

**Share-Net**  
Jordan



Knowledge Platform  
For sexual and reproductive health

# **QUARTERLY PERIODIC BULLETIN**

## **ISSUE NUMBER 21**

**Share-Net Periodical – Q3**  
**2021**

## Preface:

Share-Net Jordan is pleased to release the 21st issue of the third quarter for the year 2021 periodic bulletin, which comes within the framework of Share-Net Jordan's commitment to keep researchers, decision makers, policy setters, programme makers and research agencies well informed about local and global developments in the field of sexual and reproductive health.

The bulletin deals with the most prominent studies, strategies, reports and also national plans in the process of being prepared, among which are :a study and summary of policies entitled "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on information and services of family planning in Jordan", a study and summary of policies entitled "Impact of social and economic factors and gender dynamics on sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in Jerash Governorate"; study analysis of the situation of international migration in Jordan, a fact sheet entitled "The relationship between migration and gender", a fact sheet entitled "Links between population dynamics and gender", communication strategy on sexual and reproductive health issues 2022-2024, preparation of a national plan to implement Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi Summit 2019: International Conference on Population and Development +25 / Accelerate the promise for the years (2021-2030).

The bulletin also addresses the most prominent events and activities carried out and participated in such as taking part in the celebration of World Population Day , and the launching of policy summaries relevant to sexual and reproductive health in Jordan entitled 'Links between climate change and sexual and reproductive health in women's economic participation and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan, the role of accountability in the sustainability of sexual and reproductive health programs during times of crisis and the

fragile situations in Jordan, convening of the first meeting of the committee of practitioners formed from university students in the Schools of Nursing at the University of Jordan and Al-AlBayt University on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for the youth; participating in a regional meeting on "sharing experiences and reviewing best practices: Islam and reproductive health", an introductory workshop was held on the role of the Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan in the field of population, development and sexual and reproductive health issues for concerned faculty members in Jordanian public universities and the annual meeting of Share-Net members was held. During the third quarter, a number of members of the Share-Net Jordan team were hosted on radio and television talk shows to discuss topics related to sexual and reproductive health.

In addition to maintaining the research base on the knowledge platform's website for sexual and reproductive health, by registering 23 new members (m/f) the total number of registered members was 236 (m/f), and the number of visitors during the third quarter was 187 visitors, including 104 females and 83 males.

## Contents of the Newsletter:

Sexual and reproductive health

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Population and development

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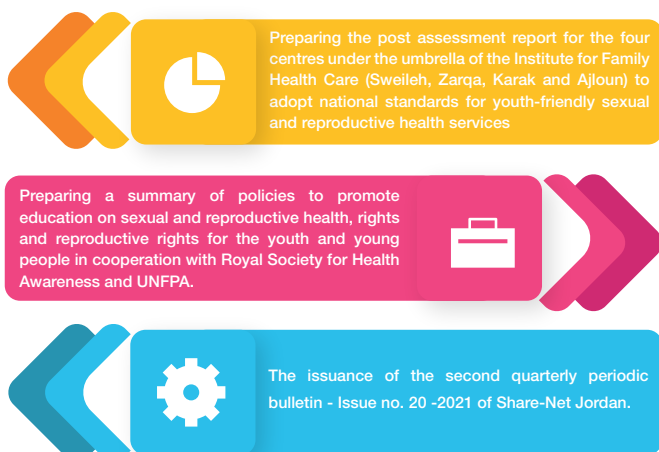
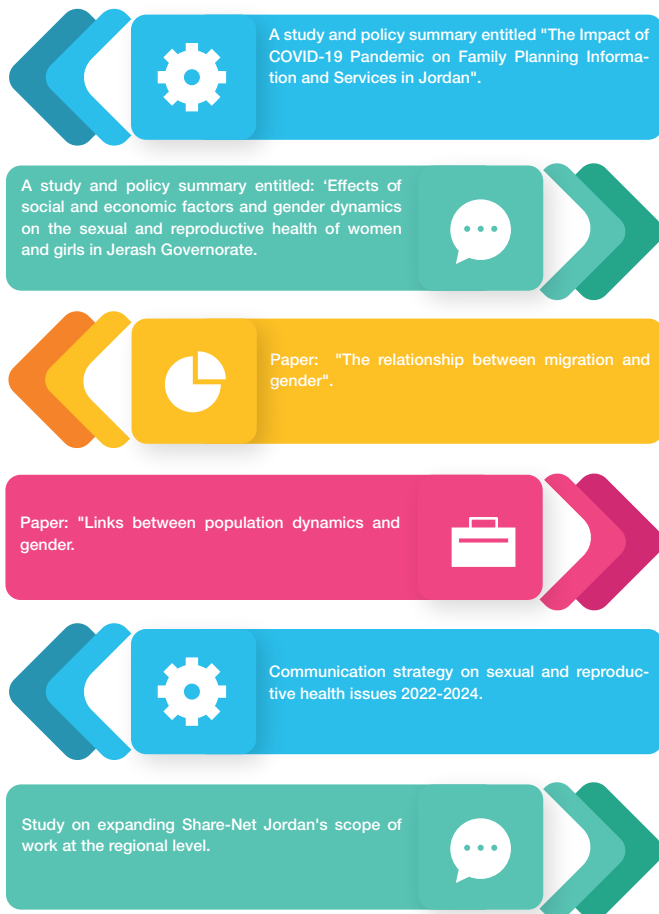
The most recent local, regional and international reports and publications related to population and development issues

