



PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	: United Nations Development Programme
Country	: Lebanon
Project No.	: LRF – 19
Project Title	: Socio – Economic Rehabilitation Programme in the Framework of ART GOLD Lebanon.
LRF Signature date	: March 26, 2009
Project Start date	: April 2009
Project Timeframe	: 2009 extended till end of February 2011
Reporting Period	: Jan – February 2011

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

Through ART GOLD's participatory methodology and instruments, the programme will tackle issues of socio-economic local development for balanced regional development. This includes strengthening local participatory planning processes, local government strengthening, local economic development and decentralized cooperation. The programme builds on potentialities and capacities in target regions, hence contributing to recovery and socio-economic rehabilitation in Lebanon.

The programme responds to national priorities of poverty reduction and the reduction of regional disparities through interventions in four underserved regions of the country, including North Lebanon, south Lebanon, West Bekaa and Beirut Southern Suburbs.

Project Objectives and Outcomes:

The specific objective is to improve the local population's living conditions through increased access to employment, income, education, health, social integration and the environment, with a special focus on the most vulnerable population. This is done through improving the functioning of local public administration, enhancing basic social services, and promoting a wide participation of local communities in development processes.

Outputs are carried out at the local, national and international levels:

At the local level:

- Governance:
 - Improved skills and capacities of local authorities and administration to plan manage and promote human development.
 - Improved partnerships between the local authorities and local actors such as civil society stakeholders.
 - Lebanese institutions capacitated to take advantage of international partnerships such as decentralized cooperation networks.
 - Members of public institutions and civil associations better prepared to operate jointly in local development processes.

- Local Economic Development:
 - LEDAs established in the four regions of intervention.
 - Local economic development promoted in a balanced and integrated way, hence reducing poverty and increasing access of the deprived sectors of the population to jobs and businesses.
 - Endogenous resources and regional competitiveness maximized.
 - Number of small productive enterprises increased.
 - Increased income for the disadvantaged sectors of the population.
 - Productive activities use local resources in a more sustainable way.

- Social Wellbeing:
 - Improved coverage of public services and utilities in AGL's priority sectors of education, health and the environment.
 - Improved functioning of public services in the aforementioned social sectors.
 - Access for excluded and marginalized areas and persons to basic social services increased.
 - Innovations aimed at improving the quality and efficiency of services introduced.
 - Social cohesion and dialogue promoted through ART GOLD's participatory approaches and methodologies.
 - Increased initiatives promoting social cohesion, such as the community maps of risks and resources.

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:

The projects are in line with the Government's goals to support basic social services and primary health care, enhance social integration and support to the youth, enhance the preservation of the environment (waste, water, energy and forestry) and Increase income generation and job opportunities.

Project Implementation Partners:

The Governments of Italy, Spain, Belgium and Monaco are the donor countries for ART GOLD Lebanon.

DC partners: ART GOLD Lebanon has established 50 decentralized cooperation partnerships for development between local communities from Lebanon and European countries. These partnerships helped exchange technical skills, as well as best practice and know-how, benefiting hundreds of Lebanese beekeepers, fruit tree farmers and cow breeders, in addition to enhancing the tourism sector in both North Lebanon and the Bekaa region. To name a few of these DC partners: FAMSI (Federacion Andaluza de Muicipios para la Solidaridad Internacional, SPAIN), Diputacion de Barcelona , Catalan Cooperative Agency for Development, Tuscany region, COCOPA (Coordinamento de Municipi de la province de Turino, Italy), Sint-Truiden Municipality (Belgium), and Les Amis du Liban from Monaco.

National Partners:

The Council for Development and Reconstruction is the national counterpart of ART GOLD Lebanon. All AGL activities are agreed upon and monitored with the Council for Development and Reconstruction, ensuring projects coherency with the national strategies.

Line ministries are AGL partners at the National Level. The ministry of Interior is implementing a wide scope project on building capacities for local authorities in the four target regions. AGL is partnering with the Ministry of Agriculture in supporting the cow breeding and beekeeping sectors. AGL is also coordinating with the Ministry of Public Health on the primary health care imitative being implemented across the region of BSS. Similarly, coordination with the Ministry of Environment is maintained regarding reforestation projects, falling under the national plan of the Ministry.

Other national partners to AGL are the local authorities. These entities have an intrinsic role to play not only in identifying the local needs and elaborating projects but also in being held responsible for the sustainability of the different AGL initiatives in their regions.

