Partnership for Prospects
Cash for Work
“CASH FOR WORK” DELIVERS IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE WITH A LASTING IMPACT. IN RETURN FOR A MODEST INCOME, REFUGEES RENOVATE HOUSES, REPAIR ROADS OR WATERPIPES AND PLANT TREES. THE PROGRAMME THUS HELPS REFUGEES AND HOST COUNTRIES ALIKE.

Dr Gerd Müller, Member of the German Parliament
Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
DEAR READER,

For the ninth year running, Syria is the scene of one of the most devastating conflicts of our time. The humanitarian situation is appalling and there is no sign of a permanent peace solution.

Millions of people have fled, trying to get away from the war, and the destruction and terror, with most of them seeking refuge in neighbouring countries, particularly Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. For years, these countries have been doing a tremendous job trying to host such a large number of refugees – despite the great social challenges they themselves are facing. However, host communities are increasingly being pushed to their limits and the situation in the refugee camps is extremely tense.

At the same time, people in Iraq continue to face incredible difficulties, especially in the regions that have been liberated from the so-called Islamic State.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is not leaving the region to cope with these challenges alone though. We recognise that this relentless crisis requires more than simply distributing humanitarian aid year in, year out. We want people to be able to reclaim their lives. That’s what matters most. We want to give them prospects going beyond the current emergency situation.

That is the intention at the heart of our Partnership for Prospects (P4P) initiative, which we launched at the beginning of 2016. Since then, we have created around 242,000 jobs – mostly temporary posts in “Cash for Work” programmes but also more long-term jobs in areas such as education and healthcare. With 90,500 people having benefited from the opportunity to undertake paid work in 2018 alone, we will be continuing these efforts unabated in 2019.

Dr Gerd Müller, Member of the German Parliament

Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development
In 2018, there were more than 70.8 million displaced people worldwide. According to UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, Syria has the world’s highest number of people displaced by war, violence and persecution. The civil war has forced 6.7 million people to flee the country and some 6.1 million have been internally displaced. So far, 3.6 million people have fled to Turkey, just under 944,000 to Lebanon and some 676,000 to Jordan. Most of the refugees live in host communities outside of refugee camps.

In Iraq, 4.2 million people have been able to return to areas liberated from the so-called Islamic State. Nevertheless, there are still some 2 million internally displaced people in the country.

IN 2018, THE BMZ PROVIDED 306.7 MILLION EUROS OF FUNDING FOR THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPECTS INITIATIVE
INTERNATIONAL SYRIA CONFERENCE 2016 – LAUNCH PAD FOR THE BMZ’S PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPECTS INITIATIVE

At the first international donor conference on the crisis in Syria, which was held in London at the beginning of 2016 under the title of “Supporting Syria and the Region”, the international community pledged to give more than 10 billion euros to provide support in the displacement crisis.

The pledge centred around education and job opportunities for refugees. They were (and still are) the areas where support was most urgently needed – for the sake both of refugees and of social peace in the communities that host them. It was at this conference that the BMZ launched its Partnership for Prospects (P4P) initiative.

Since then, Germany has played a pioneering role in support for Syrian refugees, internally displaced people and host communities, particularly through measures to promote employment opportunities.

At the 2019 Syria Conference, Federal Minister Gerd Müller pledged another 1.44 billion euros for the crisis region in and around Syria on behalf of the German government. This comes on top of the government’s previous commitment. 940 million euros of the funding will be financed from the BMZ budget. The pledge makes Germany, once again, the region’s biggest bilateral donor.
PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPECTS (P4P)

WHAT ARE THE BMZ’S “CASH FOR WORK” MEASURES ALL ABOUT?

For several years now, many people in the Middle East have not been able to return to the regions they used to call home. These people are reliant on aid or informal employment.

The aim of the P4P initiative is to create job opportunities that enable both refugees and needy local people to earn their own income. Including the people who live in the regions that host refugees is particularly important as a means of stabilising social peace.

The Cash for Work projects enable them to provide for themselves and their families, thus easing people’s financial stress. At the same time, refugees’ social standing in their host countries improves and social cohesion is strengthened. We are especially keen to involve as many women as possible since they are often particularly disadvantaged. In addition to these mostly temporary jobs, our aim is to create medium-term and long-term prospects through training and support for start-ups.

