassies. The team met as

well with grant recipients including Dr. Hala Bawadi, an instructor from the University of Jordan Nursing College and Share-Net Jordan member. Dr. Badawi received a grant at the 2nd Share-Net International Conference to develop a policy brief on the “experiences and perceptions of adolescents, parents, and teachers regarding comprehensive sex education: multi-country qualitative research. The team met as well with Dr. Dua’a Al Ajarmeh, and Mr. Nart Dokajah from the Information and Research Center-King Hussein Foundation, who received a small grant from Share-Net International to conduct research on “correcting common misconceptions on SRH in Jordan”, and discussed their experience and perspectives on using products in practice.



In addition, a meeting was held with Dr. Ibrahim Aqel, the Director of the Institute for Family Health, and the IFH team, and visited an IFH center in Eastern Amman that delivers



youth-friendly SRH services, met the team there and discussed SRH services offered by IFH and the center.

- The first meeting of the Share-Net Jordan steering committee held on 20 / 6 / 2022.

Chaired by HPC acting secretary general Rania Al Abbadi, the meeting reviewed a presentation on Share-Net-Jordan's achievements in the first six months of 2022, and the findings of the SNI mid-term review report for (2020-2022) for Share-Net Jordan and the contained recommendations. The meeting also included a general discussion and explored the next steps and any priority issues that may be included in the Share-Net 2023 plan. It is worth mentioning that the Share-Net-Jordan steering committee has among its members now a representative of the youth to ensure that their voice is heard in the committee.

- Project Improvement Model using the SHIRIM collaborative approach :

One : Share-Net-Jordan's core team participated in the second learning session organized by Share-Net International for online knowledge platforms in (the Netherlands, Jordan, Bangladesh, Burundi, Columbia, Ethiopia, and Burkina Faso) on (17-24/5/2022) as part of the collaborative

approach program of 2022 and 2023. The core team of Share-Net-Jordan was formed for the purpose of participating in this learning session.

The learning session covered several topics including, sensitive topics in fragile contexts, engaging the local team in creating and utilizing knowledge products in policy and practice, and building the capacity of participants in strategies to impact the translation and utilization of SRH knowledge using the social environment analysis model.

Two : further to the first Share-Net learning session on the collaborative approach in knowledge transfer and utilization at the local and global levels concerning the parent's and adolescents' relationship with respect to SRH information, HPC and Share-Net Jordan held on 26/6/2022 the second training workshop in "the collaborative approach in the transfer and utilization of knowledge at the local and global levels in relation to the parents- adolescents relationship with regard to SRH information. The workshop was organized with funding support from SNI and attended by local experts and the target group.

The workshop aimed to utilize the collaborative approach to transfer and use acquired knowledge of partners with respect to the parents-adolescents



relationship with regard to SRH information through creating knowledge products that help parents educate their children in the field of SRH, and promote communication between them.

This follow-up workshop consisted of sessions that aimed to further build participants' capacity in strategies that impact the translation and utilization of SRH knowledge using the social environment analysis model and presented the findings of a survey on the information needed by adolescents and the best means to help parents convey information to them or answer their questions. The workshop also overviewed national efforts in developing a manual for healthcare providers to educate parents in adolescent SRH issues. The manual was jointly developed by the Jordanian Ministry of Health, UNFPA-Jordan Office, and the Royal Health Awareness. Moreover, the workshop included brainstorming sessions to identify the questions that adolescents will look for answers to from their parents, and distribute roles to members of the expert's committee to answer the questions and come up with a user-friendly knowledge product for parents and enhance the relationship between parents and adolescents in this field.

The first workshop focused on building the capacity of participants in the collaborative approach,

which is intended to make improvements and relies on disseminating and adapting existing knowledge with local experts to achieve a common goal through sharing experiences in making improvements in a specific topic, as highlighted by many HPC and Share-Net Jordan studies, addressing the need to facilitate the sharing of SRH information by parents with their children, gain their trust and understand their needs.



- Share-Net Jordan team participated in the following virtual meetings on Zoom:

- Bi-Monthly Coordinators Meeting, 12/4/2022
- Engaging men and boys iCoP meeting, 13/4/2022.
- Regional Approach Share-Net Jordan, 28/4/2022.
- CCCom meeting, 7/6/2022.
- Bi-Monthly Coordinators Meeting, 14/7/2022.
- SNI Board Meeting, 27/6/2022.



- Jordan participated in the 3rd SNI conference in Colombia :

A five-member team from Jordan comprising two from Share-Net Jordan, one from the Royal Health Awareness Society, the Secretary General of the Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, an assistant to the SG, and a youth representative, participated in the third Share-Net International Cocreation Conference and "engaging in knowledge translation together", which is organized in collaboration with Share-Net Colombia (5-7/7/2022) under the banner "Access to quality information on sexual and reproductive health and rights technologies, accessibility, cultural translation, new challenges as "battling disinformation" alongside all Share-Net country hubs involved in this project.

The conference aims at translating knowledge into a toolkit to help Netherlands-based SNI members and participants use evidence to improve policy and practice, identify areas in which change is needed and the means and processes needed to improve policies or programs.

