



INTER-AGENCY ASSESSMENT

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND CHILD PROTECTION AMONG SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN, WITH A FOCUS ON EARLY MARRIAGE



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This report summarizes the findings of an assessment of gender-based violence and child protection issues, with special emphasis on early marriage, among Syrian refugees. Any questions about this report and its findings can be directed to Blerta Aliko, Recovery Adviser, at: blerta.aliko@unwomen.org.

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PEACE AND SECURITY

UN WOMEN

Amman, Jordan, July 2013



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This study was undertaken on behalf of the Child Protection and Gender-based Violence sub-working groups in Jordan, established in February 2012 to coordinate prevention and response to child protection issues and gender-based violence (GBV) against children and adults affected by the crisis in Syria and who are living in camps, sites, and host communities. Co-chaired by UNICEF, UNFPA, and UNHCR, they are a sub-working group of the Community-based Protection Working Group chaired by UNHCR. Members of the sub-working groups include UN agencies as well as international and national NGOs working in these sectors.

Finally, we are grateful to the Government of Finland for its financial support to this study, and to all study respondents – from Syrian refugees to Syrian and Jordanian stakeholders and service providers – for their generous participation.



FOREWORD



Three years into the conflict in Syria, more than 4 million Syrians have become internally displaced and more than 1.5 million have sought refuge in surrounding countries, fleeing violence. Neighboring Jordan, despite its relatively small territory, has absorbed a disproportionate number of these refugees with admirable generosity and in spite of increasingly limited resources. Yet international, national, and local service providers in Jordan as well as Jordanian communities themselves find it increasingly difficult to find sufficient resources, not only for their Syrian guests, but even for Jordanian communities' needs.

Adding to these tensions over resources, the proliferation of dramatic news reports – particularly regarding child marriage in Syrian refugee communities – brings gender-based violence and child protection issues into the international spotlight. A more nuanced understanding of actual knowledge, attitudes, and practices—in other words, causal factors and how these translate into actions—is necessary in order to address the particular needs and cultural dynamics of Syrian refugees residing in Jordan. Furthermore, with women, girls, and boys making up close to 80% of Jordan's nearly half a million Syrian refugees, it is of paramount importance for service providers and donors to disaggregate the needs of each of these highly vulnerable demographic sub-groups. Regional variations in lifestyle and resources within Jordan also contribute to the varied experiences of urban Syrian refugees and merit close attention when designing interventions.

To that end, this report presents a comprehensive range of perspectives not only from urban Syrian refugees themselves, but also from local Jordanian stakeholders in government, community-based organizations, and the religious and educational sectors. We both hope and believe that this approach has resulted in a 360-degree picture of where and why necessary services and information have failed to effectively reach their target audiences.

I dedicate this report to all those working with vulnerable families in Jordan. Following extensive discussions facilitated by men and women, it presents an analysis of the distinct needs of women, girls, boys and men aiming to cope in difficult circumstances around the country. The celebration of capacities and acknowledgment of vulnerabilities will fuel our collaborative efforts towards meaningful gender equality in humanitarian action.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dr. Sameera Al-Tuwaijri". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Sameera Al-Tuwaijri
Regional Director
Arab States
UN Women

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CBO	Community-based Organization
CDC	Community Development Centre
CP	Child Protection
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FPD	Family Protection Department
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GBV IMS	Gender-based Violence Information Management System
GOJ	Government of Jordan
IFH	Institute for Family Health
JNCW	Jordanian National Commission for Women
JOHUD	Jordan Hashemite Fund for Development
JWU	Jordanian Women's Union
KI	Key Informant
NCFA	National Council for Family Affairs
NCHR	National Commission for Human Rights
NFI	Non-Food Items
NHF	Noor Al-Hussein Foundation
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-based Violence
UASC	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UPP	Un Ponte Per
VAW	Violence against Women
WFP	World Food Programme

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since March 2011, the internal armed conflict in Syria has displaced more than 4 million people within Syria and forced another 1.5 million to seek refuge in neighboring countries. As of May 2013, Jordan hosts more than 470,000 Syrian refugees, a number that has increased exponentially during the first three months of 2013 as the conflict has intensified and expanded to major cities throughout Syria.¹

Two-thirds of Syrian refugees in Jordan reside outside of camps, in urban and rural communities throughout the country. They face unique challenges, from meeting the cost of living and accessing basic services to acclimating to their host communities and coping with intense psychosocial distress. Women and children, who make up 80% of Jordan's Syrian refugee population, are vulnerable to an increased risk of sexual, physical, and psychological abuse, yet have limited opportunities to access safe spaces or social services.

This assessment was conducted from December 2013 to March 2013 to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the risks that Syrian refugee families – especially women and girls – face in Jordan, and to provide a deeper understanding of Syrian urban refugees' knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards gender-based violence (GBV) against adults and children, including early marriage.² While findings from this report may apply at the moment of its publication, it should be noted that some of the issues raised might have since been addressed. It was carried out with the participation of a range of community-based

stakeholders in 11 of Jordan's 12 governorates. The findings are based on data collected through three different tools: 1) a questionnaire distributed to 613 refugees residing outside of the Za'atari refugee camp; 2) focus group discussions (FGD) held in all regions so as to gain qualitative information about economic and physical security, major trends with regards to GBV and child protection issues, and information about quality and access to services; and 3) 45 in-depth interviews with key informants, community leaders and service providers from all regions, selected for their knowledge about the living conditions of the target population.

Findings from this report reveal that, rates of early marriage are high, a significant percentage of children contribute to the household's income or are its main source of income, and restrictions on the mobility of women and girls constrain their participation in social and economic activities and their access to basic services. As the overwhelming majority of refugees do not have paid employment and rely mainly on aid and dwindling family resources, the more the situation of displacement is prolonged the greater the likelihood of higher rates of child labor for boys and early marriage for girls.

Gender-based Violence remains a private and sensitive issue that is largely addressed within the home setting. Specialized, confidential, and supportive services currently available to Syrian women and children survivors of GBV are not sufficient, and when such resources are available, Syrian refugees are very often unaware of them. Eighty-three percent of those surveyed do not know of any services available for survivors of GBV in their community. Across the board, women were much likelier to report any form of violence to other family members, rather than to service providers or the police, and many felt more comfortable reaching out to a religious official, such as a local imam,

¹ UNHCR, "Syria Regional Refugee Response Inter-agency Information Sharing Portal (Jordan)," available at: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=107> (accessed 14 May 2013).

² Early marriage is generally classified as a type of gender-based violence and of forced marriage, given that boys and girls under 18 years of age are considered too young to give valid consent. In general, this report assesses knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards early marriage and thus does not differentiate between the circumstances surrounding any particular case, except where it serves to illuminate a wider trend. However, it should be noted that in some cases and under specific circumstances, child marriage might be deemed to be in the best interest of the underage parties. For this and other reasons, it sometimes behoves governing authorities, in Jordan or any other country, to officially recognize these marriages and thus grant an exception to established laws.

to resolve such matters discretely. While services still need to increase, the main issue remains building trust and reaching out to the communities.

Early Marriage is a common experience for Syrian girls, yet women of all ages knew someone who had experienced early marriage. 51.3% female and 13% male of assessment participants were married before the age of 18 (most prior to their arrival in Jordan). Yet the practice is perceived to be even more prevalent by study participants; 44% identified the normal age of marriage for girls between 15 and 17 years while 6% identified 12 to 14 years as the average in their community. For both male and girls, the majority of survey respondents (over 65%) said that the average age of marriage has stayed about the same since coming to Jordan. Of those who thought it had changed, respondents were two to three times as likely to say that the age for both males and females had decreased – about 23% said this, compared to less than 10% saying it had increased. While there is no conclusive evidence that Syrian refugees are marrying early at a higher rate in Jordan than in Syria, this study notes that the sense of economic and physical insecurity that, among other factors, drive early marriage is amplified in displacement. Although younger female participants felt that there are distinct social benefits to marrying early, such as increased respect from the community, many found heading households and rearing children at such a young age to be stressful and challenging. Many of FGD participants felt that, as refugees in Jordan, it was more likely for a young girl to be married to a much older man, and in a limited number of cases, a man of Jordanian nationality, because he may be perceived as more capable of providing her with protection in an unsafe or unfamiliar environment. In general, this study revealed gaps in both awareness and services with regards to early marriage and its consequences.

Child Protection among Syrian refugees in Jordan is highlighted an area of increasing concern, putting children at risk of abuse and exploitation. In 47% of households that reported paid employment, a child is contributing to the household's income, and 15% reported child labor as the primary source (85% of reported child laborers were boys). Among those girls who were employed, 80% work in either domestic

work or agriculture, both of which are known to be high-risk sectors for physical abuse and sexual exploitation.³ Many participants reported that their children were not in school, including focus groups in which none of the family children were attending school, and most participants cited high transportation costs, overcrowding in schools, and bureaucratic barriers as the main impediments. About 11% of the households surveyed reported the presence of separated children living with them, majority being separated children that have come with their extended family. The most common form for violence against children takes place in their homes and/or at school. Violence at home has reportedly increased since the arrival in Jordan, mothers citing stress and lack of opportunities to leave the home as a contributing factor.

Accessing Basic Resources and Specialized Services is the biggest challenge for Syrian refugee women and children (girls in particular) due to their limited ability to leave the home without a male family member. Many rarely leave the home altogether in a community that both their husbands and they perceive as unsafe. In fact, adult women are only half as likely as under-age boys to go outside their house daily. One-fifth of girls never go outside their house, and displacement has made it even less likely for girls to ever be allowed to leave the house. The requirement of the accompaniment by a male relative makes it harder for women to engage in economic activities, receive education, participate in social activities, or receive aid, since only 20% of refugees in Jordan are adult males and they spend most of the day away from their relatives in search of or performing paid work. Women expressed frustration about waiting in line for hours to receive food vouchers and other basic necessities; some reported 8 to 12 hours of waiting and even having to return the following day to wait again.

Refugee Concentration led to significant variation in the information collected from the northern regions, closest to the border with Syria, the regions in the middle of the country, and the south, farthest from the

³ Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO), "Informal Workers in Focus: Domestic Workers," 2009, available at: http://wiego.org/sites/wiego.org/files/resources/files/WIEGO_Domestic_Workers_o.pdf (accessed 27 May 2013).

highest concentrations of refugees. There were more services and awareness of both gender-based violence and child protection issues in the north, but the current refugee influx is placing an unsustainable strain on the already weak local infrastructure, and organizations are not able to meet the current demand. In the south, where relative levels of poverty are lower and the existing infrastructure and services are stronger, there is however an acute lack of awareness about the issues and no specialized services to address them, mainly due to the fact that the number of Syrian refugees is smaller.

Community Relations varied according to region, with the majority of Syrian refugees expressing mixed views about their host communities. Some FGD participants stated that they would readily turn to a Jordanian neighbor for assistance, whereas others described

feeling estranged from their new communities due to their status as foreigners and asylum-seekers. Anecdotal evidence from key informants also suggests there is a high degree of mistrust between the Jordanian and Syrian communities particularly in the north, as the host community feels that the influx of Syrian refugees is jeopardizing its livelihoods. Syrian refugees did not report having witnessed or experienced physical assault from Jordanian host communities, however many described feeling vulnerable and at risk of exploitation or abuse. There was general consensus among women that male adults' fears about their safety in Jordan often results in women and children spending significant amounts or even all of their time inside, a phenomenon which contributes to increased dependency on male family members, and makes women feel more susceptible to male family members' pressures and demands.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

This assessment highlights several key protection and assistance gaps that affect the risks faced by Syrian refugees outside the camps, from boys and especially girls being married off at a young age to high rates of dependency on child labor for boys and low rates of school enrolment for both sexes, as well as lack of information, awareness, and access to services for survivors of gender-based violence. In light of these findings and the informed opinion of our interviewees, this report recommends that greater steps be taken at all levels—local, national, and international—to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable members of the Syrian refugee population are met.

An overarching recommendation which should underpin all of the issue-specific recommendations below is the need to continue efforts already made to establish a Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Task Force, to be operationalized without delay, in order to prevent acts of sexual exploitation and abuse and improving response to it when it occurs. Specific recommendations follow below:

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- Expand and improve services to respond to GBV including access to sexual and reproductive health information and programmes.
- Increase access to safe spaces in which trained professionals can provide psychosocial support for Syrian refugees who are experiencing violence, abuse, and exploitation. Increase availability of mobile clinics/units including GBV services to enable outreach in remote areas, including coordination with UNHCR helpdesks in each of the different governorates.
- Donors should allocate predictable funding and sustain funding to support implementation of safe, non-stigmatizing, culturally relevant initiatives to prevent and respond to gender-based violence strategies that will have longer-term impact on refugees, promoting durable solutions for “the day after” in Syria.

TABLE 1.
TOTAL SYRIAN HOUSEHOLDS REGISTERED WITH UNHCR BY CITIES IN JORDAN (October 2012)

CITY	TOTAL HH	TARGET HH
AJLUN	166	5
AMMAN	5,413	168
AQABA	93	3
BALQA	179	6
IRBID	7,550	234
JARASH	236	7
KARAK	257	8
MA'AN	441	14
MADABA	150	5
MAFAQ	3,111	97
TAFILAH	13	0
ZARQA	1,375	43
OTHER	341	11
TOTAL	19,325	600

- Gender-based violence interventions should prioritize participation of men and boys as part of a comprehensive strategy to prevent, mitigate and respond to related risks.
- Livelihood programmes should be scaled up to support resilience and positive coping mechanisms of Syrian refugees to support broader prevention and reduction of GBV.

- The government of Jordan should ensure that GBV survivors have access to legal services by providing them with adequate information and resources, so they may make informed choices about reporting incidents of GBV and/or pursuing legal action against perpetrators.
- Community-based organizations (CBOs), religious leaders and community structures should continue to be systematically trained and informed on GBV referral systems.
- Capacity development and networking efforts should continue to strengthen CBOs' ability to reduce risks and respond to GBV.
- Greater efforts to enforce the zero tolerance policy contained in the PSEA principles for all service providers, including trainings on the Code of Conduct for all service providers among government, UN, international, national and local stakeholders..

EARLY MARRIAGE

- Donors should support community-based initiatives to change or to mitigate the effects of harmful social norms as well as longer-term programmes to address underlying causes of early marriage.
- Raise awareness of parents, community leaders, and policy makers about the health and rights implications of girls marrying young.
- Develop social and economic programs for out-of-school girls including non-formal education programs to reduce likelihood of early marriage while also providing opportunities that encourage empowerment and self-reliance.
- Improve girls' access to education and retention in school, as it is one of the key factors in delaying the age of marriage.
- Develop economic opportunities for girls once they have graduated from school in order to provide alternative futures for women, and to highlight the advantages of encouraging girls

to complete their educations, including higher earning potential and self-sufficiency.

- Local and international organizations should implement empowerment initiatives at the onset of humanitarian action targeting young girls to build their skills, confidence and provide with vocational training through safe spaces and support networks.

CHILD PROTECTION

- Strengthen identification of unaccompanied and separated children through registration and reception processes, awareness-raising in the community, and ensure that proper verification takes place prior to family reunification. In addition, ensure Alternative Care programs are in place in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development.
- Ensure case managers and other actors are aware and trained on the CP referral pathways to ensure proper service provision to children at risk of violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation.
- Strengthen community based child protection committees to raise awareness on child rights and influence social norms in particular to prevent child labor, physical violence and early marriage.
- Donors should invest in programs that encourage parents to enroll girls and boys in school by providing incentives such as food vouchers, transportation subsidies, uniforms, books, cash incentives etc.
- The government of Jordan should ensure that children who have been exploited in the labor force have access to legal services by providing them and their families with adequate information and resources, so that they do not feel discouraged to report and/ or take legal action against abusive employers. At the same time, strategies for increased access to education and psycho-social activities should be developed.

- The government of Jordan should look into the possibility of making work permits for adults more readily available, promote sponsorship employment programmes by Jordanian employers, and enforce penalties on abusive employers that hire and exploit children. Further capacity building of Ministry of Labour and its Child Labour Unit (CLU) to ensure proper mechanisms are needed.
- Community-based organizations and other trusted service providers should increase their efforts to reach out to families with school-age children not attending school to identify the reasons, and provide support to increase access to education for girls and boys.

ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

- CBOs and other trusted service providers should increase their efforts for better outreach with information and services to vulnerable refugee population in particular to women who have less access to information and yet are key actors in seeking services that will benefit the whole family.
- Inter-organizational assessments should be conducted periodically in a coordinated way to

avoid repetition, and their results made available to all relevant stakeholders to ensure policy, advocacy and interventions are evidence based.

- Work with media and public information outlets to raise awareness by providing information on the rights associated with UNHCR registration, make available basic services in humanitarian action to promote resilience, promote positive coping mechanisms and lessen vulnerabilities.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Religious and community leaders should be involved in community dialogues and awareness-raising activities and play a positive role in combatting harmful practices.
- Promote social cohesion activities by bringing together Jordanian and Syrian communities, in particular women and children, to ease tensions and increase social ties for a peaceful co-existence between communities.
- Strengthen the capacity of pre-existing development programmes in Jordan to better address the needs of local communities due to evolving socioeconomic pressures.



RESEARCH PROBLEM

RESEARCH PROBLEM

Conflict has varied impacts on men, women, boys, and girls. In situations of conflict-related displacement, women and girls as well as men and boys are often subject to heightened risks of sexual and gender-based violence. Rates of child labor, unaccompanied and separated children, and female-headed households tend to go up, while boys and especially girls drop out of school or are married off at a young age. The legacy and consequences of violent conflict can increase intra-family violence due to a number of factors: individual and social trauma, the return of former combatants and greater availability of weapons in the community, changes in gender roles and in notions of masculinity, generalized impunity and breakdown of the rule of law, and increased tensions and frustration caused by economic stress, challenging living conditions, and the lack of opportunities.

In Jordan, as the fighting in Syria has intensified and the refugee population has grown, media and NGO reports have made reference to cases of gender-based violence in the camps, sexual exploitation, child sexual exploitation, and forced marriage of girls. Many of these reports refer to the Za'atari camp, where almost one-third of all Syrian refugees in Jordan reside. According to the International Commission of Inquiry for Syria, sexual violence has been used against both females and males as a form of torture and intimidation, while the propagation of rumours about this violence has triggered population flight.⁴ The combination of these factors with difficult living conditions for Syrians in Jordan, whether in tented camps or in host communities, may make domestic violence and other forms of violence, such as early marriage, more likely. With a majority of heads of household unable to find work and thus dependent on family savings, the economic situation is likely to put even more pressure on families, particularly young boys, to find employment and young girls to get married. Other child protection concerns include violence, abuse, and exploitation, interrupted schooling, limited access to services, and psychosocial distress caused by witnessing violence and the situation of displacement.

⁴ UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, 5 February 2013, A/HRC/22/59, available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/ColSyria/A.HRC.22.59_en.pdf (accessed 28 May 2013).

Two-thirds of Syrian refugees reside outside of Za'atari camp and transit sites, and these "urban refugees" face unique challenges related to their integration in host communities throughout Jordan; therefore this assessment concerns itself only with the urban refugee population of Jordan.

The purpose of this assessment is to:

- Examine urban Syrian refugees' knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards early marriage and other forms of GBV and child protection issues, along with the associated risks affecting Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- Identify and understand the underlying contributing factors, prevailing attitudes, and noticeable trends associated with child protection, GBV, and with early and forced marriage in particular, among Syrian refugees in Jordan. Identify major economic and safety security concerns, including threats of physical, psychosocial and sexual violence facing the urban Syrian refugee community.
- Assess awareness of and access to services by identifying the range of community and institutional resources for refugees, and particularly for women, boys, and girls, so as to assist in formulating interventions and setting action plans to respond to child protection and GBV risks, including risks related to early marriage.

METHODOLOGY

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METHODOLOGY

Under the leadership of UN Women and the coordinated umbrella of the Child Protection and Gender-based Violence sub-working groups and a designated task force, the JOHUD, ZENID, UPP and JWU, the IRC, Save the Children International, UNHCR, UNFPA and UNICEF worked in partnership to determine the assessment methodology and tools and provide the relevant training programmes for the data collectors and facilitators. The organizations involved in the data collection process and training included ten JOHUD CDCs, JWU, the IRC, UNICEF and the Family Awareness and Counseling Centre.⁵

In order to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the issues facing Syrian refugee families in Jordan, each phase of the study was conducted with the participation of a range of stakeholders in eleven governorates in the North, Middle and South of Jordan. The study targeted three percent of registered Syrian refugee households in each governorate, based on UNHCR's October 2012 count. The survey's sample frame was selected to be as representative as possible within reasonable time and budget constraints, and the qualitative sample size was determined by reaching the point of data saturation (where no new themes occur). Not all possible protection issues related to GBV and child protection were selected as topics on the basis of the desk review and consultations among partners.

Qualitative and quantitative data was obtained through three different tools: in-depth interviews with key community informants, FGDs with married and unmarried Syrian refugees of both sexes and different ages,⁶ and survey questionnaires given to 613 individuals.⁷ The questionnaires were modeled after the KAP approach to determine the participants' Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices related to GBV and child

protection issues. The FGDs were designed after the first round of 273 questionnaires was completed and took the initial findings from the survey into account, in order to explore the experiences and perspectives behind the numbers. The in-depth interview guides were then designed after analyzing both the KAP survey and the data from FGDs, in order to determine the best and most relevant information to target.

The **target group** of the study is **Syrian refugee families living in host communities in Jordan**. Any reference to registration with UNHCR is based on self-reporting and not verified. Within this group, women and children, and specifically those who face or faced marriage under the age of 18 or any form of gender-based violence, are of particular interest, but were at no point directly targeted or forced to disclose through any of the three tools. Respondents to the questionnaire and participants in the FGDs included married and unmarried men and women between the ages of 18 and 60, and between the ages of 15 and 17. Although the study found that it is not rare for Syrian girls and boys to be married younger than 15, the study did not target them directly for ethical and practical reasons.⁸ Key community figures ("key informants" or KIs), including service providers and community leaders, were chosen as participants in the in-depth interviews for their special knowledge about the living situations of the target population: managers of JOHUD's Community Development Centres, local government officials at the municipal level, particularly those involved with refugees' access to health or education, leaders of CBOs and local charity organizations who work with Syrian

⁵ Details of each organization's responsibilities in the data collection process can be found in Annex B.

⁶ All focus groups were conducted separately for males and females, and participants were further divided by marital status (ever married/unmarried) and by age (15-17 years/18-60 years).

