



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE ARAB STATES

PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	: International Labour Organization
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: LEB/09/01M/UND (LRF-22)
Project Title	: Local Socio-Economic Development in War Affected-Areas of South Lebanon
Project Start date	: 1 June 2009
Reporting Period	: July - September 2010
Budget	: US\$ 1,500,000

I. PURPOSE

Through its participatory approach, the project is implementing socio-economic development activities in war-affected areas of South Lebanon. It is working with and supporting efforts of governmental bodies, local institutions, employers' and workers' organizations and civil society groups present in South Lebanon, for the development of strategically planned, locally-driven and locally implemented livelihoods recovery projects that would generate permanent and temporary employment. The project takes into consideration socio-economic assessments and recovery initiatives adopted by the Government of Lebanon, its partners, the UN Country Team, and non-governmental organizations, in addition to addressing key components of the Social Action Plan "Towards Strengthening Social Safety Nets and Access to Basic Social Services".

It is primarily working towards:

1. Enhancing the implementation capacities of local institutions and major implementing partners in South Lebanon in managing livelihood projects through application of acquired tools and methodologies.
2. Strengthening the capacities of local institutions in South Lebanon, so they can maintain and replicate participatory methodologies in promoting local economic development initiatives.

The project is continuing to work in partnership with municipalities, local cooperatives, relevant ministries at both central and local levels, micro-credit institutions (e.g. Al Majmoua, ADR), academic institutions, Social Development Centres, syndicates, workers' and employers' organizations present in the South. It also established strategic partnerships with international institutions, including the Italian ROSS programme and INTERSOS.

II. RESOURCES (as at 30 September 2010)

Category	Budget (US\$)	Expenditures (US\$)	Commitment balance (US\$)	Allocation balance (US\$)
1. Personnel (Project staff and consultants)	639,016	551,895.44	86,667.87	452.69
2. Contracts	400,000	132,885.55	1,774.00	265,340.45
3. Training	136,750	94,023.67	17,466.92	25,259.41
4. Transport	2,000	183.00	549.00	1,268.00
5. Equipment	4,000	92.00	0	3,908.00
6. Travel	4,000	1,799.75	0	2,200.25
7. Evaluation	25,000	0	0	25,000.00
8. Miscellaneous	19,374	16,899.19	617.54	1,857.27
9. Agency Management Support	269,860	147,135.41	87,712.00	35,012.59
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	1,500,000	944,914.01	194,787.33	360,298.66

II. RESULTS

Progress made during the period under review:

Capacity building:

- As a follow-up of the Organizational Capacity Assessment conducted for the 19 potential partner institutions, a capacity building plan was drafted to tailor the needs highlighted by the evaluation. The first training targeted municipalities, specifically 20 municipalities belonging to the Union of Municipalities of Tyre Caza. The workshop, held in August 2010, was constituted of 4 full working days' sessions emphasizing the weaknesses spotted during the assessment and revolved around the following topics: Strategic Planning, Proposal Writing, Progress Reporting, Budgeting, Basic Accounting, Mobilization and Development of Local Resources, and Role of Municipalities in Development. A total of 44 representatives from the 20 municipalities were present; in each day, at least one member from each municipality attended the session that is relevant to his function in the municipal board.

Micro-finance and small enterprise development:

- Utilizing the new funds allocated for micro-finance, Al Majmoua and the Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR) were able to reach a total of 34 people in the period under review (the classification of beneficiaries for each institution is illustrated in the table under output 1.3).
- Both institutions were provided with a Training of Trainers on the GET AHEAD tool which is a Business Management Training specifically tailored for women who intend to start or develop their own business.

Partnerships with local institutions:

- The Municipalities' training workshop held on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 9th of August 2010 with the active involvement of 20 municipalities from Tyre Caza, was implemented in close collaboration with the Union of Municipalities of Tyre Caza.

