

CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING OF CHILD LABOR IN JORDAN

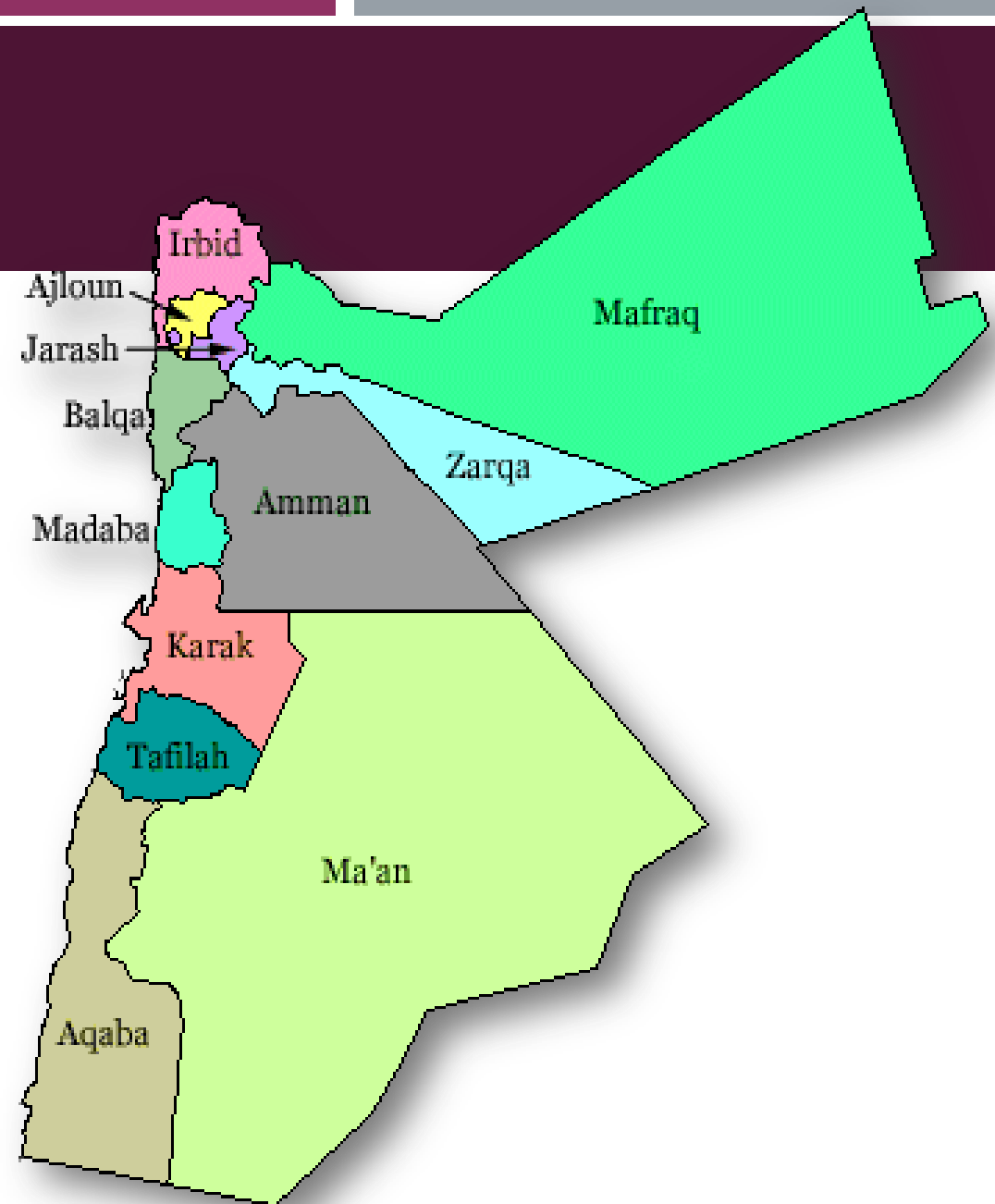
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COUNTRY CONTEXT

- The population of Jordan is estimated to be 6,388,000 in 2012.¹
- Approximately 82.6% living in urban and 17.4% in rural areas.¹
- Jordan is an upper middle-income country, with a per-capita GNI of US\$4,380.²

