

PATHWAYS TO RESILIENCE: TRANSFORMING SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMPS INTO SELF-SUSTAINING SETTLEMENTS

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR RESILIENCE-BUILDING IN SYRIAN REFUGEE CAMPS AND THEIR
NEIGHBOURING HOST COMMUNITIES IN THE KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ

QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT: HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

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Executive Summary

The findings presented in this report are the result of a quantitative assessment on resilience building in Syrian refugee camps and their host communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). Two different household surveys were conducted in four different locations to two population groups: the Syrian refugees living in camps and their immediate host community. The surveys aimed to (i) generate a complete livelihood baseline for both populations, and (ii) gather the vision, perception and preferences of both refugee and host community over the future of resilient settings.

The assessment is part of a greater study commissioned by the UNDP. The overall study aims to evaluate the feasibility of transforming the refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region and the neighbouring towns into resilient communities. This implies putting forward strategies as part of a Resilience Based Development Response (RBDR) that empowers people's own ability to achieve their livelihood expectations and reduces their dependence on external aid. The overall study also includes a desk review and a qualitative assessment, and will finalise with an integrated policy report. The data generated in this quantitative assessment must be combined with the data included in the desk review in order to obtain a complete vision of the livelihoods baseline.

The survey was conducted in the refugee camps of Domiz, Akre, Qushtapa and Arbat, as well as in the surrounding towns, during May 2015. The total sample size is 416 households interviewed for the host community and 384 households for the refugee community in camps. This ensures that findings can be generalised for each population group with a 5% margin of error. Results at location-level can be generalised at 10% margin of error. The selection of households for interviews was randomised in both refugee camps and host community.

Key findings

- *Food and non-food procurement by in-camp refugees.* The vast majority of households in Domiz camp, the largest one, procure all their food (excluding food aid) from the shops within the camp. For the other camps, a majority of people tend to go to the host community to buy food. Regarding the satisfaction with food quantity and quality in in-camp local shops, the majority of respondents show satisfaction. Those not satisfied largely point to issues with food quality. In addition, some respondents pointed out some concerns and barriers that make the interaction with local out-camp markets sometimes difficult. These concerns refer mainly to affordability of prices, while distance to the markets is a relevant concern only for Qushtapa and Arbat camps. Interestingly, not feeling welcomed was not flagged in general as an important concern.
- *Labour force participation and unemployment rates.* The Kurdistan Region is currently under a deep economic crisis stemming from the conflict in the rest of Iraq and the government's fiscal crisis. This strongly determines the capacity to generate employment and the labour stability. Rates of participation in labour force are similar for both refugees and

host community. 32% of the population between the age of 16 and 59 in both populations are employed. Disaggregated by gender, 57% of the male population and 6% of the female population are employed. Rates are within the same margin as by the end of 2014. Unemployment and under-employment, on the contrary, has risen as compared to previous assessments. This affects the refugee community more than the host community, and it is especially spread among women willing to work. Differences between both populations are also significant in terms of the percentage of households without labour income. While between 4% and 20% of the households in the host community have no labour income, this situation is present in between 18% and 33% of the refugee households, depending on the location.

- *Job composition for refugee and host community.* Slightly more than half of the employment in the host community is generated by the government (except in the area of Arbat), while the rest are mainly self-employed. It is relevant to note that employment in the private sector is not significantly spread, pointing to structural flaws of the region's economy. Most of the employment is in the same town where respondents live and only a minority reported not to work full time. Significant differences arise in terms of type and quality of jobs for the refugee community. Around half of the population is self-employed in either their own business or in hiring their skills in a daily basis (e.g. daily contractors in construction). The second most cited employment is in the private sector. The most common place of employment is in Kurdistan's largest cities, followed by the camp itself, with a relevant proportion of people working in different locations where job is available. Short-term jobs are also more spread for refugees. Respondents in refugee camps mainly pointed to the fact that they are located in relatively poor districts as an important barrier to employment.
- *Business development by refugee and host community.* The proportion of households in refugee camps that have set up or own a business is found to be lower than within the host community, only between 13% and 30% of households reporting to have a business. However, the most relevant difference refers to the employment that each business is able to generate. Considering the current context of deep economic slowdown, the average number of workers per business in the host community is 1.8, half of them actually members of the owner's family. On the contrary, businesses in camps only employ 0.7 people on average, mostly family members. The capacity to generate employment in camps is rather limited as the camp is currently a very closed economy and, in some cases, they suffer from excessive internal competition. In addition, lack of access to capital was reported to be a relevant obstacle by near half of the business owners.
- *Skills available and needed in host community and refugee households.* Information about skills was sought in order to understand the composition of the labour force and what training would be best targeted for both communities. On average, refugee households report to possess certain skills more frequently than host community households. The most cited skills in both communities are house fixing, retailing, construction and, in the case of the host community, IT. Regarding the skills sought for employment, households in the refugee camps tend to prefer skills related with vocational trades, such as electrical works, carpentry,

hairdressing or craft-works. Host community households, on the contrary, demanded skills more focused to facilitate waged employment in already set-up businesses, such as IT, retailing, accounting or business administration.

- *Financial security of host community and in-camp refugees in crisis time.* The host community has been strongly impacted by the current economic crisis. 4 out of 5 families reported that they have experienced a decrease of income in the past 6 months. The impact is lower, however, for those households having a member working in a waged job in the private sector, or working in the local town (as self-employed or labourer) instead of the main cities where competition is higher. Regarding the capacity to save money only 18% and 11% of households in the host community and refugee camps, respectively, reported to be able to do so during the preceding month. As expected, those households with higher education levels, higher number of employed members and lower ratio of dependent family members are more likely to have ability to save. Finally, regarding the access to financial support, percentages between both communities are also very similar. Near half, on average, of families reported to be able to borrow money from family or friends in case they needed right now. On overall, this still leaves a significant amount of families in both communities under vulnerability in the case of need or in the case of having to face unexpected expenses.
- *Housing situation in the refugee camps.* There are significant differences in the shelter conditions both within camps and between camps. For instance, in Arbat camp, more than half of the families were able to afford building a house of concrete blocks, while in Qushtapa camp still most of families live in basic tents. The housing type within camps is significantly correlated with different measures of household vulnerability, i.e. those more vulnerable are more likely to live in tents.
- *Social capital in refugee camps.* The survey aimed to evaluate the level of trust within the camps by asking whether the respondents felt there is always somebody able to help them in case of problem. Time factor seems to play an important role, as families that have been residing in the camp for longer are more likely to give a positive answer. Another factor that measures the development of social capital in a community is the financial networks developed. On average, 30% of the families reported to have lent money to other refugees, although other socio-economic variables influence this. Finally, participation in in-camp community groups is not extended, as only 12% of the households report to be involved in any group and the majority of them said not to be aware of any group.
- *Political capital in refugee camps.* Relatively high numbers of households reported to perceive that they do not have any capacity to influence how things are organised in camps. In some camps (Domiz and Arbat), this percentage exceeds 50% of respondents. This is related to the satisfaction with the decision-making process and community representation mechanisms in the camp management. The highest issue seems to be in Arbat, with near half of the families ranking the situation in the camp as 0 over 10. This comes unexpectedly especially taking into account that it is the only camp that held in 2015 elections to elect the community representatives. This may signal a gap between the expectations of the refugees

and the camp management when establishing the representation mechanisms.

- *Perceptions of refugees over an integrated and open refugee camp.* The survey aimed to also look forward from the current situation to some potential options that would potentially contribute to make the camp settings more self-reliant. Some interesting conclusions arise for planning purposes. First, the majority of respondents disagreed that putting down the gates and walls of the camp and living in an open settlement would bring a positive change to the community. Second, around 80% of respondents were supportive of the current *status quo* in service provision, in which UN and the refugee councils of Kurdistan's governorate take care of water, electricity or waste collection. This situation points to gaps between the expectations of the refugee community and those of the international community. Finally, however, a significant amount of respondents reported that they would be willing to contribute financially to service provision (water and electricity and, to a very lower extent, land rental), at the same expense levels as for the host community. The camp that flags out is Domiz, in which a wide majority of households would agree to pay for the services.
- *Perceptions of the host community over an integrated refugee camp.* The stand of the host community households on the perceived effects of a protracted stay of Syrian refugees was, on average, that refugees did not bring much positive economic impact in the form of increase demand for goods and, on the contrary, there is a spread concern over higher competition for jobs. Regarding preferences on the future of the camp settings, the host community showed opposition to making the camp an open space but the majority was keen on letting refugees to build durable houses and to integrate them in the Iraqi food subsidy system. The host community around Domiz camp showed especially a positive attitude towards integration of the refugees, with also more than half of the respondents stating that they would agree to integrate the camp as a new neighbourhood.

1. Introduction

This quantitative assessment is undertaken as part of a UNDP-led feasibility assessment for resilience-building in Syrian refugee camps and their host community in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

The overall aim of the project is to evaluate the feasibility of transforming the refugee camps in the Kurdistan Region and the neighbouring towns into resilient communities. After three years of civil war in Syria and millions of displaced in the neighbouring countries, the humanitarian community adopted a new response plan that aims to shift from providing pure humanitarian assistance to a more development-oriented approach. In essence, this implies putting forward strategies that empower people's own ability to achieve their livelihood expectations in conflict affected areas and reduce their dependence on external aid.

This report is done in parallel to a qualitative assessment and it comes after completion of a desk review of the livelihood baseline for in-camp Syrian refugees and their host community. The data analysed through this quantitative assessments must be combined with the data included in the desk review in order to obtain a complete vision of the livelihoods baseline.

The aims of the quantitative assessment are as follows:

- Complete the data gaps in the livelihood baseline that were identified in the desk review, for both in-camp Syrian refugees and host community.
- Understand the extent to which the target population is affected by obstacles to pursue their livelihood strategies.
- Gather the vision, perceptions and preferences of both the refugee and host community over the future of resilient settings.

The overall field data generated by the desk review, quantitative and qualitative assessments will feed an integrated report that lays down the main recommendations for government and humanitarian partners to build resilience in refugee camps and host communities.

1.1. Scope of the assessment

This assessment consists on a household survey to two different population groups, both of them having a different but complementing set of questions:

- **Syrian refugee camps.** In particular, the scope focuses on four specific camps that were seen with adequate conditions to undertake resilience-building strategies: Domiz and Akre in Duhok governorate; Qushtapa in Erbil governorate; and Arbat in Sulaimania governorate.
- **Immediate host community.** As resilience-building involves a longer term perspective on Syrian refugees stay in the Kurdistan Region, the vision and livelihoods context of the host community is very relevant. Hence, the assessment was carried out in the immediate villages

and towns directly connected by road to the Syrian refugee camps. In particular:

- For Domiz camp, the assessment was carried out in the towns along the same road, 20 minutes south of the city of Duhok. This area has received a significant influx of displaced families from Syrian and the rest of Iraq. Around these towns there are 3 other camps for internally displaced people within 20 Km around. The towns also count with an ethnically-diverse population, as compared to other parts.
- For Akre camp, the assessment did not cover any other town but Akre, as the camp population (1,400 individual) is a very small portion of the town population (80,000 inhabitants). The camp is located exactly in the centre of the town. Akre is within a rural environment and counts with a small area for petty industry, mainly car and equipment fixing.
- For Qushtapa camp, the assessment covered medium-size towns and small villages around the camp. The towns are estimated to have around 20,000 inhabitants and are located within 20 minutes south of Erbil, Kurdistan’s main city, connected by the main road to Kirkuk. This is the only area that presents some industrial developments.
- For Arbat camp, the assessment covered medium-size towns next to the main road where the camp is located, connecting the city of Sulaimania with Halabja and Darbandikhan. However, the towns are relatively far from urban centres—more than 30 minutes drive. The area is mainly dependent on small-scale services and agriculture. Apart from Arbat refugee camp, there is another camp very close for internally displaced people.

The sampling strategy was designed as to provide statistically significant results at the 95% level of confidence for both population groups as well as statistically significant results at the 90% level of confidence for each geographical location (100 observations in each location for each group). Details about the statistical methodology are provided below in Section 2.

1.2. The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework for assessing resilience

In order to assess the resilience of both host community and refugees livelihoods, this project relies on the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework. This framework takes into consideration the components listed below. It encompasses the means through which households are able to achieve their desired livelihood outcomes within a vulnerability context. The results generated through the household surveys complement each of these livelihood components.

1) **Assets**, or capital endowments, that the households possess:

- a) Human Capital: household size, level of education, available skills, labour force participation, age dependency ratio, health status—particularly disability and chronic diseases.

- b) **Social and Political Capital:** social fabrics and networks, including support from friends and relatives, ability to influence and participate in decision-making, gender roles, legal rights and entitlements.
- c) **Physical Capital:** housing and shelter status, household assets, use of water supply system and sanitation, transportation infrastructure and telecommunications.
- d) **Financial Capital:** salaries, livestock, remittances, access to credit, support from social safety nets, food security.
- e) **Natural Capital:** landholding, food security and agriculture, access to common resources, land use, environmental degradation.

2) **Livelihood strategies**, in particular, the combination of activities and choices that people make to achieve their goals, such as employment, engagement in productive activities, asset allocation strategies, participation in the market to obtain goods, etc.

3) **Public structures and policies**, which include the existence of proper institutions, legislation and policies. In particular, it considers the extent of public goods provision to the population based on a sustainable use of the resources.

2. Methodology

The assessment methodology is described below in terms of (i) questionnaire design, (ii) sampling design, (iii) conduct of fieldwork, and (iv) limitations.

Questionnaire design

The development of the questions for the survey has been done after completion of the desk review on the available households data on livelihoods in the host community and refugees. Hence, the main objective of the survey was to cover for the information gaps stemming out of the desk review, for the different components of the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework. The secondary objective of the survey was to look forward and gather the opinions and visions of the respondents over future scenarios. Hence, the questions went through the following topics:

- **Livelihood strategies regarding food and non-food procurement:** the questions focused on raising information on how much of the food and non-food procurement by refugee households relied on obtaining it from the host community markets.
- **Livelihood strategies regarding employment:** a significant knowledge gap in the desk review referred to the type of employment for both communities, especially in terms of type, location and stability of the jobs. Specific questions on business development, employment generated and obstacles experienced were designed. The survey also aimed to update information on employment rates due to the unfolding economic crisis in Kurdistan.

- Human capital: the questions aimed to create an inventory of the most common skills available and the type of skills that households would find useful for employment.
- Financial capital: more information was sought in terms of the financial vulnerability (or security) of households to the current economic crisis.
- Physical capital: specifically for refugee households, there was lack of knowledge on the type of housing structures and the obstacles experienced to transform vulnerable shelters to more durable structures.
- Social and political capital: the questions aimed to enquire about the effectiveness of current decision-making structures in the camps as well as obtain a measure for social fabrics.
- Long-term view of both refugee households and host community over different options to move towards a more resilient camp setting, including public services provision.

The questionnaires were finally agreed in consultation with UNDP and UNHCR. Both questionnaires for the host community and the refugee households are attached as an annex at the end of the report.

Sampling design

The total sample size is 416 households interviewed for the host community and 384 households for the refugee community in camps. This ensures that findings can be generalised for each population as a whole with a 5% margin of error. The distribution of the sample size in each location is given in Table 1 and they were determined in order to ensure that results at location-level can be generalised at 10% margin of error¹.

Table 1. Sample sizes achieved

	Host community	Refugee camp
Domiz	100	100
Akre	101	82
Qushtapa	112	102
Arbat	103	100

Conduct of fieldwork

The selection of households for interviews was randomised in both refugee camps and host

¹ Generally, a sample size of 100 observations guarantees at margin error of 10%. However, for the case of Akre camp, due to its small size, 10% margin error was achievable with 80 observations.

community. The strategy is as follows:

- For the refugee camps, the interval of houses to be interviewed was determined based on the total number of households in the camp (or each camp block) and the required sample size.
- Regarding the host community, the project team undertook exploratory visits to the selected towns within the host community previous to the assessment in order to ensure that enumerators were evenly spread through all the location.