Project Outcomes	Indicators	Performance Indicators Phase I & II	Performance Indicators Period under review
1. Local institutions and major implementing partners in South Lebanon manage livelihoods projects applying acquired tools and methodologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of entrepreneurial activities supported with recovered livelihoods Number of vulnerable households regained their main source of income % increased margin of profit of the direct beneficiaries of the project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 482 entrepreneurial activities. 425 vulnerable households regained their main source of income. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 entrepreneurial activities. Zero
2. Local institutions and major implementing partners in South Lebanon manage livelihoods projects applying acquired tools and methodologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % stakeholders replicating same/improved learned methodologies % of new contacts established by local institutions, & increased relation with donors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.19% (1 institution - Beekeeping Value Chain Analysis in Akkar) Zero 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zero Zero
Project Output	Indicators		
1.1 Local institutions in targeted economic sectors demonstrate enhanced managerial skills so as to effectively plan, design and implement socio-economic projects	Number of local (public, Private and civil society) institutions trained in Local Socio-Economic recovery Methodology	84 local institutions trained (7 public, 43 private and 34 civil society institutions)	Zero
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % knowledge acquired through management training of the municipalities' representatives % improved management practices 	Training of trainer module developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 51% Increase in knowledge in Strategic Planning 53.5% increase in knowledge in Proposal Writing 44.75% increase in knowledge in Progress Reporting 42.88% increase in knowledge in Creation of Green Jobs 51.25% increase in knowledge in Identifying the Role of Municipalities in Development 39.25% increase in knowledge in Developing and Mobilizing Local Resources 46.63% increase in knowledge in Identifying the Mission, Vision and Values of Municipalities 45.75% increase in knowledge in Budgeting 33% increase in knowledge in Basic Accountancy
1.2 Beneficiaries in the targeted economic sector in South Lebanon demonstrate enhanced technical capacities in order to improve businesses	Number of socio-economic projects funded and facilitated by ILO with the support and supervision of local stakeholders	38 projects implemented	1 project implemented
	Number of Sectoral Local Economic Recovery Strategies developed	2 strategies developed (Beekeeping, and Cooperatives)	Zero
	Number of grants allocated to local entrepreneurs	8	Zero
	Number of local micro-finance institutions supported by the project	3 MF institutions supported (ADR, Al Majmoua and Ameen)	Two MF institutions supported (Al Majmoua and ADR – Tot on GET AHEAD)
	Number of municipal sub-projects approved	2	Zero
1.3 Local institutions, entrepreneurs, and marginalized groups in the targeted economic sectors in South Lebanon are supported through provision of financial services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of beneficiaries who accessed loans and grants % of women who accessed loan and grants % farmers who accessed loans and grants % disabled who accessed loans and grants % of loans and grants allocated per sector % of loans and grants allocated per caza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 482 beneficiary accessed loans, and 8 accessed grants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 beneficiary accessed loans, zero accessed grants 26% women accessed loans 41% of beneficiaries who accessed loans are farmers. No disabled people accessed loans. Sectoral Distribution of beneficiaries who accessed loans: 26.47% livestock, 20.59% general agriculture, 5.88% Beekeeping, 8.82% olive, 11.77% oregano. Geographical distribution (caza) of beneficiaries who accessed loans: 6% from Hasbaya, 50% from Tyre, 18% from Sidon, 3% from Marjeyoun, 9% from Nabathieh, and 15% from Bint Jbeil.
2.1 Capacity of local stakeholders in exchanging practices is enhanced via establishing/strengthening existent fora related to the selected socio-economic sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Local Economic forums established Improves in the financial resources and management capacity of the fora created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Economic fora established one for Honey production and one for the cooperatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> zero
Local stakeholders capacities are enhanced to replicate, plan and coordinate socio economic initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of sectoral plans developed by local stakeholders Number of stakeholders attending sustainability workshop Number of stakeholders using the replication guidelines in planning their socio-economic activities % of women participating in the fora created % of disabled participating in the fora created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 PVCA (olive oil, beekeeping & Dairy) 29 Zero 7% Zero 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One sectoral plan: (Design of priority intervention - Environment Sector) Zero Zero 7% Zero

Main activities undertaken and achievements:

Project Output and Activities	Work Done (July – September 2010)
1.1: Local institutions in targeted economic sectors demonstrate enhanced managerial capacities so as to effectively plan design and implement socio-economic projects.	As an implementation of the capacity building plan resulting from the Organizational Capacity Assessment, a training workshop was conducted to target a representative sample of the municipalities of Tyre Union (geographical distribution, size of villages, number of habitants). Out of 25 invited municipalities, 20 attended, and these were: Tyre, Arzoun, Bazourieh, Bedias, Burj Ac-Chamaly, Burj Rahal, Hmeiri, Deir Amess, Deir Kanun Ras El Ein, Teir Harfa, Tura, Ein Baal, Majdal Zoun, Qana, Qoleili, Maarakeh, Maaroub, Mansouri, Naqoura, and Yarine.
1.2: Beneficiaries in the targeted economic sector in South Lebanon demonstrate enhanced technical capacities in order to improve businesses	<p>An assessment was conducted to identify economic sectors that carry potentials for greening or to identify jobs to be created that contribute to greening the sectors already targeted by the project.</p> <p>As a follow-up step, the ILO organized a two-day workshop in Tyre on 16-17 September 2010 in order to present and discuss the preliminary findings of the study to key stakeholders and solicit additional inputs and ideas. Through participatory approach, the aim of the workshop was to provide further input and expertise from local organizations and specialists to identify potential green jobs projects in South Lebanon.</p> <p>The main outcomes of the workshop were the identification of several viable Green Jobs proposals in South Lebanon and these were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of Solar Energy applications - Support to Organic Farming and Access to Markets - Establishment of Processing System for the Aromatic Plants Product Chain - Establishment of a Specialized Nursery in Organic Farming - Introduction and Support to Thyme Cultivation in al-Za'tar - Introduction of Modern Separation Machines for Recycling of Tires and Cables <p>The feasibility of these proposals is being studied to identify 1-2 initiatives to be implemented during this phase of the project.</p>
1.3: Local institutions, entrepreneurs, and marginalised groups in the targeted economic sectors in South Lebanon are supported through provision of financial services.	<p>Both Al Majmoua and ADR, who are subcontracted by the project to provide loans and Business Management Training to end beneficiaries, were provided with a Training of Trainers on GET AHEAD (a BMT tool targeting women to capacitate them in starting or improving their own business).</p> <p>The micro-finance partners will later provide this BMT to the female beneficiaries of the project.</p>
2.1: Capacities of local stakeholders in exchanging practices is enhanced via establishing/strengthening existent fora related to the selected socio-economic sectors.	An LED/LER training package is being prepared to capacitate the designing, implementing, monitoring and financial management skills of the members of South Lebanon Beekeepers Forum for Development and South Lebanon Cooperatives Forum for Development.
2.2: Local stakeholders capacities are enhanced to replicate, plan and coordinate socio economic initiatives.	The LED/LER Training package, mentioned under output 2.1) is being tailored to cater to needs highlighted by the local institutions during the Organizational Capacity Assessment, specifically in the domain of socio-economic planning and implementing.

Impact assessment:

Depending on the nature of the activity, the impact of the project interventions can be determined through the performance indicators (examples: % increase in knowledge in Management skills, % participation of women...) or through the accomplishment of the milestones set in the logical framework (examples: establishment of a local forum, drafting of a sectoral strategy...).

Local Economic Development:

- Key stakeholders involved in the environment sector in south Lebanon jointly analyzed the value chain, designed and prioritized green jobs projects with specific focus on the environmental needs and benefits, job creation, feasibility and possibilities to replicate project activities elsewhere.

Visibility and outreach:

- The Project Manager attended the LRF donor meeting to present the achievements of the project. Moreover, a letter was presented to the LRF committee to express interest in new funds for a third phase.

Challenges faced:

- Many of the key stakeholders are involved in different functions in the sector, not to mention that, most of the time, they often financially depend on other economic activities; therefore, it takes much effort to make sure that they are involved, committed, and consistent in the delivery of their outputs, i.e. attending a workshop or implementing an intervention.
- The lack of statistical data in Lebanon makes it hard to measure the impact of the project interventions when it comes to the change of household or individual income, to number of people involved in the sectoral activities, etc...

Lessons learned:

- Training packages should be designed to be as interactive as possible, to ensure the full involvement of attendees.
- Continuous follow-up with the local stakeholders and partner institutions is required to achieve the objectives set for each intervention.