⁷ Although the KAP survey was originally designed to target 600 individuals, 13 survey respondents were delayed in providing their responses to data collectors. As a result, data collectors distributed surveys to an additional 13 individuals to compensate for this discrepancy. However, the original 13 individuals provided their responses by the end of the quantitative phase, resulting in a total of 613 surveys respondents.

⁸ For more on early marriage laws and practices in Syria, see Early Marriage section.

refugees, law enforcement actors, religious and tribal leaders, educators, doctors, medical personnel, and other first responders for refugee needs. The guidance of local CDC managers, the local Ministry of Religion, and participants in the FGDs helped determine which actors were most active in a particular region.⁹

The study targeted eleven governorates, as shown in the below table.

⁹ For example, each local Ministry of Religion helped to select active and trusted male and female religious leaders for each target community, given their extensive knowledge of faith-based groups and their member base. See Annex B for KIs interview guide; See Annex C for full list of KIs interviewed.

TABLE 2.
DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS BY REGION, AREA, NUMBERS AND TOOLS

REGION	GOVERNORATES	TARGETED GROUP	TOOLS	NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS	
North	Irbid, Jerash, Ajloun, Mafraq	KIs	In-Depth Interviews	9	
		Community & Household Representatives	KAP Survey Questionnaires	345	
		Married and unmarried groups of Syrian refugees	FGDs	6 Male Groups	450 TOTAL
				6 Female Groups	
Middle	Zarqa, Madaba, Balqa, Amman	KIs	In-Depth Interviews	9	
		Community & Household Representatives	KAP Survey Questionnaires	245	
		Married and unmarried groups of Syrian refugees	FGDs	5 Male Groups	340 TOTAL
				6 Female Groups	
South	Aqaba, Karak, Ma'an	KIs	In-Depth Interviews	16	
		Community & Household Representatives	KAP Survey Questionnaires	23	
		Married and unmarried Syrian refugees	FGDs	5 Male Groups	127 TOTAL
				6 Female Groups	
KIs		34 In-Depth Interviews		885 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	
Community & Household Representatives		613 KAP Survey Questionnaires			
Married and unmarried Syrian refugees		34 FGDs, with 98 males and 126 females			

Participants for the FGDs and KAP survey questionnaires were selected using purposive sampling techniques, drawing from a network of Syrian refugees who were in contact with the JOHUD CDCs, JWU centres, IRC centres and Save the Children centres. Participants were chosen on the basis of the following criteria:

- Syrian refugees living in host communities in Jordan (i.e., not currently living in Za'atari refugee camp or in any of the official transit sites);
- Refugees who have fled from Syria to Jordan after March 2011;
- Roughly equal gender balance overall, as well as within each sub-region (a total of 313 men and 300 women were reached through the household surveys);
- Representative sample sizes for each age group (for FGDs, males and females were categorized as either 15 to 17 years of age or 18 and above).

Focus discussion groups were conducted separately according to sex, age, and marital status in order to facilitate an open discussion and to aid in determining differences in various groups' knowledge, attitudes, and practices, and were carried out in the northern, middle and southern regions of Jordan during the month of February 2013, with the total number of participants for each group ranging between 10 and 15 participants. Overall, the total number of participants for male FGDs tended to be lower, with as few as three men participating in one group. A total of 34 FGDs were conducted.

For the KAP surveys and the FGDs, the number of participants for each region was guided by the relative population size of Syrians in each city, which ranged from 3,000-plus families in Zarqa to as few as 200 families in Aqaba by the end of 2012.

The tools used for the study were a FGD guide, an in-depth interview guide, and a questionnaire for the

10 These numbers are still an estimate, assuming 7 persons per FGD. Numbers to be finalized post-review of all FGD attendance sheets.

KAP survey, all of which are available in the annexes. The in-depth interview guide was modified as appropriate for various key informants in order to reflect the different roles and knowledge of various community leaders and organizations.

This information was sought with an emphasis on participants' actual experiences. However, hearsay that influenced participants' perceptions of life in Jordan was included whenever it may have influenced their actions significantly. Given the sensitivity of some subjects, and in order to compare actual experiences with more generalized attitudes towards sensitive issues, participants were prompted to share broad impersonal information before weighing in on personal opinions and perceptions related to sensitive questions but were at no given time directly asked if they themselves had been subjected to violence.

DEFINITIONS

This assessment understands GBV as an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will that is based on socially ascribed gender differences between males and females.¹¹ It makes use of the standard typology developed by the inter-agency GBV Information Management System, which includes six core types of GBV: rape, sexual assault, physical assault, forced marriage, denial of resources, opportunities or services, and psychological and emotional abuse.¹² This study identifies all instances of early marriage as forced marriage, given that all persons under 18 are classified as children under international law, and are therefore subject to overwhelming pressures that invalidate their consent. This is in accordance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which

11 See the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Guidelines for Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings (2005), available at <http://gbvaor.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Guidelines-for-Gender-based-Violence-Interventions-in-Humanitarian-Settings-IASC-2005-ENGLISH.pdf>.

12 For an explanation of each type of GBV, see the GBV IMS classification tool at <http://www.gbvims.org/>.

protect the right to free and full consent to marriage as central to the rights of women and children.¹³

Child protection, on the other hand, encompasses all activities aimed towards the prevention and response to abuse, neglect, exploitation of, and violence against children in emergencies.¹⁴ This includes both immediate and long-term effects of emergencies, including sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking, child labour, family separation and neglect, physical and emotional abuse, and child marriage, referred to as early marriage throughout this report. A child is any person who is under the age of 18, unless under the (national) law applicable to the child, majority age is attained earlier.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Following the World Health Organization's (WHO) *Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Researching, Documenting, and Monitoring Sexual Violence*, special care was taken to ensure that the individuals who participated in the interviews were not exposed to further risks while providing information on sensitive subjects, and additional safeguards were put in place when children between 15 and 17 years old were involved.¹⁵

¹³ UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), CEDAW General Recommendation No. 24: Article 12 of the Convention (Women and Health), 1999, A/54/38/Rev.1, chap. I, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/453882a73.html> (accessed 14 May 2013); UN General Assembly, Convention on the Rights of the Child, 20 November 1989, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1577, p. 3, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b38fo.html> (accessed 14 May 2013); International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), G.A. res. 2200A (XXI), 21 U.N.GAOR Supp. (No. 16) at 49, U.N. Doc. A/6316 (1966), 993 U.N.T.S. 3, entered into force Jan. 3, 1976, available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CESCR.aspx> (accessed 14 May 2013).

¹⁴ For greater elaboration, see the Global Protection Cluster's area of responsibility on Child Protection (<http://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/en/areas-of-responsibility/child-protection.html>), as well as UNICEF's resources and tools, as lead agency on this issue: <http://www.unicef.org/protection/index.html>.

¹⁵ World Health Organization (WHO), WHO *Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Researching, Documenting and Monitoring Sexual Violence in Emergencies* (2007), available at: http://www.who.int/gender/documents/OMS_Ethics&Safety10Augo7.pdf (accessed 27 May 2013).

These ethical considerations were emphasized during targeted trainings to those involved in data collection, FGDs, and in-depth interviews, as well as throughout the data collection process. In particular, it was ensured that all data collectors received training on issue-sensitization and child-friendly interview techniques; that all participants in this study were involved on a voluntary basis and fully informed of what their participation entailed prior to the beginning of discussions or survey questions, including additional consent by parents for participants under the age of 18; that basic services and support were available locally before commencing any information gathering; referral forms and information were available to informant to deal with cases if disclosed during interviews; that the methods used posed the least possible risks to respondents and built on existing good practice; that all researchers signed a confidentiality form, had prior relevant experience on top of additional training on GBV, child protection, and ethical considerations involved in this type of research; that participants were told that they could stop at any time, skip any questions that they wanted to, encouraged to bring up any questions or concerns they had at any time during sessions, and given the choice not to record the FGDs if it made them more comfortable. Finally, the confidentiality and anonymity of participants was ensured by gathering all the information in private, closed rooms, and by not using names or attributing responses to specific individuals that took part in the survey or the FGDs.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The following quality control standards and criteria were implemented during the study:

- All study tools were tested before finalizing them for use in the main research phase.
- Only team members that had received relevant training on data collection, GBV and child protection, and the ethical considerations related to this research, were used. All FGD facilitators were experienced and pre-screened.
- KAP survey results were subjected to randomized checks to ensure the quality of the data.

- When the permission of participants was obtained, all FGD and in-depth interviews were recorded both electronically and by hand in order to ensure accuracy of information.
- Ongoing coordination with team members in all locations and all stages of the study confirmed the use of best practices and the attainment of research objectives.

STUDY LIMITATIONS

The information provided in this report is based primarily on individual (survey) interviews, KI (Key Informant) interviews with service providers, and FGDs (Focus Group Discussions) with adolescents and adults from the community. It does not represent the views of the entire Syrian refugee population or include representatives from all service providers in the urban setting, but rather provides an overview of priority child protection and gender-based violence concerns. Information participants have provided about their registration status has not been verified against UNHCR registration databases or other organization case management tools. Notable limitations include the following:

- Questions articulated during male-only FGD sessions were often framed in a “yes or no” format, making it difficult to gauge the nuances of male participants’ opinions on social issues, since these questions did not often lead to extended discussions of the topics.
- Relatively low turnout for male FGDs, one of which only included three participants. Men have more access to the outside world than women do and may not have viewed the FGD as a worthwhile activity or use of time.
- Even though non-participants were not permitted to sit in on the discussion, the fact that many participants needed to be accompanied to and from the CDCs by supervisory figures, such as mothers, fathers, or other male family members, may have caused participants to feel more constrained, either emotionally or time-wise. Some participants had to leave

early from discussions if a family member was waiting for them.

- Most focus group participants talked about their situation in Syria, including problems they had encountered with the Syrian regime and profound distress they or their family members may have sustained before coming to Jordan, rather than focusing exclusively on their current situation in displacement.
- Most of the selected key informants worked primarily as general service providers, which made it more difficult to discern the availability and quality of specialized resources for Syrian refugee women and children. This may also be a reflection of the general lack of gender-specific resources for refugees in Jordan, and should be investigated further.

The background is split horizontally into a blue top half and a yellow bottom half. Overlapping these are several semi-transparent shapes: a light blue rectangle in the top left, a light blue vertical bar extending from the top left towards the center, and a large, light yellow semi-circle in the bottom right.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS:

1. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC PROFILE

The general background of the refugees who participated in this study includes the following notable characteristics: Most participants had been in Jordan anywhere from 3 to 8 months, with a significant minority in Jordan for a year or more.

- Most participants were living with large extended families (more than five people), with some reporting that up to 20 individuals resided in one household. About 52.7% of families had between five and eight members, and nearly a third of all families lived with other families in the same dwelling. This is significant when considering that almost half of these dwellings had only one or two rooms and less than 10% had more than four rooms.
- While refugees in more rural areas appear to enjoy higher levels of community support and better integration into their communities, they may have more limited access to services from humanitarian organizations. Refugees in bigger urban centres reported weaker ties with the Jordanian community, but they felt there was a wide variety of services available to them.
- Overall, participants were not fully aware of or were confused about many of the services offered to UNHCR-registered refugees, with the exception of the UNHCR hotline. Almost 75% of participants indicated they were registered.¹⁶ The two most common reasons for not registering were not knowing where to register (7.2 % of unregistered respondents) and not having official papers (7.5%). Other reasons offered included fear of deportation, lack of help, lack of interest, administrative delays on UNHCR's part, having family members with Jordanian citizenship, and having arrived in Jordan only recently. In all three regions, participants reported that local CBOs and NGOs provided much of the aid available in their area.
- Educational backgrounds varied among participants, with the majority of both men and women having ended their education prior to beginning

secondary school, between the 6th and 9th grades. The study also found relatively small differences between the education levels of men and women, with men 2% more likely to report themselves as illiterate. The biggest differences were by region, with most self-reported illiterate respondents located in the middle region of Jordan.

- More than one-quarter of participants indicated they were not registered with UNHCR.
- Most respondents had ended their education in primary school.
- **70%** of households had not found any paid employment during the last month.
- More than half reported family savings as the primary source of income, and **30%** reported no secondary source of income.

The needs of Syrian refugees are greatly impacted by pronounced regional differences between the north and middle of the country, where large numbers of Syrians have been settling since the beginning of the conflict, and the south, which is farther from the Syrian border, Za'atari refugee camp, and from the main offices of key service providers. Key informant interviews highlighted how these differences shape local service providers' general awareness of the needs of the target population, understanding of the challenges this population faces, and the availability of services provided. This study also highlights the following regional variations:¹⁷

¹⁶ These numbers have not been verified by UNHCR or cross-checked with UNHCR's list of registered refugees.

¹⁷ Respondents were able to rate themselves either as "illiterate" or respond with the highest level of school completed. However, it is important to note that even with some schooling, respondents may still be functionally illiterate; thus the high number of respondents who received only a primary education is also of particular concern.

CHARTS 1 AND 2. EDUCATIONAL LEVELS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

CHART 1.
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION COMPLETED

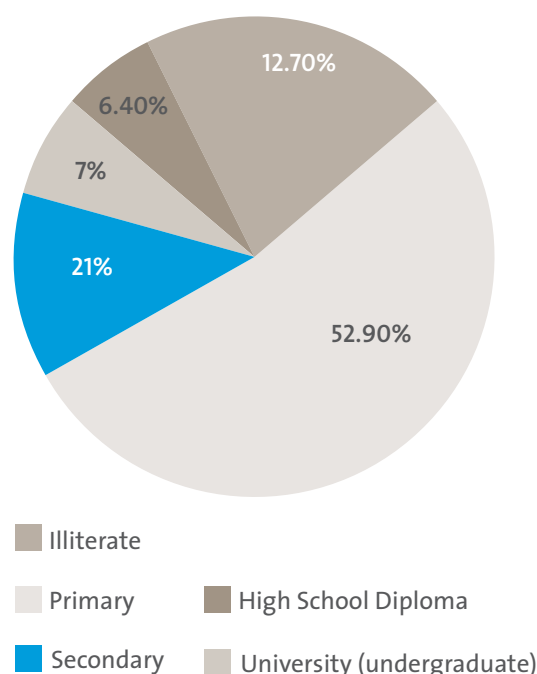
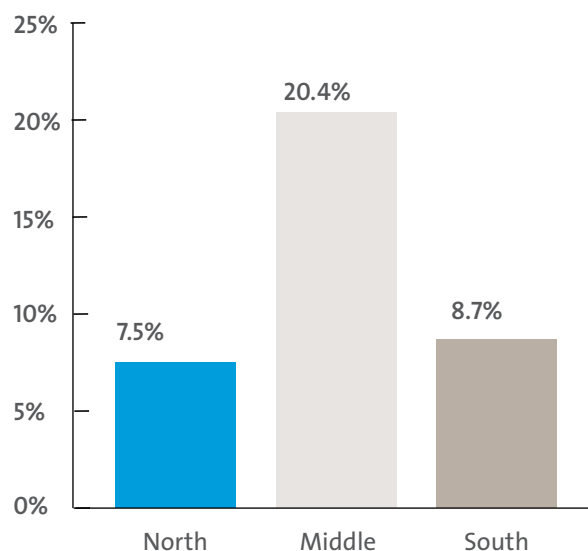


CHART 2.
ILLITERACY RATE BY REGION¹⁷



- **North (Irbid, Jerash, Ajloun, Mafraq):** Key informants in the north were acutely aware of the target population's needs and the challenges faced, but struggled to continue to provide adequate services due to the daily influx of refugees and the need to update the referral system adding humanitarian actors and services. As the growing number of Syrian refugees has placed immense pressure on the governorate's already weak economy and infrastructure, this has resulted in heightened tensions between refugees and the host community.
- **Middle (Zarqa, Madaba, Balqa, Amman):** Responses from key informants mirrored those from the north with regards to the difficulties they faced in providing both material and social assistance to Syrian refugees, but there was no overall consensus on the quality of community relationships. Some key informants reported that ties between refugee and host communities were strong while others found tensions ran high

between Syrian refugees and Jordanian youth, who felt they were being undercut in the labor market.

- **South (Aqaba, Karak, Ma'an):** Key informants in Aqaba had a low level of awareness of the target population's needs and the challenges faced and offered very few gender-specific resources. Some organizations were not even aware of the presence of Syrian refugees in the southern region. Disparities between the reported experiences of Syrian refugees and key informants' awareness of these experiences were significant. While many refugees that participated in FGDs in this region spoke of exploitation and discrimination, most key informants in Aqaba did not believe that Syrian refugees experienced any of these issues or that there were tensions with the local community.

All participants agreed that urban Syrian refugees are struggling to meet the costs of living in Jordan, and that rent assistance is their most pressing need.

Unemployment or underemployment greatly impacts the ability of Syrian refugees to cover the costs of basic necessities, especially given the comparatively high cost of living in many Jordanian cities. Syrian refugees often attempt to supplement their income through informal jobs, but face a myriad of challenges such as exploitation in the form of wages being withheld, wages being paid late, or working overtime without additional compensation.

A distorted rent market and the inherent difficulties for refugees to take legal recourse exacerbate these problems.¹⁸ According to a recent assessment conducted by CARE, the average rent for Syrian refugees across five governorates ranges between 125 and 175 JD per month.¹⁹ Landlords can impose additional restrictions, including limitations on the number of persons allowed in one house, and may raise the rent out of fear of damage to their property due to overcrowding. An Oxfam GB assessment indicates that some landlords may be increasing rents due to a misperception that all refugees receive cash assistance for rent.²⁰ Survey respondents from this study also expressed similar concerns about being cheated due to their ignorance of Jordanian law, and many reported that they did not know where they could go to access important legal information.²¹

To cope with expenses like rent, heating, utilities, transportation, and food, many refugee families have chosen to live in areas farther from the city centre, where rent is less expensive, but as a result they are also farther from service providers and are therefore less able to access basic commodities. Others reported renting

unfurnished apartments, because the cost of furnished apartments exceeded the monthly income of those that had found paid employment, and therefore lacked beds, blankets, heaters, kitchenware, cleaning products and other basic non-food items.

Many men reported generating income through inconsistent, informal jobs in construction or the service industry where they work six days per week at an average of 10-12 hours per day for a salary averaging between 100 to 150 JD per month. Most male FGD participants were of the opinion that women generally did not work, and were only aware of exceptional cases of women working, such as Syrian women with university degrees working in full-time secretarial jobs. However, a significant minority of women participants did report helping to generate income for their families by making crafts or food items for sale to neighbors, or selling fruits or vegetables in the street. Most Syrian families struggle to find jobs because they lack proper documentation or proper work permits.²² Only 30% of respondents reported having at least one family member find paid employment during the past month in Jordan. As a result, Syrian refugees rely heavily on child labor to supplement family income. Almost 15% of all households surveyed cited child labor as their primary source of income. A more detailed examination of attitudes and practices with regard to child labor follows in the child protection section below.

Although key informants agreed that Syrian refugees were struggling to meet the cost of living, they tended to place a greater emphasis on the burden the Syrian refugee crisis has put on the rent and job market in their communities.

18 Oxfam GB, Jordan, *Integrated Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Host Communities: Emergency Food Security and Livelihoods; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Protection*, March 2013, pp. 18.

19 CARE International (Jordan), *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan: Baseline Assessment of Community-Identified Vulnerabilities among Syrian Refugees Living in Irbid, Madaba, Mafraq, and Zarqa*, April 2013, pp. 4.

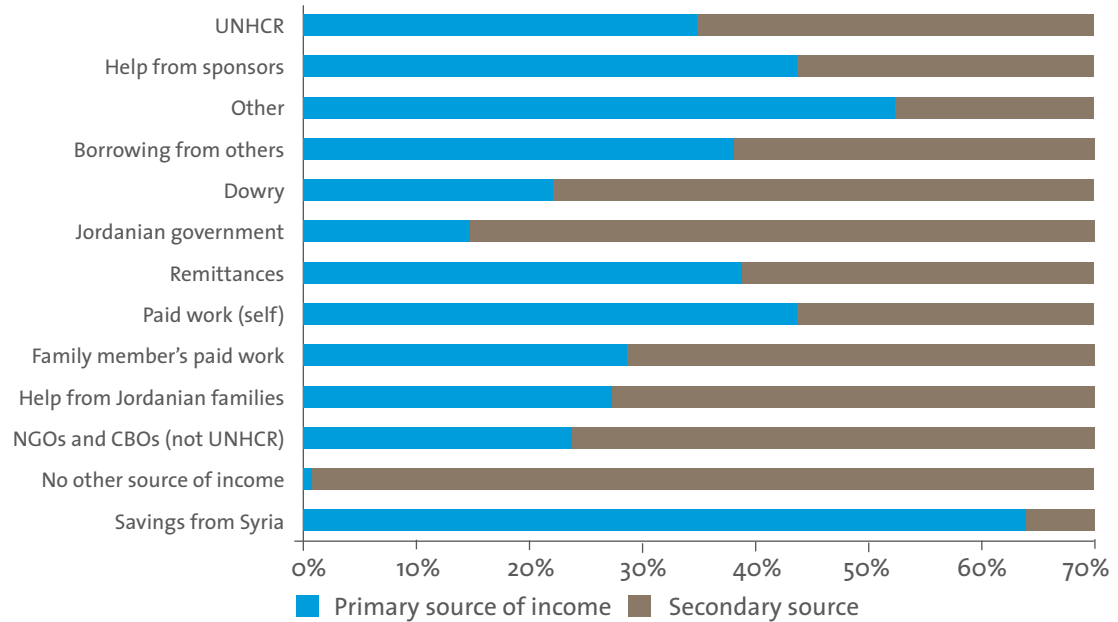
20 Oxfam GB, Jordan, *Integrated Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Host Communities*, pp. 19.

21 UPP-JWU, *Comprehensive Assessment on Syrian Refugees Residing in the Community in Northern Jordan*, August 2012, pp. 8.

22 In most cases, urban Syrian refugees require sponsorship from a Jordanian citizen in order to work legally. However, the work permit process is both time-consuming and prohibitively expensive for most Syrian refugees, with administrative fees totaling up to 275 JD per permit. This forces many Syrian refugees to work illegally in more hazardous, unregulated sectors for lower wages. See CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 29.

CHART 3.

SURVEY RESPONDENT RANKINGS OF THE FAMILY'S PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME IN THE LAST MONTH



2. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

According to study participants, Syrian families often live together in the same dwelling or in the same neighborhoods, usually in order to be close to family members who fled to Jordan at an earlier date. These kin networks serve to provide refugees access to emotional and financial support, housing, and sometimes employment opportunities. However, close living quarters can place additional stress on family members who are already experiencing significant disruptions to their lives.

