

2018

Year of Expansion

Annual Report

Muntada Al-Jensaneya

The Arab Forum for Education
Sexuality and Reproductive Health



Dear Reader,

This report will give you an inside look at the main achievements of our programmes and activities throughout the year 2018. It is written for anyone interested in learning more about our work.

2018 Our Year of Expansion

The year 2018 was marked for us by expanding into new areas, both content-wise and geographically. We outreached to new areas and target groups on both national and regional levels.

We delivered **scores of trainings and workshops** for hundreds of people in different areas and locations in the West Bank and Jerusalem. We also held **two regional trainings in Tunisia**, in addition to **two intensive professional trainings in Palestine** followed by continuous **individual and group supervision** programmes.

Additionally, we published several **popular literature and professional training manuals** that address different topics in the domain of Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Increasing our visibility on the sexuality discourse and its acceptance represented a big milestone - we hosted our **first public event**, since establishment, in Ramallah. We also reached out to hundred thousands of people across the Arab world through our social media and website.

In the year 2018 we carried out all our various activities towards achieving and fulfilling our **strategic objectives**:

- ① raising awareness in the Palestinian community regarding sexual health & sexuality education,
- ② enhancing individuals' rights and enabling each and every one to choose a loving partner of her or his own choice, and
- ③ creating a professional and scientific framework that relies on critical pedagogical thinking for the development of knowledge and skills of Palestinian and other Arab professionals working in sexual health, sexuality and reproductive health.



Who We Are |

We, the Arab Forum for Education, Sexuality and Reproductive Health (Muntada Al-Jensaneya) are a Palestinian non-profit organization based in Ramallah. Founded in 2015 by a group of young activists, we contribute to community development by meeting the needs and educational ambitions surrounding sexuality and reproductive health and rights within the Palestinian society; through creating safe spaces for open discussion, reflection and learning.



Raising Awareness in Palestine

Our programmatic backbone in the community

In our Raising Awareness programme 2018 we delivered **596 hours** of workshop facilitation to **495 direct beneficiaries**, thereby reaching **2475 indirect beneficiaries** across different governorates in Palestine.

We recruit workshop participants through community-based organizations. Our approach is very specific here: we aim at empowering communities by reaching out to individuals in a group setting through familiar and local entities that they trust. This methodology assures sustainability in working within the community, building safe and trustful intimate relations between the facilitator and the participants.

Our Pedagogy

In our educational work we follow the principles of critical pedagogy defined by the Brazilian educator and philosopher Paulo Freire. At the core of this pedagogy is the understanding of a student as an active learner who generates knowledge through engaging in a reflective process where the individual's voice is heard, a concept contrary to the usual "banking concept" where the student is viewed as an "empty account" to be filled by the teacher. Reflection enhances self-awareness and promotes a positive self-image, -esteem and confidence, while the group format of our workshops fosters proactive community engagement.

