



PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	: United Nations Development Programme
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: 00059598
Project Title	: Increased Integration of the Disabled
LRF Signature date	: February 7, 2008
Project Start date	: March 1, 2008
Project Timeframe	: 12 months
Reporting Period	: January 2009 till March 2009

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

The project aims at expanding and improving access of the people with disabilities, considered as marginalized and vulnerable population that was most affected by the war, to proximity services. The key objective of the project is to increase the integration of the disabled within the society through the provision of the needed proximity services and disability aids in order to better perform their regular roles in the community which will ensure their participation in the social, professional and economic life. The project will make use of the systems and procedures established by the MOSA Rights and Access programs that have proven to be efficient and reliable during the past years.

Project Objectives:

This project will respond to urgent direct needs of persons with disability, and helps reinforcing the implementation of the law 220 which clearly states the right of the persons with disability to have access to technical aids and supporting devices facilitating their proximity and increasing their independence.

Project Outcomes:

- To extend the provision of good quality reliable and suitable aids to the persons registered as disabled
- To cater for the new disabled groups that emerged as a result of the July 06 war

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:

The Social Action Plan that was submitted to Paris III International Donor Conference highlighted the need to implement projects with immediate positive impact on improving the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable groups in Lebanon. Within this framework, the government is keen to put into action around 14 safety net programs, one of which is targeting, directly or indirectly, the disabled through the increase of allocations for “the Right and Access Program” to cater for the chronic needs of the disabled and to cover the emerging requests of the newly disabled people as a result of the war.

In this context, the project “Increased Support to Disabled People” was conceived and developed to provide proximity services to the disabled as both corrective and preventive measure as it often precludes the development of chronic or longer term treatments that are usually costly, time consuming and more painful. This is a basic right for the people with disabilities confirmed by the law 220/2000.

Project Implementation Partners:

National Partners: Ministry of Social Affairs – Rights and Access Program and Accredited Lebanese NGO's for proximity services delivery

II. RESOURCES

RESOURCES

AS of March 31st, 2009

Total budget approved	\$1,400,000.00
Disbursements	\$1,178,606.63
Available Balance	\$221,393.37
Commitments for next quarter	\$221,393.37

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL EXP. TO DATE (USD)
Contracts	1,302,000.00	1,101,501.52
Agency Management Support (7%)	98,000.00	77,105.11
Total	1,400,000.00	1,178,606.63

III. RESULTS

Project Outputs and Indicators:

Intended Outputs	Indicators	Timeframe				
		2008				9
1. Assessment of disability and specific needs completed	Complete assessment through authorized doctors through the 6 centers of R&A	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1+ q/p Q2
	Home visits by authorized medical and administrative staff to persons unable to move					
2. Access of disabled to adequate services increased	Delivery of prescribed and appropriate service (purchased equipment and material) by the accredited institution as per the pre-set procedure					
	Reimbursement of the delivered service after thorough control by the administrative staff					

Progress in Project Implementation:

Project Outputs and Activities	Status
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Needs of more than 3,500 persons with disability assessed by Rights and Access (R&A) staff, in the 6 operating administrative centers -6541 vouchers for services delivered by R&A , -The beneficiaries are from different religious background, gender and regions. -40 home visits have been conducted
Delivery of services	-1623 persons served through the 7 accredited centers of the NGO's.
Reimbursement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 requests for direct payment (RDP) have been issued in 2009, for a total amount of USD 341.520. -1 RDP is under processing for the remaining budget
Control & Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continuous control on the procedure is achieved - All executed vouchers have been double- checked

1- Segregation of beneficiaries:

Types of Services Provided:	% of the total Cost
Orthopedic shoes:	5.28%
Self propelled wheel Chairs:	17.65%
Special chairs (special seats, attendant propelled chair, bathroom chair):	33.95%
Mobility aids (crutches, canes, walkers):	1.30%
Other technical aids (Medical beds, hangers, bed sides, plan incliné...):	10.47%
Aids for bedsores (water mattresses, pneumatic and gel cushions,):	7.08%
Aids for incontinence and colostomy (pads, catheters ...):	24.27%

And that all vouchers have been issued from the 6 **Right and Access centers that cover all the Lebanese territory as follows:**

- Beirut (Jisr el Wati)
- Mount Lebanon (Hadath)
- North (Tripoli)
- Bekaa (Baalback and Tannayel)
- South + Nabatiyeh (Sarafand)

The disabled beneficiaries originated from all Lebanese regions, and regrouped persons from all ages, male and female.

Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:

The project is being implemented as previewed; the financial disbursement is actually reaching the last phase of the budget. More than 90% of the budget is already disbursed for the provision of medical aids for persons with disabilities.

The project will be operationally closed in two months after ensuring the reimbursement of the entire committed budget. Two final payments will be sent before the end of April 09.

It should be noted that R&A has officially requested UNDP to make use of the budget allocated for personnel for the actual provision of services for persons with disabilities increasing the total amount to be spent on services of 33,400.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

Key Milestones	A	M
Delivery of services		
delivery of vouchers through R&A centers \		
delivery of services through accredited institutions		
Reimbursement		
check - up and control		
issuing of invoice and statement of account		
issuing of request for payment		
Payment to NGO's		e
Evaluation		
reporting		
progress report		
Final report and closing		

Adjustments to strategies, outcomes or outputs:

The elections in December 2008 of a new National Committee for the Disabled, have already generated the creation of a follow-up committee, dealing with the reinforcement and empowerment of the disabled people especially in chapter 3 of the 220/2000 related to health, proximity and support services. Coordination with the ministry of Health and of labour has started.

This agreement will encourage many public coverage systems to harmonize their procedures to provide technical aids for persons with disabilities.

Unfortunately, the 2009 budget for R&A at the MoSA has not yet been activated; thousands of persons with disabilities will be left with un-met needs. Thus the urgency of requesting additional budget from the LRF fund (if available) or working with UNDP on an alternative resource mobilization plan.

The final report will give an overall idea of the importance and the impact of this grant for the target population all over Lebanon.