

Reintegration through Integrated Support and Empowerment (RISE)  
**MPTF OFFICE GENERIC ANNUAL PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup> NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JUNE – 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Programme Title:</b> Reintegration through Integrated Support and Empowerment (RISE)</li> <li>Programme Number) JIQ00</li> <li>MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results<sup>2</sup></b></div> <p><b>Country/Region:</b> Iraq / Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, Salah al Din Governorates</p> <div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><i>Priority area/ strategic results</i></div>																
<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>United Nations Development Programme</li> <li>United Nations Children's Fund</li> </ul>	<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Implementing Partners</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Migration and Displacement</li> <li>Office of the National Security Advisory</li> <li>Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue (HD)</li> <li>Welthungerhilfe (WHH)</li> <li>Sabe' Sanabul Organization for Relief and Development (SSORD)</li> </ul>																
<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Programme Cost (US\$)</b></div> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF /JP Contribution<sup>4</sup>:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>• European Union</td> <td style="text-align: right;">EURO 5,500,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agency Contribution</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>• UNDP</td> <td style="text-align: right;">USD 100,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• UNICEF</td> <td style="text-align: right;">USD 100,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL:</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>USD 5,721,000</b></td> </tr> </table>	• European Union	EURO 5,500,000	Agency Contribution		• UNDP	USD 100,000	• UNICEF	USD 100,000	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>USD 5,721,000</b>	<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Programme Duration</b></div> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Overall Duration:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">18 Months</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Start Date<sup>5</sup>:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1 June 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>End Date:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30 November 2024</td> </tr> </table>	Overall Duration:	18 Months	Start Date <sup>5</sup> :	1 June 2023	End Date:	30 November 2024
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<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></div> <p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i>          Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	<div style="background-color: #f2f2f2; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><b>Report Submitted By</b></div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name: Judy Wakahiu</li> <li>Title: Social Cohesion Team Leader</li> <li>Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP</li> <li>Email address: judy.wakahiu@undp.org</li> </ul>																

<sup>1</sup> The term “programme” is used for programmes, joint programmes and projects.

<sup>2</sup> Strategic Results, as formulated in the Strategic UN Planning Framework (e.g. UNDAF) or project document;

<sup>3</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number is the same number as the one on the Notification message. It is also referred to as “Project ID” on the project’s factsheet page the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>4</sup> The MPTF or JP Contribution, refers to the amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations, which is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

<sup>5</sup> The start date is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. Transfer date is available on the [MPTF Office GATEWAY](#)

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Definition</u>
GoI	Government of Iraq
HD	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LPC	Local Peace Committee
MoMD	Ministry of Migration and Displacement
NES	Northeast Syria
ONSA	Office of the National Security Advisory
RISE	Reintegration through Integration Support and Empowerment
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
WHH	Welthungerhilfe

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In June 2023, UNDP, jointly with UNICEF, began implementation of the “Reintegration through Integration Support and Empowerment” (RISE) Joint-Programme, targeting Al Hol returnees and host community members in Anbar, Kirkuk, Ninewa, and Salah al Din. This Joint-Programme supports the Government of Iraq’s (GoI) efforts to repatriate Iraqis from the Al Hol camp, which began in May 2021. The RISE Joint-Programme responds to the reintegration needs of children, young people, and adults, including vulnerable host community members in an effort to foster community acceptance and promote reconciliation and social cohesion. A three-pronged approach is utilized to implement reintegration activities: 1) Individual Level: Returnees and host community members participate in socio-economic reintegration interventions and children of returnees receive access to legal and protection services; 2) Community Level: Increase community acceptance and preparedness to facilitate the return and reintegration of returnees; and 3) Institutional Level: Build and strengthen capacity of local and national institutions for enhanced return and reintegration.

During this reporting period, substantial preparatory work was undertaken. UNDP finalized an agreement with Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, a non-profit aimed to prevent and resolve conflict through mediation and diplomacy, which will go into effect in January 2024. During this period a detailed technical and financial proposal were shared with UNDP for finalization.

