



Roundtable on Building Linkages with the Private Sector within the Scope of the LCRP

On April 20th 2018, a Roundtable discussion took place on how to build linkages with the Private Sector (PS) within the scope of LCRP.

The expected outcome of the Roundtable was to develop recommendations by hearing from selected Livelihoods partners on their experiences and best practices in approaching the private sector through the years, while at the same time focusing on identifying the main challenges in doing so.

The topics discussed were as per below: (attached the meeting notes and the presentations)

- How to build linkages between vocational trainings and the private sector (e.g., incentives, curricula, internships, training topics, market assessments, etc.);
- How to select and approach private sector companies (e.g., the size of the targeted enterprise, enterprise selection criteria, connecting small and large firms, placement of technical and vocational education graduates)
- How to achieve win-win and incentivize private sector businesses to engage in Livelihoods activities.

Main Recommendations:

- Need of having an interactive-online Platform to link the PS, I/NNGOs and other stakeholders
- Need of criteria for selection of SMEs
- Improving SMEs capacities

- Enhancing Networking and implementing the CSR for sustainability

Actions to be taken:

- Exploring opportunities with existing online Platform such as NEO and Tamal or, if no opportunity is available with these two systems, creating a new interactive-online Platform to link the PS, I/NGOs and other stakeholders.
UNDP-MoET-MoSA
- Identifying criteria for selection of SMEs to better match their need and to create sustainable impacts and results-Additional meeting to be organized to discuss in detail. **UNDP-Mosa-MoET-LH partners**
- Identifying beneficiaries that have the required skills to cover specific positions within the company and complement the marketable needs of the companies. **I/NGOS**
- Organizing events, periodical meetings bringing up new idea. **I/NGOs**

Other recommendations

Work with big companies: best practices shared by partners with effective results

- Involving the PS in curricula design of VTs
- Involving the PS in targeting and selection of beneficiaries
- Involving the PS in the provision of Trainings (skills matching)
- Providing income to beneficiaries during the internship/placement period (Internship programme)
- MoU with the PS: beneficiaries trained upon the condition that X of them will have access to job opportunities
- Raise awareness on companies' social responsibility

Work with nano-micro enterprises:

Support home based and nano enterprises, while tackling access to market.

- The support provided will help these businesses to survive in the Lebanese Market, even though it won't create a major impact in terms of jobs creation.

- Expanding access to market and creating linkages with bigger companies will enable them to flourish and become a hub for job creations (Job Creation opportunities)

Link small and big companies: segment of Value Chain-supply providers

Small businesses should function as supplier for bigger companies-contributing to the bigger scale production of the bigger firms- this way stimulating the local market and expanding opportunities for jobs creation

List of attendance:

- UNDP
- UNIDO
- AVSI
- BIAT
- Chamber of Commerce of Zahle
- IDAL
- IRC
- Mercy Corps
- MoSA
- MoET