Both male and female FGD participants commented on the fact that tensions have increased between family members, and particularly between parents and children, as a result of the profound stress sustained in Syria and their precarious situation in Jordan. Many women reported that children exhibited various indications of distress, whether by acting out, by being overly sensitive to loud noises and fearful without apparent reason, by becoming withdrawn, or by playing games featuring graphic violence, death, or representation of weapons and other war-related themes. This distress may be exacerbated by the fact

that many children spend significant amounts (or even all) of their time inside the home due to general safety concerns, feelings of alienation in Jordan, and a lack of safe spaces outside the home.

Many women also commented that men were agitated due to the lack of job opportunities, and some male participants stated that spouses argue more frequently than they did in Syria due to their economic situation and the experience of displacement. Women participants in FGDs also talked about how the crowded living situations deprive them of privacy and personal space.

“THERE IS SYMPATHY, but the Jordanian youth are apprehensive that the Syrians will stay for a long time because they are their rivals when it comes to employment (...), especially because Syrians accept employment at lower wages than Jordanians” (Female religious leader in Sahab).

Because of (Syrian refugees) there is increased pollution and water scarcity; many have become addicted to drugs; and there is a prevalence of prostitution in the society and in the camp. They spread bad habits and corruption, and therefore Jordanian society reduces its relations with Syrian refugees, and they fear for their own young men and women especially” (Representative of Mafraq Charitable Society).

Syrian refugees throughout all three regions had very mixed views about their Jordanian neighbors. In some cases FGD participants said the first person they would turn to for assistance would be one of their Jordanian

neighbors, and indeed some participants recounted stories of receiving financial, material or emotional assistance from their neighbors. However, many participants also felt estranged from their new communities due to their status as foreigners and asylum-seekers, and reported many instances in which they were told they were “ruining the country” or were insulted because they were Syrian. As explained above, key informants in the north and middle regions of the country had a different view of community relations than in the south, where many refugees have pre-existing family ties and where tensions between Jordanians and Syrians over resources are much lower because the Syrian refugee population is much smaller than in the north and the economic situation is better. Anecdotal evidence from key informants also suggests there is a high degree of mistrust between the Jordanian and Syrian communities in the north; Syrian refugees feel vulnerable and at risk of exploitation or abuse, while members of the host community feel that the influx of Syrian refugees is jeopardizing their livelihoods and eroding basic infrastructure and security.

CHART 4. SURVEY RESPONSES TO “IF FAMILY MEMBERS GO OUT ‘RARELY’ OR ‘NEVER,’ THEN WHY?”

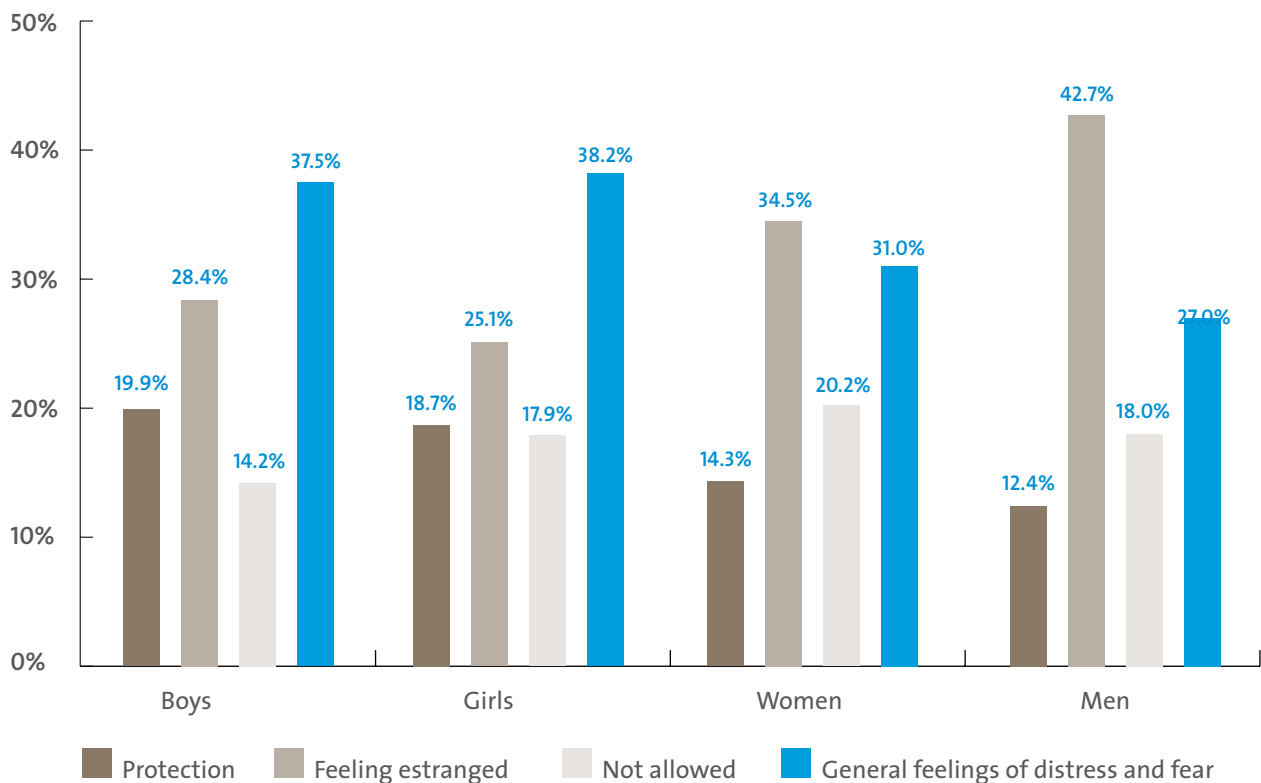
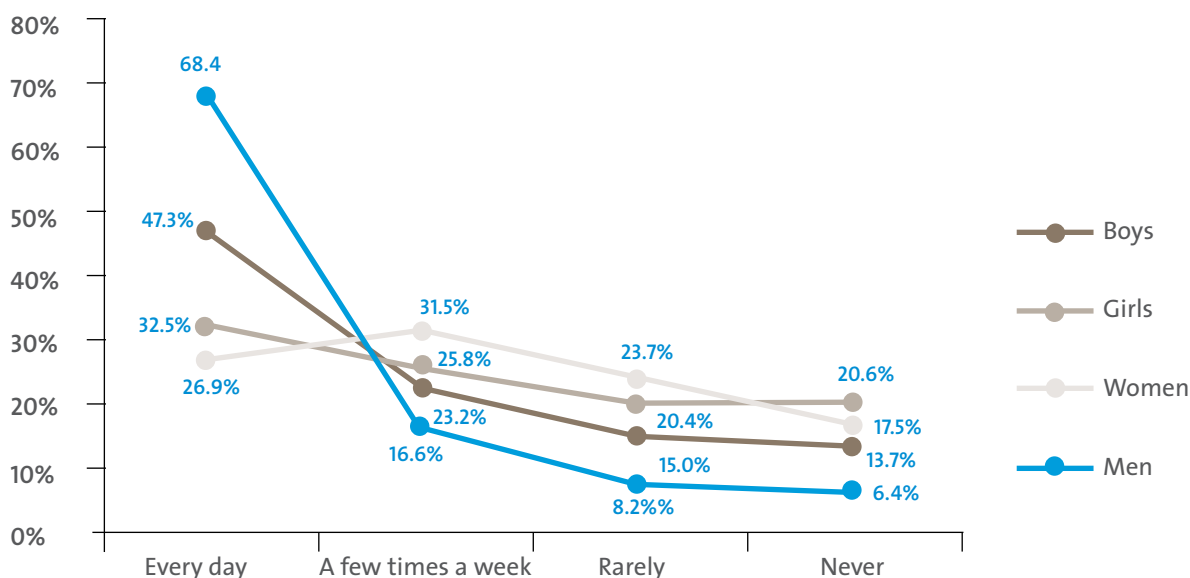


CHART 5.
SURVEY RESPONSE TO “IN GENERAL, HOW OFTEN FAMILY MEMBERS GO OUTSIDE THE HOUSE?”



*Answers in each category may not add up to 100% due to respondents who selected “I don’t know.”

Although Syrian refugees did not report having witnessed or experienced physical assault from Jordanian host communities and generally felt safe from physical violence, women, boys, and girls spend significant amounts or even all of their time inside due to generalized fears of leaving the house. There was general consensus among the women that, in Jordan, increased dependency on male family members makes women feel more susceptible to men’s pressures and demands.

men were the likeliest to go out of the house every day or often. Significantly, as seen in Chart 3, boys were much likelier to leave the house every day than both women and girls. Participants noted that while it was already uncommon for a girl to go out alone in Syria, it is even less likely now that she would be allowed to leave the house in Jordan – with or without a family member – due to security concerns.

Many women reported feeling less autonomous due to their forced reliance on male family members if they want to buy basic necessities, learn about and obtain social services, or simply to leave the house. Boys were significantly likelier than adult women to leave the house every day or often. Over **ONE-FIFTH** of households reported that girls never went outside the house at all.

Male FGD participants also stated that they often refrained from going out alone after midnight due to the fear of being stopped by the police, sent back to the Za’atari camp or deported to Syria if they lacked the right documentation. Nonetheless,

Throughout this study, both men and women expressed concerns about protection and/or non-specific fear, during FGDs as well as on the survey. On the survey, men generally preferred to cite feelings of alienation as the main reason that family members stay inside the house; the corollary is that women were slightly more likely than men to cite fear, protection concerns, or “not allowed”²³ as the reason for restricting movement outside the house. Women were also thought to be 23% less likely to go out alone than were men.

²³ It is important to note that the Arabic word for forbidden (“*mamnu’á*”), which was used on the survey, may express both “not allowed” in the English sense of being forbidden by a third party, or may refer to a general feeling of impossibility/unacceptability.

One female participant from Irbid elaborated on these challenges, stressing that although “we need to participate in the community development centres for education, like reading and writing, if we do that it will be very difficult because I can’t go outside my home

without a male from my family.” As only 20% of registered Syrian refugees in Jordan are adult males, many of whom spend their days in search of or performing paid work, women and children are effectively deprived of ready access to the world outside of the house.²⁴

3. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

There is evidence that GBV, one of the world’s most widespread human rights violations and public health issues, escalates among displaced communities. In Syria, GBV predated the crisis and has been singled out as one of the most salient features of the current conflict.²⁵ It is also a key concern for humanitarian actors, as the Syrian refugee population continues to increase exponentially, resulting in harsh living conditions for many of those who settle in Jordan.

Findings from CARE’s assessment on Syrian refugees in urban communities indicate that 28% of households surveyed left Syria due to specific fears of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and some disclosed that they had experienced increased levels of intimate-partner violence since arriving in Jordan.²⁶ Evidence from UNHCR’s Participatory Assessment suggests that young Syrian women residing in the north have experienced GBV perpetrated in Jordan, either at the hands of their husbands, Jordanian men, or even service providers from different CBOs, and reported cases where women had to exchange sex for aid.²⁷ Women also spoke openly about how their husbands were physically or emotionally abusive, with many stating that such behavior results from an increased level of tension due to poor living conditions and the current crisis in Syria. Both men and women from this study reinforced these perceptions, describing themselves as more vulnerable to pressures and tensions within the home, and particularly from male family members, due to crowded living conditions

combined with the decreased likelihood of women going outside the house.

Although participants readily discussed domestic tensions in these general terms, this study encountered a strong reluctance among Syrian refugees to speak about incidents of GBV in specific terms, or to identify intra-family violence as such. 10% of respondents did not respond to any of the questions related to GBV. Approximately 30% of respondents refused to respond or claimed not to know about where physical, psychological, or emotional violence might take place and twice as many refused to respond to the same question about actual places with a high risk of sexual violence.

Participants of both sexes confirmed that women cannot speak openly about GBV, and that survivors are often afraid to discuss what has happened to them. Female participants added that if a woman were to come forward, she could face abuse from her brothers or male family members because such claims will disgrace the family, while some male participants added that a woman’s ability to disclose depends on her husband.

More often, participants throughout Jordan raised the issue of harassment, a term which most used to reference cases of unwanted verbal attention or touching. Many spoke of the risk of sexual harassment of girls in schools, and stated that this prevented some

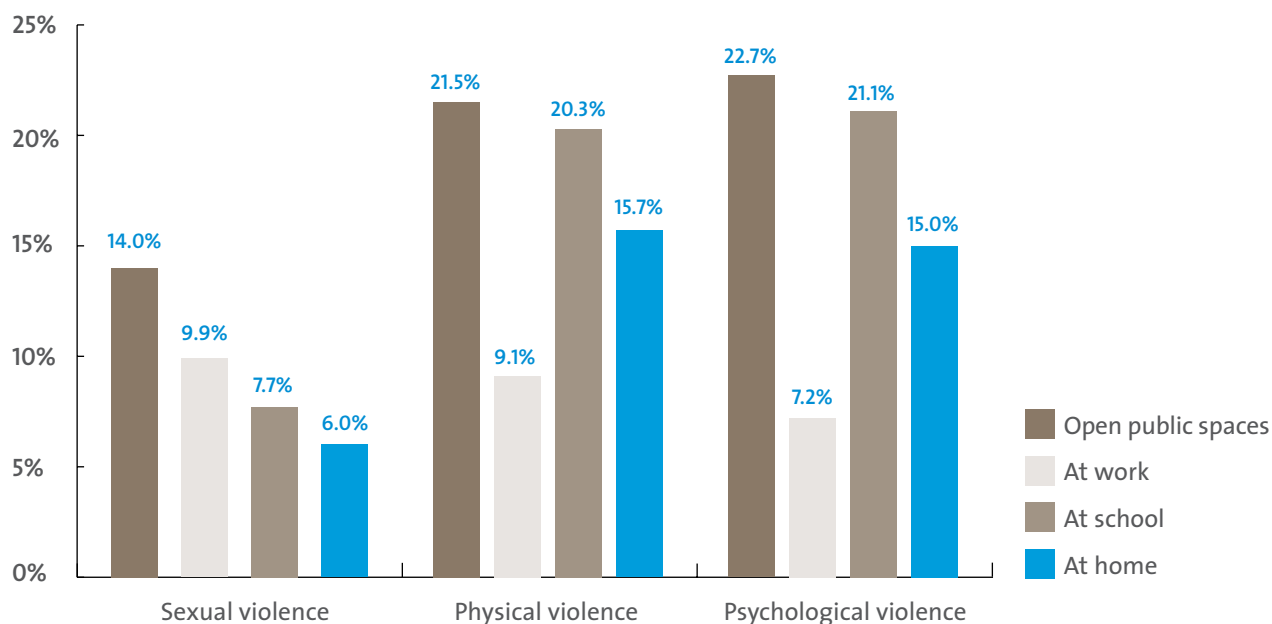
24 UNHCR, *United Nations Revised Syria Regional Response Plan*, June 2012, available at: <http://www.unhcr.org/4fec681e9.html> (accessed 28 May 2013).

25 For more information on prevalence of GBV in Syria prior to the conflict, see ENPI, *National Situation Analysis Report: Women’s Human Rights and Gender Equality: Syria*, 2010.

26 CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 12, pp. 39.

27 UNHCR, *Participatory Assessment 2012*, pp. 29.

CHART 6.
SURVEY RANKINGS²⁸ OF PLACES WITH HIGHEST RISK FOR VARIOUS FORMS OF VIOLENCE



girls from attending school altogether. Almost all of the women responded that they did not feel safe going to the marketplace alone, and many mentioned that they were identified by their accents and singled out for harassment and discrimination. Women also noted that Jordanian women were able to go out and about independently and that Syrian women were treated differently from Jordanian women in public places.

When comparing males and females in the same age group, boys were ranked as more likely to suffer sexual violence, while adult women are ranked higher. Although, the response rate on this particular question is low the practice indicates that women and girls are typically most susceptible to sexual violence in conflict settings, and during protracted refugee situations.²⁹ It is possible, however, that some survey responses may have been a reflection of perceived susceptibility to violence in Syria or during border

crossings, as the survey did not specify where the violence might occur. Findings from the third report of the UN Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic indicate that sexual violence is being increasingly used in Syria as an instrument of torture against men and boys in detention.³⁰ This was also cited in the Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council (A/67/845-S/2013/245) issued on 15 May 2013 that now lists Syrian government for sexual violence against children.

The perceived vulnerability of men to sexual violence suggests that perhaps some survey respondents may have heard of, witnessed, or experienced sexual violence in Syria. Notably, while around 10% of respondents refused to answer each question about sexual violence, refusal rates were generally slightly higher for questions about sexual violence against men and boys compared to that against females, whereas this was not the case for other forms of violence. Female respondents were also more likely to report that violence rates were high compared to male respondents.

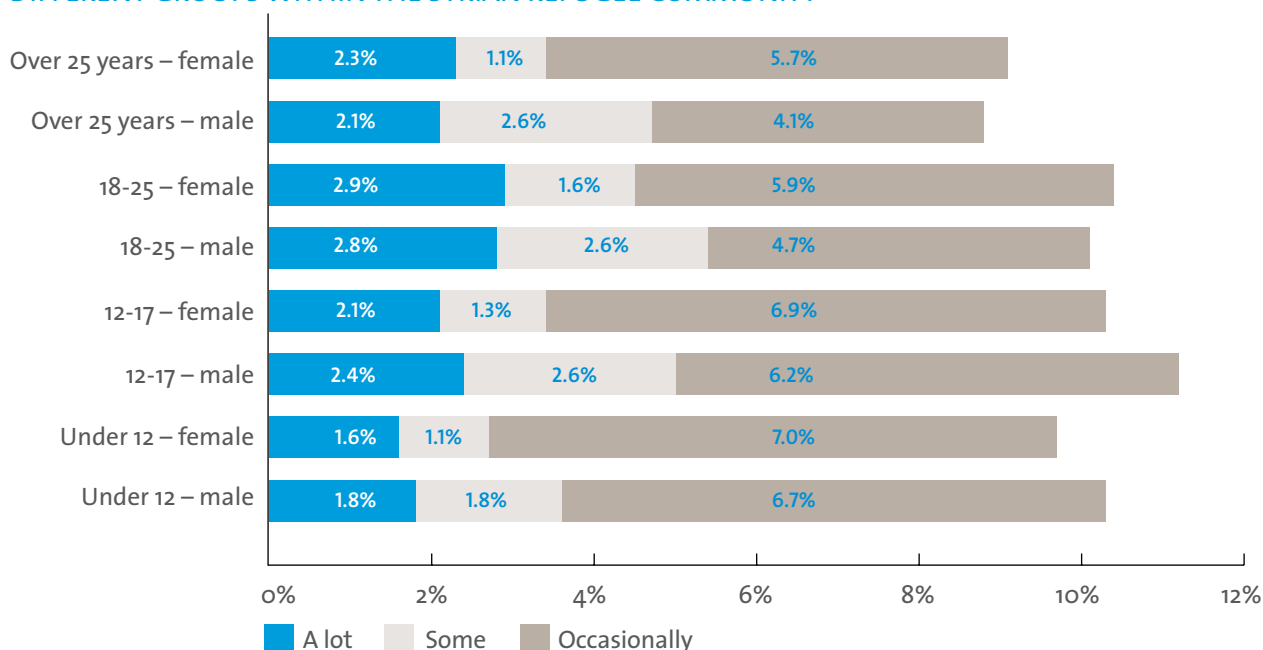
²⁸ Responses show only the top four riskiest places for violence according to survey respondents and therefore do not add up to 100%. Also not shown is the most frequent response for all forms of violence: “I don’t know.”

²⁹ UN Secretary General, *Women, Peace and Security: Study submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council, S/2002/1154*, 2002, available at: <http://www.un.org/women-watch/daw/public/eWPS.pdf> (accessed 27 May 2013).

³⁰ See UN Human Rights Council, *International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic* (2013).

CHART 7.

SURVEY RESPONDENTS’ ASSESSMENT OF THE PREVALENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST DIFFERENT GROUPS WITHIN THE SYRIAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY



According to the table the perception is that boys are more at risk than girls. This may be in relation to boys being detained. For adults it appears that women are perceived as more at risk than men. The total for women is higher at 9.1% for over 25, whereas 8.8% for men over 25; likewise, for 18-25 group 10.4% for women and 10.1% for men. For both categories, “a lot” and “occasionally” are higher for women whereas some is higher for men.

In cases of male survivors of sexual violence, service providers must meet different needs with respect to managing cultural attitudes, seeking confidential emotional support from a staff member of the gender of their choice, and accessing specialized medical care. There is a need to publically acknowledge the reality of these experiences, and to communicate what types of services are available to male survivors clearly and confidentially. Increased capacity building of CBOs would help to empower more individuals and increase the sustainability of programming.³¹ This is crucial given that, despite UNHCR’s report of having delivered non-specialised psychosocial support to more than 5,590 individuals and having provided

case management services to over 1,564 individuals including survivors of SGBV, many reports reflect that survivors’ psychosocial needs must be addressed more extensively.³²

Lack of awareness on overall support for women, men, boys, and girls who face GBV has been cited as a key area of concern in several inter-agency assessments, and is confirmed in this one. An alarming 83% of respondents did not know of any services available in their community for survivors of GBV. However, data from local service providers indicates that once a specialized service becomes available, more women may feel encouraged to come forward and report individual cases of GBV.

Forexample, 2013 figures from a specialized JWU hotline confirm that Syrian women in Jordan experience many forms of GBV in varied settings. From January to April 2013, JWU social workers from nine locations across Jordan registered 851 cases of socioeconomic abuse (47.6%), 194 cases of exploitation (10.9%), 191 cases of psychological abuse (10.7%), and 165 cases (11.8%)

³¹ See Jessica Gorham, *Final Report of the Inter-agency GBV Advisor – Rapid Response Team*, May-June 2012.

³² UNHCR, *UN Syria Regional Response Plan*, pp. 15; See also: CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 29.