To support UNDP socioeconomic reintegration programming for 600 beneficiaries (300 Al Hol returnees and 300 host community members), an agreement was finalized and signed with Welthungerhilfe (WHH). The identification, selection, and verification of the 600 beneficiaries is currently ongoing. UNDP’s selection process is carried out in close coordination with relevant local authorities, including mayors and local community representatives, the Ministry of Migration and Displacement (MoMD) and the Office of the National Security Advisory (ONSA) to create ownership in the selection process. The finalization of the beneficiaries is expected to conclude early 2024.

UNICEF continued to provide critical child protection services for returnees in the areas of return as well as host community members in an effort to achieve social cohesion and promote sustainable reintegration. Building on existing partnerships, UNICEF has reached 1,089 children, including 478 girls, to provide psychosocial support services in targeted locations through six sessions. An additional 301 children (137 girls) have participated in non-structured psychological support sessions focused on entertainment and games.

25 government teachers (7 women) have been engaged in trainings to build capacity on child protection approaches and the fundamental principles of child rights. UNICEF continued its commitment to providing legal aid through lawyers and facilitating civil documentation, including birth registration for children returning from North East Syria (NES). 482 children (240 girls) have received such legal support and have successfully secured their civil documents. 24 children (18 girls) received legal support are currently in the process of securing their legal documents.

## **I. Purpose**

This Joint-Programme directly responds to Strategic Priority (5): Durable Solutions of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework of Iraq and the following outcome and outcome indicator:

Outcome 5.1: Strengthened stabilization, development and peace building initiatives support area-based interventions in locations of displacement, return or relocation to enhance the achievement of voluntary, safe and dignified durable solutions for displacement affected populations.

Outcome Indicator 5.1a: Number of activities/services implemented to support the achievement of durable solutions for displacement affected populations

In addition, the Joint-Programme contributes to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

SDG (5): Gender Equality: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SDG (8): Decent Work and Economic Growth: promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

SDG (10): Reducing Inequalities: promote universal social, economic and political inclusion.

SDG (16): Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

## **II. Results**

### **Outcomes:**

The Joint-Programme aims to contribute to the overall objective of achieving a stable, peaceful, and inclusive community in which displaced persons have the opportunity for safe, dignified, and sustainable return. By providing socioeconomic reintegration programming, engaging with community members, and capacitating local and national institutions, such an environment will be enabled.

### **Outputs:**

**Output 1: Facilitation of the return of displaced person to Iraq, including ISIL-perceived families, is fostered through dialogues and social cohesion interventions.**

UNDP finalized an agreement with implementing partner HD to foster dialogue and social cohesion in an effort to facilitate the return of displaced persons. In parallel to this Joint-Programme and to complement efforts in promoting dialogue, UNDP, utilizing other resources, organized townhalls in Mosul, Ninewa, Tikrit, Salah al Din, and Kirkuk Center, Kirkuk to discuss community reintegration and community acceptance. In preparation for HD activities and facilitate discussions between Local

Peace Committees (LPCs), HD was linked with UNDP field facilitators who are active in project location. .

**Output 2: Families perceived to be affiliated with ISIL/ returning from NES, as well as community members in areas of return received reintegration support.**

During this reporting period, UNDP mapped the areas of return with highest number of returnees from Jeddah 1. Preparation of beneficiary selection tools including vulnerability criteria and verification methodology was finalized. Meetings between UNDP and LPCs and local authorities were held to sensitize the community on the Joint-Programme, beneficiary selection criteria, and establish beneficiary selection committees. Meetings were also held with MoMD to obtain a master list of returnees to support the verification process. In doing so the beneficiary selection criteria were also discussed and agreed upon with MoMD.

