



Funded by:



ANNUAL REPORT YEAR 1

OCTOBER 2018 TILL SEPTEMBER 2019

1. Context and Background

Since the launch of RDPP II in October 2018, the developments in the context inside Syria and in the socio-economic situation in the neighbouring countries of Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon continue to impact the living conditions and situation for the Syrians displaced and their host communities. As of September 30 2019, there are 654,955 Syrian refugees registered with UNHCR in Jordan, 919,578 in Lebanon, and 229,285 in Iraq¹. During the reporting period, large-scale fighting concluded in some parts of Syria, while the security situation in other areas deteriorated. Since October 2018, over 600.000 IDPs are reported to have spontaneously returned to their places of habitual residence inside Syria. At the same time the country has witnessed numerous new displacements, in total exceeding one million persons, particularly resulting from military operations in Idlib.²

Spontaneous returns from neighbouring countries

While most refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, consider return as their preferred durable solution, prospects for conducive conditions for safe, dignified and voluntary return at scale in the near future remain unrealistic. Despite the changing conflict dynamics and rhetorical push promoting return from some certain political segments in refugee-hosting countries as Lebanon, no large-scale returns have been observed. The October 2018 re-opening of the Jaber/Nassib land border crossing between Jordan and Syria, combined with the six-month amnesty in Syria for draft evaders and army deserters, slightly increased spontaneous returns from Jordan to Syria with over 34,000 returnees. However, since the “reconciliation” agreements implemented in Dar’a in July 2018 numerous human rights abuses have been reported, perpetrated by both State and non-State actors, including executions, arbitrary detentions, forced disappearances, and looting or seizure of property³. The proportion of returnees from Jordan originating from Dar’a has correspondingly decreased from 70% of all returns in October 2018, when the land border crossing opened, to 51% one year later. In Lebanon, from January until September 2019, 5,183 refugees returned to Syria through self-organized returns or returns facilitated by the General Security Office (GSO), and 10,822 individuals returned on their

¹ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria>

² <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/stima/idps-tracking>

³ <https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/press-briefing-note-dar-21-may-2019>

own⁴. Another 2,731 refugees were reportedly deported to Syria through the Syrian Office of Immigration following a decision by the GSO to deport all Syrians entering Lebanon irregularly after April 2019. Such decision led civil society organisations to voice concerns related to refoulement, safety of returnees, lack of access to justice and family separation. Until August 2019⁵, UNHCR have registered 3,633 spontaneous refugee returns from Iraq to Syria. Refugee intention and post-return surveys, regularly conducted by UNHCR and IMAPP⁶ refer to safety and security, lack of basic subsistence income, and political and governance factors in Syria as the main obstacles to sustainable return.

Protection and livelihood conditions in neighbouring countries

The framework for livelihood options for refugees continues to vary across the three focus countries. In KRI, labour markets are relatively open with refugees offered the right to work in the private sector, while not in the public sector. In Jordan, the Ministry of Labour reported over 153,000 work permits to have been cumulatively issued to Syrian refugees until September 2019. However, various evidence, including data collected through the RDPP-supported MoPIC/FAFO research⁷, suggests that the majority of Syrians continue to participate in the labour market without a work permit, mainly due to its cost (60 JOD – 85 USD), and lack of understanding of the benefits of work permits among many refugees. Jordan also saw the expansion of the legal framework for establishing home-based businesses (HBBs) owned by Syrian refugees without the previous requirement of having a Jordanian partner. The HBB framework allows in-camp refugees to operate in any sector, while HBBs outside camps are restricted to the sectors of food processing, tailoring and handicrafts. The legal framework in Lebanon remains the most restrictive, which limits employment of Syrian refugees to three low-income sectors: Agriculture, construction and cleaning. In June 2019, the Lebanese Ministry of Economy and Trade led a campaign to enforce the labour law focused on closure of illegal Syrian-run businesses and fining Lebanese businesses employing refugees outside the three sectors. In the same month, the Ministry of Labour set a number of measures to combat foreign illegal work. This includes a one-month deadline for foreign workers to obtain work permits, and new/increased fines and possible business closures for non-compliant employers, contributing to an increasingly challenging environment for livelihoods programming in Lebanon.

The protection situation in Jordan and Lebanon also witnessed development, while it is generally considered well managed in KRI, albeit the continued absence of due legislation that codifies granted refugee rights. In Jordan, since February 2018, Syrian refugees were no longer able to access Ministry of Health (MoH) public hospitals and primary health care centres at the non-insured Jordanian rate, which resulting into a two-to-five-fold increase in medical costs. The decision was rolled back by the Government of Jordan in April 2019, thereby allowing Syrian refugees to access again at the non-insured Jordanian rate. Additionally, and with the support of a new multi-donor trust fund, refugees are exempt from paying maternity and childhood health service fees at MoH-run facilities. In Lebanon, a series of measures have led to a decreased protection space for Syrian refugees. In April 2019, the Higher Defense Council issued a decision to dismantle illegal hard-structured constructions, which was aimed at demolishing illegal semi-permanent housing structures build by refugees. In the application of the decision, the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) gave refugees until June 30 to demolish illegal structures. The LAF conducted raids on numerous occasions on several Informal Tented

⁴ https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria_durable_solutions

⁵ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/70892>

⁶ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/66198>

⁷ http://www.rdpp-me.org/assets/dsp-impact-initiatives_far-from-home---future-prospects-for-syrian-refugees-in-iraq_-january-2019_1554964766.pdf

Settlements (ITs) mostly in Akkar and Aarsal and demolished hard structures. Further, in May 2019, the General Security Organization issued a decision stating that Syrian children under the age of 15, who were born outside of Lebanon can no longer benefit from their parents' legal residency in Lebanon, and therefore have to apply for their own residency to enter or re-enter the country.

Political situation in refugee-hosting countries

Changes in government was witnessed in all three RDPP focus countries during the reporting period. In Lebanon after 9 month period of deliberations, a new government was formed in January 2019; in Jordan, the government was re-shuffled in May 2019 for a third time in less than a year; and new leadership was elected in Iraq in May 2018 and in Kurdistan in September 2018. Subsequent, the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) has published their agenda focusing primarily on good governance, improved services, regional development rooted in economic diversification, and stabilization of the relationship with the federal government.

Related to political progress on the refugee agenda, Jordan and Iraq have had initial discussions towards a potential shift towards a one-refugee approach. In Iraq, although a draft new refugee law was on the federal parliament schedule, it has not been possible to discuss it yet due to more pressing domestic issues. Popular protest have also defined the political agenda in the three countries during the reporting period. Iraq has seen several waves of popular protests since the beginning of summer 2019. Jordan witnessed a 4-week public sector strike by teachers in September 2019, disrupting schooling for more than 1.5 million students, as well as non-curriculum activities carried out by CSOs in schools for both host communities and refugees. In Lebanon, political anti-refugee rhetoric during 2019 has further exacerbated social tensions, further reducing the protection space and contributing to increased political push for return of Syrian refugees to Syria, which became increasingly widespread during the reporting period.

2. Overall Programme Achievements

Phase II of the Regional Development and Protection Programme (RDPP II) was initiated in October 2018. This report covers the first 12 months of initiation and implementation of the programme.

New partnerships under RDPP II

During the programme design phase, it was decided that partnerships from phase I with a particular strategic relevance, would be carried forward to phase II of the programme. The initial efforts of the programme initiation were therefore focused on developing the partnerships with the eight selected partners from phase I outlined in annex 2 of the Programme Document. Developing the project designs and strategy was more elaborate and took longer than anticipated in the initial plan for year 1. The partnership negotiation process was for most partners concluded by May/June 2019, after which government approval of the project and implementation has been initiated by the partners. Of the eight selected partners to be continued, it was decided to only continue with seven of these. In the initial dialogue with Basmeh and Zeitooneh (B&Z), it was agreed between RDPP and B&Z that the project design was not developed enough to proceed further. B&Z would continue to develop the project idea and was encouraged to apply for the coming Call for New Partnerships.

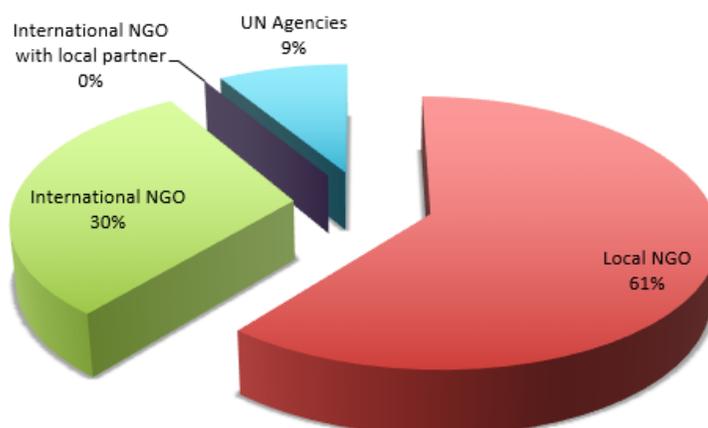
The projects with the seven continuing partners cover the three thematic areas with a collective commitment of 14,6 mill. Euros. Under thematic area A) Livelihoods towards durable solutions, Safadi Foundation in

Lebanon and Jordan River Foundation (JRF) in Jordan were contracted to provide employability skills and support job creation. Under thematic area B) Upholding and expanding the protection space, ABAAD in Lebanon, UNFPA in Iraq, and the Jordanian National Council of Women (JNCW) in Jordan designed interventions to enhance capacity of national actors and to strengthen systems providing protection services with a focus on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. For thematic area C) Research and advocacy, the partnership with the Durable Solutions Platform was continued providing research and advocacy across the three durable solutions, which was complemented by the partnership with ALEF as the coordinator of the PASC network providing local level protection advocacy in Lebanon. A second phase of the partnership with MOPIC and FAFO, with the possible involvement of other line ministries in Jordan, remains under discussion building upon the data collection and analysis conducted in phase I.

