

Training and support towards the economic empowerment of unemployed young women in Akkar in North Lebanon

The Lebanese Center for Civic Education LCCE is a Non-Governmental Organization established in 2007, with the mandate to empowering youth and women to be change makers in their communities.

LCCE Main Fields of Activity are divided in 2 sectors:

→ Community Development & Youth Economic Empowerment

- Developing Curricula on Entrepreneurships, soft skills development, and vocational trainings
- Facilitating youth and women access to labor market
- Building youth skills and knowledge on entrepreneurship
- Developing social cohesion approach and acceptance of others at communities' level

→ Civic Engagement

- Civic and non-sectarian culture
- Strengthening the culture of human rights among youth
- Strengthening the culture of conflict resolution using democratic means
- Developing curricula and interactive teaching modules for schools on civic and human rights issues
- Strengthening the internal capacities of civil society
- Suggestion of legal and legislative alternatives
- Exchanging experiences in a culture of dialogue

Introduction:

The external evaluation will be commissioned by the Lebanese Center for Civic Education LCCE to evaluate the training and support program implemented between October 2021 till October 2022.

The project is implemented in Akkar by Lebanese Center for Civic Education LCCE with the support of “Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie” OIF through its fund “ La Francophonie avec Elles” in coordination with the unions of municipalities in Akkar (Dreib el-Awsat, Sahel Akkar, Akkar Al-Chemaly, Al-Jouma, and Al-Chafat)

The evaluation has the following specific objectives:

- To assess the results of the training and support services provided by the program in terms of effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, and impact.

- To identify lessons learned and best practices and to propose recommendations for the future.

Project presentation

Context

The goal of this project is to enhance women economic participation in Akkari communities. Long term expected results: 200 women start revenues generating activities and become financially independent.

The project consists of an innovative approach that combines blended training methodology followed by online coaching by business experts and support follow-up by local referents to enable 200 unemployed young women (18 to 29 years old) living in Akkar to start their own income-generating activities.

The available documentations:

- LCCE publication on promising sector for women micro-entrepreneurship in Akkar
- Focus groups results (with local referents)
- Training and coaching reports (including progression scores and recommendations)
- Pre and post-tests grades
- Attendance sheets

- Participants responses to satisfaction questionnaires

Evaluation objectives :

Long term goal of the project:

Ensuring the financial empowerment of unemployed young women residing in vulnerable areas in Akkar

Objectives of the project:

- Objective 1: Ensure support for women in vulnerable situations to develop income-generating activities (IGA) and through vocational training
- Objectives 2: Increase health information for women and offer them a platform to express themselves on pandemics

The evaluation will be using the following criteria:

- **Impact:** This involves the main impacts and effects resulting from the activity on the local situation.
 1. What were the actual outcomes of the program during the evaluation period?
 2. What are the long-term effects on the beneficiaries, will the intended benefits continue beyond the project lifetime?
 3. What concrete differences induced by the activity to women and girls?
 4. How many people have been affected?
 5. How did knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the women increase?
 6. How did the program affect the development of revenues generating activities?
 7. What is the impact of the project in increasing health knowledge in the epidemic's context?
 8. Was the program gender sensitive and took gender norms into consideration?
- **Relevance:** The extent to which the project is relevant to the priorities of the target group, and to what extent it responds to the needs of women and girls. Assess the appropriateness of the design to reach project objectives. Example of questions:
 1. Was the selection of beneficiaries based on a specific selection criterion?
 2. Was the training and coaching material, modules and approaches relevant to the needs of women and girls?
 3. Were the technical, entrepreneurship/branding learning activities relevant to the women and girls' needs?
 4. Were the healthcare awareness sessions relevant to women and girls' needs?

- **Effectiveness:**

Assess to what extent the expected results have been achieved, and if progress has been made towards the achievement of the project objectives.

1. How did the training and coaching program address the economic needs of girls and women in Akkar.
2. How does this project change their knowledge/ perspective towards entrepreneurship?
3. To what extent did the health awareness activities (training sessions, and social media platforms) change trainees' knowledge and attitude toward pandemics and prevention?
4. How was the project effective in terms of gender equality?
5. Did the program impact also reach the families?
6. What were the major factors influencing the progress towards objectives and outcomes?

- **Efficiency:** Assessment of the output in relation to the inputs in terms of resources and actions

1. Were the activities cost-efficient?
2. Was the program or project implemented in the most efficient way compared to alternatives?
3. Were the human resources adequate for the project?
4. Any innovations put in place to increase cost-efficiency?
5. Did the relevant staff have sufficient knowledge and training to do their work efficiently and effectively?

Recommendations

Identify lessons learned and make future recommendations.

Methodology

A participative approach is requested:

1. Desk review.
2. Focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders (project team, participants, municipalities, beneficiaries).

The overall evaluation will take up to 13 days (3 days preparation, 6 days interviews and focus groups, 4 days report development).

Profile and experience required

- More than 5 years of proven experience in evaluating development projects
- Previous work with NGO in Lebanon and knowledge of the local context
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Arabic.
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Expected documents and deadlines

- Mission start date: September 2022
- Inception report and the methodology by September 10 2022.
- Draft evaluation report, in English, 20-25 pages length by October 10.
- Final evaluation report submission by 15 of October

5/ How to apply:

Kindly submit the offers in by email including financial offer, brief methodology , and CV to:
info@lccelebanon.org

Deadline August 10 2022.