

Annex 5 List of sample projects, features and findings

Projects	Organisation	Geography	Thematic Component	Duration	Project Description and implementation
Syrian Refugees' Opportunities toward Resilience	Relief International	Iraq	Livelihoods	12 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project will provide Syrian refugees, IDPs, and vulnerable host communities with access to livelihoods through market-relevant value chain development; and foster an enabling environment for the established value chains to ensure their sustainability with focus on enhancing refugee and IDP labour and economic rights in KRI.</i></p> <p>In comparison with much of the rest of the RDPP portfolio this project has been one of those that is more directly implemented by an INGO, without significant partnerships with local partners. This may be related to the challenges of working in Northern Iraq. It builds on Relief International's livelihoods programming elsewhere. No plans exist for advocacy and there are no apparent efforts to link programming with protection efforts. There is an acute realisation that the worsening economic conditions in KRI are likely to require further adjustments to programming to work more intensely with a smaller number of beneficiaries.</p>
Increasing access to immediate and long-term economic opportunities of vulnerable displacement-affected populations in the KRI	DRC	Iraq	Livelihoods	12 months	<p><i>Project aim: In order to address the critical need for immediate access to income and longer-term livelihoods opportunities among displacement-affected populations, the project will provide both short-term income support and sustainable livelihood opportunities for Syrian refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities in Erbil and Duhok governorates of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.</i></p> <p>This project was effectively co-financed with a Danida grant for related infrastructural investments for job centres designed largely to coach job seekers and help link them to potential employers. It focused on improving financial security among urban refugees. As with the Relief International project, this is largely directly implemented by DRC, but with a strong focus on overcoming the "wild west" of un-coordinated vocational training efforts in Northern Iraq.</p> <p>The success of the job centres has led to them accessing additional support and expansion with additional facilities. RDPP flexibility in linking first with Danida support and later with other donor support has been important.</p>

TAREEQI (My Way)	Finn Church Aid ¹	Jordan	Livelihoods	16 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project will support the socio-economic development of Syrian and Jordanian beneficiaries by providing them with the skills, capabilities and opportunities to access the labour market through self-employment/enterprise or job opportunities.</i></p> <p>Project implementation was delayed (commenced in March 2017) at the beginning due to challenges with getting approval from the Ministry of Labour and staff recruitment. FCA has taken responsible action to adapt to the constrained time plan and revised certain activities.</p> <p>The training is conducted through national Vocational Training Centres and while this might increase sustainability it also presents a number of challenges in mobilising these institutions as ‘partners’ when they are accustomed to being treated as ‘sub-contractors’ for INGO-led projects. FCA is aware of and trying to address this.</p> <p>FCA pays attention to choosing relevant industries depending on each location and efforts are being made to focus on the challenges of working with vulnerable beneficiaries (recognising the additional time it requires to work with them, their motivations for taking work within certain sectors, the psychosocial needs of refugees).</p> <p>Particularly in the entrepreneurship training targeting youth (and young women) attention is given to ‘innovative businesses’. The beneficiaries undergo a strict selection process and only 15 out of 450 were chosen. The youth are planning to start a variety of small businesses. FCA is still implementing activities due to the delays and the evaluation cannot identify any outcomes yet.</p>
Voice & Accountability for Syrian Women & Men	ABAAD	Lebanon	Advocacy	12 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project aims at ensuring protection and prevention of GBV by improving participation of affected Syrian men and women to advocate for their rights as well as development and humanitarian priorities and improving the ability of national institutions to provide better service women survivors of Gender-based Violence (GBV) through capacity building, expansion of services and public awareness campaigning.</i></p> <p>ABAAD is a national NGO with a clear and long-standing gender advocacy profile. Support to ABAAD is the only project supported specifically under the thematic area ‘advocacy’. RDPP funds helped ABAAD fill gaps in its protection work on gender-based violence and contributed to the annual 16-days of activism campaign by making up 10% of the total campaign funds. In December 2016, ABAAD launched its campaign officially known as ‘A White Dress Doesn’t Cover the Rape’, aimed at abolishing Article 522 of the Lebanese Penal Code which allows a man to avoid punishment for rape if he marries the victim. On 16th of August</p>

¹ Finn Church Aid (FCA) is the largest Finnish development cooperation organisation and Finland’s second largest provider of humanitarian assistance.