To identify new interventions, a Call for New Partnerships was prepared during the spring/summer 2019 and launched in September 2019. A team of consultants was engaged for the development of the call by spring 2019, with the view to publish the call by June 2019. The product of the consultancy did not lend itself to form the basis for the call though, therefore the PMU engaged in the final development and formulation of the Call for New Partners. The call was launched by September 2019 with a deadline for application by 1 October 2019. To enable integrated programming, it was decided to combine the two separate calls for the thematic areas of protection and livelihoods originally envisioned in the Programme Document into one call covering both thematic areas and the three countries of operation, as well as the possibility to apply for strategic focused projects focused on national capacities on advocacy. The call was disseminated widely, and 181 concept notes were received of which 161 were eligible (57 Lebanon, 40 Jordan, 51 Iraq, 13 regional). All eligible concept notes were scored according to criteria set out in annex 2 of the programme document by a panel of RDPP staff. From the 161 concept notes, 16 were selected as new partnerships with the RDPP II with a potential budget allocation of up to 29 mill. Euros. Of the new partnerships selected, five are in Lebanon, seven in Jordan and four in Iraq.

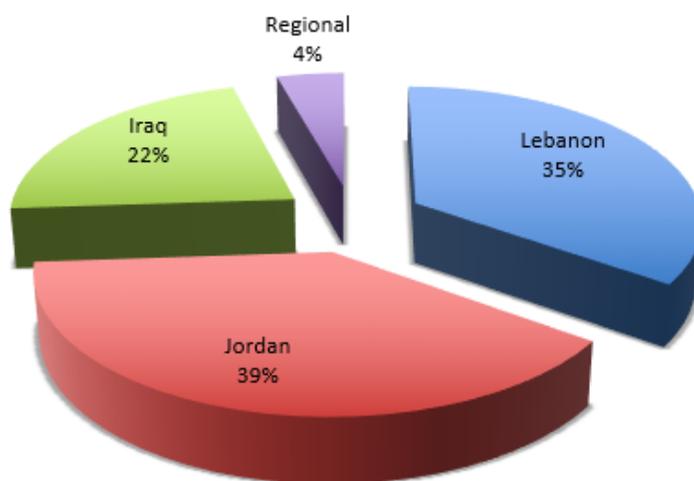
The selection of the 16 new partnerships brings the total partnership portfolio to 23 partners, of which 14 are led by local partners reflecting the strong operationalization of engagement principle of localization. The below figures show the budget distribution of the total 23 partnerships by type of lead partner and geographical distribution.

Budget allocation by type of partner as lead contract holder



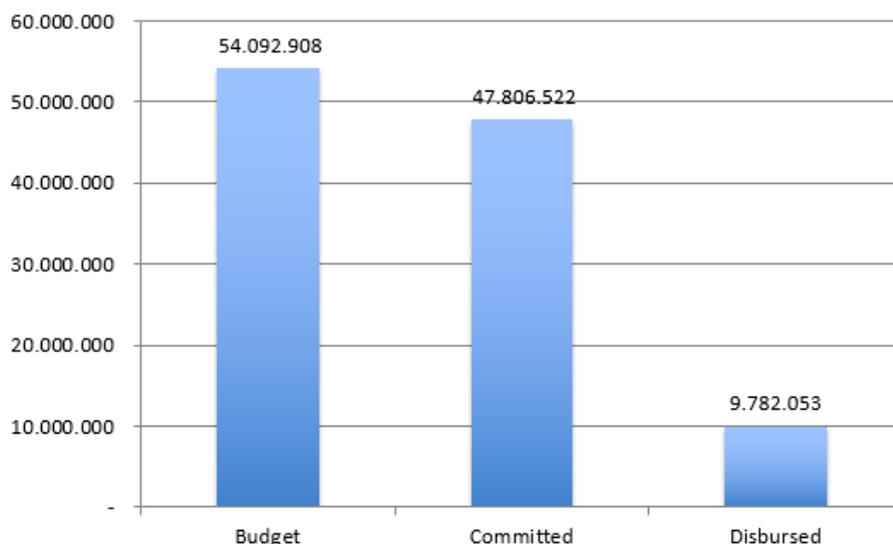
With the current budget figures as indicated as maximum budget allocation in the concept notes the partnerships were selected on, the budget allocation towards Jordan and Iraq will be slightly higher than defined in the Programme Document and agreed between the Steering Committee members. This is partly due to the narrowing space for livelihoods and increasingly complex protection space in Lebanon, as described in the context section above, which is presumed to have led to fewer than anticipated protection focused concept notes for Lebanon being received in response to the call. During the second Steering Committee meeting in December 2019, this will be discussed and decision on the geographical distribution of partnerships and potential mitigation will be agreed.

Budget allocation by country



The new partnerships are still under negotiation and the final budget figures are therefore not committed yet. With the indicated budget from the concept notes the budget allocation to the 23 partners would be approximately 48 mill. Euro, as reflected in below figure. This allocation would retain around 3-4 mill. Euro to still be allocated to partnership for research and advocacy.

Budget committed with new partnerships



Please see Annex 3 for the list of partners and a short description of the project.

Co-Creation and capacity development of national partners

As part of the negotiation process with new partners, RDPP decided to pilot a co-creation process with four of the selected concept notes with partnerships lead by national organisations. The co-creation process was conducted in October/November/December 2019 after the reporting period, but reflected as part of the selection process of the new partners. The co-creation process is an intensified negotiation process, where the partner organisation, possible sub-partners, and the RDPP PMU, engages in developing the project idea presented in the concept note into a full project document. The process is based on highly participatory methodologies and facilitated by an external consultant. While the negotiation process is an intense process, the new partners, who participated in the workshops, described the process as highly successful, very positive for the development of the partnerships and the relations with both sub-partners and RDPP, and as a capacity development process for their organisations. One partner expressed a wish that all donors would consider co-creation, when developing new projects and partnerships. One of the unintended benefits of the co-creation also became to broaden the ownership of the projects within the partner organisations, as technical, management and financial staff worked together throughout the process to develop the project further. This point was reflected by several participants as being an positive result of the process.

Further, with the increased focus on localization in phase II, the RDPP has enhanced the commitment towards supporting development of partner capacities. The process undertaken related to this is two-fold. First, as part of the initial dialogue with all lead partners as contract holders, the RDPP conducts a partner assessment to identify the risk levels and areas in need of immediate addressing. The first assessment is mainly focused around financial, procurement and internal HR policies guiding the organisation. The assessment tool for the partner assessment was further elaborated for phase II based on the new financial guidelines of the MoFA of Denmark. The conclusions of this assessment informs the partnership monitoring plan, including the financial monitoring. Following the initial partner assessment, the RDPP Partnership and Localisation Specialist engages in dialogue with the interested national partners to support a needs assessment of partner organizational and institutional capacities and vision for their organisation. Based on this and in dialogue with the partner

organisations, the RDPP supports the national partner to develop a plan for strengthen organizational, institutional and individual capacities and support the sustainability of the organization.

Steering Committee meetings and Local Advisory Groups

The new Steering Committee for RDPP II met for the first time in Brussels in March 2019. Besides receiving an update on progress of RDPP II, the steering committee members endorsed the terms of reference for the Steering Committee and the new structure of the Local Advisory Groups (LAGs), which has been introduced to ensure coordination and information sharing with RDPP donors at the country level. The LAGs will meet four times a year, whereof one meeting will be regional for all three LAGs.

The first country-based LAG meetings were held in each country in May 2019, explaining the set up and role of the LAG and presenting the continuing partnerships to local donor representatives. A second meeting, the regional LAG, was held in Amman in October, where the new partners selected through the call for proposals were presented and the LAG had the opportunity to feed into the annual plan for year 2. Through the LAGs RDPP PMU has strengthened strategic coordination with local donors ensuring two-way communication.

Engagement with host governments continued in all three countries with regular meetings held with the PMU.

Visits, visibility and Programme Management Unit

With the design of an enlarged Programme Management Unit to ensure sufficient oversight and management capacities for RDPP II, initial efforts also focused on recruitment of PMU staff. Some of the positions was re-advertised to identify a qualified candidate, which extended the process and resources needed for the process. The two new positions as Partnership and Localisation Specialist and Reporting and Communications Specialist were recruited, in addition to the vacant position as Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. The PMU structure reached full staffing by April 2019.

In terms of high-level visits, the recently appointed Danish Minister for Development Cooperation visited Jordan and Lebanon in September 2019, where he also visited two RDPP partners, JRF in Jordan and ABAAD in Lebanon. The visit resulted in locally published stories, along with focus in the Danish media.

Further, RDPP, together with its partners Safadi Foundation and Jordan River Foundation, participated in the MADAD learning event held in Brussels on the 13th of September 2019.

3. Thematic Programme Achievements

Further details of achievements against the results framework are presented in Annex III Results Framework.

A) Livelihoods for durable solutions

In the area of livelihoods, RDPP II continued its partnership with Safadi Foundation in Lebanon, and the Jordan River Foundation (JRF) in Jordan.

Through the partnership with Safadi, RDPP continues to support youth in obtaining jobs through 21 comprehensive vocational training programmes, and courses in Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN), life and business skills. Following recommendations from their phase I project, Safadi Foundation reviewed and adapted six out of the nine vocational curriculums and is in the process of finalizing the remaining twelve new

curricula. The curriculum development was done in collaboration with seven private sector actors, such as Roadster Diner – a fast food restaurant chain with branches countrywide, to ensure alignment with private sector employment needs. The BLN curriculum was also enhanced in three areas (Math, English, and Information Communication Technology (ICT)), covering specialized sections for the identified vocational training programmes. Safadi has also partnered with APAVE Lebanon to provide Training of Trainers' (TOTs), who provide trainees with recognized international certifications, increasing their employability chances also outside Lebanon with a view to durable solutions. During the reporting period, 16 trainers have participated in a comprehensive TOT, and 120 youth beneficiaries have been selected to participate in the first cycle of training programmes for example basic and advanced electrical services and elderly care. Courses are scheduled to begin in October 2019. Safadi Foundation also worked with the private sector to strengthen the uptake of training graduates, signing memoranda of understanding (MOU) with 29 private sector businesses to host interns, secure job placements, and ensure decent work. Linkages with national organizations for job matching have also been formalized and Safadi Foundation is in the process of finalizing MOUs with the Association of Lebanese Industrialists, Tripoli Special Economic Zone, Contractors Syndicate, and the Lebanese Franchise Association.

