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U.S. EMBASSY ALGIERS

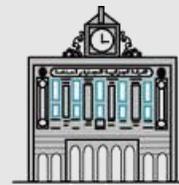


World Learning MEPI-Funded “Youth Employment Summit”



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CLDP & CACI : Two day workshop on franchising in Algeria



الغرفة الجزائرية للتجارة و الصناعة
Chambre Algérienne de Commerce et d'Industrie



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The Career Development Centers experience: a step toward your future...



On July 25-27, World Learning Algeria, under the MEPI-funded Project Promoting Education, Altruism and Civic Engagement (PEACE), organized the Youth Employment Summit under the theme “The Career Development Center Model: Building Concrete Solutions for Youth Employment”. This summit is the culmination of the PEACE project in which World Learning has organized three Tech Camps, established university career centers in Blida, Ouargla, Bejaia, Adrar and Constantine, organized 17 career fairs, funded 23 civil society projects, trained 146 civil society organizations, recruited 670 interns, mobilized 2,135 volunteers, and engaged more than 10, 000 students.

During this three-day conference, 150 representatives of local communities, technical schools, universities, and associations from all across Algeria came together to learn how to establish their own career centers. It was also an opportunity for them to examine career center models and services from Algeria as well as Egypt, El Salvador, Jordan, Morocco, and Palestine through a series of interactive workshops with international experts.

To promote this initiative, World Learning has developed a **Career Development Center Toolkit**. This guide includes best practices, lessons learned, and practical tools that can help Algerian institutions launch their own career centers. As mentioned by Ms. Leah Bitat, director of World Learning Algeria, “The summit will give ambitious local education leaders the chance to exchange with career center practitioners in Algeria and abroad... With the Toolkit in hand, aspiring career center founders will have the knowledge and tools they need to launch their own centers successfully and support youth in their local communities.”

“To help ensure that young people have the skills necessary to compete and succeed in today’s interconnected world, the United States has increased its partnerships throughout the Middle East and North Africa, focused on education, innovation and entrepreneurship... This summit is an excellent opportunity for educators, recruiters, and everyone interested in youth employment to learn more about the mission of career centers and how they can help youth overcome barriers to entering the workforce and increase their employability.” Ambassador Polaschik

This Youth Employment Summit marks also the beginning of the new MEPI-Funded Youth Employment Project, World Learning is establishing Youth Employment Centers within private vocational schools to support young job seekers with training and career services in Adrar, Setif, Ouargla and Blida. Through this project, World Learning will train over 2,000 young Algerians across Algeria to promote their integration into job markets.



Franchising: An important engine for economic growth in Algeria

Following the seminar on franchising in Algeria initiated by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) in cooperation with the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACI) last January 25, and then the participation of Algerian representatives from Central Bank, CACI and from the Ministries of Commerce and Industry in the Paris Franchise Expo on March 18-20, CLDP and its partner CACI organized a two day workshop in



Algiers on June 20-21 to promote franchising in Algeria. Representatives from the above mentioned Algerian institutions came together to define the different models of franchising and the financial flow resulting from this activity. It was also an opportunity for the participants to understand the legislative and legal tools which govern franchising in France, Belgium, Tunisia and the United States and learn some best practices from countries who were able to strengthen their economic growth through franchising like Kuwait, Lebanon and Malaysia.

MEPI partners with Djazairouna to support women empowerment in Blida



The MEPI-Funded project "Hands off my rights" in partnership with the Association Djazairouna aims to strengthen the economic empowerment of young women, assisting them in the job search process and promoting broader gender equality within Algerian society. The main objective of this project is to support the economic inclusion of these women through a series of professional trainings, workshops and awareness campaigns on women rights. In April and June 2016, Djazairouna organized the second phase of trainings on embroidery, traditional bakery, IT tools,

and French language for 67 women. On May 11-13, forty-two civil-society organizations attended a seminar on the different mechanisms for the protection and defense of women's rights at national, regional and international levels. In addition, two awareness campaigns were organized in Tipaza and Algiers under the themes "Divorce and its consequences" and "Children Rights" which gathered more than 60 women.

This is the second project implemented by Djazairouna in Blida. In 2012, with the support of MEPI, Djazairouna created a support unit for the economic integration of young women from the remote rural areas of the Mitidja.



ZOOM... Student Leaders and Tomorrow Leaders participants 2016



The MEPI Student Leaders program is a six-week intensive exchange program to the United States for approximately 120 undergraduate students from the Middle East and North Africa. The program runs from June 26 to August 5, designed to reinforce students' concepts of comparative analysis of leadership styles, conflict resolution and group dynamics, the role of civil society in the democratic process, and social and political change management. MEPI Algiers received over 250 applications this year. This year, fifteen amazing students demonstrated extremely strong leadership potential and high commitment to civic engagement and thus were selected to take part to the Student Leaders Program 2016.



The MEPI Tomorrow's Leaders Program provides scholarships for four-year degree in a U.S.-accredited university in the region. This program recruits high school students in the Middle East and North Africa who have the drive and energy to be leaders. This year, three students will join the American University in Cairo (AUC), and the American University of Beirut (AUB). They will receive an undergraduate degree and specialized civics-based training to include a semester abroad in the U.S, as well as internship opportunities with local public, civil society, or private-sector organizations.