Main topics discussed

- The different pressures faced by the community and the government due to the Syrian refugee crisis including mainly infrastructure and issues of employment.
- Labor market versus regulations.
- Jobs for locals versus Syrians.
- Expanding investment opportunities in different sectors to enhance employment for both locals and refugees.
- Shifting informal employment to formal decent work as 99% of refugees are working in the informal sector.
- What is the role of municipalities in enhancing employment of both locals and refugees?
- Strategies versus implementation and requirements for implementation.

Best practices

- Expand studies on numbers needed to advise policy makers.
- Draft local development and economic strategies for governorates and municipalities such as Mafraq in addition to identifying investment opportunities for the same governorate.
- Professional training centers in Turkey to raise capacities of municipalities in SWM and enhancing employment. Work was done in collaboration with different stakeholders such as chambers of commerce.
- Agriculture employment initiatives through the ILO program which supported decent jobs for both locals and refugees
- Building on opportunities in hosting governorates such as supporting Syrian investors to grow and employ mostly Jordanians
- Facilitating obtaining work permits for refugees.
- Working with municipalities and communities gives better results
- Detailed and comprehensive follow-up ensures success

**Recommendations**

- Allocate funding
- Enhance capacities and skills within municipalities and job seekers
- Increase investment and expand markets
- Formalizing the informal sectors
- Create decent jobs
- Increase studies and enhance knowledge on refugees to better make decisions
- Working with the coops and local communities to support refugee employment
- Identify opportunities within the governorate will support the development process
- Enhancing and utilizing Economic Developmental Zones for supporting different development tasks such as employment support and enhancing investment
- Support transferring knowledge of refugees to locals and benefiting from their skills
- Duplicate successful projects and best practices in hosting countries

**Upcoming Initiatives**

- WB and AFD initiative to enhance local development to be launched which will support investment