



REPORT ON WORKING VISIT TO EGYEIKROM REFUGEE CAMP

The Global Shapers Community, Cape Coast Hub made a working visit to the Egyeikrom Refugee Camp in the Central Region on July 25, 2019. The purpose of our visit to the camp was to assess the skill-set of the refugees and use the data to provide opportunities for inclusive employment. Our priority is to improve refugees' economic self-reliance by facilitating access to income generating opportunities.

The summarized data below explains the skill-set needed at Egyeikrom refugee camp after series of interaction. From the data, we can deduce four (4) key challenges that need solution;

Number of facilitators from Global Shapers Cape Coast Hub-12

Total refugees interacted with – 79

Average age bracket of refugees- 23-39years

Males - 48

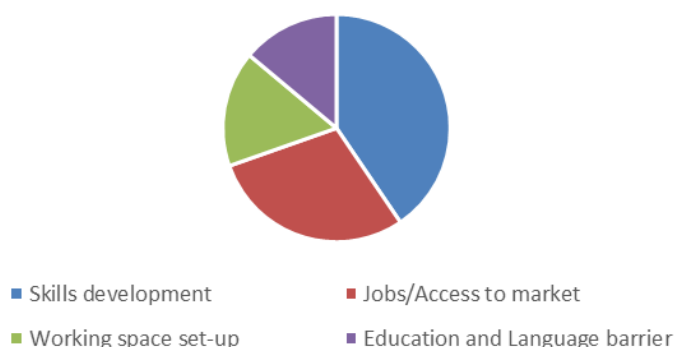
Females- 31

SKILLS IDENTIFIED AMONG REFUGEES

1. Masonry
2. Seamstress/Tailor
3. Plumber
4. Farming
5. Painting
6. Information Technology
7. Welding
8. Mechanic
9. Electricals/Electronics
10. Carpentry
11. Hairdressers
12. Soap making
13. Communication

KEY CHALLENGES	Number
Skills development	32
Jobs/Access to market	23
Working space set-up	13
Education and Language barrier	11
TOTAL	79

Main Working challenges at Egyeikrom Refugee Camp



EXPLANATION OF KEY CHALLENGES

Skills development- Majority of the refugees had either acquired some skills from their home country (Cote D'Ivoire) or wanted new skills or had undergone training at Egyeikrom. The latter however, seem not have fully mastered their craft hence, require further training.

Access to market- A fair section of the refugees seemed well vested in their skills but could not penetrate the market. They complained of not getting jobs or sales.

Working space set-up – Hairdressers, poultry farmers, seamstress were part of the refugees who expressed concern of not being able to get a shop to operate.

Education and language barrier – While some of the refugees wanted to further their education, especially in nursing, others wanted to be interpreters in both French and English hence, they want to perfect their English language. Almost all refugees in this bracket were women.

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

1. *Skills development* – We plan collaborating with vocational institutions and established entrepreneurs to organize training sessions for those in this category. They include soap making, baking, metallics/aluminum works, mechanics, electricians, painters, tailors, construction.
2. *Access to market* – We also plan finding wholesalers and retailers for the products produced from the camp. We also intend partnering an e-commerce retailer to sell the products. Among those who need market access are farmers, masons, and painters.
3. *Working space set-up* – This challenge requires financial investment for logistics.
 - Poultry farmers – Provision of feed or training on how to prepare the feed.
 - Provide better heating and lighting system.
 - Tailors/Seamstress – Provision of industrial sewing machine and its accessories, knitting machines.

Electronics/Electricals/Welding – Toolbox (Pliers, chisel and testers are their priority)
Hairdressers – Dryers and other minor accessories.

The other artisans complained about inadequate logistics to work with.

4. *Education and language barrier* – The hub intend working with institutions like University of Cape Coast languages department and other Non-governmental organizations who offer exchange programs to provide us with interpreters.

We are open to strategic partnerships to help improve refugees' economic self-reliance.

We thank Ghana Refugee Board and ADRA for the approval, support and warm reception. Looking forward to continuous working relationship for the success of this project.

Signed:

Patrick Annan-Noonoo

Curator