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## First: Sexual and reproductive health:

❖ National studies, reports and plans:

### - Studies of Share-Net Jordan understudy now and under implementation:



### - Studies of Share-Net Jordan understudy now and under implementation:

#### ■ A study and policy summary entitled "The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Family Planning Information and Services in Jordan":

Reference conditions for the study and the policy summary were prepared, the implementation of the study was referred to experts for preparation, and a committee of practitioners was formed to follow up on the implementation of the study. The study aims, in general, to develop a comprehensive and solid operational framework to rapidly address the repercussions of crises in providing information and services on family planning.

#### ■ A study and policy summary entitled: 'Effects of social and economic factors and gender dynamics on the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in Jerash Governorate.'

Reference conditions for the study and the policy summary were prepared, the implementation of the study was referred to experts for preparation, and a committee of practitioners was formed to follow up on the implementation of the study.

Overall, the study aims to examine the effects of social and economic factors and gender dynamics on the sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in Jerash Governorate by exploring the role of cultural norms, social customs and gender dynamics that have contributed to the decline in the sexual and reproductive health outcomes of women and girls on issues of marriage, reproduction, family planning and violence against women (specified in the study), and proposing mechanisms for sustainable change to improve the level of sexual and reproductive health of women and girls in the Governorate.

The first meeting of the committee of expertise practitioners in Jerash Governorate was held on August 6th , 2021, and included a group of experts represented by the directors of Jerash Directorates of Health, Education and Social Development, Jerash Governorate, UNRWA, Princess Basma Center for Human Development, International Medical Commission, and gender and reproductive health experts in these institutions. Experts presented the committee with the

study's methodology, objectives and tools, and they received feedback from the committee.

■ **Paper: "The relationship between migration and gender":**

The first draft of the paper has been prepared, based on an office review, highlighted the theoretical frameworks between migration and gender and the forms and trends of their relationships, and paved the way for a clearer understanding of the impact of gender on migration, how gender interacts with migration in terms of the direction of migrant flows, how migration affects gender roles and relationships, how the positive link between migration, gender equality and women's empowerment can be strengthened and the course of interventions that may influence them.

■ **Paper: "Links between population dynamics and gender":**

The first draft of the paper, based on an office review, highlighted theoretical frameworks between population dynamics and gender and the forms and trends of their relationships, and paved the way for a clearer understanding of the course of interventions that may influence them.

■ **Communication strategy on sexual and reproductive health issues 2022-2024:**

Reference conditions of the strategy were prepared and an expert was commissioned. The strategy aims to build a communication agenda supportive of Share-Net Jordan's efforts in the field of sexual and reproductive health issues at the domestic and external levels through the implementation of systematic and well-studied communication activities that contribute to the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, raise public awareness and gain the support of decision makers on these issues, and develop appropriate tools taking into account the youth, women and rights.

■ **Study on expanding Share-Net Jordan's scope of work at the regional level** which aims to help understand the role and added value of the expansion of Share-Net in the Arab region.

The study includes an analysis of the current situation and the feasibility of examining the role and added value of Share-Net expansion in the region. The analysis will include: competitor risk assessment, cost and benefit analysis, mapping potential partnership organizations and networks to become members of Share-Net, evaluation to avoid overlapping of similar activities, evaluation of funding opportunities for regional activities or for a regional centre.

- **Preparing the post assessment report for the four centres under the umbrella of the Institute for Family Health Care (Sweileh, Zarqa, Karak and Ajloun) to adopt national standards for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services:**

Pre assessment reports of the four centers under the umbrella of the Institute for Family Health Care (Sweileh, Zarqa, Karak and Ajloun) were drafted by mid June 2021. A post assessment report is underway in September to determine the extent to which the four centres adhere to requirements of national standards for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services and which are to be funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands.