These measures stimulate the local economy: consumption increases and the local labour market grows. At the same time, the refugees acquire skills that will be very useful in the rebuilding and development of their home regions when they return.

RAPIDLY AVAILABLE JOBS AND INCOMES

Municipal service jobs in areas such as waste disposal or repair and maintenance of public infrastructure (schools, roads or housing, for example) give refugees the opportunity to earn their own income. Host communities benefit too as projects that employ refugees to perform tasks such as maintaining roads or building sewers translate into lasting improvements for the refugees and the local population alike.

↑ A worker at a tree nursery in Jordan.
VOCATIONAL TRAINING – THE JOBS OF TOMORROW

By giving young people and adults access to vocational training in the areas of trades and infrastructure, we are giving refugees employment prospects in the medium term as well as equipping them with skills that will be important in the rebuilding of their home regions.

JOBS IN EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

Education is a particular focus of our activities. By funding salaries, we can ensure that the additional teachers and other school staff needed are provided so that Syrian refugee children can go to school. For some time, we have also been funding salaries for Syrian healthcare professionals, who support fellow healthcare professionals in the host regions.

2018 AT A GLANCE

COMMITMENTS IN 2018:

306.7 million euros

OUTCOMES IN 2018:

90,500 jobs

453,000 people are benefiting from higher family incomes

365,000 children are able to go to school

30,000 young people are on vocational training programmes
Results of the Partnership for Prospects initiative in 2016–2018

**Turkey**
- 61,000 jobs
- Tuition for 230,000 Syrian schoolchildren

**Lebanon**
- 19,000 jobs + 46,000 traineeships

**Geographical locations:**
- Ankara
- Beirut
- Damascus
- Amman
- Turkey
- Syria
- Jordan
- Lebanon
Iraq
69,000 jobs

Syria
35,000 jobs

Total
242,000 jobs

Jordan
58,000 jobs

Tuition for 135,000 Syrian schoolchildren
According to UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, some 676,000 Syrian refugees were registered in Jordan in March 2019. In addition, there are 2.3 million Palestinian refugees in the country, plus around 90,000 UNHCR-registered refugees from other countries, including Iraq, Sudan and Yemen. This means that, measured against its population of about 9.5 million, Jordan has the second largest ratio of Syrian refugees in the world.

Most of the refugees live in communities in the northern provinces near the cities of Irbid and Mafraq as well as in Amman. Some 80,000 people have found shelter in the Zaatari refugee camp. Below are some examples of our work in Jordan.

**DRIP IRRIGATION IN THE DESERT**

Jordan is one of the world’s driest countries, with vast swathes of arid land. Using drip irrigation to grow fruit and vegetables saves water and helps protect the environment. 2,700 Syrian and Jordanian women have been trained in this special irrigation method since 2016, enabling them to earn their own income. For most of them, this is of existential importance as they are the sole providers for their families.

**FUNDING SALARIES FOR TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Many of the children living in the Zaatari refugee camp were born there and have spent their whole life in the camp. If they are to have a chance of a good future, they need a good education. In Zaatari, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) runs a number of camp schools, with support from Germany, to provide lessons for the children. Through funding for teachers’ salaries, these measures have created 7,000 jobs for Syrian refugees and Jordanians since 2016. This makes lessons possible for 135,000 children per academic year. Syrian and Jordanian teachers also provide tuition in Amman and other host communities.

↑ Lessons for Syrian refugee children at a girls’ school in the Zaatari camp.
“I heard about the project through the Institute for People with Disabilities and applied for a place on the drip irrigation course. I like working with plants and watching them grow and develop. I’m glad I now have the chance to train in this field.”

Reem Haddad, 27, a Jordanian woman who has a hearing disability, trained on the “Drip Irrigation in the Desert” programme.
COLLECTING AND RECYCLING WASTE
In many places, the systems for waste management are stretched to breaking point due to the rapid increase in their population as a result of taking in refugees. Since 2016, we have created 30,000 waste-collection and road-cleaning jobs for refugees in numerous Jordanian communities and at the Zaatari refugee camp. These people also organise awareness-raising campaigns on how to avoid waste. At the same time, we are setting up recycling centres in these communities, creating long-term infrastructure and long-term jobs.

