

HALF-YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT



HELPING HAND
FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

SDLP

**Skills Development &
Livelihood Program**

January – June 2022



Table of Contents

Mission.....	3
Overview	4
Countries Served	5
Comparative Data	5
Country Reports	
Afghanistan.....	6
Bangladesh.....	7
Jordan.....	8
Kenya	9
Lebanon.....	10
Mexico	11
Nepal	12
Pakistan.....	13
Philippines	14
Somalia.....	15
Success Stories	
Sandra Nava Vazquez (Mexico):	16
Firoza Khatoon (Nepal)	17



Mission

The Skills Development and Livelihood Program (SDLP) is designed for the socio-economic prosperity of vulnerable communities, especially those afflicted by natural and man-made disasters. It was launched with the aim of contributing towards two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): eradication of extreme poverty and women empowerment. SDLP aims at imparting training to those in need, allowing them to stand on their own feet and become financially stable. It empowers them to take charge of their own lives with dignity and determination. Skills trainings open the doors to opportunities that can change the trajectory of a family, community and even an entire country.



Overview

HHRD has developed a unique model under the Skills Development and Livelihood Program. The model is based on three components:

- 1 Training: to enable participants to generate income and develop entrepreneurship skills through their respective trainings.
- 2 Livelihood and Income Generation: To develop professional skills of participants by linking them with job markets for sustainability of livelihood. The program aims at increasing trainees' income level to the average Gross Net Income of their respective country.
- 3 Life Skills Development: To prepare trainees to contribute towards social change by developing their character through a series of learning sessions.

Countries Served

In 2022, SDLP will provide services in the following countries:

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Lebanon
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Somalia



COMPARATIVE DATA

Country	Number of Beneficiaries '21	Number of Beneficiaries Jan~Jun '22	On Track to Meet or Exceed?
Afghanistan	337	310	Yes
Jordan	453	218	Yes
Kenya	407	440	Yes
Lebanon	644	217	Yes
Mexico	0	85	Yes
Myanmar	63	0	*
Nepal	125	90	Yes
Pakistan	32,223	11,140	Yes
Peru	26	0	*
Philippines	68	130 (2020-2022)**	Yes
Somalia	105	91	Yes

*SDLP ceased operations in both Myanmar and Peru in 2022.

**The Philippines is reporting on two years' worth of classes that were interrupted by the pandemic.



AFGHANISTAN



Afghanistan has suffered over 40 years of protracted conflicts. The most recent development has resulted in a situation where women and widows are encouraged not to go outside the home. Girls above the 6th grade are not educated. 71% of out-of-school children are females, compared to 28% males. Only 32% of adult females (ages 15-24) are literate, compared to 61% of men.

In addition, every year more than 200,000 youth graduate from universities and high schools, but are unable to find jobs. HHRD intends to provide employable skills training for both men and women to enable them to support themselves and their families. For women, this means focusing on activities that can be accomplished in the home while still generating enough income for the family to survive.

Since 2014, HHRD has graduated 1,406 trainees in Laghman, Kabul and Nangarhar provinces.

Project objectives in Afghanistan:

- 1 To empower the local community by providing them opportunities to learn employable skills
- 2 To reduce poverty by teaching people marketable skills
- 3 To enable youth who have graduated from secondary school or university to get jobs
- 4 To prepare women for social change in the society by organizing a series of value-based activities
- 5 To manage an affordable group home for widows and other women to enable them look after their families

Trainings offered:

- 1 Computer – Microsoft Office
- 2 Tailoring class – ladies
- 3 Tailoring class – men
- 4 Intermediate English class
- 5 Engineering – software training
- 6 Mobile hardware
- 7 Carpentry
- 8 Resume writing & career development



BANGLADESH

AMAN is one of the non-government, nonprofit social development organizations in Bangladesh working for poverty alleviation regardless of race, caste, religion, ethnicity or nationality. Since 1995, the organization's primary concern has been to ensure an equitable distribution of development benefits among the communities shut out of the mainstream.

HHRD funded AMAN's Skills Development & Livelihood Program for the displaced Rohingya Refugees from May-December of 2022. Beneficiaries include homeless, under-resourced and oppressed women and teenagers who were persecuted in Myanmar by security forces. These refugees are living a stressful life in makeshift tents, and facing extreme suffering due to ongoing violence.



Trainings offered:

SDLP in Bangladesh offers handcraft training which includes the following items: quilts, bed sheets, pillow covers, mosquito net bags, tablecloths, sofa covers, chair covers, etc.

