MODULE 4.6 – HANDOUT 1

Transcript 4.1 – Key Informant Interview

**Research questions:** What are the needs and priorities of youth regarding livelihood activities? What are some of the barriers to accessing paid work? What actions can our organization take to increase access?

Location of interview: Boora refugee camp in Bagara[[1]](#footnote-1)

Humanitarian context: Cross-border conflict causing mass displacement

Interviewee: 23-year-old male (code = N.U.)

***Extract from interview***

Interviewer: So, what would you say are the main issues preventing you from finding work?

N.U.: There is nothing available here. We can maybe make some money selling water, or if you can save up and buy a bike you might make money that way, but there are no jobs. Any work that comes up at the NGOs just gets taken up straight away by those friends of the NGOs.

{N.U. laughs at this point}

Even outside of the camp, the community around us look down on us. If there are any opportunities, they don’t want us. In fact, sometimes they can threaten to beat us if we keep asking. We are intruders and outsiders to them. We are just sat here, idle, with nothing to do. Most of us have given up by now.

{N.U. was observed to look to the floor and kick the dirt on the ground}

Interviewer: What do you mean by given up?

N.U.: We just believe we won’t find any work, so we just have that feeling to not try anymore.

Interviewer: Those young men who have bought bikes, how did they get the money for that?

N.U.: They usually borrow money from the big men in the camp. You have to be very careful doing that though as the price to pay for not returning the loan is high high high. In fact, most don’t try it as they are too afraid. Most don’t try.

Interviewer: What about skills and knowledge? Is a lack of those a problem?

N.U.: Honestly, so many NGO programmes have come here to offer us these training courses. A bit in this, a bit in that. We all know lots of things by now! But I am joking. Yes of course getting more skills is a good thing, but it doesn’t always actually help us find work. I wish they would spend that money they have on finding us jobs directly.

1. Fictional – to be adapted to context. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)