

THE WORLD BANK PRIVATE SECTOR FOR REFUGEES (PS4R) PLATFORM

Bringing Economic Solutions to Businesses and Refugees



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Context in which the PS4R pilot took place

Development Imperative

84 million forcibly displaced people worldwide in 2021

26.6m refugees, 50.9 IDPs, 4.1 displaced abroad and 4.1m asylum seekers)
More than 2.5 million refugees from Ukraine since February 2022

Regional crisis

Jordan	Lebanon	Iraq	Djibouti	Yemen
702,506 (7%)	1.5m (22%)	1.3m (3%)	31,131 (3%)	141,606 (0.5%)

2016 Jordan Compact

Combined humanitarian and development funding through multi-year grants and concessional loans, under host country leadership, with multi billion USD pledges, linked to specific targets:

- Formal labor market access for refugees
- Relaxed EU trade regulations in return for refugee employment for certain sectors
- Reforms to improve the business and investment environment and formalize Syrian businesses
- School places to all Syrian children, and some vocational training opportunities

WB portfolio response

- DPO
- P4R for Economic Opportunities for Refugees and Host Communities
- IPF Innovative Startup Fund
- IPF Youth Technology and Jobs; SME; Slum Upgrading
- MDTF
- IFC engagements (Prospects Partnership)

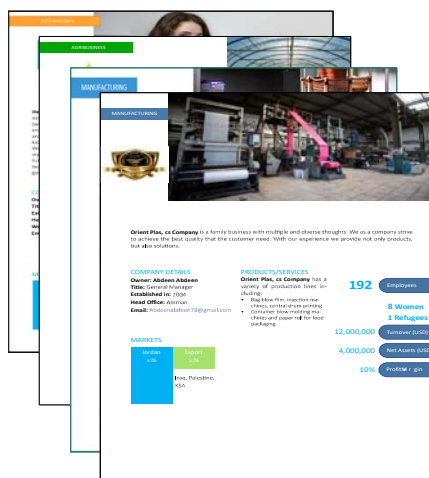
Piloting an innovation

→ Refugee Investment and Matchmaking Platform

JORDAN – REFUGEE INVESTMENT AND MATCHMAKING

Reducing the Information gap

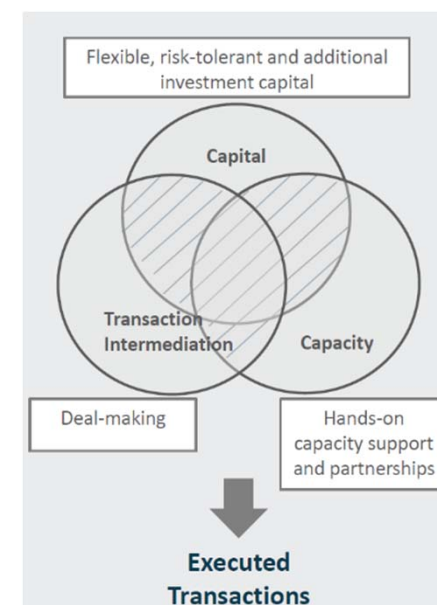
- “There are no investable opportunities in Jordan” - not true
- **152** companies profiled to highlight investment opportunities