In Jordan, the partnership with JRF has focused on preparatory operations and team recruitment, while awaiting the approval of the Jordanian authorities through the JORISS system.

B) Upholding and expanding protection space

The protection partners across the three countries (ABAAD Lebanon, JNCW Jordan, and UNFPA Iraq), have worked with national and religious actors and CBOs to strengthen access and provision of GBV prevention and response services.

In Lebanon, ABAAD conducted six high-level lobbying meetings revolving around the revision of Chapter Seven of the Lebanese Penal Code to increase sentences for different acts of sexual violence. In order to ensure a collaborative effort in producing the required draft laws and their submission to the parliament for endorsement, meetings were conducted with the focal point of the Supreme Shia Council, the Minister of State for Economic Empowerment of Women and Youth, the Head of the Parliamentary Commission for Education and Culture, the Head of the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW), and two judges. Further, building on the previous RDPP project, an MOU between ABAAD and the Internal Security Forces (ISF) is currently under finalization to ensure the sustainability of ISF capacity building trainings. Preparations for an ISF TOT workshop have been finalized and will be rolled out at the ISF Training Academy. ABAAD has also finalized planning efforts for a regional TOT on GBV Emergency Safe Sheltering Programming scheduled for end of January, which will also be attended by protection actors from Iraq supported by the RDPP-UNFPA partnership.

In Jordan, JNCW held consultation meetings with the Shariah Judiciary department to discuss planned activities, including developing a training toolkit on the consequences on girls of child marriage. This would be used to train judges, who are called to consider requests of marriages involving children between 15 and 18 year old. JNCW has also kicked off its coordination with 50 CBOs aiming to combat violence against women through their civil society network 'Shamaa'. The members of the Shamaa network will undergo TOTs on GBV prevention and replicate a similar training to at least 20 CBOs within their communities.

In Iraq, UNFPA has facilitated workshops to identify capacity needs of government institutions and national NGOs on GBV-related issues, and to develop a Capacity Development Matrix that includes all involved stakeholders. This will be implemented in 2020 and 2021. The objective of the matrix is also to harmonize similar interventions led by other UN agencies such as UNHCR, UN Women, UNICEF, IOM and UNDP. Beyond emphasizing gaps and needs presented by the targeted institutions, the assessment explored possible contributions by national and international CSOs, such as Harikar NGO, Al Mesalla, the International Medical Corps and Qandil, to cover these gaps. UNFPA was also able to initiate the process of building the capacity of armed actors on GBV case management and Protection against Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). Building on previous initiatives with Peshmargas, including a RDPP-supported partnership with UNICEF under phase 1, coordination with the Ministry of Peshmarga Affairs was initiated in 2019 in order to select the trainers from the pool of Peshmargas already trained in 2018.

Protection information provision and referrals have been conducted in Lebanon and the three Governorates of KRI. ABAAD has referred eight protection-sensitive cases to cash assistance managed by UNHCR in Lebanon. In Iraq, 3,419 calls for support were received between July and September 2019 through the GBV Hotline established in phase I and launched by the General Directorate of Combating Violence against Women (GDCVAW). This is a unique model in Iraq at this stage, accessible to refugees, IDPs, returnees and the host community. This hotline is operated with the logistical support from local Iraqi companies and the technical support from partners. It provides a safe way for all GBV survivors to express concerns, request information and support, seek counselling and referrals and other specialized services.

In Lebanon, GBV services continue to be provided through ABAAD. In Mount Lebanon and the North, 37 women and girls (and 6 dependent children) GBV survivors were provided with safe sheltering in two Midway houses, which are temporary shelters for women at risk or survivors of GBV in addition to the provision of multi-sectoral services. In women and girls' safe spaces supported by the project, 416 women and girls benefited from legal, health and emotional support services such as psychotherapy sessions, health aid, medical follow-ups, group psychotherapy sessions, legal services, and forensic reports. Two protection mobile unit interventions were conducted in Wadi Khaled/North Lebanon, and Ersal/Bekaa aiming to mitigate the adverse effects of marginalisation and exclusion on health, and to promote gender equality, non-violence and social cohesion. The Jina Al Dar mobile units gathered the communities – both refugee and host – and provided legal information and health sessions for women, as well as psycho-social support and recreational activities for children.

UNFPA has launched its collaboration with the Kurdistan High Council of Women's Affairs (KHCWA), and the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at the American University Iraq, Sulaymaniyah (AUIS) to develop gender units in Universities across KRI. In partnership with the Women's Refugee Commission (WRC) and Johns Hopkins University (JHU), UNFPA finalized qualitative data collection for a research study on the prevalence of child marriage and its driving factors amongst Syrian refugees and internally displaced populations in KRI. Consolidated findings are scheduled to be released by the end of 2019 and will form part of a regional analysis covering other countries in the region.

As part of its work with men, Abaad provided 487 psychotherapy sessions to men with abusive behaviors, and three two-day workshops were conducted on masculinities, stress and anger management targeting 48 men and boys.

At the start of the school year in September 2019, a nationwide four-week public sector teachers' strike in Jordan delayed JNCW's scaled up delivery of school sessions on positive masculinities.

C) Applied research and advocacy

With the starting point in the evaluation of the previous project, the advocacy partner in Lebanon, ALEF, further institutionalized the Persons Affected by the Syrian Crisis (PASC) network^[1] by drafting bylaws and agreeing on a governance structure through a consultative process with network members. Based on a participatory process to identify capacity gaps between network members, a two-day training workshop was held addressing conflict sensitivity, evidence gathering and safe data management, and developing and implementing effective advocacy strategies. Based on information and analysis from network members, PASC issued a briefing paper on eviction in response to the Supreme Judicial Council's decision in April 2019 to demolish concrete structures in informal tented settlements inhabited by refugees and circulated it to selected embassies and key decision makers. As a result of collective advocacy work, the Council delayed implementing the decision, allowing more time for refugees to relocate and mitigate risks. In addition, Alef conducted seven lobbying meetings with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), the Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs, UNCHR, EU, and the Spanish Refugee Commissions to collaborate on advocacy issues, mainly the right to work, child protection, deportation, and forced eviction.

In order to better understand the impact of the Syrian forced displacement on the three host countries, and to support governments and other decision makers in managing the crisis, as well as inform programming, RDPP's partnership with The Durable Solutions Platform (DSP) conducted research across the three durable solutions.^[2] Two research projects on local solutions to protracted Syrian displacement in Lebanon and Jordan are underway. The study on medium-term approaches to Syrians' protracted displacement in Lebanon is being conducted in partnership with the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies (LCPS). The study on medium-term approaches to Syrians' protracted displacement in Jordan is being conducted in partnership with the Program on Forced Migration and Health (PFMH) at Columbia University. These two research projects, which are feeding into discussions on country response plans and broader discussions on the nexus, will generate two research reports and related policy briefs to be launched in early 2020. In addition, DSP commenced research activities for a study on the strategic use of resettlement. The full report is expected to be finalized by December 2019. Due to challenges and protection concerns around data collection inside Syria, DSP's research on returns has been stopped and discussions with RDPP are ongoing on continuation of this research strand. To ensure that research builds on the knowledge and expertise of a wide range of stakeholders, and to enhance uptake of research outputs by promoting ownership, 32 stakeholders have been engaged throughout the research process through Research Reference Groups (RRG), one for each piece of research. National and Syrian actors make up around 40% of RRG members for Lebanon and Syria. Also, to enhance communication and visibility of their research, the DSP launched a website earlier this year: <http://dsp-syria.org/> where research pieces are published.

Elaborating on advocacy part of the partnership, the DSP is currently undertaking an analysis of the policy context vis-à-vis displacement in Syria in the Russian Federation, to support policy advocacy towards non-

^[1] A protection advocacy network of 26 national and local CSOs.

^[2] An NGO Consortium led by DRC and established with RDPP I support

traditional advocacy targets. Bi-monthly durable solutions updates were initiated in May 2019 with three issues released in total as of September 2019 and distributed to over 950 unique recipients. The DSP also held over 150 bilateral meetings and organized a stakeholder seminar in Beirut in July 2019. The seminar brought together academics, donors, UN agencies, INGOs, local NGOs and Syrian NGOs to discuss the intersection of gender and returns to (and within) Syria. Two donor roundtables also took place in Beirut to discuss strategic issues in relation to dynamics of voluntary repatriation and spontaneous returns. These roundtables were valued for bringing together donors with Damascus-based INGO members. In addition, the DSP established a reference group with eight civil society representatives that together developed a paper on returns, which was presented at a side event during the Brussels III Conference for the Future of Syria.

The DSP has become recognized as an information hub influencing policymaking and at least 153 unique stakeholders approached DSP for advice or information during the reporting period.

4. Challenges encountered and mitigation measures

The main challenge during the first year of implementation has been longer than planned for recruitment processes as well as negotiations of partnerships carried over from phase I. This has resulted in the less than expected available human resources in the first months to kick-off phase I and the need to invest existing resources in recruitment processes. The need for readvertisement of some positions therefore also contributed to a delay in the first months. The programme management unit is fully staffed by April/May 2019.

Despite initiating the dialogue early with the partners carried over from phase I, the negotiations of the new partnerships took significantly longer than planned. The initial decision to extend the partnerships was first discussed with the partners in August 2018 for the most part, once initial approval of the Programme Document was in place. Developing of a concept note and the negotiation processes started by the end of 2018, but for most partnerships only finalized by May/June 2019. With the more defined and narrow focus of the thematic areas under RDPP II, a challenge encountered by the partners was to reflect on the focus of the thematic areas for example related to incorporating a durable solutions angle to livelihoods, reflecting lessons learnt from phase I, and develop this into a second phase of the project, which took longer than expected. Despite the longer timeline for the negotiations, the project designs benefitted from the discussions between the partners and the PMU staff, for example by ensuring a stronger private sector engagement in livelihood project in Tripoli. To mitigate the length of the negotiation process and to strengthen the project design, it was decided to pilot a co-creation process for some of the concept notes selection in the Call for New Partners, which needed more clarity or had components, which were more challenging. This has benefitted the negotiation process and the partnership between the organizations and the RDPP by creating a more joint understanding of the objectives of the project and the partnership from the onset of the project, as well as it has allowed timely commitment of funds to the partner.

