



ONLINE

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

MARKET-BASED LIVELIHOOD INTERVENTIONS FOR REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES

9 NOVEMBER – 4 DECEMBER 2026

 60 HOURS

Information Note



International
Labour
Organization



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



International Training Centre

CONTEXT

More people than ever before are affected by forced displacement – by the end of 2021, the number of people who have been forced to flee from their homes as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations reached 84 million. Among them, nearly 26.6 million are refugees.

Providing refugees with an opportunity to work and earn a living is one of the most effective ways to help them rebuild their lives, enable them to contribute to their host communities, and prepare them for what solution ultimately becomes available – whether it be a return home, or integration in their countries of asylum or in a third country.

Until recently, the vast majority of livelihoods programmes for refugees have focused primarily on skills development, not necessarily informed by market demand and dynamics. These interventions have led to little impact and have proven to be economically unsustainable in many cases and particularly when implemented on a large scale. Humanitarian and development actors are therefore increasingly recognising that livelihood interventions for refugees need to be based on a solid understanding of market trends and demand, and identify ways to develop markets for both, refugees and host communities.

SNAPSHOT OF THE COURSE

This training course supports practitioners working with refugee communities in the design of livelihood interventions based on a solid understanding of market trends and demand. The training has been developed by the ILO and the UNHCR as a response to a lack of a specialised training on market-based livelihood interventions for refugees. It is based on the “Making markets work for the poor” (M4P) approach and disseminates tools and good practices learnt from ILO-UNHCR collaboration as well as from ILO projects implementing the approach in different countries.

The training combines expert input with applied learning methodologies. Participants will be exposed to group-based learning methods, including expert presentations, mapping exercises and case studies, to ensure a high-quality learning experience. The faculty includes M4P experts who bring real-life programming expertise to the course and learning specialists who will facilitate a learner-centred training programme.

WHAT WILL I BE ABLE TO DO?

By the end of the training, participants will be able to:

- understand the M4P approach and its relevance for refugees.
- design and facilitate market-based livelihood programmes that are economically viable and that comply with refugees’ protection needs, apply good practices from real-life case studies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- Analyse refugee livelihoods through the market-systems framework Identify demand-driven livelihoods opportunities for refugees
- Understand market failures and constraint that prevent refugees from maximising their livelihoods opportunities
- Articulate a vision for market-based livelihoods interventions
- Facilitate displacement inclusive business models in cooperation with the private sector
- Develop results chains and indicators to monitor the impact of market-based livelihoods interventions.

WHO ATTENDS THIS COURSE?

This training is of interest to anybody who works at the intersection of humanitarian and development programming. It specifically targets practitioners responsible for livelihood activities in their own projects with little or no knowledge of the M4P approach.

Participants at previous editions of this training included staff from CARE International, UNHCR, CGAP, Belgian Development Agency, CARITAS, IFRC, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, IOM and many more.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course is designed for practitioners who want to develop the analytical skills needed to build a deep understanding of a market system and design tailored interventions. The programme is organized in two phases:

Phase 1 | Core Learning

The core learning phase takes place from the 9 of November to the 4 of December and is designed to provide participants with an advanced understanding of the Market Systems development approach and its applicability to displacement contexts. This phase consists of 10 live webinars, 5 self-guided modules and 8 exercises designed to apply knowledge. During this phase, we will go through the key phases of a typical programme, combining fictional exercises with real case studies and testimonials from practitioners. At the end of this phase, participants receive an ITCILO certificate of participation.

Phase 2 | Fieldwork Assignment

Once participants have completed the core learning journey, they will undertake a long-term assignment where they will conduct a market systems analysis in a country and sector of their choice.

The ITCILO will offer individualized tutoring support to the participants throughout the completion of the assignment and provide personalized feedback on the final work. Furthermore, the training team will organize three skills clinics with the entire group of candidate analysts. During the clinics, participants will be able to share their progress and questions on the assignment, and receive support from the training team, as well as brainstorm solutions with the rest of the cohort.

The final deadline for completion of the market systems analysis is 26 February 2027. At the end of the learning journey, participants receive a certificate of achievement.

PROVISIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

	Monday 9 November	Tuesday 10 November	Wednesday 11 November	Thursday 12 November	Friday 13 November
Live Session (90 Minutes)	Introduction to the programme		The Market systems framework and its relevance for refugees		International frameworks for regulating refugees' economic inclusion
Self-Guided			The Minimum Economic Recovery Standards	Introduction to the Approach to Inclusive Market Systems	
	Monday 16 November	Tuesday 17 November	Wednesday 18 November	Thursday 19 November	Friday 20 November
Live Session (90 Minutes)	Sector selection		Review of Sector Selection Exercise	Mapping the market system	
Self-Guided			Sector selection exercise	Market Systems Analysis	
	Monday 23 November	Tuesday 24 November	Wednesday 25 November	Thursday 26 November	Friday 27 November
Live Session (90 Minutes)	Root-cause analysis			Introduction to Intervention Design	Designing sustainable business models
Self-Guided			From analysis to action		
	Monday 30 November	Tuesday 1 December	Wednesday 2 December	Thursday 3 December	Friday 4 December
Live Session (90 Minutes)	Facilitation and partnerships			Implementing and monitoring and Results Measurement	What now? Making Market Systems Development work for you
Self-Guided			Intervention design exercise	Articulating results chains	

LANGUAGE

The course will be delivered in English.

RESOURCES

ILO and UNHCR tools, case studies on market systems development in refugee contexts from various parts of the world.

COSTS

The price of the training programme is: **1,445 Euro**

REGISTRATION

Candidates can apply to the preferred learning path through the following link:
<https://oarf2.itcilo.org/DST/A9719152/en>

WITHDRAWAL, CANCELLATION POLICY, AND REFUNDS FOR OPEN COURSES

If an enrolled participant wishes or must withdraw from a course, they may choose to apply to a different course or be substituted by another candidate. The participant must notify the Centre, in writing, of their decision at least 14 days prior to the start date of the course. Cancellation of participation in regular courses will result in the following penalties:

- 14 days or more prior to the start date of the course: No penalty, 100% refund of amount paid less applicable bank charges
- 8 to 13 days prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 50% of course price, refund of residual amount paid (if any) less applicable bank charges
- 7 days or less prior to the start date of the course: Penalty of 100% of course price.

INFO

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

International Training Centre of the ILO
Sustainable Enterprises and Economies (SEE)
Viale Maestri del Lavoro, 10
10127 Turin – Italy

T +39 011 693 6568
see@itcilo.org
www.itcilo.org

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