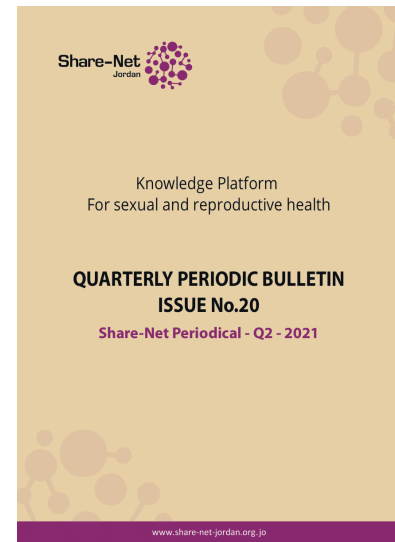
- **Preparing a summary of policies to promote education on sexual and reproductive health, rights and reproductive rights for the youth and young people in cooperation with Royal Society for Health Awareness and UNFPA.**

The summary offers an overview of the importance of sex and reproductive health education, reproductive rights and any available research material needed for this education, characteristics of education about sexual and reproductive health and certain misconceptions in that regard, some challenges to education about sexual and reproductive health in Jordan besides a set of proposed policies which contain, most notably, the following:

1. The responsibility of coordinating programmes and projects related to sexual and reproductive health for the youth and young people and follow up and evaluate the impact of these programs and projects on a public institution such as the Higher Population Council.
2. Monitor the necessary budgets for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health programs, including education on sexual and reproductive health.
3. Develop a comprehensive guide to education on sexual and reproductive health for the young people and adults.
4. Integrate basic concepts of sexual and reproductive health into school and university curricula and community programs to ensure their access to all groups of young people and adults in and out of schools and universities.

- The issuance of the second quarterly periodic bulletin - Issue no. 20 -2021 of Share-Net Jordan, which comes as part of Share-Net Jordan's

keenness to keep researchers, decision, policy and program makers and research agencies well informed with regard to local and global developments in the field of sexual and reproductive health; the bulletin addressed the most notable accomplishments achieved by Share-Net Jordan during the second quarter of 2021.



## • Events and activities that have been carried out and participated in:

<p><b>06</b></p> <p>On August 2nd , 2021, the Higher Population Council organized a follow-up workshop to implement national standards for youth-friendly reproductive and sexual health services, in collaboration with the King Hussein Foundation and the Institute for Family Health.</p>	<p><b>05</b></p> <p>On July 27th , 2021, the Higher Population Council participated in a meeting via 'video conferencing' on "Sharing experiences and reviewing best practices: Islam and reproductive health" organized by the General Secretariat of the Arab League in cooperation with Partners in Population and Development.</p>	<p><b>04</b></p> <p>The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan held the annual meeting on August 31st 2021 for members of Share-Net Jordan who represent various national public, private and voluntary entities, international organizations and academic institutions.</p>	<p><b>03</b></p> <p>The Higher Population Council held an introductory workshop on August 29th 2021, for faculty male and female members in the departments concerned at the public universities on the role of the Council and Share-Net Jordan on population, development and sexual and reproductive health issues at the national and regional levels.</p>	<p><b>02</b></p> <p>The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan held on July 7th , 2021 the first meeting of the committee of practitioners, comprised of university students from the School of Nursing at the University of Jordan and Al Albayt University on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for youth</p>	<p><b>01</b></p> <p>The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan launched three policy briefs on sexual and reproductive health issues in Jordan.</p>
<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Launching of the outcomes of the study "Promoting private sector participation in the provision of reproductive and sexual health services in Jordan".</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>The participation of Share-Net Jordan team in the annual meeting of members of The Share-Net International, September 28th - 30th 2021.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Share-Net Jordan team participated in the third phase of the training program on the Share-Net International Rapid Improvement Module, SHIRIM, using the collaborative approach and organized by Share-Net International.</p>	<p><b>09</b></p> <p>Establishing and developing an electronic knowledge platform for young people about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.</p>	<p><b>08</b></p> <p>A delegation from the Higher Population Council and Yarmouk University paid a visit to the University of the West of Scotland and held meetings of technical and coordination nature with those concerned at the University. This was conducted in line with the project "Empowering Syrian refugee women in situations of prolonged crises by strengthening their abilities to lead and manage small enterprises from a gender perspective".</p>	<p><b>07</b></p> <p>The Higher Population Council held a training of trainers course on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights; the course was carried out in two phases: the first phase was on July 12-15, 2021, and the second on September 27-30, 2021. The training came as part of a project towards more sustainable services and solutions for sexual and reproductive health needs and reproductive rights for young people and refugees in Jordan.</p>

**- The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan launched three policy briefs on sexual and reproductive health issues in Jordan during the meeting held on July 27th , 2021 with the participation of representatives of relevant national entities.**

The first policy brief was entitled "Links between climate change and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan"; the second summary was entitled "The impact of female school dropouts on women's economic participation and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan", and the third was entitled "The role of accountability in the sustainability of sexual and reproductive health programmes during crisis and the fragile situations in Jordan". The summary of the policies "Links between climate change and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan" aims to bring attention to the importance of providing the very much needed medical education so as to raise awareness on the impact of climate change on sexual and reproductive health.

