UNIDO-JAPAN COOPERATION AND THE HUMANITARIAN-DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
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INTRODUCTION

Support for livelihoods and prosperity of vulnerable people around the world

Established in 1966, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID) in developing countries and economies in transition, and supports its Member States with technical cooperation activities and policy advisory services. It provides a global platform for knowledge-exchange and places a strong focus on exploring synergies and strengthening partnerships with development partners to ensure that no one is left behind in benefitting from industrial growth.

Japan has been an important and trustful partner of UNIDO through financial contributions and political support, which has allowed UNIDO to make timely responses to emergent difficulties and lack of human security faced by vulnerable people and communities, thus strengthening the humanitarian-development nexus and promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

The Government of Japan was one of the pioneers endorsing the human security concept in the mid-1990s, when it was first designed. Human security continues to play a central role in Japan’s foreign and development cooperation policy and is declared a guiding principle in Japan’s Development Cooperation Charter 2015.

While the world has made significant progress in poverty reduction and economic development over the last decades, the advancements are not shared evenly by all. For many, armed conflicts, political instability, and man-made and natural disasters are a threatening reality leading to increased vulnerability and rapidly deteriorating human security in all aspects of life.

In addition, crisis situations disintegrate social and economic structures, thereby diminishing the productive capacity of entire populations. Therefore, support for economic rehabilitation of households, communities and government is vital for guaranteed sustainable livelihoods and future prosperity.

In view of UNIDO’s mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development, the human security and human rights-based approach to industrialization has a special place in UNIDO’s programmatic activities. UNIDO initiatives promoting post-crisis productive rehabilitation, reconstruction and sustainable livelihoods empower communities in countries and regions recovering from crises.

The Organization strengthens the ability of individuals and underprivileged groups to alleviate risks, threats and vulnerabilities, ensuring uninterrupted productive activities and livelihoods. It also integrates energy, health and environmental security concerns affecting people’s productive capacities into its activities.

UNIDO’s assistance ensures that restored livelihoods and productive capacities are free from future risks and vulnerabilities and guarantee environmental sustainability. No human life is free from risks and shocks, but with higher resilience and reduced vulnerability, people are able to cope with them better and recover faster.
PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

Recent UNIDO-Japan cooperation for the humanitarian-development nexus

This booklet demonstrates the achievements and impact of the UNIDO-Japan cooperation by presenting some of the most recently completed projects funded by the Government of Japan for vulnerable people and communities.
IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

Promoting integration of industries in Chabahar into global/regional markets through upgrading and market access promotion

Project introduction:

The project aimed to rebuild sustainable livelihood opportunities through developing skills, upgrading local enterprises, and improving the value chain for enhanced market access in the fishery and ancillary industry. To this end, study tours with workshops and expert visits were organized, covering the topics of fishing itself, as well as processing, marketing, and quality control.

Results:

48 participants were trained; 20 fishery companies were visited and assessed by Japanese quality control experts, which led to the procurement of necessary equipment; 3 local enterprises were promoted for access to international market. Overall, livelihood opportunities were significantly improved through increased job creation, which in turn reduced the drug trafficking activity.

Beneficiary story:

During a study tour to Japan, fishermen from Chabahar, astonished with the high-quality tuna arriving at the port in Katsuura, received training how to make quality fishing tools to avoid the waste of fish and how to maintain its freshness on the boat.
ACHIEVEMENTS

- 20 fishery companies were visited and assessed by Japanese quality control experts, which led to the procurement of necessary equipment.
- 48 participants were trained.
- 3 local enterprises were promoted for access to international market.

IMPACT

- Strengthened and improved local fish processing value-chain with enhanced market access.
- Improved livelihood opportunities through increased job creation in fishery and fish processing sector.
- Reduced drug trafficking and crime activities.
IRAQ (2 PROJECTS)

Integrated stabilization, economic recovery and reconstruction support for displaced persons and returnees in Iraq

Project introduction:

In December 2017, the “end of the war” was declared. However, the devastating impact on people's socio-economic condition is still visible: there are at least 3 million Iraqis who have no homes, jobs, food, secure sources of education, and medical services. The projects thus aimed at promoting resilience and economic stability for vulnerable groups in newly liberated areas by supporting income-generating activities, such as agri-businesses, and the reconstruction of community infrastructure via vocational and technical skills training on mechanics, English language, forklift, mobile phone repair, basic farming and greenhouse farming, provided for micro small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), households, farmers, and prospective workers.