A group of enumerators was trained in each governorate to undertake the household surveys. The fieldwork was conducted using a questionnaire administered by a team of two enumerators on tablets with an ODK platform, enabling data entry directly during the interview. Data was subsequently cleaned up to ensure the robustness of the results.

The fieldwork was conducted during May 2015.

Limitations

The representativeness of the Syrian refugee populations presents a challenge as there is a big gap between the size of the different camps. Domiz camp, for instance, is near 40 times bigger than Akre camp. In itself, Domiz concentrates more than half of the refugee population living in camps within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Hence, carrying out an analysis of the average of the refugee sample would not be appropriate due to the size bias. This limitation has been taken into account within the report when discussing the results of the data.

3. Results of the quantitative assessment

The sections below provide an analysis of the results from the household survey, for both refugees and host community. For each of the topics presented, the following elements are discussed:

- A summary of the related data that was gathered in the desk review, to understand the results into their context;
- A description of the responses provided by the respondents in the different topics presented in the methodology section;
- An analysis of the determinants of the responses provided, where applicable, with the aim to understand which household/respondent characteristics are likely to explain the option chosen.

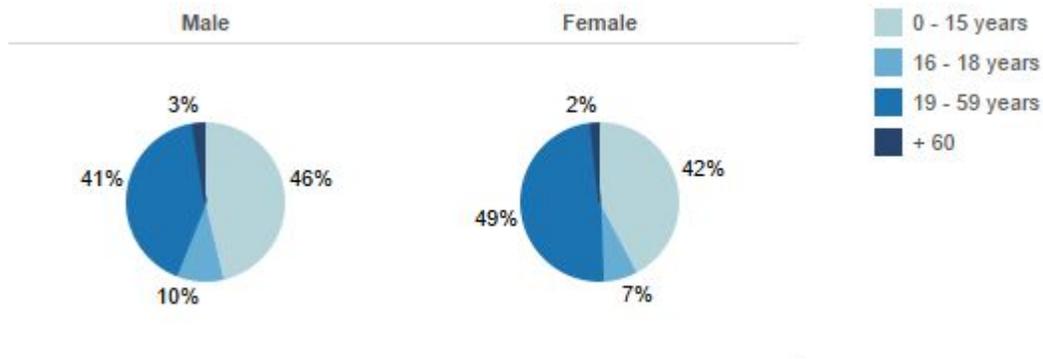
3.1. Sample composition

The following sections present the demographic profile of the respondents and the households surveyed. For the case of the Syrian refugees sample, information on their date of arrival to the camp is also provided.

Composition of the Syrian refugee sample

- *Age and gender of the interviewees.* 56% of the respondents were men, for 44% women. This ratio is similar in all the four camps with little variation. In terms of age, 52% of the respondents were between 35 and 59 years-old, with the rest being mainly between 18 and 34 years-old. People above the age of 60 were a minority. The average age of the sample is 39 years for men and 34 years for women.
- *Education levels of the interviewees.* The levels reported by the survey respondents is consistently similar across the camps. The major group is formed by respondents with secondary education level (38%), followed by primary level (31%), no formal schooling (19%) and, finally, university level (11%). There are some differences between gender, with a higher proportion of male respondents reporting secondary levels and a higher proportion of female respondents reporting no schooling at all.
- *Household composition.* The average household size in the camps is 5.6 people, ranging from 4.9 in Arbat to 6.2 in Domiz. This figure is in line with the other existing assessments. Based on the sample, women represents 49% of the total refugee population in the camps. The division of household members between age and gender groups is showed in Figure 1. On average, it shows that near half of the population is dependent, that is, either below the age of 16 or above 60 years. Finally, 20% of the households reported to have at least one of the members with a permanent disability.

Figure 1. Household composition in Syrian refugees sample



- *Head of household composition.* 12% of the households across the camps are female-headed households, a figure significantly above the 6% reported by previous assessments. The highest ratio is found in Qushtapa (16%) and the lowest in Arbat (8%).
- *Date of arrival in the camps.* For the whole sample of respondents, the average number of months that families have been living in the camp is 21 months². As not all the camps were established at the same time, there are significant differences between them. Hence,

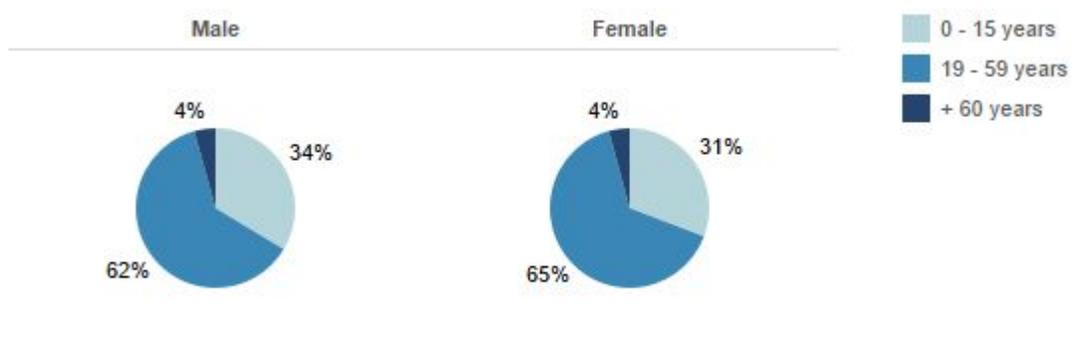
² Difference between the reported date of establishment in the camp and June 2015, date of the analysis.

respondents in Domiz camp have been living there for an average of 31 months, 21 months for Akre camp, 19 months for Qushtapa camp and 13 months for Arbat camp.

Composition of the host community sample

- Age and gender of the interviewees.* The sample has a predominance of male respondents over female, 70% to 30% respectively. Due to contextual and social norms, frequently only the male members of the households interviewed were keen to respond. This ratio is similar in all the locations. In terms of age, the two most frequent groups (between the age of 18 and 34 and between the age of 35 and 59) accounted for 90% of the sample, each representing 45%. The other 10% was formed by respondents beyond the age of 60. The average age of the sample is 39 years for men and 37 for women.
- Education levels of the interviewees.* The levels of education reported by the respondents is consistently similar across the locations, except in Akre, where there is a higher percentage of respondents with no formal schooling. On average, the major group is formed by respondents with secondary education level (35%), followed by primary level (29%), no formal schooling (20%) and, finally, university level (14%). The distribution is very similar to the sample for the refugee households. Regarding gender differences, these are significantly large: a higher percentage of male respondents hold secondary education, while the biggest group of female respondents is formed by those with no formal schooling.
- Household composition.* The average household size in the host community towns assessed is 6.3 people, ranging from 7.8 in Akre town to 5.4 in the towns around Arbat camp. According to the sample, women represents the 47% of the population. Figure 2 shows the division of household members between age and gender groups. Dependent population accounts for 37% of the total household members, significantly lower than the refugee households. Finally, 19% of the households reported to have at least one of the members with a permanent disability.

Figure 2. Household composition in the host community sample



- Head of household composition.* 7% of the households in the locations assessed, on average, are female-headed households. The highest ratio is found in Akre town (9%) and the lowest in the towns surrounding Domiz camp (3%).

3.2. Food and non-food procurement by in-camp refugees

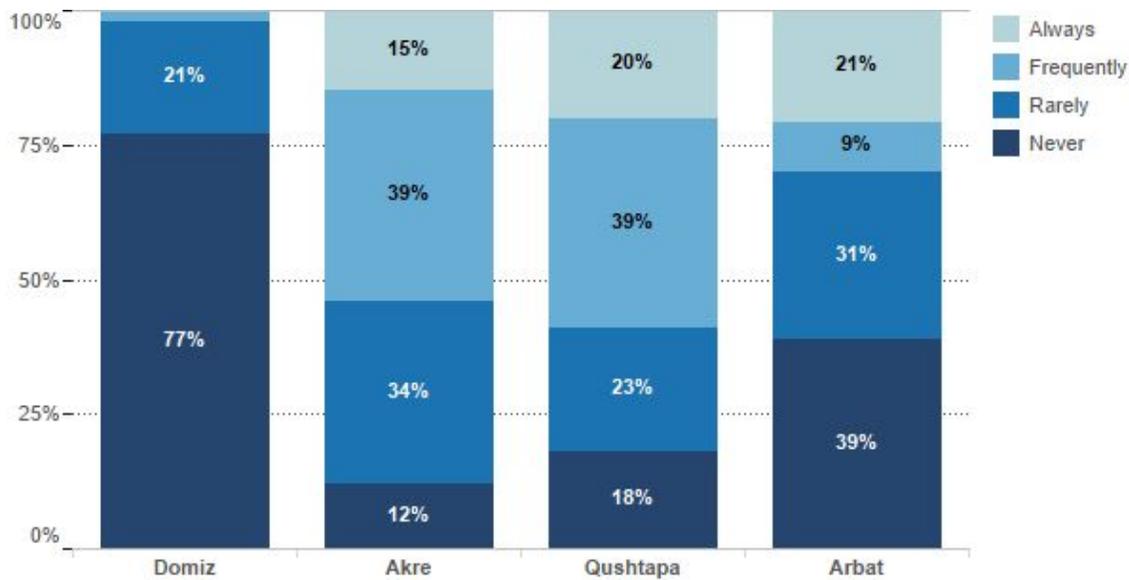
The procurement of food and non-food items, such as household supplies, is a key element of a refugee household's livelihood strategy. Hence, it is necessary to understand whether, apart from the aid received, the camps are currently able to satisfy the needs of the population and whether there are obstacles present that impedes procuring goods somewhere else.

What we know from the desk review: The information available mainly referred to the most frequent food sources for the households. The vast majority of households in Domiz and Akre camps reported that food assistance was their primary source of food —only a small fraction of households obtained the majority of their food needs from the local shops. These two camps, at the time of the assessment, were functioning with food vouchers instead of in-kind food parcels. The situation was the opposite in Arbat and Qushtapa, where local grocery shops were the main primary food source for the majority of families. These camps still functioned with a food parcel system which did not satisfy adequately families' food needs. Hence their dependence on a proper local grocery shop system is higher.

- *Frequency of food procurement outside the camp*³. There is a significant difference of frequency depending on the camp, hence it is more relevant to refer to the specific results per location. The data is summarised in Figure 3. Domiz is the best case that reflects how determinant camp size can be: 98% of the respondents reported to never or rarely go to buy food outside the camp; Domiz is the largest camp and the most developed in terms of in-camp business generation. Conversely, more than half of the families in Akre and Qushtapa report to buy food within the host community businesses either frequently or always. This could be linked to the relatively small size of the camps and the presence of less in-camp food shops. Arbat camp, on the contrary, is well supplied with local shops and far from the towns. Another determining factor is household vulnerability: those families with no income generation or with a disabled member are more likely to never or rarely leave the camp to acquire food.

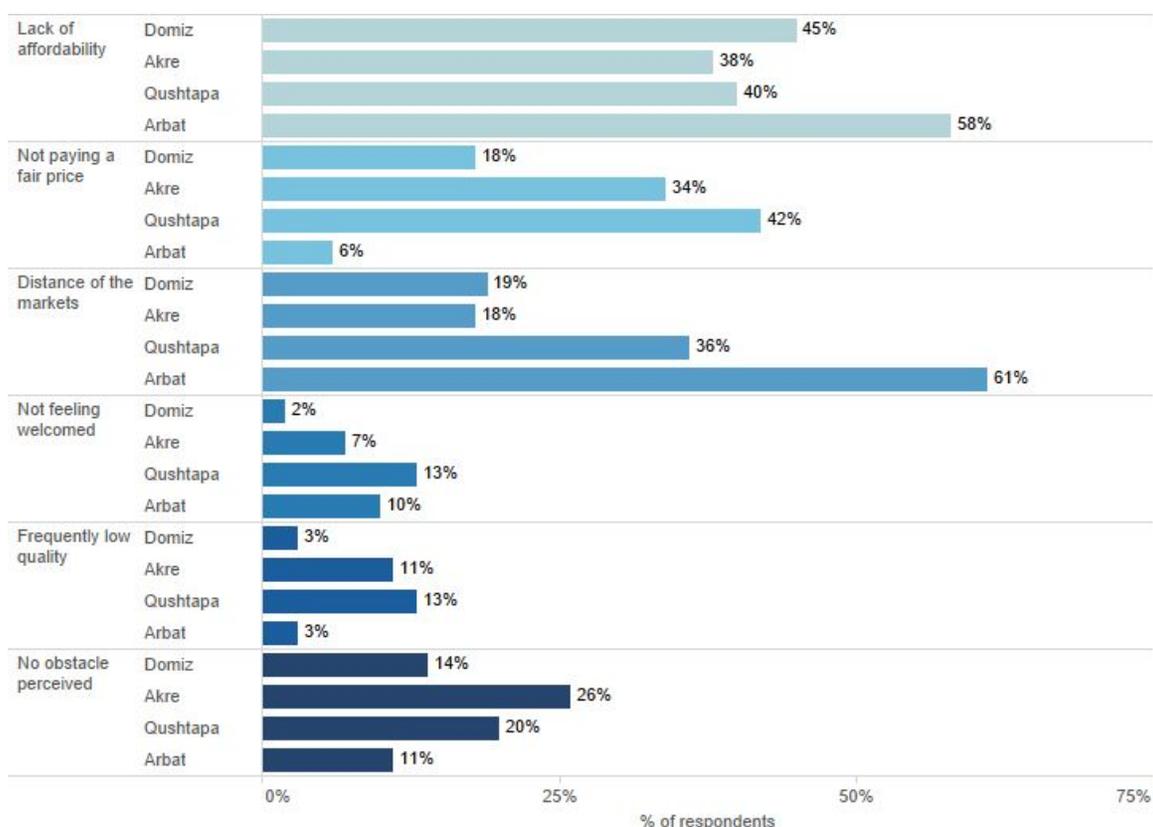
³ The survey asked respondents how frequently they acquire food in the markets outside the camp, excluding the food aid provided by NGOs and the WFP.

Figure 3. Frequency of procuring food outside the camp



- Satisfaction with food quantity and quality in in-camp local shops.* The satisfaction with the food available in the camps —excluding food aid— can also help evaluate household’s food procurement patterns. This satisfaction differs between locations: Akre and Domiz show the highest levels of satisfaction (71% both), followed by Qushtapa (63%) and Arbat (54%). Overall, these ratios are relatively high and do not point to major issues in food supply. The households that reported not being satisfied refer mainly to both lack of quality and quantity for the case of Qushtapa and mainly to not enough quantity for the case of Arbat.
- Barriers for refugees for a larger participation in the markets outside the camp.* As camps cannot supply families with all their material needs, refugees have to rely on the markets within the nearby towns. Some refugees, however, pointed out to some concerns and barriers that make this interaction with locals markets sometimes difficult. The most cited concern was lack of affordability, with similar rates across all camps, as showed in Figure 4. The distance to the markets is a relevant concern only for Qushtapa and Arbat, relatively small camps far from the nearby towns. As a third factor, the concern of not paying a fair price for the goods is especially relevant in Akre and Qushtapa. No significant differences are seen between the answers given by male and female respondents, except for the case of not feeling welcomed, which was pointed out more by women than men.

Figure 4. Perceived obstacles by refugees in the host community markets



Note: respondents were able to choose more than one option as a response.

3.3. Employment situation in host community and refugee households

A higher understanding of the current employment situation for host and refugee households was required in order to evaluate the resilience of both communities to the current shocks. The Kurdistan Region is currently under a deep economic crisis stemming from the conflict in the rest of Iraq and the government's fiscal crisis. This strongly determines the capacity to generate employment and the labour stability.