The brief of the policies "The impact of female school dropouts on women's economic participation and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan" examined the problem of school dropouts in terms of the causes and consequences of this problem focusing on the dropout of female students at the basic stage (grades 1-10); it also examined the relation between school dropouts and poverty, the economic status of the family, as well as the relationship between school dropouts and child marriages, domestic violence, child labour, education and reproductive health, sexual education, and the importance of raising awareness amongst families on the dangers of school dropouts and the role of the school environment in general in reducing the problem of dropouts, in addition to the role of educational supervisors and applying rules and regulations in order to eliminate school dropouts. The brief of the policies "The role of accountability

in the sustainability of sexual and reproductive health programmes during crisis and the fragile situations in Jordan" aimed at improving access to people affected by crisis and fragile environments to sexual and reproductive health information and services, reproductive rights and better sexual and reproductive health care, as well as accelerating progress in achieving the relevant national and sustainable development goals.



**-The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan held on July 7th , 2021 the first meeting of the committee of practitioners, comprised of university students from the School of Nursing at the University of Jordan and Al Albayt University on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for youth.**

The committee was formed according to specifications and criteria set by the Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan. The first meeting targeted committee members from the University of Jordan.

During the first meeting, students were briefed on the achievements of the Council and Share-Net Jordan in the field of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Committee members were also informed of their tasks through the committee; subsequent meetings will be held to help students perform their tasks. A workshop was held for students of the School of Nursing at Al Albayt University on September 14th 2021.



**-The Higher Population Council held an introductory workshop on August 29th 2021, for faculty male and female members in the departments concerned at the public universities on the role of the Council and Share-Net Jordan on population, development and sexual and reproductive health issues at the national and regional levels.**

During the workshop, the role of the HPC as a national reference entity for all population issues and information related to development was highlighted and the fact that it contributes to the development of policies, strategies and action plans. It was also noted that the HPC is an incubator for the Share-Net Jordan project, which is one of the knowledge platforms of Share-Net International in the Netherlands, which has been in practice since 2016 and will remain until the end of 2024. One of the main goals of HPC is to support research related to sexual and reproductive health and link it to other variables with the participation of stakeholders from partners in different sectors, facilitating the dissemination of knowledge on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights issues, both through online participation or through non-electronic communication, and building the capacity of key partners to point out the knowledge gaps that have been identified on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights issues in Jordan.



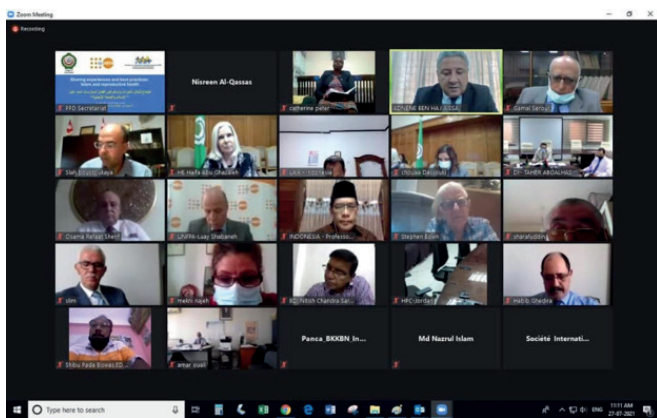
**- The Higher Population Council and Share-Net Jordan held the annual meeting on August 31st 2021 for members of Share-Net Jordan who represent various national public, private and voluntary entities, international organizations and academic institutions.**

The aim of the meeting was to inform Share-Net Jordan members of the project's accomplishments that were achieved in 2021 and its future aspirations for 2022, and the small grants provided by Share-Net Netherlands to Jordan for 2021.



**- On July 27th , 2021, the Higher Population Council participated in a meeting via 'video conferencing' on "Sharing experiences and reviewing best practices: Islam and reproductive health"organized by the General Secretariat of the Arab League in cooperation with Partners in Population and Development.**

The main objectives of the meeting, which included participants from member states of the Arab Council for Population and Development and Partners in Population and Development, were to discuss ways to transfer knowledge and share experiences in population and development issues between countries, to promote the exchange of experiences and achievements to enrich field experiences and best practices, and to provide a framework for policy approaches in the field of reproductive health.



- On August 2nd, 2021, the Higher Population Council organized a follow-up workshop to implement national standards for youth-friendly reproductive and sexual health services, in collaboration with the King Hussein Foundation and the Institute for Family Health.



-The Higher Population Council held a training of trainers course on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights; the course was carried out in two phases: the first phase was on July 12-15, 2021, and the second on September 27-30, 2021. The training came as part of a project towards more sustainable services and solutions for sexual and reproductive health needs and reproductive rights for young people and refugees in Jordan. This was executed in partnership with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Kit Royal Tropical Institute and Belink Academy, local municipal council partners from Yarmouk University and Jordan Ahl Al Jabal Association, and was funded by the Dutch International Organization for Education (Nuffic).