Results:

2,004 beneficiaries were trained: 1,001 from host communities, 532 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 471 refugees, among which 51% were women; 14 trainers were trained in various areas; 56 MSMEs were supported; 6 greenhouse tunnels were constructed in terms of community infrastructure; an agro-processing training center adjacent to Harshm Camp was constructed; the Woman’s Production Center in Basirma Camp, Shawlawa, was established; 426 tool kits were distributed; a procurement and partnership seminar was organized in Tokyo.

Beneficiary story:

“There were four greenhouses in the village but no one was using them”, said Khalaf Hasoon Ajab, a father of 7 children. “I joined the project and received training on greenhouse vegetable production, now I sell more than 2,000 kg of cucumber per year”.

Location: Erbil, Dohuk, Kirkuk, Kalak, Tikrit
Project period: 2016 – 2018, covering two projects
Funding: US$ 2,335,950
International partners: IOM, UNDP, The University of Applied Arts Vienna.
Japanese partners: Tohatsu Corporation (Portable Fire Pumps), TOYOTA Iraq
**ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 2,004 beneficiaries were trained: 1,001 from host communities, 532 IDPs and 471 refugees, among which 51% were women.
- 14 trainers were trained in various areas.
- 56 MSMEs were supported.
- 6 greenhouse tunnels were constructed.
- An agro-processing training center adjacent to Harshm Camp was constructed.
- The Woman’s Production Center in Basirma Camp, Shawlawa, was established.
- 426 tool kits were distributed.
- A procurement and partnership seminar was organized in Tokyo.

**IMPACT**

- Improved socio-economic stability.
- Increased institutional capacity to support the agribusiness development along the value chain.
- Improved production process of households and SMEs.
- Higher levels of employment, particularly of youth and women.
- Restored economic activity.
- Increased employment rates.
- Better vocational training facilities.
IRAQ

Creating employment and improving food security for refugees, internally displaced persons and host communities in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Project introduction:

As of January 2017, northern Iraq was hosting 896,910 IDPs and 230,836 Syrian refugees, including 10% of female-headed households. The project sought to enhance livelihoods of vulnerable groups, including IDPs, returnees, refugees and members of the host community, which is central to resilience-building and social stabilization in the region. The project’s strategy was designed to scale up agri-businesses, strengthen market promotion, and give IDPs and Syrian refugees an opportunity to contribute to the local agricultural sector by training them in the value chain of production. Only economically relevant sub-sectors within the agricultural sector were selected in target locations. The educational sessions covered agri-business and post-harvest production for farmers, food processing and safety for households and MSMEs, as well as entrepreneurial knowledge and soft skills of prospective workers.

Results:

Among the main achievements, 408 people received training by UNIDO-trained trainers with 45% of them being female; 426 beneficiaries from among the farmers, households and MSMEs received toolkits; 82 trainers enhanced capacity to teach entrepreneurship, food safety and hygiene, and improved agricultural and post-harvest practices; and the Woman’s Production Center in Basirma Camp, Shawlawa, was established. Driven by the increased institutional capacity and strengthened economic resilience, the promotion of inclusive and sustainable industrial development is actively occurring in the target region.
Beneficiary story:

In the Darashakran Camp, home to nearly 11,000 Syrian refugees, brick houses have recently replaced UN-provided tents. Mohamed Said and his son-in-law are Syrian refugees and owners of the confectionary shop that sells ten to fifteen kilograms of handmade sweets to camp residents per day. Their main goal is to cater to the nearby city of Erbil. UNIDO provided the duo with training, including on food safety and hygiene, branding and packaging, business plan development, and market access, as well as helped refurbish their shop. Nowadays, their business plan also includes the delivery to Erbil.
LEBANON

Creating jobs in Lebanon through skills training and improving manufacturing capacities

*Project introduction:*

One in five people living in Lebanon is a refugee, and interventions aimed at creating jobs and economic opportunities are considered urgent. The project aimed to enhance the potential for job creation in the furniture sector and its value-chain: small medium enterprises (SMEs) were provided with training and new technologies while vulnerable communities, especially women, youth and Syrian refugees, acquired carpentry skills.

*Results:*

285 individuals, of which 31% young women, were trained during 17 vocational sessions; 15 MSMEs were assisted with formal registration and obtained legal business status with industrial license and benefits. The project improved employment possibilities for local women and men and Syrian refugees in the furniture sector.
ACHIEVEMENTS

- 285 individuals, of which 31% young women, were trained during 17 vocational sessions.
- 15 MSMEs were assisted with formal registration and obtained legal business status with industrial license and benefits.

