

**Professional Summary** 

Dedicated and keen aid worker, ILO-SIYB trainer, specialized in livelihood and entrepreneurship development interventions in Middle East, committed to support displaced persons in conflict-affected contexts. Process and details-oriented, capable to work under pressure, with proven ability to achieve program objectives, individually and collectively, building capacities of staff under supervision.

# Highlights

- Multi-years' humanitarian and development experience in Middle East
- Expertise and specialization in Livelihoods Interventions, Entrepreneurship development
- Sound planning and time, multi-million's budget management abilities
- Critical, creative thinking and excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent fluency in English, French, with basics of Arabic, German, Kurdish languages

#### Work experiences

- Danish Refugee Council / Aug 2020 Present
- Consortium Manager (Beirut, Lebanon)
- Lead on the overall implementation of the EUTF MADAD-funded Economic Recovery LINKED program (composed of two different grants) and coordinate consortium partners (DRC, Mercy Corps, Oxfam, Al Majmoua)
- Lead the Consortium Management Unit (CMU). Ensure that core functions (internal and external coordination, financial oversight, and compliance; M&E, donor liaison, communication activities and reporting) are carried out in a timely and effective manner.
- Lead regular Consortium Technical Working Group meetings composed of focal points from each organization (Economic Recovery, MEAL, Communication, Advocacy, Heads of Programmes etc. depending on priorities)
- Lead regular steering committee meetings to ensure that consortium partners are kept abreast of program implementation
- Provide representation and advocacy with relevant policy and coordination forums, other recovery actors and other EUTF MADAD funded-organizations, donors and authorities.
- Engage regularly with the Madad-funded Economic Development Policy Unit (EDPU)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH November 2018 to April 2020

# • Livelihood Coordinator (Iraq, Kurdistan Region) – March 2019 to April 2020

- Guidance to the operations of the livelihood programming, from basic tools to SOPs and guidelines essential to the direct implementation and the implementation through partners of the BMZ-funded GIZ Economic Development and Livelihood Programme in the Northern Areas of Iraq;

- Support the set-up of livelihood activities at country level, coordination setting among the implementing partners;
- Regular visit to programmes' projects, measure quality and evaluate impact, costeffectiveness and relevance of the interventions, provide recommendations for improvements and action plan to be followed up by the Head of Programme;
- Ensure cross-country GIZ consistency in Livelihood, Economic Development and cash transfer programming approach, liaising with other GIZ departments as well as with other humanitarian actors, specifically within the Livelihood Cluster, Cash Working Group.

# • Acting Head Of Programme – August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to January 15<sup>th</sup> 2020

- Budget-holder, manager and technical specialist for the implementation of the BMZcommissioned "Economic Development and Livelihood Programme" in the Northern areas of Iraq. The programme aims to provide short, mid and long-term access to income services for vulnerable households in the area (host community, Syrian Refugees, Iraqi IDPs, returnees from third countries);
- The Programme is implemented directly by a team of 69 members and through local subsidies and grant agreements sub-awarded to local authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations.

### • Livelihood Consultant – November 2018-February 2019

- Developing a strategical programme action for the 2019-2020 period related to the BMZfunded GIZ Economic Development and Livelihood Programme in the Northern Areas of Iraq;
- Carrying out entrepreneurship trainings in the 3 governorates of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq for about 50/60 trainees registered by GIZ or its implementing partners and benefiting from the Livelihood/Business development measure funded by the BMZ;
- Set-up the programme structure in terms of team, management and implementing partners setting in line with the developed strategy and action plan;
- Meet the relevant partners and actors (private sector, at ministerial level and NGOs active in the Livelihood sector in KR-I) aiming to establish partnership to create long-term jobs and income generation activities;

# • Danish Refugee Council (DRC) – October 2016 to August 2018

- Cash and Livelihood Manager (Kurdistan Region of Iraq, KR-I)
- Direct management of 4 Livelihoods projects in Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah, targeting Syrian Refugees, Iraqi IDPs and Host Community members, funded by DANIDA, RDPP and BMZ-GIZ;
- Direct supervision of 3 livelihoods field teams across the KR-I, for a total 25 staff members;
- Provision and organization of technical trainings related to Cash and Livelihoods programming of DRC in Iraq, particularly in relation to the business development program component;
- Sound planning, designing and organizing DRC Livelihoods and Cash interventions in KR-I through a Job Seeker Support Center Model ("Jiyan" Job Centers, present in Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaiyah cities);
- Designing and leading the conduction and analysis of two Rapid Labor Market Assessments;
- Contributing and leading the Iraqi component of a DANIDA-funded Regional Livelihoods Impact study (July and November 2017);