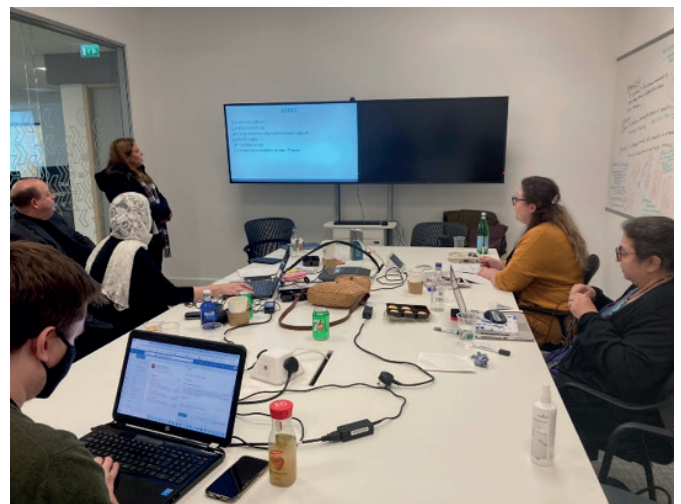
The objectives of the project are to design a unified approach based on international standards to implement and coordinate efforts in a more structural method to address sexual and reproductive health issues effectively and efficiently, with a particular focus on Jordan's most vulnerable communities to improve cooperation between key stakeholders (government organizations, information institutions and community organizations), and to improve the knowledge and skills of trainers on concepts of sexual and reproductive health and gender equality through the establishment of a joint academy for training on sexual and reproductive rights and health with a special emphasis on gender awareness and human rights.

**- A delegation from the Higher Population Council and Yarmouk University paid a visit to the University of the West of Scotland and held meetings of technical and coordination nature with those concerned at the University. This was conducted in line with the project "Empowering Syrian refugee women in situations of prolonged crises by strengthening their abilities to lead and manage small enterprises from a gender perspective".**

The project aims to empower a group of Syrian refugee women who have suffered prolonged humanitarian crisis and exacerbated gender-based violence during the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting closure through strengthening their capacities and allowing them to gain the skills and knowledge needed to facilitate their situational integration into society by allowing them to acquire leadership and small business management skills with emphasis on empowerment and gender equality. This would be a new beginning and motivation for women to start liberating themselves and change their lives and their children's lives to help them work and improve theirs and their families' living conditions and contribute to their shift from being asylum seekers to "asylum speakers". Among the activities that took place during the work of the technical commission, experts and academics from the University of the West of Scotland discussed the results, observations and recommendations brought to attention through the activities of the project, parts of which were achieved through the Higher Population Council and Yarmouk University during June and July 2021 under the name of "Empowerment through the promotion of capabilities in entrepreneurship and small businesses management from a gender perspective." This included conducting a course to empower a small group of Syrian refugee women who were part of a study on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on gender-based violence on

Syrian women and girls organized by the Higher Population Council in cooperation with the University of the West of Scotland. Topics prepared for the training course were reviewed; topics that could be clarified in future courses were discussed more broadly along with topics that could be abbreviated and those that can be added to training were also reviewed.

During the technical mission meetings, experts and academics from the University of the West of Scotland discussed future aspirations through brainstorming sessions.

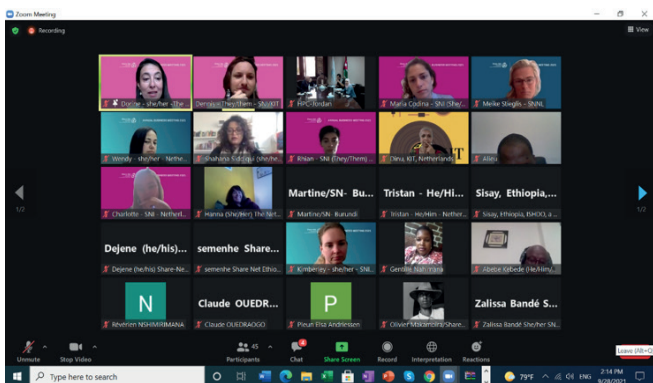


**- Establishing and developing an electronic knowledge platform for young people about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.**

The aim of this platform is to contribute in raising awareness and improving reproductive and sexual health of young people by providing an integrated package of information and data. A party concerned with implementation was contracted, and the platform project is now in process.

**- Share-Net Jordan team participated in the third phase of the training program on the Share-Net International Rapid Improvement Module, SHIRIM, using the collaborative approach and organized by Share-Net International, which was adapted to be used as a mechanism for starting and developing the capacity of Share-Net members in centers from different countries.**

**- The participation of Share-Net Jordan team in the annual meeting of members of The Share-Net International, September 28th - 30th 2021.** Share-Net knowledge platforms from seven centres in various countries provided their most important achievements for 2021 and their future aspirations. Share-Net Jordan coordinator Ali Al-Mutlaq presented the most important achievements of Share-Net Jordan in 2021 and future aspirations. The meeting included extensive discussions on the sustainability of funding and setting priorities and issues of importance in the field of sexual and reproductive health, as well as the integration of young people and their participation in the exchange of views on sexual and reproductive health.



