



PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	: United Nations Development Programme
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: LRF-11 / 00059954
Project Title	: <u>Strengthening the Dairy Production Channel in North Lebanon</u>
LRF Signature date	: 17/03/2008
Project Start date	: 17/04/2008
Project Timeframe	: April 2008 – May 2010
Reporting Period	: January - March 2010

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

- During the period from January till March 2010, the construction of a new pilot dairy was still in progress, however, the rehabilitation and upgrade of the four dairy units was done after several field surveys and dairy assessment.
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- During the previous period, all the activities implemented aimed to achieve the planned components of the project proposal, resumed as follows are done:
 - Implementation of a set of training sessions on animal production sector (norms of housing in dairy farming, cows feeding, cows management, cows reproduction, milk quality, etc)
 - Implementation of a set of training sessions on Dairy processing sector (reception of raw milk, procedure of processing, hygiene and quality control of final products, etc...)
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The number of the project's beneficiaries (direct and indirect beneficiaries, as breeders; small-scale SME's, coops of breeders and municipalities, dairy processing unit's employees, forage growers, and their families ...) is increasing.

The public at large is benefiting from higher hygiene standards of both raw material and by-products.

Project Objectives:

By strengthening the integrated channel (breeding / dairy products) including downstream and upstream activities and targeting not only breeders but also small-scale industrialists involved in the processing phase who are participating in a capacity building program, the project is improving competitiveness and quality of local productions.

The Immediate Objectives achieved are:

- the creation of a technical committee consisting of various partners (UNDP, LARI, coops, milk collect centers directors, etc) in charge of the technical monitoring
- restoration of rural households' income through a recovery program aiming at overcoming agriculture losses is ongoing
- enhancing linkages between stakeholders is revitalizing the breeding sector
- enhance small scale dairy units by increasing their capacity of production and improving the quality of their production in a safe and healthy environment

Project Outcomes:

Outputs can be summarized as follows:

- Specific training program addressing breeders, and small-scale industrialists' needs
- Technical assistance , field survey
- Dissemination of information
- Construction, rehabilitation and upgrading of processing units
- Local development capacity building program involving municipalities, coops and local associations

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:

This program meets the priorities set by the government in a region where agriculture and agro food processing are major sectors, which could develop comparative advantages for some specific high quality produce and thus lead to economic development through job creation in SMEs. Agricultural regions such as the Akkar of North Lebanon are among the poorest region of Lebanon with high rates of illiteracy, especially among women, high rate of unemployment among youth under 25 and high percentage of households living under the poverty line.

This project is also linked to the Milk collect centers which were established by the Ministry of Agriculture and the IFAD. The three centers located in North Lebanon once they are working again will also contribute to the reinforcement of this channel.

Several development programs focus on forage production in the Akkar region. Indirectly, those programs will help improve the quality of the milk and reduce the costs of production of milk.

Project Implementation Partners:

International Partners : UNDP

National Partners : René Moawad Foundation (RMF)

II. RESOURCES

III. RESULTS

Project Outputs and Indicators:

Intended Outputs	Indicators	Timeframe				
		2009				10
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1
1.1 Identification and training of stakeholders						
2.1 Formation of a technical committee with enhanced capacities in local development	1 Municipality 7 cooperatives 2 private companies (Fresco and Douroub)					
3.1 Increase in milk quality and in quantity produced (higher yields)						
4.1 Development of linkages with regional activities and projects especially milk collect centers located in the North, dairy units upgraded						
5.1 Upgrade and <i>mise-à-niveau</i> of dairy units and Increase in processing capacity	- Dairies equipments are delivered to 5 small dairy units in order to order upgrading their processing units. - During this period, civil construction work in the selected site in Mejdlaya-Zghorta is still ongoing in order to implement a new dairy pilot plant according to international safety and technological standards.					
5.2 Diversification of dairy products and reintroduction of traditional cheeses						
6.1 Increase in sales (milk or dairy products)						

Progress in Project Implementation:

Project Outputs and Activities	Status
1.1.1 Implementation of a training program addressing specific needs of coops, associations and municipalities	
2.1.1 Establishment of the technical committee	
2.1.2 Provision of technical assistance	
2.1.3 Monitoring of the program	<p>- Creation of a Project Management Unit (PMU) The PMU is responsible of the management of the project; PMU meet on a bi-weekly basis or whenever deemed necessary by the PMU to discuss the development of the project preparation and implementation against the work plan. The PMU is responsible for the following tasks: planning all project activities; preparing/approving the tender documents for each activity; opening the offers; selecting/approving the selection of the best offer; monitoring the progress of activity implementation; approving payments; reporting any problems, concerns, pending issues, or anything else that needs continued follow-up; and coordinate between and among the project stakeholders and beneficiaries.</p> <p>- A list of indicators is established as means of verification of the project's activities: i.e. attendance list shows the number of beneficiaries in training sessions, assessment reports are prepared following field visits, tables are made for sales activities...</p>
2.1.4 Evaluation and recommendations	<p>Field survey report prepared by RMF staff. Dairy assessment report prepared by technical consultancy. Dairy plant (tender, design and specifications) prepared by Dar al-Handassa. Guidance document for the construction of a new dairy production plant prepared by APAVE Liban.</p>
3.1.1 Implementation of 52 intensive one-day session (cows housing, feeding, veterinary care, etc)	
3.1.2 Technical assistance	
3.1.3 Provision of storage facilities	<p>❖ RMF installed 4 small tanks (1,000 liter / tank) in 4 villages to collect the milk produced in order to be transported to RMF Dairy unit for processing by the mean of the refrigerated tanker truck (capacity 4,000 liter) managed by Douroub Company.</p>
4.1.1 Organization of meetings with the various stakeholders	
4.1.2 Visits on sites for breeders (milk collect centers, coops specialized in forage	

production, lab and dairy units)	
5.1.1 Rehabilitation, construction, update and equipment of dairy units	<p>Technical assistance and maintenance support were provided for the 7 small-scale dairy units and 2 cooperatives of animal production.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <p>Maintenance and reparation of equipments and materials: steam boilers, electricity installation and problems, pumps, vacuum machines...</p> <p>Production improvement: establishing a list of the numerous difficulties that the 8 dairy units ran into and trouble-shooting.</p> <p>Based on the “Guidance Document for the construction of a new Dairy production Plant” prepared by Apave and submitted to RMF for the implementation of the new Dairy production Unit in Mejdlaya within RMF campus, Civil construction works had started at the selected site under the supervision and recommendation of Dar al-Handassa and Apave consultancy.</p> <p>Masonry All the masonry works are finish from building operation and concrete blocs till stucco.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infrastructure <p>From pluming till electricity are done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Surface finishes <p>Wall tilling and slabs till painting is still in progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Hard work <p>Wood work (doors and hatches) and Metal work (windows and screen) is in progress.</p> <p>Dairies equipments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 Yoghurt Vat pasteurizer (1500 liters). - 1 Indoor walk in refrigerator (3.5 X 4.5 X 2.25m). - 1 cheese VAT (500 liters) - 1 cheese press (30-40 kg) - 2 cheese press (100 liters) - 1 Yoghurt Vat pasteurizer (500 liters). <p>Delivered to 5 small dairy units in order to upgrading their processing units.</p>
5.1.2 Implementation of 112 intensive one-day sessions	
5.1.3 Technical assistance	
5.2.2 R & D to develop new products	
5.2.3 Collect of old recipes, design of HACCP processes for these old cheeses and processing	

Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:

Delays were observed in implementing the rehabilitation and construction component. Corrective measures were taken into consideration for the acceleration of this process

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

ACTIVITIES	2010	
	April	June
Rehabilitation, construction, update and equipment of dairy units		

Adjustments to strategies, outcomes or outputs:

A no-cost extension was requested to ensure the full implementation of the project according to the new timeline.