



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 July – 30 September 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. The project document was revised and signed. Accordingly the end date is 28 February 2011.

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

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: The main objective of the project is to promote the social cohesion through restoring and improving livelihoods, capacity building and local level dialogue.

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 : **2,500,000 USD**

Total disbursements as for 30th September 2010 : **375,602 USD**

Commitments for next quarter : **1,200,000 USD**

Available Balance : **2,148,969 USD**

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL EXP (USD) to Date
1. Personnel (Incl. staff and consultants)	235,400 USD	113,312.03
2. Contracts (Incl. companies, professional services)	1,530,000 USD	195,581.20
3. Training	285,000 USD	
4. Transport	4,000 USD	2802.03
5. Supplies and commodities	2,000 USD	503.47
6. Equipment	80,000 USD	26,717.33
7. Travel	80,000 USD	
8. Miscellaneous	120,000 USD	12,114.03
9. Agency Management Support	163,548 USD	24,572
TOTAL	2,500.000 USD	375,602

III. RESULTS

Progress in Project Implementation:

- Grant Agreement Contract aiming at *the Improvement and upgrade of the Slaughter House of Halba* was signed with the municipality of Halba and implementation started. In parallel, the required laboratory equipments were purchased;
- The technical specifications were completed for the *Olive Solid Waste Composting Facility* and procurement procedure launched;
- Technical study for *the Improvement and upgrade of the waste water treatment plant in Bqarzla* was completed and procurement procedure is to be launched;
- In-depth assessment of the impact of the Nahr El Bared crisis on the agricultural sector in the targeted area was conducted. Based on the outputs of this assessment, and in collaboration with FAO, recovery activities aiming at supporting farmers to improve their incomes following the crisis were identified and technical specifications for needed assets and equipments are under preparation. Furthermore, the MoU to be signed with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is being discussed with technical staff at MoA;
- The intervention targeting the women working in the rehabilitation of the fisheries nets in Bebnine has been designed. Activities targeting women will focus on two main areas i) organization of the knitting activities for income generation purposes and ii) improvement of health and working conditions through provision of better lighting and new work instruments. Based on the above, the women committee to lead the creation of a cooperative was identified and works are on-going to establish the cooperative. In parallel, elaboration of instruments and tools that will help improving the health and working conditions in collaboration with Hopitaux Universitaires de Geneve is

underway.

- Institutional contract between ILO and Al Majmoua, a micro-finance institution, was signed and the activities have started.
- A youth perception survey on Lebanese/Palestinian relations was launched.
- “Sports for Peace camp” gathering 75 Lebanese and Palestinians was conducted.

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	Achieved
	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	Achieved
	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.	Delays
	2.2 Training municipalities on infrastructure maintenance and financing of maintenance	Delays
	2.3 Constructing and completing planned infrastructure projects	Delays
Output 3: Dialogue improved through local level interventions, particularly targeting youth	3.1 Conducting youth dialogue sessions	On track
	3.2. Identifying target groups	Achieved
	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	Achieved

Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:

- Progress in outcomes (1) and (2) was slowed down by the municipal elections that took place at the end of May 2010. The electoral campaigns started almost 6 weeks before the elections, and electing some of the municipal boards and committees was postponed until early July. 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.
- There is a disconnect between the pace of work of the local communities and the local authorities and the proposed tight framework usually set for recovery initiatives;
- It is important to carefully introduce and present recovery projects following NBC crisis and that target Lebanese communities;
- Working on initiatives of particular interest to the local authorities is a useful starting point for developing longer-term partnerships.

Key Partnerships & Collaboration

- Letter of Agreement FAO was signed, and partnership is underway.
- Letter of Agreement with ILO was signed, and partnership is underway.
- Micro-assessment with the Municipality of Halba conducted.
- Grant agreement contract with Municipality of Halba signed
- MoU with Hopitaux Universitaires de Geneve signed.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

KEY MILESTONES	October				November				December			
	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												
Activity 1.2 Building capacities of fishing and agriculture cooperatives and enhancing their productivity	X	X	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	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												
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	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.8 Establishing a Women's Committee for the catchment area	X	X	X	X	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	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
Activity 3.2. Identifying target groups												
Activity 3.3 Planning and completing 5 small scale youth projects in a participatory manner (including both	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

hardware and software initiatives)														
Activity 3.4 Organizing youth camps														

Adjustments to strategies, outcomes or outputs:

N/A