**- Launching of the outcomes of the study "Promoting private sector participation in the provision of reproductive and sexual health services in Jordan".**

This took place during the meeting held on September 26th 2021, which aimed to analyze the status of reproductive health services in the private sector in terms of health policies regulating their work and quality of services, volume of coverage, manpower and access to target groups, as well as identifying the drives, current experiences and obstructive factors facing the for-profit private sector to determine the extent of its commitment to the implementation of initiatives and reproductive

and sexual health programmes and contributing to the sustainability of services and comprehensive development as a supporting partner for the government sector. The study also aims at identifying partnership mechanisms and methodologies and cooperation between the private sector, the government sector and other sectors in terms of improving the environment policies, determining services and their quality, and establishing the foundation for the implementation of reproductive and sexual health programmes to promote and achieve development goals and improve health outcomes in Jordan, as well as the proposal of health models based on scientific results to strengthen the partnership between the for-profit private sector and the government sector in achieving health reproductive goals in Jordan that respond to global changes and urgent health conditions.



## ○ Radio and television talk shows for members of the Share-Net Jordan team:



Secretary General of the Higher Population Council/ Chairperson of the Steering Committee of Share-Net Jordan, Dr. Abla Amawi, was hosted on Radio Al Balad on August 3rd 2021 to talk about the importance of integrating population dynamics and population dimension within the frameworks of national and local social and economic plans from a human rights and gender perspective; Dr. Amawi also addressed the population opportunity (concept, policies and issues.)



Share-Net Jordan team member Ghalib al-Azza was hosted on The University of Jordan radio on April 4th 2021, to talk about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on newborns in Jordan.



Share-Net Jordan team member Ghalib al-Azza was hosted on Sawa Radio, Armed Forces Radio and on Ro'ya TV on July 11th 2021 on the occasion of World Population Day.



Share-Net Jordan coordinator Ali Al-Mutlaq was hosted on Radio Al Balad on August 17th 2021 to talk about the study "Promoting private sector participation in the provision of sexual and reproductive health services in Jordan".



On August 24th 2021, Share-Net Jordan team member Ghalib al-Azza was hosted on Radio Al Balad to talk about the policy summary, 'Impact of female school dropouts on women's economic participation and sexual and reproductive health in Jordan.'

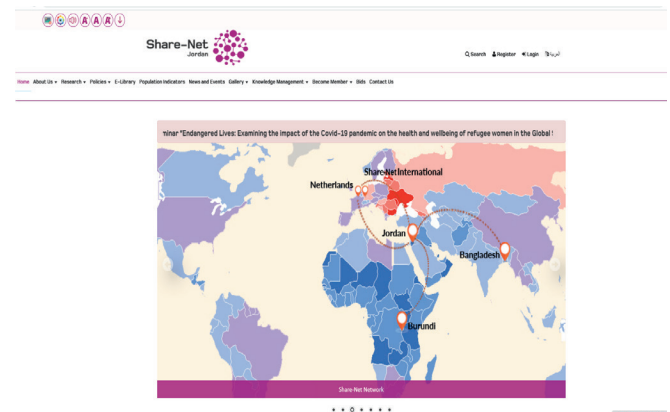


On August 24th , 2021, Share-Net Jordan team member Manal Ghazzawi was hosted on Radio Al Balad to talk about sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in an environment of fragility, conflict and crisis.



Share-Net Jordan coordinator Ali Al-Mutlaq was hosted on Jordan University Radio on September 1st , 2021 to talk about the annual meeting of members of Share-Net Jordan.

- Electronic Knowledge Platform website on Sexual and Reproductive Health was made permanent, 23 new male/ female members were registered to bring the total number of registered members to 236; number of visitors in the third quarter was 187 with 104 females and 83 males.



## ❖ Grants and projects:

### • Grants:

- The Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHD) received a small grant from Share-Net International to develop "specifically designed training units" to redefine harmful social norms affecting adolescent sexual health and their well-being; these training units aim to enable adolescents to influence sexual and reproductive health decisions that concern them in order to achieve their own well-being.
- The Information and Research Center /King Hussein Foundation received a small grant from Share-Net International on correcting common misconceptions about sexual and reproductive health in Jordan which aims to examine, collect and disseminate common misconceptions among young people in Jordan about sexual and reproductive health to enlighten them in this area.

• **Projects:**

- **Project "Towards achieving more sustainable services and solutions to the sexual and reproductive health needs of young people and refugees in Jordan":**

Through the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam project, KIT Royal Tropical Institute, Belink Academy and funded by the Dutch International Organization for Education(Nuffic), the Higher Population Council along with its national partner organizations (Yarmouk University and Ahl Al Jabal Association) seek to improve current information, services and education on sexual and reproductive health in Jordan in accordance with international standards by developing and producing a comprehensive (national) guide more fitting, for cultural contexts, improving curricula, conducting effective awareness campaigns and enhancing local organizations to better serve communities, especially young people, adolescents and refugees in an effective and appropriate manner and one that operates alongside a human rights approach for more sustainable sexual and reproductive health services and solutions by creating a body of highly qualified trainers.

