



## **The ILO Technical Cooperation Programme in Yemen**

Since March 2015, Yemen is experiencing a protracted crisis with an estimated 80% of its population being currently in need of humanitarian assistance. Livelihoods have been profoundly disrupted with mass scale unemployment and closure of businesses due to insecurity and the imposed economic blockade that limited vital commercial imports and exports.

The persistent turmoil in Yemen over the last 5 years, and specifically the 2015-armed conflict, both have contributed to an interrupted labour market and the accumulated skills and capital is deteriorated, or lost forever due to the protracted conflict. Moreover, these settings are causing psycho-social effects with long-term impact for themselves, their families and the entire society security and stability.

The ILO in Yemen is collaborating with the United Nations Development Programme and has been instrumental in developing the UN policy for post conflict employment creation, income generation and reintegration.

The ILO has three staff in Yemen; in addition, specialists from the Regional Office for Arab States in Beirut and HQ in Geneva conduct short term assignments.

### **Crisis response**

#### **Preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment (DNA)**

The ILO in collaboration with the World Bank, the United Nations, the European Union and the Islamic Development Bank is preparing a dynamic in-crisis preliminary Damage and Needs Assessment (DNA) that quantifies the impacts of the on-going crisis on critical infrastructure, physical assets and service delivery across key sectors in Yemen. The impact of the crisis on livelihoods and the economy of the country will also be assessed.

The ILO will contribute to the 2nd consolidated preliminary DNA report, by preparing a rapid assessment of the crisis impact on employment in Sana'a, Aden and Taiz, based on rapid surveys conducted with samples extracted from the 2013/14 Labour Force Survey. The rapid assessment will focus specifically on (a) impact of the crisis on employment status, (b) vulnerability profiles, (c) coping strategies of individuals and households.

#### **Enhance Rural Resilience in Yemen (2016-2018) - a Joint Program funded by EU, Total budget for the ILO: USD 2,569,317.**

The project staff: 1 P3, 1 NOA, admin support and a driver, in additional to international and national consultants.

The projects will contribute to build peace and resilience by creating jobs and income opportunities, enhancing employability and strengthening institutional implementation capacity in affected rural areas.

To support the above outcome, ILO contribution under the entire JP along with other three UN participating agencies (FAO, UNDP, WFP) comprises of two main outputs, namely:

(1) Enhance Local institutions and local stakeholders capacities to improve the local labour governance through dialogue, participation and policy development and;

(2) Create immediate jobs and income opportunities by liaising with C4W programs implemented by SFD and provide options for on-the-job training, skills development, entrepreneurship and self-employment through training on business skills and access to physical, financial and social capital as well as local market opportunities to enhance livelihoods of conflict affected population.

These outputs will be produced through a number of key initiatives that are aimed at facilitating livelihoods, strengthening local institutions capacity, with the objective of contributing to improve communities' resilience.

### **Technical cooperation projects**

#### **1. Support to MOSAL in LMI and Employment Policy (Labour Force Survey)**

The ILO supported the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to develop the Labour Market Information System in Yemen to support employment policy. The ILO in collaboration with the Central Statistical Bureau prepared the labour force survey (LFS 2013-2014). The project is funded by Silatech of Qatar, SDC and ILO RBSA funds.

#### **Results achieved**

- A study on the economic re-integration of returnees from KSA was conducted based on an ad-hoc survey and shared with Yemeni constituents.
- The Labour Force Survey was carried out by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO). The LFS aims to estimate employment, unemployment and other component of labour underutilization at the national level and at the level of governorates of Yemen. The survey also provides information on income from employment and characteristics of former household members who are living abroad, and persons participating in training programs outside of the regular educational system. The survey was administered quarterly to a nationally representative sample of 13,376 households drawn from 836 primary sampling units (PSUs) from the CSO's sample frame. The LFS will be used to improve policy framework/ strategy on employment and the institutional capacity of the LMI unit of MOL.
- The Rapid Assessment Survey for returned migrant workers included a questionnaire that was submitted to 2,414 households. The questionnaire addressed issues as who the returned migrants were the demographic and economic profile of their household

members, the migration experience and, finally, the labour market and economic situation of the forcibly returned migrants.

