



المنظمة الفلسطينية لحقوق الإنسان (حقوق)  
Palestinian Human Rights Organization - PHRO  
Member of International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)  
Member of Euro Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN)



## *Executive Summary*

# *Advancing Palestinian Refugee Women in Lebanon Gender Equality*

*Program Supported by: UNIFEM  
2010-2011*

***This document aims at providing a general, overview of PHRO's program titled: "Advancing Palestinian Refugees Women in Lebanon Gender Equality" which is supported for two year (2010 – 2011) by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).***

## **I. PROGRAM MISSION:**

Women's empowerment enhances women's participation and increases women's voice, leadership and influence over decision-making in all spheres of life. It advances women's civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights, which create a fair distribution of power and translate gender equality policies into concrete systems for implementation. It also transforms institutions and promotes access to gender justice.

## **II. PROGRAM RATIONALE:**

Palestinian refugee women are suffering from the violations of their rights, and they do not have, yet, the structured knowledge, and may be the confidence, as well as the support to raise their voice and elaborate on that. They have very crucial legal, health and living conditions situations and they are subjected to violence and discrimination on gender basis.

The PHRO considers that this program will be complementary to the other ongoing activities, programs and initiatives that are taking place within the Palestinian communities. Here, all active organizations/actors are considered supporters to our program and they will have an essential role during the implementation.

We should not forget the very active Lebanese women civil society organizations who have advanced work on women's rights in Lebanon and their campaigns and actions became well known within both the Lebanese and Palestinian communities at different levels. The PHRO considers them main supporters and we always consider that advancing and improving the human rights situation of Lebanese women will certainly have an impact on Palestinian women lives and vice versa, as women from both nationalities are living within the same society.

By implementing this project in Lebanon, and particularly with youth and women organizations whom are active in the camps, beneficiaries will gain the knowledge and the mechanisms that will strengthen their access to justice (claim their rights), increase their capacities on leadership decision making levels, which consequently will lead to reduce discrimination and violations against them.



**المنظمة الفلسطينية لحقوق الإنسان (حقوق)**  
**Palestinian Human Rights Organization - PHRO**  
Member of International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)  
Member of Euro Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN)



In order to achieve successful implementation and as a consequence, successful achievements of the goals, the PHRO is looking forward a high participation and support of all actors (civil society, youth clubs, students, popular committees, cultural bands, media, clinics and hospitals, small business owners, workers and employers... etc) within the Palestinian Community including both genders.

### **III. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The whole program aims at supporting a process which is designed of a series of complementary activities that will raise the awareness and strengthen the targeted groups knowledge in the necessity to carry up collective/group initiative that contribute to combat gender discrimination against women in particular at the legal, leadership and participation levels. This process aims at:

- ✚ Raising awareness and build the capacity of Palestinian civil society organizations on women rights and gender equality
- ✚ Supporting and strengthening Palestinian women's rights in Lebanon with the intention of reducing discrimination and violence against women.
- ✚ Strengthening Palestinian women role in decision making process within the camps through active participation in different social and to some extent political structures.
- ✚ Enhancing Palestinian women access to Justice through increasing their capacity to understand and claim their rights
- ✚ Initiating gender equality-oriented dialogue to strengthening the solidarity between the Palestinian and Lebanese civil society organizations, particularly whom are active on women's rights.
- ✚ Developing an action Plan on combating gender discrimination against women within the Palestinian community in Lebanon with a particular focus on: Women and access to justice, Women participation in decision-making and Women in community and political representation

### **IV. PLANNED ACTIVITIES:**

#### **A. PREPARATION AND SUSTAINABILITY:**

- ✚ Conduct a situation analysis and needs assessment study on the targeted communities and the different identified stakeholders.
- ✚ Develop an action plan on combating gender discrimination against women within the Palestinian community in Lebanon.

#### **B. RAISING AWARENESS:**

- ✚ Raise awareness and capacity building workshops on: human rights for women, gender equality and leadership, monitoring and documenting gender-based violations, claiming the rights "legal aid and psycho-social assistance for women", justice and rule of law.



# المنظمة الفلسطينية لحقوق الإنسان (حقوق)

## Palestinian Human Rights Organization - PHRO

Member of International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)  
Member of Euro Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN)



### C. DIALOGUE AND ADVOCACY:

- ✚ Carry up activities (seminars, discussion panels, advocacy meetings, public events...etc) that support the Lebanese women associations' initiatives in amending discriminatory laws against women such as (nationality law, personal code, criminalizing domestic and family violence...etc)
- ✚ Address justice and the rule of law issue through holding awareness raising workshops, and meetings with Palestinian political leaders and security committees within the Palestinian camps.
- ✚ Hold a conference at the end of each year to share the outcomes, results, challenges and difficulties of this project.

### D. VISIBILITY & RESOURCES:

- ✚ Produce 4 bi-yearly reports about thematic situation of Palestinian women within Lebanon.
- ✚ Develop a webpage within our website for the project for further awareness, and dissemination of the project's carried activities, achievements, outcomes ...etc
- ✚ Produce promotional and educational materials including documentary film, brochures, posters and simplified educational booklets about women rights and gender equality.

### V. LOCATION AND TARGET POPULATION:

The program will be implemented in Lebanon mainly within the Palestinian Refugee Camps. Its main target population is Palestinian Refugee women in Lebanon whether adolescents, young or adult women from different socio-economic levels. The program aims at influencing/engaging: Local or municipal councils, Political parties representatives, NGOs and civil society groups "particularly led by men" as well as Media.

### VI. PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION- PHRO

PHRO is an independent non-governmental organization, established in 1997, recognized in Lebanon under registration no. 36/AD and works for promoting, protecting and defending the Human Rights of the Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon. PHRO is member of the international Federation for Human Rights and the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN).

To obtain more information on PHRO's Program on "Advancing Palestinian Refugees Women in Lebanon Gender Equality", kindly visit the following link [www.palhumanrights.org/unifem.html](http://www.palhumanrights.org/unifem.html) or write to:

- Program Director, Mrs. Rola Badran at [rolab@palhumanrights.org](mailto:rolab@palhumanrights.org)
- Program Assistant, Mr. Raji Abdul Salam at [rajia@palhumanrights.org](mailto:rajia@palhumanrights.org)

**\*\*\* END**