

PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Office	: United Nations Resident Coordination
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: 00063594
Project Title	: Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon
LRF Signature date	: 24 October 2008
Project Start date:	: 30 October 2008
Project Timeframe	: One year
Reporting Period	: 01 July - 30 September 2009

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary & Objectives:

The project aims at strengthening the coordination capacity of the Resident Coordinator sub-offices in the north and south of Lebanon to ensure a more effective and efficient delivery of recovery interventions in the most affected areas of the country.

- i ***Enhance coordination at the field level through the RC sub-offices:*** the primary function of the sub-offices is to facilitate and promote coordination of recovery efforts at the field level to avoid duplication and promote synergy and complementarities, strengthen community outreach in the regions, and act as interlocutors with different partners and stakeholders (decentralized units of line ministries and government agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations etc.).
- ii ***Support to Data Management and GIS functions:*** one of the key coordination functions that can help make a difference in the recovery effort is to provide information on recovery and reconstruction to the national government, local and international partners, donors, and media. A successful recovery response is dependent on the collection, analysis and distribution of information on the work of development partners on the ground to support the recovery and reconstruction efforts.

The ultimate goal of the coordination support structure is two folded: 1. to establish a coordination mechanism and information management system that allows the UN Resident Coordinator to ensure a smooth and coordinated implementation of recovery efforts and provide

information to national and international actors involved in the recovery effort. 2. To ensure the coordination support structure strengthens national capacity and ownership, in order for national authorities to better coordinate and plan their own reconstruction and development.

Project Objective:

- Enhance coordination of recovery activities at the field level
- Improve information sharing between actors and raise awareness on recovery activities, thus providing a gateway for various actors working or planning interventions.
- Contribute to provision of linkages among various UN agencies, local and international NGOs, civil society entities, the communities, and the Lebanese government entities both at the central and local level.
- Work towards joint programming amongst various actors.

Project Outputs:

- 1) Enhanced coordination at the field level through strengthening of existing coordination sub-offices.
- 2) Comprehensive information collection system at the field level established and shared with stakeholders and the public at large.

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Recovery:

In the absence of formal coordination mechanisms through sustained linkages between the UNRC office in Beirut and the Government, the project was able to reflect the government priorities towards the various UN and civil society organizations in the South. Moreover, the project provided a platform for the communities to share valid data on government interventions in a highly politicized environment.

Project implementing partners:

The project implementing partners are:

- **For the RC sub-office in the North:**
 - The main UN partners are UNRWA and the other UN agencies working in the NBC response operation (i.e. UNOHCHR, ILO, UN Habitat, UNICEF and UNDP)
 - National and international NGOs participating in the cluster system.
 - Lebanon Support
 - Local authorities (i.e. authorities of the NBC surrounding municipalities)
 - LPDC
 - Palestinian representatives
 - Bilateral and multilateral donors (i.e. EC, WB)
- **For the RC sub-office in the south:**
 - UN agencies with a presence in South Lebanon, mainly UNIFIL, UNDP and ILO and Habitat, and others involved in cluster meetings and emergency preparedness, like UNICEF and FAO.
 - Government officials at the central and regional level

- Local authorities, regrouped in Unions of Municipalities and steering committees including national and international NGOs
- Local and international NGOs
- Donors

II. RESOURCES

Total budget approved	:	USD 747,122.00
Total disbursements as for 30 September 2009	:	USD 167,139.00
Commitments for next quarter	:	USD 60,000.00
Available Balance	:	USD 579,983.00

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL EXP (USD) To Date
1. Personnel (Incl. staff and consultants)	USD 368,040.00	104,461
2. Contracts (Incl. companies, professional services)	USD 50,004.00	-
3. Training	-	-
4. Transport	USD 54,800.00	7,769
5. Supplies and commodities	USD 81,200.00	28,776
6. Equipment	USD 63,800.00	9,704
7. Travel	-	-
8. Miscellaneous	USD 80,400.00	5,494
9. Agency Management Support	USD 48,878.00	10,934
TOTAL	USD 747,122.00	USD 167,139.00

