PARTNERS FOR JUSTICE

Ali’s participation in the Partners for Justice project has left a mark on him and helped him discover his passion for advocating for gender equality. Although his pre-existing passion for humanitarian and social work was his biggest motivation, his participation in the project allowed him to learn more about gender and masculinities from a new perspective. As a result, he has decided to pursue his graduate degree in gender studies.

Moreover, he has been inspired to share what he has learned with those around him. This has been made possible by the various trainings that Ali was a part of such as gender, youth-led research and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Ali has demonstrated an exceptional ability in cascading the knowledge that he has gained throughout the three years of his participation in this project to others. He received training of trainers sessions which allowed him to be technically well-equipped to transfer knowledge to others as he has successfully done in his community.

CREATING GENDER EQUALITY ALLIES THROUGH THE PARTNERS FOR JUSTICE PROJECT.

I have been participating in the Partners for Justice project for more than three years now, and it is because of my passion to learn more and build stronger knowledge on gender equality and justice. I feel belonging to this project because there is a lot of similarity between me and the participants on multiple levels.

I am very happy that I have been accepted by a university in Scotland to complete my studies through the "Grow Guest" program, which is concerned with global gender studies.

Since his participation in the project, Ali has reported changed perceptions and attitudes towards gender on a personal level.

After being a part of this project and learning about gender from a different lens that is not affected by stigma and stereotype, I feel more confident in expressing my gender identity.
Ali is one of 30 youth leaders who participated in the gender and masculinities youth-led research activity under this project. The youth-led research aimed to empower youth by strengthening their leadership skills and building stronger relationships with their communities. Moreover, it aimed to help the youth identify the attitudes and beliefs that push boys and men to embrace patriarchal values, and identify characteristics of alternative masculinities the project seeks to encourage - male champions who support and respect women, speak out against violence, and promote the role of women in public life, including in peace and security. The youth leaders were engaged in the research design, implementation, analysis and reporting. Due to the exceptional performance and motivation that Ali showed during the youth-led research activity, he was selected by the trainer to accompany her on a mission to Iraq where Ali served as a research assistant on a study focusing on sexual and reproductive health and rights. Following the research which identified needs and gaps of frontliners and specialists who deal with minorities in Iraq, Ali was part of the team who trained these individuals to enhance their abilities to better respond to the needs of LGBTQIA+ individuals.

"I had never thought before that I could be a part of such a great team, be a part in conducting gender research."

The project taught me that it is not enough to want change, but rather that I need to work with people so that we can achieve real social change together.

Search is the world's largest dedicated peacebuilding organization, and supports programming in 32 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, the Middle East, and the United States. Search's mission is to transform the way the world deals with conflict from adversarial means to shared solutions. Search has worked in Lebanon since 1996 through a diverse array of programming, including social cohesion, peace education, and media production.

ABAAD is a non-governmental organization that aims to achieve gender equality as an essential condition to sustainable social and economic development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region. ABAAD advocates for the development and implementation of policies and laws that enhance women's effective participation. With the purpose of ending gender-based violence, ABAAD further adopts a holistic care approach providing protection and support services to Gender Based Violence (GBV) survivors.