

TRAINING YOUTH IN SYRIA

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SHORT-TERM PRIORITIES TO IMPROVE YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY

- Enhancing the social image of VET (open path, quality of TVET, NQF & Certification)
- Closer matching of VET graduates skills with LM needs (involve businesses)
- Culture of Entrepreneurship (self-employment, creation of jobs)
- Supporting services (incubation, financing, ...etc)

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

1. Introduction of the Apprenticeship System (ETF support, 2000-2004)
2. Modernization of VET System in Syria (EU Program, 2006-2009)
3. MEDA-ETE (EU Program, 2004-2009)
4. Upgrading the Higher Education Sector in Syria (EU Program, 2008-2011)
5. Incubation:
 - SEBC Business Incubators
 - ICT Incubators
 - Syrian Social Society for Youth (SSSY) - Youth Incubator
6. The Syria Trust for Development
7. Junior Chamber International (JCI)

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

Introduction of the Apprenticeship System (ETF support, 2000-2004)

- ① 1st Social partnership (MOE, Chamber of Industry) in TVET
- ① Training contract awarded by the training company
- ① Work-place training on hard and soft skills
- ① Challenges: Culture of employment in the public sector, image of VET, closed path of studies

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

Modernization of VET System in Syria (EU Program, 2006-2009)

- ⦿ Strategy and policy papers
- ⦿ TVET Authority (independent administrative and financial systems)
- ⦿ Capacity building for the companies side (on HRM) to cope with the new policies
- ⦿ Implementation level is ready for the new governance structure, meso-level is not.

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

MEDA-ETE (EU PROGRAM, 2004-2009)

- ⦿ Regional level of work (convergence for the sake of mobility)
- ⦿ Teacher training, E-Learning, Quality in TVET, and the regional Observatory

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

Upgrading the Higher Education Sector in Syria (EU Program, 2008-2011)

- ⦿ Supporting the reform of higher education sector to enable it to respond more effectively and efficiently to the needs of the economy (improving the quality of its governance and relevance).
- ⦿ Effectiveness= Closer relationships with the economic sector, quality assurance, information system.

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

SEBC Business Incubator

- ⦿ Started in Damascus 2007, and Aleppo 2009
- ⦿ Provide business development services with no special services to innovation
- ⦿ Disseminating experience: provide technical assistance for setting up business incubators in Syria
- ⦿ ~114 startups: Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Internet Service Provider & Web Portals, Health Care & Social Assistance, Construction, Manufacturing, Information, Accommodation & Food Services, and Real Estate & Rental.
- ⦿ ~20 startups related to innovation

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

ICT Incubators

- ④ Syrian Computer Society (SCS) established 3 ICT incubators
- ④ Provide a scientific and technical environment of experts, advisers, and infrastructure needed for entrepreneurs to create their investment projects.
- ④ Contribute in raising the level of ICT industry
- ④ Training: Basics of management & business administration and issues related to ICT projects specifically.
- ④ Advisory, and consultancy: experts and consultants play the role of mentors

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

SSSY - Youth Incubator

- ④ The Syrian Social Society for Youth (SSSY) is an NGO that aims at the social development of the Syrian youth
- ④ **Incubators and incubation services enable the transition of innovative ideas into competitive products and services**
- ④ Private involvement in incubation is still not common in Syria

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

SSSY - Youth Incubator

- ⦿ Model: demand-oriented incubation → creating companies based on the needs of the enterprises within the Industrial City
- ⦿ Tenants:
 - carefully selected young Syrians (graduates of the VET)
 - entrepreneurs servicing local business communities
- ⦿ Plural approach to funding (corporate sources, government funds, and international donor programs)

EXPERIENCE IN TRAINING YOUTH

SSSY - Youth Incubator

- ⦿ Partners:
 - The Social Society for Syrian Youth (SSSY)
 - The Ministry of Economy and Trade (government)
 - The Industrial City in Adra (government)
 - SEBC (semi-governmental)
- ⦿ Service mix:
 - Training and support (knowledge)
 - Mentoring by SSSY members & other employers (experience)
 - linking incubatees to sources of financial assistance
 - Networking

THE SYRIA TRUST FOR DEVELOPMENT

- ◉ NGO, non-profit organization, established in 2007
- ◉ Aim: to empower people from all walks of life to play a full role in building and shaping their society.
- ◉ Work (building capacity, changing attitudes, and creating opportunities) is delivered through projects and programs of activity.
- ◉ Comprises four service groups- Finance, Human Resources, Strategy & Development, and Communication & Knowledge Management
- ◉ Carries out its work in partnership with local communities, other NGOs and charities, government and the private sector.

THE SYRIA TRUST FOR DEVELOPMENT

Projects targeting youth

- ◉ SHABAB:
 - Dedicated to motivating and preparing young people to enter the business world through developing their awareness of business and their key skills
 - Objectives: to boost entrepreneurship amongst young Syrians, encourage them to enter the business world, equip them with the key skills needed in order to succeed as productive individuals in society and create a positive impression of business amongst Syrian society
 - Programs aimed at 15-24 years old: Business Awareness Program, Know about Business, Business Experience, and Business Clinic.

THE SYRIA TRUST FOR DEVELOPMENT

Projects targeting youth

◎ MASSAR:

- sees young people between 5 and 21 years across Syria as active citizens who use their learning skills to understand and shape the world around them to take charge of their present and future.
- National learning program that is engaging young people to acquire knowledge rather than receive it, create solutions rather than complain about problems, and eventually transform their lives and contribute to the public good.
- Provides discovery centers, exhibitions, debate and volunteer programs, and utilize ICT and media to create spaces for dialogue and creativity

THE SYRIA TRUST FOR DEVELOPMENT

Projects targeting youth

◎ FIRDOS:

- The Fund for Integrated Rural Development Of Syria
- Dedicated to improving living conditions in rural Syria by empowering individuals and communities to express their needs, and by providing a wide range of social services, developing employment opportunities, and contributing to skill development.
- **Components:**
 - **Economic Development:** helping individuals and communities develop their economic assets and capabilities
 - **Business Development Services:** business trainings, management and marketing consultancy, advisory services and business linkage promotion
 - **Microcredit:** support potential entrepreneurs in establishing or expanding their businesses, with priority given to women.

JUNIOR CHAMBER INTERNATIONAL (JCI)

- ⦿ Membership-based nonprofit organization of 200,000 young people ages 18 to 40 in 5,000 communities and more than 100 countries around the world
- ⦿ As responsible citizens in a globalized world, JCI members take on the challenges around them through local development initiatives.
- ⦿ In JCI, the action is local, but principles and impact are global.

JUNIOR CHAMBER INTERNATIONAL JCI SYRIA

- ⦿ Established in 2004 as a junior commission of the ICC Syria
- ⦿ Over 650 members and 4 local chapters in Damascus, Aleppo, Homs and Lattakia.
- ⦿ Areas of Opportunity:
 - Opportunities for personal development: seminars to enhance personal development of members.
 - Community Opportunities: gives the member a chance to work with and for his/her community.
 - International Opportunities: allows for direct experience with different customs and cultures.
 - Business Opportunities: members can exchange business ideas and do business with other interested members in a network of almost 400,000 members around the world.