To mitigate for the longer negotiation process of the partners carried over from phase I and to also ensure a stronger portfolio of partnerships reflecting the objectives and results framework of RDPP II, the PMU decided to merge the two calls originally planned separately for protection and livelihoods into one Call for New Partnerships covering all three countries. This also allowed for more cross-thematic proposals from potential partners, considering protection components of livelihood engagements for example. With the joint call, the

timeline set out in the original Process Action Plan has been close to mitigated, providing that the negotiation processes with the selected partners are managed within the envisioned timeline.

For partnerships in Jordan the approval process with the national JORISS system continue to caused delays in initiation of the programmes. The PMU is looking at possible mitigation measures with the support of the Danish Senior Forced Displacement Advisor. Further, the government reshuffle and public sector teachers strike has also caused delays to project implementation. These are expected to be able to be adjusted to during implementation.

The inception review was originally planned to be conducted during the summer of 2019. Due to the longer negotiation process the technical Quality Services Department of the MoFA of Denmark recommended that the review was postponed till all partners would be in place early 2020. Due to the delay in the process and as the PMU have been informed that a ROM Review might not be a mandatory requirement for the programme, a suggestion to merge the inception with a Mid-Term review by autumn of 2020 will be presented to the Steering Committee for discussion.

A challenge in year 1 of implementation was also the negotiations with potential donors, in particular France (AFD) and Austria, which showed interest to join the programme at a late stage in the approval phase or after implementation had begun. The negotiation process with the two donors in written products and in face-to-face meetings has also required resources from the PMU. The negotiation process with AFD was progressing positively, but due to internal discussions on nexus programming between the relevant stakeholders, AFD has to withdraw their letter of intent to join the RDPP II. As the budget forming the basis for contracts with other donors reflect the contribution by AFD, the PMU will have to request a budget revision. The suggested process will be presented at the next Steering Committee.

5. Communication and Visibility

The overall communication plan for RDPP have been further developed and will be presented for the Steering Committee at the meeting in December 2019. The plan includes strategic engagements with media and high-level visits.

During the reporting period, RDPP has finalized and disseminated its Branding and Visibility Guidelines to all partners and has finalized the RDPP II Communications Strategy. The website was revamped to improve user friendliness and reflect both phase I and II of the RDPP. The website was relaunched in September 2019 <http://rdpp-me.org/>. Summaries of the new, signed partnerships are available on the website, which will also regularly feature beneficiary stories from the projects to enhance the communication of results and support to the host communities by the RDPP II.

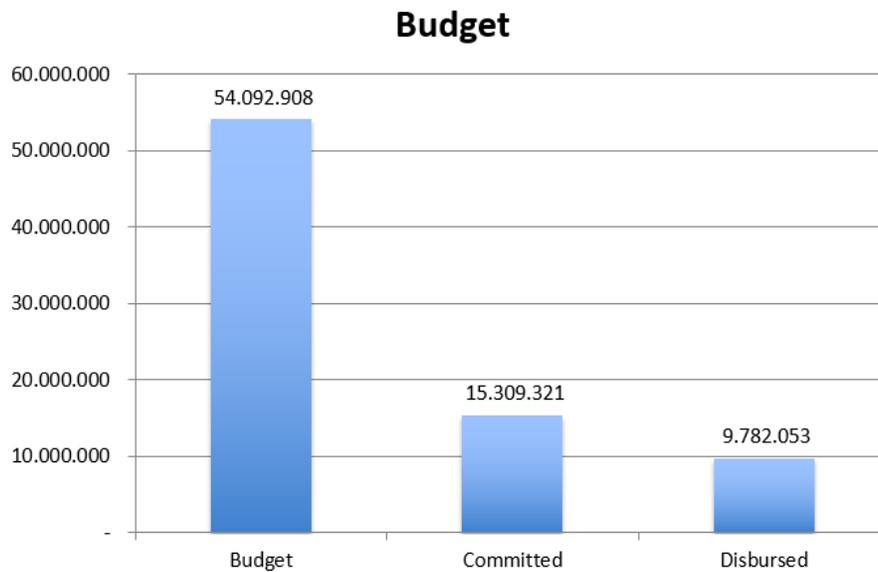
RDPP continues to support partners in developing and implementing their communication plans and will in the next period have an increased focus on enhancing partner capacities in communication, including training on social media, indirect interviewing, choosing the right beneficiary for stories, smartphone photography, success story essentials, and media monitoring.

The LAG representatives will also receive regular information regarding opportunities for participating in RDPP events to enable them to support and enhance the visibility of the RDPP.

An overview document of the main communication and visibility events are reflected in Annex 4.

6. Financial progress and legal commitments during the period

With the longer negotiation processes of partnerships resulting and the delay in publication of the call for new partners, the financial progress in year 1 have been underachieved. The underperformance is mainly due to staffing costs being lower as recruitment for the PMU took longer as well as delays in commitments to new partnerships identified in the call. If the timeline for commitment to new partnerships perform as planned with majority of contracts being closed by December 2019/January 2020, the financial progress should be on track with few months delay. The financial reporting is available in Annex 1.



The list of partnerships signed within the reporting period reflecting the legal commitments by RDPP II is as follows:

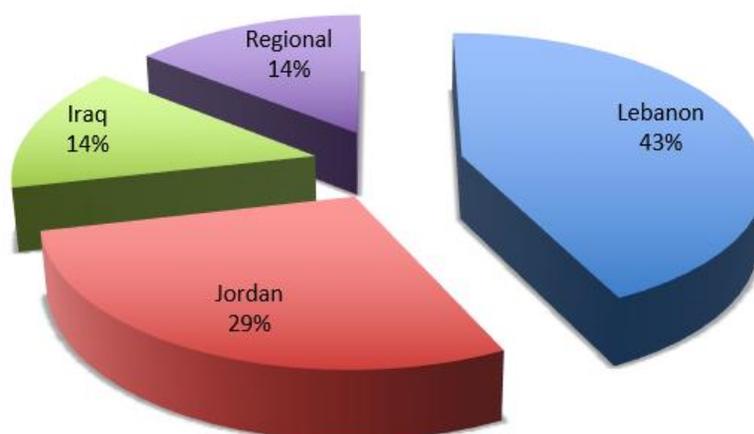
Implementing Partner	F2 number	Budget Committed	Transferred	DISBURSEMENT TO DATE
ALEF	2019-21502	542.964	325.778	87.393
JNCW	2019-25716	772.324	463.394	49.826
ABAAD	2019-25718	3.275.899	1.965.540	363.883
JRF	2019-25722	2.920.890	1.752.534	180.769
Safadi	2019-26549	2.277.145	1.366.287	132.191
UNFPA	2019-26556	2.958.016	1.774.810	104.783
DSP	2019-6629	1.846.542	1.107.925	149.544
Total		14.593.779	8.756.268	1.068.388

During year 1 of the implementation the budget disbursement by type of partner and by country are reflected in the below two graphs:

Partnership contracts by type of partnership



Partnership per location



With the commitments to the new partnerships following the call, the RDPP II will have committed the majority of the budget allocated for partnerships. Remaining will be only 3-4 mill. Euro reserved for direct identification of research pieces or partnerships and advocacy. As the partnerships are still being negotiated the final budget allocation is still variable (below maximum, not exceeding due to the competitive call process). The final allocation and disbursement by country, type of partnerships and thematic areas will be available after final contract negotiation. An early indication is reflected in the graphs in chapter 2 above. The final overview of commitments and distribution will be shared with the Steering Committee once available by January/February 2020. To reflect also the selection of the partners from the call, the partnership list in Annex 3 includes all 23 partnerships committed to or under negotiation for partnership with RDPP II.

The annual audit was conducted by the General Auditors Office of Denmark in November 2019. The audit process showed no findings. The report has been shared with the Steering Committee together with the annual report.

7. Annual plan and forecast budget for next period

The annual plan for implementation year 2 is reflected in Annex 5. The main activities planned for year 2 is finalisation of commitment to partners identified in the Call for New Partnerships (December 2019/January 2020), identification and contracting of research pieces and partners for year 2 (spring 2020), anti-corruption training for partners (spring 2020), and Mid-Term Review (autumn 2020). The forecast budget for year 2 (reflecting commitments to partners and not actual expenditure) amounts to Euro 30,633,119 as reflected below. The budget allocation between thematic areas will be discussed with the Steering Committee at the meeting in December 2019.

