

## Dialogue, training, bargaining: work as an instrument of peace AID 11604

*1 October 2019 – 31 January 2020*

The project "Dialogue, training, bargaining: work as an instrument of peace" started on 1 October 2019 in Eritrea, funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and implemented by Nexus International Solidarity Emilia Romagna (Nexus ER), in collaboration with the Trade Union Institute for Development Cooperation (ISCOS), Progetto Sud (PROSUD), International Volunteering for Development (VIS).

The project - which will last 24 months - is supported by CGIL, CISL, UIL national and ITUC-Africa. The local implementing partner is the National Confederation of Eritrean Workers (NCEW).



This first newsletter outlines the objectives of the project which will be implemented in the capital Asmara and in the coastal city of Massawa. The aim is to encourage the insertion / re-insertion of women and young people through professional and vocational training and re-skilling courses, to strengthen the skills of the staff involved. Specific training on social dialogue will be offered to all relevant stakeholders.

We aim at creating a favorable context that recognizes and enhances the contribution to public policies by representatives of labour and business, in order to be able to achieve greater awareness on workers' rights and on inclusive and decent work, thus strengthening the participation of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in the socio-economic development of the country.

Let's see what has been achieved in the first four months of intense activity.

### ***Coordination***

After some preparatory missions prior to the start of the project, various agreements were signed for the implementation of the project with the local counterpart NCEW and the other partners.

There were numerous and productive moments of discussion and coordination with the project partners and above all with the NCEW staff, confirming how important the constant and continuous collaboration of the working group is for the success of the project.



## *The training centres*

During the missions carried out in December 2019 and January 2020 we visited the Massawa Training Center and the Social Media Center in Asmara, managed by the Eritrean Confederation of Trade Unions (NCEW).

In particular, the Massawa Center is operational and training already takes place there. The centre requires the purchase of additional equipment, furnishing, materials, etc. for the realization of the future training activities.

In addition, a needs assessment has been carried to plan curricular paths (in modules/hours and detailed for some specific skills). This study will constitute the baseline to set up professional training schemes for the most vulnerable in the local labor market. The Social Media Center in Asmara is still being completed.







## *Research*

The preparatory analysis work for field research has highlighted how the Eritrean context appears to be characterized by a scarce availability of recent data and in-depth labor market analyses. However, thanks to the support of NCEW and the various meetings held with the staff of our counterpart, local researchers and Eritrean data collection staff, we managed to deepen our knowledge of the Eritrean world of work and public and private vacancies both for job orientation services and for professional training.

The research focused, in particular, on three sectors and production chains that are considered to develop in the near future: tourism/hospitality; Computer science (ICT, Information and Communications Technology) and Air conditioning/refrigeration ("Cold chain").

The recent on site missions carried out by the Italian researcher have made it possible to plan and carry out the research activity, defining the roles and timelines to be respected. Local support staff have been identified and trained in: data collection; administration of

## *Newsletter n. 1*

questionnaires to companies, formal and informal workers, unemployed, students, trainers, policy makers; conducting interviews, in Asmara and Massawa.



At the end of the January 2020, 65 interviews and 2 focus groups had been carried out and 115 questionnaires administered (data not yet definitive, to be completed).

In the coming months, the newsletter n. 2 will report on the data collected and on the results of the research, which will also be available in English and Tigrinya.

## **STAY TUNED!**

**Nexus Emilia Romagna**  
Via Marconi 69, 40122 Bologna  
[er\\_nexus@er.cgil.it](mailto:er_nexus@er.cgil.it)

[www.nexusemiliaromagna.org](http://www.nexusemiliaromagna.org)  
Facebook: Nexus Emilia Romagna  
Twitter: @ONGNexus

**Italian Agency for Cooperation**  
Khartoum Headquartes - Asmara office  
Italian Embassy in Asmara - Street  
171-1-171 N. 11. - Asmara  
[www.khartoum.aics.gov.it](http://www.khartoum.aics.gov.it)  
Facebook: @AICKHARTOUM  
Twitter: @AicsKhartoum  
Instagram: AICS\_Khartoum



**WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF**



**IMPLEMENTED BY**



**PARTNERS**



**LOCAL PARTNER**



**WITH THE SUPPORT OF**

**CGIL CISL UIL**

**ITUC-Africa**

This newsletter was created as part of the "Dialogue, training, bargaining: work as an instrument of peace" AID11604 funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the point of view of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation is not responsible for information considered incorrect, incomplete, inadequate, defamatory or in some way reprehensible.