## **2. Entrepreneurship education - Know about business**

The Social Fund for Development in Yemen funded the project “Entrepreneur Education, Know about business, the Project end date is December 2015. The project implementation were delayed because of the war in Yemen, the ILO will prepare no –cost extension to June 2016.

### **Results achieved**

- Design and implementation of an entrepreneurship training package targeting disadvantaged Yemeni youth targeted under the UNDP 3x6 approaches. The programme implemented training need analysis consisting of 2 focus groups targeting three governorates (Sana’a, Taiz and Aden), 26 Yemeni trainers were selected to deliver the MFB programme.
- 26 Yemeni trainers were selected to deliver the My First Business (MFB) programme.
- Capacities and resources to support the delivery of Entrepreneurship programme implemented.
- Youth were equipped with entrepreneurial skills and attitudes essential at the personal and business level.
- Educated youth were provided with fundamental business skills and tools to plan for and establish a sustainable and successful enterprise.

## **3. Women Entrepreneurship Programme in Yemen**

The Social Fund for Development in Yemen “Women Entrepreneurship Programme in Yemen”, the Project end date is December 2015. The project implementation were delayed because of the war in Yemen, the ILO will prepare no –cost extension to June 2016

### **Results achieved**

- Women Business Owners (WBOT) training conducted TOT for 25 new women trainers
- Trainers’ Guide developed
- Master Trainers (WBOT) trained.

## **4. Integrated support for young women and men in Yemen to access decent work**

The ILO is implementing a project for integrated support for young women and men in Yemen to access decent work; the project is implemented with two national partners “Small & Micro Enterprise Promotion services” and “Yemen Education for Employment”. The project is funded by Norway and the end date is December 2015.

### **Results achieved**

### ***Small & Micro Enterprise Promotion services***

- Offer the Business Start-up Programme “Mubadara” to students enrolled at 7 Yemeni Universities.
- Enhanced students’ knowledge and awareness of self-employment at 7 universities, including Governmental universities of Sana’a, Aden, Al Hodeida, Taiz, Hadramout, and Private universities: Science Technology Sana'a and Aden and Modern Science. A total of 1,044 students (39% Female 61% Male) have completed the Mubadara programme.
- Of the 1,044 students completing the programme, 395 business plans were submitted by 659 students, all of whom have received attendance certificates.
- Capacity building of staff at implementing universities to provide their students with start-up business programme curriculum.

### ***Yemen Education for Employment - EFE***

- Strategy for Youth Employment has been developed jointly with UNDP and has been endorsed by cabinet and afterword by the Friends of Yemen (group of donors) on Sep 2013.
- Training of TVET instructors on apprenticeship, 35 instructors have been trained on Competency Based Training (CBT) and other essential training skills, also 180 apprentices were selected from the participated governorates, 30% are women.
- Partnerships worked out between 10 private companies and TVET centres for apprenticeship programmes
- As a resultant of the recent war embarked in March 2015, the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training has pointed out that more than 28 institutions were attacked and being out of service.
- Rapid assessment to design a project on Upgrading Informal Apprenticeship has been conducted and being finalised.
- Due to the current conflict, the ILO was not able to follow up on the assessment and carry on regular technical assistance as was planned.

### **5. Livelihood and Economic Recovery: strengthening social cohesion and community resilience**

The ILO in collaboration with the UNDP implementing the livelihood and economic recovery: programme in Yemen, with the aim of strengthening social cohesion and community resilience, the project should be completed in January 2016.

#### **Results achieved**

- Introduced and promoted the concept of coaching services for potential entrepreneurs among various sectors in Yemen (private businesses, banks, and MHE) through SMEPS’ meetings, individual interviews, and social media channels.

- Established agreements with the 2 prominent banks to support the Mubadara programme by offering \$50,000 as prizes for the winners of the business plan competition.
- Selection of the best 64 business plans (from a total of 395 submitted to SMEPS) for inclusion in a business plan competition based on criteria agreed upon by the ILO, SMEPS, and in accordance with the Mubadara material taught to students.

### **Developing the capacity of Employers' Organizations in the Arab Region**

- Despite the deteriorating security situation, a capacity assessment was undertaken in August 2014 for FYCCI.
- Capacity building workshop took place for 6 FYCCI reps in Turin November 5-7 2014 using "The Effective Employer Organization" tool kit to improve Services provision to members