Outcomes in Bangladesh:

- 1 Provided skills-based training on handcraft items for 80 Rohingya refugee women
- 2 Supported capacity building of targeted Rohingya refugee women that created income generating activities
- 3 Provided value-based education
- 4 Helped beneficiaries deal with trauma

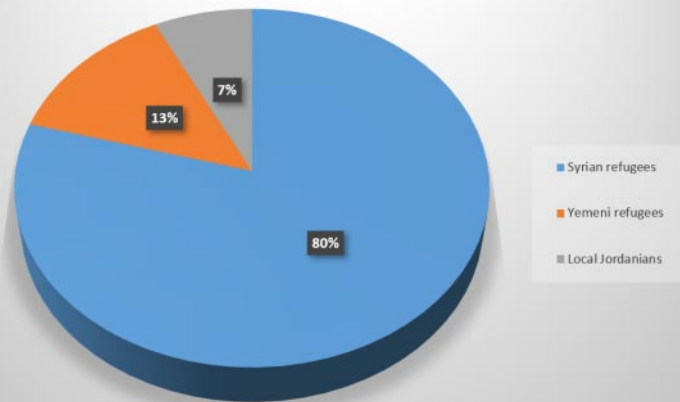
JORDAN

SDLP in Middle East & North Africa (MENA) has programs in both Jordan and Lebanon to serve dense populations of Syrian, Palestinian and Yemeni refugees. Some people have integrated into the cities, while others remain in tents in the desert. Entrepreneurial skills are desperately needed to help rebuild lives devastated by war. If we can give refugees the tools to be self-sufficient, it will go a long way toward restoring the type of life they left behind.

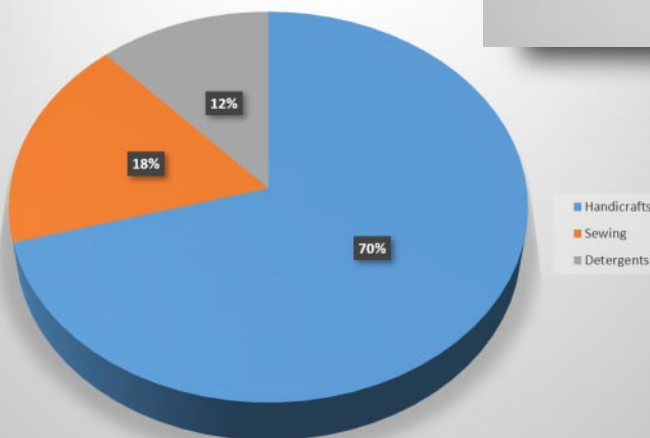
Outcomes in Jordan:

- 218 beneficiaries trained
 - 173 Syrian refugees
 - 29 Yemeni refugees
 - 16 local Jordanians
- 17 courses held

Beneficiaries



Courses



Trainings offered:

- 1 Sewing
- 2 Hand embroidery
- 3 Handicrafts
- 4 Detergents
- 5 Computer maintenance



SDLP in Kenya is designed for the socio-economic development of people (especially women) from vulnerable communities. It embodies the approach to eradicate poverty among the most neglected segment of society by providing them with employable skills & facilitation for home-based income-generating activities.

In the first half of 2022, HHRD provided 150 students with Ramadan food packages. We held a Henna Week prior to Eid, inviting members of the community to come and have their hands and feet decorated by our students. This was an opportunity for students to meet new customers and expand their businesses.

Project objectives in Kenya:

- Provide training to individuals to enable them to generate income and develop entrepreneurship skills.
- Develop capacities of program participants by linking them with the job market.
- Prepare trainees to contribute towards social change by developing their character through value-based education e.g. work ethics and interpersonal skills (communication, persuasion & leadership, etc.).

Trainings offered:

- 1 Information technology
- 2 Tailoring/embroidery
- 3 Henna
- 4 Electronics & mobile phone repair

LEBANON

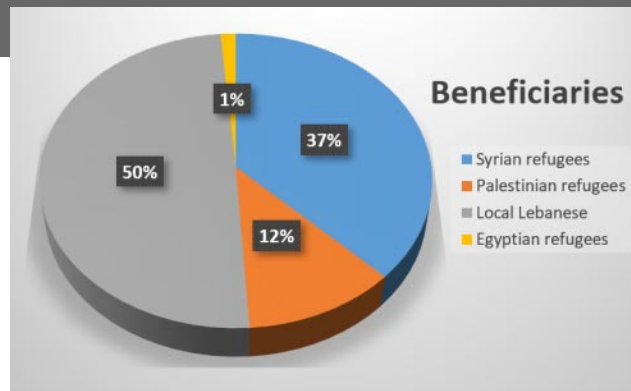
Lebanon is undergoing a severe economic crisis, leading to a high rate of unemployment, staggering inflation, poverty and hunger. The youth unemployment rate is more than 60% and reportedly even higher in areas affected by a 2020 explosion at the Port of Beirut.

