



PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	: United Nations Development Programme
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: 00072768
Project Title	: <u>Recovery of Nahr El Bared Surrounding Lebanese Communities Affected by the 2006 and 2007 conflicts</u>
LRF Signature date	: May 29, 2009
Project Start date	: August 2009*
Project Timeframe	: 18 months
Reporting Period	: 01 April – 30 June 2010

*Please note that, while the funds were released in August 2009, the Lebanon Country Office only received them by October 2009. Implementation only started from October 2009 onwards.

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

The main objective of the project is to promote the social cohesion through restoring and improving livelihoods, capacity building and local level dialogue. The project is designed to restore livelihoods of 2,000 vulnerable households (13,400 individuals) in 28 communities of North Lebanon who have sustained significant direct or indirect losses related to the Nahr el Bared conflict in 2007. Additionally, the project aims to provide a solid platform for development efforts in the area, by increasing local capacities of participatory planning, management and implementation of development programmes, as well as, promoting local level dialogue.

Project Objective:

Project Outputs:

1. Livelihoods of farmers, fishermen and SME owners improved through socio-economic interventions targeting training, technical and asset needs
2. Living conditions and livelihoods of communities improved through small scale infrastructure projects
3. Dialogue improved through local level interventions, particularly targeting youth

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:

The project links into the national priority “*National capacities of crisis prevention and recovery enhanced, including disaster management, mine action, youth and reconciliation and Lebanese-Palestinian dialogue*” of the UNDP Country Programme Document 2010-2014, specifically under Outcome 2 of the priority “*Living conditions and trust in Palestinian and Lebanese surrounding communities improved*”.

Project Implementation Partners:

FAO, ILO

II. RESOURCES

Total budget approved	:	2,499.948 USD
Total disbursements as for 30th June 2010	:	108,477.656 USD
Commitments for next quarter	:	900.000 USD
Available Balance	:	2,367.981 USD

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL EXP (USD) to Date
1. Personnel (Incl. staff and consultants)	235,400 USD	65,508.31
2. Contracts (Incl. companies, professional services)	1,530,000 USD	4,600
3. Training	285,000 USD	
4. Transport	4,000 USD	
5. Supplies and commodities	2,000 USD	503.47
6. Equipment	80,000 USD	21,535
7. Travel	80,000 USD	
8. Miscellaneous	120,000 USD	9234.02
9. Agency Management Support	163,548 USD	7946.656
TOTAL	2,499.948 USD	108,477.456 USD

III. RESULTS

Progress in Project Implementation:

- Three strategic infrastructure projects for productive means, targeting each a cluster of villages, were identified through a participatory approach with the targeted communities. The technical specifications were completed for one of the projects (Improvement and upgrade of the Slaughter House of Halba) and the implementation of the works is about to be launched. Technical discussions are ongoing for the two other projects (Olive Solid Waste facility Treatment and house-hold solid waste facility treatment) with local stakeholders and the technical specifications are expected to be finalized soon, in partnership with the newly elected local authorities.
- A detailed plan for collaboration was finalized with FAO regarding activities pertaining to strengthening the livelihoods of farmers in the targeted areas. As a result, technical assistance from FAO will be provided throughout the project, starting the design and implementation of the assessment focused on the agriculture sector.
- The intervention targeting the women working in the rehabilitation of the fisheries nets in Bebnine is being designed based on analysis of the data collected through several focus groups and interviews conducted with the targeted community, the municipality as well as with the fishermen cooperative and other CBOs from the area.
- The micro finance component of the livelihoods component was also designed in close collaboration with ILO and a local partner organisation. A number of focus groups with key business sectors affected by the crisis were organised in order to better understand needs, and to define clear criteria for the micro finance initiative.
- A youth survey perception on Lebanese/Palestinian relations was designed and will serve as the

framework for developing an agenda of work with young people over the medium and long-term. Preparatory works for the organisation of a “Sports for Peace camp” and a sports tournament gathering Lebanese and Palestinians were undertaken, and these activities will be organised in the next quarter.