75% of refugees interviewed self-reported to have been registered with UNHCR, however 83% of respondents did not know of any services available in their community for survivors of gender-based violence.

where survivors had experienced multiple forms of gender-based violence.³³ In a majority of cases, the abuser was identified as the husband and, reportedly, of Jordanian or other non-Syrian nationality.³⁴

In Irbid, a governorate that is significant due to its large population of Syrian refugees, its proximity to the Syrian border, and the harsh living conditions Syrian refugees face there, half of all registered cases of GBV were perpetrated by a husband. When asked about the nationality of the perpetrator, an abuser of another, non-Syrian nationality perpetrated almost 80% of all reported cases of GBV. This suggests that Syrian women in some governorates are marrying into their host communities, and that doing so may lead to a higher susceptibility to certain forms of GBV and/or to a greater willingness to report intimate-partner violence when it occurs.³⁵

Survey results suggest that health clinics, NGOs and CBOs may not be the preferred method of recourse for many survivors of GBV. In the case of sexual violence, most respondents thought that women were most likely to turn for help either to family members (30.8%) or to the police (29.2%), and only 3.9% thought that the health clinic would be the first choice. For physical violence, only 4.6% chose a health clinic as the preferred resource, with 22.8% choosing the police and 47.6% choosing family members. For psychological violence, respondents thought that turning to family members (36.9%), a health clinic (12.1%), or friends (11.9%) was preferable for most women. Nevertheless, members of the CP and GBV sub-working groups have reported

33 Jordanian Women's Union, Women's GBV Hotline Statistics (for Syrian Refugees), January – April 2013.

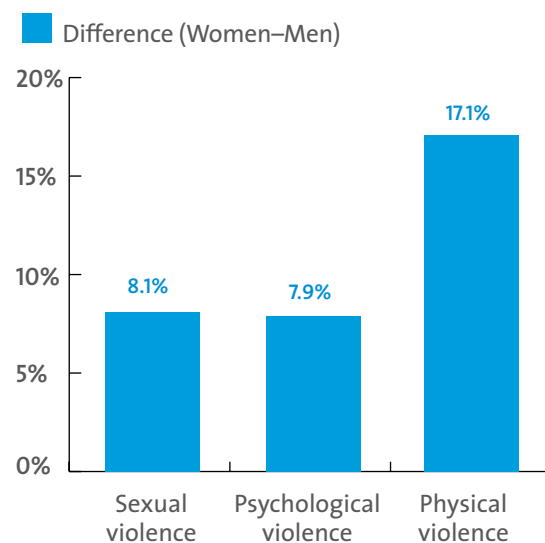
34 Jordanian Women's Union, Women's GBV Hotline Statistics (for Syrian Refugees), January – April 2013.

35 UNHCR (Rosa da Costa), *The Administration of Justice in Refugee Camps: A Study of Practice*, PPLA/2006/01, March 2006, available at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/docs/VAWHRC20/UNAgencies/UNCHR.pdf> (accessed 15 May 2013), pp. 14-15.

a total of 527 GBV cases (includes rape, sexual physical early/forced marriage, denial of services, psychological, child marriage).³⁶

Whereas men have more mobility, and cited mosques as a secure gathering place where they can connect with other men, such opportunities are not as readily available for women, girls, and boys.³⁷ The limited availability of safe spaces where women can meet psychosocial service providers, spend time with other women, and let their children play in a protected environment remains a barrier to meeting the psychosocial support needs of women and children. As a result, female participants in this study often reported feeling disoriented, stressed, and isolated.

CHART 8.
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN'S LIKELIHOODS TO TURN TO A FAMILY MEMBER WHEN FACING VARIOUS FORMS OF VIOLENCE



36 Syria Regional Response Plan, January-June 2013, <http://www.unhcr.org/50d192fd9.html>.

37 International Rescue Committee, "Urgent Action Required to Protect Syrian Women and Girls from Sexual Violence," July 2012, available at: <http://mhpss.net/wp-content/uploads/group-documents/152/1346836373-SyrianRefugeeGBVAdvocacyNoteAugust2012.pdf> (accessed 27 May 2013).

Women were much likelier to report any form of violence to **FAMILY MEMBERS**, rather than go to the police, a health clinic, or specialized services.

Survey respondents stated that if men were to seek support when facing any kind of violence, they would be most likely to go to the police; respondents also thought that if men were the survivors of any type of violence, including sexual violence, they would prefer to seek out community and religious leaders for help slightly more often than women would. Women overall were thought to be much more likely to report any form of violence to family members, rather than go to the police or to specialized services or health care facilities.

These results directly relate to the limited ability to access services, or limited knowledge about a type of service. For example, 13.5% of respondents thought that girls were excluded from health services, either because of lack of knowledge or because of proscriptions against mixing of sexes or family constraints on girls' mobility. It should be noted that rates of access to other types of services were even lower in the case of women and children's centres, mental health and psychosocial support services, and legal aid services, whose purpose was not known or understood by many respondents (see Access to Services section for further details).

Despite the fact that JOHUD's community development centres, where the FGDs were conducted, do offer some support services for women, almost all participants were unaware of resources for women who faced GBV. Male participants from the Za'atari village FGD stated that in many cases, survivors of GBV have nowhere to turn to and are often forced to stay silent and walk away. Other participants said they would go to the police, a local imam or a neighbor to deal with such a problem. Most female participants affirmed that there was no place to go and that they should remain silent and pray to God for help. Many suggested that prayer was in fact

the best solution for women who struggled with GBV, and more specifically, intimate partner violence.

Most key informants reported to be unaware of cases of GBV among Syrian refugees, even though they were aware of intra-family violence within the host community. This disparity suggests that Syrian refugees may be more hesitant to discuss cases of violence than their Jordanian counterparts either because they are unaware of the services available to them, or because they feel they will become more vulnerable by coming forward. Across all regions, key informants repeatedly noted that there is no formal referral system through which local organizations can refer cases of domestic violence to specialized service providers with adequate training and resources to address such cases.

“WHAT IS THERE TO DO? STAY SILENT”

(Male participant in Za'atari village, on options for women survivors of violence).

Overall, key informants in the north appeared to be better equipped than in other regions to provide resources for survivors of intimate partner violence and other forms of GBV. Multiple service providers in the north spoke about counseling sessions, workshops, lectures, and religious women's empowerment programs that aimed at raising awareness among Syrian refugees about the issues of violence. Many key informants indicated that the level of participation of Syrian women in these workshops, activities, or guidance sessions is very low, while Syrian refugees themselves believed that resources were more limited than key informants described them to be. Farther from the border or the capital, there are fewer specialized resources for refugees, and particularly women.

4. EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE

Early marriage is both a human rights issue – with regards to the individual’s consent to enter into such a relationship – and a public health issue. It is also considered a form of gender-based violence. Early marriage is associated with early age at first childbirth, which can have adverse consequences for both mother and child.

In countries with high rates of early marriage, complications related to pregnancy and childbirth are the main causes of death among girls 15 to 19 years old, and it is associated with obstetric fistula.³⁸ It is also a barrier to education, especially as girls are often expected to leave school in order to devote their time to the care of their new home or to childbearing and childcare. Furthermore, the relationship between the spouses may be influenced by the age gap between the husband and the wife, which typically leads to less power, status, agency and autonomy within the household for the younger woman. In times of conflict and natural disaster, parents may marry off their young daughters to generate some income in time of economic hardship, or to protect the girl – or, often, the family’s “honour” – in contexts where sexual violence is common.³⁹

There has been a great deal of media speculation about the frequency and nature of early marriage among Syrian refugees in Jordan, with some journalists providing stories of marriage markets in the Za’atari refugee camp, or of matchmakers who arrange temporary marriages between young Syrian brides and suitors from the Gulf.⁴⁰ This study notes that the broader issue of early marriage within the Syrian refugee community in Jordan is much more complex than media reports suggest, and that existing trends in early marriage within this community have certainly

been influenced by the current crisis, but are strongly rooted in traditional and primarily rural practices that originate in Syria.

51.3 % among female and **13%** among male respondents were married when they were still children, and half of all participants believed that the normal age of marriage for girls is under 18.

Rates of early marriage among surveyed Syrian refugees are high: 51.3% among female where and 13% among male responded to have been married before the age of 18, bringing the average of those who had ever been married before 18 years old to 33.2%. This is a significantly high figure for the region, with some exceptions like Yemen.⁴¹ However, there was nearly unanimous agreement among participants that early marriage is an accepted, traditional Syrian practice that predates the crisis, and that these marriages are not necessarily perceived as a direct consequence of migration to Jordan. These findings are also corroborated by similar focus group discussions conducted by CARE, during which Syrian families did not identify early marriage as a negative issue impacting refugees in Jordan.⁴²

38 UNFPA *Marrying Too Young: End Child Marriage*, 2012, pp. 4 and 11.

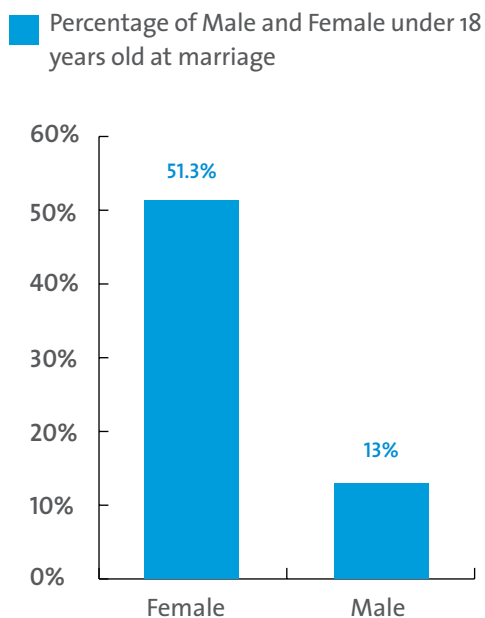
39 UNFPA *Marrying Too Young*, pp. 12

40 Beth McLeod, “Syrian refugees sold for marriage in Jordan,” *BBC*, May 10, 2013, available at http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-22473573?goback=.gde_1887804_member_239768092 (accessed 27 May 2013). One female participant in CARE International’s study revealed that a Syrian woman approached her, asking her if she wanted to work as a matchmaker for Syrian girls below the age of 18 who might be willing to marry men of different nationalities, and promised her that she would receive commission for her work. CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 37.

41 Early marriage has been measured as highest in South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and especially West Africa, Latin America, South East Asia, and North America and the Middle East. But countries in North America and the Middle East have experienced sharp declines in their rates of early marriage over the last decade, including Tunisia, Egypt, and Jordan. See Jensen, Robert and Rebecca Thornton, “Early Female Marriage in the Developing World” in *Gender and Development*, Vol. 11, No. 2, (July 2003), pp. 9-19; UNFPA (2012), *Marrying Too Young - Ending Child Marriage*; Singh, Susheela and Renee Samara, “Early Marriage Among Women in Developing Countries” in *International Family Planning Perspective*, 22 (1996); UNICEF (2005), *Early Marriage, A Harmful Traditional Practice – A Statistical Exploration*.

42 CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 35.

CHART 9.
PERCENTAGE OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS MARRIED UNDER 18, BY SEX



While 17% of respondents indicated that their fathers were married when they were under the age of 18, 44.7% indicated the same for their mothers, which suggests that, at least over the last generation in Syria, there has been no drastic shift in the frequency of early

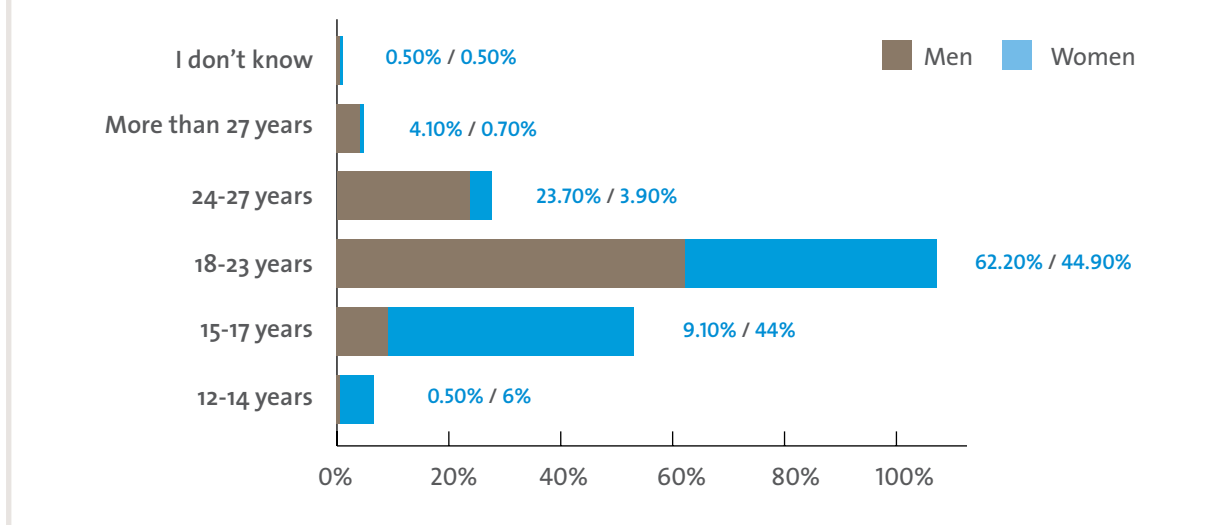
marriages. This stands in contrast with the significant reduction in early marriage experienced elsewhere in the region and in the world.

All groups stated that the average age for marriage was somewhere between 15 and 18, and some participants revealed that they were married as early as 12 years old. Nearly 50% of male and female respondents thought that the average age of marriage for girls was under 18, with six percent stating that the normal age was 14 or less.

While most focus group participants unanimously agreed that early marriage was customary in Syria, the Syrian refugees in the south were a notable exception. In Aqaba, for example, study participants of both sexes entered into heated debates about the extent to which early marriage is a universal tradition in Syria. Further discussion revealed that the age of marriage for participants somewhat correlated with their city of origin in Syria, with many women from Damascus and other urban areas stressing that early marriage is a rural tradition, or that it is specific to certain cities such as Homs.

Along with social norms and traditions and references to family honour, the motives for early marriage that were most commonly brought up were the need to ensure the security of daughters and the economic benefit of

CHART 10.
SURVEY RESPONSES TO “WHAT IS THE NORMAL AGE OF MARRIAGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?”



having one less mouth to feed. Economic factors came up mostly during discussions with refugees residing in Mafraq, closer to the vicinity of the Za'atari refugee camp – likely as a result of the economic destitution experienced in those areas. Some female study participants suggested that another reason girls should marry early is to facilitate their adjustment to the new family, with the philosophy that a younger girl is more easily molded by her new family's expectations, particularly those of the mother-in-law.

The role of the dowry was never directly mentioned during the qualitative discussions, but the survey found some economic dependence on dowries for family income. As many as 4.2% of survey respondents indicated that dowries were the family's primary or secondary source of income in Jordan, with 6.3% ranking it as one of the top three sources. Notably, of all households reporting that dowries were among their top three source of income, 80% were located in the north.

A significant minority of respondents—anywhere from 20% to 45% depending on the question—agreed that

there may be an array of potential benefits of early marriage, regardless of the sex of the child, although respondents were more likely to see early marriage as positive for girls than for boys. The responses seem to reveal that women may support early marriage as much if not more than men and a sense of the general trends and differences in gender attitudes can be seen in the following table, which shows the results for a number of statements for which respondents were asked to either agree or disagree.

An ongoing, heightened feeling of physical insecurity and the specter of long-term instability is likely to compound the galvanizing effects of economic insecurity. Given the uncertainties facing Syrian refugee families in Jordan, it is very possible that this sense of physical and economic insecurity may translate over time into further changes of marriage rates and age in displacement in Jordan. The frequency with which economic concerns came up among refugees living in poorer areas may presage a wider trend if the economic status of Syrian refugees as a whole continues to decline.

TABLE 3.
SURVEY RESPONSES: REASONS FOR EARLY MARRIAGE FOR MALES AND FEMALES

STATEMENT:	SEX OF CHILD	PERCENTAGE "AGREED"	PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE (FEMALE-MALE)
I would accept the marriage of my child (under 18) for economic reasons.	Male	21.7%	8.0%
	Female	29.7%	
Marriage of children under the age of 18 could be a way to guarantee housing.	Male	16.2%	7.1%
	Female	23.3%	
Marriage of children is preferable in any circumstances, regardless of displacement.	Male	20.1%	6.7%
	Female	26.8%	
Marriage of children under the age of 18 could be a way to provide protection.	Male	22.2%	6.5%
	Female	28.7%	
Marriage of children under the age of 18 can help protect the family's honour.	Male	25.9%	13.4%
	Female	39.3%	
Marriage of children under the age of 18 is a part of our customs and traditions.	Male	33.4%	10.8%
	Female	44.2%	
Marriage of children under the age of 18 can help resolve the family's financial problems.	Male	18.3%	10.1%
	Female	28.4%	

For both male and girls, around one-third of survey respondents (30% and 33% for boys and girls respectively) noticed that the average age of marriage has changed since coming to Jordan. For both boys and girls, the majority of survey respondents (over 65%) said that the average age of marriage has stayed about the same since coming to Jordan. Of those who thought it had changed, respondents were two to three times as likely to say that the age for both males and females had decreased – about 23% said this, compared to less than 10% saying it had increased. Displacement was the most commonly cited factor for any change. Similarly, when focus group participants were asked directly whether the rate of early marriage had increased in Jordan, the majority responded that the current situation in Jordan had not affected the average age of marriage for Syrian refugees, and that, in their opinion, there may even be fewer marriages in general.

Adding to security and economic pressures, responses from the focus group participants seem to indicate that pressure from the Jordanian community to marry young Syrian girls had increased with the influx of Syrian refugees into Jordan. Generally, focus group participants reacted negatively to the fact that, in their view, “Jordanian men think Syrian women are cheap,” a sentiment that echoed in every female FGD, and in a number of male FGDs as well. CARE and UNHCR assessments indicate that mothers are most likely to be approached by both neighbors and strangers with marriage proposals for their young daughters, and often feel immense pressure to accept such offers due to their vulnerable position within Jordanian society. Mothers in all studies expressed worry about letting their adolescent daughters leave the house, citing rumours of men searching for Syrian girls for marriage. In most cases where Syrian families received inquiries about their daughters for marriage, proposals were accompanied by extremely low dowry offers. Despite the low offers, some Syrian women have been forced to accept dowries as low as 50 JD given their current economic situation, and their status in Jordanian society.⁴³ This situation is exacerbated by the fact that girls are much less likely to work to support their families than are young

43 UNHCR, Participatory Assessment (2012), p. 16.

Around **ONE-THIRD** of respondents thought that the normal age of marriage had changed since arriving in Jordan; respondents were two to three times likelier to believe that both men and women were marrying at a younger age.

boys, thus increasing the risk of child marriage for girls in particular.

Some participants felt that, although early marriage was already commonplace in Syria, certain marriage practices had changed in Jordan: they noted that in Syria, marriages were often between a boy and a girl of roughly similar age, but that in Jordan it was often the case that a young girl would marry a much older man, as an older man may be seen as more capable of protecting her.

Finally, Syrian women and girls married to Jordanian men are not fully protected under Jordanian law, which exposes them to increased security risks. According to Jordanian law, non-Jordanian Arab women who marry a Jordanian man must wait three years for citizenship.⁴⁴ While refugees are protected from deportation by the principle of non-refoulement, it does not preclude certain legal difficulties.

However, when asked about potential negative repercussions for married children under the age of 18, the majority of respondents, both male and female, did not think that there were potential negative mental, physical or social consequences of early marriage; nor was there any statistically significant difference between perceived repercussions for male versus girls.

With regard to potential positive effects, most female participants, especially girls married under the age of 18, noted that early marriage could be good because the woman can begin a family and become an adult, reflecting the social mores surrounding early marriage. Older female participants who had married early very readily cited negative psychosocial consequences,

44 Law No. 6 of 1954 on Nationality (last amended 1987) [Jordan], 1 January 1954, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6b4ea13.html> (accessed 24 April 2013).

compared with younger groups who took more time to assess what was a relatively recent experience for them. In the end, the negative experiences of female participants of all ages converged to include the following:

- Having to leave school;
- Increased responsibility, particularly for “the husband’s happiness” and children;
- Having their “childhood stopped early”;
- Not having the necessary maturity or knowledge to cope with the responsibilities of marriage and motherhood, including relationship management with the new husband and especially with the mother-in-law. Some participants stated that lack of knowledge about relationships had caused one young couple to fight a lot and eventually to divorce;
- Missing their family;
- Having to wear “all black” (referring to the niqab) after marriage.

Key informants across the different governorates expressed mixed views on early marriage, although it was clear that many did not identify it as an issue with potentially negative consequences. A few key informants in the northern and middle regions were of the opinion that early marriage within the Syrian refugee community is not a phenomenon, but rather, a rumour that has been hyperbolized by international media; one even suggested that Jordanians are no longer interested in marrying Syrian women. Some suggested that there had been an initial upsurge in marriage rates, but that this was now under better control, in part due to the failures of many of the hasty marriages that occurred when the camp was first established. However, these statements contrasted starkly with the views of other key informants in the region, who found early marriage to be a prevalent issue within the Syrian refugee community. Some were aware of the existence of marriage brokers, and of cases where Syrian families would come to the mosque offering their daughters in marriage.

TEMPORARY AND FORCED MARRIAGE

Temporary marriage is a concern among vulnerable Muslim populations because contractual “pleasure marriages” are legally permissible in Shi’a Islam. Sunni Islam has a similar practice called *misyar* or

‘urfi marriage. These marriages can act as a form of sanctioned casual sex and even prostitution because the marriage, which is contractually time-limited and can last as little as a few days or even hours up to several years, and is sometimes accompanied by a one-time dowry payment which is often paid to the girl’s male guardian. The arrangements also require the woman to renounce the typical rights that a wife is entitled to in an Islamic marriage, such as the right to financial and material support, including support for any children that result from the marriage.⁴⁵ Although these marriages are illegal in Jordanian law, temporary marriage-like conditions are often written into marriage contracts.⁴⁶

ONE IN TEN survey respondents knew of at least one woman or girl who had been in a temporary marriage.

Because many people in Muslim societies take the view that temporary marriage is akin to prostitution, it is often difficult to estimate its prevalence: the parties often conduct the marriage in secrecy to avoid social sanction and legal penalties. This is facilitated by the fact that neither witnesses nor a guardian’s consent are required in order to validate the marriage contract.⁴⁷ Even so, around one in ten survey respondents reported knowing of at least one woman or girl who had been in a temporary marriage entered into after coming to Jordan.

Although FGD participants were reticent about short-term marriages occurring in urban context, they readily commented on the occurrence of very short-term marriages inside Za’atari camp. One male participant from the Za’atari village FGD described how he had

45 Karen Ruffle, “Mut’a” in *Oxford Bibliographies*, available at: <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780195390155/obo-9780195390155-0055.xml>, (accessed 14 May 2013)

46 “In Jordan, Fatwas differ on ‘misyar’ marriages and women suffer,” Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism, <http://arij.net/en/jordan-fatwas-differ-misyar-marriages-and-women-suffer>, accessed June 1 2013.