					<p>2017, the Lebanese Parliament abolished Article 522, which should be highlighted as an outcome to which ABAAD has contributed as can be seen from the extensive media coverage mentioning ABAAD.</p> <p>Innovations included the timing of their advocacy activities, which coincided with a broader nationwide campaign, and their partnering with other women's rights movements and national NGOs. One of the direct and immediate results of the campaign was the increase in referrals to ABAAD's shelter facilities and assistance services.</p> <p>The project has enabled ABAAD to provide protection to women through safe mid-way houses, and has trained both Syrian and Lebanese victims of gender based violence, men with abusive behaviour, as well as shelter staff in order to change attitudes and increase awareness. ABAAD is very aware that abusive behaviour and mental illness is related to livelihood stress, and therefore of the importance of linking protection and livelihood perspectives.</p> <p>RDPP support to ABAAD, an already strong national NGO, is an example of how 'gap filling' has enabled a national partner to assume a central and rightful role in the national protection discourse. According to ABAAD, RDPP was particularly flexible and helped them cover gaps in their funding as well as create synergies between their various projects.</p>
RECOVER - Reinforcing and Empowering Communities to Overcome the Effects of the Syrian Refugee Crisis	Mercy Corps	Lebanon	Protection	18 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project aims to empower vulnerable communities and municipalities to prevent violence, through reducing tensions and the drivers of conflict caused by the Syrian crisis through strengthened ability of target municipalities and communities to address the perceived root causes of conflict, including protection concerns.</i></p> <p>Mercy Corps has produced a study called "From Tension to Violence: Understanding and Preventing Violence between Refugees and Host Communities in Lebanon". The findings have been incorporated into this project. One of the key findings of the research was that municipalities are the most effective dispute resolution actor.</p> <p>Municipalities are also the key actors in Mercy Corps' RDPP project and nine municipalities in the Bekaa Valley have signed MoUs with MC. The project has worked on establishing local community groups consisting of Syrian and Lebanese members (10 of each) embedded within the municipalities. The members have been trained in mediation, negotiation and protection. These groups were engaged in identifying community needs, which led to identifying small community-rehabilitation projects. In one example the community decided to work on supporting agriculture and farmers and accessing land and building water irrigation channels to reduce conflicts over water. Another municipality wanted to</p>

					transform the old train station into a museum of train history, a garden and public space that can attract economic investments.
Strengthening refugee protection through capacity-building of Lebanese local and national authorities	UNHCR	Lebanon	Protection	36 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project will expand capacities security forces and municipal police in protection issues. The programme also includes a component with two universities in Lebanon, strengthening their capacity to integrate refugee law and protection into curriculums and to include refugee and asylum seekers in their already on-going legal services.</i></p> <p>Prior to the project in 2015, there was no work in the university (USJ) on refugees or migration, either in the course content or amongst student dissertations. The first activity in the project was a pilot field survey conducted for two weeks by 20 students. The students spent two months designing the survey and covered the country within two weeks. The survey was presented in a press conference with invitations disseminated by UNHCR.</p> <p>In November 2016, 116 students participated in week-long module on refugee studies and a course on human rights protection of vulnerable groups was taught in March and April 2017 for masters students. USJ drew heavily on contacts with the Oxford Refugee Studies Programme, a process that began with the first special issue of the Forced Migration Review at the start of RDPP.</p> <p>As an outcome of this project, USJ has now initiated an undergraduate course on human rights protection and vulnerable groups, which is open to all students. 19 students have chosen to do research papers on a topic related to refugees and a doctoral candidate just registered the first PhD dissertation on refugees. There is also evidence that the work of USJ in this project is starting to yield interest from other actors (German Embassy, Norwegian Research Council, Princeton and Yale). USJ furthermore made sure the student research papers could be adapted to the upcoming second special issue of the Forced Migration Review in case any of the students would like to submit. USJ mention that the project has provided students with hand-on experience as well as access to a large network.</p> <p>The evaluation considers the collaboration with USJ as highly relevant and positive considering the previous non-existence of the topic of refugees both amongst the university professors as well as students, something which is surprising considering the many years of recurrent refugee crises Lebanon has faced.</p>
Regional survey on impact of displacement on the socio-economic and living conditions of	World Bank	Regional	Research	11 months	<p><i>Project aim: This is a regional survey, covering Lebanon, Jordan and Northern Iraq that will measure the impact of displacement on the socio-economic and living conditions of refugees and host communities.</i></p> <p>While the study was intended to provide knowledge (on a regional level) on the impact of displacement on Syrian refugees in the three focus countries, which would contribute to policy dialogue and the current</p>