TRAINING IN SKILLED TRADES
Together with the German Confederation of Skilled Crafts (ZDH), we are working to strengthen vocational training programmes for young people. We provide career advice, offer training programmes and help them enter the formal job market. The programme has been running since 2018 and has so far found jobs for 300 people.

TRADE FOR EMPLOYMENT (T4E)
This BMZ project, in cooperation with the Jordanian government, local associations and chambers, provides advice and support with export promotion to businesses that take on Syrian refugees and Jordanian jobseekers. The aim of the programme is to take people who have been participating in temporary Cash for Work projects and place them in permanent employment as well as holding job fairs to bring companies and jobseekers together. As a result of the project, 550 people have already found permanent work.

Abdel Rahman Hamada is training to become a joiner with the help of the “Trade for Employment” project.
“I used to work in logistics in Syria but I like my job here at the recycling centre too. I separate the rubbish and sort the pallets that the machine makes from the plastic waste. I’ve been living in Za’atari for five years now. I met my wife here and we have a child.”

Omah al Luhbad, 25, works on the “Collecting and Recycling Waste” project in the Za’atari refugee camp.
LEBANON

In 2018, there were approximately 944,000 Syrian refugees living in Lebanon. With a population of just 6 million, that means Lebanon has more refugees per person than anywhere else in the world. The huge influx of refugees from Syria is putting a strain on the country’s already scarce resources and its social infrastructure. This comes on top of the infrastructural challenges posed by the Palestinian refugees who have been living in Lebanon for many decades. Below are some examples of our work in Lebanon.

EMPLOYMENT FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES

At 87%, unemployment among young Palestinian refugees from Syria is particularly high. The main obstacle to their professional development is their lack of work experience. To tackle this problem, we have been working closely with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) since 2017, providing support specifically for employment programmes for young Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and Syria. These activities have led to 470 new jobs. The refugees gain work experience by renovating homes, repairing and maintaining schools or modernising the supply system for drinking water in the refugee camp. Everyone living in a refugee camp, not just the young people who perform the work, then benefits from the upgraded infrastructure.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

1,100 Syrian refugees have been working with members of Lebanese host communities to repair roads as part of a BMZ programme launched in 2017. They also create public spaces for the benefit of all community members. In this way, jobs are created that provide livelihoods and have a positive impact for the community as a whole.
“We were living in a tent camp, which was cleared by the army, and then we moved into an apartment but the rent ate up almost all our income. We turned to NRC and were given support to help us renovate a home. This programme is a blessing for refugees.”

Abdel*, 35, is from the Syrian city of Homs. He and his family were given support to help them renovate a home for themselves through the BMZ-funded Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

*) Surname omitted to protect privacy.
VOCATIONAL TRAINING
Since 2016, we have been funding training for 46,000 young people on programmes open both to Syrian and Palestinian refugees and Lebanese citizens. They can learn sewing or hairdressing skills, for example, at a vocational college or on the job. Young people can also get advice on developing innovative business ideas on courses conducted jointly with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

DRINKING WATER AND JOBS
Since war broke out in Syria, there has been a marked increase in demand for clean water in Lebanon. At present, only one third of all refugees have access to clean drinking water. In some cases, Lebanese people do not have clean drinking water either. This Cash for Work project involves expanding the water supply systems and building new reservoirs. Not only is this creating 1,300 temporary jobs and permanent infrastructure – it also promotes the health of those people who previously did not have access to clean drinking water. The programme started at the end of 2018.

People in the Beddawi settlement had already been living in very cramped and simple conditions for decades. When the refugees from Syria arrived, the already fragile water supply system broke down completely. Many of the new dwellings were not connected to the sewer system at all. Their waste water ran into the nearby river, resulting in pollution and illness, especially among the children who played on the banks of the river. Thanks to the drinking water project, there is now a stable water supply to the homes in the settlement, plus a closed sewer system. The people from the settlement perform part of the construction work, giving them an income, clean water and better hygiene and health.
“I love creating culinary delicacies. But my training programme didn't just teach me how to cook – I also acquired management skills such as effective and economical selection of ingredients.”