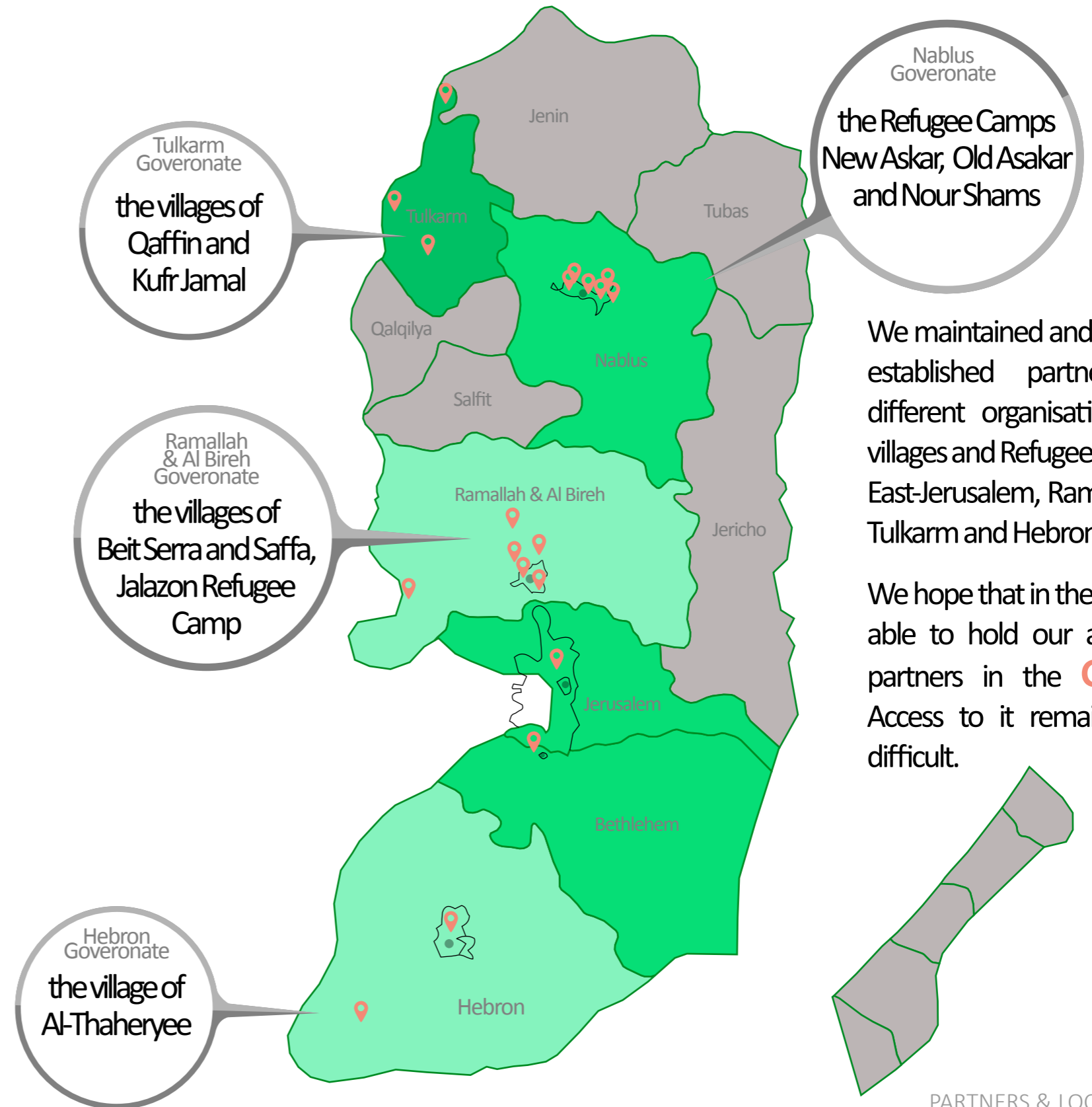
The topics of the trainings are very diverse, ranging over sexuality from an ethical and a social perspective, physiology and sexual organs, love & intimacy, childhood and puberty, violence and sexual harassment, gender and sexual education.

Depending on the needs and expectations of the target groups the content of the workshops is individually tailored to the group in question. The overall objective of these trainings is to enable the participants to increase their knowledge, to freely discuss, critically think about their and other's perspectives and attitudes towards sexuality.



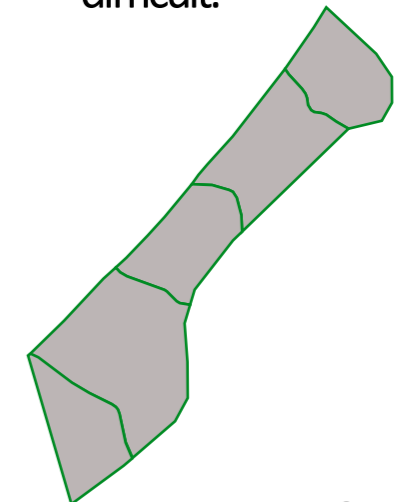
Palestine at a glance Partners & Locations

In 2018 we built new partnerships all over the **West Bank** with the following community based organisations in:



We maintained and strengthened established partnerships with different organisations in cities, villages and Refugee Camps across East-Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus, Tulkmarm and Hebron governorates.

We hope that in the future we are able to hold our activities with partners in the **Gaza strip**. Access to it remains extremely difficult.



