update of the month  july 2017  |  issue no. 81

A workshop was held in July (10-12) on the roll-out of the UNRWA GBV Prevention Framework as part of the larger project, ‘Building Safety: Mainstreaming GBV Interventions in Emergency Preparedness Prevention and Response’. The workshop was attended by various personnel from each field office and HQ Amman, where development of a Road Map for the prevention of GBV tailored to each field office was undertaken and implementation plans for delivering action in the Road Map were articulated. For more information contact s.jelassi@unrwa.org

stories from UNRWA

Interview Series: ‘UNRWA Women in the Workforce’ presents

Wafaa Nuwwara, Area Relief and Social Services Officer

Why, in your opinion, is it important to have more women in senior positions?
It is important to have more women in senior leadership positions to challenge an enduring mindset that devalues women’s potential as leaders. We must acknowledge the profound contribution that women make to the mission of UNRWA. Also, certain areas, such as the Education and Health Departments, would be well-served if led by women. As the health and education domains have a particularly salient effect in the lives of women and girl refugees, women in leadership positions respective to these areas would give them a more far-reaching voice.

What are the main challenges of being in a leadership position, particularly for women?
There are certain positions that have historically been the preserve of men, such as leadership roles in education and health. The traditional image of women as incapable of many rigorous tasks and lacking resolve and power must change. Women have many responsibilities that require a prodigious, daily effort to fulfill.

What advice would you give to women trying to establish their career?
Work tirelessly to develop your skills and talents. It is important to study fastidiously and not be afraid, especially not afraid to try. Nurturing yourself and actively building on your experience is crucial to your success. Most importantly, never give up! Taking care of yourself and building on your successes will pave the way for a rich career.

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UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and mandated to provide assistance and protection to some 5 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank, and the Gaza Strip achieve their full human development potential, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. UNRWA services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, protection and microfinance.

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