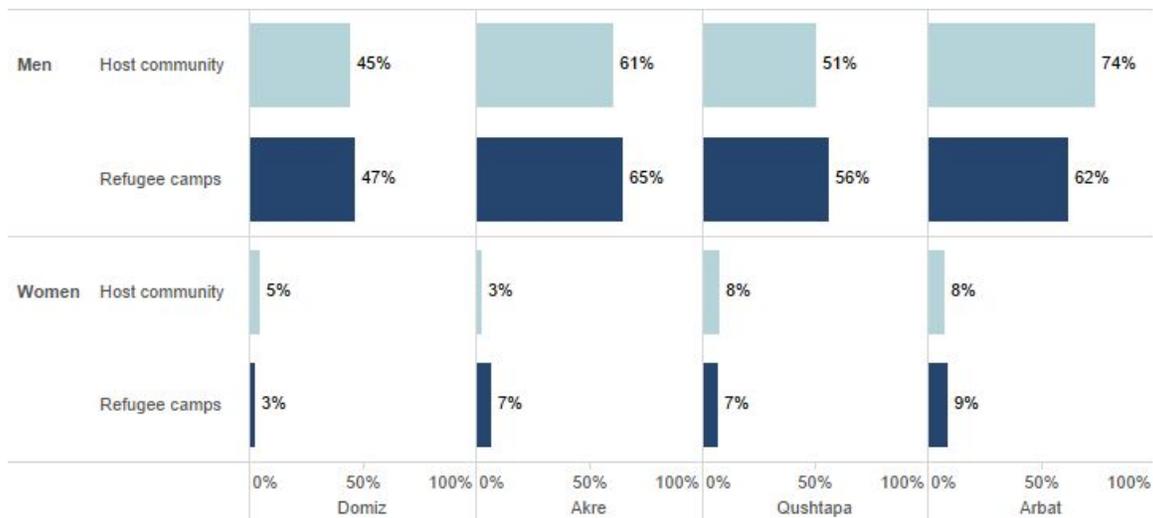
What we know from the desk review: Similar rates of employment were seen in both communities. 29% of the adults in the host community were employed, with data from end of 2014, while this was the case of 33% of the adults in refugee camps. Disaggregated by gender, this implied 62% of men and 6% of women employed, on average, for both populations. Similarities end here. Near 45% of the employment in the host community was generated by the government, with the rest distributed among agricultural and skilled jobs. For the case of refugees, jobs were mainly as unskilled positions —except in Arbat camp, where a majority of skilled employment was observed. Hence, refugee households presented significantly lower monthly income per capita. In addition, at household level, the number of households with no member generating income from labour was 5% for the host community, on average, and 15% in the refugee camps at the time of

the assessment. Obstacles to find employment were seen as higher for Syrian refugees due to the dynamics of the local labour market, which highly depends on the ‘word of mouth’ or community networks.

Labour force participation and unemployment rates

- Comparing participation in labour force.* Based on the answers on the number of individuals currently employed, the data shows that 32% of the population between the age of 16 and 59 in both host community and refugee camps are participating in the labour force, that is, that they are willing to work and could find employment. The remaining 68% is either economically inactive or unemployed. Disaggregating by gender, the similarities with both communities persist: 57% of the male population in the host community and 56% in the refugee camps are employed, by 6% and 7% of the female population, respectively. Differences per location are showed in Figure 5. Domiz is the location with the lowest employment rates (27% for both communities), which could be expected as the governorate of Duhok is the one with the largest amount of displaced families and competition for jobs is harder. On the contrary, the highest employment rates are seen in Arbat (42% for the host population and 37% for the refugee population). Finally, if compared with the historical data summarised in the desk review, it shows that rates are within the same margin as by the end of 2014.

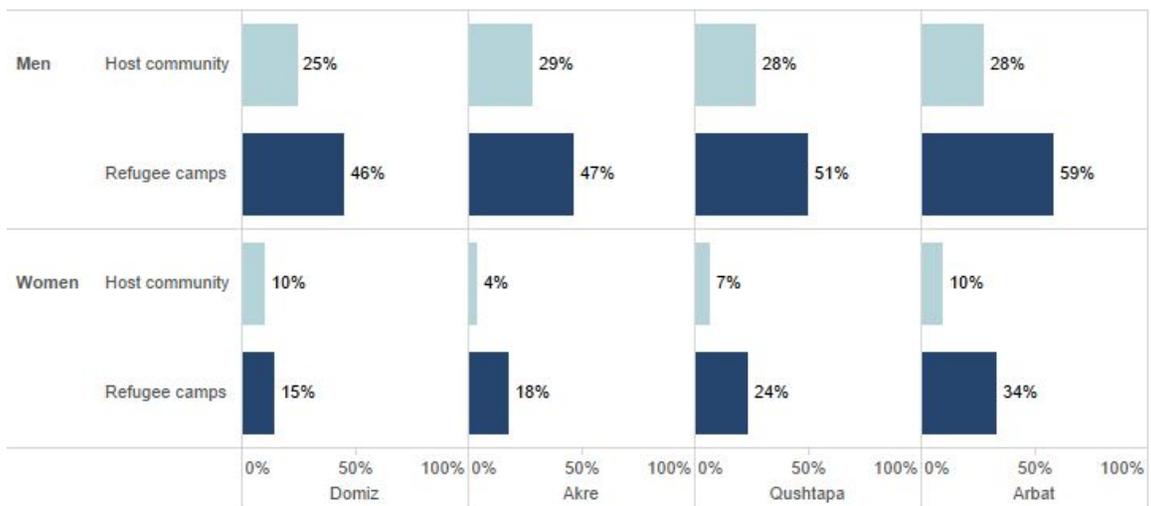
Figure 5. Employment rates among the population



- Comparing unemployment rates.* Respondents were asked how many households members were actively looking for employment but not able to find it. It has to be noted, though, that many individuals reported that they are working but, at the same time, looking for an employment. Hence, data on unemployment could not be accurately representing only those literally unemployed. This is the case because short-term / temporary jobs and underemployment are significantly spread, especially for refugees, and many are not able to

find a more adequate job position. Data shows that unemployment is widely affecting the refugee community, to a larger extent than the host community, as showed in Figure 6. Differences between locations are not significant. In broad terms, 1 out of 5 individuals in the host community between the age of 16 and 59 are unemployed or looking for employment, compared to 2 out of 5 individuals in the refugee camps. Also, there are more unemployed men than women as the percentage of women not active in the labour market is significantly high. However, it has to be highlighted that unemployment rates have raised sharply in the host community if they are compared to assessments available from 2012⁴, when 5% of adults in Kurdistan's rural areas, on average, reported to be unemployed. This implies that many new people are willing to incorporate into the labour market, probably linked to the need of many families to compensate for decreases in household income that affects 4 out of 5 families (see section 3.5).

Figure 6. Unemployment rates among the population



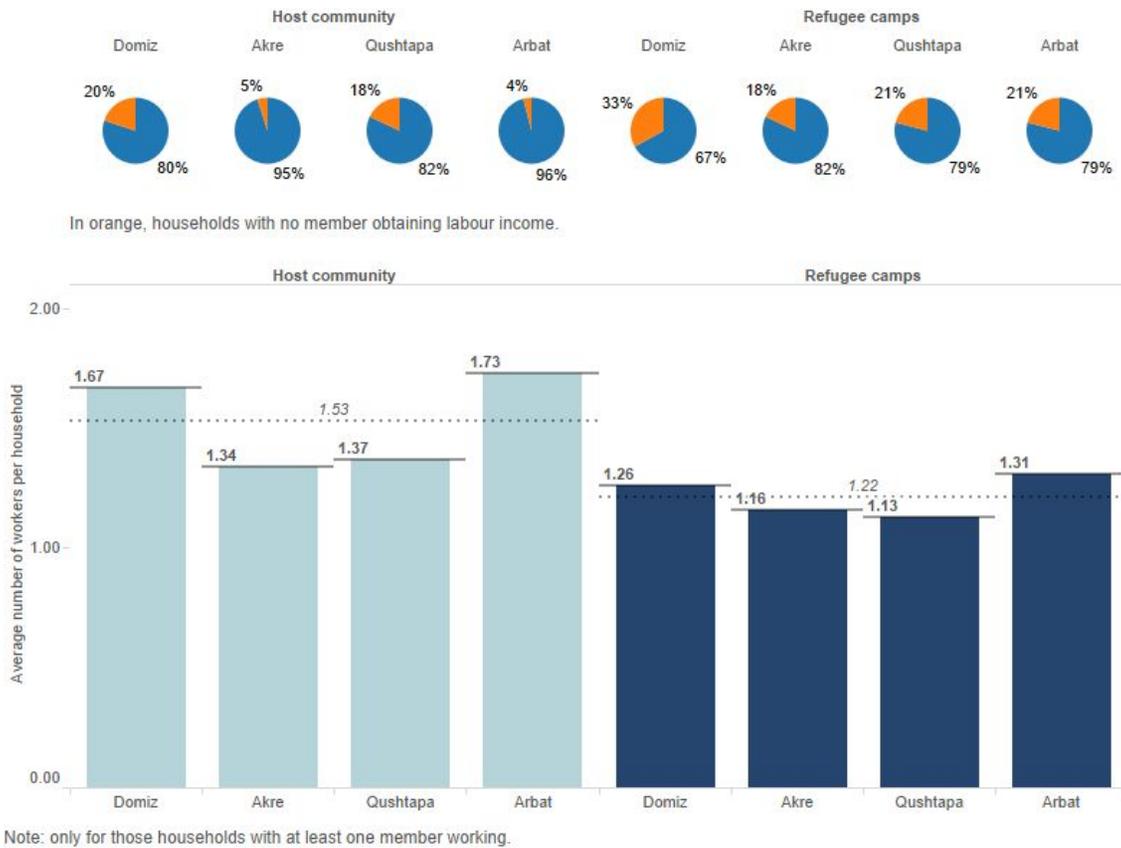
Unemployment rates calculated over the total adult population (including economically active and inactive population).

- Number of workers per household and households without labour income.* Figure 7 compares the average number of workers per household across locations and between host community and refugees —only for those households with at least one person employed. It shows, on average, that there is a higher number of host community households with more than one member employed if compared to refugee households. This could be explained not only because of an easier access of the host community to employment, but also because the size of their households is bigger and the amount of dependent population is lower —hence, more people able to work. This situation could point to a moderately higher household income situation for the host community. However, the level of household income depends on the type and quality of employment, which is compared and analysed in the sections below. Regarding households with no income from labour sources, this situation affects refugee

⁴ KRSO, 2014. Labour force report for Kurdistan Region 2012.

households in a higher proportion than the host community. For refugees, Akre, Qushtapa and Arbat camps show similar percentages (between 18% and 21%), with Domiz camp more affected (33% of households). For the host community, the areas around Domiz and Qushtapa camps present the highest ratio of households without income (20% and 18% respectively), with Akre and the surroundings of Arbat being less affected (5% for both).

Figure 7. Households with no labour income and average number of workers per household



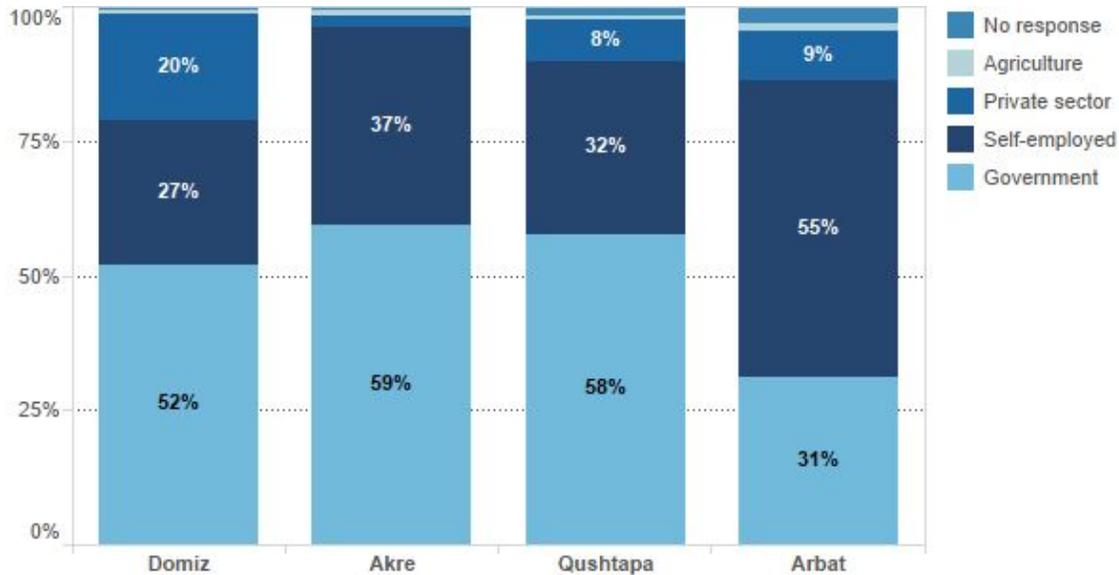
Job composition for host community members

- Type and place of employment.* Figure 8 breaks down the data on employment according to their employer. There are some characteristics transversal to all locations, such as the fact that more than half of the employed population works for the public sector, except in the towns around Arbat. The rest of the workers are mainly self-employed, which means that either they have their own business (more information below) or they work in trades or occupations such as carpentry. Employment by third businesses in the private sector is only relatively spread in the area of Domiz; private sector is significantly low for the rest of locations, especially in Akre where it is negligible. Agriculture, in addition, was only mentioned as being the main source of living for a handful of households⁵. Regarding the

⁵ Some respondents commented that they used to farm land in the past but, due to the low prices and the uncertainty on whether the government will pay them for the produce, they do not rely on farm any more.

location of the employment 2 out of 3 workers are based in the same town where they live. Only in the area of Domiz there is more people working in Duhok city than in their town (47% and 35% respectively). A minority of workers (less than 10%, on average) are based on a different town located more than 15-minutes drive away.

Figure 8. Type of employment for host community employed members



- Stability of employment.* The stability of the jobs reported by households can be measured by considering how many days they worked during the last months. It is expected that those working on short-term jobs may be working less than 20 days per month—except if they are successfully concatenating different jobs. As showed in Figure 9, there is a consistent situation in all locations regarding the stable nature of jobs, as opposed to temporary or short-term jobs. 3 out of 4 workers (if not counting the non-responses) have been working between 16 and 30 days. Only a minority worked less than 5 days.

Job composition for in-camp refugees

- Type of employment.* Similar in all the camps, slightly more than half of workers are self-employed, as shown in Figure 10. This refers to owning a business (more information below) or working on a vocational trade—in addition, some respondents that are daily labourers reported themselves as self-employed, as they do not have a formal employer but hire their skills daily, e.g. in construction. The second most important source of employment is the private sector. There is also a significant proportion of people working for the government, who usually employ refugees for in-camp schools, health facilities or other administrative tasks related to camp management. The high ratio of self-employment in Akre, despite being a very small camp, could be explained by the fact that the private sector is not developed, as seen in the employment analysis for the host community.