IMPACT

- New employment possibilities for local women and men and Syrian refugees in the furniture sector in north Lebanon.
- Improved efficiency and quality in the value chain for furniture industry.
**LIBERIA**

Promoting social stabilization through vocational training and job creation for vulnerable people and communities in post-Ebola Liberia

*Project introduction:*

After a post-conflict decade of rebuilding livelihoods, the 2014 outbreak of Ebola seriously affected Liberia’s still fragile society. While economic growth and employment heavily depend on capital investment from transnational corporations and exports of its natural resources, the Ebola crisis specifically saw a dramatic withdrawal of investors. The protracted unemployment situation, particularly among youth, also posed serious security risks. Thus, urgent job creation was considered paramount to prevent radicalization and enhance social stabilization. The timber processing sector was identified for its high potential of employment creation, utilizing locally available raw materials and cross-sectoral business opportunities. Upon this initiative, local educational institutions and wood furniture industry organized vocational skills training for unemployed youth. Targeting local carpenters, the project also improved the productivity, competitiveness, and diversification of local furniture carpenters. As most beneficiaries have had limited access to education, basic literacy and numeracy were incorporated into the programme.

*Results:*

206 individuals with an average age of 29.5 years, 22.3% of which were female, received the carpentry and entrepreneurship training; 36 persons received special wood processing training, focusing on artistic wood carving and branding; additional entrepreneurship training was provided to 35 persons from local businesses and carpentry unions; a seminar in Tokyo was hosted to mobilize the Japanese private sector and the participation of 27 Japanese companies. In addition to generating employment opportunities and improving industry capacity, there were other explicit benefits for the community, such as expanded carpentry services, more affordable furniture products and repair services.
ACHIEVEMENTS

- 206 individuals with an average age of 29.5 years old, 22.3% of which were female, received carpentry and entrepreneurship training.
- 36 persons received special wood processing training.
- A seminar was hosted in Tokyo to mobilize the Japanese private sector with the participation of 27 Japanese companies.
- 35 individuals from local businesses and carpentry unions received entrepreneurship training.

IMPACT

- Improved institutional capacity of technical vocational education institutions.
- Improved industry capacity.
- Benefits to the communities with expanded carpentry services.
- Generation of employment in wood processing and furniture production.
- Intensified productivity, competitiveness and diversification of local carpenters.
SOMALIA (7 PROJECTS)

Eight years UNIDO-Japan cooperation for stability and development in Somalia

Project introduction:

Decades of conflict in Somalia accompanied by recurrent natural disasters have deprived people of very basic needs and severely damaged socio-economic conditions and the country’s development capacity. This resulted in chronically fragile livelihoods, high unemployment rates and food insecurity. The projects focus on job creation and income generation for youth and communities, as well as on strengthening the absorption capacity of host communities. Japan has been providing funding to UNIDO’s seven technical assistance projects aimed at revitalizing the national economy and facilitating broad-based inclusive growth. UNIDO’s key role was to provide vocational education to improve livelihoods and create jobs, revitalize micro-enterprises via skills training, technology transfers and infrastructure upgrades. UNIDO also reestablished a functional base for peace and community stabilization, as well as strengthened the capacity of vocational training institutions

Results:

Over 2,250 women, at-risk youth, IDPs, and returnees were trained so far; 44 vocational training centers were rehabilitated; 829 toolkits were distributed to help start-ups; 85 people received training so that they can act as trainers beyond the project.

Beneficiary story:

Abdikadir Aden Gedi is a returnee living in Dhobley. As a barber, he earned less than US$5 per day but, after joining the vocational training, his life changed: “I selected the domestic electrical course, which is highly needed since the town is growing. My life has completely changed! I now earn between US$25 and US$30 per day, and can pay for my family’s school fees. Thanks to the people of Japan and UNIDO!”, said Mr. Gedi.
ACHIEVEMENTS
- Over 2,250 women, at-risk youth, IDPs, and returnees were trained so far.
- 44 vocational training centers were rehabilitated.
- 829 toolkits were distributed to help start-ups.
- 85 people received training so that they can act as trainers.

IMPACT
- Community cohesion has explicitly increased as a result of local infrastructure schemes and conflict minimization programs.
- Food security in rural households has been improved.
- Increased food security and access to health care and education for families in need.
- Improved vocational training facilities to deliver technical skills.

