

ESDU for Refugees

Since 2012, ESDU has been heavily active in projects aiming to improve the food security of host & refugee communities. The details of these projects can be found below:

Reducing Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees and Lebanese, in Lebanon” (March 2017 – Sept. 2017)

ESDU has signed a collaborative agreement with Near East Foundation (NEF), on a project entitled: “Reducing Vulnerability of Syrian Refugees and Lebanese, in Lebanon”. The project mainly seeks to reduce vulnerability among Syrian refugees and Lebanese by expanding access to economic and social resource. The project will be implemented in three of the most vulnerable areas in Lebanon: (1) Minie and Zouq Bhannine (North Governorate); (2) Mhammaret (Akkar Governorate); and (3) Qabb Elias, Saadnayel, and Taanayel (Bekaa Governorate). ESDU will be supporting NEF, in implementing activities related to building skills of 900 Syrian refugees and 600 Lebanese (80% women) and support development of 1,350 home-based productive activities or small businesses.



Community Kitchen Initiatives: ESDU has implemented an innovative idea in which women from both host and refugee communities come together within Community Kitchens (CKs) to produce healthy traditional meals directed towards the most vulnerable host and refugee families. This project mobilizes women from both communities, providing them with an income-generating opportunity, while helping to enhance social cohesion amongst them. The CKs also alleviated the food insecurity and increased the dietary diversity of the beneficiary families. A network of CKs in 4 Lebanese areas is serving each around 36,000 hot healthy meals per year to host and refugee families at less than \$2 per person. The model is being replicated around the country within different areas and contexts with the addition of kitchen gardens to develop local value chains and introduce best agricultural practices.



Urban Agriculture: ESDU is building the food security and economic Resilience of Syrian Refugees and their Host Communities in Beirut/Lebanon through the introduction of urban agriculture (UA) coupled with a recycling/composting program in 100 local and refugee families. The UA project empowers the families to grow a wide range of food crops and provides a cost-effective solution to achieve self-reliance and improve their access to affordable nutrient-rich food. Similar projects are sprouting in other hosting countries.



Skills Development to vulnerable refugees and Lebanese: ESDU will build skills of around 170 Syrian refugees and Lebanese and support the development of home-based productive activities or small businesses related to agricultural productive activities, food processing and marketing of food products. The areas of intervention will be spread between (1) Minie and Zouq Bhannine (North Governorate); (2) Mhammaret (Akkar Governorate); and (3) Qabb Elias, Saadnayel, and Taanayel (Bekaa Governorate).