Figure 9. Number of days worked by host community employed members

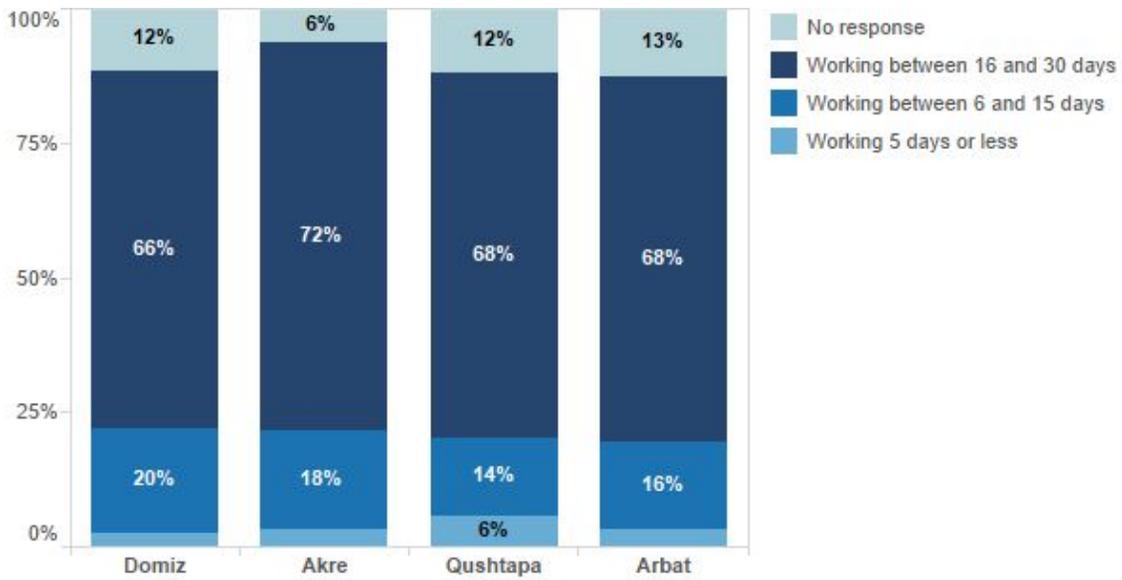
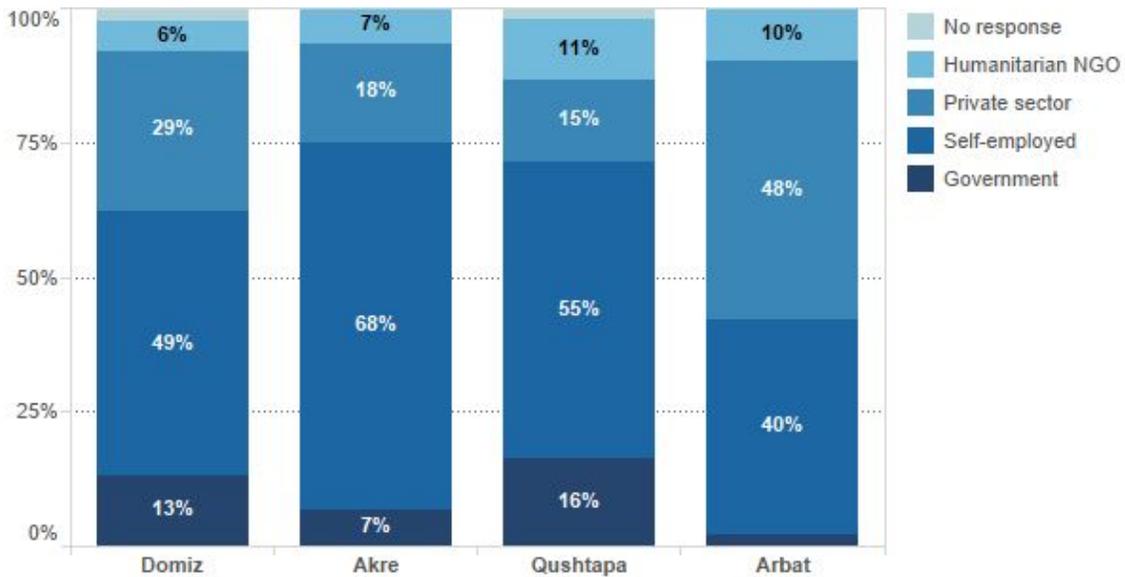


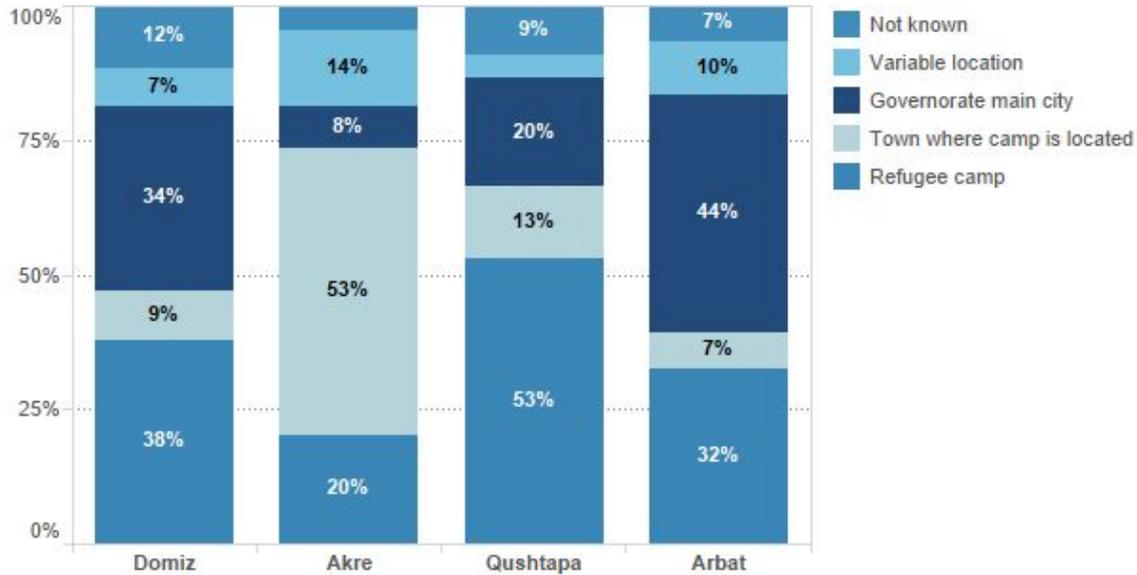
Figure 10. Type of employment for refugee employed members



- Place of employment.* As shown in Figure 11, every camp has different characteristics. Akre, due to the small size of the camp and being an enclave inside the town, shows the highest percentage of people working in the same town. In Qushtapa, it is the camp which offers most of the employment opportunities for the majority of workers, while in Arbat most of the workers travel to Sulaimania. In Domiz, it is evenly split between employment within the camp and employment in Duhok city. In general, data suggests that the source of most employment opportunities is the main cities of Kurdistan, followed by the camp itself. It is relevant mentioning the significant proportion of people working in different locations, a

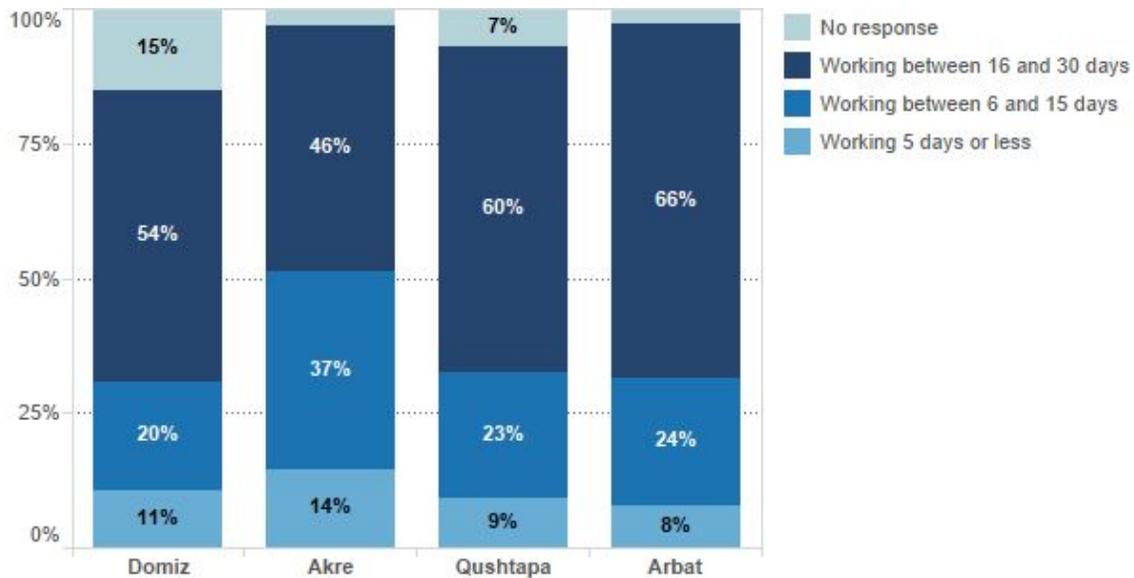
characteristic of short-term jobs. These responses were not detected for the case of the host community workers, but in some camps, such as Akre camp, this situation affects 15% of the workers.

Figure 11. Location of employment for refugee employed members



- Stability of employment.* In terms of days worked during the preceding month of the assessment, the situation is not excessively far compared to the host community. Slightly more than half of the workers had actually worked more than 16 days. Short terms jobs were more spread in Akre, where 52% of the workers could only work less than 15 days.

Figure 12. Number of days worked by refugee employed members

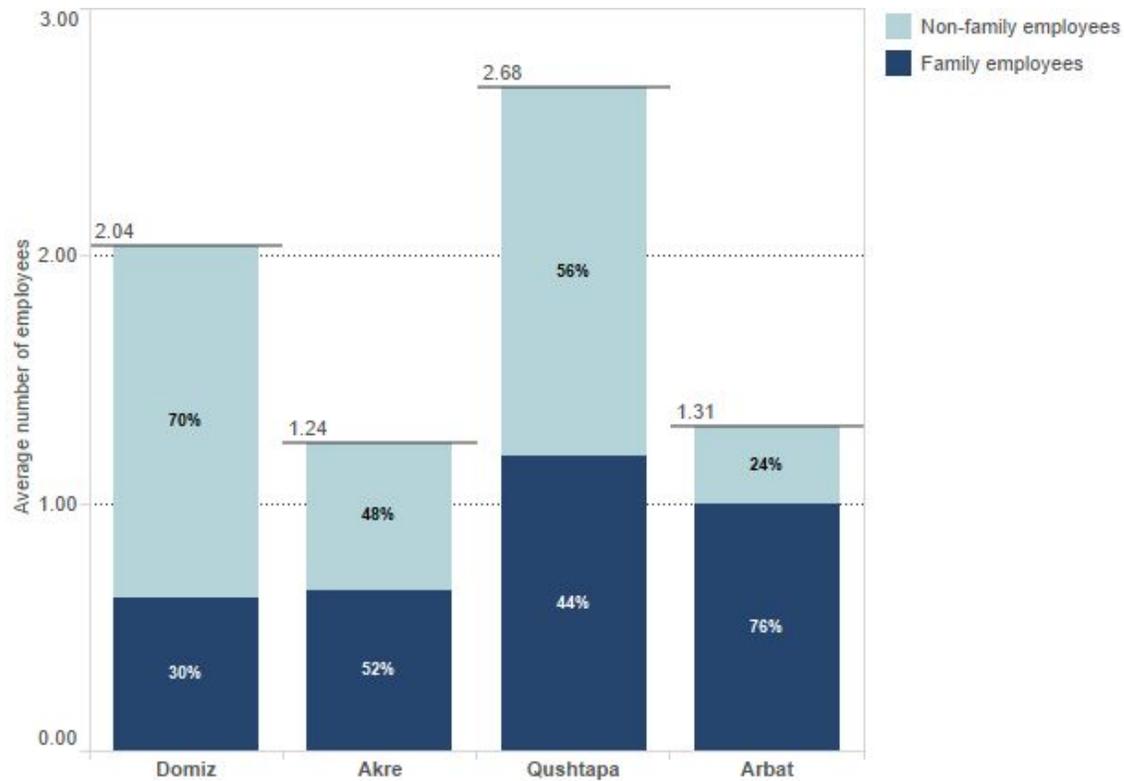


Business development by host community members

- *Level of business development.* Regarding the households that have set up a small business, the highest proportion is found in the towns around Arbat camp, with 1 out of 2 households owning a business. This is expected as this area is the one with the highest employment rates and the highest percentage of people self-employed, by far. Arbat is followed by Domiz and Qushtapa areas, where 28% of the households own a business. The lowest ratio is in Akre (18%), as the majority of the population is actually working for the public sector. In all cases except Qushtapa, the most common business is a retail or grocery shop, followed by food businesses such as restaurants and having a taxi. In Qushtapa many households reported ‘other’ option, mainly consisting on construction companies.
- *Employment generated by the local businesses.* Respondents whose household owned a business where enquired about the number of people regularly employed in the business. This would help understand the capacity to generate employment locally, especially considering that the scope of the private sector is relatively limited, as seen in Figure 8 above. In this sense, on average, 3 out of 4 businesses employed one or more persons beyond the owner. The average number of workers per business is 1.8 people in total⁶. Disaggregation per area is showed in Figure 13, with information also on how frequently the employees are members of the owner’s family. In general, businesses in Akre and Arbat tend to be small and mainly family-operated. Qushtapa seems to have larger businesses, especially taking into account that it is close to the region’s capital, with a higher presence of construction companies. In Domiz, the fact that only around 30% of the employees are family-related could be linked to the higher competition for jobs and lowering salaries.

⁶ As commented in the qualitative assessment, most of the businesses used to employ many more people one year ago. Due to the economic paralysis in Kurdistan starting 2014, many business owners commented that they were forced to dismiss of many workers.

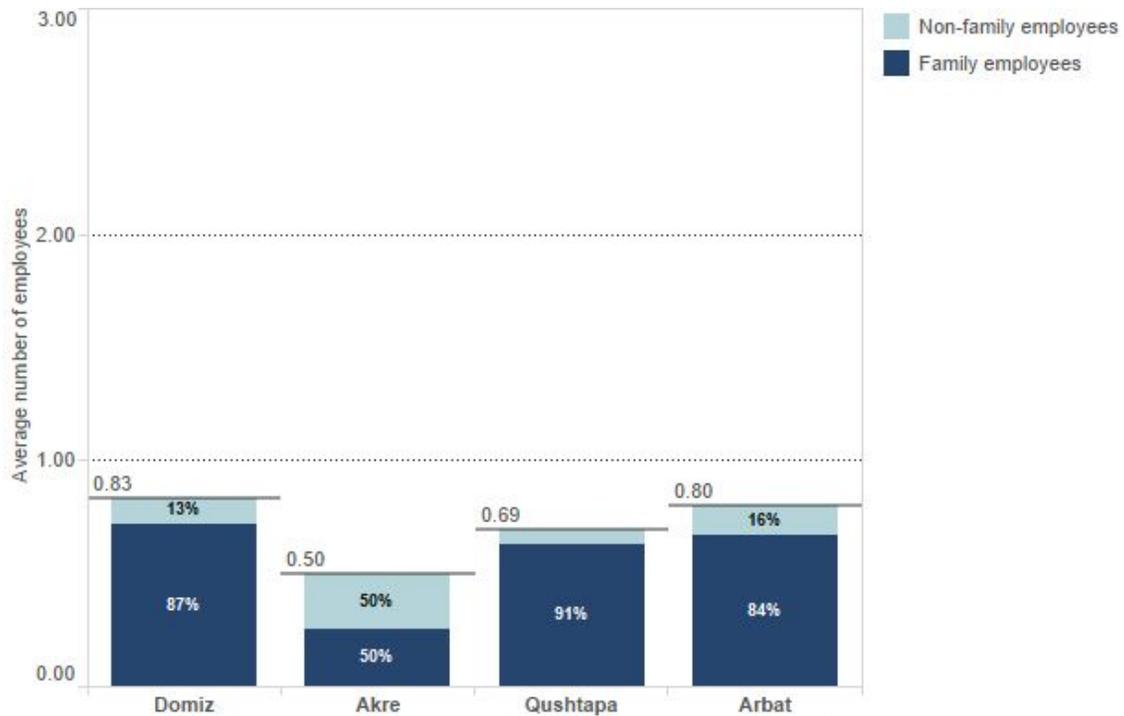
Figure 13. Average number of employees in host community businesses surveyed



Business development by in-camp refugees

- Level of business development.* The frequency of families in refugee camps that have set up or own a business is lower than within the host community. The highest percentage can be found in Arbat camp, where 30% of the respondents reported to own a business or shop, followed by Domiz (17%) and Qushtapa (13%). Akre is a special case as only 2 respondents reported to own a business; this can be explained by the small size of the camp, which do not have more than a handful of shops. As in the case of the host community businesses, the main type is a retail or grocery shop. This is followed by food places and barber shops or beauty salons. Finally, very few respondents said to have a business outside of the camp. Setting up a business within the host community by a refugee is severely restricted by policies and this strongly hinders the frequency of this option —as explained in more detail in the qualitative assessment.
- Employment generated by the local businesses.* Regarding the number of people regularly employed in the businesses, the level in the camps is lower than in the host community businesses, by a large difference. Still, slightly more than 50% of the businesses in all the camps employ a person in addition to the owner. In general, however, the capacity to generate employment is rather limited as can be seen in Figure 14. The vast majority of the employment remains within the family.