University Cooperation

In addition we built on long existing cooperation with three universities:

- Birzeit University
- Bethlehem University
- Al-Najah University (Nablus)

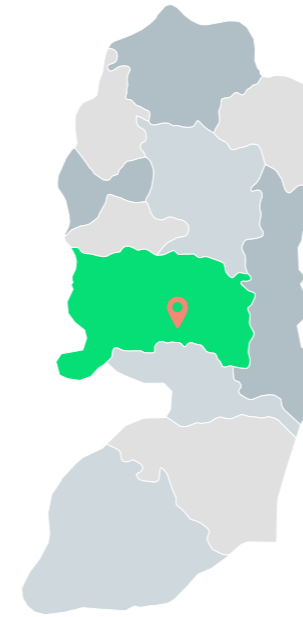
In 2018 we held nine intensive university trainings with students from different backgrounds such as social work, nursery, law & public administration, political science, sociology as well as psychology.



Professional Development in Palestine

Under the scope of this program we conduct activities that aim at creating a professional and scientific framework for Palestinian and Arab professionals working in the field of SRHR. We implement this program on both national and regional levels, overall delivering an accumulated amount of **247 hours** of training and supervision in 2018, thereby reaching **883 direct beneficiaries**.

- ① Two **intensive professional trainings** were conducted with 20 professionals working with people in different social and educational institutions. This training, also called the **112-hours course** spanning over 112 hours, forms the core activity of our organisation. Applicants undergo a rigorous selection process to ensure their suitability and commitment. Among graduates of the 112-hours course we select potential facilitators, who, after joining both our supervision programs (group & individual) eventually become contracted facilitators to carry out our trainings. This intensive training lasting four months, extensively addresses various SRHR related topics.



- ③ **Individual supervision** forms the other complementary part to group supervision that is carried out to ensure our goal of professional development. 23 facilitators received **55 hours** of individual supervision sessions across the year 2018. These sessions are meant to prepare facilitators for holding workshops on the one hand and adjusting their professional approach and their training materials to fit the needs of the target groups on the other hand.

- ② Two **group supervision** lines were held with 23 facilitators in 2018: **beginners' supervision** for those beneficiaries who had recently graduated from the 112-hours course; **advanced supervision** for our certified facilitators.

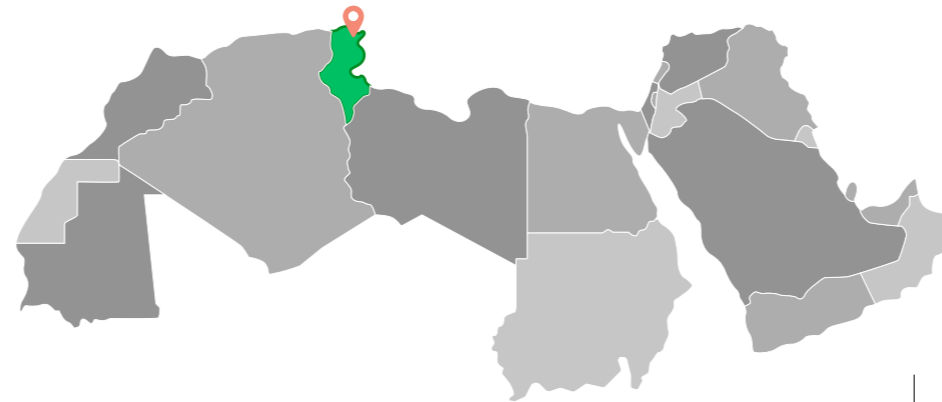


Professional Development in the Arab World

On a regional level, we ran two regional trainings in **Tunisia**, specifically targeting Arab professionals and Human Rights activists from different academic and professional backgrounds.

Partnership

The regional trainings were both held in Tunis and jointly implemented with our sister organisation in Haifa. In January one training was held in partnership with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). In June a second training was held in partnership with the Tunisian Community of Freelancers and Professionals (Uprodit). These partnerships increased the sphere of people we reach in our work outside of Palestine and form a basis for future regional initiatives.



Diversity

Our beneficiaries came from different professional backgrounds and countries. This made our work visible across a wide spectrum of professions and the Mediterranean area.

Creativity & Ownership

Participants in Tunis could create their own ideas and wrote their own film-scripts, the resulting videos will be launched in 2019.



Popular Literature & Scientific Publications

During the year 2018, we collaborated with our sister organisation in Haifa to produce two, first of its kind professional guidebooks serving as a reference for human rights activists and experts who wish to address Sexual Rights in a sensitive and culturally acceptable manner.

One publication is a **Training Manual** for professionals on human anatomy and sexual organs. The manual elaborates on female and male sexual organs, in addition to providing facilitators with a set of engagement tools for implementation in the field.