Project Outputs	Activities	Status
Output 1: Livelihoods of farmers, fishermen and SME owners improved through socio-economic interventions targeting training, technical and asset needs	1.1 Designing and conducting assessments focusing on fishing and agriculture sectors	On track
	1.2 Building capacities of fishing and agriculture cooperatives and enhancing their productivity	On track
	1.3 Training cooperative members and management on organisational, managerial, finance skills and assets	On track
	1.4 Providing assets to fishermen and farmers and building their managerial and technical capacities	On track
	1.5 Conducting in-depth assessments of competitiveness in the agriculture and fishing sectors	On track
	1.6 Coordinating with other livelihood actors on the field with the aim to harmonise interventions	On track
	1.7 Providing business management training to SME's	On track
	1.8 Establishing a Women's Committee for the catchment area	On track
	1.9 Distribution microfinance loans through a local partner	On track
Output 2: Living conditions and livelihoods of communities improved through small scale infrastructure projects	2.1 Planning and implementing infrastructure projects with Municipalities through a participatory approach.	On track
	2.2 Training municipalities on infrastructure maintenance and financing of maintenance	On track
	2.3 Constructing and completing planned infrastructure projects	On track
Output 3: Dialogue improved through local level interventions, particularly targeting youth	3.1 Conducting youth dialogue sessions	On track
	3.2. Identifying target groups	On track
	3.3 Planning and completing 5 small scale youth projects in a participatory manner (including both hardware and software initiatives)	On track
	3.4 Organizing youth camps	On track

Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:

Progress in outcomes (1) and (2) was slowed down by the municipal elections that took place end of May 2010. The electoral campaigns started almost 6 weeks before the elections, and by end of June 2010, some of the municipal boards and committees had not yet been elected. Municipal elections also led to significant changes in the councils of several municipalities, resulting in the need to build new relationships with the new authorities and to re-discuss the priorities previously established.

Key Partnerships & Collaboration

- Letter of Agreement FAO was signed, and partnership is underway.
- Letter of Agreement with ILO is under signature.
- Micro-assessment with the Municipality of Halba conducted.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

KEY MILESTONES	July				August				September			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Output 1: Livelihoods of farmers, fishermen and SME owners improved through socio-economic interventions targeting training, technical and asset needs												
Activity 1.1 Designing and conducting assessments focusing on fishing and agriculture sectors	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Activity 1.2 Building capacities of fishing and agriculture cooperatives and enhancing their productivity			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.3 Training cooperative members and management on organizational, managerial, finance skills and assets			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.4 Providing assets to fishermen and farmers and building their managerial and technical capacities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.5 Conducting in-depth assessments of competitiveness in the agriculture and fishing sectors	X	X	X	X								
Activity 1.6 Coordinating with other livelihood actors on the field with the aim to harmonize interventions	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.7 Providing business management training to SME's					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.8 Establishing a Women's Committee for the catchment area					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.9 Distribution microfinance loans through a local partner					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Output 2: Living conditions and livelihoods of communities improved through small scale infrastructure projects												
Activity 2.1 Planning and implementing infrastructure projects with Municipalities through a participatory approach.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 2.2 Training municipalities on infrastructure maintenance and financing of maintenance	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 2.3 Constructing and completing planned infrastructure projects	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Output 3: Dialogue improved through local level interventions, particularly targeting youth												
Activity 3.1 Conducting youth dialogue sessions	X	X	X	X			X	X			X	X
Activity 3.2. Identifying target groups	X	X	X	X								
Activity 3.3 Planning and completing 5 small scale youth projects in a participatory manner (including both hardware and software initiatives)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 3.4 Organizing youth camps									X	X	X	X

Adjustments to strategies, outcomes or outputs:

N/A