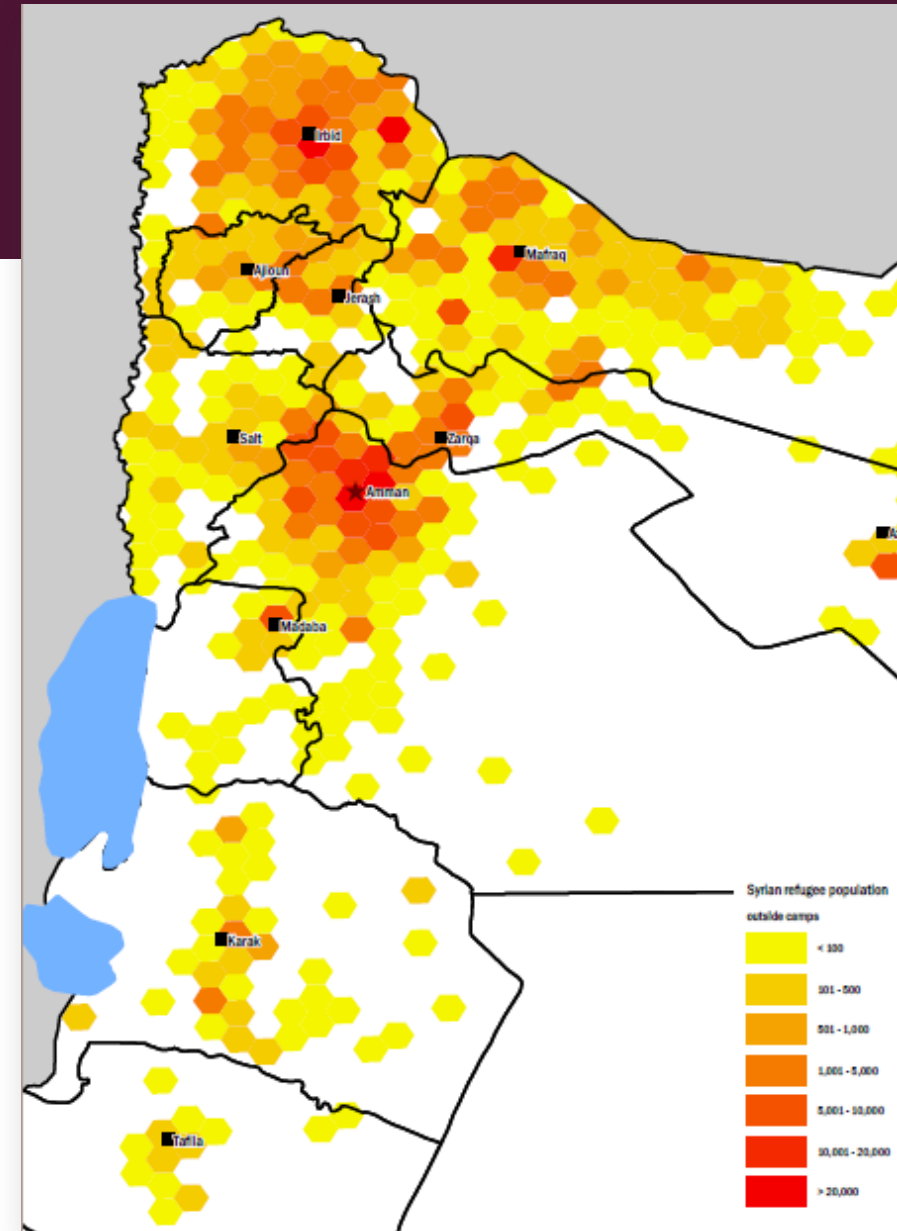
Source: ¹(DOS, 2012) , ²(UNDP, 2014)



REFUGEES

- About 1.4 million Syrian refugees are in Jordan in 2014.
- Approximately 619,376 Syrian refugees were registered in Jordan by UNHCR; 10% of the country's population.
- It is expected that 56% of refugees live outside camps, while 44 % live inside camps.

Source: ¹(Jaabari, 2014)



Non-camp Syrian refugee population

Source UNHCR 2014


CHILD LABOR – JORDAN



- According to Child Labor Survey (CLS 2007) report there were an estimated 37,760 (2.1%) of the 1,785,596 children aged 5-17 in Jordan are economically active.
- Children working in agriculture may be involved in planting, irrigating, harvesting, and weeding. There are reports that children working in agriculture may use dangerous tools, carry heavy loads, and apply harmful pesticides

PURPOSE

Goal of child labor study: Identify the prevalence of child labor in agriculture sector in Jordan (especially after the Syrian crisis) and factors contributing to child labor problems.



Unintended
outcome

Understanding how stakeholder interprets laws and community define child labor, and understand the evaluand.