III. RESULTS

Project Outputs and progress per activities

Project Outputs and Activities	Status
<p>1. Coordination at the field level 1.1- Liaise with regional and local authorities:</p>	<p>For the RC sub-office in the south:</p> <p>1.1.1 Increasing the involvement of local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination meetings took place with government representatives and union of municipalities, mayors of Tyre region, Hasbaya, El Khiam, Chebaa, Ma'arakah, union of municipalities of Jabal Amel , Nabatiyeh and Al Arqoub - Hosted the Union of Tyre Region Municipalities at a General Coordination Meeting (GCM) on July the 3rd, 2009. <p>1.1.2 Sector Working Groups (SWG) under the lead of relevant ministries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *The <u>Health SWG</u> meeting was held on Monday 24 August 2009 at the UN House in Tyre under the chairmanship of Dr Ali Jaber, Head of South Medical Dept. at the MoPH . - One topic was identified in response to the wish expressed by stakeholders to work on emergency preparedness: A(H1N1) with an action plan in case of a pandemic. - Meeting of Dr Ali Jaber with UN agencies and international and local NGOs during an ad hoc General Coordination Meeting for the launch of the A(H1N1) awareness campaign in the South. - UNIFIL handover ceremony to the MoPH & presentation by UNIFIL of the findings of a Health survey - Monday 28 September. * The <u>Water SWG</u> meeting took place in Saida on 26 August 2009. UNICEF and Action Against Hunger-Spain (ACH-S) briefed the participants about UNICEF exit strategy and the willingness of ACH- S to take the lead pending their budget approval for next year. * Under the auspices of UNRC, two <u>Livelihoods</u> meeting chaired by UNDP took place on 8 July on “Cultural Heritage and Urban Development Project”, a project implemented and supervised by CDR; and on 30 September on “Water User Associations”; with a case study on the establishment of a water user association in Marjayoun, monitored by the Rural Development department in the Litani River Authority. Participants included representatives from the Association of the friends of Ibrahim AbdelAl (initiator of The Litani project), the Rural Development Department/ Litani River Authority and the resident representative of ICU, Instituto per la Cooperazione Universitaria - Spain.
<p>1.2- Liaise with civil society, national and international NGOs, Donors</p>	<p>For the RC sub-office in the south:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings were held with the following stakeholders: MoPH regional office; MoWE regional representatives; MoSA representatives, Cooperatives such as the Union of cooperatives of Iqlim ARD, Italian Cooperation, Japanese Embassy, Al Mabarrat, Ricerca E Cooperazione, Terre des Hommes /Italy; Terre des Hommes/ Switzerland; ICRC; INTERSOS; IndyAct; BBJnoub; JBDA, International Alert, Imam Sadr Foundation; Africa 70, Action Against Hunger, Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, Premiere Urgence, ICRC, Lebanese Red Cross, Lebanese Union of Handicapped(LPHU); Cesvi, Prosvil, Nabaa in addition to other stakeholders attending GCMs. - Note on donors: in addition to the Italian cooperation and the UNIFIL Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), stakeholders were introduced to the Japanese Grassroots Grants Program on two occasions: on 12 August, at a Sector

