



## technical and vocational education & training programme

UNRWA's Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme is delivered in its nine Vocational Training Centers (VTCs) in the five Fields of operation: Jordan, West Bank, Gaza, Lebanon, and Syria.

UNRWA VTCs were established in 1953 to provide training to Palestine refugee youth, in preparation for taking up employment in the local area and the wider region. The TVET programme also ensures career guidance and placement services to UNRWA's students. Follow-up studies of the employment rates achieved by graduates are undertaken in order to evaluate the success of, and further improve, the TVET programme.

### Trade, semi-professional, and specialist courses

The vision of UNRWA TVET is to deliver Technical and Vocational Education and Training to prepare young people for employment opportunities available in the local and regional labour markets towards decent living for Palestine refugee society.

The mission is thus to "prepare and implement specialized and diversified technical and vocational programs to meet the needs of local and regional

markets and to cope with the latest developments and provide the Palestine refugee youth with the desired knowledge, skills, and attitudes to secure a suitable job".

UNRWA VTCs currently offers around 6,700 training places. At the trade level, 24 two-year Vocational Trade courses, and 29 one-year trade courses are offered. Fifty five semi-professional level two-year technical courses are offered. Short term courses cover a diverse spectrum of specializations. These courses aim to prepare young Palestine refugees for jobs in particular areas where there is a high demand in local labour market. Some offered courses are: Building Construction Craftmanship, Carpentry and Furniture Making, Plumbing, Refrigeration, Electrical Installations, Auto Electrical and Electronics Systems, Hair Dressing and Fashion Design, Graphic Design, Accounting, Business Administration, Civil Engineering, Information Technology, Assistant Pharmacist, Nursing, Medical Records and Physiotherapy.

### TVET and Youth Programme Reform

Although proud of the strengths and achievements of the TVET programme, there has been a growing recognition within, and beyond UNRWA, of the need for reform to respond to recent trends in both TVET and the labour market and to align with UNRWA's overall Education Reform Strategy.



The Reform will work to fulfill TVET role in providing knowledge and skills that can assist Palestine refugee youth in raising their productivity and increasing their personal incomes, thereby leading to overall raised living standards and stronger, more competitive economies.

To achieve this, the TVET Reform programme aims to improve employability for Palestine refugee youth. A TVET & Youth Strategy focuses on six priorities: Governance, Quality Assurance, Access, Sustainability, Training Approaches and Career Guidance and Placement. Focusing on these priorities, the quality and relevance of TVET programming will be enhanced and employability of Palestine refugee youth improved.

An important aspect of the Reform already underway is the Competency-Based Training (CBT) approach to delivering TVET services. Additional categories of training programs are being made available at the skilled labour level in areas where there is local and regional labour market demand. Training courses are also being revised in collaboration with employers so that the competencies taught reflect the actual needs of the industry or field. For example, the following

one-year trade courses were introduced: Home Carpentry, Installation Security & Monitoring Systems, Auto-body Painting, and Office Equipment and Computer Maintenance. CBT courses also engage their students in extended (three month) on-the-job training.

### Making a positive difference

The TVET and Youth Programme reform will support Fields in reaching a larger number of students and in particular, targeting vulnerable Palestine refugee youth, both male and female. New courses, both in terms of their focus and their delivery modality, will be designed; and there will be greater emphasis on the development of entrepreneurial skills. Placement and learning opportunities with industry will be created, partnerships with a range of stakeholders established, and Agency-wide TVET quality assurance management systems put in place.

For more information please contact Chief Field Education Programme, Chief Field TVET Programme or UNRWA HQ Education Department on [info.education@unrwa.org](mailto:info.education@unrwa.org)



united nations relief and works agency  
for palestine refugees in the near east

[www.unrwa.org](http://www.unrwa.org)

UNRWA provides assistance, protection and advocacy for some 5 million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the occupied Palestinian territory, pending a solution to their plight. The Agency's services encompass education, health care, social safety-net, camp infrastructure and improvement, community support, microfinance and emergency response, including in times of armed conflict. Through these services UNRWA strives to help Palestine refugees achieve a decent standard of living, long and healthy lives, knowledge and skills and full enjoyment of human rights. These goals are formulated according to the UN criteria for human development.