The Joint-Programme is currently finalizing the selection of the 600 beneficiaries to participate in the socioeconomic reintegration programming. A vulnerability criterion developed earlier is utilized, focusing on household income, household size, people with disabilities, and housing conditions. The Joint-Programme will also identify and build the capacity of staff at a primary health center in one of the targeted areas to provide mental health and psychosocial support services. Although the initial lists of candidates of both Al Hol returnees and community members were endorsed by the mayors, the Joint-Programme will confirm/verify to ensure the Joint-Programme targets returnees from Al Hol. Part of the verification is ensuring each beneficiaries have an exit letter from Jeddah 1 for formal returnees or a letter from the local authorities showing they have been security vetted for the case of self-supported returnees (informal returnees) from Al Hol. The Joint-Programme has received a letter from ONSA granting permission to support informal returnees from Al Hol Camp.

**Output 3: The protection of child rights, including legal rights, among repatriated Iraqis improved.**

Under complementarity in the implementation of child protection programme activities with internal UNICEF funds, a total of 1,089 children, including 478 girls, were provided with structured psychosocial support services through six sessions. These sessions aimed to address the emotional and psychological needs of children affected by conflict and displacement. 301 children (137 girls) in Ninewa, Anbar, and Salah al-Din participated in multiple sessions of non-structured psychosocial support focused on entertainment and fun activities contributing to their improved well-being to help the children to learn and develop life skills, build interpersonal relationships, and participate in problem-solving activities to best equip them when facing any obstacles during their reintegration journey. These lessons and activities are meant to support children in coping with difficulties as a result of displacement and conflict, particularly in addressing social stigma as a result of their perceived affiliation with armed groups. These interventions are crucial as they underpin all other intervention processes for long-term development and reintegration. The implementation of psychosocial support activities began before the funds from the Joint-Programme were received. Continuation of these activities were ensured when funds were received. It is important to reflect the achievements of these activities as the Joint-Programme moves forward.

25 government teachers (7 women) in areas of return participated in capacity building efforts on child protection and fundamental principles of child rights. Participants had a robust understanding of child protection methodologies, fostering a more informed and proactive approach in their role as an educator. The Joint-Programme will continue to enhance the capacity of social workers, legal staff, court staff, and educational staff to support children and young people in the communities of return including in the targeted locations.

192 children (90 girls) have been supported through case-trained caseworkers. Caseworkers referred them to available case management services such as legal, health, and education to enable vulnerable children and families to address their protection concerns and meet their needs. 52 children (28 girls) and adolescents received life skills and vocational training to assist them in their reintegration journey.

482 children (240 girls) received legal support and successfully secured their civil documents, while another 24 children (18 girls) received legal assistance and are in the process of obtaining their civil documentation ensuring their access to essential rights and services. The Joint-Programme will continue to provide legal aid through lawyers and civil documentation, including birth registration for the children returning from NES.

The achievements outlined demonstrate UNICEF's continued commitment to improving the protection of child rights among returnees through the implementation of the RISE Joint-Programme. Moving forward, UNICEF remains dedicated to sustaining these efforts and further advancing the well-being and rights of vulnerable children in the region.

### **Challenges:**

While negotiations on budgets took longer than anticipated, the agreement with HD has now been signed with the commencement of activities under Output 1 expected to begin in January 2024.

Due to the necessity to manage risks associated with the selection of beneficiaries, particularly those from Al Hol, additional verification and selection measures have been put in place, specifically the submission of formal documentation stipulating their departure from Jeddah 1 Rehabilitation Center.

Coupled with negative social attitudes challenges, the registration of children born from unregistered marriages or whose fathers are missing or incarcerated has been noted as a considerable challenge. The Joint-Programme will continue to coordinate and advocate with judicial authorities to find legal solutions and will classify the most complex cases as such. As a result of the difficulties in obtaining civic documentation, overcrowding in schools, and far distances between schools and communities, enrolment of children in schools has been challenging. Through advocacy with local committees established for child protection, there have been exceptional cases of children to continue the academic year. The Joint-Programme will continue to advocate with such groups to increase school enrolment.