Ahmad Hamwi, 27, spent a long time working as a kitchen hand in cafés and restaurants after he fled Syria. His dream was to run his own catering firm. He was given the opportunity to take part in a UNICEF vocational training course, funded by the BMZ, which enabled him to develop his skills. Today, he and his mother run a catering business in Beirut, where he is the head chef.
TURKEY

Turkey is hosting some 3.6 million Syrian refugees plus another 300,000 to 400,000, primarily from Iran and Afghanistan. The population of some host communities has doubled because of the influx of people. This can lead to competition for jobs between refugees and local people. Below are some examples of our work in Turkey.

CLASSROOM SUPPORT THROUGH SYRIAN TEACHERS

This is now the third academic year running in which the BMZ has funded the salaries of 11,000 Syrian teachers, thus making school lessons possible for refugee children from Syria. In the 2017/18 academic year, 230,000 children were given tuition and, with it, a foundation for a better future.

WASTE COLLECTION AND MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Parks and forest areas in 16 communities are being cleaned up through this Cash for Work project, launched in 2016. The number of trees planted has already topped 2.2 million. In addition, Syrian refugees and Turkish people are working together to repair schools and mosques. The 9,300 jobs created through the programme also help to create better social ties.

Ahmed Wafeq earns an income as a road sweeper on the “Waste Collection and Municipal Infrastructure” programme.
“Teaching is a lot of fun. On the whole, I like being in Turkey. People are friendly and welcoming. But I want to return to Syria some day when there is peace again. My family still live there and I talk to them on the phone every day to make sure they’re ok.”

Hasnaa Sawas, 28, teaches at the UNICEF school in Adana. Her salary is paid for from BMZ funds.
JOBS IN THE HEALTHCARE SECTOR
In a joint project with the World Health Organization (WHO), the BMZ has opened seven healthcare and training centres since the end of 2017. This has improved healthcare provision for Syrian refugees and local people, with Syrian doctors and nurses providing treatment in 720,000 cases in 2018. With the help of tailored training programmes, Syrians who already have some knowledge of medicine can compensate the lack of skilled professionals in the Turkish healthcare system. The programme has created 19,100 jobs.

CRAFTS AND TRADES – PRODUCTION AND MARKETING
Since 2016, preparatory and on-the-job programmes have been running to equip Syrian refugees and Turkish citizens with the skill set required by the local labour market. Advanced training, for instance in textile processing or in fields such as electronics and handicrafts, gives participants the additional qualifications they need. These programmes have created 900 jobs.
“I found it difficult to settle in Turkey at the beginning. My family and I could hardly afford the high rents. But things have changed now that I work for a vet at an animal shelter in Hatay. I have a steady income and can use my knowledge to support the Turkish healthcare system. One day, I’d like to continue my medical studies here.”

Bassam Alibrahem, 34, fled from Syria with his wife and their three children in 2016. In Syria, he had been studying anaesthesiology. Now he can use and build on his medical knowledge in his work at a veterinary practice.
IRAQ

Following years of conflict within Iraq, there are currently some 2 million internally displaced people in the country plus 250,000 refugees from neighbouring Syria. This situation is particularly challenging for the north of the country, where there is no operational infrastructure and hardly any work. In addition, social conflict arises when displaced Iraqis return to the areas liberated from the “Islamic State”. The Cash for Work projects are helping to stabilise the situation. Below are some examples of our work in Iraq.

INCOMES FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE, REFUGEES AND SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED GROUPS

In northern Iraq, 43,200 refugees, internally displaced people and locals have been working together since 2016 to rebuild nurseries, libraries and recreational facilities. In return, they receive a salary that enables them to feed themselves and their families. In these activities, we focus particularly on people who most of the time have difficulty finding a job: women, people with disabilities and the elderly.

STABILISATION IN MOSUL

After more than three years of the “Islamic State’s” reign of terror, Mosul’s infrastructure was left virtually destroyed. Since liberation in 2017, Cash for Work projects have been supporting reconstruction work by the local population, internally displaced people and Syrian refugees, through 16,000 jobs. The work to renew water and electricity supply systems, set up new healthcare facilities and build new homes has a twofold effect – people benefit from an income and from new infrastructure that makes the city a place they can call home.
“The Cash for Work projects gave me a proper job opportunity – for the first time in my life. At home, I look after my sick mother and it was always difficult to find work because nobody wants to employ a physically disabled woman – even though I’m a dedicated, hard worker.”