IMPROVING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT TO COUNTER VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The capability of engaging in productive activity and fostering development has been acutely impacted by the decades-long civil war and ongoing clan-based violence. In Hirshabelle, socio-economic development has been particularly affected and youth unemployment is pervasive. As a result, rural youth continue to become engaged in violence and conflict as a tool to address youth disenfranchisement. Armed Opposition Groups (AOG) like Al-Shabaab as well as clan leaders leverage the alienation felt by youth and young people who are continually at risk of being induced into armed conflict as the only means for income generation. UNIDO has been provided with new funding (US$ 1,000,000) from Japan for the project aimed at increasing income generation opportunities and reducing poverty, while reducing youth participation in violence.

For the current project, UNIDO and Japan Center for Conflict Prevention (JCCP) are partnering to integrate expertise in technical vocational skills training and tackling community conflict. The partnership provides a tool to address push pull factors to prevent and counter violent extremism.
SOUTH SUDAN

Increased resilience and self-help capacities for reconstruction of livelihoods and sustained nutritional food security in South Sudan

Project introduction:

Years of civil war in South Sudan have claimed thousands of lives and made millions of people leave their homes. The food security is undermined and the poverty level remains extremely high. The development of agribusinesses and food processing capacities is of great significance, as it may boost the national transition from dependence on humanitarian relief to economic reconstruction. The project promoted employment opportunities for youth and women and introduced diversified livelihoods, by targeting communities which host internally displaced persons and are dependent on humanitarian food relief. The stakeholders gathered such people together and encouraged them to be involved in agribusinesses and trade, as well as helped enterprises adopt a model of agribusinesses development.

Based on UNIDO's guidelines for agribusiness and food processing capacity building, two specialized centres were established, where vocational and technical skills training took place. Since formalization is important for business activities, KASMAN Cooperative was established with the same business name and as a registered label. In addition, laboratory (Drug and Food Control Authority) staff was granted access to modern food testing equipment, and key policymakers were invited to participate in awareness raising events on food quality.

Results:

As a result, 120 technical experts from business and vocational training institutions were trained on the module of agribusiness management and practical food processing skills. 558 beneficiaries, of whom 393 were women, were equipped with business and production skills. Additionally, 28 technical
19 beneficiaries, of whom 393 were women, were equipped with business and production skills.

120 technical experts from business and vocational training institutions were trained on the module of agribusiness management and practical food processing skills.

558 beneficiaries, of whom 393 were women, were equipped with business and production skills.

28 technical experts from food quality and safety regulating agencies and policymakers received training on import and export guides.

Women and youth income generation opportunity as well as food supply to households and communities increased.

Import and export guidelines for goods including processed foods and food products were developed.

Food testing equipment was procured to facilitate production of quality food.
Vocational training on apparel manufacture for Syrian refugees in Turkey

**Project introduction:**

According to UNHCR, Turkey has welcomed more than 3 million Syrian refugees. Despite having their basic needs met, refugees are socially unstable and less resilient, also because they have no means to improve livelihoods. Developed to boost refugees’ morale and create social stability, the project built upon UNIDO’s previous technical assistance implemented under the framework of the United Nations Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), 2016 – 2017, and focused on apparel manufacturing, with training of the trainers (ToT) organized in two newly-established skill centres.

**Results:**

1,096 people graduated from the courses, of which 744 were women, in addition to 1,022 people, of which 834 women, trained under the previous project. Participants were also registered for the employment pool run by the Turkish Labour Agency in Kahramanmaraş, an important step in finding a job. 12 people received training so that they can act as trainers beyond the project. Finally, two fashion shows were held, where Syrian refugees showcased the products of their skills training.

**Beneficiary story:**

“We started living in camps and times were difficult. This course was very important for its psychological and vocational contributions. Now we have hope for the future and we would like to thank all stakeholders of the project,” said Mecid Abdulkrem, a graduate of the vocational training.

**Location:** Kahramanmaras and Gaziantep-Islahiye

**Project period:** April 2017 – September 2018

**Funding:** US$ 843,500

**Local partners:** Prime Ministry’s Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, Ministry of National Education, Turkish Labour Agency (ISKUR), Istanbul Ready-Made Garment, and Apparel Exporters’ Associations, Akdeniz Mul-Der
ACHIEVEMENTS

- 1,096 people graduated from the courses, of which 744 were women.
- 1,022 people, of which 834 women, trained under the previous project.
- 12 people received training so that they can act as trainers beyond the project.
- Participants were registered for the employment pool run by the Turkish Labour Agency in Kahramanmaraş.

IMPACT

- Self-confidence restored among refugees, encouraging them to integrate into Turkish society.
- Increased possibility for legal private sector employment in Turkey.
- Increased possibility for work once refugees return to Syria in the future.
- Improved social stability of Syrian refugees, in particular women and the youth.