## Second: Population and Development

• **National studies, strategies, reports and plans:**

Putting into effect the study of the analysis of the situation of international migration in Jordan, to be executed by the Higher Population Council in cooperation with ESCWA, where the action plan for the implementation of the study was prepared by the expert concerned along with remarks and observations.



Preparation of a national plan to fulfill Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi Summit 2019 International Conference on Population and Development +25 / Accelerating the promise for 2021-2030:


- **Putting into effect the study of the analysis of the situation of international migration in Jordan, to be executed by the Higher Population Council in cooperation with ESCWA, where the action plan for the implementation of the study was prepared by the expert concerned along with remarks and observations.**

- **Preparation of a national plan to fulfill Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi Summit 2019 International Conference on Population and Development +25 / Accelerating the promise for 2021-2030:**


In accordance with the role of the Higher Population Council and in cooperation with UNFPA as two reference points for all population issues and information related to development and international commitments, and contributing to the development of national policies, strategies and action plans on population and development in compliance with best practices, follow-up and evaluation of their implementation, the Higher Population Council is in the process of preparing a national plan to fulfill Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi 2019 Summit for (2021-2030) with the aim of providing a suitable and supportive environment for Jordan's population policies and issues, which meets Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi 2019 summit and the recommendations of the Cairo Conference on Population and Development 1994, and the achievement of the population-related sustainable development goals 2030 which are summarized in the following themes:

- ensuring that all have access to sexual and reproductive health as part of comprehensive health coverage.
- providing funding needed for the implementation of the ICPD programme of action 1994 and maintaining gains.
- benefiting from demographic diversity to drive economic growth and achieve sustainable development (harnessing demographic return) to advance development
- end gender-based violence and harmful practices.
- support the right to sexual and reproductive health care in humanitarian and fragile contexts.

• **Events and activities that have been carried out and participated in:**

 The Participation of Secretary-General of the Higher Population Council, Head of the Executive Office of the Arab Council for Population and Development and Chairperson of the Steering Committee of Share-Net Jordan, Dr. Abla Ammawi, on July 12th , 2021, in an Arab celebration to mark World Population Day

The Higher Population Council held the first workshop on August 12th , 2021, on capacity building for the national population strategy liaison officers (2021-2030) from relevant national institutions on the indicators included in the draft strategy

 The Higher Population Council, in collaboration with the Princess Basma Development Centers of the Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, performed a play "Untill When " to mark World Population Day.

On September 1st , 2021, the Higher Population Council held a meeting of the technical committee of relevant institutions to prepare the national plan to fulfill Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi 2019 Summit for the years (2021-2030).

- **The Participation of Secretary-General of the Higher Population Council, Head of the Executive Office of the Arab Council for Population and Development and Chairperson of the Steering Committee of Share-Net Jordan, Dr. Abla Ammawi, on July 12th , 2021, in an Arab celebration to mark World Population Day.** Taking part in and organizing the celebration were: the General Secretariat of the Arab League - Social Affairs Sector - Population Policy Department/Technical Secretariat of the Arab Council for Population and Development and in cooperation with UNFPA/ Office of Arab States. The event was under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the Arab League Ahmed Abul Gheit at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Arab League in Cairo.

The event included a number of functions, including the screening of the documentary on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on various population groups in the Arab world, a video on the

Population and Complex Development Index, as well as the launch of the Guide to strengthening the capacity of Arab national population councils and committees prepared by the Higher Population Council. The guide represents a proposed model for an integrated system of strategic planning governed by the outcomes of Arab national councils and committees for the population or in its ruling.



- **The Higher Population Council held the first workshop on August 12th , 2021, on capacity building for the national population strategy liaison officers (2021-2030) from relevant national institutions on the indicators included in the draft strategy.**

The two-day workshop aimed to introduce liaison officers to the indicators of the national population strategy draft (2021-2030), each indicator card, data source, calculation mechanism and index value cycle, to enable the Higher Population Council to carry out the follow-up and evaluation process within a participatory understanding.



- The Higher Population Council, in collaboration with the Princess Basma Development Centers of the Jordan Hashemite Fund for Human Development and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund, performed a play "Untill When " to mark World Population Day.

The most prominent objective of the show, which targeted the youth, was to enhance and raise awareness and support for population and development issues, and its relationship to the economic and social development of the Jordanian family, where the performance addressed a pressing issue of sexual and reproductive health related to domestic violence.