### **Lessons Learned:**

**Investment in Social Cohesion:** Acknowledging the importance of investing in social cohesion and community stability as a fundamental aspect of the reintegration process, aiming to create a conducive environment for the sustainable return and inclusion of returnees, children, and their families, including female-headed households. This underscores the significance of fostering community acceptance and support for returning individuals and families, promoting long-term stability and harmony.

**Slow Progress in Return Process Requires Agile Approach:** The return process, particularly voluntary return to host communities, is advancing slowly, leading to extended stays in Jeddah 1 beyond the anticipated duration. This highlights the importance of realistic planning and flexibility in response to unexpected delays or challenges in reintegration efforts.

**Sustained Support Needed:** There is an ongoing need to sustain child protection services in host communities and areas of return where services may be lacking or inadequate. This underscores the

importance of continuous investment in human and financial resources to ensure the establishment and maintenance of effective child protection mechanisms, especially in post-conflict settings.

- **Qualitative Assessment:**

While progress during this reporting period has largely been preparatory, substantial progress has been made towards achieving the greater outcome through the provision of child protection services and finalization of the 600 beneficiaries who will participate in socioeconomic reintegration interventions. Recognizing the value of collaborative efforts to enhance the capabilities of the GoI to respond to the needs of sustainable return and reintegration. The existing collaboration mechanisms play a vital role in this regard and are as follows:

- 1) The Technical Working Group on the Implementation of the Global Framework in Iraq (Co-chairs are ONSA, IOM, and UNICEF), the Reintegration Taskforces (co-chaired by UNDP and MoMD)
- 2) The Child Legal Protection Task Force (co-chaired by UNICEF and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs with membership of numerous Ministries and UN agencies).

Monthly progress meetings are also held between UNDP and UNICEF, which will soon include HD, to strengthen coordination and share progress, challenges, and next steps for implementation. These meetings will be followed by regular debriefings with the EU.

## ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:

	<u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<b>Outcome 1<sup>[1]</sup></b> <b>Indicator:</b> <b>Baseline:</b> <b>Planned Target:</b>			
<b>Output 1.1</b>			
<b>Indicator 1.1.1</b> # of reconciliation initiatives/dialogues set up - (EU Indicator, Mediation, Conflict Prevention and Resolution and Reconciliation)  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 5-10 initiatives	No progress during this reporting period.	N/A	
<b>Indicator 1.1.2.</b> # of individuals engaged in inter-faith dialogues/communication channels (M/W/B/G)) - (EU Indicator, Preventing/Countering VE) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 20 participants per round of dialogue	No progress during this reporting period.	N/A	
<b>Indicator 1.1.3</b> # of bi-lateral meetings (Project Indicator) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 20 bilateral meetings	No progress during this reporting period.	N/A	
<b>Indicator 1.1.4</b> # of events organized or supported (EU Indicator) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 5-10 field visits	No progress during this reporting period.	N/A	
<b>Output 1.2</b>			
<b>Indicator 1.2.1</b> # persons directly benefiting from the intervention (M/W) - (EU Indicator, Obligatory) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 600 direct beneficiaries receive support (240 women, 360 men)	<b>Ongoing:</b> 600 individuals (300 Al Hol returnees and 300 community members) are currently being selected and verified.	N/A	