	<p>East General Coordination Meeting and at a GCM in Tyre with the presence of another donor, the Italian cooperation.</p> <p>-- With UNIFIL QIPs budget extended for another year, the sub-office received a request for distribute the QIPs guidelines and forms to all stakeholders.</p> <hr/> <p><u>For the RC sub-office in the north:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The North sub-office continued liaising with Lebanon Support through regular meetings to ensure an accurate update of all recovery operations information on the NBC website. ✓ As part of enhancing the participation of local and international NGOs in the clusters meetings, several field visits were conducted in Naher El Bared and Beddawi camps and organizations were encouraged to keep participating in the cluster meetings. ✓ The sub-office continued liaising with the LPDC by inviting the latter to the cluster meetings. LPDC Field Officer has been chairing the Protection cluster meetings after UN OHCHR's withdrawal from NBC in May 2009.
<p>1.3- Strengthen coordination mechanisms</p>	<p><u>For the RC sub-office in the south:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8 GCMs in Tyre, 1 sector East GCM in Marjayoun, 6 Inter-Agency meetings were conducted and 1 UNRCO meeting was held in Beirut on 25 August. - 10 presentations/film were given by the MoPH and participating international and local NGOs. Among them: H1N1 by the MoPH, Progetto Sviluppo (Prosvil) with a call for inputs regarding a book project on Nabatiyeh, Action plan for Climate Change Day in Lebanon by IndyAct, Grassroots Grant Program by the Japanese Embassy; Protection in Palestinian Gatherings by Nabaa, DRC and NRC, The School of children with special needs, The Union of Tyre Region Municipalities', UNRC activities etc. - At the request of relevant NGOs, a special GCM was held on 31 July on Palestinian gatherings. Contacts with UNRWA were reactivated on that occasion. - Coordination with UN battalions was ongoing throughout the reporting period. - The sub-office is also the normal channel for weekly briefings and updates on security issues, and coordinates UN agencies' inputs to the bi-annual Security Risk Assessment sent by UNIFIL to New York. - The sub-office also distributed a staff list for all agencies and international NGOs to be completed and sent to UNIFIL security before September the first, 2009. - The sub-office assisted UNIFIL Civil Affairs and facilitated the contact between them and the Lebanese Association for Democratic Elections (LADE) regarding the organization of training sessions on elections, targeting Youth groups. They were also invited to liaise with UNDP youth groups. - The sub-office responded to a number of inquiries and requests regarding UN agencies and NGOs (contact lists, and available data on villages and municipalities). - The sub-office is involved in the day to day management, providing a support structure at the UN House in Tyre, including logistics. <hr/> <p><u>For the RC sub-office in the north:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 inter-cluster meeting took place during this reporting period on 18 August 2009. The meeting gathered all cluster leads to discuss the way

forward with the cluster system. The meeting's main findings were:

- FI/NFI cluster to be suspended since UNRWA is currently the only agency providing food and non-food items;
- WATSAN cluster to be merged with Shelter after UNICEF and other partners phased out of the camp, hence leaving UNRWA as the only agency active in the water and sanitation sector;
- Shelter, Health, Livelihood, Protection, Education and MHPS to continue their regular monthly meetings.

✓ Due to the Holy month of Ramadan, activities have slowed down. However, the following cluster meetings took place during the period last quarter, July-September 2009:

- 1 Health cluster meeting.
- 2 Protection cluster meetings.
- 2 Education cluster meetings.
- 2 Shelter cluster meetings.
- 2 WATSAN cluster meetings.
- 2 Livelihood cluster meetings.

✓ Cluster and inter-cluster MoMs (12) were disseminated to all participants and posted online at www.lebanon-support.org/nbc.

✓ All clusters' Action Plans are being reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

2. Comprehensive information collection system

2.1- Display comprehensive database on the webpage.

2.2- Development, production and dissemination of maps.

2.3- Develop strong links with other GIS staff.

2.4- Produce maps that support sectoral working groups.

• **For the RC sub-office in the south:**

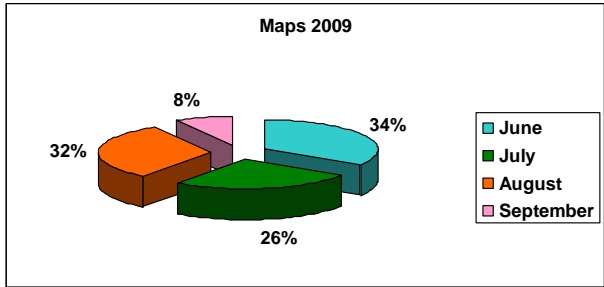
The sub-office maintained data entry of various information related to the NGO Matrix, Cooperative Assessment, UNDP Projects and provided information to the Map unit, the UNRC website and all stakeholders.