Nevertheless, youth are in vital need to develop their practical skills in order to enter the highly competitive labor market, especially during current harsh economic circumstances. Empowering them with technical skills is vital to helping them transition into full time employment.

In addition to local beneficiaries, HHRD also assists refugee families with their skills development needs. There are two trusted, vetted partners who provide services in Lebanon on behalf of SDLP: Relief and Humanitarian Aid Organization and Kitaf for Humanitarian Aid.

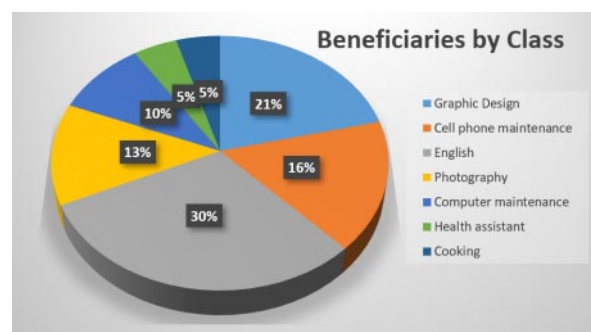
Outcomes in Lebanon:

- 217 beneficiaries trained:
 - 55 Syrian refugees
 - 17 Palestinian refugees
 - 73 Local Lebanese
 - 2 Egyptian refugees



Number of participants by class:

- Graphic Design – 46
- Cell phone maintenance – 36
- English – 66
- Photography – 28
- Computer maintenance – 21
- Health assistant – 10
- Cooking - 10



Trainings offered:

- Graphic design
- Cell phone maintenance
- English
- Photography
- Computer maintenance
- Women's hairdressing
- Men's hairdressing
- Health assistant
- Personal trainer
- Executive secretary
- Digital marketing
- Cooking
- IT

MEXICO



HHRD's Skills Development & Livelihood Program operates in two locations in Mexico. Beginning in 2022, this country was added to the roster because a need was identified in America's closest developing neighbor.

SDLP for Mexico City is aimed at adults, mainly women (mostly single mothers) who are looking to acquire the necessary skills to obtain jobs with salaries above the average. It also meets the needs of new entrepreneurs to guide them along the path of formal work.

SDLP in Tecamac reaches out to high school graduates whose income barely exceeds the lowest levels of salary, providing new tools to the community members to help them to increase the value of their labor or service and improve their income.

Project objectives in Mexico:

- To provide new skills for adults who are interested in getting job development and higher income.
- To teach English as a second language for those who are looking forward to working in bilingual jobs.
- To ensure access to competitive job offers in the region according to the training provided.

Trainings offered:

- 1 English for call center
- 2 Digital marketing
- 3 Finance
- 4 English for ESL teaching
- 5 Online middle & high school completion

NEPAL



Bordered by India and China, Nepal sits directly on top of the Himalayan mountain range. Most famous for Mt. Everest, Nepal has a rich history and a diverse people. The COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting economic downturn, coupled with recent international political upheaval and climate change, has pushed Nepali children and families toward starvation. The loss of crops in neighboring India caused prices to soar and left many unable to afford food. Nepal now ranks 81st out of 121 on the Global Hunger Index according to the Kathmandu Post.

Outcomes in Nepal:

- In the first 6 months of 2022, SDLP Nepal completed 6 training courses for 90 youth and women from vulnerable communities.
- Over 60% of 2022 graduates are employed or have established their own business.
- Since 2019, 360 learners successfully completed the skills training course and started earning more money through jobs or their own small businesses.
- Overall, 52.8% of SDLP graduates are earning more than 5 dollars a day. That is more than the average Gross Net Income (GNI).
- 1,800 people have been directly or indirectly affected by the SDLP project.

