



# ACADEMY ON SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY (12<sup>th</sup> EDITION)

BUILDING BACK BETTER: THE ROLE OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY IN A HUMAN-CENTRED AND PLANET-SENSITIVE RECOVERY

15-26 NOVEMBER 2021

Elective session 7 – SSE as tool for Social Cohesion, peace and resilience (focus on refugees and IDPs)



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Cooperativa António Sérgio para a Economia Social



International Labour Organization



International Training Centre

Date Place



## **SSE as tool for social cohesion, peace and resilience (focus on refugees and IDPs): good practices from the Arab region**

**Shaza Ghaleb Al Jondi**

Regional Chief Technical Advisor for PROSPECTS Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq

## INTRODUCTION

- ▶ ILO response to the refugee crisis driven by **employment-rich interventions** focusing on the needs of refugees and host communities
- ▶ Many lessons learned, innovative models piloted, and a range of partnerships established to ***promote inclusive socio-economic growth and decent work***
- ▶ A key partner on this journey is cooperatives



## ILO Recommendation 193

The ILO recognizes the important role cooperatives play in **helping create jobs, mobilizing resources, generating investment and promoting decent work while also improving living and working conditions of women and men.** They are critical in reaching workers, especially those in rural communities in times of crisis. However, cooperatives face challenges due to globalization.

ILO adopted **Recommendation 193 “Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation”** in 2002, emphasizing role of governments in providing a supportive policy and legal frameworks to promote the potential of cooperatives.

R 193, has been **used by 110 countries** in national policy/law revision and contributed to a number of regional and sub-regional uniform model laws.



ILO's support to cooperatives aligned with findings of **“Mapping responses by cooperatives and social and solidarity economy organizations to forced displacement” (ILO, 2020)** which highlights the role of cooperatives in supporting displaced persons and host populations highlighting the importance considering cooperatives as development partners and the need to invest in their capacities.



## IN JORDAN

- ▶ ILO partnered with the cooperative movement since 2016, building their capacities to advance livelihood opportunities for vulnerable workers especially in agricultural sector.
- ▶ Cooperatives played a key role facilitating flexible work permits for Syrian refugee workers.
- ▶ In collaboration with MoL, the ILO helped build capacities of cooperatives flexible work permit issuance and awareness raising on labour rights so they can sensitize workers on these issues.





## Work Permits for Syrian refugees

### MoPIC Data OCT 2021:

*Flexible work permits in the agriculture sector under the umbrella of the cooperatives from Jan 1, 2016, to Oct 15, 2021*

***101,289 WP's (38.4% of the total work permits for Syrian refugees).***

Period	Male	Female	Total no of WB
January 1, 2016 to October 15, 2021	248,985 (94.25%)	15,189 (5.75%)	264,174

## IN JORDAN

- ▶ Within the framework of the PROSPECTS Programme, **6 career guidance and employment units** established in 6 cooperatives in Jordan
- ▶ Services provided to job-seekers and workers and employers in the agricultural sectors include; **career counselling, job-matching, work permit issuance and awareness raising on labor law, Occupation Safety and Health (OSH), mitigation of COVID-19 in the workplace**
- ▶ The units are timely considering the impacts of the pandemic on livelihood opportunities and income for the vulnerable populations





# 6 units established between 1/07/2020 until 30/09/2021



**140**  
**Farms**  
**visited**



**5,000**  
**Jobs**  
**secured**



**6,190**  
**Registered**  
**job seekers**  
**31% Syrian**  
**41% Female**



**5,416**  
**Placed job**  
**seekers**  
**23% Syrian**  
**34.9% Female**

## IN JORDAN

- ▶ Grants provided grants for joint business ventures between cooperatives and Syrian refugees, helping setting up thirty-eight business ventures. These include:
  - **18 in construction, 20 in agriculture** with seed funds (JOD3,000) provided to each to start-up their own business.
  - Number of vacancies provided for Jordanian and Syrian workers is **246 (173 M & 73 F)**
  - Winners trained on project management and entrepreneurship and provided with mentoring, coaching and follow up, the winners while they run their business.