* Data management:

- The database/matrix providing information on all sectors - Health, Livelihoods, Protection Shelter, WESH (Water, Environment, Sanitation and Health), Psychosocial, Infrastructure, and Education - is constantly updated with the information collected on the ground;

* Mapping:

- During the reporting period the sub-office regularly updated the Operational Organizations Map and the Protection Map by referring to the information provided by the UNMACC.
- The sub-office also responded to requests for maps on a regular basis: recovery maps, sector interventions maps, area maps, and administrative maps in support of the activities carried out by the recovery partners.
- Development of new maps related to the development phase of intervention: UNDP activities in Beirut Southern Suburb, UNDP activities in Southern Lebanon, Youth Project; Social and Economic Empowerment cluster bomb affected communities map in Southern Lebanon, UNDP Early Recovery Activities in Southern Lebanon between January 2008 and January 2009, Water Management map, Touristic sites map, Functioning health facilities in southern Lebanon, and posters and promotional material to UN agencies.



• **For the RC sub-office in the north:**

- ✓ Documents such as minutes of meetings, needs assessments, datasets, action plans, maps, reports and figures have been regularly uploaded to the NBC website. To date, the website has recorded a steady increase in the number of visits with an average of 330 visits per month. Ninety per cent of the visitors are active stakeholders in the NBC recovery operations and are regularly visiting the website to gather information.
- ✓ The North sub-office maintains an updated contact list of all active stakeholders in both Nahr El-bared and Beddawi Camps and shares it with partners on a regular basis.

Implementation Constraints

For the RC sub-office in the north:

- ✓ Security incidents in Tripoli have forced the UN agencies to postpone some of the planned cluster/coordination meetings.
- ✓ During to the Holy month of Ramadan, some of the clusters' meetings have been cancelled and postponed till after the end of the month upon the request of UNRWA and the clusters' participants.

For the RC sub-office in the South:

- ✓ Contacts with local authorities and union of municipalities were reduced during Ramadan.

Key Partnerships & Collaboration

Both RC sub-offices in the South and the North pursued their partnerships and collaboration with the communities, local authorities, civil society organizations, international and national NGOs, donor agencies and UN agencies.

IV. Work plan per activity for next quarter in 2009 (October - December)

Key Milestones	October				November				December			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Wks												
1. Coordination at the field level through the strengthening of existing coordination sub-offices enhanced												
1.1 Liaise with local authorities at the central and local level to ensure overall coherence of recovery interventions in line with Government priorities. Work towards ensuring a smooth transition from recovery to development activities. Maintain vigilance of various actors in South Lebanon re-an evolving emergency situation whether through a natural disaster like an earthquake or a deteriorating security situation.												
1.2 Liaise with civil society, national and international NGOs, donors, and other multi-lateral partners to avoid duplications and promote synergies among the different recovery / reconstruction partners												
1.3 Set up / strengthen, as required, coordination mechanisms through the establishment of general and/or sector coordination platforms												
1.4 promote the implementation of joint assessments and joint programmes												
1.5 Support the analysis of assistance being provided through the implementation of sector studies in order to fill-in possible gaps, in close collaboration with partners on the ground												

2. Comprehensive information collection system at the field level established and shared with stakeholders and public at large			
2.1 Develop, produce and post on the webpage a comprehensive database covering the most affected areas in the 2 sub-offices with information at the municipal level			
2.2 Develop, produce and disseminate maps and related documents to support the recovery work, both in terms of assessment and sector interventions			
2.3 Develop strong links with other GIS staff in affected areas to promote coordination and information-sharing between organizations and government departments working on GIS activities in particular			
2.4 Produce maps that support sectoral working groups to strengthen collaboration and coherence			