Thematic Programme	Total Budget (Euro)	Expenditure PMU and commitments year 1	Budget year 2*	Remaining budget year 3
Livelihoods towards durable solutions	19,400,000	5,198,035	15,466,660	- 1,264,695
Upholding and expanding protection space	15,750,000	5,859,160	11,701,288	- 1,810,448
Research and advocacy	9,962,078	3,536,584	1,835,171	4,590,323
Programme Management Unit	4,719,783	715,542	1,630,000	2,374,241
Administration 7% of non-Danish funding	1,283,240	310,256	To be calculated on the basis of expenditure year 2	972,984
Contingency reserve 5% of total budget	2,491,593	To be allocated in year 3	To be allocated in year 3	2,491,593
Total	54,092,908	15,309,321	30,633,119	4,979,757

Regional Development and Protection Programme for Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq (RDPP II)

Financial report year 1 (October 2018 to September 2019)

Contributing donor	Currency	Commitment	Funds received in DKK	Funds received in Euro	Funds remaining to be transferred	Donor share of total commitment
Czech Republic	CZK	10.000.000	2.865.080	384.983	0	0,71%
Denmark	DKK	215.000.000	15.000.000	2.015.560	200.000.000	53,30%
European Union	Euro	20.000.000	0	0	20.000.000	36,97%
Ireland	Euro	500.000	1.851.625	248.804	250.000	0,92%
Switzerland	CHF	5.000.000	13.180.000	1.771.005	3.000.000	8,19%

Exchange rate

2018	7,4421
2019	7,4565
2020	
2021	

Regional Development and Protection Programme for Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq (RDPP II)

Financial report year 1 (October 2018 to September 2019)

Expenditures	TOTAL YEARS BUDGET				TOTAL 1 YEAR COMMITMENT	TOTAL 1 YEAR DISBURSED	BALANCE BUDGET vs COMMITMENT
	Unit	# Units	Unit value (in EUR)	Total Cost (in EUR)			
1. Human Resources							
1.1 Salaries (gross amounts, local staff)							
1.1.1 Technical							
1.1.1.1 Project Manager - Lebanon (national staff)	Per month	39	4.300	167.700	51.356	51.356	116.344
1.1.1.2 Communication and Reporting Specialist - Regional (national staff)	Per month	37	4.300	159.100	27.460	27.460	131.640
1.1.1.3 M&E Officer - Regional (national staff)	Per month	36	5.300	190.800	47.700	47.700	143.100
1.1.2 Administrative/ support staff							
1.1.2.1 Admin-Finance Officer - Regional (national)	Per month	39	4.300	167.700	20.898	20.898	146.802
1.2 Salaries (gross amounts, international staff)							
1.2.1 Programme Manager - Regional (international staff)	Per month	36	11.850	426.600	99.202	99.202	327.398
1.2.2 Project and Liaison Manager - Jordan and Iraq (international staff)	Per month	39	10.125	394.875	154.652	154.652	240.223
1.2.4 Partnership and Localisation Specialist - Regional (international staff)	Per month	36	11.850	426.600	37.937	37.937	388.663
1.2.5 Programme Coordinator - Copenhagen	Per month	39	10.500	409.500	95.629	95.629	313.871
1.3 Per diems for missions/travel							
1.3.1 Regional and international travel (national and international staff)							
1.3.1.1 Per diem travel	per day	2.028	66	133.848	3.602	3.602	130.246
1.3.1.2 Hotels	per night	2.028	120	243.360	7.344	7.344	236.016
1.3.3 Seminar/conference participants	Per diem						
1.3.3.1 Staff Capacity Building	per person	8	10.500	84.000	1.204	1.204	82.796
Subtotal Human Resources				2.804.083	546.986	546.986	2.257.097
2. Travel							
2.1. International travel							
2.1.1 Regional travel (Lebanon-Jordan-Iraq)	Per flight	468	300	140.400	7.581	7.581	132.819
2.1.2 International travel (Lebanon-Denmark- Brussels)	Per flight	26	2.000	52.000	10.808	10.808	41.192
2.2 Local transportation							
2.2.1 Taxi	Per month	39	900	35.100	2.440	2.440	32.660
2.2.2 Transport field visit - Lebanon	per visit	234	200	46.800			46.800
2.2.3 Transport field visit - Jordan	per visit	156	200	31.200	29	29	31.171
Subtotal Travel				305.500	20.858	20.858	284.642
3. Equipment and supplies							
3.1 Furniture, computer equipment							
3.1.1 Computer and other related equipment	Laptop	8	1.000	8.000	4.955	4.955	3.045
3.1.2 Printer	Printer	1	2.400	2.400			2.400
3.1.3 Chairs, tables, other furniture	All years	1	10.000	10.000	2.961	2.961	7.039
3.1.4 Mobile phones	Per mobile	8	800	6.400	1.264	1.264	5.136
3.2 Spare parts/equipment for machines, tools							
3.2.1 printer ink, spare parts for equipment, etc.	Per month	39	300	11.700	682	682	11.018
Subtotal Equipment and supplies				38.500	9.862	9.862	28.638
4. Local office							
4.1 Vehicle costs							
4.2 Office rent							
4.2.1 Office space Beirut	Per month	36	5.000	180.000	48.306	48.306	131.694
4.2.2 Office space Amman	Per month	39	1.200	46.800	25.562	25.562	21.238
4.3 Consumables - office supplies							

4.3.1 Office supplies	Per month	39	600	23.400				
4.4 Other services (tel/fax, electricity/heating, maintenance)							1.133	22.267
4.4.1 internet-telephone line	Per month	39	600	23.400				
4.4.2 electricity, water, heating, AC, maintenance	Per month	39	400	15.600			2.831	20.569
4.4.3 Office housekeeping	Per month	39	1.000	39.000			918	14.682
Subtotal Local office				328.200			3.442	35.558
5. Other costs, services							82.192	246.008
5.1 Publications	Per publication	4	10.000	40.000				40.000
5.2 Studies, research								
5.3 Translation, interpreters	All years	1	3.000	3.000			10	2.990
5.4 Financial services (bank guarantee costs etc.)								
5.5 Costs of conferences/seminars	Per event	10	3.500	35.000			553	34.447
5.6 Visibility actions	Per year	3	25.000	75.000			6.508	68.492
5.7 Security costs (field visits and equipment)	Per month	39	21.000	819.000			15.043	803.957
5.8 Other costs (legal services, etc.)	Per year	3	2.500	7.500			120	7.380
5.9 Consultancy fees - specialists support	Per Year	3	80.000	240.000			33.410	206.590
5.10 SC visit	Per visit	2	12.000	24.000				24.000
Subtotal Other costs, services				1.243.500			55.643	1.187.857
Output A: Livelihoods for durable solutions	Total subgrants all years	1	19.400.000	19.400.000			5.198.035	14.201.965
Programme output A1: Enhancing employability skills of displacement affected population	Total subgrants all years	1	14.400.000	14.400.000			4.539.325	9.860.675
Programme output A2: Decent work	Total subgrants all years	1	5.000.000	5.000.000			658.710	4.341.290
Outout B: Upholding and expanding protection space	Total subgrants all years	1	15.750.000	15.750.000			5.859.160	9.890.840
Programme output B1: Enhanced capacities of local authorities and civil society actors enabling vulnerable rights holders to enjoy rights and access protection services	Total subgrants all years	1	10.400.000	10.400.000			5.859.160	4.540.840
Programme output B2: Improved social cohesion and reduced tensions in displacement affected communities	Total subgrants all years	1	5.350.000	5.350.000				5.350.000
Output C: Research and advocacy	Total subgrants all years	1	9.962.078	9.962.078			3.536.584	6.425.494
Programme output C1: High quality and relevant research is used by stakeholders	Total subgrants	1	5.000.000	5.000.000			1.569.560	3.430.440
Programme output C2: Evidence-based advocacy on different levels informs policies and	all years	1	4.962.078	4.962.078			1.967.024	2.995.054
Subtotal Other				45.112.078			14.593.779	30.518.299
7. Subtotal direct eligible costs of the Action (1-6)				49.831.861			15.309.321	34.522.540
8. Indirect costs (maximum 7% of 7, subtotal of direct eligible costs of the Action)	Danish contributions			1.769.454				1.459.197
9. Total eligible costs of the Action (7+ 8)								
10. Provision for contingency reserve (maximum 5% of 7, subtotal of direct eligible costs of the Action)	5 % contingency reserve			2.491.593				2.491.593
11. Total eligible costs (9+10)								
12. - Taxes ¹¹ - Contributions in kind ¹²				0				0
13. Total accepted¹¹ costs of the Action (11+12)				54.092.908			15.309.321	38.473.330

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Annex 2: Results Framework

Thematic Programme	A: Livelihoods towards durable solutions	Target 2021	Achievement 30th Sep 2019
Thematic Programme Objective	<i>Access to safe and sustainable livelihoods opportunities for displacement-affected populations, in support of durable solutions is improved</i>		
Impact Indicator & Targets	1. % increase in beneficiaries perceived household livelihoods security	40%	
	2. % increase beneficiaries perceived ability to maintain comparable livelihood in Syria	20%	
	3. % decrease in use of negative coping mechanisms	50%	
	4. % increase in beneficiaries perceived ability to access a durable solution	40%	
Engagement Title	A1: Employability		
Outcome Area	Enhancing transferable employability skills of displacement affected population		
Outcome indicator & Target	1. % increase in beneficiaries reporting increased access to income generating opportunities	60%	
	2. % decrease in beneficiaries reporting lack of skills as a main obstacle to enter labor market	60%	
	3. % of beneficiaries employed three months after project ends in sectors with future employment potential in Syria	50%	
Output A.1.1	Market-based trainings combining skills development trainings with practical component of linking beneficiaries to labor market		
Output Indicator & Target A.1.1	1. # of beneficiaries benefitting from training (Q10)	800	
	2. # of beneficiaries benefitting from an internship or apprenticeship as part of the training	800	
	3. # of beneficiaries obtaining employment following internship or apprenticeship	400	
Output A.1.2	Linking job-seekers with the private sector through job matching and counselling		
Output Indicator A.1.2	1. # of beneficiaries benefitting from counselling	600	
	2. # successful job matching	300	
Engagement Title 2	A2: Decent work	Target 2021	Achievement 30th Sep 2019
Outcome Area	Improved capacity of national partners to create jobs and mainstream decent work		
Outcome Indicator	1. # of new jobs created by partners in sectors with future employment potential in Syria	500	
	2. % change in perceived work conditions (safety, salary, harassment, exploitation, etc.) in targeted businesses	50%	
	3. % targeted businesses that have made efforts to improve work conditions	50%	
Output A.2.1	Based on market needs in sectors that can provide employment for refugees, creating sustainable businesses, incl. transferable potential, through partnerships with relevant local structures & private sector		
Output Indicator A.2.1	1. # of partnerships with local structures established	25	29
	2. # of existing businesses supported or start-ups created(Q11)	100	
	3. % of supported businesses / start-ups with potential for future business activity in Syria	50%	
Output A.2.2	Mainstreaming decent work agenda in partnerships with the relevant local structures and private sector actors by providing specific tools to improve work condition challenges		

