Livelihoods Working Group
Amman, Jordan

Meeting Location	UNHCR Jordan	Meeting Date	19 Jan 2023
Facilitators	Najwan ALDORGHAM (UNHCR) Hazar Badran (Care)	Meeting Time	13:00–15:00
Minutes Prepared by	UNHCR		

Agenda:

- Work permits obtained by Syrian refugees and related updates
- Sectoral updates
- Introduction to Better Than Cash Alliance, United Nations Capital Development Fund
- Impact Study 2017-2021, Jordan River Foundation
- Incentive Based Volunteering SOPs in Zaatari camp
- AOB

Work permits figures and related updates

The latest report covers figures of work permits issued to Syrians until the Dec 31, 2022

	Total permits Jan 2016- Dec 31 2022	Total permits Jan 1, 2022- Dec 31 2022	Percentages Jan 2016- Dec 31 2022	Percentages Jan 1, 2022- Dec 31 2022
Male	312,258	50,850	91.75%	81.42%
Female	28,072	11,607	8.25%	18.58%
Total	340,330	62,457	100%	100%

The report is uploaded to the Livelihoods Working Group portal

- Annual report on work permits is being prepared by MoL.
- the government decision to extend Syrian exemptions from WP payments until 31/12/2023 is out, this includes payments for previous years, payments related to work permits, the health test, and penalties for not renewing work permits on time.
- The minimum wage is amended to become 260 JOD (like Jordanians) except for the garment sector. Accordingly, the monthly payment for social security increased for flexible work permits holders from 16 to 17.94 JOD.
- The cost of flexible work permits increased from 55 to 60 JOD for all sectors except for agriculture which decreased to 50 JOD, including two months of social security subscriptions.
- Syrians are granted a grace period to renew their MOI cards until 30 June 2023. Hence, until 30 June 2023 it is still possible to apply for work permits in case of un-renewed MOI cards. Though, partners are encouraged to stress the importance of starting the renewal process for the MOI cards until 30 June 2023.

Syrian Refugee Unit Work Permit Progress Report – as of 31st Dec 2022. here

Sectoral updates Following recommendations from the Jordan Strategic Humanitarian Committee JoSH meeting dated November 15, where the reform process of the Inter-Sector Working Group has been endorsed; the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) was tasked to come up with final renewed architecture and recommendations to be revised and endorsed by JoSH. Accordingly, there was a workshop on 3rd November that gathered all sector leads with the main key actors to revise and to look into the sectoral structures. From the Economic Empowerment/Livelihoods Sector side, the below recommendations were made to the ISWG, to better reflect the changes in context: Structure: o Maintain the LWG working group and two field groups in Mafraq and in Irbid o Revise the structure of sub-working group with their leads o Identify inter-sectoral linkages with Protection, Basic Needs and Education (to be reflected strategy) Scope: o Revise the LWG TORs o Develop a sector strategy, to be submitted to ISWG by end of Jan 2023 o Discuss the best way to mainstream gender To change the name of the sector to become: Economic Empowerment Sector To run the following changes with regards to the sub-working groups: - The graduation out of poverty sub working group, would continue to function. There is a potential to integrate and merge with the national committee on graduation that has recently started its work. DRC will propose a one year 'institutionalization plan' to NAF, so that the NAF would then gradually lead the coordination under this regard. - the Vocational Training sub working group, would continue for an additional year. A one year 'institutionalization plan' will be developed in close coordination with the TVSDC who has shown interest and capacity to gradually be leading the coordination afterwards. In collaboration with the Vocational Training sub working group, the TVSDC is exchanging info with all partners and has created an official platform for coordination. the Vocational Training sub working group will continue supporting the VTSCD whilst implementing the 'institutionalization plan'. To discuss further with the LWG the ways to strengthen intersectoral linkages with Protection sector on existing systems supporting/backing up LH interventions in parallel, and with the Basic Needs sector on financial inclusion to determine the sectors responsibilities to support national plans To create a shared calendar including pre-defined thematic monthly discussions and main events	

Introduction to Better Than Cash Alliance, United Nations Capital Development Fund - UN principle for responsible digital payments and the free online course here - Research report on Garment sector in Jordan "Promoting Decent Work by Digitizing Wages Responsibly in Jordan" here	
Impact Study 2017-2021, Jordan River Foundation Pathways to poverty reduction for vulnerable Jordanians and Syrian refugees, 2017-2021	Presentation here
Incentive Based Volunteering SOPs in Zaatari camp - Last revised in December 2022 - The amendment was on the break of service period. now the break of service period will depend on the contract length and the skills level of the beneficiaries	SOPs here
Next meeting date: Feb 16, 2023 From 14:00 to 15:30	