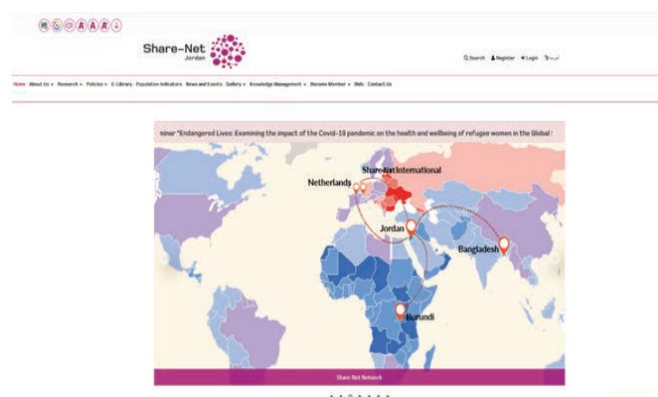
- HPC, with the support of Share-Net, held a preparatory meeting with the technical committee of experts for strengthening

public-private partnership in SRH service delivery in Jordan on 11/5/2022.

The meeting aimed to discuss the recommendations of the study on "Enhancing the Participation of the Private Sector in the provision of SRH services in Jordan" and identify the next steps to build the partnership.

- A meeting was also held via Zoom with relevant experts, and it was agreed to prepare an advocacy plan for this year 2022 for decision-makers in the pharmaceutical sector so that the model could be applied to the pharmaceutical sector.

• **Maintenance of the online SRH knowledge platform :** (44) recent studies were uploaded to the platform, and the number of Share-Net Jordan members reached a total of (233) members of which (212) are individuals and (21) are institutional, whereas the number of visitors of the platform in the second quarter of 2022 reached (86) including (41) females and (45) males.





■ **Second: Population and Development**

• **Events and activities organized or attended:**

01

HPC held a meeting via Zoom on 24/4/2022 with concerned officials from the Iraqi Ministry of Planning to share expertise in population and development issues.

02

HPC participated in the 55th session of the Commission on Population and Development, at the United Nations in New York on (25-29/4/2022), under the banner "Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth."

03

HPC, in collaboration with the Islamic Center Charity Society, with funding from the Saudi Development Fund, implemented the "empowerment of Jordanian Women and Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan" project under the supervision of the Arab Women Center for Training and Research "Kawthar".

04

HPC conducted field visits to the municipalities of Greater Jerash, Um Eljmal, Aie, Al Arda, and Greater Salt to review mechanisms of integrating the population and gender dimensions in municipal plans. Funded by UNFPA, the project aims to build and enhance the capacities of municipal council members.

05

HPC participated in the regional high-level meeting on young people learning, skilling and social inclusion, held on 23-24/5/2022.

06

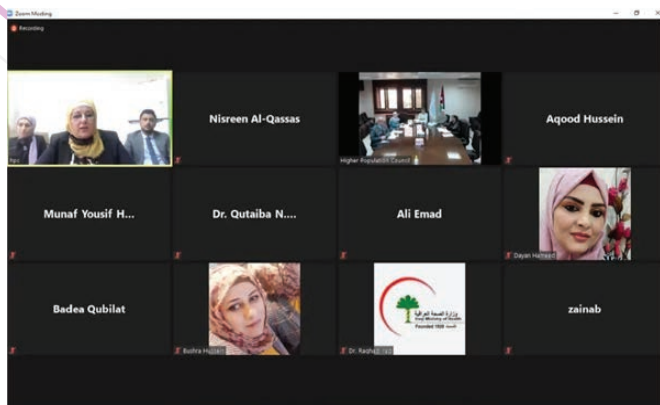
HPC participated in the 4th Research Forum organized by the Arab Council for Social Sciences on 20-24/6/2022 in Beirut.

- HPC held a meeting via Zoom on 24/4/2022 with concerned officials from the Iraqi Ministry of Planning to share expertise in population and development issues.

The two parties reiterated the strong relations between the two countries and the need to share experiences in different fields including population and development.

The meeting overviewed the main functions, programs and strategic goals of HPC as well as the National Population Strategy (2021-2030) and means to realize and invest in the demographic window of opportunity.

The Iraqi counterparts, on the other hand, overviewed their national population policy paper, rationale for updating it and spoke about the demographic dividend in Iraq.



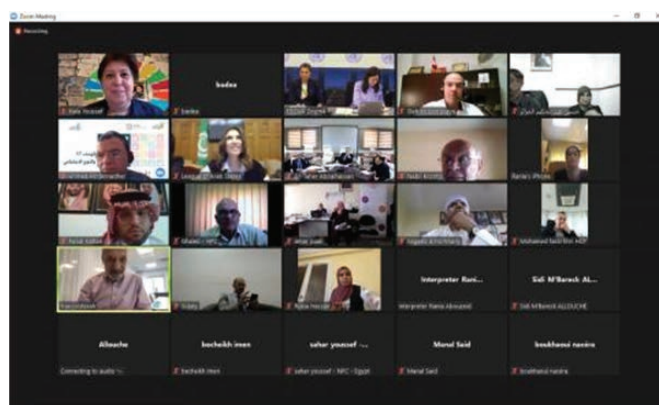
- HPC participated in the 55th session of the Commission on Population and Development, at the United Nations in New York on (25-29/4/2022), under the banner “Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth.”