Output Indicator A.2.2	1. # of tools developed and shared	15	
	2. % of local structures and private sector actors using tools provided to improve work conditions	70%	
Thematic Programme	B. Upholding and expanding protection space		
Thematic Programme Objective	<i>Protection space for vulnerable refugees and host communities is expanded</i>	Target 2021	Achievement 30th Sep 2019
Impact Indicator	1. %-change of children aged 5-17 in targeted displacement affected communities engaged in full-time child labor	40%	
	2. %-change in reported SGBV cases	40%	
	3. %-change in perceived safety in targeted displacement affected communities	50%	
Engagement Title	B1: National actor response		
Outcome Area	Enhanced capacity of national actors and civil society actors enabling vulnerable rights holders to enjoy rights and access protection services		
Outcome indicator	1. %-change in displacement affected communities perceived performance of local authorities and civil society actors response and prevention of SGBV and child labor	40%	
	2. %-change in displacement affected communities perceived availability and access to child labor and SGBV services	40%	
Output B.1.1	Training and capacity building initiatives, as well as direct support to service provision, directed at national actors to improve protection focusing on SGBV and child labor rights		
Output indicators B.1.1	1. # of trainings focusing on prevention and response of SGBV by working with men & boys, elders & religious leaders(Q32)	60	3
	2. # of SGBV and child labor response actors finding training relevant	40	
Engagement Title	B2: Social cohesion		
Outcome Area	Improved social cohesion and reduced tensions in displacement affected communities		
Outcome indicator	1. # functioning conflict mitigation mechanisms in displacement affected communities	1/Targeted community	
	2. %-change in perceived violations of basic rights in displacement affected communities	50%	
	3. % decrease in # of disputes between host communities and refugees	50%	
Output B.2.1	Communities are supported to reduce tensions & mitigate conflict through capacity development & empowerment of local conflict resolution actors		
Output indicators B.2.1	1. # communities finding support useful	30	

Thematic Programme	C: Applied Research and advocacy		
Thematic Programme Objective	<i>A more conducive environment for durable solutions</i>	Target 2021	Achievement 30th Sep 2019
Impact Indicator	1. # of policies or programmes by national or local governments that promotes the ability of refugees to avail themselves of a durable solution	10	2
	2. # legal or administrative provisions implemented which increase ability of refugees to gain employment or economic activity	6	
	3. # legal or administrative provisions implemented which increases protection of refugees basic rights	6	
Engagement Title 1	C1: Applied research		
Outcome	High quality and relevant research is used by stakeholders		
Outcome indicator	1. Awareness of RDPP's supported research	TBD	
	2. # of Donors and partners report using RDPP research	30	
	3. % of target audience finding RDPP supported research relevant and of high quality	90%	
Output C.1.1	Research published and disseminated to relevant stakeholders		
Output indicator C.1.1	1. # of research publication	14	
	2. # of persons research publications are directly disseminated to	250	
	3. # of reports relevant to Thematic Area, Thematic Area B and other emerging needs	14	
Engagement Title 2	C2: Advocacy		
Outcome	Evidence based advocacy on different levels informs policies and programming towards durable solutions	Target 2021	Achievement 30th Sep 2019
Outcome indicator	1. # statements or initiatives by national or local government officials supportive of refugees being enabled to avail themselves of a durable solution	20	3
	2. RDDP supported research is used or referenced in country response plans and strategies, strategies of other instruments in the region	10	2
Output C.2.1	Context-specific policy dialogue and support to national actors for legislative changes, policy adjustments and initiatives that support reform and durable solutions		
Output indicator C.2.1	1. # of meetings conducted with national actors with reform, durable solutions and supporting rights of vulnerable groups as main agenda point (Q43)	18	13
	2. # of other dialogue and interactions with national actors with reform, durable solutions and supporting rights of vulnerable groups as main agenda point (Q43)	18	
Output C.2.2	Supporting advocacy efforts of national actors related to protracted displacement, durable solutions and rights of vulnerable groups		
Output indicator C.2.2	1. # of support activities conducted	10	
	2. % national actors finding support useful	75%	

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Annex 3: Partnership list

THEMATIC PROGRAMME	Partner	Title	Country	Start Date	End Date	Budget in Euro	Project Content	Status
Protection: 10	ABAAD - Resource Center for Gender Equality - Lebanon	"REFORM: Towards a strengthened quality response and inclusive and dignified du-rable solution for GBV survivors in Lebanon" Project	Lebanon	maj-19	dec-21	3.275.899	This three-year project targets women and children survivors and/or those at risk of GBV or child protection violations, and men with abusive behavior, as well as supporting the capacity development of local authorities and national actors on GBV prevention and response. It aims to enhance the protection space for vulnerable refugees and host communities, and contribute to a more conducive environment for durable solutions through conducting nation-wide community awareness sessions.	In Progress
	The Jordanian National Commission for Women - Jordan	Improving the status of women in Jordan through combating child marriage and promoting positive masculinity	Jordan	jul-19	dec-21	772.324	This project's overall objective is to contribute to a safe environment for women and girls in Jordan through the prevention of negative practices and behaviours focusing on child marriage as a form of GBV. Through working with national authorities, the commission aims to (1) positively influence capacities, attitudes and knowledge of stakeholders regarding implementation of legislation and practices linked to child marriage, (2) improve communities' attitudes and behaviours toward child marriage and other gender-related issues, and (3) improve their capacities and those of their partners in managing women-related interventions.	In Progress
	UNFPA - Iraq	Improving quality and effective management of GBV mitigation and response services in Iraq	Iraq	jul-19	dec-21	2.958.016	This three-year project is being implemented in Iraqi Kurdistan through four local partners, and in collaboration with local authorities. It aims at expanding the protective environment in support to the rights of vulnerable refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities, in particular survivors of GBV. It works towards three specific objectives: (1) enhanced capacity of national actors enabling GBV survivors to enjoy rights and access protection services, (2) research on GBV identified priority issues and safely collected data are used by key stakeholders, and (3) improved legal framework and behavioural changes enhanced through evidence based advocacy	In Progress
	The Community Organization For Development and Empowerment Initiate - Lebanon	1001 Nights - Cartoons and Entertainment to Promote Social Cohesion	Lebanon	nov-19	nov-21	2.795.670	The focus of this proposal is to implement Big Bad Boo's 1001 Nights Civic and Peace Education Program with children in formal and informal learning environments, and with vulnerable (host and refugee) communities to: (1) promote social cohesion, reduce tensions and sectarian discord in the short and long-term; and (2) increase the capacity of MEHE and NGOs providing services to vulnerable communities to implement programs that normalize diversity, pluralism, gender equality and civic values. If funded, this program will benefit over 100,000 school and refugee children in formal and non-formal learning environments, and over 120,000 people in vulnerable communities (those impacted by displacement) with Syrian, Iraqi, Palestinian and Lebanese beneficiaries.	Under development

	Relief International - Lebanon	New Beginnings: Holistic Protection and Livelihoods Solutions to Reduce Child Labour in North Lebanon	Lebanon	dec-19	dec-21	2.076.885	The overall goal of project is to reduce Child Labour amongst vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugee HHs in North Lebanon through a holistic integrated approach that addresses both the supply and the demand sides of the Child Labour market in order to comprehensively address the multiple root causes of working children. The program will take a two-pronged approach to reducing Child Labour in three areas of North Lebanon (two in Akkar, one in Tripoli) by simultaneously addressing economic vulnerability and protection concerns of working children and their HHs, while also engaging government structures and enforcement bodies to help change the enabling environment that supports CL.	Under development
	Solidarity is Global Institute - Jordan	Protection and Economic Development for Syrian refugees and Jordanian women	Jordan	okt-19	dec-21	1.069.423	This project focus is promotion of inclusive economic development combined with protection responding to SGBV in creation of safe and sustained livelihoods opportunities for displacement affected women and girls in Jordan. The partners work closely with national stakeholders like the Ministry of Planning and International Co-operation (MOPIC), which leads on the annual Jordan Response Plans (JRP). Other key stakeholders include the Ministry of Labour (MoL) which is responsible for administering employment and vocational training matters. The project has three outcomes: Outcome 1. Enhanced employability skills of Syrian refugee and Jordanian women in hosting communities. Outcome 2. Improved capacity of Jordanian CSOs and economic actors to create jobs for women and mainstream decent work. Outcome 3. Enhanced capacity of CBOs and local authorities to enable vulnerable rights holders to access SGBV prevention and protection services.	Under development
	Generations For Peace (GFP) - Jordan	Improving Services and Community Cohesion for Syrians and Jordanians (ISACCSJ)	Jordan	jan-20	dec-21	1.803.358	<p>The key objective of the project is to protect and build resilience of vulnerable Jordanians and refugees by improving their employability and access to decent jobs and income generation opportunities; building private sector capacity to create decent jobs and providing protection services in a safe environment.</p> <p>The project follows a multi-faceted comprehensive strategy that addresses the skills deficit of vulnerable Jordanians and refugees through technical formal education and transferrable skills training that is responsive to specific private sector needs in partnership with national structures and accredited private sector providers. It tackles the job creation and income deficit in partnership with the private sector by: a) Supporting incubation of micro-enterprises; providing them with business development services, marketing and supply chain networks and supporting their registration especially in joint ventures or cooperatives b) Investing in expansion of existing successful private sector enterprises for decent job creation. The project thus enhances the linkages of job-seekers with decent jobs and micro-enterprises with peers, business networks and markets.</p>	Under development