Trainings offered:

- 1 Basic tailoring
- 2 Advanced tailoring
- 3 Advanced Dhaka weavers
- 4 Handicraft-glass beading
- 5 Mobile phone repairing
- 6 Optical (eyeglass) dispensers

We are giving priority to widows, poor and disabled individuals to uplift their living standards and make their lives more comfortable. This initiative is getting positive results and feedback from the community and local government in regards to its model, execution and productivity.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan is faced with a multitude of issues. One of the most serious is poverty, which affects a major section of the population. According to a report presented to the National Assembly of Pakistan by the Ministry of Planning and Development, roughly 24.3 percent of Pakistanis, or 55 million people, live in poverty. Among other things, a lack of human development is a primary source of long-term poverty in rural and urban communities.

Pakistan is one of the most robust regions for the simple fact that it has been around the longest. It offers many interventions in addition to basic classes, including the Olive Project and Enterprise Development.

Outcomes in Pakistan:

- 1,140 total beneficiaries
- Assessed 56 youth from HHRD orphan families and enrolled them into technical institutes in Karachi and Rashidaabad
- Assisted youth job placements in the hospitality industry
- Prepared more than 19,221 school bags
- Completed 6,685 knitting projects per customer orders
- Assessed all skills development centers for quality, efficiency and output

Trainings offered:

- 1 Dress making
- 2 Fashion designing
- 3 Arts & crafts
- 4 Personal grooming
- 5 Henna
- 6 Computer/basic
- 7 Computer/professional
- 8 Product development training
- 9 Industrial unit school uniform
- 10 Knitting
- 11 English language
- 12 Agri-skills (kitchen gardening, food preservation & flower marketing)

PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines, HHRD supports a vetted partner organization to provide services to beneficiaries. The approved project submitted by TAHA Foundation in 2020 is the E2E C-MOM or Education to Employment (E2E) and Child-Minding Oasis for Mother Trainees (C-MOM). Participants were trained for the call center industry, just in time for the opening of the infrastructure development for call centers in Taguig City. This was expected to employ workers from the community. Because of the pandemic and total lockdowns in March, 2020, SDLP Philippines conducted a needs assessment which resulted in prioritizing training courses for Social Enterprise as well as addressing food insecurity during that time.



Project objectives in the Philippines:


- To provide opportunities to members of the community affected by job loss during the COVID-19 pandemic
- To provide adequate training in skills the participants are interested in
- To provide livelihood training that will give participants the necessary skills to earn a living
- To connect participants with possible employment opportunities
- To provide participants with a support group in their fellow trainees which helps their mental health

Trainings offered:

- 1 Food safety and halal awareness
- 2 Urban farming and agripreneurship
- 3 Hydroponics gardening
- 4 Handloom weaving
- 5 Dress making
- 6 Electrical installation and maintenance
- 7 Entrepreneurial skills (iStar)



SOMALIA



In the Horn of Africa, Somalia is a country of nearly sixteen million people, many of whom are under the age of 25. It is experiencing significant drought due to climate change and a disruption in the rain cycle. As the humanitarian crisis grows, SDLP is on the ground in Mogadishu, teaching skills that will help families and young people connect to the existing job market.



Trainings offered:

- 1 Information communication technology
- 2 Henna
- 3 Tailoring and embroidery
- 4 Cooking

Sandra Nava Vazquez (Mexico)



Sandra is a single mother with two children, one of them with Down's Syndrome. Considering a full-time job is not an option for her, that's why she decided to start her own business selling make up online.

Digital Marketing taught her how to take advantage of social networks to boost her business. Now she is able to lead her entrepreneurship in a professional way. Before these courses she was not making any profit. She considered her business only as a way to get some money to invest again and pay some bills.

Now she has the confidence to see this small project as a real business that can give her enough profit to cover all her expenses without having to neglect her children.

Firoza Khatoon (Nepal)



My name is Firoza Khatoon and I live in Sitapaila-04, Kathmandu. I have six members in my family: my mother, father, husband, daughter, son and me. We live in a rented house with a room and a kitchen. My husband was the only income earner for my family. Sometimes we had to go to sleep hungry because he was unable to find work for the day. We were always concerned about meeting our basic needs and providing an education for our children.

One day, I saw an advertisement for the tailoring course through HHRD Nepal. I applied for the course, and I received a call for an interview. Fortunately, I was selected. I learned basic level drafting, cutting and stitching at the training center and was able to practice at home to get better. After completing the course and obtaining a certificate, HHRD Nepal provided me a sewing machine to start my own business.

I have opened a small tailoring shop from where I am earning more than \$5 every day by sewing clothes for my neighbors. Now I can buy bread and butter with my income and also help my husband financially. I am thankful to HHRD Nepal for helping me to become an independent woman, develop myself and support my husband and family.