Work plan:

LSER WORK PLAN 2010

ACTIVITY	Duration	Oct	Nov	Dec
Output 1.1: Local institutions in targeted economic sectors demonstrate enhanced managerial capacities so as to effectively plan design and implement socio-economic projects				
Activity 1.1.1: Capacity building of local institutions through trainings tailored to address the gaps identified through the institutional capacities' assessment.	5 months			
Activity 1.1.2: Delivery of ILO's entrepreneurship development Training of Trainers and "GET Ahead" Training Module to local business development service providers	8 Months			
Activity 1.1.3: Capacity building of one to two (1-2) local microfinance institutions through delivery of middle management training.				
Output 1.2: Beneficiaries in the targeted economic sector in South Lebanon demonstrate enhanced technical capacities in order to improve businesses				
Activity 1.2.1: ILO, in collaboration with other UN agencies, conducts Participative Value Chain Analyses (PVCA) training at the sectoral level (for the sectors to be selected through the territorial diagnosis and the sustainability workshop; green jobs)				
Activity 1.2.2: Enabling people with disabilities to access adapted skills training, business management training, cooperative training, and PVCA trainings.	8 Months			
Activity 1.2.3: Training of new beekeepers and distributing of beehives in three villages (21 new beekeepers)				
Output 1.3 Local institutions, entrepreneurs, and marginalized groups in the targeted economic sectors in South Lebanon are supported through provision of financial services.				
Activity 1.3.1 Provision of funds to local implementing partners to implement sectoral economic activities (as prioritized by the PVCA workshops). Projects implementation	18 months			
Activity 1.3.2: Provision of funds to the Social Development Centers to strengthen their capacity in integrating people with disabilities in the job market.	10 months			

Activity 1.3.3: Conducting assessment for green Jobs sector	2 months			
Activity 1.3.4: Provision of micro loans to micro entrepreneurs and members of cooperatives	18 months			
Activity 1.3.5: Recovery of income generation activities for disabled people through access to grants and/or micro loans (for activities related to the targeted sectors).	11 months			
Output 2.1: Capacities of local stakeholders in exchanging practices is enhanced via establishing/strengthening existent fora related to the selected socio-economic sectors.				
Activity 2.1.1: Establishment of three (3) local economic fora/Economic Sectoral Associations for the sectors to be selected by the local decision makers during the sustainability workshop.				
Output 2.2: : Local stakeholders capacities are enhanced to replicate, plan and coordinate socio economic initiatives				
Activity 2.2.1: Mapping and documentation of successful local integrated projects and preparation of replication guidelines for the second phase of the project	2 Months			
Activity 2.2.2: Conducting a sustainability workshop to ensure handover of the project achievements to the local stakeholders,				
Activity 2.2.3: Delivery of training to national stakeholders on designing LER/LED plans.	2 months			

Annex I: Project initiatives

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Organization	International Labour Organization
Project Title	Cooperative Development in South Lebanon
Sector	Cooperatives
Needs to be addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of extension workers skilled in providing adequate cooperatives' managerial and technical support. ▪ Lack of management and cooperative understanding. ▪ Lack of marketing strategies and channels. ▪ Lack of clear work plans for cooperative work in South Lebanon
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The cooperative extension workers, will deliver necessary support services to promote and develop local cooperatives, improve their management performance, increase volume of business and number of members, using participatory approaches and training methods.
Expected Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5 to 7 cooperatives improved their managerial and technical skills ▪ Participants in the training, are evaluated to test the level of knowledge acquired through the trainings
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment and analyses ▪ Conducting trainings ▪ Conducting meetings with Board Of Directors ▪ Conducting trainings for the Board Of Directors
Duration	6 months
Cost	USD\$ 24,300
Local partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural Cooperative of Bint Jbeil ▪ Regional Cooperative Union in South Lebanon ▪ Cooperative Union for Development in the South (ARD) ▪ Cooperative of Agriculture and Beekeeping in Maroun Ar-Ras ▪ Cooperative of Tobacco Planting and its Productivity Enhancement in the South ▪ Rmeich Cooperative for Agricultural and Livestock Development ▪ Cooperative Association for Jabal Amel Beekeepers ▪ Cooperative Association for Agriculture of Mahrouna ▪ Cooperative Association of Production and Processing of Agricultural Products/ Deir Kanoun Ras El Ein ▪ Cooperative Association for Agricultural and Livestock Development/ Haloussieh ▪ The Agricultural Cooperative of Ain Tenta
Funding Source	Lebanon Recovery Fund