Figure 14. Average number of employees in refugee camp businesses surveyed

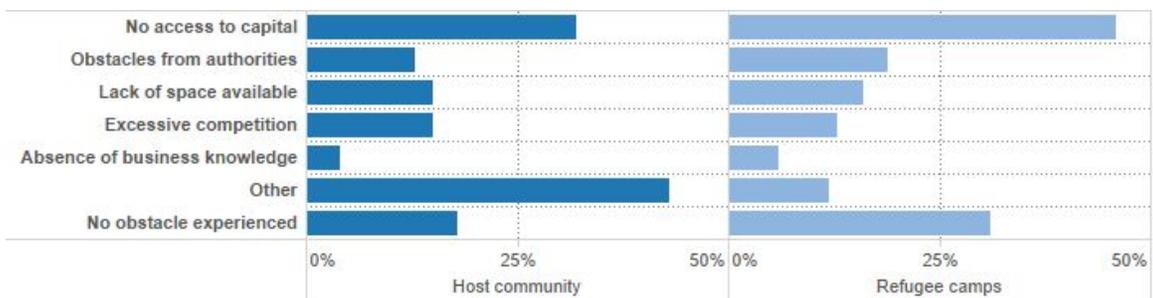


Note: the vertical axis is kept at the same level as for the host community figure to allow comparison.

Reported obstacles to employment and business

- *Obstacles to setting up businesses.* Those respondents whose household owned a business were enquired about the obstacles they faced, if any, for setting up the business. Results have been aggregated for the different locations in Figure 15 in order to have enough representative observations. The data points to access to capital or credit as the most important issue in business development. Other less relevant obstacles refer to restrictions from authorities (either camp management for the case of refugees or local authorities for the case of the host community) as well as lack of space available.

Figure 15. Reported obstacles to setting up a business



- *Perceptions of Syrian refugees on difficulties to obtain employment in comparison to locals.* Respondents from the camps were asked whether they felt their community had a harder

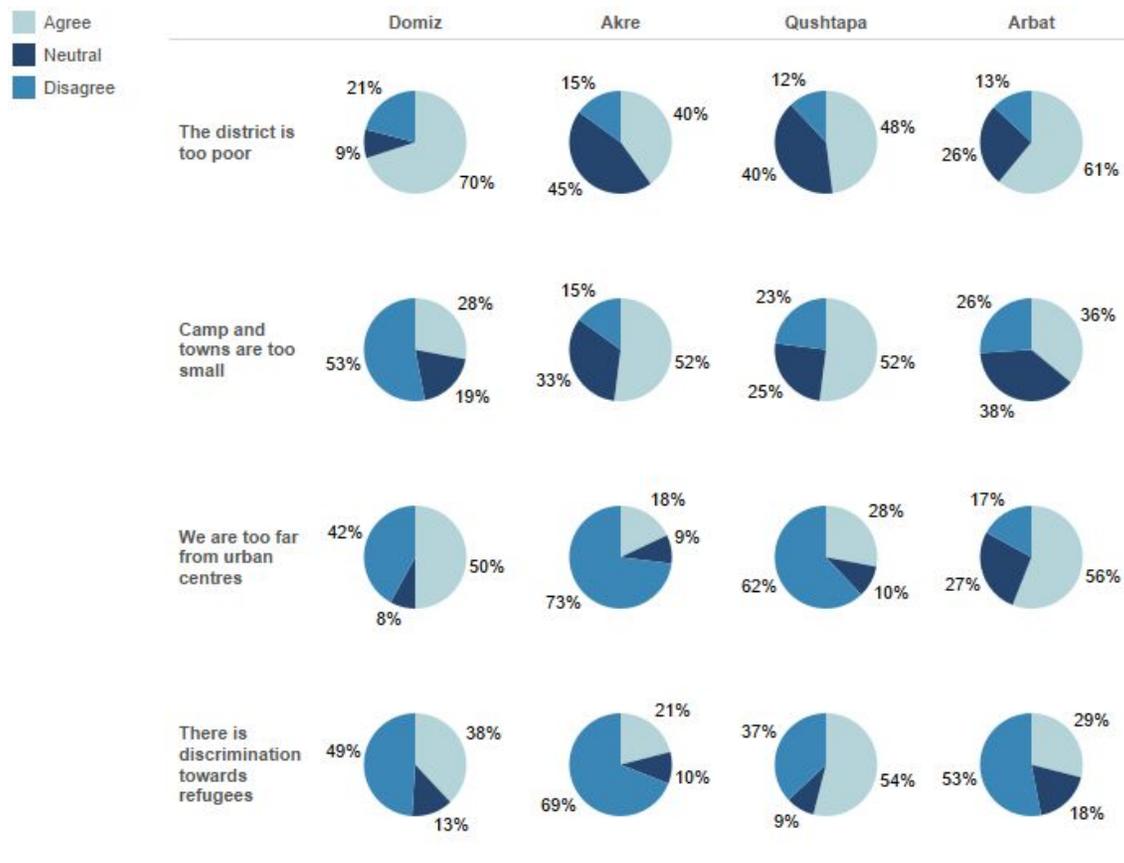
time finding a job than locals from the host community or not. On average, perceptions are evenly distributed between those who perceive a harder time for Syrian refugees and those who think it is equally hard for both communities. Responses per camp are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2. Perceived employment difficulties by refugees in comparison to locals

	Domiz	Akre	Qushtapa	Arbat
Syrians have an easier time finding a job	2%	2%	9%	2%
It is the same for both communities	62%	53%	35%	42%
Syrians have a harder time finding a job	36%	45%	56%	56%

- Perceptions on contextual factors limiting employment opportunities.* Some factors were presented to the respondents in order to evaluate whether these could restrict the employment that the particular geographical location could provide. These factors involve socioeconomic characteristics such as the level of development of the district, the distance to urban centres, the size of the camp and towns, and the perceived discrimination towards Syrian refugees. A representation of the answers is provided in Figure 16. Living in an underdeveloped area is pointed as a concern mainly for refugees in Domiz and Arbat; indeed, with the exception of Qushtapa, the areas around the camp are predominantly rural and based on agriculture and small service businesses. Households in these two camps also point to excessive distance to urban centre as a limitation for employment. The size of the camp and towns, as could be expected, is not an issue in Domiz but it is in Akre and Qushtapa. Finally, regarding discrimination towards Syrian refugees, only for respondents in Qushtapa camp this seems to be an issue, while the majority disagrees in the other camps.

Figure 16. Perceptions of refugees on contextual factors limiting employment opportunities



3.4. Skills available and needed in host community and refugee households

Information about the skills that household members possessed were sought in order to understand the composition of the labour force and what training would be best targeted for both communities. Respondents were also asked about the skills they would find useful to acquire in order to have better employment opportunities. Results are separated for both population groups.

What we know from the desk review: Specific information on the set of skills and previous experiences of the Syrian refugee community was not available, but previous qualitative assessments pointed to a higher level of skills than the host community.

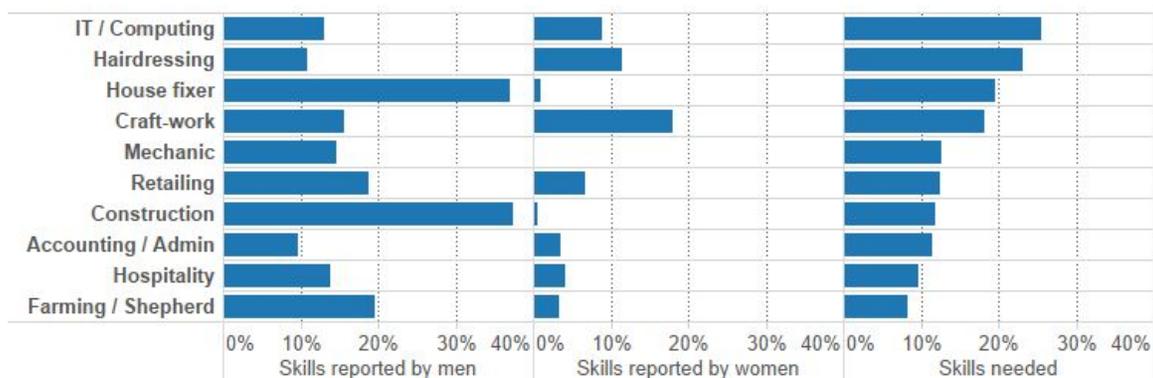
Skills in the refugee camps

- *Current skills and practical experience in the households.* Respondents reported on a variety of different skills possessed within the household, separated by gender. Results are summarised in Figure 17, which also shows the skills desired, discussed in the next point. The most reported skills for the male population refer to house fixing (electrician, plumber,

carpenter, etc.) and construction. Abilities in farming, retailing sector, hospitality and vehicle/equipment repairs are also significantly cited. Regarding the female population, significantly less skills are reported. These refer mostly to craft-work, hairdressing and, in a lesser extent, IT and computing.

- *Skills desired for better employment opportunities.* The type of skills that respondents perceive as useful for employment mainly focuses on vocational trades, such as electrical works, carpentry, hairdressing or craft-works. Learning these skills are more likely to lead to self-employment. Skills in IT are also perceived as relevant by a significant part of the respondents. This list only includes some of the most common vocational training options. However, many respondents mentioned other skills not presented to them, such as nursing.

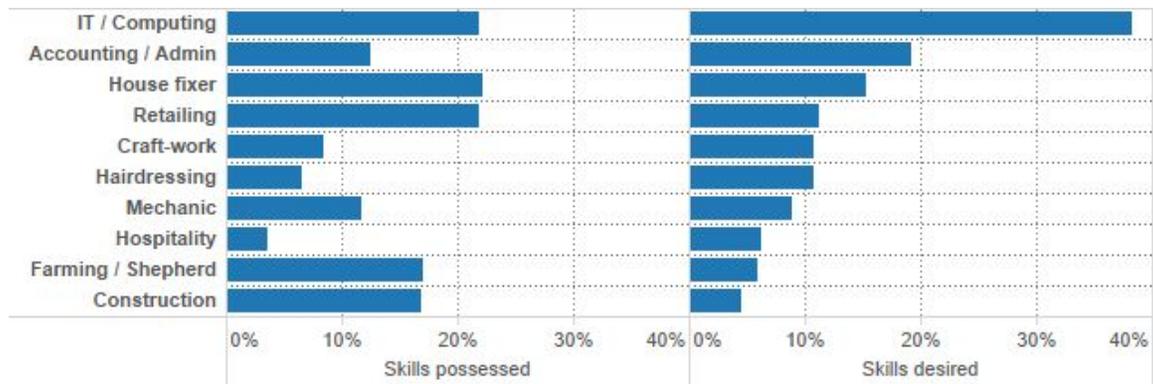
Figure 17. Skills available and needed by households in refugee camps



Skills in the host community

- *Current skills and practical experience in the households.* As compared to the responses given by the refugee community, the knowledge on any skill is less spread within the host community. For instance, while 37% of the refugee households had a member skilled in house fixing, only 22% of host community households possess this skill. The most reported skills have to do with house fixing, retailing and IT. Farming is also a relevant skill mentioned, although only a negligible fraction of the respondents relied on agriculture. Figure 18 summarises the results and reinforces the idea that refugee households possess on average a broader skill base and a larger human capital endowment.
- *Skills desired for better employment opportunities.* As opposed to the refugee community, the type of skills demanded in the host community are more focused to facilitate waged employment in already set-up businesses. For instance, IT or computing are the most sought abilities by far, followed by accounting or business administration. Skills in retailing are also frequently mentioned. Although they can be used for self-employment, this knowledge fits better to obtain skilled or high-skilled positions in local companies.

Figure 18. Skills available and needed by host community households



3.5. Financial security of host community and in-camp refugees in crisis time

As part of a wider understanding on the level of financial capital for both communities, a set of questions in the survey sought to compare the capacity to save money and the access to financial support. It is also crucial to understand which population sub-groups are more likely to present one characteristic or other, especially within the current context of economic shocks and increased vulnerability.

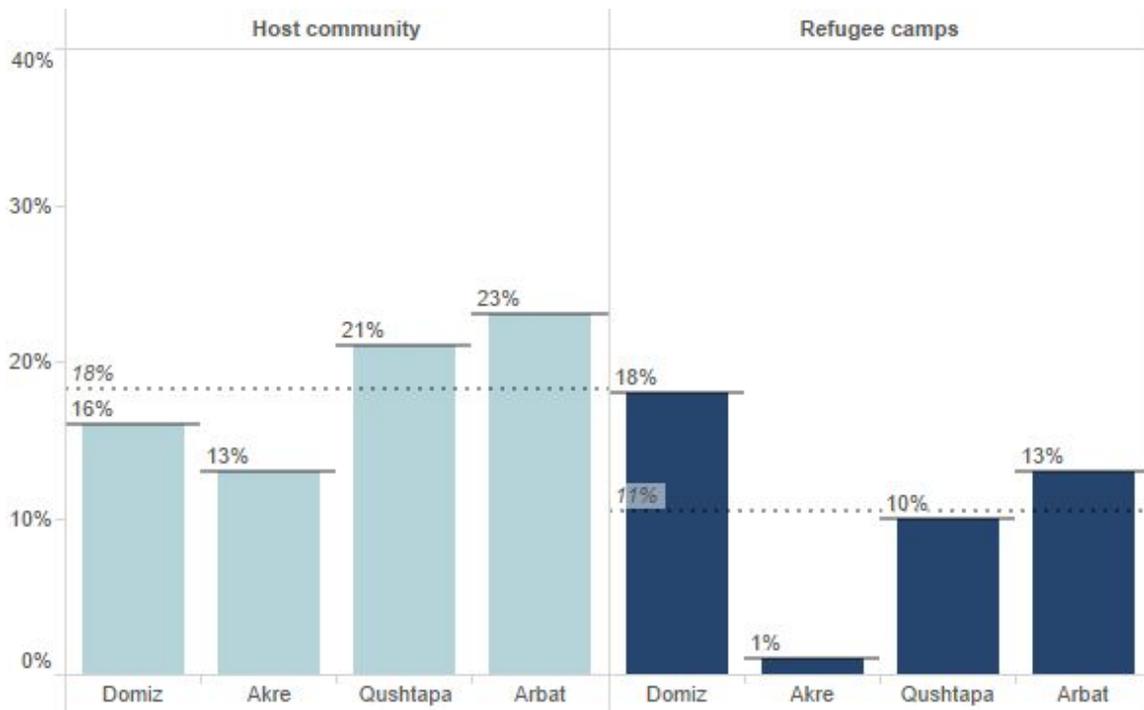
What we know from the desk review: Similar percentages of indebted households could be found in both communities, with slightly more than half of the families reporting being in debt. The amount of money borrowed was around 5 times higher in host community households than in refugee ones. Regarding the ability to generate savings, the general view in the refugee camps is that the vast majority of families had already depleted their savings. Especially in Arbat and Qushtapa camps, families struggled to cover their current expenses with the income generated. In addition, for the host community, between 15% and 20% of families reported that their current expenses exceeded the income.

- *Downward trend of household income levels in the host community.* 4 out of 5 families, on average, reported that they have experienced a decrease of income in the past 6 months. The economic crisis has been impacting the host community, as civil servants have not been paid for months, private companies have been reducing staff and business owners are experiencing less sales. The impact, however, is lower for those households having a member working in a waged job in the private sector. Also, those families with members working in the local town, as opposed to the capital of the governorate (city of Duhok, Erbil or Sulaimania), are less likely to have experienced a drop in income. This highlights a higher vulnerability for waged employees in the cities, where competition for jobs is also higher. Regarding geographical areas, Akre is the most affected town, linked to the higher proportion of civil servants compared to the other districts. On the contrary, 2 out of 3 families in Arbat

and near villages reported a decrease of household income, far below the regional average; this could be explained by the higher predominance of people working in private activities within the local town.

