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# The Education For Employment Foundation

*Creating job opportunities through training  
for youth in Muslim Countries*

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# Youth Unemployment Challenges MENA Country Governments

- 40% of young people are without jobs
- Half of the MENA country populations are under age 24
- It will take 100 million new jobs over the next 15 years just to make a dent in the current rate of unemployment



## Joblessness Erodes Youthful Hope

- *“Many of the world’s most **protracted conflicts** ... owe at least part of their existence to the **misdirected energies and frustrations of unemployed youth.**”*

Poonam Ahluwalia, Director, Youth Employment Summit

- *“**Joblessness** triggers all kinds of ... problems—**crime, drugs, family dislocations, neighborhood disorganizations.**”*

William Julius Wilson, Harvard University



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## Young People Vent Their Frustrations

- *"I tried to work but I could not find a job with my degree."*
- *"I graduated in the Faculty of Engineering, civil engineering and I could not find a job"*
- *"There is a wide gap between practical life and what we learn"*
- *"The subjects we study are not more needed in real life"*
- *"Education is something and life is something else"*



# Young People Seek Jobs

- University degree graduates
- Secondary school diploma graduates
- School drop-outs



# Employers Seek Workers With Skills

- Locally-based global companies
- Locally-based SMEs
- Foreign investors
- Overseas companies
- Entrepreneurs/micro-finance



# Mismatches Distort Labor Markets

- Policy shifts

- Labor mobility
- Training subsidies
- Government employment
- Microfinance

- Educational innovation

- Start-up costs
- Sustaining markets
- Public universities and vocational programs
- Private universities and career/community colleges



## EFE Creates Job Opportunities Through “Career Education and Training”

- Non-profit NGO founded by New York entrepreneur
- US \$10 million “seed money”
- International and local fundraising for projects
- Grants from UNDP, USAID and corporate and individual donors.



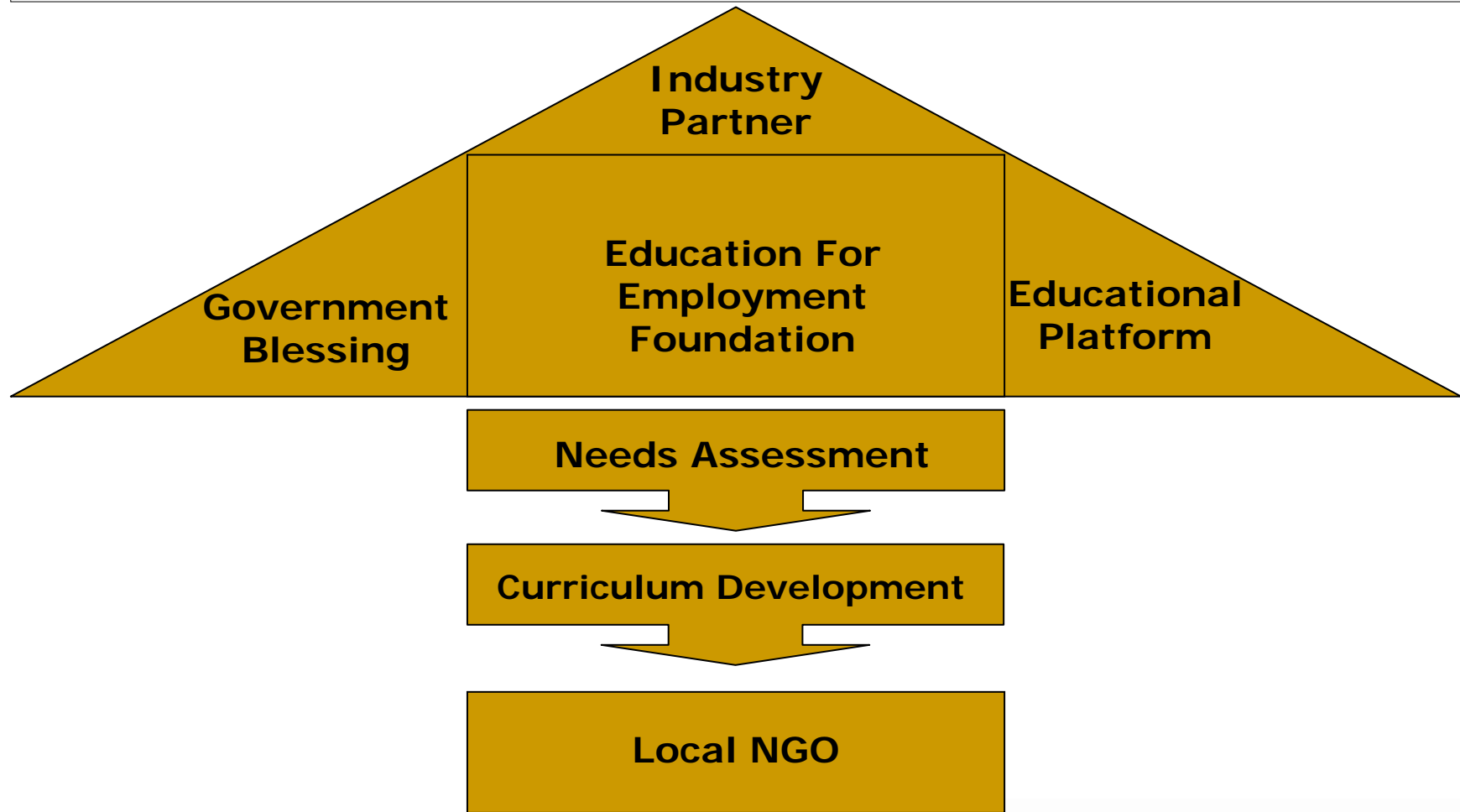
# “Career Education and Training”