IMPORTANCE OF STUDY

- Clearly define the evaluand.
- Shared understanding of Criteria and Terms.
- Consideration of Diversity in Participants' values and cultural norms

DATA COLLECTION OF THE CHILD LABOR STUDY (MIXED METHOD)

- Observations at work sites
- **Interviews**
- **Focus groups**
- **Desk Reviews**
- Surveys of working children and their parents

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graph LR; A[Observations at work sites] --> D[DATA USED FOR THIS STUDY]; B[Interviews] --> D; C[Focus groups] --> D; E[Desk Reviews] --> D; F[Surveys of working children and their parents] --> D;
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DATA USED FOR THIS STUDY



STAKEHOLDERS

Ministry of labor

Ministry of agriculture

Trade unions and employers' associations

Farmers (employers)

Jordanian & Syrian families

Immigrant workers supervisors (Mediators)

NO CHILDREN PARTICIPATED

METHODOLOGY

Interviews and FGD

- **Purposeful sample** was conducted to cover the issue of child labor from different perspectives.
- They were conducted by **qualified researchers**.
- Based on **semi structures** questions.
- Researchers were provided with the **transcripts** of the interviews and focus groups, including the **interviewers' notes**.
- Researcher **translated the transcripts** from Arabic to English.
- **Interpretations and marginal notes** were recorded to guide and help the analysis.



METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Ethnography of Spradley (1980) and content analysis embedded within.

Content analysis used qualitative meaning unitization to support the process of selecting the domains and themes of the analysis.

STEP ELEVEN: **TAKING A CULTURAL INVENTORY**

STEP TEN: **MAKING A THEME ANALYSIS**

STEP NINE: MAKING A COMPONENTIAL ANALYSIS

STEP EIGHT: MAKING SELECTIVE OBSERVATION

STEP SEVEN: **MAKING A TAXONOMIC ANALYSIS**

STEP SIX: MAKING FOCUSED OBSERVATIONS

STEP FIVE: **MAKING A DOMAIN ANALYSIS**

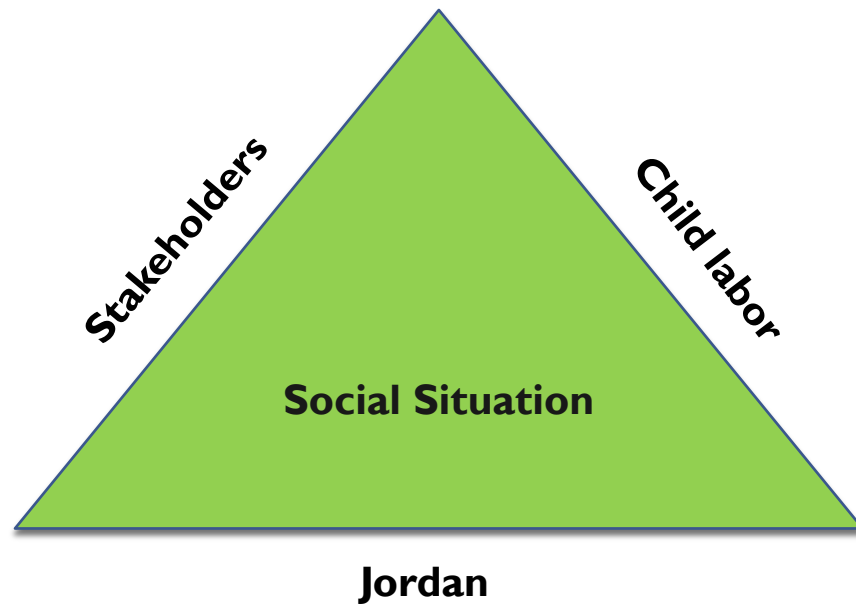
STEP FOUR: MAKING DESCRIPTIVE OBSERVATIONS

STEP THREE: **MAKING AN ETHNOGRAPHIC RECORD**

STEP TWO: DOING PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

STEP ONE: **LOCATING SOCIAL SITUATION**

METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS



STEP ONE: LOCATING SOCIAL
SITUATION

METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Language differences in the field situation