47 Sachiko Murata, *Temporary Marriage in Islamic Law: Al-Serat*, Volume XIII, No. 1(1974), available at: <http://www.al-islam.org/al-serat/muta/>, (accessed 15 May 2013).

seen older Saudi and Jordanian men visit Za'atari camp with the intention of marrying Syrian girls as young as 13; sometimes they would leave with a bride and then come back to the camp to return her later. Some of the other participants corroborated this account, stating that they had either witnessed similar occurrences during their time in the camp, or heard about them from family members in the camp. Participants stated

that temporary marriage was often seen as a solution for women and girls whose honour had been tarnished. Some focus group participants also mentioned that forced marriage was common in Syria and continues here in Jordan. One girl said that her friend was being forced to marry when she didn't want to, and that this girl "would rather die than get married." She says she offered no advice – she just cried with her.

5. CHILD PROTECTION

Aside from the frequent occurrence of early marriage discussed above, the most prominent risks facing Syrian children living in Jordanian host communities are child labor and lack of access to education.⁴⁸

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Educational norms in Syria play a significant role in influencing enrollment rates of Syrian children in Jordan. Although school attendance in Jordan is mandatory through age 16, in Syria children are only mandated to complete their primary school education, and as a result, a large majority of boys and girls discontinue their education early on in secondary school.⁴⁹ This minimum standard may explain the typically low levels of education among Syrian refugee families residing in Jordan. The UPP-JWU survey indicated that only 30% of respondents 18 and older had completed secondary school or university; 60% had only a primary school education, and 9% were functionally illiterate.⁵⁰ A CARE International assessment found that 80% of

all persons surveyed who were above the age of 60 were illiterate.⁵¹

In an attempt to overcome these inequalities, the Jordanian government has made public schooling free for all Syrian children, of whom over 31 thousand are now enrolled in UNICEF-supported Jordanian public schools in host communities across the country.⁵² This number represents less than a quarter of over 138,600 school-age children registered with UNHCR as of May 2013.⁵³ Although this study's quantitative survey did not address enrollment rates, the limited access to education for children was one of the most commonly cited challenges across both male and female FGD groups.

Overall, the majority of participants reported either that their children or they themselves (for younger participants) were not enrolled in school. For instance, the Za'atari village discussion group reported that none of their children were attending school. Although

48 This assessment did not aim to cover all child protection risks Syrian refugee children might face; rather, it focuses on a few key issues selected on the basis of previous assessments' findings.

49 See Sanja Kelly, *Women's Rights in the Middle East and North Africa: Progress Amid Resistance (Freedom in the World)*, (Washington, D.C.: Freedom House, 2010); United States Department of Labor, 2011 *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor - Jordan*, September 26, 2012, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/50659417d.html> (accessed 4 May 2013); Bureau of International Labor Affairs, *The Department of Labor's 2001 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, September 2002, available at: <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/media/reports/iclp/tda2001/jordan.htm#ULQgU4dJOQI>.

50 UPP-JWU, *Comprehensive Assessment*, pp.6.

51 CARE International, *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 10.

52 UNICEF, "UNICEF Syria Crisis Bi-Weekly Humanitarian Situation Report," 18 April 2013, pp. 1; UNICEF also currently provides one of the few remedial education courses available through its Madrasti Initiative, which now reaches approximately 2,440 vulnerable Syrian children in 20 centres throughout Jordan (Ramtha, Irbid, Amman, Mafraq, Zarqa, Russeifa, Karak, Ma'an).

53 UNHCR, "Syria Regional Refugee Response" (accessed 27 May 2013).

there was some variance between participants as to the primary causes for this, there was broad agreement on the array of challenges, any one of which may be the reason that a child is not enrolled. These include:

- Not being registered with UNHCR and therefore lacking proper documentation to attend school;
- Bureaucratic barriers enforced or even introduced by schools' administrations;
- Lack of outreach or information about how to access education services;
- Inability to cover schooling expenses, including transportation to school;
- Difficulty in keeping up with the local curriculum;
- Inability to enroll due to overcrowding in local schools;
- High tensions with Jordanian children resulting in severe bullying;
- Protection concerns especially for young girls;
- Lack of willingness to attend from Syrian parents and/or children.

Refugees in all regions expressed strong concern about the tensions between Jordanian and Syrian children at school, which often resulted in cases of bullying and schoolyard fights that could be quite severe. Some young female refugees reported dropping out because they “didn’t need any more education” or because they were preparing to marry. Still others reported that there were barriers for girls who would otherwise be in school due to parental concerns about their safety or about harassment from Jordanian men. Among key informants in each region, however, there was also a sizeable minority of KIs who asserted that Syrians suffered no barriers to education, and blame the refugee population for lack of interest or effort by the children themselves or their parents. A notable exception was that of the director of Aqaba’s All Girls Secondary School, who proactively encouraged the school’s social workers to conduct field visits to identify Syrian families with children, assess their needs, and address the challenges they face in accessing education.

Generally, refugees expressed that education was important to them, and many stated that both male and girls who were not in school would like to be in school if given the choice. Many younger

FGD participants stated that they personally would like to have been able to continue their education, regardless of whether they had stopped due to social or conflict-related reasons. One participant in Mafrag stated, “I know a father who doesn’t want his girl to continue her education in university, because in his culture it is shameful for a woman to proceed in her education.”

47% of households who reported paid employment within the last month reported that some or all of this income was from children.

CHILD LABOR

Past studies of Syrian child labor practices indicate that, although Syria has officially ratified the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention on child labor, labor violations are common, particularly in rural areas.⁵⁴ Child labor in Syria can begin as early as ages nine or ten. Overall, child labor is generally most prevalent amongst boys, for whom employment rates increase with age; girls, on the other hand, are more likely to work when they are very young, with employment rates decreasing as their age increases. A UNICEF and Save the Children Jordan study conducted in April 2013 in the Jordan Valley’s Ghor region indicated that children in many areas of Syria are often expected to work as early as the age of 14.⁵⁵ In Syria, child labor is most prevalent in the following sectors: service sector, industrial manufacturing, agriculture, street begging, garbage collection, sexual exploitation, handmade craft jobs, and construction.⁵⁶ The highest labor rates for boys are found in urban settings, whereas girls are more likely to work in rural settings alongside their mothers. In all cases, entering

54 Syrian Commission for Family Affairs (SCFA) and UNICEF, *Situation Analysis of Children (SITAN)*, October 20, 2009, available at: http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/syria_51476.html (accessed 4 May 2013).

55 UNICEF and Save the Children Jordan ‘Comprehensive Outreach to Syrians in Ghor and Irbid on Educational Needs’, April 2013.

56 International Labour Organization, *National Study on Worst Forms of Child Labour in Syria*, March 2012, available at: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/arpro/beirut/downloads/publ/clsyria.pdf> (accessed May 4, 2012), pp. 13.

the workforce significantly increases the risk that a child will drop out of school, and remain illiterate.

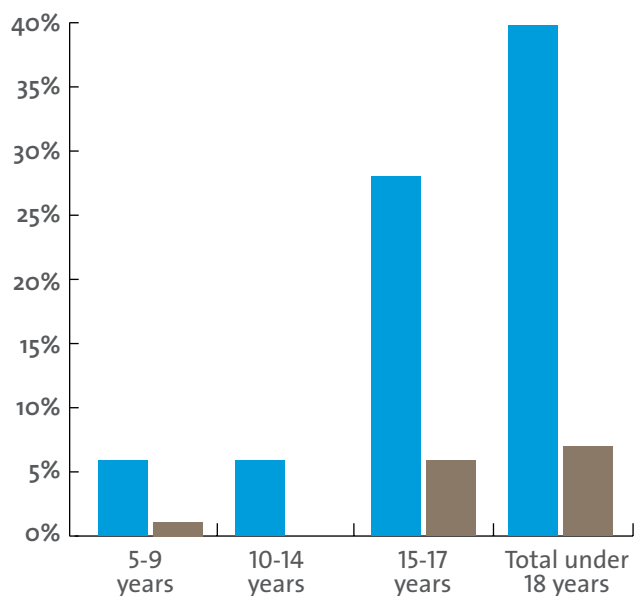
In addition to these social factors, several economic factors contribute to the growing trend of child labor in Syrian refugee communities in Jordan. One direct consequence of difficult labor market conditions in Jordan is that Syrian refugee children are more likely to begin working before meeting the legal working age of 16 (the legal working age in Jordan⁵⁷) in order to generate additional income for their families. Key informants from all regions were aware of cases of child labor, stating that it was a very common phenomenon within the Syrian refugee community in Jordan; some commented that they often see boys as young as seven at traffic lights selling chewing gum, washing cars, or begging. These children are particularly vulnerable to wage exploitation, since they will accept much lower wages than adults, are more willing to work under dangerous conditions, and are working without permits.⁵⁸ In FGDs, participants described cases where boys had to accept wages as low as 80 JD per month, or worked 12 hours or more per day.

The prevalence of child labor among Syrian refugees was confirmed in all three regions during focus group discussions. In particular, all male FGD groups spoke openly and extensively about the prevalence of child labor within the Syrian refugee community, and most FGD participants of both sexes reported that at least one young male family member contributed income to his family. Although female focus groups reported instances of economic activities by both girls and adult women, none of the male participants were aware of any girls who worked.

When considering that only 32.1% of households reported some paid income in the last month, the percentage of child labor looms larger. As seen in the chart below, about 47% of households who reported paid employment within the last month also reported that some or all of this income was from children

who had entered the workforce. One of the biggest potential risk factors for child labor is the likely increase in the financial vulnerability of families as their stay in Jordan lengthens; with 67.9% of households unable to find work and dependent on family savings from Syria, the economic situation is bound to put even more pressure on families and on children, particularly young boys (to find paid employment) and young girls (to get married). Because the main expenses for most families are for basic survival needs—food and rent⁵⁹—any financial pressure will become all the more acute as savings dwindle.

CHART 11.
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS REPORTING INCOME FROM CHILD LABOR IN THE LAST MONTH⁶⁰



Among boys who worked, the largest employment sectors, in descending order, were construction (19.8%), agriculture and the service industry (16.8% for each), and retail (14.9%). For girls in the workforce, the survey identified only five sources of employment: domestic

⁵⁷ It should be noted that Jordanian law may at times permit children under 16 years old to work, but only under certain conditions: they cannot work more than 6 hours a day, nor can they work weekends, night shifts, or jobs deemed to be hazardous.

⁵⁸ Jessica Gorham, *Final Report of the Inter-agency GBV Advisor* (2012).

⁵⁹ 75.5% of households ranked food as either the first or second highest monthly expenditure, while 72.6% ranked rent as either the first or second highest monthly expenditure.

⁶⁰ Percentage is out of 186 households reporting paid income, not from total households surveyed

work (46.7% of employed girls) and agriculture (33.3%) were most common, with hairdressing, manufacturing, and construction tied in third place with 6.7% each.

In the survey data there was a strong correlation between responses to “How many family members are residing in Jordan outside of the house in which you live, including your mother and father?” and responses indicating that females in the household between the age of 15 and 17 had done paid work in the last month. This may reflect the likelihood that older girls often work as live-in domestic help, a line of work that, because it takes place in private homes, typically puts women and children at increased risk for physical, emotional, and sexual exploitation and abuse.⁶¹ Girls who work in the agricultural sector often do so with other female family members, however these girls are also at a risk for exploitation and abuse due to working long hours in open areas, in proximity to older men, and with limited supervision.

CHILDREN WITHOUT PARENTAL CARE UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN (UASC)⁶²

High rates of unaccompanied and separated children (which are those not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom) is responsible for doing so, are also typical of complex emergencies. This means that a child may be completely without adult care, or may be cared for by someone not related or known to the child, or not their usual caregiver, e.g. a neighbour, another child under 18, or a stranger. Some children travel alone but join unrelated families when crossing the border in

61 Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO), “Informal Workers in Focus: Domestic Workers,” 2009, available at: http://wiego.org/sites/wiego.org/files/resources/files/WIEGO_Domestic_Workers_o.pdf (accessed 27 May 2013).

62 Unaccompanied children are those separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so. This means that a child may be completely without adult care, or may be cared for by someone not related or known to the child, or not their usual carer e.g. a neighbour, another child under 18, or a stranger. Separated children are those separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

order to enter more easily, which is typically identified at the stage of registration when UNHCR conducts the Best Interest Assessments for all unaccompanied and separated children. Through the process alternative care arrangements are identified and family tracing conducted. Separated children are those separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

80% of employed girls work in either domestic work or in agriculture – both known to be high-risk sectors for physical and sexual exploitation.

In an emergency, two percent of the refugee population would normally be UASC. In Jordan, UASC are daily identified by UNHCR registration in camps and urban contexts to be provided by adequate services in coordination with other agencies such as Jordan River Foundation, International Medical Corps, IRC or Nour Al Hussein Foundation. In the period 1 January to 31 March,⁶³ UNHCR identified through registration and protection monitoring activities and provided support to an average of 20 UASC per week in the urban settings. Other child protection organizations provided case management services for 27 unaccompanied children (19 boys and 7 girls) and 163 separated children (150 boys and 113 girls) in the host communities. About 11% of the households surveyed reported the presence of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) living with them. More than half (55%) were boys while 45% were girls, mirroring the trend observed by UN agencies, which have identified a higher number of male than female UASC. In keeping with trends observed by UNICEF, the overwhelming majority of UASC identified in this survey were separated, rather than unaccompanied, children.

The main reason for children identified as separated from their parents or previous primary caregiver indicated that the separation was voluntary—either for protection, survival or economic reasons, or for the purpose of family reunification with relatives in Jordan. This highlights the

63 RRP reporting period 1 Jan to 31 March 2013

need for rigorous verification systems of family links prior to family reunification to guard against potential abuse and exploitation of this vulnerable group.

According to the 2005-2006 UNICEF MICS study of Syrian children between 2 and 14, 87% experienced violent discipline (physical punishment and/or psychological aggression), with no significant difference between girls and boys.

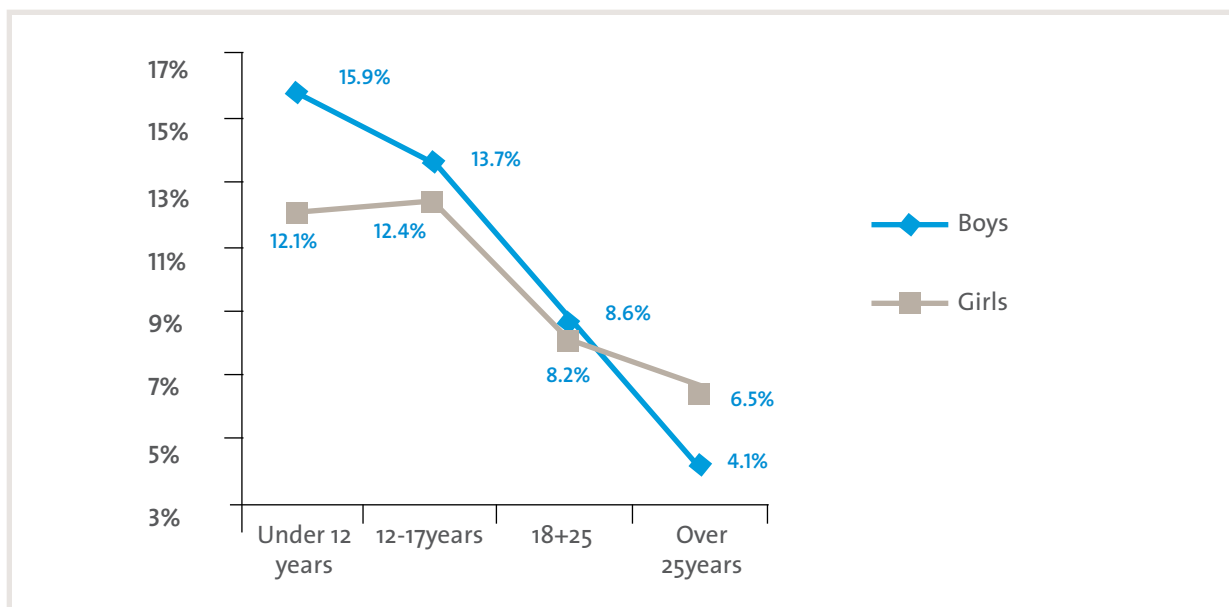
VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

When asked about violence in Jordan, FGD participant responses often focused primarily on what was perceived as a higher-than-usual level of violence against children. In addition to their concerns about bullying and sexual harassment in schools, FGD participants also said that violence against children in the home had increased since coming to Jordan. It was observed that several FGD participants in Mafraq yelled at or hit their children, whom they had brought to the CDC, during the course of the FGD when their

children misbehaved. Mothers cited general stress and lack of opportunities to leave the house as contributing to this treatment of children, as well as general levels of distress from witnessing violence, which affected both parents and children.

In the survey as well, around 1 in 7 respondents felt that children under the age of 12 were at significant risk of physical violence—over 15% of respondents thought this was true for boys and over 12% thought it true for girls. The survey also showed that the likelihood of experiencing physical violence dropped consistently as age increased, with the biggest drop in risk occurring between childhood and adulthood (once a boy or girl reached 18 years of age). Boys under 12 were thought to be four times more likely to be exposed to physical violence than men 25 years and above; girls were thought to be twice as vulnerable to physical violence compared to women 25 years and above. Women’s exposure to violence increased with age as compared to men: by the time people are 25 or older, women (6.5%) are perceived as more likely to be subjected to physical violence than men (4.1%).

CHART 12. SURVEY RESPONSES RANKING PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AS OCCURRING “A LOT” OR “SOME” AGAINST MALES AND FEMALES IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS



These results suggest that further research and services addressing violence against children in the Syrian refugee community is warranted. In addition, more awareness-

raising is needed, particularly directed towards women and children, so as to increase access to psychosocial services, safe spaces, and education for children.

The image features a vertical split background. The top half is a solid blue color, and the bottom half is a solid yellow color. Overlaid on this background are several large, semi-transparent, overlapping circles. One circle is light blue and spans across the boundary between the blue and yellow sections. Another circle is a darker blue and is positioned in the upper right. A large yellow circle is centered in the lower half, overlapping the yellow background. The text 'ACCESS TO SERVICES' is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, with 'ACCESS TO' on the first line and 'SERVICES' on the second line. Both lines are underlined with a thin white horizontal line.

ACCESS TO
SERVICES

ACCESS TO SERVICES

Prior assessments have revealed that Syrian refugees in Jordan are unclear about the specific rights they are entitled to upon registering with UNHCR. The majority of refugees are aware that their registration certificate allows them to receive value-based food vouchers through the World Food Programme, which currently supports more than 80,000 beneficiaries throughout Jordan's urban communities.⁶⁴ Most Syrian refugees who participated in the Oxfam GB assessment also revealed that although they were aware that their registration expires within six months, they were not always aware of how or where to re-register.⁶⁵ Common misconceptions held by refugees include the belief that they are automatically eligible for cash assistance, but that they may not necessarily be eligible for free primary health care services.

In Amman, almost all of the participants were aware of JOHUD CDCs' programming, noting that this was because of the outreach efforts of CDC managers who conduct **HOME VISITS** to promote the centre's services.

In addition to lack of clarity on those services available to registered refugees, inter-agency assessments have also highlighted that many refugee families have limited access to basic household items.⁶⁶ A number of different programs and providers assist asylum-seekers with rent needs on a very limited basis, and different aid actors have undertaken varying approaches toward cash assistance, and have targeted different kinds of needs, with some providing for NFI needs and others focusing on rental fees. The UNHCR-led Cash and NFI Working Group coordinates these efforts with the goal of preventing duplication, comparing strategies, and identifying gaps.⁶⁷

64 UNHCR, *UN Revised SRPP*, June 2012, (accessed 28 May 2013).

65 Oxfam GB, Jordan, *Integrated Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Host Communities*, pp. 9.

66 CARE International (Jordan), *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 8.

67 UNHCR, *UN Revised SRPP*, June 2012, (accessed 28 May 2013).

Across all three regions, almost all FGD participants expressed extreme dissatisfaction with UNHCR's registration process, recounting long waiting times and other bureaucratic obstacles to registering and accessing services. One male FGD participant from Irbid described how he "went [to UNHCR] three or four times. I went to register, and there was no registration." Another participant from the same group echoed this experience, but felt the burden of registration even more heavily because he had ten children. "I came with my daughter, my daughter's daughter," he explained, "and everyone went to get registered but then the deadline was postponed."

Many women confirmed this perception, and recounted stories of waiting in line for hours to receive food vouchers or other basic necessities. Some reported waiting up to 12 hours, only to have to return the following day to wait again. One woman stressed that she could not access these services at all because she had several small children, and therefore could not wait outside in the cold with them for multiple hours. A number of women mentioned the UNHCR complaints hotline as a means of recourse, only to add that although they called in to voice their concerns, they were unable to use the service because the line was always overwhelmed.⁶⁸

Key informants and refugees were generally in agreement that the top three priorities for urban Syrian refugees are rent assistance, health assistance, and educational assistance for children; however, services for Syrian refugees—particularly specialized services dedicated to women and children—remain difficult to access for many refugees due to restrictions on freedom of movement. Many participants said that they receive most of their assistance from charitable associations, local community-based organizations, and JOHUD. Similar to their experience with international agencies, participants criticized CBOs for exhibiting favoritism and prioritizing those families that have stronger connections with local service providers. Some women

68 As a response to feedback from refugees who have used the hotline, UNHCR has put in place two new hotlines specifically for SGBV and CP in March 2013.

also reported that they encountered harassment from service providers when trying to access services, particularly if the woman was single, if she came alone, or if she had a marriageable daughter.

The experiences recounted during FGDs were confirmed by survey results that assessed respondents' awareness levels of services for food, NFIs, health services, women's centres, children's centres, educational services/schools, safety and security services, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and legal aid for Syrian refugees in their area. Although more than 70% were aware of health, food, and educational services for adult men and women, even in the relatively underserved southern region of Jordan, this was not the case with the remaining services. In particular, awareness of legal aid, MHPSS, safety and security services, and women and children's centres was notably low throughout all three regions. Less than half of all respondents knew of legal aid or MHPSS services (41.6% and 45.3% respectively), while just over half knew of safety and security services (56.9%), women's centres (52.45%), or children's centres (55.1%) in their area.

Syrian **REFUGEE WOMEN** may not be able to or do not feel comfortable accessing services due to feelings of insecurity or a limited ability to leave the home.

Survey respondents also identified which services did not accommodate different demographic groups (men, women, boys, and girls) and the reasons for those groups' inability to access a particular service. Here too, boys and girls were generally rated as having less access to services than adults; this was particularly true for MHPSS and children's centres in the middle and southern regions, where more than a quarter of respondents felt that boys and girls were excluded from these services. For adult men and women, the highest exclusion rates (>20%) were for MHPSS and legal services, often due to either a lack of knowledge about the service or to a fear of being stigmatized for using the service. Women were also thought to be excluded at high rates from women's centres (19.9% on average, and around 25% in the middle and south). Prominent barriers to access included mixing between men and women at the centres; not being permitted

by the family to access the service; far-away location of the centre; and not being sure of what services the centre offers.