- *Comparing capacity to save money by refugee and host households.* Figure 19 presents the responses given by households on whether they have been able to save money during the last month for future expenses. Percentages in both communities are significantly low, especially for the refugee community⁷. This follows the same trend as observed in the previous assessments available, in which depletion of savings was highlighted as one of the biggest concerns. Households with a lower level of education or with a higher ratio of dependent family members are less likely to report ability to save money. For the host community households, the higher number of workers within the household is related to higher ability to save, but this relation does not hold for the refugee households. No relation was found with the type of occupation. Finally, female-headed households within the host community are found to be less likely to have saved money, as could be expected. However, the relation is the inverse for refugees: female-headed households are more likely to be able to save money.

Figure 19. Reported capacity to save money during the preceding month

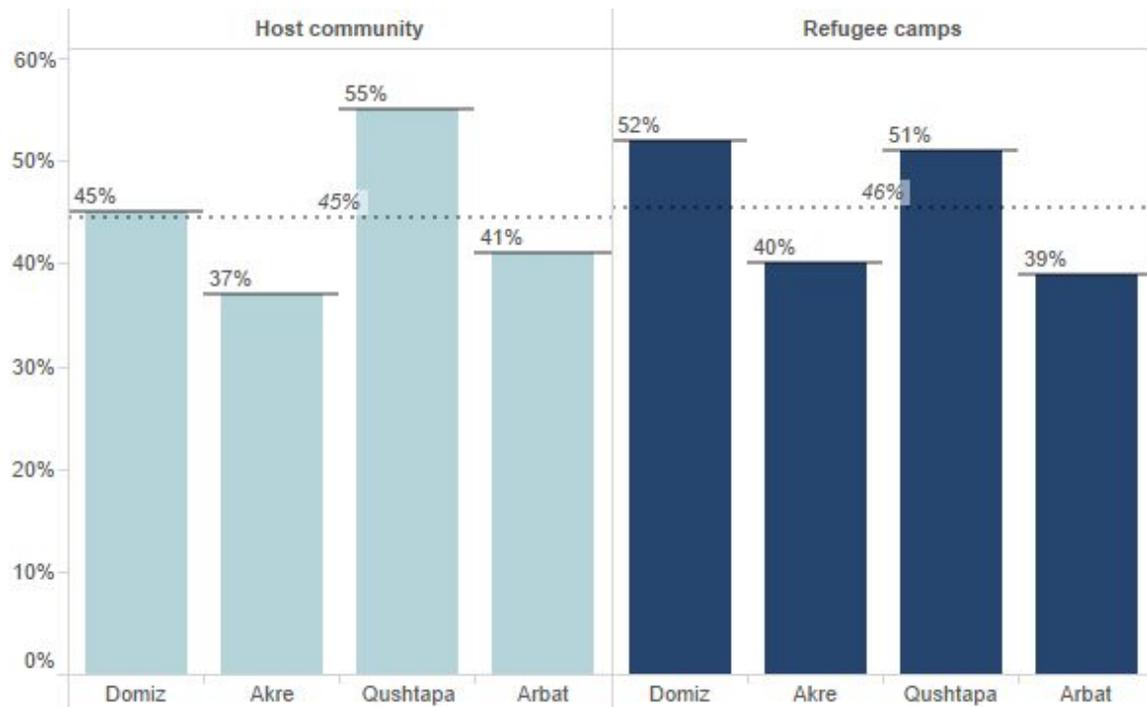


- *Comparing access to financial support by refugee and host households.* Figure 20 presents the responses given by households on whether they have access to credit or financial support in case they needed right now. In this case, the results for both host and refugee community

⁷ Some doubts arise from answers provided in Akre camp, as it is the camp with the least percentage of households with no member working and where families have not had to spend money on shelter improvement. Families may have incentives to answer negatively to this specific question.

is relatively similar, with near half of the families having access to support. This still leaves a significant amount of families under vulnerability in the case of need or in the case of having to face unexpected expenses. For instance, 47% of the households in the host community report that they neither have the ability to save money neither have access to support. This ratio for the refugee community is similar at 49%. The percentage is significantly beyond the average for both communities in Akre.

Figure 20. Reported access to financial support from family or friends



3.6. Housing situation in the refugee camps

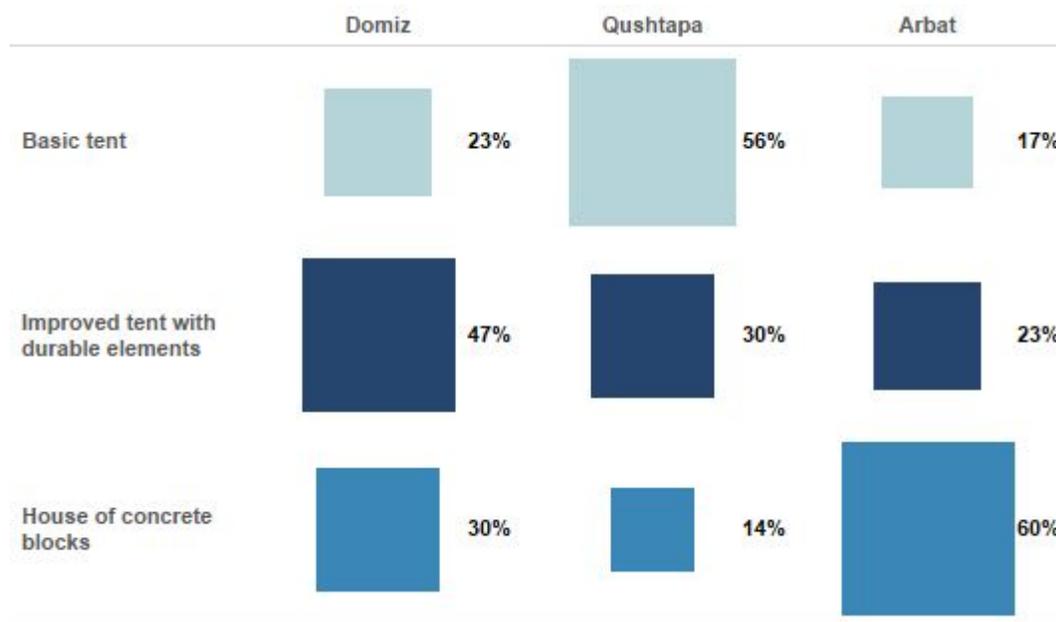
Moving to physical capital, the main information gap in the livelihood baseline coming out of the desk review consisted on the type of housing per camp. As a proper resilient environment is reliant on durable housing structures —and the capacity and right to build them—, the survey enquired about this topic in the refugee camps.

Note that Akre camp is not included in the assessment due to its particular conditions: as the camp is established in a former prison building, families are hosted in the building's rooms and cells instead of tents.

What we know form the desk review: In order to compare with the host community, only a very small fraction of households in the towns surrounding the camps lived in vulnerable houses not made of concrete.

- Type of housing per camp.* Figure 21 shows that there are still significant differences in the shelter conditions both within camps and between camps. Those families that have been able to afford it have been able to improve their shelter. In Arbat camp, more than half of the families live in houses of concrete blocks, as opposed to Qushtapa camp where still many families live in tents (and there have been formal restrictions to build durable houses for a long time). The housing type is significantly correlated with different measures of family vulnerability (female-headed households and families with a high ratio of dependent population are more likely to live in basic or improved tents), with access to credit (households with ability to obtain credit or financial support are likely to live in durable houses) and with the number of months inhabiting in the camp (families recently arrived in the camp are less likely to live in durable houses).

Figure 21. Type of housing structure in refugee camps



- Willingness to improve shelter and barriers preventing it.* Above 90% of the families in Qushtapa and Domiz camps stated that they intend to further improve it. The percentage is far lower in Arbat (68%), where there is a higher percentage of families with durable shelters. However, respondents also pointed to several restrictions for shelter improvement. The most cited reason for the vast majority of respondents is lack of affordability. The unavailability of construction materials and builders around is the second most cited reason. This is especially highlighted in Qushtapa, pointing to an issue specific for this location. Finally, formal restrictions by camp management are pointed to by a small fraction of households⁸. It is only in Arbat camp where this restriction is highlighted by a significant number of respondents.

⁸ In all the camps there are restrictions to constructions. These restrictions mainly limit the number of concrete blocks and materials that families can bring inside the camp. In Arbat camp, the restriction is harder in the sense that it recently forbid any kind of building activity inside the camp.

3.7. Social and political capital in the refugee camps

The following topics aim to enquire deeper on the community networks formed within the camps—or the absence of them due to issues with trust between households or other issues. A proper social fabric is crucial to provide internal support to families in times of need. In addition, more information about satisfaction with the current decision-making and management structures of the camp is raised, with the aim to evaluate whether they would contribute to enhance resilience building.

What we know from the desk review: Information available about social and political capital for in-camp refugees dealt mainly on residency rights, physical security, gender roles and support received from the community to cope with shocks. Social bounds played a huge role that helped many households to cope with shocks such as loses of income or lack of food and fuel. For instance, a common coping strategy observed in previous assessments was to obtain food on credit in the in-camp shops—this was the first or second main source of food for 19% of the families, on average. Regarding decision-making structures, there was no information available.

Participation in formal and informal community networks

- *Levels of trust within the camps.* Respondents were asked whether they feel there is always somebody able to help them in case of problem. This question aimed to evaluate the level of trust within the camps and understand how different the situation is between camps. Table 3 shows the responses given⁹. Domiz camp shows the highest percentage of respondents agreeing on the statement. Time factor seems to play an important role, as Domiz was the first camp established in Kurdistan and where families have been residing for longer (and Arbat is the most recent one). However, when controlling per camp location, the number of months that a family has been residing in the camp is no longer a significant explanatory variable for trust levels. This points to broader internal camp dynamics influencing people's response on trust. For instance, the more satisfied the respondent is with decision-making in the camp, the more likely is give a positive answer on trust. No other factor, such as age, gender, income, household size or education level, has been found significantly correlated with trust levels.

⁹ The Iraq Knowledge Network assessment, done by UN Joint Analysis Unit and CSO in 2012, included the same question posed to Iraqi households. For the Kurdistan Region, 93% of respondents agreed that there was always someone to help them, with very little variation between rural and urban areas. This is in stark contrast with the moderate levels of agreement given by the refugee community in camps.

Table 3. Reported levels of trust in the refugee camps

Answers to the statement: "If I have a problem, there is always someone able to help me"

	Domiz	Akre	Qushtapa	Arbat
Agree	61%	45%	47%	38%
Neutral	15%	12%	7%	19%
Disagree	24%	43%	46%	43%

- Levels of financial networks within the camps.* Another factor that measures the development of social capital in a community is the financial networks developed. As seen above, near half of the Syrian refugee families have access to credit from close family or friends, with few variation across locations. An alternative indicator is whether refugee families have given financial support to other families within the camp. However, it has to be taken into account that other factors such as the family's economic situation plays an important role. On average, 30% of the families reported to have lent money to others, with the percentage being the highest in Domiz camp (43%) and the lowest in Qushtapa (18%). As expected, this variable is positively correlated with socioeconomic factors such as the number of workers in the household, with the education level of the head of the household, and, importantly, with the stated trust levels in the camp. Finally, in addition, around 23% of the respondents expressed their opinion that financial support for vulnerable families should be carried out either by the closest family networks or by the Syrian community itself in an organised manner. The percentage, however, is very low as opposed to those who still prefer to rely on the support by NGOs or by the KRG.
- Participation in community groups.* NGOs have been organising different community groups within camps on topics such as sports, craft-work activities, leisure or even organisation of camp tasks. There is little difference across camps on the percentage of households having a member participating in any of these groups, being the average at 12%. However, the biggest issue for a higher participation is the lack of awareness of respondents on the community groups existent. Only 54% of the respondents in Domiz and Akre were aware of these groups, 44% in Qushtapa and 35% in Arbat.

Perceived influence and satisfaction in decision-making in the camp

- Perceived capacity to influence how things are organised in the camp.* Table 4 shows the answers given by respondents on whether they felt able to influence decision-making in the camp. It is relevant to focus on the differences in the level of disagreement between camps: both in Domiz and Arbat, this percentage reaches 50%, although in the other two camps the

ratio is also relatively high. This scenario is far from an ideal situation. Difficulties in feeling one’s voice heard in Domiz camp could be linked to the large size of the camp; however, the negative rates for the other camps could directly refer to issues with camp management (as shown in the point below). The data also points to other socioeconomic factors explaining the perceived influence capacity: the more months the family has been residing in the camp and the higher education level the respondents have, the less likely they are to state that they have no influence.

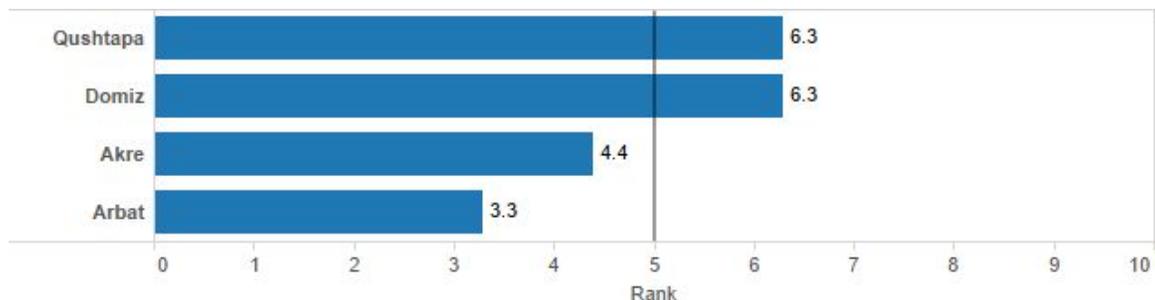
Table 4. Reported capacity to influence decision-making in the camp

Answers to the statement: "My family and I are able to influence how things are organised in the camp"

	Domiz	Akre	Qushtapa	Arbat
Agree	35%	35%	52%	18%
Neutral	16%	23%	14%	31%
Disagree	49%	42%	34%	51%

- *Satisfaction with decision-making process and community representation in the camp management.* Respondents were asked to rank from 0 to 10 the effectiveness of the camp representative council or community leaders in negotiating with the camp management and improving the internal situation of the camp. Only two of the camps, Domiz and Qushtapa, show a ranking above 5, as presented in Figure 22. Arbat camp is falling far below 5, especially as 44% of the respondents chose to rank the situation with a 0 (in the other camps, less than 15% of respondents ranked with a 0). Arbat’s result comes unexpected especially taking into account that it is the only camp that held in 2015 elections to elect the community representatives (see qualitative report for more information).

Figure 22. Average number of employees in host community businesses surveyed



3.8. Perceptions of refugees over an integrated refugee camp

The topics below aimed to look forward from the current situation to some potential options that would potentially contribute to make the camp settings more self-reliant—or that would decrease the dependency on the aid provided in many fields such as education, health or local services. Hence, the topics discussed around the vision of the refugee households on camp organisation and affordability to become self-reliant on different aspects of their livelihoods.

