

## TRANSITIONING YOUTH FROM EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT:

Midterm Performance Evaluation of the USAID Career Center Activity in Morocco

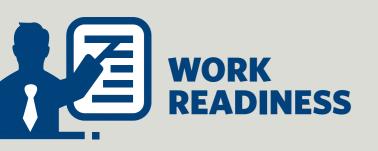
The pilot career centers successfully created youth-friendly environments to deliver services that correspond to young users' expectations and needs. The career centers help youth acquire the soft skills and job search techniques (work readiness) required to enter the job market successfully.



#### **USAID CAREER CENTER** 2016 ...... 2018 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS Université Cadi Ayyad, Institut Spécialisé de Technologie Appliquée Marrakech FEBRUARY 2015 - DECEMBER 2017 Université Hassan II. May Hôtelière et Touristique, Casablanca Marrakech February 79,052 Virtual Career Center 129 February Mav Institut Spécialisé dans les Métiers de l'Offshoring et youth private sector • Université Abdelmalek les Nouvelles Technologies served partnerships Essaadi, Tanger de l'Information et de la June **Communication**, Tanger 92% employers satisfied March $\bigcirc$ Institut Spécialisé de Technologie Appliquée Hay with youth employees that were Hassani 1, Casablanca recruited through the Career December Center **CAREER CENTER COUNSELORS** Participating youth expressed high degrees of satisfaction Civil society organizations are "Host institutions indicated that the with USAID Career Center services including: partnering with the USAID Career **USAID** Career Center is providing Individualized approach of center counselors "undeniable value-addition." Center to ensure the delivery of Opportunities to connect with the private sector gender sensitive and disability-- Host Institution friendly services. • Quality of Najahi trainers "The USAID Career Center has become even more than what we expected. It has become an interface between the training centers and employer." "I changed my way of thinking" - Government of Morocco representative due to the career centers. "Havina Private sector partners a diploma isn't enough. We need appreciate the USAID other things - especially soft skills" Career Center's flexibility as we enter the workforce. to respond to their needs. Offers useful - Youth Career Center participant content and tools.\* 73% 68% university. 82% vocational institution **Helped make initial** contact with potential 47% employers.\* 41% university,

\*Represents the opinions of surveyed youth beneficiaries

59% vocational institution



1,432 Najahi trainings and workshops conducted

#### **CAREER CENTER COUNSELORS**

Counselors have good communication skills, are eager to serve youth and are proficient in participatory training methods.

58%

Developed new soft skills.\*

64% vocational institution

.3

55% university,

### 18,312

vouth completed work readiness training

#### **STAFF TRAINING AND CAPACITY** BUILDING

Training and capacity building opportunities have allowed staff to experiment with different approaches, types of activities and partners.

"I have gained self-

confidence and learned how



32,658 registered users

The Virtual Career Center enables the USAID Career Center to serve youth at a distance from the physical centers. The most popular areas on the virtual platform include:

orientation test

industry profiles.



to youth needs.\* 69% university, 77% vocational

Determine virtual career center management model

Ŀ Build capacity to sustain and scale up the virtual

career center

(X)

Integrate and elevate business developers

Improve strategic planning and institutional oversight extra-curricular

 $(\mathbf{X})$ 

# **SCALE UP AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**63%** of the centers' operating costs are contributed by host institutions.

Najahi training models are currently being adopted by OFPPT and the universities of Marrakech and Tangier.

#### **PRIVATE SECTOR** PARTNERSHIPS

Developed and maintained partnerships to ensure relevance of services.

#### COLLABORATION & CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT

Developed strategies to promote collaboration with other institutions and establishing a sustainable mechanism for career counselor professional development.

#### SECURING COMMITMENTS

Explored a variety of institutional models for the continued development and future management of the virtual career center.

### **CHALLENGES**

#### **COUNSELOR TO STUDENT/ TRAINEE RATIO**

Due to the rapid growth of the Moroccan student population and low number of counselors, the reach of career center services is limited.

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Formalizing and integrating career center personnel into host institutions' human resource structure.

#### **GEOGRAPHIC DISPERSION**

Some of the host institutions' students and trainees studying on distant campuses, have difficulty accessing the career center services.

#### **RETENTION AND TURNOVER**

(X)

Preserve

training

through

services

Maintaining the current quality of career center personnel beyond the life of the program.

> Develop a business plan for maintaining career center services

X

Expand the foundational Najahi Training

RECOMMENDATIONS



61%

Ready to look for a job.\*

61% vocational institution

60% university;



communication

to face the job market." • model CV -Youth summer camp participant



Easy to use and responsive