

BAGHDAD WOMEN ASSOCIATION GROUP (BWA)

Field of Activity

Gender Equality and Gender Based Violence (GBV)

Vision and mission







BWA has been mostly concerned with the acknowledgment of women's position within society and the recurrence of physical violence to which they are subjected to, for which little to no protection is provided. **BWA's vision is to fight against all forms of violence against both girls and women while ensuring legal protection, equality, and respect of basic rights.** Since its establishment, BWA has worked to reduce GBV through the provision of necessary **support services** to violence-survivors, **advocating** for the implementation of appropriate laws, policies, and government programs. It also works to **increase women's participation** within the political sphere, through leadership, knowledge, and capacity building.

ACTIVITIES

BWA program and activities are highly focused on empowering the role of women by creating and providing opportunities to lead and build leadership skills. It also highlights the importance of women's role in awareness raising activities and in educating local communities to women's rights and GBV.

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❖ Establishment of 10 Listening and Counseling Centers, between 2009 and 2021, which provided free services to GBV victims, such as psycho-social, legal, and medical counseling.
- ❖ Implemented a successful 'Become an Empowered Woman in your Community' (BWWIYC) program to enable women to actively take part in decision-making processes within both their households and communities.
- ❖ Delivered a capacity-building to the Women Care Department, which is part of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, supporting the development of strategic plans to enhance women's political participation and the protection of widows.
- ❖ Participated as one of the lead organizations in the development of a National Action Plan 1325 for Iraq in 2014.
- ❖ Participated and led a national campaign to pass the Anti-Domestic Violence Law

	Country: Iraq
	Year of foundation: 2004
	Areas of intervention: Baghdad, Al Ramadi, Duhok, Mosel, Qaraqosh, and Anbar districts.
	STAFF: 50 employees, 35 are women
	Alliance 1325 Iraqi Women Network Ro'a Network
	Website : https://bwa-iraq.org/

BWA's Contributions to Naseej's workstreams:

1 Service Delivery

BWA's activities supported by Naseej: an overview

Locations



Anbar, Al Ramadi, targeting the camps and complexes of IDPs and refugees

Budget



€ 50.000

Timeframe



6 months

Naseej's workstreams

Stream 1 (Services Delivery)

Strengthening support and referral services and reporting systems for women and girls GBV survivors



Stream 2 (Community Engagement)

Transforming the social norms that perpetuate GBV with a special focus on youth engagement

Stream 3 (Policy Change)

Strengthening development and implementation of national GBV legislation



Provide psychological support to 200 women

Providing GBV survivors with individual **psychological support** from trained social workers to help them overcome any form of trauma suffered and provide support for their re-integration within their community.

Provide legal assistance to 100 women, with 20 women supported by legal representation



Providing **legal assistance** and consultations to GBV survivors. This work will be carried out by professional and trained lawyers, who will also provide, if needed, women with legal representation as it can be difficult for women to access legal services, also for economic reasons, or due to lack of knowledge regarding the system.



Awareness raising about women's rights, GBV and reproductive health with 120 women

Awareness raising about Women's Rights, GBV and reproductive health will be provided through eight sessions for GBV survivors (15 participants per sessions). These sessions will be facilitated by a social worker and a lawyer. These sessions are also intended to encourage attendance to the psychological support centers and to benefit from the referral system.

Provide reporting and research regarding GBV cases with 2 paper researches



Reporting and research focusing on GBV violence, its consequences and how it is addressed by those working in close contact with GBV survivors, such as their social worker and lawyer, in order to be able to share information with other interested organizations.



Provide 1 mapping of services and referral system in the target areas

Mapping of services providers such as Governmental Institutions (police stations, hospitals, primary health care centers) and non-Governmental Institutions (legal clinics, assistance programs). These parties will be contacted, and monthly coordination meetings will be arranged to agree on a referral system, to enhance networking and cooperation among all the available service providers.



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Naseej: Connecting Voices and Action to End Violence Against Women and Girls in the MENA Region



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