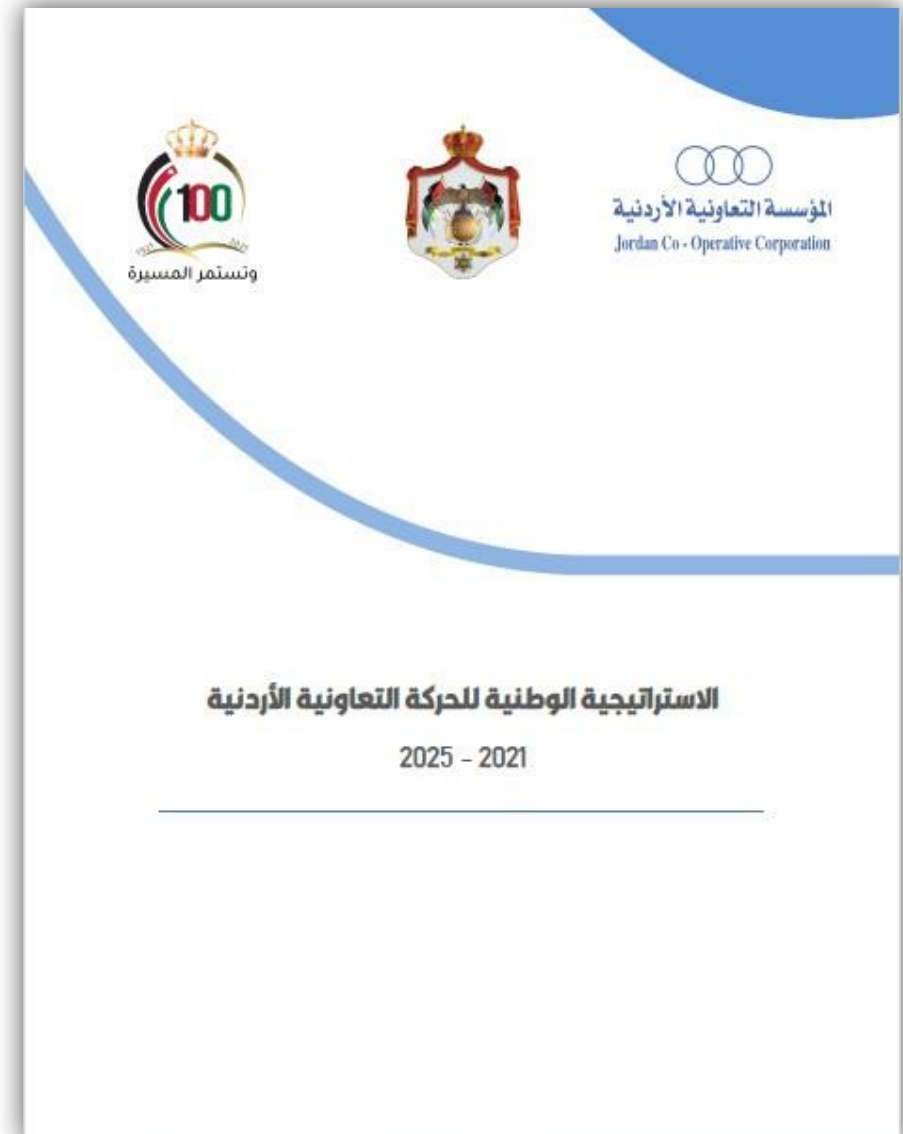


## IN JORDAN

- ▶ ILO translated vital COOP training tools, such as My.Coop, Think.coop, and Start.coop and adapted them to the Jordanian context
- ▶ In 2020, the ILO in collaboration with ITC and ILO HQ, trained **63 cooperative representatives, and Farmers** on Think.coop and Start.coop tools and provided online **training of trainers** to 32 trainers on My.coop., followed by Face-to-Face TOT Coaching Sessions for 6 Selected Trainers
- ▶ The ILO is now working with JCC to find ways to institutionalize all these tools within the Corporation.
- ▶ A new “**Occupational Safety and Health Tool for Cooperatives in Agriculture**” was developed; has been adapted to the Jordanian context and will be rolled out in early 2022.

## IN JORDAN

- ▶ ILO partnered with **The Jordan Cooperative Corporation (JCC)** has launched a national strategy for the cooperative movement in Jordan,
- ▶ The Strategy seeks to strengthen the role of cooperatives in enhancing decent work and productivity in different economic sectors in the country.
- ▶ The strategy was developed through consultation with a national steering committee formed by the Government of Jordan and led by JCC, to include representatives of key ministries and social partners, as well as experts in the field of the cooperative movement.



## IN JORDAN

- ▶ It is intended to serve as a five-year strategic document for Jordan's cooperative movement, and as a guidance document for JCC, and other agencies and development partners supporting or involved in cooperative promotion in Jordan.
  - It builds on three main outcomes:
    - I. a conducive environment for the Jordanian cooperative movement
    - II. an efficient service infrastructure for cooperatives and unions;
    - III. autonomous, self-reliant cooperatives providing efficient services to members.





## IN LEBANON

Crises in Lebanon: Multiple crisis in Lebanon since 2019 *have compounded vulnerabilities for Syrian refugees and host communities significantly impacting levels of unemployment, poverty and access to decent work.*

*Amid the crises, Lebanese communities started social and solidarity initiatives (SSE) in agriculture and other sectors as a mean of basic survival. Most significant, was the youth led response to the Beirut explosion to clear and clean streets, provide community support and support reconstruction efforts since day 1.*

Building on these efforts, the ILO in Lebanon, in partnership with ACTED, is supporting vulnerable Lebanese host communities and Syrian refugees in 4 villages: Kfar Habou, Akroum, Syr el Donniyeh, and Bebnine in Akkar and North-Lebanon governorates through promoting SSE initiatives in agriculture and agro-food sectors:

- ▶ Establishment of Steering Committees (SC) in each village to identify socio-economic challenges related to the agriculture sector, identify actors for potential SSE initiatives and oversee the forthcoming SSE projects
- ▶ Development of socio-economic (SE) briefs in the agriculture sector in each villages
- ▶ Based on results of the SE briefs, call for applications through the SC to seek interest of agricultural actors (and others) to establish SSE initiatives in the sector to respond to challenges identified in the SE briefs
- ▶ Training of identified SSE actors on social entrepreneurship and business group formation
- ▶ Provision of grants and coaching for the establishment of SSE initiatives in agriculture/agrofood (upcoming)

Thank you

