**Working Group on Livelihoods** Minutes – 13th June 2018 – Beirut

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| **Meeting** | | | |
| **Name** | Working Group on Livelihoods meeting | **Meeting Date** | 13/06/2018 |
| **Meeting Location** | MoSA-7th floor | **Meeting Time** | 10.00 |
| **Chair person** | Tom Thorogood -UNDP | **Meeting Duration** | 1 hours |
| **Minutes Prepared by** | Hiba Douaihy |  |  |
| **Agenda** | 1. Welcome 2. Presentation from Inspection Unit of the MoL (Ministry Of Labour)- Dr. Ghassan Aawar 3. Presentation by Oxfam on Decent Work Conditions Workshop-Recommendations 4. AOB | | |

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| **1** | **Welcome and Introduction** |
|  | Tom Thorogood welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. |
| **2** | 1. **Presentation from Inspection Unit of the MoL (Ministry Of Labour)- Dr. Ghassan Aawar** |
|  | **Main topics covered:**   * The current approach of MOL to Occupational Safety and Health * Divisions/organigram * Legal & institutional framework of OSH:  1. Labor Legislation in Lebanon 2. Role of OSH inspectors: incl child labor in Lebanon monitoring according to - Conventions and Legislation (minimum age )  * Future expectations and Plans   **Discussion:**   * There are no figures on the number of inspections done per year * Inspections are done  1. Periodically - by sector (ie: dairy production, carpentry …etc) or by region 2. On emergency terms (when MoL receives a report on the need for inspection at a specific work place) (ie: a lift dropped in a company X)  * How does MoL implement?   All depends on the type of violation, it is either a verbal warning, a written warning or a penalty (financial).   * Exemptions:   OSH does not cover:   1. Domestic helpers 2. Public sector workers 3. Family Business 4. Agriculture sector worker/staff   In this case MoL only does awareness campaigns, yet MoL has no authority over it.   * OSH cannot differentiate between cohorts, ie: it applies the rules and regulations equally on everyone. |
| **3** | **Presentation by Oxfam on Decent Work Conditions Workshop-Recommendations** |
|  | * Briefing on the 1st of March 2018 workshop on “Decent Working Conditions” organized by the LEADERS Consortium and attended by about 40 participants representing Lebanese Ministries, UN, INGOS, NGOs, syndicates, and private sector representatives as well as external experts. * Decent Working Conditions workshop aimed at  1. Increasing attendees’ knowledge on issues and existing policy and frameworks related to **child labor, working conditions, market informality and Occupational Health and Safety.** 2. Facilitating **networking, exchange of experience, lessons learned, challenges and recommendations** between partners and relevant stakeholders 3. Providing a platform to **assess sector needs** and **formulate guidelines consolidating how to further promote decent work conditions and rights through livelihoods programming**. 4. Strengthening existing linkages between sector partners and key governmental and private sector stakeholders and identify opportunities for future collaboration.  * The recommendation that came up by the three working groups (divided by technical themes Child labor, OSH and Informality) were narrowed down to three were brought up at the working group meeting because of their immediate relevance of the work of the sector.   Recommendations were sorted by time line (short medium long term), targeted stakeholders, and change agents, targeted level of socio-political change.   * + - 1. Awareness raising: labor rights, employer-employee dialogue, access to redress       2. Monitoring and documenting of cases       3. Knowledge production   Ideally it would be important to see in the longer term is having some of these ideas integrated into advocacy actions that partners in or outside the LCRP integrate in their work.   * Oxfam can have discussions on what partners would like to address or allow them liaise with other NGOs.   Discussion:   * Are there any plans to work on best practices?   Oxfam can invite partners to share best practices (especially after having such conversation going on at the workshop) by different actors as first step.   * FAO would like to work more with Oxfam. FAO is interested in knowing what did they come up with on informality as topic. Child labor and OSH were more easy to tackle given the nature of the topic (as people have different perception of what informality is and difference between informality and legality), however a detailed briefing on formality could be provided later. In the case of the informality topic there needs to be a more structured dialogue especially because of the legal side for Oxfam is not In a position of advising on that. * As per ILO, 3 priorities were identified, however we need to keep in mind that descent work is a whole. We must keep in mind all the international labor standards into Descent work, when we speak about formalities or informalities and working conditions, we identify the minimum working conditions that need to apply in any project when it comes to working hours, level of pay, discrimination at the work place. These guidelines need to be shared with Employers as well as employees. * On the Guidelines/best practice from the workshop: Organizers will be continuing their efforts on that. It is a matter of time or logistics. The session on best practices would be an intermediary/preparatory step for that. * On the way forward:   The organizers are looking for the right time to reach out to the different actors for each of the topic they are specialized in, without overwhelming the actors with excessive consultation.   * Will it be possible to come up with a 2 pages document; ie on child labor. * The child protection working group has already issued a 2 page document which can be shared with the LH WG. * FAO is ready to provide recommendations on child labor in Agriculture. |