

Livelihood Working Group

Amman, Jordan

16.08.2018

Meeting Location	EMOPS Room UNHCR Khalda	Meeting Date	16.08.2018
Facilitator	Sima Kanaan (UNHCR-MENA) Emily Lewis (DRC)	Meeting Time	09:00–10:30
Minutes Prepared by	Rania Bakeer (UNHCR)		

Agenda:

1. Work permit figures - MoL/ MoPIC.
2. Mercy Corps presentation “Youth Led Labour Market Assessment”.
3. Woman refugees from Zaatari working in the garment sector - lessons learned from their experiences – Oxfam.
4. Briefing on World Bank-TENT Partnership for Refugees: New York Event Announcing Commitments for Creating job opportunities for refugees.
5. Update from the Tertiary Education coordination group meeting - the Potential Synergies with LWG.

Updates on work permits figures (MoPIC):

- Cumulatively, 110, 954 work permits have been issued/renewed for Syrian refugees in Jordan since 2016. Further breakdown as follows:

	Total permits Jan 2016- August 14 / 2018	Total permits Jan 2018- August 14 / 2018
Male	106,288	26,267
Female	4,666	1,180
Total	110,954	27,447

- Women constitute 4% of work permits on average however during July and August, they constituted 6% which was an increase over the average.
- Only one work permit has been issued to a Syrian female refugee in construction sector.

Access to MoL figures here.

Oxfam: findings of study on woman refugees from Zaatari working in the garment sector (limited sample size (5 individuals)), tailor made:

Challenges/barriers

- Transportations (Long hours and inconsistent return times)
- Childcare access (Highly dependent on women’s access to informal networks)
- Women that were able to overcome challenges associated with working in the factory were few in number. And generally positive experiences reported by women in factories, countering negative rumors.

Recommendations

- Increasing the mobility by lightening or removing bureaucracies in leaving and entering the camp.
- Childcare responsibility should be shared between government, private sector, and parents.

Access to OXFAM Study here

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are an opportunity to operate in local economies by allowing freer movement of goods and services. 	
<p>UNHCR: Briefing on World Bank-TENT Partnership for Refugees: New York Event Announcing Commitments for Creating job opportunities for refugees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partnership between WB and Tent foundation to encourage private sector global company to invest in economic activities that generate employment opp. To refugees worldwide. - There will be in September a global session including Jordan where we aim to have at least 10 companies announce their commitment to generate employment opportunity to refugees. - UNHCR office in UAE follow up with the government who committed to provide few thousands work permits to refugees already living in the UAE to formalise there situation. - Ureed platform provides 100 opportunities to Syrian female refugees to work as home base translators and waiting for possibility of gov. to provide exemptions to this project. 	
<p>Update from the Tertiary Education coordination group meeting - the Potential Synergies with LWG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LWG Chair attended the Tertiary Education Coordination in early August to identify areas of potential coordination between the two WGs. The following areas were identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Standardization of TE subsidies, particularly for vocational training o Creating a beneficiary feedback system with TEC based on outcome of LLH referral monitoring; o Refer LLH beneficiaries to TE programming; o Ensure TE graduates are supported with LLH activities, specifically job matching; o Joint research initiatives, particularly around the impact of training on employment outcomes as well as sector training needs o Joint-advocacy initiatives, particularly around opening of closed sectors for refugees. 	
<p>Other updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LENS just launched their new grants program, this program aim to help BSPs and INGOs continue to support Jordanian and Syrian businesses. More information can be found here: https://jordanlens.org/grants/intro - A first in a series meeting was held by UNHCR & ILO with service providers (NARK, SPARK, ICU, FCA, Luminus, JEFE, AUM, JRF, CARE, JRC and DRC) who support. Syrians & Jordanians in vocational/on-job trainings to start elaborating the Standard Operating Procedures. - UNHCR & ILO is preparing for a meeting with private sector this initiative will make us closer to the way for more market oriented approaches to refugee livelihood programmes. And will help ILO to start harmonizing approaches of support for employment given to employees/employers. 	
<p>Next meeting date: TBA</p> <p>Next Meeting Agenda: TBA</p>	