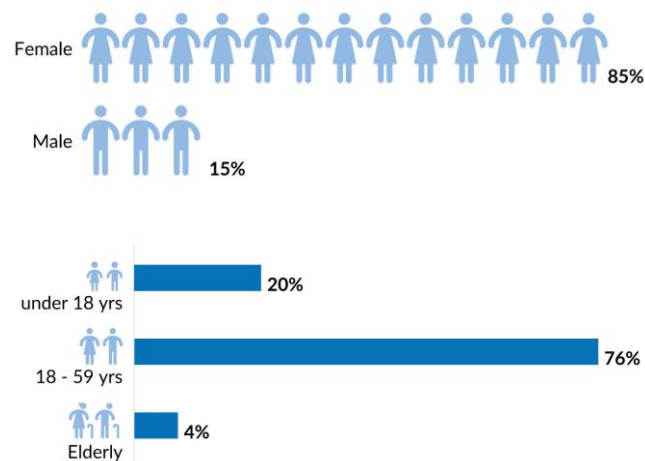


# Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response in Syria

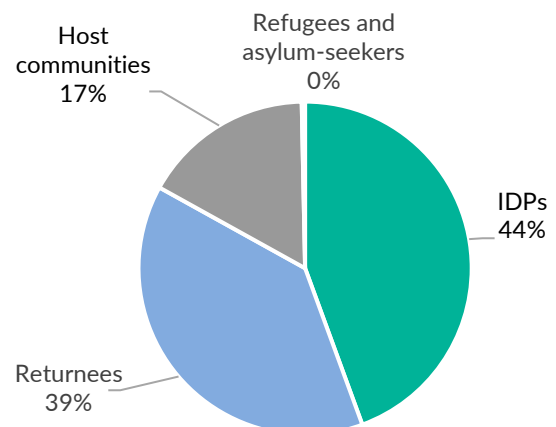
January – March 2023



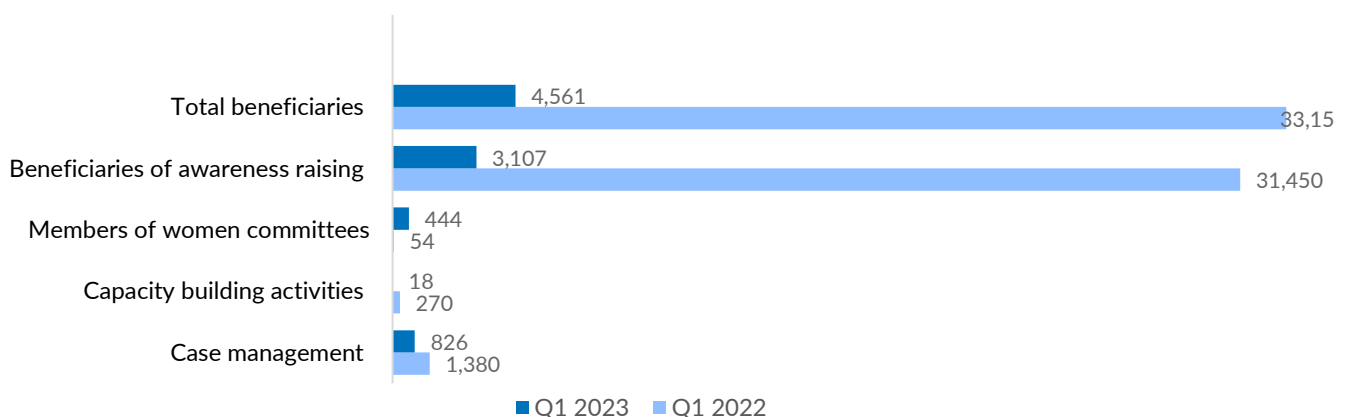
**3,933** individuals reached with GBV prevention and response services



**Population groups** benefitting from services



**14 Governorates** | **114 Community Centres** | **76 Committees**



The low implementation in Q1 2023 is attributed to the delays in signing the partnership agreements.



## Case management

UNHCR's survivor-centred approach to GBV case management seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing the survivor's rights, needs and wishes. This is done through ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate, accessible and quality support services including health care, psychological and social support, and legal services. In line with the guiding principles on protection and applying the survivor-centred approach, UNHCR and its partners tailor each service to the needs of each survivor based on their wishes.

During Q1-2023, UNHCR and its partners had identified and supported **826** GBV survivors through survivor-centred and multi-sectoral case management services.



## Community engagement

Women's committees comprising women of all ages and backgrounds play a central role in GBV awareness-raising and community mobilisation. Women's committees were created to strengthen the role of women in decision-making within their communities.

Women's committees focus on the promotion of gender equality, sensitization through awareness-raising in GBV prevention and response, women's legal rights and available services. The committees also coordinate with UNHCR to assist vulnerable women to find work. During the **first quarter 2023**, UNHCR supported **76** women's committees (**610** women) spread across the different governorates.

Men engagement in GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response to be continued during 2023 through enhancing the role of men in preventing and responding to GBV as well as in challenging deep-seated cultural norms and power structures.



## Awareness-raising

Awareness-raising is a fundamental component of UNHCR's GBV prevention strategy. It enhances gender equality and gender inclusion. It fosters communication and information exchange to improve mutual understanding of GBV and the related harms within the communities as well as mobilizes communities to bring the necessary change in attitudes and behaviour and informs communities and especially survivors of GBV about the available services. Awareness-raising has been developed by UNHCR in close coordination with partners to pilot curricula-based approach aiming at behavioural change with fewer numbers of population; this may justify the fewer numbers captured during the tough time of the earthquake response.

During the reporting period, UNHCR and its partners conducted **309** awareness raising sessions, reaching **3107**.

## Earthquake response

As the earthquake hit the country on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February, leaving behind grave destruction and thousands of injuries and deaths, UNHCR and partners acted quickly in adapting their programs to address the urgent needs resulting from this emergency; life-saving activities were prioritized in the affected locations to address the basic and urgent needs. In terms of preventive measures, UNHCR in coordination with the GBV Sub-sector developed key messages on GBV prevention and risk mitigation that were disseminated by GBV and non-GBV frontline workers, in addition to the distribution of risk reduction kits that contained feminine hygienic items for personal use. As for the response, UNHCR and partners continued the multi-sectoral response to GBV survivors at the community centres applying the survivor-centred approach that respects the survivor's needs and wishes and prioritizes his/her needs. The service provision included (health – psychosocial support – legal and socio-economic) services.