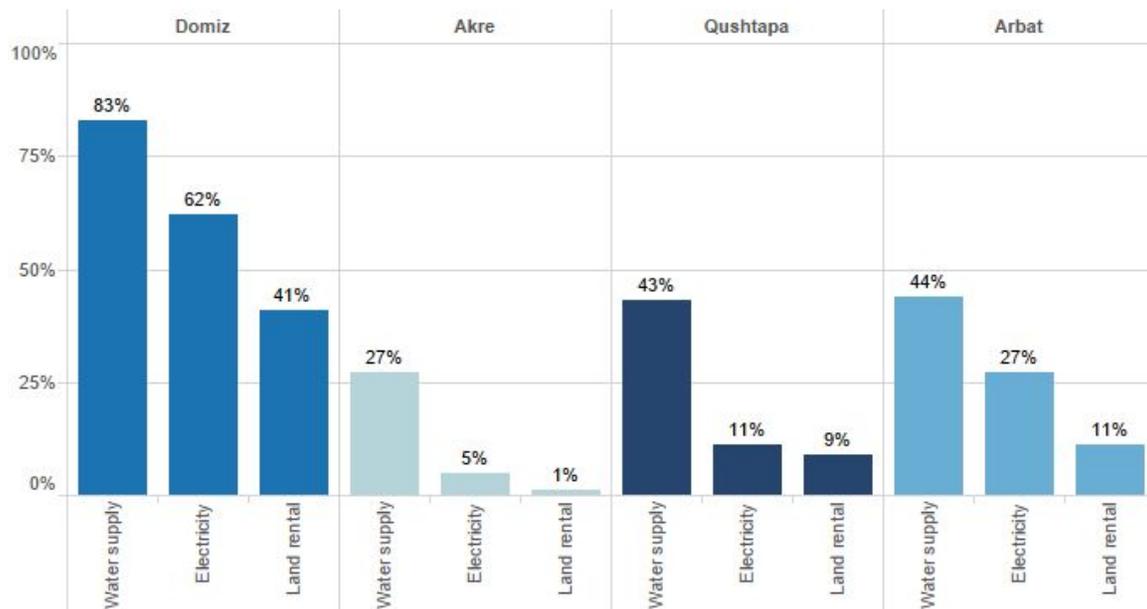
Preferences over camp setting, organisation of local services and willingness to contribute

- *Preferences over the camp as an open space.* Respondents were asked whether putting down the gates and walls of the camp and living in an open settlement would bring a positive change to the community. The majority feeling of the respondents was of disagreement to this statement, with 79% of households in Domiz and 55% in both Qushtapa and Arbat preferring to maintain the current setting with gates and security controls. The second most frequent choice in Qushtapa was that it would not bring neither a positive or negative change (25% of respondents), while the second choice in Arbat was that it would be better to live in an open settlement (34% of respondents). This question was not asked in Akre camp as it did not apply due to the characteristics of the camp.
- *Preferences over organisation of local services as a permanent settlement.* Camp residents were giving very little support to alternative structures that would allow the refugee community to organise differently services such as water, sanitation, electricity or waste collection. The vast majority of respondents, around 80% in most locations, were supportive of the current *status quo* in which UN and the refugee councils of Kurdistan's governorates are organising the services. The pattern is consistent over all the camps. Only a minority between 7% in Qushtapa and 18% in Domiz preferred alternative options: either that services should be self-organised by the refugee community independently as a new settlement, or that the camp should become a new neighbourhood within the closest municipality. This situation points to a gap between the expectations of the refugee community and those of the international community, which is starting to foresee a more self-reliant local organisation of this community.
- *Willingness to contribute financially to service provision.* An important aspect of the sustainability of the services provided in refugee camps is their funding. As right now it is UN and Kurdistan's refugee councils who pay for the operating costs, an alternative scenario could involve the participation of the refugees in the funding, as happens elsewhere in the host community. Households were asked about their willingness to pay for water, electricity and land rental, at the same prices as in the host community¹⁰. Responses are summarised in

¹⁰ Upon consultation with local staff within UNHCR, the payments suggested in the questionnaire were 10,000 IQD monthly for water supply, 60,000 IQD monthly for electricity supply, and 200 USD monthly for land rental. It has to be noted, however, that the price paid for water and electricity supply does not cover at all the cost of supplying the service. The assessment to the host community enquired about the average cost per month on water and electricity; on average,

Figure 23. Domiz stands as the camp where households feel more willing to assume the cost of the services, even for land rental despite its high cost —rental spaces are currently flourishing in Domiz, as families can obtain 200-300 USD for renting a small piece of their parcel to individual willing to establish a shop. In the rest of the camps, the amount of families willing to fund the services, however, does not reach the 50%. Only water supply shows a high ratio, linked to their relatively low cost. A frequent comment by respondents over this question is that there would not be a problem in contributing financially provided that there are enough jobs and hence enough income. Akre shows significantly lower willingness rates as compared to the other camps, potentially linked to the fact that many families already pay 20 USD/month for connecting to an electric generator. Regarding what factors help explain willingness to pay, interestingly, those families that preferred a more self-reliant camp organisation (previous point) are more likely by far to pay for the services received. Vulnerability measures are not found to be significantly related, with the exception of female-headed households, who are less likely to be willing to pay. Other factors are also significant: the education level of the respondent, the capacity to save money or having loaned money to other refugees, all are positively correlated with willingness to pay. Finally, data also shows that those households not feeling able to influence decision-making or unsatisfied with community representation are significantly more likely to pay for services.

Figure 23. Willingness to contribute financially to local services



Potential alternatives to in-camp health and education provision

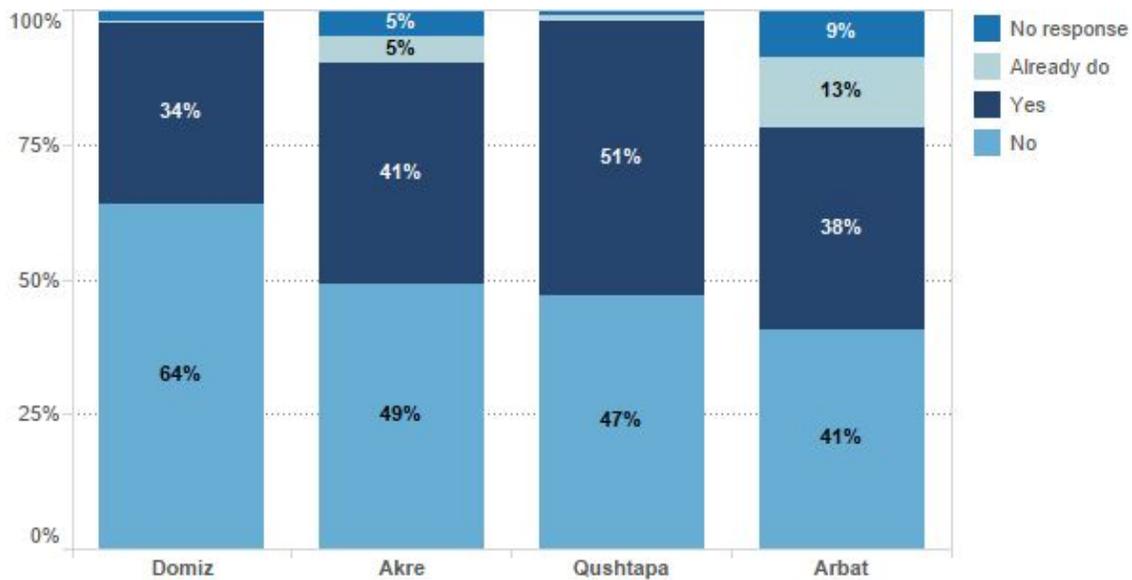
- *Affordability of private provision of health and education services.* As expected due to the difficult economic situation, only a minority of households stated that they could afford private health care and private education in Kurdistan in case they needed it. Results for both

households pay between 118,000 IQD/month (in Domiz area) and 68,000 IQD/month (in Qushtapa area).

services are similar in all camps, ranging between 10% and 4% of families that could afford them¹¹. Only in Domiz the rate of affordability rose to around 35% of the households. Data shows that, as could be expected, the households that reported being able to save money are likely to afford private services. No other socioeconomic variable is found significantly correlated. However, a significant percentage of respondents pointed to their lack of knowledge on the private health care or education services available outside the camp. This was especially the case when asked about education. Hence, they were unable to judge if these alternatives would be adequate to them.

- *Preferences over attending the schooling system offered outside the camp.* For those households that have school-aged children, a relative majority stated that they do not prefer to take the kids to other schools within the host community. Results per camp are presented in Figure 24.

Figure 24. Preference to attend schooling system outside the camp



3.9. Perceptions of the host community on integrated refugee camps

As the previous section enquired about the forward vision of the refugees on some options for self-reliant livelihoods, the section below aims to gather the vision of the host community members on a similar set of topics. The questions were posed to respondents considering that refugees could remain in the Kurdistan Region for the next 5 to 10 years.

¹¹ These percentages are significantly below the ones stated by the host community around the camps. On average, 18% of the households reported that they could afford private health care, by 16% who said they could afford private education for their family.

Perceived positive and negative effects of a protracted stay of Syrian refugees

- *Perceptions of a positive effect brought by displaced population.* Respondents were asked to evaluate to which extent they felt an improvement in the economic activity in the near villages due to the arrival of displaced families (Syrians and internally displaced people), from no positive impact at all to a significant improvement of the economic situation. It was argued that the arrival of new families would re-active some of the local activities due to an increase in demand of goods and services and the set up of new activities. The average rank points to a relatively low impact on ameliorating the economic situation. There are some regional differences. For instance, the average rank in Qushtapa and nearby towns is a moderate positive impact, with 1 out of 3 families ranking with a top positive impact. However, the average rank in the towns around Arbat camp is that near no improvement is perceived, highlighting the negative perception on displacement in this area. For Akre and Domiz, the rank remains around the average.
- *Concerns over negative effects brought by a protracted stay of Syrian refugees.* The other side of the question refers to the concerns that host community may have if, looking at the future, they must consider the Syrian refugee community to remain for another 5 or 10 years in their region. Households showed, especially, concerns over higher competition for jobs, as this was cited by 4 out of 5 respondents. The second most cited concern, by 3 out of 5 respondents, is additional problems in the health care system, referring mainly to overcrowding in the facilities and bad functioning due to excess of pressure. Followed by this, other concerns widely cited refer to downward pressure on salaries and spikes in crime. Problems in education was pointed out only by a minority of respondents. It is likely, however, that the answers are influenced by the presence not only of Syrian refugees but of internally displaced people too.

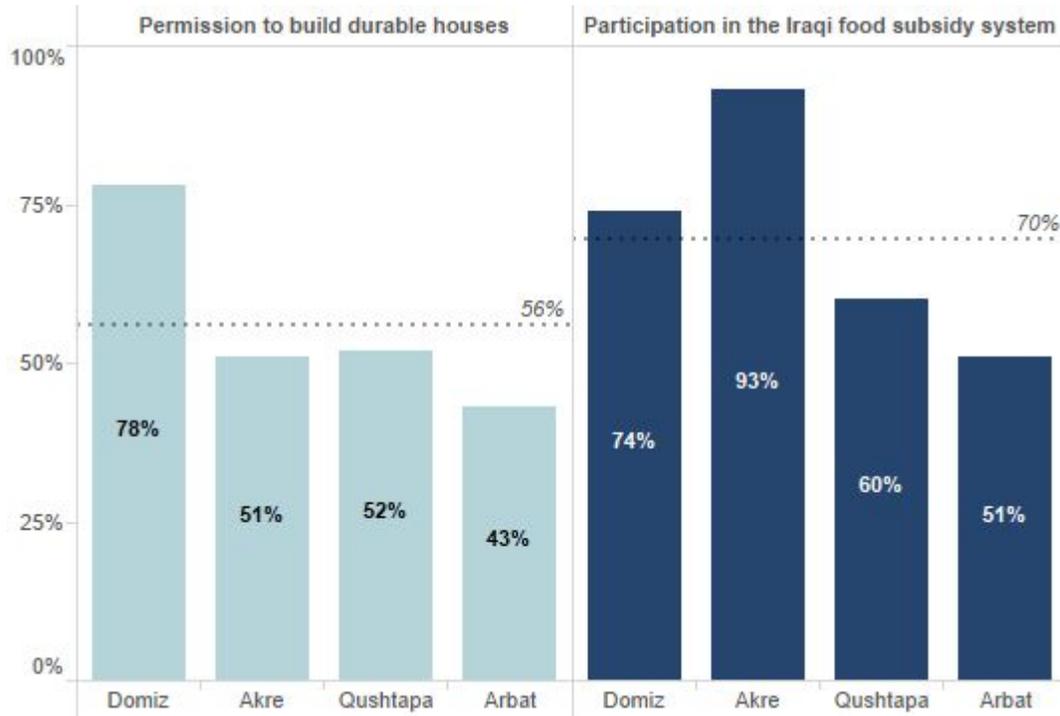
Preferences on the future of the camp settings

- *Preferences over the camp as an open space.* As for refugees, respondents in the host community were also asked whether converting the camp into an open settlement, with no gates and walls, would bring a positive change to the community. The answers are very consistent across the locations: 2 out of 3 families considered that this would worsen the situation instead of improving it. Such option only gathers the support of between 18% and 22% of the respondents, while the rest remain neutral.
- *Preferences over long term camp settings.* Other elements of resilience for the refugee community involve the future of food aid and the capacity to build durable shelters. On these issue, the preferences of the host community shows significant variation across locations, as seen in Figure 25. The host community living around Domiz camp is the most positive towards letting refugee families to build durable houses as well as incorporating them into the monthly Iraqi food subsidy¹², with 3 out of 4 families supporting it. In the rest of

¹² The Public Distribution System (PDS) is a food allowance programme that provides every family in Iraq with basic food items every month at very subsidised prices. Up until now, Syrian refugees are excluded from this programme.

locations, the support is divided, with 50% agreeing and the rest not finding these solutions acceptable —although it has to be noted that, for the case of housing, 6% of the households, on average, were unable to provide an answer.

Figure 25. Support over long term camp settings



- Preferences over organisation of local services as a permanent settlement.* As for refugees, respondents in the host community were enquired about different options for organising the services in the camp (water, electricity, waste collection, etc.) considering a protracted stay of the refugees: from still holding the mandate of United Nations or the governorate’s refugee councils, to alternative solutions such as having a self-organised camp or an integrated neighbourhood. As with the previous point, the households around Domiz camp are also the ones that have a more supportive vision for the refugee camps to become self-reliant. 48% of the respondents opted for maintaining current *status quo*, but the rest opted mainly for integrating the area as a new neighbourhood in the municipality. For the other three locations, 3 out of 4 families prefer to maintain the current mandate and minority supporting alternative structures. Interestingly, those households whose members work in the city instead of the local towns are strongly more supportive of alternatives to the current *status quo*, pointing to the fact that a permanent settlement could be seen as a negative impact for the local livelihoods.

Internally displaced people do have access to it as they are Iraqi citizens, although logistic problems persist.

Annex 1. Syrian refugee household questionnaire

A1. Name of camp:

- Domiz
- Akre
- Qushtapa
- Arbat

A3. Interviewer team:

PROFILING OF THE RESPONDENT'S HOUSEHOLD

We are participating in a research project with MERI, an institute in Erbil. This survey will ask you some questions about the difficulties to improve the resilience of the Syrian refugee community living in this camp.

The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. If there are any questions that you do not wish to answer, please feel free to point these out to me and we'll go on to the next question. You have the right to end the interview at any time.

B1. (do not read) Respondent gender:

B2. What is your age?

B2a. (ask about the education level of the respondent)

- University
- Secondary school
- Primary school
- No schooling

B3. Are you the head of household? (if YES, go to B5)

B4. What is the gender of the head of household?

B5. I would like to know how many family members, including you, there are in each of the following age groups and gender:

Age	Male	Female
Between 0 and 15 years		
Between 16 and 18 years		
Between 19 and 60 years		
Over 60 years		

B6. Does any of the family members suffer from a permanent disability?

B7. Which month and year did you establish in the camp?

INDICATORS ON HUMAN RESILIENCE

SECTION 1: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES

EMPLOYMENT

Now we have a group of questions aimed to understand the type of job opportunities to which the Syrian refugee community living in camps have access to.

C1a. Starting with the male members of this household, how many male members had an employment (not humanitarian assistance) during the past 30 days, including you?

(if 0, go to question C2a)

C1b. For each of them, how many were...:

(note to the respondent that he/she should consider the main source of income if the person has multiple jobs)

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Employed by the government
- Self-employed
- Employed in the private sector
- Employed by a humanitarian NGO or United Nations
- Employed in agriculture
- Not able to answer

C1c. How many of them have their most usual workplace in...:

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Inside the refugee camp
- In the town of Arbat / Qushtapa / Domiz / Akre
- In the capital of the governorate (Erbil, Sulaimani, Dohuk)
- In a different town within a 15-minutes drive
- In a different town within more than 15-minutes drive
- Do not know

C1d. How many days did they work during the past 30 days on a paid job?

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Number of people working 5 days or less
- Number of people working Between 6 and 15 days
- Number of people working Between 16 and 30 days
- Do not know

C1e. How many of the male workers in the family are below the age of 18 years?

