

**SUMMARY REPORT ON BIRTH REGISTRATION SURVEY CONDUCTED IN KAWEGORSK,
DARASHAKRAN, QUSHTAPA AND BASIRMA CAMPS WITHIN ERBIL GOVERNORATE**

1. Background

- In a period from the 10th to the 17th of May 2015, UNHCR’s implementing partner INTERSOS conducted the birth registration survey in all four camps within the Erbil governorate. The survey was conducted in line with the ongoing birth registration campaign, involving several protection actors operating in the camps. Notably, the survey was conducted for the first time since the establishment of the camps and the results obtained in course of the survey, therefore, remain indicative of the margins of the issue and the result of interventions undertaken vis-à-vis the community concerned. Concurrently, these results form a basis for immediate and long-term interventions in the areas of advocacy, awareness-raising and legal assistance. A general format for the survey, including questionnaire and analysis framework, was developed by UNHCR Protection, CS and INTERSOS teams. A preliminary data for the survey was pre-populated from UNHCR’s database ProGres and complimented by the information obtained from various actors through the protection monitoring scheme implemented in the camps.
- Against the target figure, the survey covered approximately 526 refugee households with a total of 538 children born in KR-I and registered as lacking birth documentation. Notably, approximately 4.7 % of the target households could not be contacted or were reported to have transferred to another locations since the time they were registered with UNHCR.

Location	Number of households reached through survey	Number of children lacking birth documentation within the households
Darashakran	187	191
Kawegorsk	230	234
Qushtapa	67	71
Basirma (incl Mirawa, Shaqlawa and other surrounding locations)	42	42

2. Key findings

Below is a summary of the key findings, proceeding from the survey (for more detail, please consult the camp-specific analysis of survey):

-Regarding the reasons for families’ failure to register their children on the territory of the KR-I, the key reason identified was lack of awareness concerning the registration procedure at the time the child was delivered (thus, 27 % of respondents in Darashakran; 57 % in Basirma; 8,3 % in Kawegorsk, 54.4 % in Qushtapa claimed they were not aware of the existing procedure at the

time the child was born). Comparing this information to the birth ratio in the afore-mentioned camps within the last 21 months (Aug.2013-May 2015), one may assume that the lack of awareness was more prominent in the births that took place in the first 14 months from the families' arrival in the KRI.

-On the methods of delivery, it is apparent that refugee population prefers to have their children delivered at the hospitals in Erbil or within the districts they have resided before or currently live. The survey team identified several cases where the birth took place in the hospitals located within other governorates (Dohuk, Suleimania), hence a specific referral and follow-up need to be undertaken to facilitate issuance of birth documentation to the children concerned.

-While on average 12 % of children were delivered outside the hospital (in the camp or elsewhere) with the help of certified (licensed) mid-wife, a few families have not been able to follow the procedure / meet the deadline for registration. Several cases were reported where the delivery was facilitated by uncertified/unlicensed mid-wife or otherwise (en route to the hospital)

- On a positive side, a substantial part of the target population, who had their children born at and outside hospital, has managed to obtain birth documentation from the time the specific need (lack of documentation) was recorded/updated in proGres. This category is comprised of 39 cases in Darashakran (21 %), 8 cases in Basirma (19%), 122 cases in Kawegorsk (52.13%); and 16 cases (23.5%) in Qushtapa camps. This indicator in particular, reflects on the progress with regard to specific interventions made on awareness-raising and legal assistance to population.

3. Recommendations on ways forward

Against the afore-mentioned findings of the survey, as well as considering information obtained in course of the recent focus group discussions (FGDs), consultations with IP legal team and meeting with the Department of Mortality and Births in Erbil, UNHCR and INTERSOS teams have come up with a specific (camp-based) plane of action reflected in the tables included on the camp-specific analysis of birth registration survey. In particular, individual –level interventions will be made on the cases prioritized for legal counseling, referral to hospitals/ department of mortality and births, as well as to the courts.

Evidently, UNHCR and partners need to continue with the campaign to ensure the population is kept abreast and retains an unhindered access to the relevant procedures.

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