II. RESOURCES

As of March 31st, 2011

Total budget approved	\$2,391,450.00
Disbursements	\$2,391,449.37
Available Balance	\$0
Commitments for next quarter	N/A

Account	Amount Disbursed by project					
	00053003 - ARTGOLD Lebanon	00056944 - ARTGOLD BSS	00056945 - ARTGOLD South	00056946 - ARTGOLD Bekaa	00056947 - ARTGOLD North	00073242 - Guarantee fund
Salary & Post Adj Cst-IP Staff	8,955.68	-	-	-	-	-
Recurrent Payroll Costs-IP Stf	2,573.01	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Recurrent Payroll - IP Stf	38.00	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance and Security Costs	3,730.23	-	-	-	-	-
After Service Insurance	540.40	-	-	-	-	-
ALD Employee Costs	63,446.00	-	-	-	-	-
International Consultants	63,000.00	-	-	-	-	-
Local Consultants	-	-	-	2,600.00	500.00	-
Contractual Services - Individ	113,868.72	59,834.93	91,720.54	40,732.36	85,700.18	-
UN Volunteers	2,646.78	-	-	-	-	-
Travel	45,335.69	19,111.00	6,045.84	1,225.09	-	-
Contractual Services-Companies	17,138.76	232,916.00	105,361.91	30,850.00	24,000.00	-
Equipment and Furniture	-	5,571.00	77,352.40	10,239.55	69,296.57	-
Materials & Goods	-	-	4,836.20	48,557.00	42,573.63	-
Communic & Audio Visual Equip	3,994.45	4,556.23	12,665.24	1,317.06	5,917.99	-
Supplies	1,275.44	479.85	3,592.35	-	93.33	-
Grants	-	-	47,106.41	53,050.00	108,834.89	520,000.00

Information Technology Equipmt	4,755.77	20,183.45	3,644.00	159.50	10,113.70	-
Rental & Maintenance-Premises	32,396.45	-	271.00	13,017.13	9,189.27	-
Rental & Maint of Info Tech Eq	445.50	-	250.00	-	-	-
Rental & Maint of Other Equip	282.02	3,771.48	7,180.58	1,684.27	385.00	-
Professional Services	1,589.09	1,589.09	1,589.09	1,589.09	1,589.09	-
Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	13,705.98	13,134.00	12,195.00	482.00	1,045.00	-
Contributions	22,088.05	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,532.68	2,142.97	4,086.26	3,653.52	78.67	-
Agency Management Support (7%)	28,373.71	25,430.30	26,452.78	14,640.96	25,152.21	36,400.00
Total Expenditure per project	433,712.41	388,720.30	404,349.60	223,797.53	384,469.53	556,400.00

III. RESULTS

The projects charged against the LRF were successfully implemented during 2010. As such, the expenditures incurred during the first quarter of 2011 entailed using the remaining budget to cover pending logistics combined with a close monitoring and follow on implemented projects.

For info related to implemented projects, please refer to Annex (1).

However, the initiative towards developing capacities of municipalities on Good Local Governance has started at the field level during the month of January 2011. Each workshop covers 3 main topics: 1. Good Governance and Municipal laws, 2. financial planning and Management, 3. Role of municipalities in Local Development.

Four main partners cooperate in the preparation and implementation of the project: Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (Management and Direction), UNDP (funding and support), Institute des Finances Basil Fuleihan (IoF) and Knowledge Development Company (KDC)(Preparation of the materials and delivery of training).

Twelve workshops have been conducted till the end of February 2011 in Akkar, Tyre, Jezzine, Jbeil, Keserwan, Minnieh/Dinnieh and Batroun.

Number	Place	Dates
1	Akkar	January 21,22,&23,2011
2	Akkar	January 21,22,&23,2011

3	Tyre	February 4,5&6,2011
4	Tyre	February 4,5&6,2011
5	Tyre	February 4,5&6,2011
6	Jezzine	February 11,12&13,2011
7	Saida	February 11,12&13,2011
8	Saida El Zahrani	February 11,12&13,2011
9	Batroun	February 18,19&20,2011
10	Minnieh	February 18,19&20,2011
11	Akkar	February 18,19&20,2011
12	Tripoli	February 25,26,27, 2011

A total of 328 municipal members participated in those workshops. 80% of the participants were Presidents, Vice Presidents. Female participants represent 26% of overall participants, due to the fact that in Lebanon the majority of municipal members are males. Female participation in local authorities should be encouraged.

