

Key Informants

Livelihood Working Group

Amman, Jordan

13.03.2017

Meeting Location	EMOPS Room UNHCR Khalda	Meeting Date	13.03.2017
Facilitator	Laura Buffoni (Coordinator) Emily Lewis (co-chair)	Meeting Time	9:00– 11:00
Minutes Prepared by	Rema'a Alawi UNHCR		

Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) ILO /MoL: work permits figures and current discussions 2) ILO Certification of Prior Learning programme 3) UNHCR on mobility from camps, forthcoming Syria conference 4) Updates by NGOs working on matching and other updates 	
ILO /MoL: work permits figures and current discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>MoL figures:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As of March 12th, Jordan MoL reports issuing 40,318 Syrians working legally (10% of the total of foreign workers with work permits). Work permits issued to Syrian workers by gender: women 1,949 (5%) and men 38,405 (95%). 80% of the women are working in the agriculture sector and obtained work permits through cooperatives. ○ Agriculture work permits issued by cooperatives are 14,126. In the agriculture sector, women constitute 13% of the formalized labor force. ○ Exemption to produce a health certificates in order to obtain a work permit will continue at least until April 2017- with the condition of the validity of an MOI card. ○ A decision is yet to be announced by the Prime Minister for further exemption for the grace period post April 2017 along with the health certificate. ○ Ministry of Labour has instructed all directorates in country to allow Syrians who have a residence in camp to obtain work permits. 	ACTION POINTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access the MoL/ILO presentation here.
ILO Certification of Prior Learning programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The objective of the programme is to facilitate to formalize work in the construction sector and to support Syrians certify pre-existing skills. • The certificate should allow for registration in Social Security and obtaining a work permit at a later stage without a direct employer – discussions with MoL are under way. There are two options: licencing a business through a municipality or having workers register in social security as “self-employed”. • Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To give the opportunity to 2600 beneficiaries of the project (Syrian and Jordanian) to work in the construction sector in Amman, Irbid, Zarqa and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access ILO’s methodology and full presentation here.

<p>Mafrq governorates to accredit their prior learning by accessing to CAQA (Center of Accreditation and Quality Assurance) Formal Skill Test;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a pilot model “methodology” for accrediting migrants’ prior learning where it can be adapted and applied in a similar condition elsewhere. ● Another idea that is being developed is for the ILO to establish a placement agency within the Contractor’s Association to match job seekers and contractors; this would allow with both Syrians and Jordanians to have better access to employment information. 	
<p>UNHCR on mobility from camps, forthcoming Syria conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mobility from camps and leave permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ministry of Labour has instructed all directorates in country to issue work permits to Syrians refugees who have a residence whenever requested; ○ At the moment, refugees have first to apply for a leave permit in order to leave the camp to go to work. UNHCR is working with SRAD on details for a mechanism that will help monitor the exit as well as use the work permit as a an authorization to leave. ○ After this mechanism is established, UNHCR and the ILO will set up an “employment office” staffed by agricultural cooperatives to regularize everyone working in the agriculture sector; after which employers in other sectors can use the employment centre for job fairs. ● The forthcoming Syria Conference will take place on 4-5 April in Brussels. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The conference will discuss: humanitarian access and response inside of Syria, supporting resilience to neighbouring countries; future support and political solutions. ○ Key messages are being discussed by donors and the UN system. 	
<p>Updates by NGOs working on matching and other updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>UNHCR:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Findings from meetings with employers in Sahab: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Employers in Sahab are short of work force in manufacturing; they have problems mobilizing enough Jordanians and are looking into Syrians as a pool of work force. ➤ It was found that there are a lot of jobs which are minimum salary, in factories with various productions. ➤ The discussions between garment sector and donors continue also on investments for satellite factories to be set up near the camps as a possibility which would reduce the working hours/transportation costs and would possibly attract more refugees to work in the sector. ○ ActivityInfo: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agencies listed within the Refugee component for the JRP are requested to and responsible for reporting on ActivityInfo on a monthly basis for monitoring purposes. ➤ Agencies who have not yet received funds, and therefore have not yet any data/numbers to report must enter “0”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agencies who are working in direct matching of jobs to contact sector chair to harmonize approaches/look into solutions. - Follow up will take place with agencies that do not report.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Indicating the number “0” is considered reporting. Agencies should not leave an empty entry. ○ Joint mission of UNHCR and DRC in Aqaba: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Purpose was to assess the possibility for DRC to establish a presence in Aqaba. ➤ UNHCR had discussions with Syrian investors in Aqaba for job opportunities; advocacy is to continue with ASEZA (Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority) to open some opportunities for Syrians to work in spite of unemployment concerns. ○ 162 000 text messages were sent to refugees. This was in order to remind refugees of the deadline for the grace period. A new round will be sent soon. ○ Decentralization for Livelihoods coordination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ UNHCR and DRC chair/co-chair the Livelihoods and basic needs meeting in Azraq Camp. ➤ UNHCR and Acted chair/co-chair the Livelihoods and basic needs meeting in Za’atari Camp. ➤ UNHCR Irbid Field Office is working on Livelihoods in the north. ○ Livelihoods Working Group meeting to return to its traditional date/time; first Thursday of each month at 9:00-11:00. ○ All agencies agreed that there is a need to have a more harmonized approach to matching and especially to data management; ○ ILO pilot on e-training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ ILO is piloting an e-training course for Syrian refugees on labour rights, social security and work permits procedures as well as occupational safety and health. Access to the course will be through mobile phones. Pilot target is 500 Syrians. ● <u>IRC:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ IRC to establish an employment hub for job matching. Location is still not identified. ○ IRC is piloting different models to target different challenges that IRC has found through a survey. ○ Challenges found are child care for women and transportation for men. IRC will address these two challenges through possibly providing incentives for child care and transportation. ○ Increasing women’s participation in the workforce is a priority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concept note to be sent at a later date. - LWG meetings will have a brief regarding matching at every meeting. <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>
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Next meeting date:
April 6th 2017 9:00-11:00

Next Meeting Agenda:

- 1) Updates from MoL/ILO
- 2) Small based Businesses project in Mafraq

Participants/ Contacts

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