refugees and host communities					<p>narrative on refugees' socio-economic and living conditions, the study has not yet been published. The project, which commenced in 2014, faced many challenges around obtaining access to collect the data as well around sensitivities of publishing the findings from the survey due to resistance from host governments. The preliminary findings for Lebanon were presented in April 2016 to a limited audience of donors, government ministries and UN agencies. According to the latest annual report, the RDDP team is attempting to reach an agreement with UNHCR (the co-financer of the study) on how to disseminate the findings.</p> <p>No outcomes were found as the findings from the survey have not been disseminated to the extent envisaged.</p>
Durable Solution Platform for Displaced Syrians	Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council and International Rescue Committee.	Regional	Research	18 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project will create a civil society-led Durable Solutions Platform to develop a solutions framework for the Syrian refugee crisis. Given the current context, it will not promote immediate durable solutions for displaced populations but rather will consider programming and policy that can enable solutions through ongoing interventions and for future solutions.</i></p> <p>DSP engages in research, advocacy and policy dialogue to promote forward-thinking scenarios regarding the Syrian refugee crisis. It has probably been the project funded by RDPP that is most clearly built around foresight. This is partly due to the fact that voluntary returns have been quietly recognised as central in future processes, but have not yet begun on a significant scale. DSP experienced a slow start due to recruitment issues and a cautious approach to identifying suitable entry points to address a set of issues that is highly contentious and where evidence may be taken out of context and misused. The most significant output thus far has been a research study undertaken by DSP, 'Unsafe but Home', on return motivation and mobility intentions among returnees. It has provided a basis for stimulating a nuanced policy discussion in the region on the actual experience of returnees.</p> <p>The research conducted by the DSP is still considered sensitive, which is also seen in its limited dissemination, consisting of five private briefing sessions to donors and stakeholders. The evaluation confirmed limited awareness about the DSP among most stakeholders during interviews.</p> <p>It is too early to identify outcomes of DSP's work, apart from what the evaluation judges to be an appropriate 'positioning' in relation to a contentious, but increasingly emergent set of issues around voluntary return that may dominate refugee programming during the next phase of RDPP.</p>

UNDP Sub-regional response facility	UNDP	Regional	Research	18 months	<p><i>Project aim: The project will address the gap in analysis, understanding and dialogue about optimal and country-specific policy options for governments in the region faced with accommodating refugees from Syria and the impact of the crisis.</i></p> <p>The major output of this project has been a research report entitled ‘Jobs Make the Difference’ which was conducted by UNDP together with ILO and WFP. The study, which focuses on how host governments, international actors, and private sector partners can create new economic opportunities and expand access to existing economic opportunities, was launched globally on the sidelines of the ‘Supporting the Future of Syria and the Region Conference’ in Brussels in April 2017. Interviews suggest that UNDP has remained cautious about publicising the report actively due to the sensitivities in the individual countries around granting refugees access to the labour market. The report outlines the access of refugees to the labour market on a regional level covering Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq. As a result, although the evaluation found that the research was of high quality and very timely, very few interviewees knew of it or had used it.</p> <p>Despite a high degree of relevance, this research initiative exemplifies obstacles related to making the link from research to advocacy and policy influence. This partly relates to the sensitivities of the findings (similar to the World Bank study above). Interviewees noted that it also related to a generally weak interest in regional perspectives due to a strong focus on national dynamics and policy processes.</p>
Tackling child labour among Syrian refugees and their host communities in Jordan and Lebanon	ILO	Regional	Protection	28 months	<p><i>Project aim: The programme is supporting the protection of children (refugees and non refugees) working in the worst forms of child labour, at the capacity building and advocacy levels through ILO.</i></p> <p>In both countries, ILO has conducted awareness raising events and capacity building activities for numerous relevant stakeholders at the national and district levels: Ministries of Labour of Jordan and Lebanon, Ministry of Agriculture in Lebanon, employers’ associations, local governments, civil society organizations, universities, and parliamentarians.</p> <p>In Lebanon, local coordination committees were established to follow up on child labour issues; and Farmers Unions were capacitated to monitor child labour in agriculture and to refer children to appropriate national NGOs.</p> <p>The project also engaged with the private sector in both countries in order to raise awareness of issues related to child labour, specifically on the negative impacts on the social development and economy of Jordan and Lebanon. ILO staff visited 40 employers in Jordan and 30 employers in Lebanon in order to discuss child labour, especially in the respective supply chains, and on the harmful effects it can have on the children and the companies.</p>

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