In order to evaluate the project impact at the field level, two types of evaluation sheets are distributed among the participants: 1st one is filled on daily basis at the end of each workshop (over three days) addressing the satisfaction of the participants and the other type is filled by the end of workshop (3rd day) for the participants to express their feedback about the trainers performance, content of the training material, logistical preparation, and express additional needs and types of future trainings. The overall, results and analysis of questionnaire have shown general satisfaction toward all aspects of the workshops and the answers ranged between good and excellent in the majority of the questions.

Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:

Constraints:

During this quarter, no constraints were observed, however two hindering factors have delayed the timely delivery of projects including:

1. Working groups methodology represent the cornerstone of ART GOLD work. As such, in parallel to activities implementation, several efforts were exerted to capacitate and strengthen the role of working groups in the planning process, particularly in 2009. This delayed the pace of implementation of some planned activities with local authorities resulting in shifting more than 60% of project budget till 2010.
2. The municipal elections which took place in June 2010 led to a practical freeze of partnering local authorities roles for a lengthy duration of four months -preparatory work before elections and formulation of municipal councils after the elections. This caused an enormous disruption to the rhythm of ART work, further exacerbated by the changes in partner municipalities' composition, hence working groups' membership. This prolonged the completion of project implementation given the timeframe required to acquaint the new municipal members with the ART work and their roles and responsibilities.

Lessons Learned are identified under each of the programme's three main components: 1) participatory approach and working groups, 2) Decentralized Cooperation and 3) Local economic Development

1) Participatory Approach and Working groups:

- Moving from numerous local working group (WG) towards regional working group (RWG)
- Local ownership more obvious whenever a bottom-up approach is used

2) Decentralized partnerships:

- The DC Partnerships are sometimes more fruitful if the partners experience similar challenges and contexts
- Working groups' efficient and effective cooperation with decentralised cooperation partners has contributed to sustainable local development
- DC is a learning opportunity for a country such as Lebanon with a strong centralized administration, moving towards administrative decentralization

3) Local Economic Development:

- Innovative solutions: LEDOs instead of LEDAs

Until the observed constraints which delayed the legal incorporation of the LEDA are resolved, it was envisaged to set up the Local Economic Development Offices in replacement providing services to SMEs, agricultural cooperatives in addition to a wide-range of other vulnerable groups.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

N/A

Annex: 1
Projects Status
Last Updated April 2011

<i>Mohafaza</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Starting Date</i>	<i>Expected Ending Date</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>
ART GOLD – South Lebanon, Status of 2009 Projects							
<i>Tyre Caza</i>							
1	South Lebanon and Nabatiyeh	Tyre and Union of Jabal Amel Municipalities	Improvement in drinking water distribution infrastructures and the water resource management system in the districts of Tyre and Jabal Amel	Env't/Watr Mng't	Aug-09	Dec-09	<i>Spain</i> <i>Completed</i>
<i>All Cazas</i>							
2	South Lebanon and Nabatiyeh		Women cooperative network	LED	Aug-09	Feb-2011	<i>Spain</i> <i>Completed</i>
ART GOLD – Bekaa, Status of 2009 Projects							
<i>Baalbeck Caza</i>							
3	Bekaa	Baalbeck	Construction of Kiosks – Municipality of Baalbeck	Tourism	Aug-09	Oct-09	<i>Belgium</i> <i>Spain</i> <i>Baalbeck Mun.</i> <i>Completed</i>
4	Bekaa	Nahle	Nahle irrigation canal	Env't/water Mng't	Oct-09	Jan-10	<i>Spain</i> <i>Completed</i>

<i>Mohafaza</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Starting Date</i>	<i>Expected Ending Date</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>	
<i>Hermel Caza</i>								
5	Bekaa	Alqaser	Establishment of a PHC (equipment)	Health	Aug-09	Sep-09	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
<i>Rachaya Caza</i>								
6	Bekaa	Khawkaba	Reforestation & Fire Prevention (nursery)	Env't/ Watr Mng't	Sep-09	Oct-09	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
						<i>Kawkaba Mun.</i>		
7	Bekaa		Provision of 10000 pollen trees -eucalyptus & Acacia- to beekeepers in W.Bekaa & Rashaya	LED	Mid Nov. 2009		<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed.</i>
<i>ART GOLD – North Lebanon, Status of 2009 projects</i>								
<i>Al-Minnieh Al Dinnieh Caza</i>								
8	North	Azqi	Rehabilitation of cultural centre	Social	Nov. 09	Dec. 09	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Completed</i>
						<i>Spain</i>		
9	North	Bakhoun	Rehabilitation of primary health care centre	Health	Nov. 09	Feb 10	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Completed</i>
						<i>Spain</i>		
10	North	Bakhoun	Establish Youth IT center	Youth		Dec. 2010	<i>Belgium</i> <i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
11	North	Deir Nbouh	Establish youth IT center	Youth	Nov. 09	Dec.09	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Completed</i>
						<i>Spain</i>		