Language used in the field notes

Farmers, Mediators

Gov Officials. Civil Societies

Syrian Families

Researchers' language with
unidentified mixer from others

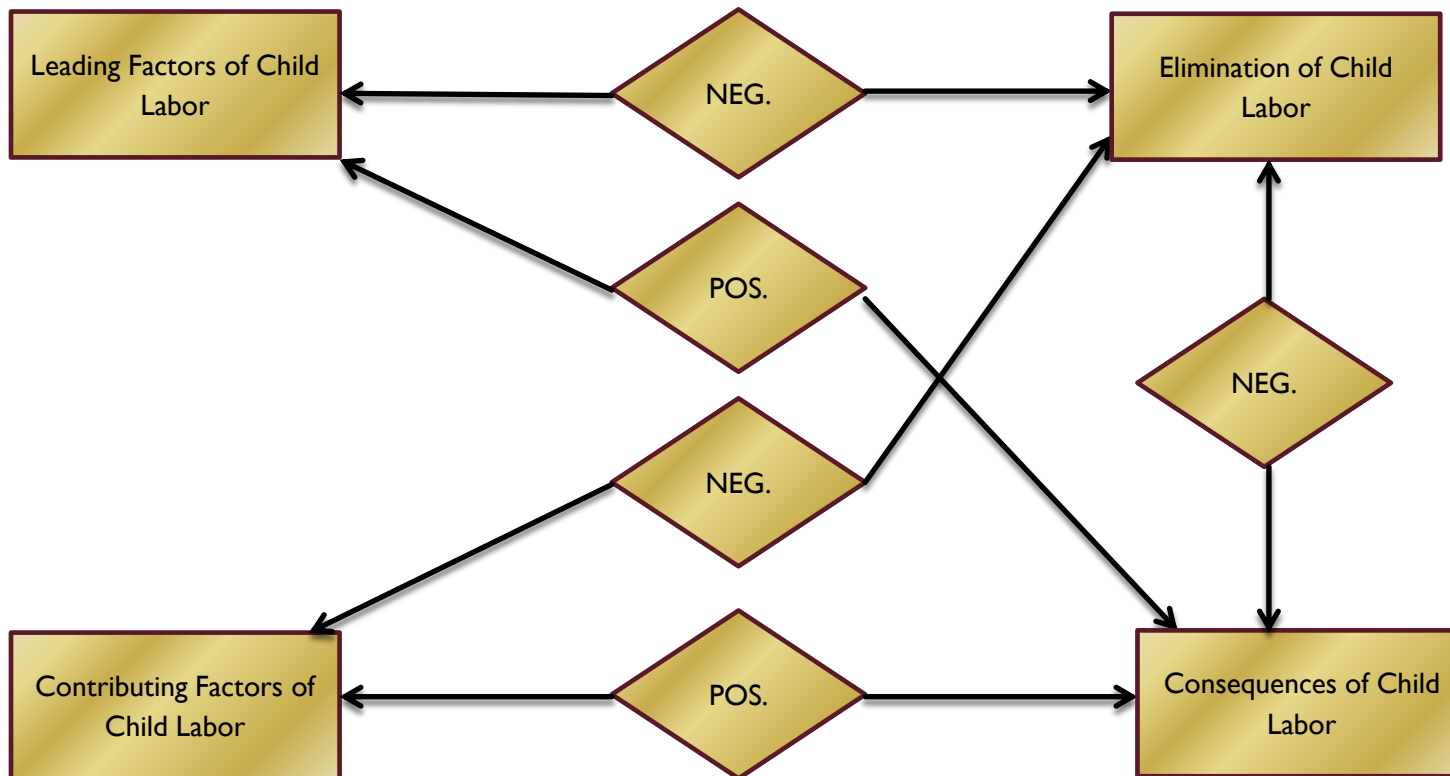
STEP THREE: **MAKING AN
ETHNOGRAPHIC RECORD**

STEP TWO: DOING PARTICIPANT
OBSERVATION

STEP ONE: **LOCATING SOCIAL
SITUATION**



METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS



STEP FIVE: **MAKING A DOMAIN ANALYSIS**

STEP FOUR: MAKING DESCRIPTIVE OBSERVATIONS

STEP THREE: **MAKING AN ETHNOGRAPHIC RECORD**

STEP TWO: DOING PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION

STEP ONE: **LOCATING SOCIAL SITUATION**

METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Definition of Child Labor				
	Child reached work age	Family business	Parents rights	Syrian culture
Interviews				
Farmer 1				
Farmer 2		X		
Farmer 3				
Farmer 4				
Farmer 5				
Mediator 1				
Mediator 2				
MOAG 1				
MOAG 2		X		
MOAG 3		X		
MOAG 4				
MOAG 5				X
MOL 1		X		
MOL 2		X		
FGD				
Civil Society	X	X		X
Farmers	X	X	X	X
Syrian Families	X	X		X

STEP SEVEN: **MAKING A TAXONOMIC ANALYSIS**

STEP SIX: MAKING FOCUSED OBSERVATIONS

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Understanding Culture-Child Labor Definition

“An iceberg sticking out of the ocean.”

