



► Employment Intensive Investment Program Arab states Lessons Learnt and Ways Forward

► Background

“The ILO’s Employment Intensive Infrastructure Programme (EIIP) is a tried and tested programme addressing the immediate need for employment creation while laying the ground for longer-term sustainable recovery. In more ways than one, the EIIP has become ILO’s entry point in post-conflict and post-disaster situations, laying the ground for an ILO presence and operational footprint in situations that are typically dominated by humanitarian agencies.

The evolution of the EIIP in the Arab region and in each country including Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen has been at the heart of the humanitarian-development-peace nexus since it additionally aims at providing public infrastructure and services that support longer-term social, environmental, and economic development.

As the ILO Arab States’ work advances and EIIP programmes are rolled out, a transformative vision is required to facilitate the institutionalisation and scaling up, where appropriate and possible”.

ILO achievements in numbers - Employment-Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) interventions in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Yemen and occupied Palestinian territory 2023



Total number of Working days since 2016
2,657,269

Total number of Working Days (2023)
297,496



Number of workers by gender and nationality **51,461**

Host Community **25,782** | Syrians **25,699** | Female **11,651** | PWD **1.373**



Number of capacity building trainings workshops etc **54**



Number of individuals who have benefited from training opportunities (skills) 2023 **444**

► Publications

ILO's support to Syrian refugees and host communities

Decent work and social justice are essential elements of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus where employment, decent working conditions and social dialogue can contribute to peace and resilience.

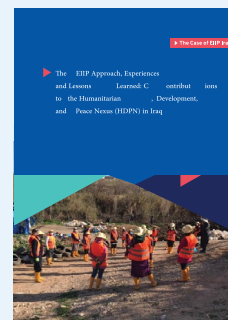
Within the framework of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), the ILO continues to implement a development-focused and employment-driven response, in a conflict-sensitive manner. In doing so, the ILO programmes and projects can contribute to peace by providing concrete decent work opportunities; increasing social cohesion; and reducing (real or perceived) grievances and sense of injustice.

The ILO's work is grounded in the Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work and the Guiding Principles on the Access of Refugees and other Forcibly Displaced Persons to the Labour Market, as well as on Recommendation No. 205 on Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience.



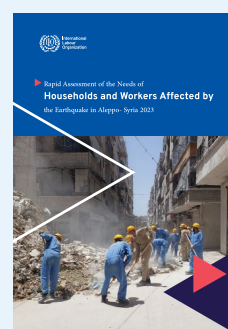
EIIP Approach, Experiences and Lessons Learned: Contributions to the Humanitarian, Development, and Peace Nexus (HDPN) in Iraq

In 2020, under the framework of the Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP), the ILO began implementation of the employment intensive investment (EII) approach in Iraq, as a key approach in meeting both humanitarian and development needs by working simultaneously across four dimensions: direct implementation, productive partnerships, Institutional capacity, and policy support.



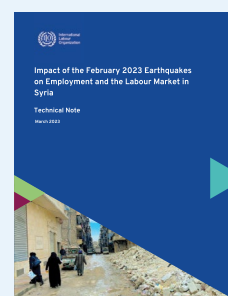
Rapid Assessment of the Needs of Households and Workers Affected by the Earthquake in Aleppo- Syria 2023

This report aims to better understand the needs of households and workers affected by the February 2023 earthquake which struck the Syrian city of Aleppo, parts of which were severely damaged.



Impact of the February 2023 Earthquakes on Employment and the Labour Market in Syria

This note seeks to estimate the effect of the recent earthquakes on the employment and livelihoods sector in the affected areas in Syria and aims to understand the current situation and identify areas of need that require immediate action in order to support quick and inclusive recovery.



Success Stories

Preserving Heritage, Empowering Communities: ILO and UNESCO Collaborate in Jordan

Join the ILO and UNESCO in northern Jordan as they create opportunities, preserve heritage sites, and empower communities through their collaboration with the EU's Madad project.



Celebrating green jobs and decent work in Jordan on International Labour Day

On Labour Day, an ILO Employment Intensive Infrastructure Project in Jordan is celebrating the implementation of a special green agricultural technology that the Ministry of Agriculture is using for the National Afforestation Plan.



ILO set to implement emergency employment scheme in earthquake-damaged neighbourhoods in Aleppo, Syria

A team of ILO engineers conducted an assessment in the Syrian city of Aleppo, parts of which were severely damaged by the earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria, to identify priorities under an emergency employment scheme to help restore livelihoods and rehabilitate destroyed infrastructure.



Employment Intensive Approaches create decent jobs in cultural heritage development

A joint ILO/EU/UNESCO project is supporting the conservation and rehabilitation of cultural heritage at the World Heritage Site of the Erbil Citadel. The ILO is applying Employment Intensive Investment Programme (EIIP) approaches to create decent jobs for around 1,000 workers. In addition, the ILO through EIIP approaches will facilitate the recognition of skills for 40 workers in three different occupations related to the conservation of historical sites. EIIP Technical Officer Bashar Elsamarneh explains.