Buidling capacity of institutions and business intermediaries



Investment catalyztion



B2B matchmaking examples in Jordan

Example: Forward Linkages

Exposed Jordan food processors to new buyers in Canadian food sector

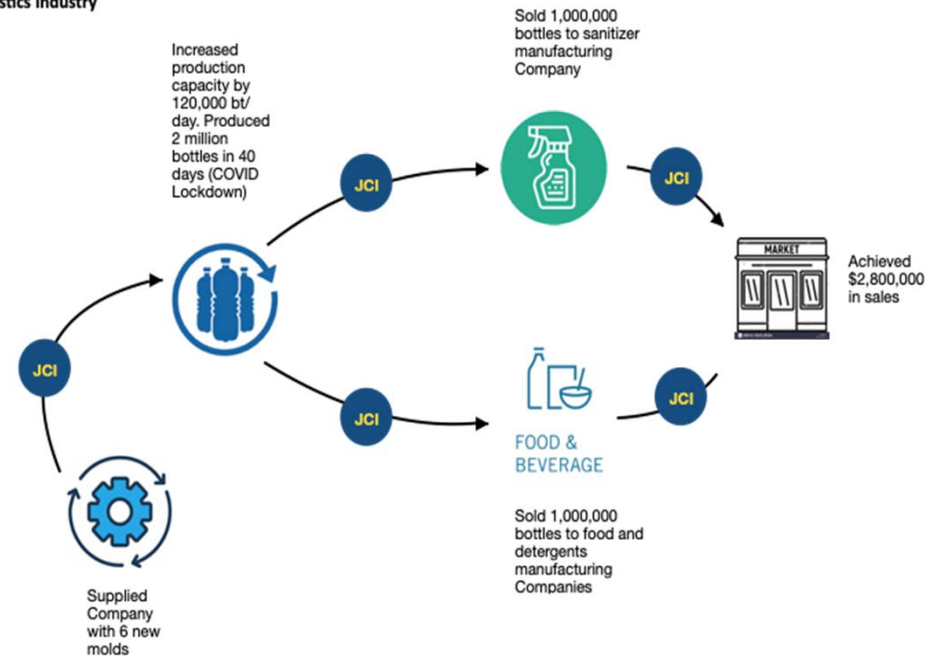
Resulted in Al Durra securing new export contract of \$1 million USD/year

Translating into 94 new jobs (including 7 refugees and 60 women)



Example: Backward Linkages

Sawa Plastics Industry



JORDAN RESULTS

Refugee Investment and Matchmaking Project in Jordan

Business to Business linkages supported

- **16** Matchmaking Events
- **267** Jordanian businesses exposed to global businesses
- **486** global businesses and investors exposed to Jordanian businesses, deal-books
- **86** Private sector companies supported with TA through business intermediaries (agri innovations, ICT, Plastics, Food processing, chemicals & detergents)
- **57** Business transactions resulting in:
 - **\$112.5M** cumulated amount of sales
 - **\$64.5M** cumulated amount of investments (\$92.5M loss from \$157M pre-COVID)
 - **1,930** new jobs (69% women, 17% refugees)

Out of which: COVID-19 Response & Results

- **SME/refugees** just-in-time Mini Survey
- **2** Virtual Matchmaking Events
- **24** Jordanian businesses exposed to global businesses
- **96** global businesses/ investors exposed to Jordanian businesses
- **27** Business transactions resulting in:
 - **\$11M** in domestic sales within 50 days (backward linkages with mold makers; \$6.4M + forward linkages with buyers \$4.7M),
 - **\$1M** cumulated amount of investments
 - **105** new jobs (15% refugees, 35% women)



Based on this Jordan pilot activity, the work on refugee investment and matchmaking developed to become the **Private Sector for Refugee Platform**

- With PS4R application in several countries
- With a set of PS4R global partner to develop knowledge and tools to promote the agenda



Private Sector for Refugees (PS4R) Platform

Country Level

Global Work

Inclusive
entrepreneurship

SME
business
development
services and B2B
matchmaking

Investment
catalyzation
and access
to finance

Institutional
development
and policy support

Global knowledge and
partnerships

Private Sector for Refugees (PS4R) Platform

Country Level

Global Work

Inclusive entrepreneurship

SME business development services and B2B matchmaking

Investment catalyzation and access to finance

Institutional development and policy support

Global knowledge and partnerships

Self-employment is a viable livelihood strategy for refugees in urban or rural areas, in cities or camps.

Activities of the PS4R platform on inclusive entrepreneurship focus on

- For entrepreneurs: Capacity building/training , financing (startup funds), networking
- For entrepreneurship ecosystem: Promoting inclusion, improving regulations, reinforcing of entrepreneurship ecosystem.

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Global Work

Inclusive entrepreneurship

SME business development services and B2B matchmaking

Investment catalyzation and access to finance

Institutional development and policy support

Global knowledge and partnerships

Technical assistance to intermediary private sector service providers to better service refugee-related SMEs.

- Supporting businesses through matchmaking events, exposure to global businesses through global tradeshows, introducing international businesses and investors to country-based businesses, and through capacity building support to export ready businesses.
- Promoting internal supply chain linkages, including backward linkages, to increase local content in a manner that benefits refugee employment and services.