	Mohafaza	Village	Project Description	Sector	Starting Date	Expected Ending Date	Funding Source	Progress to Date
12	North	Kfarchalan	Build a municipal playground	Youth	Dec-08	Sep-09	Italy Spain	<i>Completed</i>
Akkar Caza								
13	North	Abboudieh	Rehabilitation of Primary health Care center	Health	Nov. 09	Feb.10	Belgium Spain	<i>Completed</i>
14	North	Akkar	Establishment of a laboratory for soil & water testing & analysis at the LARI-Aabdeh station located in Akkar	Agriculture /LED	Nov. 09	Dec.10	Belgium Spain	<i>completed</i>
15	North	Akkar Atika	Establish Youth IT Center 1	Youth	Nov. 09	Dec. 10	Belgium Spain	<i>Completed</i>
16	North	Fneidek	Establish a public park for children	Social	Oct-09	Dec-09	Italy Spain	<i>Completed</i>
17	North	Halba	Establish a public park for children	Social	Oct-09	Dec-09	Italy Spain	<i>Completed</i>
18	North	Halba	Rehabilitation of cultural center	Social	Nov. 09	Dec. 09	Belgium Spain	<i>Completed</i>
19	North	Qobayat	Establish Youth IT center 2	Youth	Nov. 09	Dec. 09	Belgium	<i>Completed</i>

<i>Mohafaza</i>	<i>Village</i>	<i>Project Description</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Starting Date</i>	<i>Expected Ending Date</i>	<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>Progress to Date</i>	
						<i>Spain</i>		
<i>Tripoli Caza</i>								
20	North	Tebbeneh	Rehabilitation of Primary health Care center	Health	Nov 09	Feb 10	<i>Belgium</i> <i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
21	North	Tripoli	Support the Youth vocational Training project	Youth	Nov. 09	Dec. 09	<i>Italy</i> <i>Italian DC</i> <i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
22	North	Tripoli	Establish Youth IT center	Youth	Nov. 09	Dec. 09	<i>Belgium</i> <i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
<i>ART GOLD- Beirut Southern Suburbs, Status of 2009 projects</i>								
<i>Baabda Caza</i>								
23	Mount Leb	Al Chiah,	Social intervention addressed to youth	Social	Jan-09	Dec-09	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
24	Mount Leb	Hadath	Social intervention addressed to youth	Social	Jan-09	Dec-09	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
25	Mount Leb	Furn El Chebbak	Social intervention addressed to youth	Social	Jan-09	Dec-09	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>
25.1			Provision of equipment for the social programme in Al-Chiah - Al-Hadath - Furn Al Chebbak		2009		<i>Spain</i>	<i>Completed</i>

	Mohafaza	Village	Project Description	Sector	Starting Date	Expected Ending Date	Funding Source	Progress to Date
25.2	Mount Leb	Al-Chiah - Al-Hadath - Furn Al Chebbak	Capacity Building within the 3 projects "Social development addressed to youth"		2009		Tuscany Region -ARCI network Spain	<i>Completed</i>
26	Mount Leb	Al Mreyjeh	Scholastic maps of Risk and Ressources	Social	Feb-08	Oct-08	Spain	<i>Completed</i>
26.1	Mount Leb	Al Mreyjeh	Capacity Building within the project "Scholastic maps of Risk and Ressources"	Social	Feb-09	Oct-09	Spain	<i>Completed</i>
27	Mount Leb	Haret Hreik	Pilot Programme for strengthening the Public Health Care Centers (PHCC) in Beirut Southern Suburbs	Health	Jul-08	Dec-09	Spain	<i>Completed</i>
28	Mount Leb	Haret Hreik Ghobeiri Burj Al Barajneh	Capacity Building within the "Pilot Programme for strengthening the Public Health Care Centers (PHCC)"				Spain Arezzo Municipality-Tuscany region	<i>Completed</i>
29	Mount Leb	Haret Hreik Ghobeiri Burj Al Barajneh	Provision of equipment within the "Pilot Programme for strengthening the Public Health Care Centers (PHCC)"	Health			Spain	<i>Completed</i>