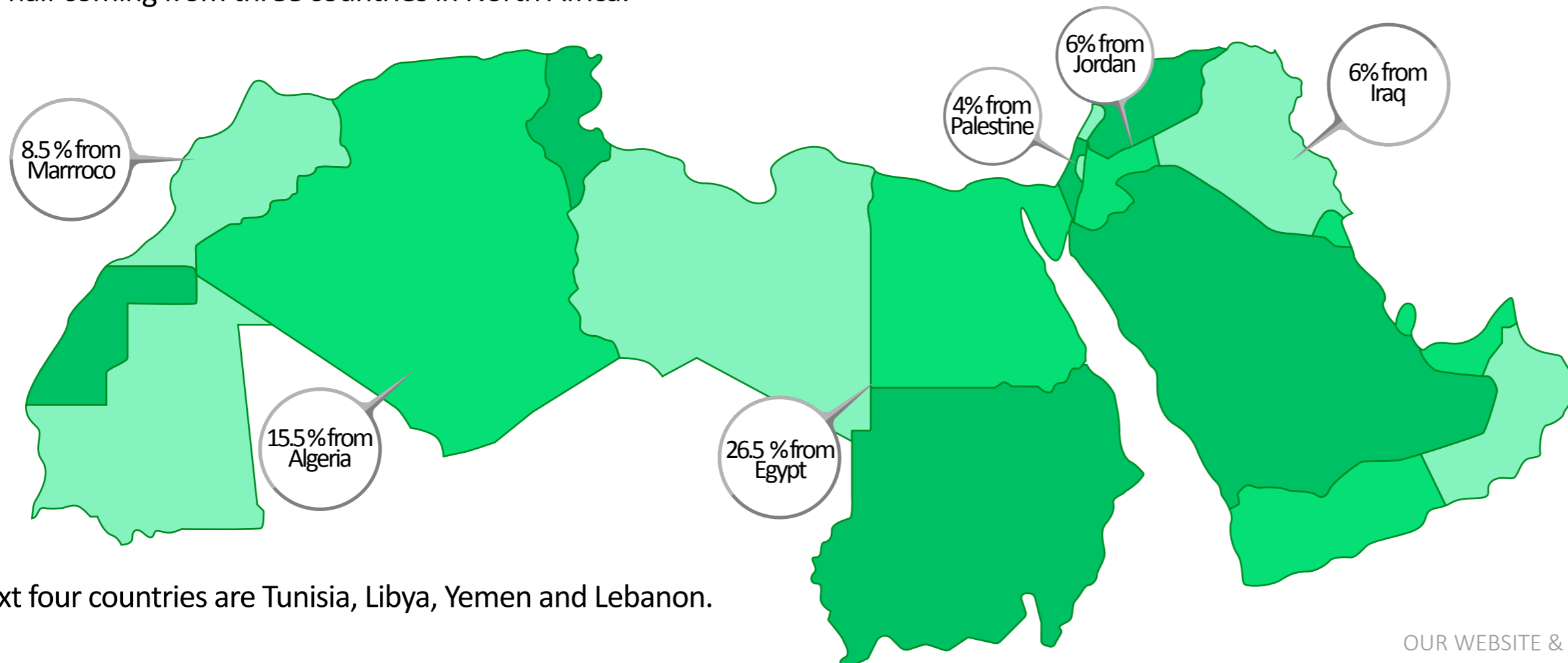
The other publication is an **Analytical Compendium** of all the questions we received via our interactive website corner "I have question" since its establishment up until 2017. The compendium contains a thorough analysis and classification of all these questions in terms of topics, times, and age groups. It is intended to be a reference for professionals working across education, journalism, social work and health.



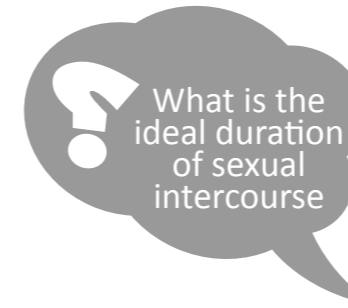
Our Website & Social Media A window to the Arab World

Our website (jensaneya.org) was the first platform in the Arab World that provided information about different aspects of sexuality in Arabic. Importantly, we focused on sexual rights as opposed to mere sexual reproductive health.

