



Country:	Egypt
Member/Company	Federation of Egyptian Industries
Initiative	<i>National Initiative for Youth Employment</i>

Overview

We have launched, last November, a national initiative targeting creating new job opportunities for youth, especially for women in the disadvantaged villages in Upper Egypt and for migrants and refugees.

We find that the main challenges facing employment of youth are represented in the following: severe lack of experience, a very weak level of education, very limited entrepreneurial opportunities in the impoverished areas, with no access to finance and low salaries. Youth from migrants and refugees are much more vulnerable towards these challenges for many reasons.

According to IMF, raising the participation rate of women in the workforce to the level of men would boost Egypt's GDP by 34%. This comes at a time when the female participation rate in the workforce is 23.6% in 2019, while the male participation rate is 76.4%.

Convinced with the vital importance of partnership, we have decided to use our members (100 000 industrial companies) and CSR network from banks and all kind of companies in addition to our international partners (ILO, IOM and UNFPA) to empower youth to be able to get employed.

NGOs have provided us with candidates from women, refugees and migrants.

We reached to a deal with our member factories to provide “on the job training” up to 4 months, to offer transportation to the youth, social security coverage and a one-year – at least - labor contract.

We have convinced our CSR network to allocate part of their budgets to finance the training costs of the youth so that we can pay the trainees an adequate training remuneration and decent work conditions during the first 4 months which will alleviate the financial burden on the factories.

We have succeeded in November and December 2020 in training and hiring 250 women in RMG sector. This has done in cooperation with the UNFPA with the objective to fight early marriage through providing financial resources to young women.

We have trained and hired in Feb. March 2021, 100 youth (80% women) in two RMG factories in 2 villages in cooperation with the biggest bank in Egypt; the National Bank of Egypt In April, in cooperation with the IOM, we have launched a new program aims at empowering migrants and Egyptians, through providing them with vocational training opportunities and employment skills, to increase their chances of absorption into formal labor market. The Minister of labor has shown flexibility and full support to facilitate the legal procedures related to training and employment especially of migrants

In May 2021, we have started a new cooperation with the ILO to train and hire 200 youth from refugees and host communities.

Key Messages

N/A