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## YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP & EMPLOYABILITY ACCELERATORS (YEEA) PROGRAM

FACT SHEET FOR THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ALT CITY IMPACT/PITCHWORTHY, LEBANON AND RDPP



**Duration:** 2020 - 2022

**Budget:** 1,973,782 EUR

**Geographical area:** Across Lebanon

**RDPP thematic area:** Livelihoods

**Direct Beneficiaries:**

- 100 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- 630 aspiring founders and current entrepreneurs
- 12 Training Partners
- 15 ecosystem local partners such as people from other MSME support organizations or local universities (faculty/staff)

discussions on a variety of popular and designed platform around topics related to business development and crisis response. Participants include MSMEs, local partners, aspiring founders and current entrepreneurs, mentors, trainers, and experts. Additionally, the project mobilizes other benefits for the members of the community of practice, such as providing discounts to relevant events, business tools and other opportunities.

### II. Capable MSMEs operate successfully within complex economic environments

AltCity Impact/Pitchworthy will also be building the capacities of selected Training Partners, enabling them in turn to provide support to MSMEs and sustainability and impact beyond the duration of the project through improving ecosystem related capacities. The project aims to organize a series of activities supporting MSMEs to maintain and create new employment opportunities for refugees and vulnerable and/or marginalized communities. These activities include a set of direct training and support activities that include versions of “best practice” programs used by accelerator and SME trainings worldwide. The activities are adapted for the current context in Lebanon, and enhanced by innovative approaches developed by the project partners based on their experience and supported by external, evidence-based research.

These activities include **Sprint Programs** which constitute short (5-12 days) intensive trainings to 100 MSMEs, aiming to improve their soft skills (communication, leadership, collaboration, etc.), as well as enterprise development through support in core business domains such as marketing and financial planning. The activities also include **Accelerator Programs**, that are intensive medium-term programs (3-4 months) of trainings along with funding support, to support 50 selected MSMEs to reach key business objectives identified by the MSME in collaboration with AltCity Impact/Pitchworthy.

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

This project aims to enable MSMEs to maintain and create new employment within a complex economic environment. It aims on building the capacities of national partners in order to deliver high-quality training, mentorship, and support to MSMEs via online community platforms, bridging geographical barriers and increasing opportunities for discussion, community exchange and support. The project works towards two outcomes:

### I. An effective community of practice with improved capacities that supports MSMEs to operate in complex economic environments

AltCity Impact/Pitchworthy will develop a community of practice to support MSMEs, training partners, and active participants to increase their opportunities for community exchange and support, improve their skills, access mentors, and connect with additional opportunities and support in Lebanon or abroad. The project fosters this community of practice through organizing online

