

Livelihood Working Group

Amman, Jordan

07.11.2017

Meeting Location	EMOPS Room UNHCR Khalda	Meeting Date	07.11.2017
Facilitator	Laura Buffoni (UNHCR) Emily Lewis (DRC)	Meeting Time	14:00– 16:00
Minutes Prepared by	Rema'a Alawi (UNHCR)		

Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updates on work permits (MoL) 2. Updates from ILO on employment centres 3. DRC socio-economic assessment “Understanding Alternatives to Cash Assistance” 4. UNHCR Skills mapping Zataari 5. Updates from Agencies 	
<p>Updates on work permits (MoL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cumulatively, 71,426 work permits have been issued to and renewed for Syrian refugees in Jordan since 2016. 3,178 work permits (4%) to women. - A large number of work permits were issued in Irbid governorate (25,098). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ILO explained this is due to the flexible approach of the labour directorate in Irbid as well as due to very active agricultural cooperatives. o ILO mentioned 3,000 work permits in construction requested in Amman and Mafraq and 850 work permits from Za’atari Camp are pending. This is due to delays of the labour directorates. - The agriculture sector is still the most important sector in terms of work permits issued. - 9659 work permits have been issued for refugees that live inside the three camps. - ILO explained Syrians will most likely not be impacted by the policy of reduction of 25% quota of migrant workers next year. 	<p>Access the full MoL presentation here.</p>
<p>Updates from ILO on employment centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment centers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ten employment centers, two in the camps. o The employment center in Azraq Camp is currently waiting for SRAD to finalize arrangements in the exit area for opening. o Outside of camps, eight operational location of centers within the MoL directorate are: Madaba, Karak, Rusaifah, Mafraq, Sahab, Dlail, AlHasan. Centres are being opened in the SEZs too. o ILO is now producing brochures for information to disseminate. o ILO is willing to support agencies or NGO’s that are wanting to hold job fairs within these locations. o ILO is working on rehabilitation of the centers in order to make it accessible for persons with disabilities. 	
ILO current projects	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Under the Employment Intensive Investment Programs: two projects one is funded by KfW (phase one finished and phase two will start in Irbid and Mafraq). Another EIIP project is funded by the Norwegian Embassy in five governorates (Karak, Ajloun, Madaba, Tafilah and Jarash). ○ Vocational training and certification: An additional 4,000 Syrian refugees have been certified in the construction sector. Occupational certificates are no longer required to obtain a work permit in construction. As a result, ILO expects an increase in work permits for this sector. 500 women will be trained in sweets making and in the garment industry. As a new request from the Government of Jordan to establish a vocational training center in construction to train both Jordanians and Syrians for the reconstruction of Syria was put forward, ILO is discussing with different entities in order to establish the centre. ○ Employment: ILO is developing an e-counselling service system that will link employment centers and all organizations providing employment services within one platform. TOR's have been agreed upon, proposals are underway and ILO is looking at early next year for the platform to be up and running. ○ Private sector development: ILO signed an implementation agreement with the Chamber of Industry to support the private sector in exporting to Europe. In addition, a skills gap analysis will be conducted to further understand what local skills are needed in sectors with potential for export. This will inform the development of a training/ job placement program targeting 5,000 Jordanians and Syrians. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ILO is in discussions with the Jordan Construction Contractors Association to jointly establish an additional employment centre. This centre will train Jordanian and Syrians as construction sector trainers and will also train Syrians to work as occupational health and safety supervisors. 	
<p>DRC socio-economic assessment “Understanding Alternatives to Cash Assistance”</p> <p>Purpose is to understand the capacity of households to graduate off of cash assistance into more sustainable livelihoods. The assessment is a broader part of a livelihood project that the Jordan River Foundation (JRF) and DRC are implementing in partnership with UNHCR.</p> <p>Based on the need for a broader understanding of labour market dynamics effecting Syrian refugees, DRC conducted a comprehensive assessment of five governorates in Jordan: Mafraq, Amman, Madaba, Karak and Maan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some key findings: Unemployment remains endemic amongst Syrian refugees living in Jordan; Construction is the dominant sector in which 40% of the surveyed population is working; employers in the manufacturing and trade sector have a certain level of distrust when it comes to hiring Syrian refugees. - Survey consisted of 771 households. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The target group for the household level-survey was those households that fall within categories 1 and 2 within the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF). Broadly speaking, these households that have demonstrated relatively low to moderate levels of vulnerability according to the VAF. As such, these households were seen as being the most likely to be able to access alternative methods of income generation outside of humanitarian cash assistance. 	<p>Access all findings, recommendations and full presentation here.</p> <p>Access to the full report here.</p> <p>For any questions, contact Emily Lewis at emily.lewis@drc-jordan.org ; and Amelie Sundberg amelie.sundberg@drc-jordan.org</p>
<p>UNHCR Skills mapping Zataari</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNHCR livelihoods unit and UNHCR Zataari conducted an assessment of skills available among the refugee population in Zaatari, and their willingness to take over formal employment opportunities outside the camp. 	<p>Access the full presentation here. Should agencies wish to conduct assessments in Za'atari</p>