By far, the most common reason for the exclusion of any group from any service was a lack of knowledge about what the service offers; this was particularly a problem in the less educated. Problems with service quality—including mixing between men and women, harassment, or other inappropriate behavior from service providers—was often cited as a significant impediment to access in the north, while respondents in the south were the most likely to cite “not permitted by family” as a reason that women and girls might not be able to access a particular service.

Even in the northern and middle areas of the country, where more social services are available to Syrian refugees, both refugees and service providers described challenges related to outreach and awareness of these services. Participants in all regions complained that direct services usually do not reach them, and they must instead seek out most services. This was a concern most commonly voiced by women due to their limited access to information outside the house. Female participants who were aware of CBOs and other local organizations that provided Syrians with direct services had heard about these places either through their husbands or other Syrians.

In the north, for example, contrary to the perceptions of key informants, many female FGD participants stated that they did not know of any specialized resources available for women. In surveys, the number of respondents who were aware of services for women was around 60% in all three regions—the same for the north and middle as for the underserved south. Corroborating this data, numerous service providers from Jordan's northern and middle regions explained that workshops held for Syrian women are often empty, and that they struggle to gather enough participants for their programs. While many key informants from the north believed that low participation was due to a lack of interest, the above responses from northern FGD participants indicate that many Syrian refugee women may not be able to or do not feel comfortable accessing these service due to feelings of insecurity or a limited ability to leave the home.

Both refugees and service providers in the south found currently available services to be largely insufficient to serve Syrian refugees in their communities, and particularly lacking in services that are accessible for women. Many service providers noted that most available resources target men and children, but that there are little or no specialized resources available for women. Survey data also suggests that the gender gap relating to specialized services is relatively large in the south: although there were only small differences in awareness of services geared towards men versus those geared towards women in the north and middle regions (typically <5%), differences in awareness of services for men compared to awareness of services for women averaged around 8% in the south. For safety and security services this difference was egregiously high, with 78.3% of respondents aware of these services for men and only 56.5% aware of the same services for women—a gap of 21.8%. Respondents in the south were also significantly more likely to say that women and girls were excluded from services, and to say that men were *not* excluded from services, compared to respondents in the north and middle.

KIs in the south also stated that many Syrian refugees are not eligible for basic services because they are not registered with UNHCR, and that refugees do not know where to go to meet these needs.^{69 70} On

69 Although several KIs in the south expressed particular concern for Syrian refugees' ability to access health care compared to refugees residing elsewhere in Jordan, survey results did not bear this out: around 80% of Syrian refugees living in the south reported that they were aware of health services that were available to refugees, which was on par with awareness levels in the north and middle. This discrepancy may act to further underline the consistent gap, observed in all three regions, between service providers' awareness of challenges faced by Syrian refugees in their communities versus the actual needs of refugees.

70 UNHCR has reinforced its help desk services in four governorates, and has established new registration services in Irbid, as well as additional mechanisms such as EJC and mobile registration teams.

the whole, survey data confirmed limited access to services in the south, with an average of 20% fewer respondents aware of any given service in the south compared to the same services for refugees living in the north and middle.

Primary and secondary health services, including reproductive and mental health services, are available for free through public hospitals for UNHCR-registered refugees. In emergency cases, non-registered refugees are also provided health assistance through referrals submitted by UNHCR. However, a current funding shortfall has resulted in the denial of some of the costly medical care for chronic diseases, although emergency cases are treated.⁷¹ Women surveyed in the CARE International assessment also cited the lack of female doctors as a major impediment to accessing reproductive health.⁷² Such barriers to accessing reproductive healthcare services should be addressed, as they may also prevent survivors of GBV from seeking urgent medical attention.

71 Statement from UNHCR official as quoted in Stephanie Nebehay, "Syria's Refugees Denied Health Care Due To Lack Of Aid Funds," *Reuters*, April 26, 2013, available at, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/04/26/syrian-refugees-health-care_n_3163305.html (accessed 8 May 2013).

72 CARE International (Jordan), *Syrian Refugees in Urban Jordan*, pp. 34.



CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS

This assessment paints a detailed picture of urban refugee life and challenges they face in Jordan, and indicates marked reluctance to discuss intra-family violence, high rates of early marriage and child labor, important differences between Syrian men and women in terms of knowledge and access to services due to the division between male and female daily routines and roles, and worrying differences between service providers and beneficiaries with regards to needs and challenges. Furthermore, the more the situation of displacement is prolonged, the greater the pressures might be for young girls and boys to get married and for young boys to find employment. The findings specifically highlight the following key issues:

- **In spite of high rates of early marriage, there is low awareness of its possible physical and psychosocial repercussions and risks.** Security concerns for women and girls compounded by cultural practice as well as economic relief for the family, seem to be strong motivating factors for early marriage. While there is no conclusive evidence that Syrian refugees are marrying early at a higher rate in Jordan than in Syria, this study notes that the sense of economic and physical insecurity that drives early marriage is amplified in displacement, and this will only increase as the refugees' stay in Jordan lengthens.
- **Gender-based violence issues are suppressed, and related services and resources are not well known by women,** who are likelier to report any problems to a family member or ask a local imam to deal with it discretely. Specialized, confidential, and supportive services available to Syrian women, girls, men and boys who are survivors of GBV are not enough, and where such resources are available, Syrian refugees are not aware of them. Approximately 83% of survey respondents do not know of any services available for GBV survivors in their community. Furthermore, extreme restrictions in the mobility of women and girls constrain their participation in social and economic activities or their access to basic services.
- **Refugee children are likely to drop out of school, and suffer exploitation in the informal job market,** whether through extended working hours, underpayment or late payment, abuse, or some combination of the above, along with high rates of participation in high-risk sectors. This affects children's enrolment in schools.
- **Urban Syrian refugees are struggling to access basic services,** and are particularly unaware of services providing legal aid, MHPSS, safety and security, and women's and children's centres that are available in their communities. Only a minority has access to paid employment, and most households rely primarily on dwindling family savings. The low education levels of refugees, and particularly that of women, may be a significant obstacle to accessing services and participating in programmes and activities. Women face a double obstacle towards accessing services: not only are women themselves often hesitant to go outside the protection of the home and to interact with the larger community, but even in the absence of personal qualms, male family members may seek to ensure women's protection by restricting their movement. Increased numbers of refugees, logistical challenges with registration and other services, along with possible exploitation on the part of service providers, also contribute to making services difficult to access.
- **Psychosocial distress is a common experience among refugees but may be exacerbated among various groups for different reasons.** While all demographic groups of refugees reported high levels of distress resulting from exposure to violent conflict and relocation, women and children in particular lack access to community support and social coping mechanisms due to the perceived lack of safe spaces for them to meet and socialize outside of the home. Men may suffer compounded psychosocial pressures from economic uncertainty and a lack of job opportunities, and men were even less likely than women to be aware of MPHSS services, particularly those for services for GBV survivors. Children may also suffer from instability, the need to work to support their families, disruption of schooling, early marriage, and increased family tension resulting in verbal and/or physical abuse.

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AREAS FOR
FURTHER RESEARCH

AREAS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The results of this survey and data analysis indicate that the following areas will require additional study and ongoing monitoring in order to better understand the current needs of women and children within the Syrian refugee community. Further coordination efforts should also ensure that both local and international service providers are able to respond to their needs using a more holistic approach:

- More in-depth analysis of psychosocial needs, risks, and coping strategies is crucial, in particular for women and girls. However, research on GBV must be done with extreme caution and always in coordination, as multiple, overlapping assessments can alienate the community and cause further harm. In all cases, research should follow best practices as well as safety and ethical guidelines.
- The situation of children should be monitored, given the high percentage of Syrian children who are not enrolled in school, and the lack of safe spaces for children.
- Future studies should continue to engage local host communities and service providers given their intimate knowledge of Syrian refugees' needs, while also assessing the extent to which additional large waves of migration may invalidate previous qualitative and quantitative observations.
- In-depth assessment of violence against children in the home, community, and in schools is urgent given the frequency with which this was discussed during this assessment. Such surveys should seek to discover more about the contexts in which children are exposed to violence. Future studies should also aim to identify methods to prevent violence, how to provide protection for at-risk children, and the best ways to address the needs of those who do face violence.
- On-going analysis and research is needed to better understand the gender-specific vulnerabilities of women, boys, and girls, particularly those who are living in Jordan without any adult male relatives, and to examine whether such vulnerabilities increase as a result of extended displacement.
- Continued study of the evolving relationship between Syrian refugees and their host communities is needed, with particular attention paid to issues of safety, discrimination/integration, and exploitation.
- More in-depth research and analysis is needed on the role of CBOs that support Syrians in the community and how this role is evolving over time, given the limited resources available in areas such as the northern governorates. Community-based Organizations access to necessary information, resources, and organizational practices should be evaluated in order to best enable these organizations to effectively meet the needs of the Syrian refugee communities they serve.
- On-going monitoring of debt, livelihood patterns, and family income should be undertaken to track changes in vulnerabilities over time. Any such monitoring efforts should place a heavy emphasis on examining these trends within female-headed households in order to better understand the unique challenges these families face. In addition, more in depth assessment of which form of child labour Syrian children are involved in to identify proper response for these children and their families.

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LIST OF ANNEXES

LIST OF ANNEXES

- ANNEX A** - Distribution of Focus Groups
- ANNEX B** - Focus Group Discussion (FGD) Guide
- ANNEX C** - List of Key Informants, by region
- ANNEX D** - In-depth Key Informant Interview Guide
- ANNEX E** - KAP (Knowledge, Attitude and Practice) Survey Questionnaire
- ANNEX F** - Reference Documents
- ANNEX G** - Statutory Child Protection and Gender-based Violence Actors
- ANNEX H** - UNHCR Distribution of Registered Syrian Refugee Individuals in Jordan by Governorate, Sex and Age
- ANNEX I** - UNHCR Number of Registered Syrian Refugees in Jordan by Date
- ANNEX J** - UNHCR Numbers for Area of Origin of Registered Syrian Refugees and of Registered Female-Headed Households in Jordan, October to December 2012

A. DISTRIBUTION OF FOCUS GROUPS

REGION	GENDER	MARITAL STATUS	AGE GROUP (YEARS)	TOTAL (PER REGION)
IRBID (NORTH)	M	Married	15-17	6
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
	F	Married	18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
MAFRAQ (NORTH)	M	Married	18-60	6
		Unmarried	18-60	
	F	Married	15-17	
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
ZARQA (MIDDLE)	M	Married	15-17	6
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
	F	Married	15-17	
		Unmarried	15-17	
AMMAN (MIDDLE)	M	Married	15-17	5
	F	Married	15-17	
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
AQABA (SOUTH)	M	Married	15-17	8
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
	F	Married	15-17	
			18-60	
		Unmarried	15-17	
			18-60	
MA'AN (SOUTH)	M	Married	18-60	3
	F	Married	15-17	
			18-60	
TOTAL: 34 GROUPS (12 NORTH, 11 MIDDLE, 11 SOUTH)				

B. FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION (FGD) GUIDE

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE FEBRUARY 2013

TARGET GROUP:

- Married Syrian refugee men living in the Jordanian community, 18-25 years
- Married Syrian refugee women living in the Jordanian community, 18-25 years
- Unmarried Syrian refugee men living in the Jordanian community, 18-25 years
- Unmarried Syrian refugee women living in the Jordanian community, 18-25 years

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

8 to 10 participants from each target community

INTERVIEW SITE:

JOHUD Community Development Centres (CDCs) in the targeted areas

TIMEFRAME:

60 to 90 minutes

INTERVIEWERS:

Wafa Al-Amaireh, Department of Information and Research, the Queen Zein Al-Sharaf Institute for Development (ZENID)

TRANSCRIPTIONIST:

The CDC Program Coordinator in each target community

STUDY PARTICIPANTS:

Married and unmarried female and male refugees from Syria living within the host community (i.e., outside of Zaatari camp) from the targeted areas

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:⁷³

ASSESS MAJOR TRENDS IN GBV AND CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

- Uncover information about any noticeable trends in GBV and child protection issues (including

⁷³ These goals are considered to be part of and subsidiary to the general research goals of the overall study, which in turn form subsidiary goals for each FGD.

violence, early marriage and child labor) among Syrian refugee communities in Jordan

- Observe motivations for/against as well as prevailing attitudes towards GBV and child protection (particularly violence, early marriage and child labor) among Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- Uncover participants' views on how these phenomena affect individuals and the community at large.

QUALITY OF AND ACCESS TO SERVICES

- Uncover the main challenges, and the sources of these challenges, faced by Syrian refugees in general and by women and children in particular, as well as how participants deal with them.
- Find out the level of awareness of services, particularly for women and children, in participants' areas of residence.
- Identify key issues that may either promote or hinder participants' access to and use of services, including UNHCR registration and the provision of safe spaces for women and children.

ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL SECURITY

- Identify areas of financial concern that face Syrian refugee families in Jordan.
- Identify the safety and security concerns/threats, including psychosocial, physical, and sexual threats or incidents of violence, according to Syrian refugee families in Jordan, particularly those facing women and children.
- Uncover the role of participants, service providers, and the host community when Syrian refugee families face the financial and security challenges in Jordan.

DISCUSSION THEMES:

Based on the above objectives, the focus group discussion will be conducted in accordance with the following main topics:

1. INTRODUCTION

What is your view of the situation for Syrian refugees in Jordan, specifically within your current community? In your opinion, what are the problems facing refugee families in your community?

2. CHILD LABOR AND EDUCATION

Where do different groups (men, women, boys, girls) spend free time in your community? How would you compare this with daily life in Syria?

- If boys are working, please describe what type of work they are involved in, who children might work with, how often/when they work, and how they find that work. And what about girls? Tell about any particular situations you know of personally.
- How important is it in general that boys go to school? And girls?
- In general, how do boys/girls feel about working and/or going to school? Which would they prefer to do, if given the choice?
- What kind of access do children have to school or other education opportunities in your community? What are examples of things that might help or prevent children from accessing education services?
- How safe do children (and parents) feel when they go to work? To school? What might cause them to feel that way?

3. COMMUNITY AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

How would you describe the security situation in your community in general? How safe do (men/women/boys/girls) feel when they are outside their residence (in the street, in public, at work, etc.)? What are reasons that they might feel safe and/or unsafe? Please give examples of situations that might make Syrian refugees feel safe and/or unsafe; in other words, what kind of threats might they face? Who is most at risk: girls or boys, younger or older children, certain age groups more than others?

- For women and young girls specifically, what places or situations do they feel they might face threats or danger to their lives, their rights, their honour, their freedom of movement, etc.?
- Without mentioning any names or indicating anyone, do you personally know of any incidents of violence against women and girls that have taken place since coming to Jordan? And for men and boys? What happened, and what did the person do about it?
- Without mentioning any names or indicating anyone specific, who are the perpetrators of this kind of violence?

- How safe do (men/women/girls/boys) feel when they are inside their place of residence? How does the family situation in Jordan compare with family life in Syria?
 - Has displacement impacted the relationships among family members? If yes, in what way?
 - In your experience, or in the experience of someone you know, do family members in Jordan ever exert pressure, by something they say or by physical force, to do something that you don't want to do? Describe any instances that you know of when this occurred. In these instances, what did the person do, if anything, to deal with the situation?
 - In general, if (men/women/girls/boys) face problems with violence, what (family/community leaders/local and international organizations) can they rely on for support? What kind of support do they offer?

4. EARLY MARRIAGE

- We've talked about dangers and threats in the community and in the home. In general, what do Syrian families in Jordan do to prevent/protect (men/women/young girls/young boys) against these threats? Is getting married a way to protect against threats for (men/women/girls/boys)?
- If a Syrian refugee under the age of 18 gets married, what might be the reasons that the marriage took place? How do these reasons compare to the reasons for marriage in Syria?
- What are the roles of different family members in deciding on a marriage?
- What is the official process for marriage, and is it the same for people over and under the age of 18? Do they always register in court, or document it in some way? How?
- In your experience, has the average age of marriage (for men/women/boys/girls) changed because of displacement? Why or why not? How many people (boys and girls) do you personally know who got married younger than 18? How did they feel about the marriage? In the cases that you know of, did either spouse oppose the marriage, and if so, what happened?
- *(For married and unmarried, 15-17 and 18-25 years):* Suppose your friend's family wants your friend to get married, but he/she doesn't want to yet. (Your

friend is your same age.) What are some examples of reasons he/she might not want to, and what would you say to make your friend feel better about getting married?

- (For older married): same as above but “Suppose your son/daughter...” AND: Are the reasons the same for younger children (under 18) as they are for older children?
- Of the men/women/boys/girls you know who got married since coming to Jordan, what were the reasons for those marriages? What do you know about the couples’ living situation now?
- What do you think are the positive and negative effects of getting married at a young age for (girls/ boys/families/society)? Give examples if possible.

5. ACCESS TO/AWARENESS OF SERVICES (INCL. FINANCIAL ISSUES)

- What services do you know of that address the needs of young girls/boys? Women? Men? How did you find out about these services?
- Have you or someone you know used these services in the past? Why or why not? If yes, what was your experience like? Which were most/least useful?
- If you want to get some information about services available for refugees, who or where can you ask? Where do you personally prefer to go?
- What are the sources of income in your household?
- What are the roles of different family members in making financial decisions? Who in the family is ultimately responsible for financial decisions?
- Please prioritize your top five most important and/or largest monthly expenses. How does your family usually meet these needs?
- In general, what are your suggestions for services that would be most helpful for your family or for families that you know?

ACTION STEPS:

- Registration and signing in;
- Thank the participants for agreeing to participate in the focus group discussion;
- Introduce the project team members;
- Clarify the idea behind the project with regard to each team member’s role, the goals and expected outcomes of the project, and the role of the participant in the project;

- Obtain permission from the participants to both manually and electronically record the focus group discussion as well as to take pictures, and explain their right to accept or refuse;
- Begin posing questions and themes, gradually moving from the general to the specific;
- Review specific group criteria for the role of the participants in the focus group discussion, the most important of which are:
 - That participants have the right to elaborate on any of the themes which the focus group discussion presents, as they also have the right to refuse to voice their opinions on any of these topics;
 - That the documented information will be used strictly for scientific purposes and not for any personal use, including the names of the participants;
- That the sequence of topics under discussion, beginning with the first topic, will ensure that all the information for each topic has been covered in full before moving on to the second topic, etc.

ACTIVITIES USED:

- Brainstorming;
- Summary and conclusion;
- Questions and answers.

MATERIALS USED:

- Ink pens;
- Notebook;
- Electronic recording device;
- Flipchart.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- Basic (anonymous) demographic information of participants;⁷⁴
- A report of the raw data;
- A transcript of each focus group discussion;
- A list of representative quotations for illustrative use in the final report.

⁷⁴ Participant information will be distinguished by use of random, anonymous symbols rather than by name.

C. LIST OF KEY INFORMANTS, BY REGION

NORTH REGION (IRBID)

1. Head of JOHUD CDC
2. Imam (male religious leader)⁷⁵
3. Waztha (female religious leader)
4. Principal of boys school (K - 12)
5. Principal of girls school (K-12)
6. Manager of local government health centre
7. Irbid Association for the Family and Childhood
8. Jordanian Women's Union
9. Town mayor

MIDDLE REGION (SAHAB, AMMAN)

10. Head of JOHUD CDC
11. Orphan Centre
12. Imam (male religious leader)
13. Waztha (female religious leader)
14. Principal of the boys school (K - 12)
15. Principal of girls school (K-12)
16. Manager of local government health centre
17. Association for Social Development
18. Jordanian Women's Union

SOUTH REGION (AQABA)

19. Shari'a Court
20. Red Crescent
21. Aide for Development Affairs, Aqaba Governorate
22. Principal, The Honour School for Men
23. Principal, Tenth School for Girls
24. Aqaba Directorate for Religious Endowments (Awqaf)
25. Aqaba Women's Association
26. Directorate of Health, Aqaba Governorate
27. Women's Forum
28. "We Are All Jordan" Youth Organization
29. Directorate of Development
30. Jordan River Foundation
31. The City Centre for Security
32. Imam of the mosque
33. Community Honour Council
34. Association of the Charitable Islamic Centre

⁷⁵ Selected by local Ministry of Religion.

D. IN-DEPTH KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE

KEY INFORMANT SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEW GUIDE FEBRUARY 2013

TARGET GROUPS:

- Local government at the municipal level, particularly those who are involved with refugees' access to health or education;
- Leaders of CBOs /local charity organizations who work with Syrian refugees;
- Syrian religious and tribal leaders;
- Law enforcement (judicial and security) actors;
- Doctors, medical personnel and other first responders for refugee needs.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

approximately 15 participants from each target community⁷⁶

INTERVIEW SITE:

Locations to be chosen by the participants

TIMEFRAME:

45 to 60 minutes

INTERVIEWER:

Wafa Al-Amaireh, Department of Information and Research, the Queen Zein Al-Sharaf Institute for Development

TRANSCRIPTIONIST:

The CDC Programme Coordinator in each target community

STUDY PARTICIPANTS:

Experienced representatives from the local communities as well as authorities, service providers, and other first responders for Syrian refugee needs in the target communities.

⁷⁶The final number of interviews will depend on the information gathered with respect to achieving our objectives and the point at which answers begin to repeat (data saturation).

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES:⁷⁷

ASSESS MAJOR TRENDS IN GBV AND CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

- Uncover information about any noticeable trends in GBV and child protection issues (including violence, early marriage and child labor) among Syrian refugee communities in Jordan
- Observe motivations for/against as well as prevailing attitudes towards GBV and child protection (particularly violence, early marriage and child labor) among Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- Uncover participants' views on how these phenomena affect individuals and the community at large.

QUALITY OF AND ACCESS TO SERVICES

- Uncover the main challenges, and the sources of these challenges, faced by Syrian refugees in general and by women and children in particular, as well as how participants deal with them.
- Find out the level of awareness of services, particularly for women and children, in participants' areas of residence.
- Identify key issues that may either promote or hinder participants' access to and use of services, including UNHCR registration and the provision of safe spaces for women and children.

ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL SECURITY

- Identify areas of financial concern that face Syrian refugee families in Jordan.
- Identify the safety and security concerns/threats, including psychosocial, physical, and sexual threats or incidents of violence, according to Syrian refugee families in Jordan, particularly those facing women and children.
- Uncover the role of participants, service providers, and the host community when Syrian refugee families face the financial and security challenges in Jordan.