At the plenary session, HPC presented, via video, Jordan's position on (population and sustainable development, "sustainable and comprehensive economic growth").

HPC also participated, via “Zoom”, in an event, on the sidelines of the session, on “Population and Comprehensive Development in the Arab Region: Rebuilding Better for All”, organized by the Secretariat of the League of the Arab States / Technical Secretariat of the Arab Council for Population and Development in cooperation with UNFPA and ESCWA, with the participation of representatives from member states, ACPD members, academics and experts. The event comes within the scope of implementing Resolution No.

(7) of ACPD issued at its third regular session.

The event tackled the links between population, inclusion, and sustainable development in the Arab region, and focused on reflecting on the lessons learned from the Covid-19 pandemic and ways to rebuild better for all individuals to ensure comprehensive economic growth and sustainable development.



- HPC, in collaboration with the Islamic Center Charity Society, with funding from the Saudi Development Fund, implemented the “empowerment of Jordanian Women and Syrian Refugee Women in Jordan” project



under the supervision of the Arab Women Center for Training and Research "Kawthar".

The project aimed to enhance the vocational and knowledge capacity of Jordanian and Syrian refugee women and girls in Jordan to help join the labour market, secure an income, and improve their own and their family's living conditions, thereby achieving economic empowerment for a dignified living.

Through the HPC, the training needs of women were identified, namely sewing and embroidery, beauty, photography, and online marketing.

The project's activities will be complemented by educational and awareness sessions for trainees in enhancing their sense of responsibility, transformative leadership and self-confidence, protection against violence and exploitation, women's rights, and comprehensive empowerment.



- HPC conducted field visits to the municipalities of Greater Jerash, Um Eljmal, Aie,

Al Arda, and Greater Salt to review mechanisms of integrating the population and gender dimensions in municipal plans.

Funded by UNFPA, the project aims to build and enhance the capacities of municipal council members.

The visits focused on explaining the importance of integrating the population and gender dimensions in municipal plans, reviewing the steps taken by municipalities to do so, and affirming the need to advocate related programs and initiatives with members of municipal councils and local communities to enhance the integration of population and gender dimensions in municipal plans.





- HPC participated in the regional high-level meeting on young people learning, skilling and social inclusion, held on 23-24/5/2022. At the conference, HPC gave a presentation on the demographic window of opportunity and youth participation in the labour market, and participated in the discussion session on realizing the full potential of youth.



- HPC participated in the 4th Research Forum organized by the Arab Council for Social Sciences on 20-24/6/2022 in Beirut.

The forum was attended by recipients of grants and fellowships from 12 various sessions of the ACSS, and tackled topics including: Environmentalism, Poverty and Social Justice Movements: Interdisciplinary Approaches, Health and Livelihoods in the Arab Region: Welfare, Fragility, and Conflict, New Ideologies Workshop (Gender Resistance), Postdoctoral for Short-Term

exchange fellowship program between ACSS and FMSH in France, Junior Fellowship Program, Arts Research Program, Small Grants Program (Research Ethics in the Social Sciences).

HPC presented at the conference a working paper entitled “The Connection between Mental Health and Maternal Health with respect to childbirth among married Syrian refugee women under the age of 18”.



■ Three: Latest local and regional reports and publications related to population and development

- Technical brief Note : Covid-19 Preparedness and Response- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Maternal and Neonatal Health, and Covid-19.

Drafted by the United Nations Population Fund in 2020, the note contained the following key messages :



- While there is no current evidence that Covid-19 has negative effects on pregnant women, physical changes and changes in the immune system during and after pregnancy must be taken into account. It is necessary that all women have a safe delivery and continuous antenatal and postnatal care, including screening tests in accordance with national guidelines and standards, especially in epidemic hotspots, where services for pregnant women, those in labor, and breastfeeding women are negatively affected.
- Keeping the health system functional: The continuous provision of SRHR services and information, protecting health workers, and limiting the spread of COVID-19 should be maintained.
- During public health emergencies, human and financial resources are often diverted from different health programs to respond to outbreaks of infectious diseases, thereby affecting the delivery of SRH services as a response to the pandemic is prioritized.
- The treatment of pregnant women who suffer from respiratory diseases must be given the highest priority due to the increased risk of negative consequences. Prenatal, neonatal, and maternal health units must be separated from the Covid-19 cases.

- Monitoring and response systems must be disaggregated by sex, age, gender, and pregnancy status. Where necessary, special attention should be given to vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, adolescents, older persons, indigenous people, people of African descent, refugees and migrants.

Link to the report :


https://arabstates.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/COVID-19_%20Maternal%20%26%20Newborn%20Health_23March2020_AR.pdf


Share-Net Jordan


The Knowledge Platform on
Sexual and Reproductive Health
and Reproductive Rights




<https://share-net-jordan.org.jo/>

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