**Project Factsheet**

Education and Protection Programme for Vulnerable Syrian and Local Community Schoolaged Children In Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey

### Objectives
- Invest in the future generation of children and youth affected by the Syrian conflict, in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey.

### Expected Results
- Provide children and youth affected by the Syrian crisis with quality education.
- Grant children with a safe environment in which to live and grow up.
- Empower youth to engage with society, as a cornerstone of strong communities.

### Beneficiaries
- 283,043 Jordanian, Lebanese, Syrian and Turkish children, youth, women and teachers

### Implementing Partner
- UNICEF

### Budget
- EUR 95.9 million

### Start Date
- 01/01/2018

### Duration
- 12 months
Ayat is an English facilitator at the Makani (“my place”, in Arabic) Centre in the Al Rajeeb Community, a center created in January 2017 to serve the most vulnerable children from the area: Dom community (around 2,000 people of which 60% are children and mothers), and soon extended to Kurds and Syrians.

UNICEF’s Makani centres are located in different cities, Syrian refugee camps and vulnerable settlements throughout Jordan. The biggest challenge for UNICEF is low rates of children enrolment in schools. Early marriage and child labour are amongst some of the reasons why some children stop attending classes.

To tackle this, the Al Rajeeb center raises awareness on how important education is for children, while offering families support services like: child protection, early childhood programmes, life skills and innovation labs, and awareness lessons for parents. With time, the idea that children have the right to education has become more embedded in parents’ minds.

Farid, 12, is a member of the Dom community and he is one of Ayat’s students. He lives with his mother Norah and his siblings in a tent, and sometimes he cannot attend classes because he has to work in order to provide for his family. Their financial situation is dire: life in a tent, especially in the winter is everything but easy. However, Farid feels safe and he is happy to be able to go to school. He is very active, he loves writing on the board and helps his teacher when other children are misbehaving. Norah is very proud of him. She was forced to take her children out of school seven years ago when she got divorced, because she couldn't afford the costs. With the support of the EU Trust Fund, UNICEF helps them survive and have access to services that would otherwise be too expensive from them.

Self-imposed isolation and not knowing exactly what their rights were once they came to Jordan, kept the groups within the Dom community marginalised and hindered integration into Jordanian society. With its Makani centres, UNICEF is working on creating a sense of community and a safe space for children and their families, regardless of the group they belong to.