

**Livelihood Sector Working Group Meeting
Thursday, 30 May 2019, 14:00hrs,
UN House, Gaziantep**

Chair(s): Özlem Çavuş (UNDP)

Participants as

Institutions: Takaful Al Sham, Yale University, ACTED, WFP, Concern Worldwide, Maram, Bonyan, Ihsan RD, CARE, Orange, TRC, UNDP, URC, UNHCR, Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce, Watan, WHH

Agenda	Discussion	Action Points
<p>1: Q1 Funding Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2019 Q1, the total 3RP appeal has been \$ 1.65 billion of which \$582 million is received. 	
<p>2: New members Presentation: (Bonyan, Bousla, IRD, Orange, Takaful Alsham)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Mohamad Zaitoun stated that Takaful Al Sham's scope range from emergency response, protection, education to livelihood. Regarding livelihood projects, Takaful Al Sham provides 3-month paid internship for youth to connect them to business owners. To date, 183 people have benefitted from this internship program of which 30% are offered to continue a paid job at the same place and 35% started their own businesses. Takaful Al Sham also supports vulnerable people through in-kind-grants to which 143 beneficiaries were supported in various ways including business development trainings. Mr Omar Sammak introduced the livelihoods projects of Orange which operate both in Turkey and Syria. While Economic Empowerment Programme (EEP) and Building Self-Reliance through Initiatives that Define Growth for Economic Solutions for Syrians in Turkey (BRIDGES) projects are implemented in Turkey, Contributing to Improving the Resilience and Employability Opportunities for Affected Population in Northern Syria (MIHNA), Increasing Women and Youth Access to Labor Market in Northern Syria, and Capacity Building for Youth in Professions Relevant for Basic Service Delivery at Ma'arrat An Nu'man community in Syria. Implemented in 	

	<p>Sanliurfa, Kilis, Hatay, Kahramanmaras, the BRIDGES project with 18,000 beneficiaries, which aims to develop skills and capacity that strengthen Syrian refugees' self-reliance and reduce their socio-economic vulnerabilities, is composed of 3 phases. In the first phase, Counseling, Transferable skills, Language courses monitoring and follow up; in the second phase, Market Mapping, VT monitoring and follow up; and in the third phase VT HBB Counseling, HBB training monitoring and follow up, PAS monitoring and follow up, Iskur referral, Product fair, Job Fair are covered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On behalf of Ihsan Relief, Loae Ahmad gave a brief information about the livelihood activities. Mr Ahmad stated that Ihsan Relief together with GIZ implements Small Business Grants project with a budget of 367,348.70 USD. The project activities include Budgeting and Economic study for the project, marketing, safety and security procedures, respecting the environmental consideration through productive system. Within the scope of the project, 14 different professions are supported with business management training and materials. • Mr Kagan Akdogan provided the livelihood activities of Bonyan in Turkey. Bonyan implements Vocational Training Project, Cash for Work Project, and Opportunities Project. Active in Kilis, Gaziantep, Mardin and Şanlıurfa, Bonyan reaches to 11057 beneficiaries through 16 different projects. Bonyan provides vocational and educational courses on areas of business, non-profit sector, entrepreneurship, project management, supply chain and logistics, human resources, computer science and programing, languages for business, and digital marketing. These courses are provided by Coursera to beneficiaries. The cost of the courses is covered by Bonyan. To date, 440 beneficiaries benefitted from these courses. Bonyan also provides training for women and youth. Within the scope of youth empowerment in cooperation with Mardin Artuklu University, Bonyan reached to 500 beneficiaries through training on project management and financially supported 9 youth initiative projects. 	
<p>3: Updates on Entrepreneurship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LH Sector coordinator stated that one of the main priorities of 2019 is to focus on the demand side of the labour market and to engage with the private sector in both awareness raising and livelihood activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP requested the official numbers of work permissions and established businesses of Syrians from the Ministry and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting entrepreneurship, start-ups and formal job creations are the sub-components of this priority. The second component is to access to finance for both newly established ones and also the ones in the development phase. • As of October 2018, 6,264 permissions granted to Syrians to start their own businesses. In 2018 around 1,264 entrepreneurs started their businesses in the livelihood sector. • The entrepreneurship support includes registration support, macro-grants, in-kind-grants, training. • The challenges in front of entrepreneurs to establish their own business are listed as follows: Access to finance, Lack of knowledge of the market and business environment; No information on public incentives, and Mobility. • Under FRIT1 KOSGEB will start a project with €1,84 million in June and the project will be implemented in Ankara and Gaziantep. Under FRIT 2, KOSGEB will cooperate with KFW to provide financial support to SMEs. • Although the Syrians are allowed to open a bank account is not always possible and attitude changes on the province or bank branch applied which is an obstacle especially for businessman and entrepreneurs. 	<p>will share the figures once obtained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A separate focus-group discussion session may be held on entrepreneurship if needed. • A professional from KOSGEB will be invited to one of livelihood meetings in Gaziantep. • KOSGEB’s project presentation will be shared with participants.
<p>4: Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce- Syrian Desk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Arabo introduced the activities of the Syrian Desk of Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce (GCC) • Mr Arabo claimed that the number of registered Syrian businesses was 12 in 2011, and this number has increased to 1,900 in 2018. Syrian enterprises mainly function on sectors including food, textile, footwear, and general trading. • Mr Arabo stated that GCC updates information, launches new Arabic webpage, functions as an information center. • GCC provides training courses, organizes seminars and meetings, and pays business visits to Syrian enterprises. • GCC implements projects in partnership with UNHCR, GIZ, and EBRD. 	
<p>4: AOB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The livelihood meeting in June 2019 will be on gender. The gender-themed meeting will be organized with UN Women. The four themes which were discussed were women entrepreneurships, social innovation and cooperatives, active labor market policies, and child-care and women friendly facilities. • After the Gaziantep meeting on gender, recommendations for the sector will be prepared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before the meeting, an email will be sent to organizations as to which discussion groups they like to be included.

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