C2a. Now moving to the female members of this household, how many female members had an employment (not humanitarian assistance) during the past 30 days, including you?

(if 0, go to question C3)

C2b. For each of them, how many were...:

(note to the respondent that he/she should consider the main source of income if the person has multiple jobs)

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Employed by the government
- Self-employed
- Employed in the private sector
- Employed by a humanitarian NGO or United Nations
- Employed in agriculture
- Not able to answer

C2c. How many of them have their most usual workplace in...:

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Inside the refugee camp
- In the town of Arbat / Qushtapa / Domiz / Akre
- In the capital of the governorate (Erbil, Sulaimani, Dohuk)
- In a different town within a 15-minutes drive
- In a different town within more than 15-minutes drive
- Do not know

C2d. For each household member that worked, how many days did they work during the past 30 days on a paid job?

(insert the number of family members applicable in each category)

- Number of people working 5 days or less
- Number of people working Between 6 and 15 days
- Number of people working Between 16 and 30 days
- Do not know

C2e. How many of the female workers in the family are below the age of 18 years?

C3. Is there any household member that is actively looking for employment but not able to find it?

(specify number of people by gender; add zero if nobody)

- Men:
- Women:

BUSINESSES

Apart from employment, some people choose to start a business in order to get a living. The following questions are related to this.

D1. Does any family member own or started any business/shop/stand here?

- Yes, in the camp
- Yes, outside the camp
- No

(if NO to D1, go directly to E1)

D2. What kind of business? I will read some options:

- Retail Shop
- Food production (restaurant, bakery)
- Transportation
- Finance / Remittances
- Vending
- IT / Computing / Communications
- Beauty salon
- Cleaning (laundry, household clean, etc.)
- Equipment or vehicle repairation
- Other

D3. How many people are regularly employed in the business? (do not count the owner)

D4. How many of them are members of your family?

(make sure you refer to the direct family, independently of living in the house or not)

LABOUR OBSTACLES

Now we would like to know a little bit more about the obstacles that the Syrian refugees may face when trying to access employment or sources of income.

E1. (only ask if he/she mentioned to own a family business) When starting a business / shop / stand, choose which one is the most critical obstacle:

(allow multiple choice)

- No access to credit or capital
- Obstacles from camp managers
- Absence of business knowledge (book keeping, marketing, etc.)
- Lack of space available
- Excessive competition
- Other

E2. How do you compare the employment of Syrians in comparison to that of the host community?

- It is the same for both communities
- Syrians have a harder time finding a job
- Syrians have an easier time finding a job

E3. Looking at the Syrian community, tell me if you agree or disagree that the following factors could be limiting employment opportunities?

- The district is too poor and underdeveloped: agree / disagree / neutral
- We are too far from urban centres: agree / disagree / neutral
- The camp and towns are too small: agree / disagree / neutral
- There is discrimination towards Syrian refugees: agree / disagree / neutral

E4. Based on the experience of your family members looking for employment, how difficult is to obtain information on potential job opportunities?

- Easy
- Neutral
- Complex
- Do not know

FOOD AND NON-FOOD PROCUREMENT

Now we have some questions about how easy is for your family to procure for the material needs in the camp and outside the camp, mainly for food.

F1. How frequently your family acquire food in the markets outside the camp?

- Never
- Rarely
- Frequently
- Always
- N/A

F2. Excluding the food provided by NGOs and WFP (World Food Programme), do you consider that you have enough offer of food and of a good quality in the camp's local shops?

(allow multiple choice)

- Yes
- Not enough quantity
- Not enough quality

F3. Indicate if any of the following factors are a major concern for you or your family when having to go to the markets outside the camp

(allow multiple choice)

- Distance of the markets
- Not being welcomed
- Frequently low quality
- Lack of affordability
- Not paying a fair price
- Not knowing where to find the things we need
- Others (specify)

SECTION 2: ASSETS

Now we have a group of questions about education levels and skills in your family.

G1. What is the highest education level by any member of this household?

- University
- Secondary school
- Primary school
- No schooling
- Do not know

G2. On the skill capacity in the household: indicate if the MALE family members have practical experience in any of the following categories

(allow multiple choice)

- House fixer (electrician, plumber, carpenter...)
- Vehicle / Equipment mechanic
- Barber / Hairdressing
- Craft-work
- Construction
- Farming or shepherd
- Retailing
- Hospitality
- IT / Computing
- Business administration and accounting
- None of the mentioned

G3. Indicate now if the FEMALE family members have practical experience in any of the previous categories

(repeat the categories if necessary; allow multiple choice)

G4. Is there any particular skill mentioned before that any of your family members would find useful to obtain in order to have better employment opportunities?

(repeat the categories if necessary; allow multiple choice)

Now moving to your current living situation in the camp, we have a few questions.

H1. (do not ask question - just select the appropriate response regarding the state of the dwelling)

- Basic tent
- Improved tent with some fixed and durable elements
- House made of concrete blocks

H2. Regarding your house / tent in the camp, do you intend to further improve it?

H3. (if responded YES in the previous question) In order to improve the structure, is any of the following points preventing it?

- Lack of affordability
- Materials or builders not available
- Formal restrictions from the camp management
- None

H4. Has your family been able to save some money the last month for future expenses?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know / Do not answer

H5. Do you have the possibility to obtain credit or financial support from family or friends in case you needed it right now?

Now we have a group of questions about your perceptions on the community networks within the people living in the camp.

I1. In reference to those families in the camp that are most vulnerable and are unable to obtain enough income, who do you think should provide financial support for them?

- The closest family
- The Syrian community itself in an organised manner
- United Nations and NGOs
- The Kurdistan Regional Government
- Do not know / Do not respond

I2. Has your family lent money to other Syrian refugee families for their financial support?

I3. Are you aware of any community groups organised in the camp?

I4. (only ask if responded YES in the previous question) Are you or a member of your family involved in any of these community groups?

15. What is your opinion of the following statements: “If I have a problem, there is always someone here able to help me”

- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree

16. “Putting down the gates and walls of the camp and living in an open settlement would bring a positive change to this community”

- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree

17. “My family and I are able to influence how things are organised in the camp currently”?

- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree

18. Rank from 0 to 4 the effectiveness you think the camp representative council has in negotiating with camp management and improving the situation of the community.

(0 is no influence, 4 means council is largely influential)

SECTION 3: PUBLIC SERVICES (PROVISION & FUNDING)

The final group of questions has to do about the public services you receive in the camp and how they should be organised to enhance self-reliance of the community.

K1. If the camp formally transforms into an independent settlement, how should services be organised, such as running water, electricity and waste services?

- Through self-organisation by the refugee community independently
- Through the closest municipality, becoming a new neighbourhood
- Through maintaining the mandate of United Nations and the KRG over refugees
- Do not know / Do not answer

K2. Then, if the camp formally transforms into an independent settlement, would you be willing to contribute financially to the following service provision?

- Water and sanitation (10,000 Iraqi dinars monthly)
- Electricity (60,000 Iraqi dinars monthly)
- Land rental (200 dollars monthly)

K3. Based on the need of your family for health care, how affordable would be the private health system in Kurdistan for you?

- Affordable
- Not affordable
- Do not know

K4. Equally for education, how affordable would be a private education system in Kurdistan based on the needs of your family?

- Affordable
- Not affordable
- Do not know

K5. (only ask if they have school-aged children) Would you prefer to attend the schooling system offered outside the camp?

- Yes
- No
- They already do
- Not able to answer

Annex 2. Host community household questionnaire

A1. Name of area:

- Domiz
- Akre
- Qushtapa
- Arbat

A3. Interviewer team:

PROFILING OF THE RESPONDENT'S HOUSEHOLD

We are participating in a research project with MERI, an institute in Erbil. This survey will ask you some questions about the the impact of the economic crisis in this area and your perceptions of how the Syrian refugee community can become more self-reliant and less dependent on international aid under this context of crisis.

The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. If there are any questions that you do not wish to answer, please feel free to point these out to me and we'll go on to the next question. You have the right to end the interview at any time.

B1. (do not read) Respondent gender:

B2. What is your age?

B2a. (ask about the education level of the respondent)

- University
- Secondary school
- Primary school
- No schooling

B3. Are you the head of household? (if YES, go to B5)

B4. What is the gender of the head of household?

B5. I would like to know how many family members, including you, there are in each of the following age groups and gender:

Age	Male	Female
Between 0 and 15 years		
Between 16 and 60 years		
Over 60 years		

B6. Does any of the family members suffer from a permanent disability?

INDICATORS ON HUMAN RESILIENCE

SECTION 1: LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES

EMPLOYMENT

Now we have a group of questions aimed to understand the type of job opportunities that this district offers.

C1a. Starting with the male members of this household, how many male members had an employment during the past 30 days, including you?

(if 0, go to question C2a)

C1b. For each of them, how many were...:

(note to the respondent that he/she should consider the main source of income if the person has multiple jobs)

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- Employed by the government, including security
- Self-employed (other than agriculture)
- Employed in the private sector
- Employed in agriculture or husbandry (in family's land)
- Employed in agriculture or husbandry (by a third person)
- Not able to answer

C1c. How many of them have their most usual workplace in...:

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- In this same town
- In the capital of the governorate (Erbil / Sulaimani / Dohuk)
- In a different town within a 15-minutes drive
- In a different town within more than 15-minutes drive
- Do not know

C1d. For each household members that worked, how many days did they work during the past 30 days on a paid job?

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- Number of people 5 days or less
- Number of people Between 6 and 15 days
- Number of people Between 16 and 30 days
- Do not know

C2a. Now moving to the female members of this household, how many female members had an employment during the past 30 days?

(if 0, go to question C3)

C2b. For each of them, how many were...:

(note to the respondent that he/she should consider the main source of income if the person has multiple jobs)

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- Employed by the government, including security
- Self-employed (other than agriculture)
- Employed in the private sector
- Employed in agriculture or husbandry (in family's land)
- Employed in agriculture or husbandry (by a third person)
- Not able to answer

C2c. How many of them have their most usual workplace in...:

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- In this same town
- In the capital of the governorate (Erbil / Sulaimani / Dohuk)
- In a different town within a 15-minutes drive
- In a different town within more than 15-minutes drive
- Do not know

C2d. For each household members that worked, how many days did they work during the past 30 days on a paid job?

(insert the number of members applicable in each category)

- 5 days or less
- Between 6 and 15 days
- Between 16 and 30 days
- Do not know

C3. Is there any household member that is actively looking for employment but not able to find it?

(specify number of people by gender; add zero if nobody)

- Men:
- Women:

BUSINESSES

The following questions are related to the level of business development in the area.

D1. Does any household member have any business/company? (not farming)

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

(if NO to D1, go directly to D5)

D2. What kind of business? I will read some options:

- Retail Shop
- Food production (restaurant, bakery)
- Transportation
- Finance / Remittances
- Vending
- IT / Computing / Communications
- Beauty salon
- Cleaning (laundry, household clean, etc.)
- Equipment or vehicle repairation
- Other

D3. How many people are regularly employed in the business?

(do not include the respondent)

D4. How many of them are members of your family?

(do not include the respondent)

(make sure you refer to the direct family, independently of living in the house or not)

D5. (only ask if he/she said that at least a household member owns and farms the land) Regarding the work in agriculture, do you have a tractor or mechanised equipment for farming?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

D6. (only ask if he/she said that at least a household member owns and farms the land) How many people are regularly employed in your agricultural activities?

D7. (only ask if he/she said that at least a household member owns and farms the land) How many of them are members of your family?

(independently of living in the house or not)

LABOUR OBSTACLES

Now we would like to know a little bit more about the obstacles that people here may face when trying to access employment or sources of income.

E1. (only ask if he/she mentioned to have a business) When starting a business / shop / stand, choose which one is the most critical obstacle:

(allow multiple choice)

- No access to credit or capital
- Legal obstacles from authorities
- Absence of business knowledge (book keeping, marketing, etc.)
- Lack of space available
- Excessive competition
- Other

E2. Looking at the population living here, tell me if you agree or disagree that the following factors are limiting employment opportunities in this district?

- The district is too poor and underdeveloped: agree / disagree / neutral
- We are too far from urban centres: agree / disagree / neutral
- There is too many people competing for few jobs: agree / disagree / neutral
- The skills that people have here do not match with what companies need: agree / disagree / neutral

E3. Based on the experience of your household members looking for employment, how difficult is to obtain information on potential job opportunities?

- Easy
- Neutral
- Complex
- Do not know

SECTION 2: ASSETS

Now we have a group of questions about education levels and skills in your household.

G1. What is the highest education level by any member of this household?

- University
- Secondary school
- Primary school
- No schooling
- Do not know

G2. On the skill capacity in the household: indicate if any household members has practical experience in any of the following categories

(allow multiple choice)

- House fixer (electrician, plumber, carpenter...)
- Vehicle / Equipment mechanic
- Barber / Hairdressing
- Craft-work
- Construction
- Farming or shepherd
- Retailing
- Hospitality
- IT / Computing
- Business administration and accounting
- None of the mentioned

G3. Is there any particular skill mentioned before which you or your family members would find useful to obtain in order to enhance labour opportunities?

(repeat the categories if necessary; allow multiple choice)

Now moving to the impacts of the economic crisis on your current living situation, we have a few questions.

H1. Did your household experience a decrease in monthly income in the last 6 months? (including government salaries not being paid)

- Yes
- No
- Do not know / Do not answer

H2. Has your family been able to save some money the last month for future expenses?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know / Do not answer

H3. Do you have access to credit or financial support in case you needed it right now?

H4. Some of the assistance provided by humanitarian NGOs to displaced families include support in terms of vocational training, job matching or entrepreneurship support. Do you consider that the local families in this district are in need of this assistance too or they are well provided?

- Assistance needed
- Already well provided
- Do not know / Do not answer

SECTION 3: PUBLIC SERVICES (PROVISION & FUNDING)

Now we have some questions about the public services you receive and how they should be organised.

I1. How much do you usually pay per month on local services such as electricity, water and waste collection?

(in Iraqi dinars per month)

I2. To improve the capacity and provision of these local services, should there be an increase in the price that the inhabitants pay?

I3. Based on the need of your family for health care, how affordable would be the private health system in Kurdistan for you?

- Affordable
- Not affordable
- Do not know

I4. Equally for education, how affordable would be a private education system in Kurdistan based on the needs of your family?

- Affordable
- Not affordable
- Do not know

SECTION 4: RESILIENCE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

To finalise the questionnaire, we have a group of questions about your perceptions on how the Syrian refugee community can become part of the community here and less dependent on support from international aid.

J1. First of all, to which extent do you feel that there is an improvement in the economic activity in the near villages due to the arrival of displaced families?

(make the person rank from 0 to 4, being 0 no impact and 4 a lot of impact)

J2. An element for a self-reliant community is the change from camp to settlement. If the refugee camp of [Qushtapa / Akre / Domiz / Arbat] is transformed into an independent neighbourhood within your municipality, with no walls or gates, will this contribute to a better co-habitation or not?

- Better
- Worse
- Neutral

J3. In the case of the camp formally transforming into an independent settlement, how should public services be organised ?

- Through a local council elected by the refugees that administers the services
- Through the closest municipality, becoming a new neighbourhood
- The mandate of United Nations and the KRG over refugees should be kept
- Do not know / Do not answer

J4. In the camps, every refugee family is given a tent to shelter. Should the refugee families be free to build more permanent houses in their settlements if they can afford it?

J5. Similarly, refugee families receive food aid from international NGOs that cover partially their food needs. This aid is now decreasing. As the amount of aid is being reduced, should refugee families participate in the PDS system (basha horaki mangana / al-hassa al-tamwinia) to compensate for this less aid?

J6. Finally, do you have any concerns about the refugees living in the camp of [Qushtapa / Akre / Domiz / Arbat] being permanently settled here if the Syrian conflict lasts another 5 or 10 years? I am reading some options. Indicate if they are concerns for you.

(allow multiple choice)

- Higher competition for jobs
- Lowering salaries
- Crime
- Problems in health care system
- Problems in the education system