	Siren Associates Jordan Limited - Jordan	Expanding the Protection Space: Community Safety Services for Displacement-Impacted Communities	Jordan	dec-19	dec-21	3.061.436	<p>The project is based on the underlying theory of change of a community-based approach to policing, namely that greater involvement of community members in local problem solving leads to more effective solutions and greater community safety, thereby leading to both improved intercommunal relations and trust in the police, which further reinforces – and learns from – the model being piloted in North Amman.</p> <p>The project will support the Public Security Directorate (PSD) in the expansion and further institutionalisation of community policing. The project builds on two parallel intervention strategies. The first will build the capacity of duty bearers – primarily the PSD’s community policing structures and services. The second focuses on empowering rights holder – the local community – to raise local problems to decision makers and in partnership find solutions. The strategy utilises a community-based approach that mobilises and capacitates targeted communities in a way that preserves and promotes their dignity, self-esteem, productive and creative potential. It targets both the local level, in order to be responsive to local context and concerns, and the national level, in order to build greater sustainability, learning, and scalability of successful innovations. Interventions at all levels will build on existing structures and will draw on Siren’s extensive network of local partners.</p>	Under negotiation with potential reduction in scope and budget.
	Tamkeen for Legal Aid and Human Rights - Jordan	Preventing and Minimising Child Labour in Identified Hazardous Sectors in Jordan	Jordan	okt-19	nov-21	1.072.219	<p>The project focus on strengthening the efforts towards the elimination and alleviation of violations faced by children workers in the Jordan, with an emphasis on those working in hazardous sectors. The sectors targeted are agriculture, begging and street vendors, selected based on the high number of children working in them and due to the vulnerable background of the children as the majority of them are from poor communities and are exposed to various forms of violations.</p> <p>The project will include three clusters of activities: 1) Decent work include the provision of direct services, such as raising awareness of children workers, their parents and employers on child labour issues in Jordan; 2) Supporting enhanced capacity of national actors to improve protection frameworks and protection services related to child labour, which will include capacity building trainings targeting relevant governmental stakeholders, members of the media as well as the local organisations. The trainings will be specially tailored for each category; and 3) Advocacy for strengthening of the laws that prevent children from working in hazardous sectors as well as strengthen punishments to those who exploit children.</p> <p>The targeted national institutions by Tamkeen include Ministry of Labour, Public Security Directorate including the Juvenile Police Department, Ministry of Social Development, and Ministry of Education, judges, prosecutors, and media.</p>	In progress

	International Labour Organisation - Iraq	Tackling the Worst Forms of Child Labour amongst IDPs, Refugees, and Vulnerable Host Communities in Iraq	Iraq	dec-19	nov-21	2.562.865	The project will adopt an integrated approach to address the worst form of child labour through a set of complementary upstream and downstream interventions. The ILO will complement efforts to provide system-wide support to MOLSA for improving child protection systems in Iraq. The ILO will ensure that child labour monitoring involves not only core child protection actors, but also others, including for example employers, labour inspectors, and social protection stakeholders. An effective child labour monitoring system (CLMS) would be critical to facilitate the identification, withdrawal, referral, rehabilitation, protection and prevention of child labour through the development of a coordinated and multi-sector monitoring and referral process, linked to national child protection referral systems and mechanisms. Therefore, CLMS will be established in two locations (one per governorate), as a pilot model. Further, Building on governmental and UN agency efforts to enrol children in formal or non-formal education, as well as lessons learnt from previous education models piloted by the ILO in the region, the project will develop and pilot a cost-effective model for bridging education in the target areas for the gradual reinsertion of children in education. Lastly, several advocacy efforts through media campaigns, training of national stakeholders and mainstreaming child labour concerns among UN agencies will support the overall outcome of the programme.	Under development
Livelihoods: 9	Safadi Foundation - Lebanon	Accelerated Vocational Training Centre for the socio-economic inclusion in the North	Lebanon	jun-19	dec-21	2.277.145	This three-year project's overall aim is to stimulate sustainable economic participation of vulnerable youth to promote their inclusion in the development of marginalized communities. The project's approach rests on three main pillars: social empowerment, economic empowerment, and employment and job creation. It works across two specific objectives: (1) developing youth employability through comprehensive training programmes, and (2) strengthening the private sector and national actors' engagement in active labour market	In Progress
	Jordan River Foundation - Jordan	Resilience through Livelihoods for Vulnerable Syrian Refugees and Jordanian Host Community across Jordan	Jordan	jul-19	dec-21	2.920.890	This three year project aims to improve access to safe and sustainable livelihood opportunities for displacement affected populations in support of durable solutions with focus on youth. It works toward enhancing transferable employability skills, creating and sustaining income generating opportunities, and building the capacities of partner Community Based Organizations (CBOs).	In Progress

	Lebanon Relief Council (LebRelief) - Lebanon	Second Chances – Value Chain Incubator	Lebanon	dec-19	dec-21	1.621.371	The proposed project is developed as an innovative methodology to tap into the opportunity of creating cross-sectoral value chain innovation. To achieve this, the project activities focus on the development of partnerships with national and local structures and business development and start-up support through which a set of strategic actors within the value participate in an incubation process. The envisioned outcome of the incubation process by December 2021 is a sustainable, continuously expanding, model of locally sourced affordable second hand clothes, sold through an increasing number of empowered Second Hand Community Shops. During and after the two-year incubation process the value chain innovation will create decent jobs in solid waste collection, construction, up-cycling, recycling, cleaning, distribution and retail. Strategic actors key to the success of the project outcomes are the value chain innovator (FabricAID), the value chain innovation enablers (Municipalities and local NGOs) and the value chain innovation channels (Second Hand Clothing Shops).	Under development
	AltCity Impact NGO - Lebanon	Youth Entrepreneurship & Employability Accelerators Program	Lebanon	jan-20	dec-21	1.812.769	<p>The “Youth Entrepreneurship & Employability Accelerators Program” consists of the following elements: 1. Community Building: Primarily online activities to help people connect, discuss, meet, share ideas, and learn; offline partners can conduct offline and hybrid online + offline community activities as well. 2. Start-up Sprints: 1-week high intensity learning experiences. 3. Start-up Accelerators: 4-month intensive project development periods, with weekly workshops, regular mentorship, and regular follow-up; these are delivered both directly by our team, and through a “training of trainer” program through which the partner competitively recruit, select, train, and support implementing partners all around Lebanon, targeting geographies, communities, participants, sectors, or challenges that they jointly identify and decide to focus on during the co-creation period. 4. Employability & Digital/Online Jobs Tracks: For those who choose to go down the path of employment, the partner have a track supporting them in that process, with additional activities, mentorship, and networking support to help them get either local or digital/online jobs.</p> <p>The project uses “Pitchworthy”, developed by AltCity, is a scalable software platform and teaching pedagogy that helps people develop critical skills through guided self-learning, large-group facilitated programs, and smaller learning circles. Pitchworthy was designed specifically to improve opportunities for people without access to normal avenues for high-quality, engaging, personalized entrepreneur education and support. The</p>	Under development
	Leaders International for Economic Development - Jordan	Improving Resilience of Refugee and Host Population in Jordan through Development of Livelihood Skills and Opportunities	Jordan	dec-19	dec-21	1.376.273	The project aims at targeting existing private sector companies to upgrade them through the provision of tailored business development services. Companies are selected through an open application process, and the support they receive is conditional to the commitment/ability to generate new jobs following the upgrade. In parallel, the project will identify potential candidates to fill the newly created work opportunities, and will prepare them to take up the jobs through certified technical trainings and on the job training.	Under development

	Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development - Jordan	Building Resilience of Vulnerable Jordanians and Refugees through Livelihoods Support and Protection	Jordan	nov-19	okt-21	2.292.252	The project intends to protect and build resilience of vulnerable Jordanians and refugees in Jordan (from Syria and other nationalities) by improving their employability and access to decent jobs and income generation opportunities. The project aims at mainstreaming decent work practices in private sector, as well support targeted business to create new jobs and fill them with selected beneficiaries. Also, the project ensures the provision of relevant legal support, particularly linked to business registration and work conditions.	Under development
	Talent Beyond Boundaries - Jordan	Expanding Livelihoods Opportunities and Durable Solutions for Refugees in Jordan	Jordan	dec-19	dec-21	1.164.045	By expanding refugee access to international labour markets, Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) is leading a sustainable innovation that strengthens the humanitarian-development nexus by engaging a private-sector response and promoting refugee resilience and self-reliance. Facilitating refugee access to international labour markets will complement critical domestic efforts to integrate refugees into domestic markets, while filling a strategic gap in existing programming. Over the project period, TBB will match 100 refugees with decent work, 200 refugees with professional training, and 500 refugees with job counselling. Throughout the project, TBB will develop and document replicable technologies and methods that can be disseminated to partner organizations, with a goal of ultimately building local capacity to deliver on livelihoods, domestically and internationally, as an additional solution for refugees. By further refining this innovation, TBB is leading the development of safe, regular and controlled labour migration pathways for the displaced, in line with the goals of the two Global Compacts for Refugees and Migration and the 3RP.	Under development
	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) - Iraq	Enhancing Conditions for Durable Solutions for Displacement Affected Communities (DACs) in KRI	Iraq	dec-19	nov-21	2.354.624	The objective of the project is "access to safe and sustainable livelihoods opportunities for displacement-affected populations, in support of durable solutions is improved in Dohuk governorate of Iraq". With the aim of promoting innovation and entrepreneurship by translating ideas into businesses, the project will support the establishment and revitalisation of MSMEs in sectors with high income generating potential. This will be done through business grants and a combination of contextualized business and technical trainings, using the inclusive MSME model to target youth, women and men. NRC will collaborate several entities, including REACH (local partner pre identified), the Dohuk Chamber of Commerce and the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure businesses have access to Business Development Services (BDS). The project will address a critical component of the enabling environment for MSMEs, enabling firms to scale up operations and strengthen market linkages. BDS services can also help facilitate access to financial opportunities by improving the financial management of MSMEs. The project will also provide market-driven vocational skills training designed to improve income opportunities for both male and female youth through the Transition to Employment program and through NRC's 'Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance' (ICLA) program provide legal protection services related to the labour market and promote decent work to relevant stakeholders.	Under development