Hanley J. Beyond the tip of the iceberg: Five states towards cultural competence. Reaching Today's Youth; Winter 1999.

Child's Age

Family Business

Parents' Right

Syrian Culture

Government and International
Laws

- Civil society participants defined **children aged between 8-14 years** old, hence they are able to work in agriculture sector.
- The farmers' focus group defined the child as anyone who is less than 14 years old, and children **older than 14 years are considered as young men**, and paid wages and treated as adults.
- Syrian families' participants defined **child as a person under 13 years old**.

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Parents' Right

Syrian Culture

Government and International Laws

- Working children as part of **family business** and do not consider as child labor.
- Children **contributed in family income** either by working in family private lands or working for others.
- Participants in civil society group mentioned that children work in private projects for the family, and they **considered it part of the culture** and help the family.
- Syrian families considered their children work in agriculture sector is **family business and they did not define it as child labor.**

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Child's Age

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Parents' Right

Syrian Culture

Government and International
Laws

Jordanian farmers claimed that it's **the right of the head of the family to hire his own children**, and participants agreed that :

“The head of the family has the right to do so whether in their own land or other lands.”

Understanding Culture-Child Labor Definition

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Child's Age

Family Business

Parents' Right

Syrian Culture

Government and International Laws

- The participants in Syrian families emphasized that children work in agriculture as **part of their culture and lifestyle**.
- According to the Syrian participants, there were **no laws in Syria that prevented the children from working** in agriculture.
- Accordingly, after they moved to Jordan, the children do the same and **work with their parents** at farms where they reside.

“We are from agrarian society in our country; therefore, we do not find anything wrong in children work”.

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Child's Age

Family Business

Parents' Right

Syrian Culture

Government and International Laws

Source	Child is...	Allowed Work conditions
ILO Convention 138*	A person who is under the age of 15 years	Children between the ages of 13 and 15 years old may do light work , as long as it does not threaten <u>their health and safety, or hinder their education</u> or vocational orientation and training.
ILO Convention 182*	A person who is under the age of 18 years	<u>Work which is likely to jeopardize children's physical, mental or moral health</u> , safety or morals should not be done by anyone under the age of 18
GOJ Article 73**	A person who is under the age of 16 years	No juvenile not reaching 16 might be employed under no circumstances
GOJ Article 74**	A person who is under the age of 18 years	No juvenile not reaching 18 might be employed in <u>the dangerous or exhausting occupations or those harmful to health</u>

METHODOLOGY - ETHNOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Final Model / relationships between the domains and the definition of child labor

Definition of Child Labor	Main Domains			
	Leading Factors of Child Labor	Contributing Factors of child Labor	Consequences of Child Labor	Elimination of Child Labor
Culture	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative
Gov-International Org.	Couldn't be defined*	Couldn't be defined	Couldn't be defined	Couldn't be defined

*The direction of these relationships was difficult to be identified due to the lack of consistency in the definitions of child labor in the government and international organizations.

STEP TEN: **MAKING A THEME ANALYSIS**

STEP NINE: MAKING A COMPONENTIAL ANALYSIS

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Understanding Culture

Role of The Evaluator

Understand how a group of people perceive an intervention,
Communicate their views ,
Act on the knowledge gained from the evaluation.

Why It's Important?

*Enables the evaluator to gather quality data,
make accurate conclusions
ensure that the evaluation findings are used appropriately.*

The exchange of information and understanding the context from different angles, interpretation and application of knowledge are influenced by the cultures of the participants, including the evaluator.

Because of this, cross-cultural competency is an essential component in evaluation and a necessary skill for evaluators to have.

So What?

For example:

What is child labor?

Consider the parents' perspective, employers, government and international organizations.

- The different definitions of Child Labor have led to a more challenging environment to eliminate this phenomenon in Jordan.
- In the contrary, it created an opportunity for parents and employers to employ children with minimum law enforcement and maximum negative impact on those working children.
- Culture usually affects how people respond to a particular question or an intervention. And according to their response, the success or failure of the policies and interventions occur.

Culturally Competent Evaluator

It is more feasible to equip evaluators with the knowledge and skills to work with people from different cultures by:

- Having an open mind,
- Not making assumptions
- Asking the right questions respectfully.
- Avoid personal bias, and evaluator's culture that might affect the questions or the analysis.



THANK YOU

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