Success Stories

ILO EIIP Lebanon has been shortlisted for the prestigious UN Sustainable Procurement Project of the Year Award 2023.

This recognition highlights the programme's transparent procurement practices and its contribution to sustainable infrastructure solutions in Lebanon. By creating employment opportunities and low-maintenance assets, the programme aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Tahani Obeidat, a dedicated and determined individual, faced significant challenges in finding a decent job opportunity due to her visual disability. Despite her eagerness to work, she encountered closed doors and barriers in the job market. It was a frustrating and disheartening experience for Tahani, who yearned for an opportunity to showcase her abilities and contribute meaningfully to society.

However, Tahani's journey took a transformative turn when she was introduced to the EIIP Project. From the moment she joined, Tahani felt a sense of belonging and empowerment that she had never experienced before. The project not only recognized her potential but also provided her with the necessary support and accommodations to thrive in the workplace.

One of the most significant aspects of Tahani's journey with the EIIP Project is the opportunity it afforded her to earn a decent wage and support herself and her family. This opportunity was life-changing for Tahani, as it not only provided her with financial stability but also a sense of purpose and fulfillment that she had longed for.

Working with the EIIP Project has allowed Tahani to contribute meaningfully to society based on her abilities, rather than being limited by her disability. The project's commitment to inclusivity and diversity has created a supportive environment where Tahani can excel and make a positive impact on her community.

Tahani's success story is a testament to the transformative power of initiatives like the EIIP Project, which recognize the talents of individuals with disabilities and provide them with the opportunities they deserve. Her journey serves as inspiration for others facing similar challenges, demonstrating that with the right support and opportunities, individuals with disabilities can achieve remarkable success and contribute meaningfully to the workforce and society as a whole.



Success Stories

EIIP and Skills: Skills Training and Certification for workers and technicians on Employment Intensive Approaches in Cultural Heritage Development

ILO and the **Erbil Polytechnic University (EPU)** partnered to develop local skills in **Employment Intensive methods** for technicians and workers in cultural heritage development.

The collaboration is part of the on-going project “Support to livelihoods through cultural heritage development” being implemented by ILO and **UNESCO** in coordination with the **General Board of Tourism** and the **General Directorate of Antiquities** in the Kurdistan region of Iraq.

The partnership required the development of technical manuals and guidelines to implement the certification programme and support the recognition of acquired skills for future assignments in the cultural heritage sector. Accordingly, a **EIIP trainer guide** was recently developed by ILO to inform selected instructors on how to plan, arrange, conduct, and certify skills development training for artisans involved in EI works on cultural heritage conservation sites.

The training mainly focused on **stone paving, stone walls construction, clay bricks building, gabion construction**, as well as skills related to tour guides. The ILO built the capacities of trainers from EPU to implement the skills training programmes and monitor their training activities.

Trainers implemented the training programme with skilled workers and technicians working in historical site conservations in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. **90 trainees** obtained accredited certificate after passing the competency assessments at the end of the training module composed of a total of 35 hours.



Trade Union Engagement at EIIP Sites

ILO and trade union partners together to **promote and integrate DW principles at the EIIP sites**. The model of this **practical engagement** of the TU is established on the following tasks:

1. Conduct **awareness raising sessions** for workers at the EIIP workplaces, according to agreed topics with the ILO.
2. Conduct regular **monitoring visits** to the sites of projects, and report on working conditions according to agreed-upon indicators and templates.
3. Manage the **complaint mechanism** of the projects and follow up any issues.
4. Elect and empower representatives of workers at the EIIP sites to enable workers defend their rights through systematic channels.

Cultural preservation and decent work at Erbil's Citadel

The ILO and UNESCO, with the support of the European Union, are working together to restore, preserve and promote cultural heritage at the World Heritage Site of the Erbil Citadel, while promoting decent work through employment-intensive approaches. This includes working closely with the Kurdistan United Workers Union to empower workers to address their needs and rights through workers representatives at construction sites.



► Annex 1: ILO achievements per country/CPOs

Indicators		Lebanon	Iraq	Jordan	Yemen	OPT	Syria
Number of decent worker days 2023		134,569	38,510	99,962	0	0	24,455
Total number of decent worker days since 2016		862,152	7,8376	1,692,286	0	0	24,455
Number of workers by sex and nationality since start of EIIP	Host Community	10,600	1,243	13,939	0	0	0
	Syrians	11,533	533	12,970	0	0	663
	Female	4,620	249	6,723	0	0	59
	PWD	237	36	1,086	0	0	14
Number of capacity building trainings workshops etc		2	26	19	5	2	7
Number of beneficiaries who benifited from capacity building programs		90	259	0	50	30	95
Number of government officials who benifited from capacity building programs		0	62	404	0	0	155