**MedUp project: launch of the first round of trainings for organizations that support social entrepreneurs in the MENA region**

The MedUp! Project is continuing its activities for the promotion of social entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean region with the first round of technical trainings targeting local Social Entrepreneurship Social Organization (SESOs). Objective of this activity is to strengthen the skills and capacities of SESOs staff enabling to provide innovative services targeting social entrepreneurs.

The workshops will take place from the 18th until 27th February 2019 in each one of the six countries where estimated 15 SESOs per country are expected attending the three-day trainings.

Impact Hub, one of the European technical partners of the project, will provide the trainings in coordination with local partners and Oxfam in-country offices. The trainings’ programs will take into account the outcomes of the SESOs’ needs assessment conducted in each of the six target countries.

During the sessions, the participant SESOs will learn topics such as design thinking, social business model canvas, lean methodology, crowd-solving/funding, access to impact investors, inclusive business acceleration and others.

**Official Schedule of the trainings to SESOs in target countries:**

- Rabat (Morocco) – 18th, 19th and 20th of February
- Ramallah (Palestine) – 19th, 20th, 21st of February
- El Cairo (Egypt) – 21st, 22nd, 23rd of February
- Amman (Jordan) – 25th, 26th, 27th of February
- Tunis (Tunisia) – 25th, 26th, 27th of February
- Beirut (Lebanon) – 25th, 26th, 27th of February
With these activities, Oxfam and its partners is approaching the end of first year of an important initiative that wants to promote social entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean region as a driver for job creation and inclusive growth particularly for young and women.

MedUp! is a four-year project, co-funded by the European Union that integrates actors from Europe and the MENA region. Oxfam Italy operates as leader of the consortium. The project aims at: (i) promoting country and cross-country policy and advocacy initiatives and public-private dialogue to create an enabling regulatory and policy environments; (ii) reinforcing 60 social entrepreneurship support organizations through capacity-building and networking activities; (iii) providing financial and technical support to 100 social enterprises.