



Supporting employment for youth, women and vulnerable displaced populations : lessons learned from Lebanon

« Maharat Li Loubnan »: project presentation

Fighting unemployment of vulnerable low qualified youth

• Our objective:

- ✓ Building the professional and personal skills of youth to allow them to enter job market

• Our target:

- ✓ School drop-outs and vulnerable youth (including refugees), encouraging women
- ✓ Aged 15 to 25 (35 for health care trainings)
- ✓ Motivated to work

• Trainings in electricity, AC maintenance, plumbing, health care, hospitality... **implemented all over Lebanon** (4 regions: North, Beqaa, Beirut/Mount Lebanon & South)

• With very positive results

- ✓ From 2017 to 2019, 1,346 youth trained and certified
- ✓ Of whom 48% are women, 31% are Syrian
- ✓ Positive exit rate after 6 months : 69% (60% are working, 9% are studying)
- ✓ 22% have a stable full-time paid job



Collaborating with municipalities for project implementation: some successful partnerships

- Since the beginning of the project, IECD teams have met municipalities requesting for **assistance in the different stages of project implementation**
 - ✓ Raising awareness and visibility of the project and recruitment assistance
 - ✓ Providing room or a center for the trainings' classes
 - ✓ Assistance in beneficiaries' placement and finding job opportunities
- **Some fruitful partnerships**
 - ✓ 5 MOU signed with Tripoli and Halba in the North; Saadnayel, Majdel Anjar & Mansoura in Beqaa
 - ✓ Tripoli: longstanding partnership with the municipality (since 2013), which provides a center for technical trainings and a location for the graduation ceremonies. A member of the municipality is always present at the ceremonies
 - ✓ Easier collaboration with municipalities in rural areas which appeared to be more cooperative
 - ✓ Main assistance in outreach referring youth in need of a training to IECD
 - ✓ Municipalities providing internship opportunities for trainees and contacting them for maintenance works (*AC maintenance of municipality building for example*)
 - ✓ Helping on identifying job opportunities in the area thanks to their network

However, some difficulties encountered

- Collaboration with municipalities could be more fruitful. Still low number of partnerships
- Teams sometimes facing low cooperation
 - ✓ No location for trainings implementation or in need of costly refurbishment
 - ✓ No help on outreach: municipalities refusing to promote the project
 - ✓ Some municipalities agree only on implementing trainings for Lebanese refusing to have refugees



Recommandations to municipalities

- **More cooperation** from municipalities would be beneficial to the project: assistance in outreach and support for job placement would be needed
- The **identification of a Focal Point** in the municipality who would be in charge of relations with NGOs could be useful. Thus, municipalities could play a role in coordination NGOs initiatives and in promoting complementary actions.
- Municipalities should have **monitoring tools, statistics or databases** on their vulnerable (host or refugee) populations, this type of data would be very useful for the implementation of projects such as MLL. Municipalities could have lists of potential beneficiaries to share with NGOs.
- **More cooperation between the municipalities and the MOSA centers** would be beneficial. IECD works with one or the other depending on the region but there is no cooperation.
- Municipalities have a role to play in **reducing community tensions**. It is in their interest to promote projects targeting host and refugee populations, as having a mixed target within the trainings helps to reduce tensions between communities.

