

Jan 2021

Livelihoods and Economic Empowerment Working Group

Jordan

Terms of Reference

Background

1. The Global Compact for Refugees (GCR), signed December 2018, and the Jordan Compact signed February 2016 at the London Conference, both show international commitment to refugee self-reliance.
2. The Jordan compact specifically sets goals for economic opportunities that will support refugees and the host communities supporting them. Through this compact the Government of Jordan committed to providing livelihoods opportunities to Syrian refugees.
3. In February 2016, the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) established the Livelihoods Working Group (LWG), aimed at strengthening operational coordination among agencies supporting Syrian refugees in Jordan with livelihoods interventions in both urban and camps settings.

Objectives

The Livelihoods Working Group aims to:

4. Share information, good practices and research on livelihoods projects and economic inclusion opportunities available to refugees living in Jordan, with the aim of mainstreaming interventions under the Jordan Response Plan for the Syrian Crisis (JRP) as well as the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP).
5. Map livelihood projects under the refugee component of the JRP through the ActivityInfo database and the Service Advisor platform.
6. Improve the identification of beneficiaries and targeting for livelihoods interventions relying on refugee data sets existing at UNHCR and information provided by the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF), labour market studies and socio-economic analysis conducted in Jordan.
7. Promote referrals and ensure complementarity of interventions amongst agencies, NGOs and other organizations supporting the implementation of livelihoods interventions in Jordan.
8. Ensure adequate targeting of host communities and ensure that targeting promotes coexistence and social cohesion amongst host and refugee communities.
9. Function as the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) reference for urban and camp level livelihoods coordination structures in developing specific guidelines and initiatives for livelihood programming.

10. Guide, support and facilitate planning for the inter-agency appeals for the refugee component of the JRP/3RP.
11. Support and create synergies with the JRP Economic Empowerment- Livelihoods sub sector led by the Ministry of Labour.
12. Monitor and evaluate implementation of livelihoods projects under the refugee component of the JRP/3RP; ensuring support to the inter-agency appeal reporting facilitated by the Inter Sector Coordination Unit (ISCU).
13. Consult on and align communication with refugee communities on issues linked to access to legal employment.
14. Discuss and develop advocacy strategies.
15. Collaborate with the Basic Needs sector to bridge the needs of both humanitarian and development actions, the Education sector to promote vocational training that leads to employment, and the Protection sector.

Methodology

4. The Livelihood Working Group is co-chaired by the UNHCR and an NGO. The NGO co-chair is elected on annual basis to ensure rotation.
5. Membership of the Livelihoods Working Group is open to operational actors interested in coordinating livelihoods activities impacting Syrian refugees in Jordan. This includes international organizations, UN agencies, representatives of relevant line Ministries, donors, research entities, civil society and private sector actors.
6. The group will meet on a monthly basis. Minutes of the meetings will be circulated and posted on the UNHCR data portal.

Responsibilities of the members

7. Participate regularly at working group meetings, to the degree possible by the same individual(s) and with an appropriate level of technical knowledge.
8. Engage fully and in a timely manner with standard planning and reporting processes, including responding within 72 hours to queries and adhering to standards.
9. Disseminate the information, guidance, decisions and tools developed in the Working Group within their organizations.
10. Proactively share best practices and findings from assessments, monitoring and evaluations.
11. Ensure structured handover in case they are replaced as focal points by their organizations.
12. All members agree to apply the 2007 Principles of Partnership (Equality, Transparency, Results Oriented, Responsibility and Complementarity) and work together to promote and integrate the “do no harm” principle in their humanitarian response.

Responsibilities of the co-chairs

13. Organize and chair the Livelihoods Working Group meetings, facilitate inclusive discussions, and promote coordination amongst partners.
14. Ensure that Livelihoods sector response plans, annual sector work plans and strategies are gender responsive.
15. Nominate and select a Sector Gender Focal Point (SGFP) to represent the Livelihoods Sector in response to the call for nominations as needed, according to seniority, gender expertise, and agreement to minimum of a one-year commitment. As part of the nominating process, the co-chairs will seek the endorsement of the nominee's organizational supervisor and the organisation's commitment to dedicating a percentage of the nominee's time for this purpose. The Sector Gender Focal Points Network (SGFPN) is expected to contribute to and ensure the implementation of a gender-responsive humanitarian response.
16. Act as focal point for inquiries on the Livelihoods sector, keeping abreast of information on policy shifts, provide technical support to livelihoods planning and support members in accessing funding opportunities.
17. Act as an entry point to the LWG for purposes such as coordinated planning and reporting on the JRP or other ad hoc appeals if required
18. Create taskforces and/or subgroups as needed, ensure decisions are taken in a participatory way and follow up on key decisions and action points.
19. Promote synergies with other actors active in complementary sectors (regarding Basic Needs, Education, and Protection).
20. Promote the integration of UNHCR's Gender, Age and Disability (AGDs) and IASC Gender with Age Marker into discussions, planning, implementation and monitoring.
21. Represent the LWG in various fora especially in the JRP and represent the sector within the Inter-Sector Working Group meetings as well as in other humanitarian fora/platforms.