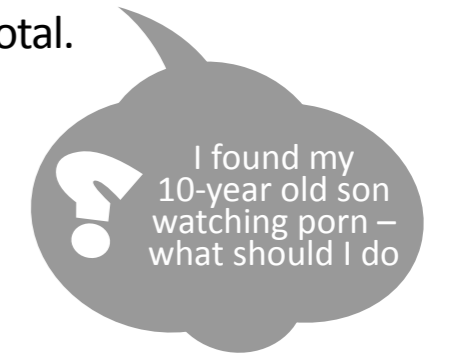
Our website visitors come from various countries across the Arab Region, with half coming from three countries in North Africa:



The next four countries are Tunisia, Libya, Yemen and Lebanon.



The “I have a question” corner is the section on our website that has stood out; there anyone can anonymously pose a question related to sexuality. Our experts reply to every question timely and confidentially. During the year 2018 we received a total of **336 questions**, making it about **6000 questions** in total.

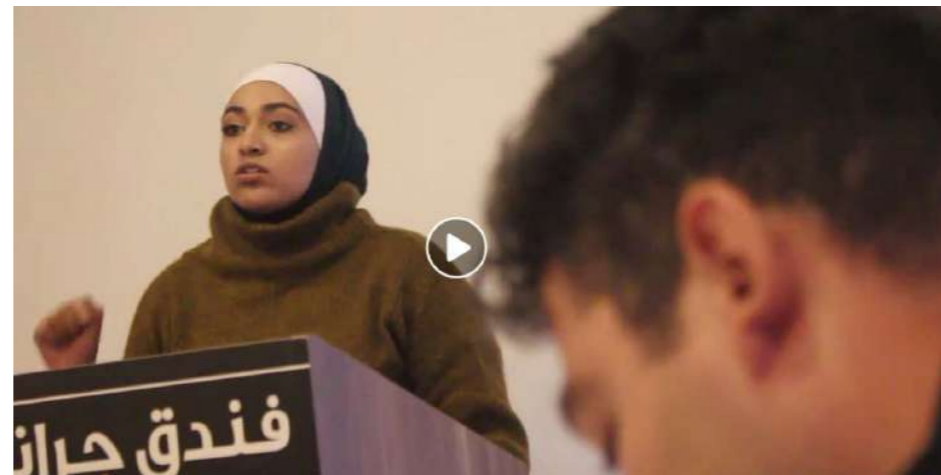


While we receive several hundred thousand visitors on our website, our social media platforms are enjoying increasing attention. For example the amount of **our Facebook followers increased to 8200.**

Muntada Out of the Box

At Muntada we keep updating our tool-box, integrating novel methods and approaches into our programmes and activities in order to work more effectively with our beneficiaries and build their professional capacities.

One novel training focussed on **Film-making**, targeting students who previously had attended our Raising Awareness workshops at university. The training aimed at building capacities of students in making (short-)films, with a specific focus on addressing sexuality. At the end of the training participants had produced **four short-films**, according to their own scripts.



Another novel training focussed on **Debating** also targeting university students. The training aimed at reinforcing a culture of dialogue and discussion, enhancing students' debating skills, and providing them with the tools and the discourse that is required to be able to publicly speak about SRHR.

Check out a short documentary about these trainings:

<https://www.facebook.com/jensaneyya/videos/2198529097052534/>

The **launching event** for our booklet "Where did I come from?" was the very first public event that MUNTADA held since its establishment in 2015. The booklet is a resource for parents to answer a very common question coming from their kids, namely "Where did I come from?". The event took place in the main theatre of the **Municipality of Ramallah** in March 2018 with approximately **100 people** attending. Extensive media coverage followed the event.



Where to in 2019?

2019 will be our **Year of Visibility**. Building on our growing online community we will reach out to millions of people across the Arab region through **online campaigns** and virtual activities on our website and social media platforms.

As part of our Raising Awareness programme we will be implementing hundreds of hours of **workshops** and **intensive professional trainings** in Palestine plus one **regional training** in Tunisia.

We will release a comparative **study** about resources of sexual knowledge of youth in Palestine.

Furthermore, we will conduct several **public events** that will address various topics concerning sexuality in Palestine.



منتدى الجنسانية
المنتدى العربي للتربية والصحة الجنسية والإنجابية

+970 2 296 2297
@ info@jansaneya.org
www.jansaneya.org
f Jansaneya
Ramallah - Palestine

Partners & Funders



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