

# Livelihood Working Group

## Amman, Jordan

### 09.05.2017

Meeting Location	EMOPS Room UNHCR Khaldia	Meeting Date	09.05.2017
Facilitator	Laura Buffoni (Coordinator) Emily Lewis (co-chair)	Meeting Time	14:00– 16:00
Minutes Prepared by	Rema'a Alawi UNHCR		

#### Agenda

- 1) Numbers and updates on work permits - MoL
- 2) E-learning and employment centres - ILO
- 3) Changes in home-based businesses in Amman Municipality, matching - UNHCR;
- 4) Brussels RoO meeting – UNHCR and ILO/BWJ
- 5) BDC services and Mafraq project – BDC
- 6) Subsidies for job placement – discussion/DRC
- 7) Mapping of livelihoods services and Services Advisor
- 8) Agriculture and rural livelihoods projects for 2018 JRP – FAO
- 9) Updates from agencies/NGOs

<p><b>Numbers and updates on work permits - MoL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>MoL figures:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As of May 8th, the MOL had cumulatively issued and renewed 50,909 work permits since February 2016; a total of almost 40 000 Syrians now have valid work permits (10% of the total of foreign workers). 5% are women )</li> <li>○ Agriculture work permits issued 16,037.</li> <li>○ Approximately 8,000 work permits of the total number are those that have been renewed.</li> <li>○ Amman is the most governorate issuing work permits for Syrians followed by Mafraq and Irbid.</li> <li>○ UNHCR, ILO and SRAD are working on establishing the exit/work permits for the camps and Employment Centre in Za'atari Camp will help refugees residing in the camp to be able to regularize and find work. A similar center will be established in Azraq Camp to facilitate work permits.</li> <li>○ Grace period has been extended for the fifth time- till the end of this year (December 31<sup>st</sup> 2017).</li> <li>○ Refugees who wish to change sector of employment and/or job, can cancel the previous work permit and approach labour directorate with the employer of the new job.</li> <li>○ Work permits are valid for one year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Work permits in camps:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The work permits will represent the “leave permit” within camps.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>ACTION POINTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access the MoL/ILO presentation <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>- Clarifying figures the way official figures are presented by MoL is necessary. WB and ILO can help with this.</li> <li>- Separate meeting to take place for CfW with MoL.</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Refugees will no longer have to go through the leave permit process to access employment opportunities outside the camp if they obtain a work permit.</li> <li>○ The use of the work permit as a leave permit is valid for one month and refugees will need to report back to the camp once a month.</li> <li>○ Refugees are to approach the employment office in Za'atari Camp and report that they are a work permit holder; same will happen in Azraq.</li> <li>○ SRAD will enter this information in a system that UNHCR is developing, in which it will be linked to a software at the main gate in the camp.</li> <li>○ SRAD will scan this barcode and it will show that he/she leave the camp.</li> <li>○ Law enforcement personal are undergoing training and sensitization on the new provision.</li> <li>○ UNHCR is working with their External Relations team in order to inform refugees of this newly agreed on process.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>E-learning and employment centres - ILO</b></p> <p>On 7 May, MoL and ILO called for a meeting with main implementing agency partners that are providing employment services in Jordan, in which ILO presented their approach based on their conventions.</p> <p>Employment centres will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate matching of new work force with employers; checking wage and other conditions; job matching being much more than skills matching.</li> <li>• Maximize outreach, knowledge exchange and quality services to all</li> <li>• Promote equity, durable solutions and empowerment</li> <li>• Main services of employment service centres will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Registration of job seekers and vacancies.</li> <li>○ Job matching and placement.</li> <li>○ Active labour market programmes.</li> <li>○ Labour market information and analysis.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➤ UNHCR will look into the use of data management system to harmonize employment services by using a database similar to RAIS. This will allow for confidentiality and protection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access the ILO presentation <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>- MoL will send an email to agencies for a longer workshop on employment services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Changes in home-based businesses in Amman Municipality, matching - UNHCR;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Registration of HBB and other businesses:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April, Greater Amman Municipality (GAM) issued a directive to extend authority for the issuance of HBB license to directors of sub-municipalities/districts</li> <li>○ Businesses need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registration with MOTIS (legal type of company; laws and by-laws regulating investments for non-Jordanians being discussed by WB with MoTIS)</li> <li>- Licensing at the Municipality level- which does not distinguish between Jordanians and non-Jordanians- issued upon inspection of the premises</li> <li>- MoMA and GAM revising the list of professional services/commercial activities that can be conducted from homes (intellectual services, artisanal/food processing, home services).