Integration and employment opportunities for displaced groups in Somaliland

Context

Through an improvement in employment opportunities and a rise in incomes within communities, UNIDO aims to foster economic integration among local communities that feel their livelihood threatened by other members of society.

It will also contribute to resilience creation among beneficiaries by providing them with additional and sustainable means to better cope with future.

Strategy

The development objective of the project financed by the Japanese special funding is to promote integration and reduce conflict in Somalia by fostering economic recovery and increasing resilience in the presence of droughts among marginalized groups.

The immediate objectives are:

- to assess training needs and develop proper training curricula
- rehabilitate and equip existing training facilities
- train between 700 and 900 participants including internally displaced persons (IDPs), youth, women and the poorest in vocational skills and processing techniques for the production of viable food and non-food products and business skills to strengthen market linkages.

The target beneficiaries are the following:

- youth and women from IDP groups;
- young entrepreneurs living in communities;
- existing and new trainers working in local training centers.

Impact / Outlook

The project builds on the recovery stage that Somalia is undergoing and contributes to peace-building efforts by enabling the integration of IDPs in host communities through the delivery of productive skills and the development of cottage industries for employment creation.

The project pays special attention to vulnerable IDP groups, mainly women, youth and members of low-caste lineage, who have migrated to the Northern areas of Somalia.

The IDP groups that are settling in Somaliland are having difficulties integrating into host communities given their insufficient ability to contribute to the local economies and the relative scarce opportunities that these local economies provide. The project addresses this problem by contributing to increasing employment in targeted areas through the development of cottage industries within host communities and transferring specific practical skills to IDP groups that enables their participation in the local economy.

Expected results after project conclusion:

- Employment opportunities available within the benefited communities increase
- The development of viable cottage industries elaborating food and nonfood products
- Vulnerable IDP groups, mainly women, youth and the poorest are able to take advantage of the new employment opportunities by having received high quality skills training and tools required by the labour market.

It is expected that 700 to 900 people from these vulnerable IDP groups are trained in order to be able to improve their lives and strengthen their livelihoods.