ONGOING PROJECTS

Organization	International Labour Organization
Project Title	Support to Alternative Agriculture: Oregano – South Lebanon
Sector	Beekeeping
Needs to be addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A high concentration of beekeepers on little pastures. ▪ Deterioration of forestation in Lebanon generally, and in South Lebanon specifically. ▪ Lack of irrigation systems in the thyme agriculture. ▪ Low thyme supply when compared to demand. ▪ Decrease of wild thyme quantities caused by early harvesting. ▪ Lack of natural treatment for bees' diseases (thyme's oil has proved to be an efficient natural treatment for Varroa).
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Generate sustainable local income and create local employment opportunities in South Lebanon through pursuing the production of thyme and its bi-products.
Expected Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A total of 115 donoms planted with thyme. ▪ A total of 115 farmers trained on efficient thyme farming techniques.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Choosing 28 villages to be targeted by the project. ▪ Choosing 115 beneficiaries in all the 28 villages. ▪ Plantation of 115 donoms with 5000 thyme plants each.
Duration	4 months
Cost	USD\$ 127,290
Local partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Syndicate of Agricultural Laborers in South Lebanon ▪ Labour Union for the Syndicates of the Employees and Laborers of the South ▪ Cooperative Union for Development in the South ▪ Cooperative of Tobacco Planting and its Productivity Enhancement in the South ▪ Jihad Al Binaa Development Association ▪ The Association of Environment Friends ▪ Cooperative Association for Agriculture of Mahrouna ▪ Cooperative Association of Production and Processing of Agricultural Products/ Deir Kanoun Ras El Ein ▪ Cooperative Association for Agricultural and Livestock Development/ Haloussieh ▪ The Agricultural Cooperative of Ein Tenta
Funding Source	Lebanon Recovery Fund

ONGOING PROJECTS

Organization	International Labour Organization
Project Title	Business Management Training and Micro Finance for Small and Medium entrepreneurs in South Lebanon
Sector	Small Enterprise Development and Micro Finance
Needs being addressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urgent need for a prompt basic economic recovery and supporting the strategic economic activities in a sustainable manner. ▪ Lack of practical business management tools ▪ Lack of skilled facilitators for BMT. ▪ Small Enterprises not able to access micro-finance.
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The local beneficiaries (most vulnerable population, micro and enterprises, women business associations, people with disability) will receive through Local stakeholders (Al Majmoua, ADR) concrete business management skills and financial support through micro credits to recover economic activity.
Expected Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Approximately 110 micro, small and medium enterprises receive micro-credit and business management training through Al Majmoua and ADR in South Lebanon to enable them to start or improve their businesses.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Selection of Micro-finance institutions and facilitators to participate in training ▪ Organization of focus groups to discover areas of focus for the BMT ▪ Organization of the Training course on Making Micro-Finance Work
Duration	8 months
Cost	USD\$ 150,000
Local partner	Al Majmoua, ADR
Funding source	LRF Funds
Status	approved

ONGOING PROJECTS

Organization	International Labour Organization
Project Title	Capacity Building of Potential Partner Institutions
Sector	NA
Needs being addressed	Lack of basic capacities among the majority of partner institutions in the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governance ▪ HR Management ▪ Financial Management and Budgeting ▪ Small Enterprises not able to access micro-finance.
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancing the implementation capacities of local institutions and major implementing partners in South Lebanon in managing livelihood projects through application of acquired tools and methodologies
Expected Results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Targeted institutions participated in the organized training workshops. ▪ Capacities of targeted institutions enhanced in the tackled domains.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Train partners on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a- To adopt a Mission, a Vision, and Values, and b- To strategically plan to serve these MVVs. c- To write proposals that help them in mobilizing funds for their strategic activities d- To write progress reports e- On computing skills f- On accountancy and budgeting g- On integrating People with Disabilities in the job market ▪ Equip partner institutions to target PWDs.
Duration	6 months
Cost	USD\$ 37,500
Local partner	NA
Funding source	LRF Funds
Status	approved