- Involved directly in DRC programme development in Iraq, with proposal writing, budget drafting and donor liaison, SOPs and guidelines development;
- Un ponte per... NGO February 2014 to October 2016
  - Programme Manager Duhok Governorate, KR-I (Iraq), June 2015 to October 2016
  - Managing 2 Community-based projects funded by UNHCR on Communication with Communities – Mass Communication in Duhok Governorate targeting Iraqi IDPs and Syrian Refugees in camps and non-camps settings;
  - Supervision and training of over 60 staff members along the 2014-2016 Mass Communication programming;
  - Design, prepare and lead awareness campaigns on various protection issues (such as child marriage, migration, child birth registration, legal procedures, fire prevention and water conservation), involving also local and international media;
    - Community Mobilization Coordinator, October 2014 to May 2015 Duhok Governorate, KR-I (Iraq)
  - Field management of 7 teams for a total of 45 persons, under the framework of Un ponter per...'s Mass Communication program;
  - Leading the collection of information about the services available in the camps and design user-friendly orientation guides for the camps` residents;
  - Ensure and organize the implementation of the project activities, such as focus group discussions, awareness sessions, community meetings, presentation and exhibition events, orientation sessions, service mapping) in 12 camps and 5 districts;
    - Communication and Press Officer, February 2014 / September 2014 Rome, Italy
  - Management of Un Ponte per...'s external communication of the organization together with the fundraising office;
  - Preparation and management of the content for the social media profiles of Un ponte per...'s organization as well as organizing and managing public events.
- Journalist free-lance, March 2012 September 2017
  - Redaction of articles, interviews, reports about Middle East and North Africa, with a focus on Palestine, Israel, Iraq and Kurdistan from a civil society and human rights perspective for Osservatorio Iraq, Gli Asini, QCode Magazine;
  - Co-author and editor of the book *"La crisi irachena. Cause ed effetti di una storia che non insegna"*, 90 pages, Ed. Gli Asini, 2014. The boox aims at explaining the root causes of the Iraqi crisis erupted through analysis, in depth articles and voices of activists;
- Teaching Assistant (FOCSIV) internship, March 2012 to July 2012 Rome, Italy
  - Preparation and organization of teaching material, in support to teachers, lecturers and the School Coordinator in the framework of the School on International Politics and humanitarian cooperation (SPICES);
  - Management of student's online platform;
  - Support in the preparation of seminars, workshops, final conference.

# EDUCATION AND COURSES

- First Aid and CPR course, Beirut, Lebanese Red Cross, June 2021
- Market System Development, Online Course, DevLearn, April 2021
- Supporting SME and Covid-19, Modular distance learning, ITC ILO, April 2020

- ILO Resilient Markets Academy Market Systems Development in Fragile Conflict-Affected Settings, ITC-ILO Turin, Italy, from October 28<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019
- ILO Entrepreneurship Trainers Academy SIYB curriculum, ITC-ILO Turin, Italy, from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup> 2018
- Theory of Change Training, DRC training, Erbil, Iraq, March 2018
- Personal Safety and Awareness Training, DRC training, Duhok, Iraq, August 2017
- Safety Management, ReDR-UK, funded by DRC, Erbil, Iraq, July 2017
- *CaLP training,* CaLP (Cash and Learning Partnership Initiative) and WHH, March 2017, Duhok, Iraq
- Communication with Disaster Affected Communities (CDAC Network, UNHCR, Erbil, Iraq, 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015);
- SPICES School of International Politics, Development and Cooperation (FOCSIV, LVIA NGO, October to December 2011) Forlì, Italy, September to December 2011;
- Nonviolence, human rights and social media (Un Ponte Per... and Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (in Ramallah, Palestinian Territory) October 2013);
- <u>Master in Diplomatic and International Sciences</u> Magna cum laude (110/110) graduation with a thesis on *"The corruption in the dimension of post-conflict reconstruction. Analysis of Iraq and Afghanistan after 2001."* – University of Bologna, Italy, March 2013. The two-year Master included one year of exchange programme in Canada, Québec, Montreal – Université de Montreal;
- <u>Bachelor in Diplomatic and International Sciences</u> 106/110 obtained with a thesis on "The role of UNRWA for the Palestinian Refugees and its contradictions" University of Bologna, Italy, July 2010. The three-year Bachelor included one year of exchange programme in Belgium, Bruxelles Université Libre de Bruxelles.

LANGUAGES AND TECHNICAL SKILLS			
Italian	Mother tongue	MS Office	Excellent
English	Professional	Social Media, blog, websites	Excellent
French	Professional	ODK platform and assessment tools	Good
Arabic, German, Kurdish	Basic		
VOLUNTEERING			

- Volunteer Un ponte per... (UPP) 2012/2014
- Volunteer Amnesty International (2008/2010), Forlì (Italy) and Bruxelles (Belgium)

References available upon request