Shireen*, 37, from northern Iraq, lives with her sick mother and is physically disabled herself. She works on a Cash for Work project in a tree nursery.

*) Surname omitted to protect privacy.
SYRIA

The number of people who have fled abroad due to the civil war in Syria is already around 6.7 million. An almost equally high number – approximately 6.1 million – are internally displaced within Syria, seeking refuge in regions far from their own homes. The many years of conflict have left their mark, with numerous cities lying in ruins. There are no employment opportunities for internally displaced people, returning refugees or the local population; nor do they have the financial resources to make a new start. Below is an example of our work in Syria.

GENERATING INCOME

In those places where the need is greatest, we have been working with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with local non-governmental organisations (NGOs) since 2016 to create 35,000 income and job opportunities. Internally displaced people clear rubble, collect waste and repair water mains. People who have been maimed or have suffered a disability as a result of the war receive support in the form of courses to learn various skills: repairing electrical appliances, bicycles and motorbikes, sewing, hairdressing and mending shoes. In this way, we are helping people meet their basic needs and better cope with the difficult situation they face.
“I managed to get by as a labourer for quite a while but the pay was so low I could hardly feed my family. Our situation has improved considerably since I started working in the bakery. With the money I make, I can buy food for my children and the medicine we urgently need for my sick son.”

Working on behalf of the BMZ, UNDP has set up 15 bakeries with local partners, where 90 people now bake bread for the local communities. Mohammad*, 61, is the sole provider for a family of five and works in one of the bakeries.

*) Surname omitted to protect privacy.
What we achieved in 2018

Under the Partnership for Prospects initiative, we created 90,500 jobs in 2018.

In Lebanon and Syria, more than 350,000 tonnes of waste was collected in an effort to ensure good and clean environmental conditions. In addition, recycling centres and composting plants were built in Lebanon and Jordan.

Thanks to our financial contributions to salaries for teachers and auxiliary staff, more than 365,000 children were able to attend school.
Partnership for Prospects (P4P) – Cash for Work

Through our training projects, more than 30,000 young people in Lebanon attended vocational courses.

A special effort is made to ensure women are included in our projects. Even in the projects in the construction sector, the share of female employees is 10 per cent, and in education it is actually higher than 60 per cent.

In Turkey, 720,000 refugees were able to receive medical treatment thanks to training for Syrian healthcare professionals.
Since 2016, it has become clear that we can achieve real improvements in the situation of refugees and people in host communities. We can open up more possibilities for them to take action themselves to improve their situation. And we can create opportunities, both in this emergency situation and beyond.

Over the next few years, we will be ramping up our support to promote longer-term jobs. We will do this by providing assistance for start-ups, placing refugees in permanent employment and offering vocational training in line with local labour market needs.

A “Save the Children” project places Syrians and Jordanians in permanent jobs in Jordan.

↑ Manal*, 30, undertook three months of training on the project to become a hairdresser. She is from Homs in Syria. After her course in Jordan, Manal found permanent employment.

← Ahmad Atyeh Hassan, 34, fled from Damascus in Syria with his mother. In Jordan, he now works as a chef and waiter in a restaurant. His vocational training was funded by the BMZ. His plan is to open his own restaurant in the future.

*) Surname omitted to protect privacy.
COOPERATING FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Germany can make a very important contribution to the effort to stabilise the region in and around Syria and can lead by example on a global scale. However, in order to provide new long-term opportunities for the large number of refugees affected by the severe consequences of violent conflict, a joint effort from the international donor community is necessary. The BMZ is working both within the European Union and the United Nations to achieve more global solidarity and a fair sharing of responsibility.

This is also the core aim of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which was adopted by the overwhelming majority of the international community in December 2018.

With a view to giving people on the ground the best possible support, what is crucially needed, in addition to financial support, is dialogue and international cooperation. With so many trouble spots in the world, which cannot be resolved at the national level only, the multilateral system is more important than ever.
FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the Partnership for Prospects initiative and on the Cash for Work programme, visit the BMZ website or check out our web app, our special web page on displacement.

www.bmz.de/en

www.bmz.de/webapps/flucht/#/en/

For videos that provide interesting insights, information on individual projects, interviews with refugees and people in host communities and much more, visit the BMZ YouTube channel.

www.youtube.com/bmz