	<p>Mercy Corps Europe - Iraq</p>	<p>Youth-Oriented Innovative Employment and Livelihoods towards Durable Solutions for IDPs, Host Communities and Syrian Refugees in Iraq (YIELDS)</p>	<p>Iraq</p>	<p>jan-20</p>	<p>dec-21</p>	<p>2.241.584</p>	<p>Mercy Corps will implement YIELDS, a programme with the goal of helping ensure that refugees and host populations living in displacement affected communities access their rights, are safe, self-reliant, and refugees are able to avail themselves of a durable solution. The programme is designed to give participants a livelihood pathway with opportunities most suitable for them and their situation, creating an enabling environment, so youth can find work either as employees at established businesses, establishing their own businesses, or as freelancers. The programme instils social cohesion principles throughout each of the livelihood tracks to empower youth to collectively work towards their goals and build relationships with one another. Mercy Corps also adopts a holistic approach to also educate business owners on the value of employing displaced youth to strengthen the social fabric within their communities to create more opportunities for employment with private businesses.</p>	<p>Under development</p>
<p>Research and Advocacy: 4</p>	<p>Danish Refugee Council (DRC) - Regional</p>	<p>Durable Solutions Platform Phase II - 2019-2021</p>	<p>Regional</p>	<p>feb-19</p>	<p>dec-21</p>	<p>1.846.542</p>	<p>With the support of the RDPP, the DSP will produce eleven research products over three years covering the three durable solutions, while ensuring that applied research is responsive to a changing context and continues to feed into advocacy priorities. The DSP will also deliver a multi-year durable solutions advocacy workstream that builds on DSP research, and ensure that findings reach key stakeholders in the region and beyond.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>
	<p>ALEF Act for Human Rights - Lebanon</p>	<p>Advocating for a Dignified Life for Refugees and Vulnerable Host Communities in Lebanon</p>	<p>Lebanon</p>	<p>apr-19</p>	<p>mar-21</p>	<p>542.964</p>	<p>This project is a continuation and expansion on the work of the Working Group for Persons Affected by the Syrian Crisis (WG PASC), a protection advocacy network of 26 national and local CSOs. WG PASC was formed in 2016, and works to enhance the capacity and space for civil society organizations in Lebanon to influence their government and international actors to adopt policies that more effectively meet the needs of vulnerable displaced persons and host communities, and implement them effectively. The project aims to enhance the capacity of the Working Group to influence policies and help vulnerable rights holders enjoy rights and access protection, and influence protection policies and practices to improve affected communities' protection environment and access to basic services and rights.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>

	Oxfam IBIS - Lebanon	Promotion of decent work and sustainable business development in Bekaa, Lebanon	Lebanon	jan-20	dec-21	1.656.273	<p>While OXFAM Ibis and its partners recognizes the potential blockages for reform, especially given the sensitivity of formalizing the work of refugees, the project is designed in a way to i) fill the gap left by the absence of protective governmental procedures and ii) advocate for actionable policy reforms based on a realistic situational assessment. An active engagement with stakeholders at different levels is needed to spark socio-economic shifts in the longer term, where research, awareness raising on labour rights and concrete support to grow MSMEs are brought together. The proposed action aims to contribute to a decent and economically sustainable business environment for displacement-affected populations in Bekaa, Lebanon. The action is guided by the following theory of change: If 1) the organizational, technical, and evidence-based advocacy capacities of My Work, My Rights! Network of CSOs is improved to mainstream and collectively monitor decent work conditions; and 2) the capacities and tools of business development services on decent work are developed with the support of CSO network; and 3) selected MSMEs, specifically in sectors where Syrian refugees can work, receive technical support from the business development services and financial support to strengthen their business and improve their working conditions; then access to decent, safe and sustainable livelihoods opportunities for displacement-affected populations, in support of durable solutions, will be improved. As such, the proposed project focuses on working with national actors, linking civil society with the private sector, as well as with advocacy stakeholders, to achieve three interrelated specific objectives</p>	Under development
	Barzani Charity Foundation (BCF) - Iraq	Enhancing the role of CSOs in research and advocacy	Iraq	nov-19	maj-21	1.212.269	<p>The overall goal of the project is to improve the role of Civil Society organisations in providing evidence based policy solutions to enhance the livelihood conditions and protection spaces of Iraqi and Syrian refugees, migrants and IDPs in Northern Iraq and neighbouring governorates. The project will focus on three main areas; 1) Enhance the capacity of civil society organisations in northern Iraq on evidence-based research, advocacy, and policy influencing; 2) Civil society organisations in Northern Iraq are able to identify durable solutions to support the rights of vulnerable groups, based on evidence-based policy and advocacy research; and 3) Civil Society Organisations and their allies have increased interaction, mutual support and joint advocacy on refugees' and IDPs livelihood opportunities and protection spaces at sub-national and national levels.</p>	Under development

Annual reporting year 1 – October 2018-September 2019
Annex 4 – Media Coverage and Visibility

I. Reports launched and published

1. DSP report <i>'Far from Home: Future Prospects for Syrian Refugees in Iraq'</i> funded under RDPP I is launched and published during RDPP II reporting period		
Published in	No Lost Generation Website	https://www.nolostgeneration.org/article/durable-solutions-platform-2019-far-homefuture-prospects-syrian-refugees-iraq
	NRC website	https://www.nrc.no/resources/reports/far-from-home-future-prospects-for-syrian-refugees-in-iraq/
	DRC website	https://drc.ngo/media/5063947/far-from-home-future-prospects-for-syrian-refugees-in-iraq-january2019.pdf
Referenced in	Migration Update: Middle East & Eastern Mediterranean (2019), p.24	http://www.mixedmigration.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/qmmu-me-q1-2019.pdf
	State of the Syria Crisis Response: Assessing Humanitarian and Development Challenges	https://voluntasgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/190704_Voluntas_Advisory_Syria_Crisis_Response_Assessment_Third_annual.pdf
	Syria Crisis Humanitarian Results UNICEF (February 2019)	https://www.unicef.org/appeals/files/UNICEF_Syria_Humanitarian_Situation_Report_Feb_2019.pdf
	How Syrian Women Are Forging a New Economic Future. Centre for International Governance Intervention (14 February 2019)	https://www.cigionline.org/articles/how-syrian-women-are-forging-new-economic-future

II. Partner audio-visual material

- Partners, Safadi Foundation in Lebanon, produced outreach material targeting youth and community stakeholders, including an informative animated short video that was circulated on social media platforms and WhatsApp groups:
<https://www.facebook.com/SafadiFoundation/videos/552813862129726/>

III. RDPP visibility

- A new revamped RDPP website was launched in September 2019 (rdpp-me.org), it includes project and partner information and country-focused partner produced research publications and beneficiary stories/testimonies under RDPP funded activities.
- Production of one-pager fact sheets for all RDPP II funded projects, and finalization of visibility products including presentation templates, roll-up banners, logo-stickers and story posters.
- Production of story 'Meet Um Samer: Mother of five flees Syria, seeks refuge in Al Mafraq Jordan': <https://rdpp-me.org/story-description/9>

The Danish Minister for Development Cooperation, Rasmus Prehn, visited partners ABAAD in Lebanon and JRF in Jordan in September 2019. Coverage included:

- Politiken (Danish): <https://politiken.dk/udland/art7377475/Der-er-ingen-der-%C3%B8nsker-at-b%C3%B8rn-skal-vokse-op-i-en-lejr-og-det-h%C3%A5ber-jeg-da-ogs%C3%A5-at-man-t%C3%A6nker-over-i-Syrien>
- Xinhuanet (English): http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-09/12/c_138387360.htm
- DR (Danish): https://www.dr.dk/tv/se/seneste-nyt-fra-tv-avisen-2/tv-avisen-27/tv-avisen-2019-09-11-18-30-6?fbclid=IwAR1qTCNCeYr7c5IQRMTKyUQkCwMdS6-Z7Va4rJ6FTWBPR_uS9ANyl2asffM
- <https://jordantimes.com/news/local/planning-minister-meets-danish-minister>
- <http://nna-leb.gov.lb/en/show-news/107480/Gharib-welcomes-Danish-Minister-of-Development-Cooperation-For-safe-dignified-return-of-displaced>

Partners JRF and ABAAD whose RDPP funded projects were visited tweeted about the visit

<https://twitter.com/jordanriverfdn/status/1171717406508683264>

<https://twitter.com/ghidaanani/status/1171838749136867328>

Annual reporting year 1 – October 2018-September 2019
Annex 5 – Annual plan year 2 and forecast budget

Activity	Time frame
Annual report to donors	30 November 2019
Finalisation of contracting of partnerships selected through call for new partners	November-January 2020
Updating of RDPP communications strategy	November 2019
2 nd meeting of the Steering Committee, Brussels	12 December 2019
Assess and contracting research pieces/partner	December 2019 – June 2020
Opportunities for participation in partner events throughout the year e.g. graduation events, research and policy discussions, advocacy events	January-December 2020
Country Level Advisory Group meetings (Beirut, Amman, Erbil) – new partners invited to present projects and networking	February 2019
QIN to donors	28 February 2020
Country Level Advisory Group meetings (Beirut, Amman, Erbil) - Field Visit	March 2020
Anti-corruption training for partners (Beirut, Amman, Erbil)	May/June 2020
Inception Review (replaces ROM if no ROM requested)	August-October 2020
QIN to donors	31 May 2020
Country Level Advisory Group meetings (Beirut, Amman, Erbil)	June 2020
Identification of research gaps and priorities for year 3	June-December 2020
3 rd Steering Committee, Brussels	May/June 2020
QIN to donors	31 August 2020
Regional Local Advisory Group meeting	August/September 2020
Annual report to donors	30 November 2020

Country Level Advisory Group meetings (Beirut, Amman, Erbil)	December 2020
Steering Committee field visit	Last week November/first week December 2020
4 th Steering Committee, Brussels (or Beirut/Amman if following field trip)	December 2020

Below is the forecast budget reflecting the above planned expenditure for annual plan year 2.

Thematic Programme	Total Budget (Euro)	Expenditure PMU and commitments year 1	Budget year 2*	Remaining year 3
Livelihoods towards durable solutions	19,400,000	5,198,035	15,466,660	- 1,264,695
Upholding and expanding protection space	15,750,000	5,859,160	11,701,288	- 1,810,448
Research and advocacy	9,962,078	3,536,584	1,835,171	4,590,323
Programme Management Unit	4,719,783	715,542	1,630,000	2,374,241
Administration 7% of non-Danish funding	1,769,454	310,256	To be calculated on the basis of expenditure year 2	1,459,197
Contingency reserve 5% of total budget	2,491,593	To be allocated in year 3	To be allocated in year 3	2,491,593
Total	54,092,908	15,309,321	30,633,119	7,840,211

* The allocations for the three thematic areas in year 2 is based on the concept notes received from the call i.e. not final commitments. Final distribution and commitments will be different and less than the above stated figures.