The ‘Local Government Expertise for the Middle East´ Initiative

Peer-to-peer learning workshop for communities hosting refugees

Amman, 31 May 2016

Wencke Müller, Project Manager, Engagement Global
The Service Agency Communities in One World

- Is a department of **Engagement Global (EG)**, the central contact agency in Germany for development policy initiatives, both at a national and international level. EG unites under its roof institutions, initiatives and support programmes of developmental work.

- **Informs, advises, links, supports, qualifies and motivates** German municipalities and local actors to participate in development activities.

- Has been available for communities as service and consulting agency since 2001.

- Works on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and is funded by the BMZ, as well as several federal states in Germany.
Our areas of action

• Local sustainable development
• Fair trade and fair procurement at the local level
• Migration and development at the local level
• Municipal partnerships and international municipal links for development
„One World Begins at Home“
The ´Local Government Expertise for the Middle East´ Initiative: Background

• The sudden influx of large numbers of refugees from Syria create massive challenges for hosting municipalities

• Ongoing bi-/multilateral programmes to develop municipal infrastructure or support host communities will be complemented by a municipal-level cooperation and capacity development approach

• Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development has launched the programme to promote cooperation between host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, and partner municipalities in Germany

• Joint implementation by the Service Agency and ´Connective Cities´ – the International Community of Practice for Sustainable Urban Development
The ´Local Government Expertise for the Middle East´ Initiative: **Objective**

- Support German municipalities in their engagement for development in the Jordanian, Lebanese and Turkish host communities
- Promotion of *municipal knowledge and know-how transfer*
- Help rebuild the capacity of local governments in Syria
The ´Local Government Expertise for the Middle East´ Initiative: **Instruments**

1) **Partner country component**
   - Community of Practice for Local Government (**multilateral**; Connective Cities)
   - Pool of Experts (**multilateral**; Connective Cities)
   - Municipal Project Partnerships (**bilateral**; Service Agency)

2) **Germany component**
   - Training of Refugees in German Municipalities (Service Agency)
The ´Local Government Expertise for the Middle East´ Initiative: **Current status and next steps**

- Project Design
- Needs assessment
- Development of an Online portal (German, English, Arabic, Turkish)
- Identification of partners and mobilization of municipalities/municipal experts
- Official launch of the initiative: July 2016
Thank you!

ENGAGEMENT GLOBAL gGmbH
Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen
Service Agency Communities in One World
Tulpenfeld 7, 53113 Bonn

Wencke Müller
wencke.mueller@engagement-global.de
Phone +49 228 20717-621