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Categories are being expanded, in which some of these are closed to foreigners while some are “partially closed”.</li> <li>- The new draft legal provision (MoMA instruction) is still being reviewed.</li> <li>• <u>Matching:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ UNHCR, in collaboration with the Jordan investment Association in Sahab has tried to see what outcomes for matching refugees with minimum salary jobs without subsidies.</li> <li>○ UNHCR conducted a job fair for around 400 refugees.</li> <li>○ Upon finding out that no subsidies are provided, only three out of 30 refugees still expressed interest.</li> <li>○ Main concerns for refugees is the minimum wage or similar levels wage (220).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p><b>Brussels RoO meeting – UNHCR and ILO/BWJ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding the relaxed rules of origin, the meeting discussed how it is assured that the jobs offered to Syrians are decent.</li> <li>• BWJ and ILO have been working with the stakeholder (which is Government of Jordan) through building the capacity of the MoL inspectors.</li> <li>• BWJ has been focused on the garment sector in which the module has proven to be expanded beyond the garment sector through the collaborations.</li> <li>• There will be monitoring on the working conditions in the country through engagement with the stakeholders.</li> <li>• BWJ issued a report regarding the factories that they have been working with regarding working conditions. For the two new sectors, main focus will be on exporting.</li> <li>• Two sectors will be focused on at first, chemical and engineering, however this is still being explored.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>BDC services and Mafrqa project – BDC</b></p> <p>Business Development Centre (BDC) is a Jordanian non-profit development organization, established in 2004, dedicated to accelerating local economic development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BDC has an innovative approach in partnership with UNHCR innovation support;</li> <li>• BDC works in host communities.</li> <li>• A small module has been piloted in Mafrqa Governorate for 50 women (Syrians and Jordanians) where BDC designed a project to provide the target group with employability and self-employment opportunities.</li> <li>• BDC’s objective of the program provided the 50 women with vocational entrepreneurship training and support services to prepare them to enter a certain sector that BDC has pre-assessed as a promising sector for growth in Mafrqa.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access the BDC presentation <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Subsidies for job placement – discussion/DRC</b></p> <p>DRC conducted a desktop review of wage subsidy programs in Jordan as well as other examples in the region and globally. This was to inform the design and roll out of potential wage subsidy activities to facilitate entrance into the labor market. The following main points were generated from the review exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Context matters; employment subsidy programs must be context-specific and designed to respond to labor market supply gaps.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Desktop review document to be available soon.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity building is essential; wage subsidies are more effective when accompanied by multi-faceted training programs designed to ensure the right workers are trained for the right jobs.</li> <li>Partnerships improve outcomes; employment subsidy programs are more effective when developed and implemented in collaboration with employers</li> <li>Appropriate duration is key; programs must be of sufficient length to produce results but should be concluded before subsidy dependence is created.</li> </ul>	
<b>Mapping of livelihoods services and Services Advisor</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNHCR has received a lot of requests for mapping of services as well as other agencies wanting to conduct their own mapping.</li> <li>UNHCR has a comprehensive tool; Services Advisor. Services Advisor is an inter-sector tool that is used for mapping for all agencies, whether in JRP or not. It is for all agencies working in Jordan for all types of activities in all sector for all refugees' nationalities currently in Jordan.</li> <li>Agencies working in projects in both the refugee and resilience component are to input their information on Services Advisor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional Services Advisor training session to be held.</li> </ul>
<b>Agriculture and rural livelihoods projects for 2018 JRP – FAO</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAO is looking into an overview of the situation for programs in Livelihoods and agriculture.</li> <li>FAO to conduct a needs assessment to find the gaps and then explore opportunities in working with other agencies with projects in agriculture.</li> </ul>	
<b>Updates from agencies/NGOs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNWomen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Livelihoods sector is in need for two new Gender Focal points.</li> <li>A Gender Equality in Humanitarian Action (GEHA) Training in May will be conducted for two new gender focal points.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TOR's and email to be sent out separately.</li> </ul>
<b>Next meeting date:</b> June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2017 9:00-11:00  <b>Next Meeting Agenda:</b> 1) Updates from MoL/ILO	

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