<b>Indicator 1.2.2</b> # of microenterprises supported, disaggregated by owner-gender, location, economic sector - (Project Indicator) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 550 microenterprises supported (220 women, 330 men)	No progress during this reporting period.	N/A	
<b>Indicator 1.2.3</b> # of people trained by the EU-funded intervention who increased their knowledge and/or skills (disaggregated by sex and age). <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 120 persons	<b>Ongoing:</b> Technical experts who will provide capacity building on community-based reintegration to MoMD, ONSA, LPCs are being selected.	N/A	
<b>Output 1.3</b>			
<b>Indicator 1.3.1</b> # of children (boys and girls) reached with structured psychosocial support services (equivalent to the EU indicator "Number of Persons directly benefiting from the intervention) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 8,880 children (4,440 boys, 4,440 girls)	<b>Ongoing:</b> 1,089 (478 girls) have received structured psychosocial support.  301 children (137 girls) have received non-structured psychosocial support.	N/A	Progress report
<b>Indicator 1.3.2</b> # of social service workforce/ civil society trained on child rights and child protection (equivalent to the EU indicator "Number of Persons directly benefiting from the intervention) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> (290 individuals including 145 men, 145 women).	<b>Ongoing:</b> 25 (7 women) social service workforce/civil society have been trained on child rights and child protection.	N/A	Attendance sheet & Progress report
<b>Indicator 1.3.3</b> # of children (boys and girls) reached with legal support/ birth registration (equivalent to the EU indicator "Number of Persons directly benefiting from the intervention) <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 300 children (150 boys, 150 girls)	<b>Ongoing:</b> 482 (240 girls) children have received legal support.	N/A	Numbers of issuance of the civil documentations for children & progress report



[\[1\]](#) Note: Outcomes, outputs, indicators and targets should be **as outlined in the Project Document** so that you report on your **actual achievements against planned targets**. Add rows as required for Outcome 2, 3 etc.

### iii) A Specific Story

1. *(The following story, shared by UNDP, aims to highlight the engagement, commitment, and impact of the Local Peace Committees which UNDP supports through all programming under the social cohesion programme).*



Omar (left), a young man from Balad district in Salah al-Din Governorate of Iraq witnessed the devastating toll of war firsthand. The son of the sheikh of a large Sunni clan in the district, his father was killed during the war and some of his clan members were accused of belonging to ISIL.

Times were tough but Omar remained committed to promoting peace and became an active member of the Balad Local Peace Committee (LPC).

“I joined the committee to represent my community and make its voice heard by all parties and contribute to restoring societal cohesion as it was before the war,” Omar shared.

#### Uniting communities through Local Peace

##### Committees

LPCs are local peace structures that support the return and reintegration of Internally Displaced Populations, including families perceived to be affiliated with ISIL, into their communities. They are one of the vehicles for rebuilding the social fabric at the community level.

“Through the committees, I have learned to spread the message of tolerance and peace and help people without discrimination by religion, race, or colour. I support this by raising awareness and spreading the spirit of tolerance and the importance of peace in society,” Omar shared.

Since 2017, UNDP has been instrumental in the establishment of LPCs in the five liberated areas of Anbar, Ninewa, Salah al-Din, Diyala, and Kirkuk. The Committees are composed of different representatives from the community including local government and political representatives, members of civil society, women and youth groups, religious leaders, and representatives of traditional groups as well as members of the business community among others.

These committees play a crucial role in promoting the return and reintegration of formerly displaced people including Al-Hol returnees back into their communities. They do this through engaging communities at both tribal and local government levels.

2. **Problem / Challenge faced:** Describe the specific problem or challenge faced by the subject of your story (this could be a problem experienced by an individual, community or government).

One significant challenge faced by returnees coming from Northeastern Syria (NES) is the lack of civil documentation specially for their children. Due to the conflict and displacement in the region, many

individuals may have lost or been unable to obtain essential documents such as birth certificates, identification cards, marriage certificates and national ID cards. Without these documents, returning individuals and families face numerous obstacles in accessing basic services such as health, education for their children, asserting their legal rights, social welfare support and reintegrating into society.

The absence of civil documentation can lead to a range of issues for returnees especially those that are being denied due to their perceived association with ISIS. Firstly, it impedes their ability to prove their identity and legal status, making it difficult to access essential services such as education for their children, healthcare, social welfare support and employment. Many institutions and government agencies require official identification documents for enrolment, treatment, or hiring, leaving those without proper documentation marginalized and excluded.