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Investments in support of businesses that benefit refugee's economic integration:

- Work with investment funds/banks to introduce a “refugee lens” to investment and lending strategies.
- Work with refugee-related SMEs with potential to grow to build company profiles for investment funds seeking investible deals.
- Promoting FinTech solutions that can accelerate the financial inclusion of refugees into formal banking systems while spurring technological innovation within host countries.

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Work to sustain and institutionalize the PS4R approaches and good practice principles within the local relevant government institutions

- Support on regulatory, policy and incentives frameworks
- Capacity building for institutional strength, improved governance and monitoring of refugee-related policies
- Promoting partnerships and institutional coordination.

Private Sector for Refugees (PS4R) Platform

Country Level

Inclusive entrepreneurship

SME business development services and B2B matchmaking

Investment catalyzation and access to finance

Institutional development and policy support

Global Work

Global knowledge and partnerships

- Operational tools: diagnostic, M&E framework, guidelines, training
- Knowledge products & events: PS4R Charter, policy papers on PS4R themes, case studies
- Partnerships: PS4R multilateral, bilateral, philanthropic partners; working groups; WBG coordination
- Outreach and communication: events, blogs, social media, website



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Starts as TA
then gets integrated to
WBG portfolio of operations



Jordan



→ Integrated to an SME & Trade Development project



Iraq

→ Integrated to a Business Environment project



Lebanon

→ Integrated to a Digital Skills project



Djibouti



→ Integrated to an Urban Development project



Yemen



→ Integrated to a Social Protection project

THE ROLE
OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR
IN **ECONOMIC** INTEGRATION
OF REFUGEES

CHARTER OF GOOD PRACTICE



Global Work

Global knowledge and
partnerships

20 guidelines on:

- Entrepreneurship
- Investment
- Employment
- Products & services



PS4R WEBSITE AND KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM



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Private Sector for Refugees (PS4R)

Bringing Economic Solutions to Business and Refugees

The private sector is key to ensuring the economic integration of refugees into host communities – its expertise, technology and networks are pivotal for creating economic opportunity. According to [UNHCR \(2020\)](#), worldwide displacement topped 79 million in 2019, including some 26 million refugees. Integrating refugees into local economies and the global supply chain is vital for long-term, sustainable livelihoods for refugees and host communities.

Local and global businesses can help overcome these challenges by engaging refugees not only as aid recipients, but as employees, producers, investors, and customers. Companies can achieve or enhance social impact, gain reputational benefits, and build brand loyalty while maintaining or enhancing their bottom line.

The "Private Sector for Refugees" initiative (PS4R) was launched in 2019 and brings together actors from the development finance, humanitarian, and business communities to help bridge the historical divide between humanitarian and development work on one side, and commercially-driven business operations on the other. By doing so, the partnership can facilitate the role of business in providing practical solutions to support and empower refugees to become positive contributors to host economies.

Why should the private sector work with refugees?

The business case for working with refugees:

- Refugees are entrepreneurial and proven to be credit-worthy
- Refugees are engaged employees. Hiring them contributes to a more diverse workforce
- Working with refugees can translate into access to new consumers and markets
- Supporting refugees has a positive impact on brand reputation
- Promoting the economic integration of refugees into the host country contributes to increased social cohesion and national growth

"ICC pledges to leverage our unparalleled global network in order to support the economic integration of refugees and to raise awareness of the benefits this creates for their host communities. The Charter will ensure that policymakers have practical guidance on how best to incorporate private sector insight into the economic integration of refugees."
John Denton, ICC Secretary General

How can business work with refugees?

Companies can engage with refugees in many ways:

- By promoting refugee [entrepreneurship](#)
- By [employing](#) refugees
- By [investing](#) in companies that are owned by, employ, or support refugees in one way or other
- By targeting [products and services](#) for refugees

Global partners:

 Confederation of Danish Industry
  European Investment Bank
  ICC International Chamber of Commerce
  UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency
  WORLD BANK GROUP



www.iccwbo.org/ps4r

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GB32 great that we have a bar code! (or whatever its name is)
Gilda Borriello, 14/03/2022

PS4R: WHAT'S NEXT?

Expanding operational reach,
implementing work in countries

Tools, M&E, research & evidence to
support PS4R streamlining & uptake

Training for WBG staff and partners on
implementing PS4R

Strengthening PS4R Global Partnership



THANK YOU !

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