## Build Job Skills

- Vocational
- Technical
- Managerial
- Professional



# EFE Builds Public-Private Partnerships



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# EFE Partners With Potential Employers

- An Employer-driven pragmatic approach
- Sustaining relationships
- Local “skin in the game”



## EFE is Creating a Model for Replication and Imitation

- Programs in Egypt, Gaza, Jordan and Morocco
- Program development in Indonesia
- Replication in public institutions
- Imitation by private sector



# EFE in Egypt

- *Egyptian Education For Employment Foundation*
- International Nursing Career Program
- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministry of Health
- National university



الأكاديمية الدولية للتدريب  
International  
Nursing Career Academy



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# EFE in Gaza

- *EFE-UPA Career Training Foundation*
- Consolidated Contractors Company hiring and funding commitments
- Islamic University of Gaza
- Mini-MBA training course under direction of highly-ranked Smith School of Business at University of Maryland



# EFE in Jordan

جامعة الإسراء الخاجة  
مصداقية وتميز

- *Al Isra-EFE Career Training Centre*
- Al Isra private university
- Workplace Success training course
- Para-vets and EMT training



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## EFE in Morocco

- Local foundation
- Leading Moroccan holding company
- Harvard Business School Professor of Marketing *Emeritus*
- Casablanca Hassan II University
- Marketing/Sales and “Workplace Success” training courses



# EFE in Indonesia

- Project development mission
- Local partner
- Potential to tailor-make training for the global petrochemical industry and other overseas employers



## An International Forum Will Spur Action

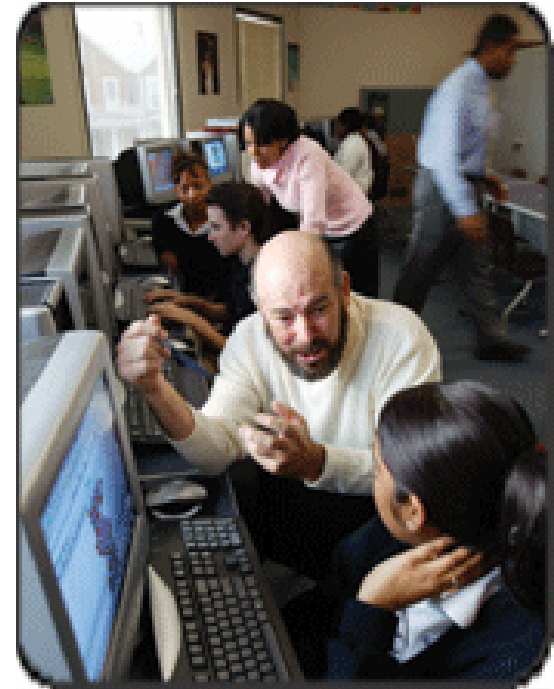
- “Building Partnerships to Strengthen Youth Employment in the Arab Middle East and North Africa.”
- Partners: Academy for Educational Development (AED) and Ohio State University Center for Education and Training for Employment (CETE)





Academy for Educational Development

- Independent non-profit organization
- Mission: improve livelihoods and social & civic welfare
- More than 250 programs underway in over 60 countries and in all 50 U.S. states



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Academy for Educational Development

AED projects in the MENA region address youth unemployment:

**Egypt:**

Education Reform Project

**Jordan:**

Education Reform for the Knowledge Economy (ERfKE) Support Project

**Morocco:**

Advancing Learning and Employability for a Better Future (ALEF)

**West Bank & Gaza:**

Ruwwad (Pioneers)



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## CETE Enhances the Workforce Development System

- ❑ Lifelong education and training
- ❑ Public policy
- ❑ Employers
- ❑ The labor pool



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## CETE Provides:

- ❑ Planning and evaluation
- ❑ Curriculum development
- ❑ Individual assessment
- ❑ Professional development



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## Some Lessons Learned

- Align education with job opportunities
- Train in skills for jobs that are waiting
- Promote essential public-private cooperation
- Offer training to attract investment
- Offer training for SMEs and entrepreneurs
- Attract funds for youth employment projects



# Challenges

- Create jobs
- Evaluate performance
- Promote replication and imitation by both public and private sectors



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