⁷⁷These goals are considered to be part of and subsidiary to the general research goals of the overall study, which in turn form subsidiary goals for each interview. The type of information targeted within each interview will depend on the specialized knowledge of the interviewee.

DISCUSSION THEMES:

Based on the above objectives, the interviews will be conducted in accordance with the following main topics:

GENERAL COMMUNITY AND ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

- What is your (or organization's/department's) general role in your community? How do you help Syrian refugees specifically? What services do you provide? Which, if any, of those are aimed specifically at women and/or children?
- In what ways do you reach out to Syrian refugees in general, and to (men/women/boys/girls) in particular, to raise awareness or to provide them with services?
- What challenges do you encounter when providing or attempting to provide these services to Syrians? Specifically to women and children? What in your view are the sources of these problems? Can you describe any specific instances when these difficulties occurred? What happened?
- In your experience, what are the main problems that Syrian refugees face in Jordan, and specifically within your current community? What problems do women and children specifically face? Can you describe any examples that you know of?
- How would you describe the relationships of Syrian refugees with your community? Do they have family ties? What are the circumstances that led them to settle in your community specifically (e.g., family ties, geographical convenience, lack of services elsewhere, etc.)?
- How would you describe Jordanian community members' feelings and actions, both positive and negative, towards Syrian refugees in their community? How do attitudes vary according to the setting (e.g. in school, in the street, in the marketplace, with neighbors, etc.)?

UASC (UNACCOMPANIED AND SEPARATED CHILDREN), CHILD LABOR AND EDUCATION

- Do you know of cases of children without parental care, and if so, how do you identify these cases? (children who are cared for by adults who are not

related to them or children living by themselves (UAC) or children who are both being cared for by their parents, but by other family members (SC))

- (If the interviewee does not deal specifically with child protection issues in their line of work): Do you know of cases of child labor in the Syrian community?
- In what ways do you usually find out about/ identify cases of child labor involving Syrian children? What type of work are boys and girls involved in? Any difference in ages (for boys and girls?) Are there any difficulties for Syrian children to access education? If so, what are the challenges? Any difference for boys or girls accessing education?
- How do you deal with these cases when they occur? What is the step-by-step process? Can you tell me about any cases (of boys/girls) that you know of (without using names)?
- *(If they didn't mention a referral system)* Do you have a referral system? If yes, how does it work?
 - If no, why not? Has your organization considered creating a referral system?
 - If yes, is this system used? Why or why not? How do you determine when to use it? Who is part of this referral system?
- *(If they mention a referral system)* What kinds of follow-up do you or your organization conduct with these cases, after they have been referred? What are the reasons for conducting this level of follow-up?

PHYSICAL, PSYCHOSOCIAL, AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY AND AT HOME

- How would you describe the security situation for Syrian refugees in your community in general? How safe do Syrian (men/women/boys/girls) feel when they are outside their residence (in the street, in public, at work, etc.)? What are reasons that they might feel safe and/or unsafe? Who is most at risk: girls or boys, younger or older children, certain age groups more than others?
 - For women and young girls specifically, what places or situations are most likely to present threats or danger to their lives, their rights, their honour, their freedom of movement, etc.?
 - Without mentioning any names or indicating

anyone specific, who are most often the perpetrators of this kind of violence? Do you know any specific examples?

- In your experience, do you see signs that displacement has impacted the relationships among Syrian refugee family members? If yes, in what way? Who does it impact the most (men/women/girls/boys)?
- In general, if Syrian refugee (men/women/girls/boys) face problems with violence, what (family/community leaders/local and international organizations) can they rely on for support? What kind of support do these resources offer?
- To what extent do (physical/psychosocial/sexual) violence issues affect the Syrian refugee community in your area?
- In what ways do you usually identify cases of (physical/psychosocial/sexual) violence among Syrian refugees in particular? How do you identify cases of family violence specifically? What are the challenges you face in locating or reaching out to survivors of violence?
- How do you deal with these cases when they occur? What is the step-by-step process? Can you tell me about any cases (of men/women/boys/girls) that you know of (while respecting the anonymity of the survivor)?
- (If they didn't mention a referral system) Do you have a referral system? If yes, how does it work?
 - If no, why not? Has your organization considered creating a referral system?
- If yes, is this system used? Why or why not? How do you/people in your organization determine when to use it? Who is part of this referral system?
- (If they mention a referral system) What kind of follow-up do you/ does your organization conduct with these cases, after they have been referred? What are the reasons for conducting this level of follow-up?

EARLY MARRIAGE

- We've talked about dangers and threats in the community and in the home. In general, what do Syrian families in Jordan do to protect (men/women/young girls/young boys) against these threats? Is getting married a way to protect against threats for (men/women/girls/boys)?

Can you describe general marriage practices among Syrian refugees in your area?

- In your experience, what are the most common reasons that a Syrian refugee under the age of 18 might get married? Do the reasons differ for boys and girls? Give examples if you know of them. In your experience, how often do Jordanian women marry Syrian men, or Jordanian men marry Syrian women? Do the reasons for these marriages differ from the reasons for marriage between two Jordanians or two Syrians? If so, in what way?
- To your knowledge, do Syrian refugees ever marry foreigners (who are neither Syrian nor Jordanian)? Please describe the circumstances of any examples of this that you know of.
- Within the Syrian refugee community, what are the roles of different family members in deciding on a marriage?
- Do you know of the most common process(es) for underage marriages in the Syrian refugee community? For example, do they always register in court, or document it in some way? Do you know of any examples of this personally?
- Do you have any reason to believe that the average age of marriage for Syrian (men/women/boys/girls) has changed because of displacement? Why do you think the age has or has not changed? How many instances do you personally know of when a (boy/girl) got married younger than 18? How did they feel about the marriage? If either spouse opposed the marriage, what happened?
- In what ways do you usually identify cases of early marriage among Syrian refugees? Forced marriages?
- How do you deal with these cases when you become aware of them? What is the step-by-step process? Without using names can you tell me about any specific cases (of men/women/boys/girls) that you know of?
- (If they didn't mention a referral system) Do you have a referral system? If yes, how does it work?
 - If no, why not? Has your organization considered creating a referral system?
 - If yes, is this system used? Why or why not? How do you/people determine when to use it? Who is part of this referral system?
 - (If they mention a referral system) What kind of follow-up do you/ does your organization

- conduct with these cases, after they have been referred? What are the reasons for conducting this level of follow-up?
- Of the Syrian (men/women/boys/girls) you know of who got married since coming to Jordan, what were the reasons for those marriages? What were the ages of the couples? What do you know about the couples' living situation now?
- In your experience, what effects, positive or negative, do you think early marriage has on Syrian refugee (girls/boys/families/society)? Give examples if possible.

ACCESS TO AND AWARENESS OF SERVICES

- In your experience, what are the best ways to reach out to Syrian refugee families, communities, and individuals living in Jordan? What is the easiest way for (men/women/boys/girls) to receive information? What sources do they trust most or have a pre-existing good relationship with?
- If Syrian refugees know of available services but do not choose to use them, what reasons might they have for not using those services? Can you think of specific examples when this has occurred?
- In general, what are your suggestions for ways that NGOs/CBOs/service providers can build stronger or more trusting relationships with Syrian refugees in your community? Are there any common mistakes that they should avoid?
- In general, what are your suggestions for additional services that Syrian refugees need but do not currently have?

ACTION STEPS:

- Set appointment;
- Thank the participant for accepting the interview;
- Introduce the project team members;
- Clarify the idea behind the project with regard to each team member's role, the goals and expected outcomes of the project, and the role of the participant in the project;
- Obtain permission from the participant to both manually and electronically record the interview as well as to take pictures, and explain their right to accept or refuse;
- Begin posing questions and themes, gradually

moving from the general to the specific;

- Review specific group criteria for the role of the participants in the interview, the most important of which are:
 - That participants have the right to elaborate on any of the themes which the interview presents, as they also have the right to refuse to voice their opinions on any of these topics;
 - That the documented information will be used strictly for scientific purposes and not for any personal use, including the names of the participants;
 - That the sequence of topics under discussion, beginning with the first topic, will ensure that all the information for each topic has been covered in full before moving on to the second topic, etc.

ACTIVITIES USED:

- Question and answer;
- Summary and conclusion.

MATERIALS USED:

- Ink pens;
- Notebook;
- Electronic recording device.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS:

- A list of the names of participants;
- A collection of representative photographs of the implementation process;
- A report of the raw data;
- An individual technical report on each interview;
- A list of terms and expressions for each of the main discussion themes for the in-depth interviews in keeping with the terms used by participants.

E. KAP (KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE) SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

SURVEY NUMBER: _____

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

_ _ _	1.	Organization Name:
_ _ _	2.	Governorate:
_ _ _	3.	District:
Work Phases		

NAME OF DATA ENTRY CLERK	
Name:	
Date: / /201	

NAME OF ENCODER	
Name:	
Date: / /20	

GENDER OF RESEARCHER	
Male	_
Female	_

NAME OF RESEARCHER	
Name:	
Date: / /201	

INTRODUCTION:

Good morning/afternoon,

My name is:from, working on an assessment under the coordination umbrella of the Gender-based Violence and Child Protection working group (GBV&CP) to undertake an assessment on the situation analysis of Syrian women in Jordan. The main objectives are to: estimate the prevalence, and understand the causes and factors associated with GBV and CP in general; identify the particular risks of GBV & CP, and prevailing attitudes of Syrian parents, girls and boys towards CP and GBV including early/forced marriage.

I appreciate your time in responding to a series of questions, I assure you that all the information we get is for the purpose of scientific assessment and will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Participation in this assessment is completely voluntary and you have the right to refrain from answering any question or withdraw at any time. You can direct any questions about this study to Information and Developmental Unit at the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development.

PART 1: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT FAMILY

101. WHAT IS THE DATE OF THE FAMILY'S ARRIVAL IN JORDAN? (DAY/MONTH/YEAR)

_ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _	/ /	year
-----------------------	-----	------

102. IS THE FAMILY REGISTERED WITH UNHCR ?

1. Yes (Continue to question 201). 2. No	_
---	---

103. IF (NO) WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR NOT REGISTERING? (YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE.)

1. Don't Know where to register 2. Don't have the official papers 3. Other (specify) _____	_ _
--	-----

PART 2: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

201. GENDER OF RESPONDENT

_	1. Male 2. Female
---	----------------------

202. AGE OF THE RESPONDENT.

_	1. 15 – 17 Years Old 2. 18 – 25 Years old 3. 26 – 35 Years old 4. 36 – 60 Years old
---	--

203. EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF RESPONDENT	204. FATHER'S EDUCATIONAL LEVEL	205. MOTHER'S EDUCATIONAL LEVEL
_	_	_
1. Illiterate 2. Primary 3. Secondary 4. High school diploma 5. University (undergraduate) 6. Masters or above	1. Illiterate 2. Primary 3. Secondary 4. High school diploma 5. University (undergraduate) 6. Masters or above	1. Illiterate 2. Primary 3. Secondary 4. High school diploma 5. University (undergraduate) 6. Masters or above

206. RESPONDENT'S FAMILY SIZE

_	1. 1-4 persons 2. 5-8 persons 3. More than 8 persons
---	--

207. RESPONDENT'S MARITAL STATUS

_	1. Single (If Single, skip to question 210) 2. Married 3. Divorced 4. Widowed 5. Separated
---	--

208. NUMBER OF RESPONDENT'S FAMILY MEMBERS IN JORDAN

_	1. 2-4 2. 5-7 3. More than 7	
---	------------------------------------	--

209. AFTER YOUR MARRIAGE, DID YOU MOVE TO ANOTHER DWELLING (SEPARATE FROM YOUR PARENTS)?

_	1. Yes 2. No	
---	-----------------	--

210. HOW MANY FAMILY MEMBERS ARE RESIDING IN JORDAN OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE IN WHICH YOU LIVE, INCLUDING YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER?

_	1. 2-4 persons 2. 5-8 persons 3. More than 8 persons	
---	--	--

211. DO YOU LIVE WITH ANY OTHER FAMILY(IES) IN YOUR CURRENT RESIDENCE?

_	1. Yes 2. No (If No, continue to question 214)	
---	---	--

212. WITH HOW MANY FAMILIES DO YOU SHARE YOUR HOME?

_	1. 1-2 families 2. 3-4 Families	
---	------------------------------------	--

213. WITH WHOM ARE YOU LIVING IN THIS ACCOMMODATION?

_ _	1. Family alone 2. Other refugee family(ies) 3. Jordanian relatives 4. A Jordanian host family (non relatives)	
-----	---	--

214. RESPONDENT'S AGE AT MARRIAGE

_	1. Under 18 years old 2. 18 years old and above 3. Not married	
---	--	--

215. FATHER'S AGE AT MARRIAGE

_	1. Under 18 years old 2. 18 years old and above 3. Not sure	
---	---	--

216. MOTHER'S AGE AT MARRIAGE

_	1. Under 18 years old 2. 18 years old and above 3. Not sure	
---	---	--

217. NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS MARRIED UNDER 18 YEARS OLD?

_	1. 1-2 2. 3-4 3. 5 or more 4. No one	
---	---	--

218. ARE THERE CHILDREN (UNDER THE AGE OF 18) IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD THAT ARE NOT WITH THEIR MOTHER AND FATHER?

_	1. Yes 2. No	If no, continue to question 224
---	-----------------	---------------------------------

219. IF YOU ANSWERED “YES,” WHAT IS THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN (AGED LESS THAN 18 YEARS OLD) WHO ARE RESIDING IN THE SAME DWELLING WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THE FATHER AND MOTHER?

_ _	Number of males ()
_ _	Number of females ()

220. IF YOU ANSWERED “YES” TO QUESTION 218, THEN ARE ANY OF THESE CHILDREN MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY OR OF ANY ADULT IN YOUR FAMILY?

_	1. Yes (If no, continue to question 224) 2. No
---	---

221. WHEN DID THESE CHILDREN COME INTO YOUR CARE?

_	1. In Syria 2. During the flight 3. In Jordan
---	---

222. ARE YOU IN CONTACT WITH THEIR PARENTS?

_	Yes No	
---	-----------	--

223. HOW MANY ROOMS DOES THE HOUSE HAVE?

_	1. 1-2 rooms 2. 3-4 rooms 4. More than 4 rooms
---	--

224. DID ANY ONE OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS FIND PAID EMPLOYMENT DURING THE PAST MONTH IN JORDAN?

_	1. Yes 2. No (If no, continue to question 227)
---	---

225. HOW MANY PEOPLE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAVE HAD PAID WORK IN THE LAST MONTH IN JORDAN IN THE FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS?

	Males	Number	2. Females	Number
_ _	1 5-9 years old		1 5-9 years old	
_ _	2 10-14 years old		2 10-14 years old	
_ _	3 15-17 years old		3 15-17 years old	
_ _	4 18 to 60 years old		4 18 to 60 years old	

Ask question 226 if there are family members aged (5-17) years doing paid work.

226. IF THERE ARE CHILDREN IN THE AGE GROUP (5-17) WHO HAVE HAD PAID WORK IN JORDAN, WHAT TYPE OF WORK WERE THEY INVOLVED IN?

		1. MALES AGED 5 TO 17 YEARS				2. FEMALES AGED 5 TO 17 YEARS	
	_ _	1	Agriculture		_ _	1	Agriculture
	_ _	2	Mining and quarrying		_ _	2	Mining and quarrying
	_ _	3	Manufacturing		_ _	3	Manufacturing
	_ _	4	Electricity, gas and water		_ _	4	Electricity, gas and water
	_ _	5	Construction		_ _	5	Construction
	_ _	6	Wholesale and retail		_ _	6	Wholesale and retail
	_ _	7	Hotels and restaurants		_ _	7	Hotels and restaurants
	_ _	8	Transport, storage and communication		_ _	8	Transport, storage and communication
		9	Real estate activities and rental			9	Real estate activities and rental
		10	House help services			10	House help services
		11	Other (specify) _____			11	Other (specify) _____

227. RANK YOUR SOURCES OF INCOME SINCE ARRIVING IN JORDAN? (MULTIPLE CHOICE - TICK ALL THAT APPLY)

228. WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING IN THIS INCOME? (TICK ALL THAT APPLY)

			228.				227.				
			Girls		Boys		Ranking		Sources of income		#
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked first	Saving before traveling to Jordan		1	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked second	Jordaninan families		2	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked third	Jordaninan government		3	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked fourth	NGOs + CBOs		4	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked fifth	Dowry		5	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked sixth	Family member's work		6	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked seventh	Paid work		7	
	_		2		1	_ _	Ranked eighth	Remittances		8	
	_ _		2		1	_ _	Ranked ninth	Other (Specify) _____		9	

229. RANK SIX MONTHLY EXPENDITURES/CONSUMPTIONS YOU INCURRED IN JORDAN IN THE LAST MONTH STARTING WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER? READ OUT THE ANSWER OPTIONS AND GUIDE THE (X) TO PRIORITIZE.

Ranking		Expenditures/consumption	#
_ _	Ranked first	Food	1
_ _	Ranked second	Rent	2
_ _	Ranked third	Health	3
_ _	Ranked fourth	Education	4
_ _	Ranked fifth	Utility bills	5
_ _	Ranked sixth	Transportation	6
_ _	Ranked seventh	7. Other (specify)_____	7

230. HOW DOES THE FAMILY COVER THEIR EXPENSES IN JORDAN?

_ _ _	1.	
_ _ _	2.	
_ _ _	3.	

231. WHO IN THE FAMILY DECIDES ON THE FAMILY EXPENDITURE IN JORDAN?

_	1.	All family members
_	2.	The mother and other female family members
_	3.	The father and other male family members
_	4.	The mother
_	5.	The father
_	6.	Other_____

PART 3: ACCESS TO SERVICES

301. WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES FOR MEN/WOMEN/ GIRLS/BOYS ARE YOU AWARE OF IN YOUR PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN JORDAN ?

WOMEN			MEN			GIRLS			BOYS			SERVICE	#
Not sure	No	Yes	Not sure	No	Yes	Not sure	No	Yes	Not sure	No	Yes		
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Health	1
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Food	2
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Non- Food Items	3
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Women's centres	4
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Children's Centres	5
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Education/ School	6
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Safety/ Security	7
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	MHPSS	8
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Legal Aid	9
3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	Others (specify)___	10

302. IN YOUR OPINION ARE BOYS, AS A GROUP, EXCLUDED FROM ANY SERVICES (E.G. HEALTH... ETC.) IN JORDAN? (To the researcher: ask about each of the following reasons individually and in the same way; if the answer to 302 is “No” or “Not Sure,” move on to the next service.)

303. WHAT ARE THE REASON(S) FOR BOYS BEING EXCLUDED FROM THESE SERVICES?

304. IN YOUR OPINION ARE GIRLS, AS A GROUP, EXCLUDED FROM ANY SERVICES (E.G. HEALTH... ETC.) IN JORDAN? (To the researcher: ask about each of the following reasons individually and in the same way; if the answer to 304 is “No” or “Not Sure,” move on to the next service.)

303				304				
1. Mixing of men and women	2. Lack of female service providers	3. Not permitted by family to access services	12. Other	Boys			Services	#
				Not sure	No	Yes		
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Health	1
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Food	2
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	NFI	3
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Women’s centres	4
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Children’s centres	5
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Education/School	6
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Safety\Security	7
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	MHPSS	8
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Legal Aid	9
1	2	3	12	3	2	1	Other ()	10

305. WHAT ARE THE REASON(S) FOR GIRLS BEING EXCLUDED FROM THESE SERVICES?

306. IN YOUR OPINION ARE MEN, AS A GROUP, EXCLUDED FROM ANY SERVICES (E.G. HEALTH... ETC.) IN JORDAN? (To the researcher: ask about each of the following reasons individually and in the same way; if the answer to 306 is “No” or “Not Sure,” move on to the next service.)

305.			
1. Mixing of men and women	10. Not sure- what the service is/ does	11. Fear of being recognized/ identified/ stigmatized	12. Other
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12
1	10	11	12

306.				
Not sure	No	Yes	Services	#
3	2	1	Health	1
3	2	1	Food	2
3	2	1	NFI	3
3	2	1	Women’s centres	4
3	2	1	Children’s centres	5
3	2	1	Education/School	6
3	2	1	Safety/Security	7
3	2	1	MHPSS	8
3	2	1	Legal Aid	9
3	2	1	Other ()	10

307. WHAT ARE THE REASON(S) FOR MEN BEING EXCLUDED FROM THESE SERVICES?

308. IN YOUR OPINION ARE WOMEN, AS A GROUP, EXCLUDED FROM ANY SERVICES (E.G. HEALTH... ETC.) IN JORDAN? (To the researcher: ask about each of the following reasons individually and in the same way; if the answer to 308 is “No” or “Not Sure,” move on to the next service.)