The performance toured the kingdom's three provinces (north, central, south) in the three governorates of Aqaba, Mafraq and the capital, Amman



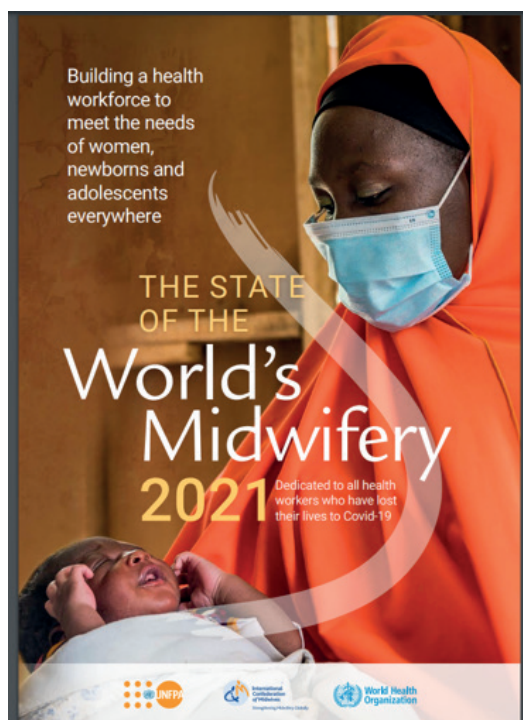
- On September 1st , 2021, the Higher Population Council held a meeting of the technical committee of relevant institutions to prepare the national plan to fullfill Jordan's commitments to the Nairobi 2019 Summit for the years (2021-2030),

During the meeting, it was decided that the outcomes and results of the national plan for the implementation of the Nairobi Summit commitments would be formulated in a participatory manner through the liaison officers of the plan from partner institutions. Furthermore, the current situation of the population in Jordan was reviewed with a view to reaching a common understanding of current needs, priorities and issues.



### Third: The latest local, regional and international reports and publications related to population and development issues:

#### ❖ State of the World Midwifery Report 2021:



UNFPA, WHO, the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and other partners issued the State of the World Midwifery Report 2021, which set off the alarm regarding the global shortage in the number of midwives and the need for an additional 900,000 midwives, a third of the global midwifery workforce and that the world urgently needs another 1.1 million essential health workers to provide sexual and reproductive health care to mothers, newborns and teenagers.

The report noted that the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated these problems, with the pandemic dominating the health needs of women and newborns, midwifery services disrupted and midwives transferred to provide other health services.

The acute shortage of midwives is causing horrific global losses in the form of preventable fatalities. An analysis of this report has shown that providing full resources for midwifery care by 2035 could save 67% of maternal deaths, 64% of neonatal deaths and 65% of stillbirths (prenatal fetal death), and could save an estimated 3.4million lives a year. The report assesses the midwifery workforce and related health resources in 194 countries. The report indicates that gender inequality is an unrecognized driver of this enormous shortage, as the continued lack of resources in the midwifery workforce is a symptom of health systems that do not prioritize the sexual and reproductive health needs of women and girls, do not recognize the role of midwives, mostly women, in meeting these needs; women account for 93% of midwives and 89% of nurses.

The report noted that midwives not only attend the birth process, but also provide prenatal and post-natal care and a range of sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, the detection and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and sexual and reproductive health services for adolescents, all while ensuring attentive care and support of women's rights. By increasing the number of midwives capable of providing care in a favourable environment, the health of women and newborns as a whole shall improve, benefiting society in its entirety.

[https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/21-038-UN-FA-SoWMy2021-Report-ENv4302\\_0.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/21-038-UN-FA-SoWMy2021-Report-ENv4302_0.pdf)

## ❖ Launch of the Composite Index for Population and Development:

During the third quarter of this year, the Regional Office of Arab States of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Arab League (AAC) launched the Population and Development Composite Index known as (PDCI).

The Population and Development Composite Index is a visionary tool aimed at promoting awareness of the individual-focused sustainable development agenda in the Arab region, allowing it to track achievements towards the International Conference on Population and Development and related sustainable development goals from a population development perspective.

To ensure the full and effective implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda, and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the vision of the Arab countries in, UNFPA's Office for Arab States has taken the lead in issuing the Population and Development Composite Index to help track and measure population progress in development in Arab countries using indicators of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan.

The indicator is based on the principle that individuals are at the heart of the implementation of the sustainable development goals and that any progress towards achieving those goals must have evidence of positive change in individual lives while ensuring at the same time that "no one is left behind."

The Population and Development Composite Index is based on five main points as stated in UN General Assembly Resolution 65/234 on reviewing the implementation of the ICPD programme of

work: dignity and human rights, health, place and mobility, governance and accountability and sustainability.

The Population and Development Composite Index helps government bodies, parliamentarians, NGOs and regional entities working in population and development at the national level measure, monitor and evaluate progress in the sustainable development goals from a population perspective and access evidence in order to develop evidence-based policies.

The index showed that the Arab region's performance in terms of implementing the population and development agenda is average, with significant differences between countries. This calls for further efforts to accelerate progress and achieve the population and development agenda. Consequently, the index will contribute significantly to country integration policies and to the achievement of the principle of the 2030 sustainable development agenda exemplified by "leaving no one behind"



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