In January, the general assembly of the National Commission for the Lebanese Women launched its 2022 contextualized national action plan which focuses on: i) aligning the activities of the national action plan to implement the UN Security Resolution number 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, ii) applicating the World Bank program to empower women, and iii) establishing the National Lebanese Observatory for Gender Equality.

Contribute to an enabling environment in which social norms around GBV will be shifted and access to safe and quality prevention and response services will be increased.

To reduce violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Lebanon by transforming attitudes of women, girls, men, and boys towards patriarchal norms that define masculinities, and addressing the root causes of VAWG in public and private spheres.

As the project's cost extension started in January 2022, three reflection sessions were held with the project's key stakeholders including the organizations' focal points and their representatives and the media professionals to ensure that learning from the first phase is captured, and that the stakeholders' recommendations and concerns are taken into account.

Recommendations on the programmatic and operational level were produced and will be taken into consideration in the upcoming stages of the project.

During the course of this workshop, the media professionals were able to learn the main methods for creating social change through media such as storytelling, dialogue, social experiments, and others. The participants also learned gender-sensitive approaches and terminologies that should be taken into account when writing a script and/or producing a film or a series.

Moreover, the media professionals gained knowledge and skills that enabled them to write fifteen scripts using a gender-sensitive lens. The scripts tackled issues related to GBV such as domestic violence, child marriage, toxic masculinities, discrimination and abuse against marginalized groups such as people with disability and people belonging to the LGBTIQ+ community. By producing and sharing these films and mini-series widely, we would be enabling an environment where perceptions around GBV are shifted for both the filmmakers and the viewers.

The visits allowed the media professionals to learn more about ABAAD’s services on the ground and gain insights into the lives of GBV survivors inside and outside the safe shelters which further helped them to inform their scripts and ensure that they are adhering to the Do No Harm principle.

The selection criteria was based on:

1) interest in online engagement, 2) availability shown, 3) commitment to the project’s objectives,
4) displayed leadership skills, 5) experience as positive role models of civic engagement within their local communities, and 6) familiarity with Search’s key approaches.

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The sessions aimed to:

1) Reflect on the implementation of the project, best practices, look back on the results and the changes that have emerged so far and
2) Discuss recommendations for the cost extension and the upcoming activities.

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