307.											
1. Mixing of men and women	2. Lack of female service providers	3. Not permitted by family to access services	4. Services are too far away	5. The behavior of service providers is inappropriate	6. Low quality of services	7. Have not encountered services appropriate to the needs of my group	8. The community does not have any influence over what types of services are available	9. Asked to do something inappropriate in exchange for services	10. Not sure what the service is/does	11. Fear of being recognized/identified/stigmatized	12. Other _____
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

308.				
Men			Services	#
Not sure	No	Yes		
3	2	1	Health	1
3	2	1	Food	2
3	2	1	NFI	3
3	2	1	Women’s centres	4
3	2	1	Children’s centres	5
3	2	1	Education/ School	6
3	2	1	Safety\Security	7
3	2	1	MHPSS	8
3	2	1	Legal Aid	9
3	2	1	Other ()	10

309. WHAT ARE THE REASON(S) FOR WOMEN BEING EXCLUDED FROM THESE SERVICES?

310. WITH WHOM DO YOU REGULARLY INTERACT IN JORDAN?

309.												310.				
1. Mixing of men and women	2. Lack of female service providers	3. Not permitted by family to access services	4. Services are too far away	5. The behavior of service providers is inappropriate	6. Low quality of services	7. Have not encountered services appropriate to the needs of my group	8. The community does not have any influence over what types of services are available	9. Asked to do something inappropriate in exchange for services	10. Not sure what the service is/does	11. Fear of being recognized/identified/stigmatized	12. Other _____	Women			#	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Not sure	No	Yes		Services
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Health	1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Food	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	NFI	3
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Women's centres	4
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Children's centres	5
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Education/ School	6
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Safety\Security	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	MHPSS	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Legal Aid	9
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	2	1	Other ()	10

310. WITH WHOM DO YOU REGULARLY INTERACT IN JORDAN?

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Families in the same household 2. Jordanian neighbours 3. Syrian neighbours 4. Other (specify) _____
--	--

311. GENERALLY SPEAKING, HOW OFTEN DO (BOYS) GO OUTSIDE THE HOME? (If the answer to question 311 is “Every Day” or “A Few Times in the Week” go to question 312; otherwise skip to question 313)

312. IF “EVERY DAY” OR “A FEW TIMES A WEEK,” THEN WITH WHOM DO THEY GO OUT (BOYS)?

313. IF “RARELY” OR “NEVER,” THEN WHY? (Ask for all the items listed in the table below in the same way)

313. IF THE ANSWER WAS “RARELY” OR “NEVER,” THEN ASK QUESTION 313.				312.			311.					
Fear - Feeling threatened even in the absence of real danger	Not allowed	Not feeling comfortable (foreign)	Protection – the feeling of danger outside the home	Alone	Other males	Spouse	Never	Rarely	A few times a week	Every day	Movement outside the home	
4	3	2	1	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	Boys	1
4	3	2	1	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	Girls	2
4	3	2	1	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	Men	3
4	3	2	1	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	Women	4

PART 4: EARLY MARRIAGE

401. WHAT IS THE NORMAL AGE OF MARRIAGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY? (Ask for all the items listed in the table below and in the same way)

	More than 27 years	24-27 years	18-23 years	15-17 years	12-14 years		#
□□	5	4	3	2	1	Males	1
□□	5	4	3	2	1	Females	2

402. HAS THE AVERAGE AGE CHANGED SINCE ARRIVING IN JORDAN? (If the answer to question 402 is “It Increased” or “It Decreased,” then ask question 403. Otherwise move to the following item.)

403. WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE INCREASE/DECREASE? (Ask for each category in the same way.)

403. IF THE ANSWER TO QUESTION 402 IS "IT INCREASED" OR "IT DECREASED," THEN ASK QUESTION 403.							402.				
	Other (specify)	Protection	Displacement	Religious	Customs and traditions	Economic	Stayed the same	Decreased	Increased		
□□□	6.	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	Boys	1
□□□	6.	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	Girls	2
□□□	6.	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	Men	3
□□□	6.	5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	Women	4

404. INDICATE "AGREE" OR "DISAGREE" WITH THE STATEMENTS CONTAINED IN THE TABLE BELOW (Address each statement below in the same way for both males and females)

	Females			Males		Statement	#
	Disagree	Agree		Disagree	Agree		
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 might be a way to protect the family's honour.	1
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 may be a means to guarantee housing.	2
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 helps to resolve the financial problems of the family.	3
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 could be a way to provide protection.	4
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 could be a way to ensure stability of the family in Jordan.	5
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	My child's marriage is the preferable option in any circumstances, regardless of displacement.	6
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 is part of our customs and traditions.	7
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	I would permit my child to marry under the age of 18 regardless of the ethnicity or nationality of the husband.	8
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	I would accept marriage of my child for economic reasons.	9
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	I would accept marriage of my child only if the prospective partner is Syrian.	10
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 can negatively affect the health of the child.	11
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 can negatively affect the psychological wellbeing of the child.	12
□□	2	1	□□	2	1	Marriage under the age of 18 may have negative social effects on the community.	13

405. HOW MANY CHILDREN AMONG SYRIAN REFUGEES DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW THAT HAVE BEEN MARRIED/ ARE PLANNING TO MARRY IN JORDAN? (INSERT NUMBER OR TICK (*)) (Ask each of the below items in the same manner).

	I'm not sure	There are none	More than 10	9-10 cases	7-8 cases	5-6 cases	3-4 cases	1-2 cases	Category	#
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Males	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Females	2

406. HOW MANY CASES OF CHILDREN AMONG SYRIAN REFUGEES DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW OF THAT GOT MARRIED TO PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT SYRIANS? (INSERT NUMBER OR TICK). Ask each of the below items in the same manner.

	I'm not sure	There are none	More than 10	9-10 cases	7-8 cases	5-6 cases	3-4 cases	1-2 cases	Category	#
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Males	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Females	2

If the answer to question 406 for both males and females is "There are none," then skip to question 410.

407. WHERE DO THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CHILDREN (MALE) WHO MARRY NON-SYRIANS LIVE NOW (OF THOSE WHO YOU KNOW OF PERSONALLY)? Ask each of the below items in the same manner.

	I don't know	In another country	They returned to Syria	Outside of a camp in Jordan	In a camp in Jordan	Number of instances	#
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	1-2	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	3-4	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	5-6	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	7-8	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	9-10	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	4	3	2	1	More than 10	6

408. HOW MANY MARRIAGES DO YOU KNOW OF PERSONALLY IN WHICH ONE OF THE SPOUSES WAS OPPOSED TO THE MARRIAGE? Ask each of the below items in the same manner.

	I'm not sure	There are none	More than 10	9-10 cases	7-8 cases	5-6 cases	3-4 cases	1-2 cases	Cases	#
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Girls under 18	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Boys under 18	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Men over 18	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Women over 18	4

409. WHAT WAS THE NATIONALITY OF THE SPOUSE?

	There are none	More than 10	9-10 cases	7-8 cases	5-6 cases	3-4 cases	1-2 cases	Cases	#
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Jordanian	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Syrian	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Other ()	3

410. HAVE YOU HEARD OF ANY CASES OF TEMPORARY MARRIAGES IN JORDAN? (Ask each of the below items in the same manner.)

	1-2 cases	There are none	More than 10	9-10 cases	7-8 cases	5-6 cases	3-4 cases	1-2 cases	Cases	#
□	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Girls under 18	1
□	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Boys under 18	2
□	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Men over 18	3
□	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Women over 18	4

PART 5: GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

501. TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU THINK THAT VIOLENCE (PHYSICAL, PSYCHOSOCIAL, SEXUAL ...ETC.) IS PREVALENT IN YOUR AREA IN JORDAN, AND HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK IT OCCURS, IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING AGE CATEGORIES? (Ask about each of the below items in the same manner).

Over 25							18-25 years							12-17 years							Under 12 years							Item
Refuse to answer	I don't know	Not common at all	A little bit	Middle amount	A lot		Refuse to answer	I don't know	Not common at all	A little bit	Middle amount	A lot		Refuse to answer	I don't know	Not common at all	A little bit	Middle amount	A lot		Refuse to answer	I don't know	Not common at all	A little bit	Middle amount	A lot		
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		1. Physical violence against males
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		2. Physical violence against females
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		3. Psychosocial violence against males
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		4. Psychosocial violence against females
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		5. Sexual violence against males
6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6	5	4	3	2	1		6. Sexual violence against females

502. IN WHAT PLACES DO YOU THINK THE RISK OF PHYSICAL VIOLENCE IS MORE PREVALENT? (YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE ANSWER)

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At home 2. At school 3. Open public spaces 4. Governmental offices 5. At work 6. CBOs, NGOs and privet offices 7. Don't know 8. Refuse to answer 9. Other (specify) _____ 	
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503. FROM THE FOLLOWING PLACES, WHAT ARE THE PLACES WHERE FORMS OF PSYCHOSOCIAL VIOLENCE ARE MOST PREVALENT? (YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE ANSWER)

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At home 2. At school 3. Open public spaces 4. Governmental offices 5. At work 6. CBOs, NGOs and privet offices 7. Don't know 8. Refuse to answer 9. Other (specify) _____ 	
--	--	--

504. FROM THE FOLLOWING PLACES, WHAT ARE THE PLACES WHERE FORMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE ARE MOST PREVALENT? (YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE ANSWER.)

<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At home 2. At school 3. Open public spaces 4. Governmental offices 5. At work 6. CBOs, NGOs and privet offices 7. Don't know 8. Refuse to answer 9. Other (specify) _____ 	
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505. TO WHOM DO MOST (WOMEN/ MEN/ GIRLS/ BOYS) MOST OFTEN GO TO HELP, WHEN THEY HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE? Ask each of the below items in the same manner.

Women				Men				Girls under 18				Boys under 18				Item	#
I don't know	Sexual	Psychosocial	Physical	I don't know	Sexual	Psychosocial	Physical	I don't know	Sexual	Psychosocial	Physical	I don't know	Sexual	Psychosocial	Physical		
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Family member	1
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Community leader	2
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Religious leader	3
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Police	4
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	CBOs / NGOs	5
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Jordanian Neighbors	6
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Health Clinic	7
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Teachers	8
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Friends	9
7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	Other Syrians	10

506. DO YOU KNOW OF ANY SERVICES AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY FOR SURVIVORS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

_	1. Yes 2. No (If No, continue to question 508)
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507. WHAT ARE THE SERVICES THAT YOU KNOW OF IN YOUR COMMUNITY THAT ADDRESS VIOLENCE BASED ON GENDER AND ARE AIMED TOWARD (BOYS LESS THAN (18) YEARS ETC.)? Ask each of the below items in the same manner.

Women	Men	Girls under 18	Boys under 18	Category	#
4	3	2	1	Health	1
4	3	2	1	Safety/Security	2
4	3	2	1	MHPSS	3
4	3	2	1	Legal aid	4

508. DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING SERVICES FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN?

_ _ _	For boys: _____
_ _ _	For girls: _____
_ _ _	For men: _____
_ _ _	For women: _____
_ _ _	Currently offered services: _____

509. RESEARCHER'S COMMENTS/NOTES

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F. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

AGENCY/AUTHOR	ASSESSMENT TITLE	DATE	LOCATION
Jessica Gorham	Final Report, Jordan Mission, IA GBV Advisor-RRT	2012	Countrywide
ILO Regional Office and UNICEF	National Study on Worst Forms of Child Labour in Syria	2012	Countrywide
SRSB Children and Armed Conflict	Annual Report of the UN Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict	June 2012	Global
US Department of State	Trafficking in Persons Report	June 2012	Global
World Food Programme (WFP)	Needs Assessment of Displaced Syrians in Jordan	June/July 2012	Amman, Mafraq, Ramtha, Irbid, Zarqa
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	'We Left our Homes to Protect our Daughters'	July 2012	Countrywide
TdH	Child Protection Needs Assessment of the Syrian refugees in Cyber City	July 2012	Cyber City Camp
Refuges International	Syrian Refugees - Anxious Neighbours Stretched Thin	July 2012	Lebanon and Jordan
International Labor Organisation (ILO)	Child Labour in Jordan	August 2012	Countrywide
International Catholic Migration Mission (ICMC)	Outreach Analysis – January 2013	August 2012-January 2013	Northern Jordan
UPP-JWU	Comprehensive Assessment on Syrian Refugees Residing in the Community in Northern Jordan	August 2012 (data collected May to July 2012)	Irbid City, Ramtha City, and surrounding areas
IMC and UNICEF	Displaced Syrians in Za'atari camp: Rapid Mental Health and PSS support Assessment	August 2012	Za'atari Camp
International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Syrian Refugees living in the Community in Jordan	September 2012	Amman, Ajloun, Karak, Mafraq, Naemh (Irbid), Ma'an
Mercy Corps	Analysis of Host Community-Refugee Tensions in Mafraq Jordan	October 2012	Mafraq
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Assessment Report: Cash Transfer Program to Syrian Refugees in Jordan	October 2012	Ramtha & Mafraq

International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Assessment Report: Cash Transfer Program to Syrian Refugees in Jordan	October 2012	Ramtha and Mafraq
CARE International (Jordan)	Baseline Assessment of Community Identified Vulnerabilities among Syrian Refugees Living in Amman	October 2012	Amman
REACH (ACTED, UNHCR, UNICEF)	Assessments of Syrian Refugees in Host Communities (summary report of key findings)	From November 2012	Irbid, Balqa, Jarash, Ajloun, Mafraq
UNHCR	Participatory Assessment	December 2012	Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, Ma'an, Zarqa, Ramtha, Karak
World Food Programme (WFP)	Food Insecure & Vulnerable People in Jordan	December 2012	Countrywide
CARE International (Jordan)	Summary of Results from Assessments conducted in Zarqa, Mafraq, Madaba & Amman	February/March 2013	Zarqa, Mafraq, Madaba & Amman
Cash WG	CWG Coverage Map & Table	March 2013	Northern & Central Governorates primarily
UN	Jordan—Most Likely & Worst Case Scenarios to end of 2013	March 2013	Countrywide

G. STATUTORY CHILD PROTECTION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE ACTORS⁷²

Several national institutions address issues of gender-based violence, with **The National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA)** as the lead organization in the area. Special departments on family violence were established within the Ministries of Health, Education, Justice, and Social Development after the endorsement of the Family Act. NCFA also serves as the secretariat of the National Team for Family Protection, a multi-agency, high-level technical team composed of both governmental and non-governmental institutions that oversee the implementation of the National Framework and the National Strategy for Family Protection.

The Jordanian National Commission for Women (JNCW) is the national institution for women and is in charge of promoting the economic, social, cultural, and political advancement of women through the implementation of the Government's National Strategy for Women.

The National Centre for Human Rights (NCHR) was established in 2006 by Law (decree number 51) and aims to “protect human rights and disseminate a human rights culture, observe human rights situation and provide consultation and legal assistance, take necessary administrative and legal procedures to deal with human rights complaints and violations in order to put an end to such abuses and eliminate their effects, to conduct studies and research and provide information, in addition to conducting training workshops and seminars, manage and organize campaigns and take stand and issue necessary reports and publications.”

The NCHR offers a Complaints and Legal Services Unit, which receives and treats individual complaints on human rights, follows up on these complaints through to their final resolution, and provides assistance and advice to injured and concerned people on their rights.⁷⁹

78 Excerpts from the Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Rashida Manjoo, Mission to Jordan, 14 May 2012, A/HRC/20/16/Ad d.1

79 UNDP, Violence against women: assessing the situation in Jordan,

The Family Protection Department (FPD) is part of the Public Security Directorate and has a distinct mandate to investigate and handle cases of family violence and sexual abuse. The department is mandated to carry out investigations, follow up on cases, and provide survivors with specialist services, including legal, social, and psychological services. FPD works in close partnerships with other institutional stakeholders, particularly with the Ministry of Social Development.

The Ministry of Social Development is the main institution in charge of providing women survivors of violence with services, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations. In 2007, the Ministry established the Dar Al Wifaq shelter to provide lodging and protection for women survivors of family violence and their children. It is currently leading intergovernmental efforts to establish a new centre to specifically protect women who are potential survivors of honour killings.

Within the **Ministry of Health, the Woman and Child Health Directorate** has a specific section for family violence, which has designed and disseminated specialized manuals and training for medical service providers to identify and refer cases of family violence against women and children.

The **Forensic Medicine Directorate** within the Ministry has played a pivotal role in raising awareness and providing technical expertise in the identification and proper handling of family violence cases.

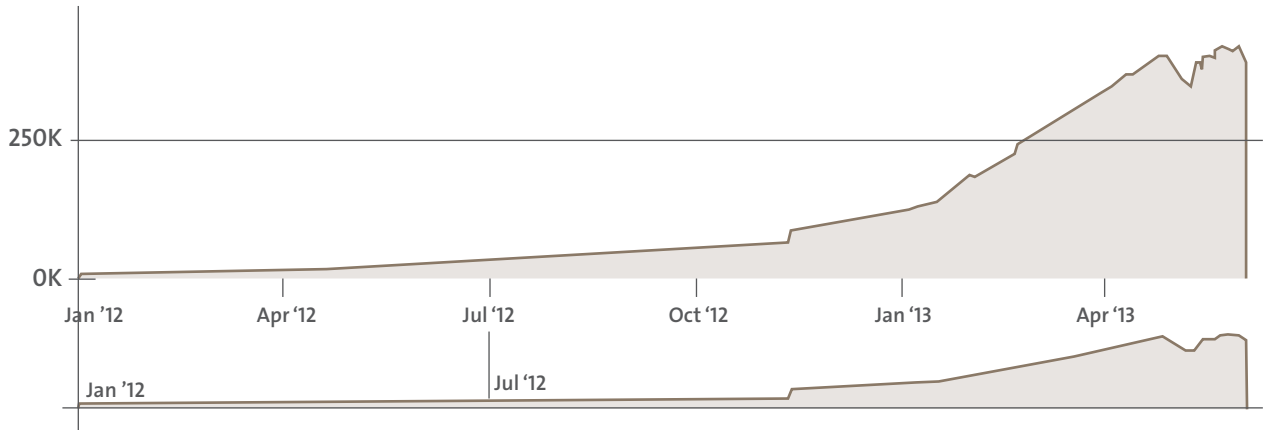
The **Ministry of Labor's** Labor Law prohibits the recruitment of children under the age of 16 in most sectors, with 18 set as the minimum age for work in hazardous professions. Jordan is also a signatory to international conventions that ban child labor. In 2011, labor ministry inspectors fined and issued warnings to more than 1,100 institutions for employing children.

H. UNHCR DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEE INDIVIDUALS IN JORDAN BY GOVERNORATE, SEX AND AGE⁸⁰

GOVERNORATE	SEX	0-4 YEARS	5-11 YEARS	12-17 YEARS	18-59 YEARS	60+ YEARS
AJLUN	M	80	74	51	119	6
	F	60	82	47	142	5
AMMAN	M	1319	1424	1023	3875	210
	F	1224	1363	931	3436	229
AQABA	M	21	18	16	64	3
	F	16	18	14	59	2
BALQA	M	44	40	37	117	6
	F	49	51	36	105	4
IRBID	M	2407	2664	1836	4899	180
	F	2167	2476	1569	4923	258
JARASH	M	81	79	64	166	11
	F	91	74	51	181	13
KARAK	M	82	84	53	184	14
	F	73	78	32	186	15
MA'AN	M	102	120	104	289	21
	F	108	110	75	287	21
MADABA	M	39	68	38	110	8
	F	39	49	25	113	9
MAFRAQ	M	996	1054	796	1934	97
	F	975	1060	729	2147	152
OTHERS	M	98	96	64	173	8
	F	98	104	51	214	6
TAFILAH	M	11	6	3	14	1
	F	6	3	1	12	
ZARQA	M	393	443	306	953	49
	F	375	413	294	975	61

80 As of 2 October 2012

I. UNHCR NUMBER OF REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN BY DATE*⁸¹



⁸¹ As of 3 June 2013

J. UNHCR NUMBERS FOR AREA OF ORIGIN OF REGISTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES AND OF REGISTERED FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS IN JORDAN, OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2012

SYRIANS REGISTERED BETWEEN THE PERIOD OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 2012

M/F	All	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6
F	9,525	1,547	2,062	1,366	2,760	1,463	327
M	8,729	1,671	2,145	1,419	2,070	1,193	231
Total	18,254	3,218	4,207	2,785	4,830	2,656	558

SYRIANS REGISTERED BETWEEN THE PERIOD OCTOBER AND DECEMBER 2012 BY GOVERNORATE IN SYRIA

LOCATION IN SYRIA	M/F	ALL	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6
Aleppo	F	50	0	2	0	20	21	7
Aleppo	M	126	0	0	3	62	52	9
Al-hasakeh	F	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Al-hasakeh	M	4	0	0	1	2	1	0
Ar-raqqa	F	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ar-raqqa	M	3	0	0	0	2	1	0
As-sweida	F	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
As-sweida	M	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Damascus	F	254	0	3	4	115	88	44
Damascus	M	369	1	2	5	187	149	25
Dar'a	F	1,636	3	3	52	947	503	128
Dar'a	M	1,864	2	9	38	1,124	571	120
Deir-ez-zor	F	11	0	0	0	4	7	0
Deir-ez-zor	M	14	0	0	0	8	5	1
Hama	F	48	0	0	4	26	17	1
Hama	M	116	0	1	1	48	62	4
Homs	F	248	0	1	3	138	74	32
Homs	M	528	3	1	9	271	197	47
Idleb	F	17	0	0	0	11	4	2
Idleb	M	34	0	0	0	19	15	0
Irbid	F	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Irbid	M	3	0	0	0	1	2	0
Lattakia	F	6	0	0	0	4	1	1
Lattakia	M	15	0	0	0	7	8	0
Mafraq	F	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Mafraq	M	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Quneitra	F	3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Quneitra	M	9	0	0	0	7	2	0

Rural Damascus	F	126	0	1	3	66	42	14
Rural Damascus	M	252	0	4	5	131	94	18
Tartous	F	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Tartous	M	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Zarqa	M	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
n/a	F	7,119	1,544	2,052	1,300	1,422	704	97
n/a	M	5,386	1,665	2,128	1,357	197	32	7

SYRIANS FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS	
GOVERNORATE IN SYRIA	TOTAL FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLDS
n/a	68
Aleppo	50
Al-hasakeh	1
Ar-raqqa	1
As-sweida	1
Damascus	254
Dar'a	1,636
Deir-ez-zor	11
Hama	48
Homs	248
Idleb	17
Irbid	1
Lattakia	6
Mafrq	1
Quneitra	3
Rural Damascus	126
Tartous	2

The background is split horizontally into a blue top half and a yellow bottom half. Overlaid on this are several semi-transparent shapes: a large light blue circle on the right side, a vertical light blue bar on the left side, and a light blue trapezoidal shape at the top left. The text is centered in the blue section.

SUMMARY OF CHARTS AND TABLES

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CHARTS

- Chart 1. Highest Level of Education Completed
- Chart 2. Illiteracy² Rate by Region
- Chart 3. Survey respondent rankings of the family's primary and secondary sources of income in the last month
- Chart 4. Survey responses to, "If family members go out 'rarely' or 'never,' then why?"
- Chart 5. Survey response to, "In general, how often family members go outside the house?"
- Chart 6. Survey rankings of places with highest risk for various forms of violence
- Chart 7. Survey respondents' assessment of the prevalence of sexual violence against different groups within the Syrian refugee community
- Chart 8. Difference between women and men's likelihoods to turn to a family member when facing various forms of violence
- Chart 9. Percentage of survey respondents married under 18, by sex
- Chart 10. Survey responses to "What is the normal age of marriage in your community?"
- Chart 11. Percentage of households reporting income from child labor in the last month
- Chart 12. Survey responses ranking physical violence as occurring "a lot" or "some" against males and females in different age groups

TABLES

- Table 1. Total Syrian households registered with UNHCR by cities in Jordan (2 October 2012)
- Table 2. Distribution of participants by region, area, numbers and tools
- Table 3. Survey Responses: Reasons for Early Marriage for Males and Females

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UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on five priority areas: increasing women's leadership and participation; ending violence against women; engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; enhancing women's economic empowerment; and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting. UN Women also coordinates and promotes the UN system's work in advancing gender equality.



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