

Decent Work Across the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus in the Arab Region A collaboration between the ILO and the Nexus Academy

Wednesday, September 11th 2024, 10:30-12:30

Session 2.2 – From Cash-for-Work to Employment Policies: How to move to a more sustainable approach to cash-for-work with the HDP Nexus?

Objectives of the session:

To promote the integration of elements of decent work in existing Cash-for-work interventions to bring the following changes:

- Identify the factors/elements that facilitate the shift towards sustainable employment to support longer-term development priorities,
- Introduce decent work principles and actions such as support to social protection, improved productivity and skills, application of decent work provisions and occupational safety and health, and gender inclusion practices,
- Engage private-sector contractors involved in CfW implementation and support social constituents to adhere to the international labour standards and to better cope with the crisis and ensure their business continuity.
- Identify areas of convergence in both humanitarian and developmental frameworks in terms of key indicators.

Expected Outcome: Two to three SMART DW principles and/or actions that can be taken up by workshop participants regarding Cash-for-work interventions by adopting an HDPN approach in the region.

Session details:

11:15 – 11:30 Explanation of Group work - Participants will be divided into groups designated by professional affiliation e.g. humanitarians, development actors, Government, social partners, funding partners, etc. They will be assigned 3 out of 4 questions.

11:30 – 12:20 Work in Breakout Groups - The groups will be asked to discuss three of the four questions:

1. Definition

- How do you define cash for work, and when is cash for work an effective tool in fragile contexts?
- Which elements are substantially different between cash for work and employment?
- Is it beneficial to consider long-term employment impacts of cash for work? If so, how?

2. Transition

- What are the main challenges in implementing EIIP and CfW programs in fragile or conflict-affected settings, and how can these be overcome?
- How can EIIP and CfW programs be integrated to ensure a seamless transition from humanitarian aid to sustainable development?
- What evidence exists that demonstrates the effectiveness or not of EIIP and CfW in contributing to peace and stability in conflict-affected regions?

3. Collaboration and Partnerships

- What roles do local governments, NGOs, and the private sector play in the successful implementation of EIIP and CfW programs within the HDPN context? How can these partnerships improve/strengthen CfW operations with a DW dimension?

4. Local Ownership and Sustainability

- How can EIIP and CfW programs be designed to foster local ownership and ensure long-term sustainability beyond the immediate humanitarian needs?
- In what ways can these programs be tailored to enhance local capacity building and community resilience and ensure inclusive participation by marginalized groups as part of the HDPN strategy?

5. Exit Strategies

- What are some of the exit strategies that need to be in place to maintain development gains and, where possible, expand on them?
- What are the best outcomes of CfW programmes?
- How should exit strategies be adapted to account for the unique political, economic, and social challenges in the Arab States region?