Furthermore, the absence of civil documentation can also pose challenges in terms of legal recognition of marriages, custody arrangements, and inheritance rights. Without valid marriage certificates or other legal documents, couples may face difficulties in formalizing their relationships or securing custody of their children. Inheritance disputes can arise without proper documentation, leading to legal and social complications for returnees seeking to reclaim their assets or provide for their families.

**Programme Interventions:** How was the problem or challenged addressed through the Programme interventions?

- UNICEF in collaboration with the government of Iraq and partners collaborate to ensure children obtain civil documentation to facilitate their access to services including education, health, social protection. UNICEF is co-chair of technical working group on return and Legal child protection task force all under one joint UN framework for return. Civil documentation is main activity under child legal task force. Addressing the issue of civil documentation for returnees from NES requires coordinated efforts from both government, UN agencies and non- governmental organizations. Established streamlined processes for documenting individuals, providing assistance in obtaining missing documents, and raising awareness about the importance of civil registration are essential steps to support the reintegration and well - being of returnees in their communities.
- Classifying the most complex cases: To prioritize resources and efforts effectively, lawyers may classify the most complex cases, such as those involving missing or incarcerated fathers, for special attention. By identifying and prioritizing cases with the most significant barriers to registration, lawyers can focus their efforts where they are most needed.
- Continued coordination with other actors: Lawyers often work within a broader protection platform to ensure the returnees and IDPs have access to legal assistance and support services can help them navigate the complexities or reclaiming their rights and rebuilding their lives after displacement.
- Providing legal assistance on civil documentation through including various stakeholders such as government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and community groups. By continuing to coordinate with these actors, lawyers can leverage their expertise, resources, and networks to address challenges collaboratively and provide comprehensive support to affected families.
- Advocating with judicial authorities: Lawyers engage in advocacy efforts to raise awareness among judicial authorities about the unique challenges faced by children born from unregistered marriages, especially in conflict-affected areas. By advocating for legal reforms and policy changes, lawyers seek to improve the registration process and ensure that children's rights are protected, regardless of their parents' circumstances.

**Result (if applicable):** Describe the observable *change* that occurred so far as a result of the Programme interventions. For example, how did community lives change or how was the government better able to deal with the initial problem?

With provision of civil documentation, individuals and families especially children are able to access basic rights and services, asserting their legal rights and reintegrating into society and those that did not get their civil documentation find it difficult to access the essential services such as education, healthcare and employment. Given many institutions and government agencies require official identification documents for enrolment, treatment, or hiring, leaving those without proper documentation will lead the children and families subject to be marginalized and excluded of these services and benefits. Approximately 30% of the caseload leave Jeddah 1 without their civil documentation and are being followed up in the communities of returned through provision of legal supports. The families gained confidence through provision of legal support and are being facilitated through community-based protection network to access centres for services provision.

**Lessons Learned:** What did you (and/or other partners) learn from this situation that has helped inform and/or improve Programme (or other) interventions?

The experience and lesson learned is the necessity of coordinated efforts among government, UN agencies, and NGOs in streamlining civil documentation processes, prioritizing complex cases, maintaining continued coordination with various stakeholders, and advocating for legal reforms to ensure the protection and reintegration of returnees. It is important to emphasize the need for comprehensive and collaborative approaches in addressing the challenges of civil registration in conflict-affected areas to prevent marginalization and exclusion from essential services.

Through coordination efforts between various stakeholders involved in Jeddah 1 and communities of return, it has been identified that there is a need to improve the coordination among various stakeholders - i.e. The Ministry of Interior, Directorate of Civil Documentation, Ministry of Migration and Displacement, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, National Security and UN agencies, and civil society organizations, among others. Standard operating procedures have been developed and model of registration is being piloted being piloted. UNICEF and partners will conduct assessments on the process to ensure efficiency in the system.