



**IEDA Relief Report – Niger**

## **IEDA Relief and the UNHCR offer lasting solutions to young refugees**

**Diffa Region**

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### **Summary**

At this ceremony, IEDA Relief and the UNHCR brought tool kits to 56 young people trained in trades at the Technical and Vocational Training Center in Diffa. Their training was financed by the UNHCR to offer these young people lasting solutions and the ability to be more self-sufficient.



## **Introduction**

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Within the framework of empowering displaced and host populations in the Diffa Region, a program was financed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and put in place by IEDA Relief to give 56 young people (48 boys and 8 girls) vocational training over the course of six months at the Technical and Vocational Training Center (TVTC) in Diffa. This training, from October 2014 to March 2015, allowed them to develop their skills in one of four trades: woodworking, metalworking, plumbing, or auto mechanics.

After their classroom training in one of these trades, they received a training in entrepreneurship in March 2015, as well as a month of professional internship with the Regional Federation of Artisans of Niger. This internship allowed them to familiarize themselves with the professional world. The provision of the accompanying kits completed this remarkable process of helping these young people become self-sufficient.

## **Rundown of the ceremony**

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The kit distribution ceremony was organized by IEDA Relief with the local TVTC of Diffa and the participation of many others, namely the Mayor of Diffa, Hankaraou Biri Kassoum; the Director of the TVTC; Mr. Paul Nsiela of the UNHCR Diffa Office; the Head of Mission at the IEDA Relief Diffa Office; and the Regional President of the Chamber of Artisans of Diffa. The ceremony unfolded with media coverage from ORTN (Sahel TV).

During his speech, the Mayor of Diffa stated his appreciation for this project's aim to help young people through their job training, and he declared that he was ready to assist. The Head of Mission at UNHCR Diffa expressed his satisfaction with how well IEDA Relief and the teachers at the Professional Center had led this initiative. According to the Head of Mission at IEDA Relief Diffa, this project is nothing more than the culmination of IEDA Relief's vision of helping communities become self-sufficient. These 56 young people are now prepared to face the world of work and entrepreneurship in one of the four trades. IEDA Relief will continue to lend its support by mobilizing all state and humanitarian actors to help fully empower these people.

*"In the name of the Republic, I salute the actions of IEDA Relief and I hope that others will follow in their footsteps."*

*-Mayor of Diffa on IEDA Relief*

After the official ceremony, IEDA Relief, with the support of teachers from the TVTC, proceeded to give the tool kits to the 56 young people by organizing them in to groups (2-5 people maximum, according to the cost of the kits) and by trade. IEDA Relief had previously drawn up arrangements for the management and usage of the kits by each group, and shared these arrangements with the kit recipients to allow for the best possible project outcome.

These kits enable these young people to work and take control of their lives. Just a few hours after the kits were distributed, some groups had already started to use them.

**Photos of the event**



*The Head of the IEDA Relief Diffa Office (Edmond Soro) checking the effectiveness of the kits*



*The officials at the ceremony: in the middle, Mr. Edmond Soro (Head of Mission at IEDA Relief Diffa) ; on the left, the Mayor of Diffa ; on the right, the Director of the Center ; and in front, the Head of Mission at UNHCR Diffa.*



*The 56 young people at the kit-giving ceremony*



*The Mayor and the UNHCR Head of Mission giving kits to a group of young people in the metalworking trade*