

Livelihood Working Group

Amman, Jordan

21.03.2019

Meeting Location	EMOPS Room UNHCR Khalda	Meeting Date	21.03.2019
Facilitator	Najwan Aldorgham (UNHCR) Suzanne Elder (DRC)	Meeting Time	09:00–11:00
Minutes Prepared by	(UNHCR)		

Agenda:

1. Updates on Syrians formal employment
2. JIF HBB Initial Analysis / Jordan iNGO Forum
3. Updates on MOPIC meeting with Syrian HBB interventions providers / UNHCR on behalf of MOPIC
4. Service Advisor, 2nd session, and Q&A / UNHCR
5. Financial Inclusion: Technical Assistance to support microfinance providers in the region, an EIB funded project / International Frankfurt School
6. AOB: Feedback about Brussels Conference

Updates on work permits figures:

The following data, from the Syrian Refugee Unit Work Permit Progress Report; February 2019:

	Total permits JAN 1. 2016 – FEB 28. 2019		Total permits JAN 1. 2018- DEC 31. 2019		FEB 2019	
Male	129,314	95.5%	43,591	95%	2,852	94%
Female	6,072	4.5%	2,058	5%	194	6%
Total	135,386	100%	45,649	100%	3,046	100%

Access to MoL figures [here](#)

JIF: HBB Initial Analysis/ Jordan iNGO Forum

- A report/ brainstorming session at JIF informal working group discussing possible consequences on HBB policy changes.
- HBB-related policy changes are a great tool for women economic empowerment. It is expected to cause gender balance in the work force and boost Syrian women contribution to it.
- Women that participated in HBB projects reported positive impact on their household.
- HBBs have reported to further increase stability, protection, and self-reliance and decrease vulnerability and negative coping mechanisms.
- Prior to the decision last year, HBBs were not the primary source of revenues, rather, complementary. Unlike now.
- Remaining challenges:
 - Formalizing HBBs
 - Landlords refusal to grant permissions to establish a HBB
 - Some properties are not registered
 - Registration and licencing remains expensive
 - For food processing, homes sometimes do not pass the inspection phase.

Unavailable from JIF yet

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some NGOs reported harassment and discrimination towards women setting up their businesses ○ The application, in real life, of the policy changes for HBB remains difficult. i.e. not all governmental officials in the different municipalities will know how to act with these policy changes. ● Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordination and efficiency overall. It is important to harmonize the support we provide to HBBs. This will help avoid beneficiaries doing “NGO shopping” and avoid competitions between NGOs. ○ Try and create a system that avoids duplication of services and training from service providers to beneficiaries ○ Technical and NGO support to HBBs has to be market driven and matches the demands of the market ○ Work on diversifying the types of businesses to avoid saturation of the market system ○ Promote the benefits of social security registration. Raise awareness on what it is and what are their benefits ○ Implementing and monitoring the registration processes of HBB ○ Document all the challenges, problems and difficulties faced by NGOs in anything relating to HBB support. This ensures everyone learns from each other’s mistakes ○ Recommendation to continue tracking the approval process. ○ Encourage donors to push for legalization of HBB through grants ○ Encourage governments to ensure smooth application and build capacity of governmental officials ○ Temporary waiver for fees of HBB ○ When supporting with HBBs, we need to make sure having a HBB will not cause increased domestic responsibilities for women. ○ Ensure HBBs are linked to the local market and networking support for women making sure that HBBs are based in home are not cutting any socialising for women entrepreneurs. ○ Avoid, mainly in camps, gender based HBBs and to try and make sure HBB are always supported by the demand of the market ○ Push the GoJ to develop a comprehensive strategy for women empowerment that tackles the underlying issues stopping women from working in Jordan 	
<p>MoPIC & UNHCR: Updates on HBB intervention meeting and task creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A round table meeting was held with NGOs, MoPIC and UNHCR relating to HBBs. ● Main objective was to discuss the need, by MoPIC, P4R, to have 100 HBBs registered before the end of 2019. ● As discussed earlier, HBBs ensure a form of women empowerment in the labour market. This coincides with MoPIC’s intentions and other humanitarian agencies, to empower women by aiming to register at least 100 HBBs by 2019 ● Dr. Eman Issa of MoPIC, requested this meeting to discuss any measures that MoPIC needs to do to achieve their target. Mentioned, awareness sessions, or any relaxation measures regarding registration and licencing. ● She welcomed all ideas, however, was aware that agencies had their concerns on how can easing licencing and registration be formulated. 	

<p>UNHCR: Services Advisor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation by UNHCR livelihoods unit on Services Advisor, a service mapping platform for all service providers in Jordan accessed by all beneficiaries in Jordan (refugees and host communities) 	<p>Access to Services Advisor presentation here</p>
<p>Frankfurt School & EIB: Technical assistance to support microfinance providers in the region (financial inclusion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A financial inclusion and capacity building organizations aiming to train people to better serve refugees. • They offer both financial and non-financial services component • Done through increasing current capacity to upgrade businesses • Looking to develop a 3 year plan on the regional level, starting however with only Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine. 	
<p>AOB: Brussels update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brussels conference was focused on Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey • Other panels discussed Syria • MoPIC participated in this panel discussion • Main points discussed were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opening further the labour market to Syrian refugees especially to Syrian refugee women. ○ The importance to continue providing services to Syrian refugees to ensure their self-reliance ○ For the government of Jordan to transition from humanitarian to a development approach leaving no one behind ○ MoPIC further announced their interest in not pushing refugees to return. ○ That Jordan is facing an economic crisis ○ Youth were advocated for throughout the conference ○ Women economic empowerment was voiced by Syrian women ○ Jordan did not commit to new things since last year. 	<p>For public info:</p> <p>https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/03/14/brussels-iii-conference-on-supporting-the-future-of-syria-and-the-region-co-chairs-declaration/</p>
<p>Other updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
<p>Next meeting date: April 18th. 2019</p> <p>Next Meeting Agenda:</p>	

Attendees of the LWG – 21 st March 2019		
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