<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Recommendations/lessons learned</th>
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| **Adopt a holistic approach**              | • Engage youth, their peers and their families in a culturally appropriate way  
• In addition to economic self-reliance, provide skills in leadership, teamwork, communication and social responsibility  
• Add youth training, preparation and counselling to microfinance programmes (22)  
• Coach, mentor and synergize with successful programmes led by the business community in West Bank (23) and Iraq (24) |
| **Engage policy-makers and regulatory agents for a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach** | • Successful and sustainable programming requires strong political support and an enabling regulatory environment in a country  
• Collaboration is needed between nongovernmental organizations, ministries, local partners and population  
• High level of youth engagement needs to be met with high efficacy to prevent frustration among youth  
• Youth work initiatives highlight importance of engaged regulatory environment for policy (23) and partnering with policy-makers (26) |
| **Emphasize interventions for female youth** | • Awareness of gender issues is critical for youth programming, both in design and evaluation  
• Focus is needed on women, particularly in conflict situations  
• Females should receive tailored materials and training so as not to be selected out of youth programmes (27) |
| **Plan for transition to ensure sustainability** | • Go beyond serving immediate needs and prepare youth for adult lives  
• Foster cooperative relationships with larger, permanent institutions in the community (28)  
• Include technical and vocational skills for youth in the transition period out of conflict  
• Align educational programmes with job availabilities  
• Brain drain can only be reversed by building opportunities for youth to participate productively in their communities |