<p>- A group of 12 refugees - “RefuGIS team” from Zataari - ran the data collection and were trained in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), data collection and presentation, as well as data analysis. This skills mapping focused on skills of refugees in general, previous working experience, their interest, their functional and technical skills in the industrial sector especially in garment sector and their knowledge about workers’ rights under Jordanian law.</p> <p>The RefuGIS team members are part of the cash for work system and can contribute to research projects by working independently thus representing a resource in the camp.</p>	<p>camp, these refugees have been well trained for data collection.</p> <p>Details and full report are in the attached file.</p>
<p>Updates from Agencies</p> <p>- UNHCR:</p> <p><u>Update on linking cash lists to livelihoods actions:</u></p> <p>So far UNHCR has received requests from AVSI, DRC, IFRC, and NRC. The agencies will include I their target for Livelihood activities Syrian refugees that have been rotated off of the cash assistance. Below are the steps for receiving lists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Address an email request to Najwan Aldorgham and Laura Buffoni (aldorgha@unhcr.org; buffoni@unhcr.org) ● Provide UNHCR with a contact person and a phone number to which we will send a code, better if this person has an active account on RAIS. ● Identify the target location, number of your beneficiaries, any other profile ● Identify the duration of the project. ● Basic fields the agency will be receiving: Case ID, PA name, PA sex, PA age, Address levels 1 & 2 (Governorate and district), and telephone numbers listed. ● Other fields can be added upon request and approval depending on the type of the data sharing agreement between UNHCR and the agency. ● When sending personal data UNHCR uses an encryption software called 7zip. It is fast, open source and agencies do not need to pay for user licences. If the agency’s IT department doesn’t allow installing software without an administrator password, you should see someone in IT to ask them to install it for you. ● UNHCR only shares cases that have given UNHCR the consent to share their information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Sector Performance Survey:</u> The survey was conducted and the sector received very positive feedback overall. Two comments are that A) the group is too large and non-operational. Task forces are a way to address this. B) The content/organization of meeting has improved to a small extent. Chair explained the tendency to have a lot of agencies present to be in the know of what other agencies are doing, policy shifts and developments to possibly plan or fundraise is an indication of the interest that exists in the livelihoods sector and in the Jordan Compact overall. However there is a need to reduce the number of participants to one par agency and to eventually ensure that operational agencies can effectively coordinate in smaller groups. A strategy to improve the way the group is run will be proposed in early 2018. ○ <u>3RP:</u> UNHCR will be contacting agencies to reduce their budgets in order to balance the difference (3RP budget needs to be lower than JRP) and meet MoPIC instructions of 3RP being lower in budget. This will not implicate the MoPIC project approvals- as the MoPIC approval process is separate from 3RP appeal process and 	<p>Send requests to aldorgha@unhcr.org ; buffoni@unhcr.org – UNHCR will check the data sharing agreement and if data protection policy applies.</p>

<p>there are no references by MoPIC to the 3RP inter-agency submissions. Agencies are expected to cooperate with UNHCR's request to reduce once the final JRP PSS is submitted and approved by MoPIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CfW/EIIP Harmonization and coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Regular meetings to discuss work permits, social security issues, wages and other matters that are related to cash for work are being held regularly by GIZ, ILO , DRC and WFP o A small, operational workshop will be held with the goal of drafting SOPs for Employment Intensive/C4W programmes that include all aspects from wages to working conditions, and alignment with the labour code. 	
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Next meeting date:
Dec 7th 2017 9:00-11:00 am

Next Meeting Agenda:
TBA

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