



Fourth Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the Lebanon Recovery Fund

**Report of the Administrative Agent of the Lebanon Recovery Fund
for the period 1 January – 31 December 2010**

Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office
Bureau of Management
United Nations Development Programme
<http://mdf.undp.org>

31 May 2011

Lebanon Recovery Fund

Participating Organizations¹



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)



International Labour Organization (ILO)



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)



United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)



United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)



United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)



United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

¹ Participating Organizations that have concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the UNDP Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office, as the Administrative Agent of the Lebanon Recovery Fund.

Contributing Donors



Romania



Spain



Sweden

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AA	Administrative Agent
AARDO	Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization
ACSAD	Arab Centre for Studies in Arid Zones and Drylands
ADR	Association for the Development of Rural Capacities
AFDC	Association for Forests, Development and Conservation
AFIAL	Association of the Friends of Ibrahim Abd El Al
APAU	Association of Umbrian Beekeepers
ARDA	Aarsal Rural Development Association
ATWG	Ad-hoc Thematic Working Groups
AUB	American University of Beirut
BC	Beddawi Camp
BDS	Business Development Service
BoS	Balance of System
CCECS	Centre for Civic Engagement and Community Service
CDR	Council for Development and Reconstruction
CSE	Socio-Economic Research Centre
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
DGA	Director General of Antiques
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DSA	Development Studies Association
ELARD	Earth Links and Advanced Resources Development
EOI	Expression of Interest
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GTZ	German Agency for Technical Cooperation
HFSHD	Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMC	Inter-Ministerial Committee for Social Issues
IMTI	The International Management and Training Institution
IMU	Information Management Unit
JP	Joint Programme
LCECP	Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation Project

LDEM	Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
LEDA	Local Economic Development Agency
LMAC	Lebanon Mine Action Center
LOA	Letter of Agreement
LPDC	Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee
LPHU	Lebanese Physically Handicapped Union
LRA	Litani River Authority
LRF	Lebanon Recovery Fund
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDTF Office	Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (Administrative Agent of the LRF)
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoET	Ministry of Economy and Trade
MoIM	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
MoSA	Ministry of Social Affairs
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NBC	Nahr el Bared Camp
NCLW	National Commission for Lebanese Women
NEEAP	National Energy Efficiency Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PAG	Project Approval Groups
PHCC	Primary Health Care Centre
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PV	Photovoltaic
PVCA	Participatory Value Chain Analysis
RC	Resident Coordinator
RPS	Risk Preparedness Strategy
RRC	Recovery and Reconstruction Cell (renamed to the Development Unit)
SDSC	Social Development Service Centres
SC	Steering Committee
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSG	Technical Steering Committee

SHW	Solar Hot Water
UN	United Nations
UNCG	United Nations Communication Group
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Humans Settlement Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNMAC	United Nations Mine Action Centre
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near
UNSCOL	Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon
UXOs	Unexploded Ordnances
VDPA	Village Dairy Producers’ Association
WWCs	WE PASS Women Committees

Definitions²

Approved Project

A project that has been approved by the LRF Steering Committee.

Allocation

Amount approved by the LRF SC for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

An Annual Work Plan, a project/programme document, etc., that is approved by the LRF SC.

Balance of Funds

Balance of funds with the Administrative Agent refers to the cumulative, undisbursed amount in the LRF Account and includes donor contributions, returned funds and interest. Balance of funds with Participating Organizations refers to amounts with the Organizations that have not been reported as expended.

Direct Costs

Costs that can be directly attributed to the programme activities.

Donor Commitment

A Donor contribution as per signed Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the UNDP Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (MDTF Office), as the Administrative Agent of the LRF.

Donor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MDTF Office for the LRF Account.

Financial Implementation Rate

Expenditure against net transferred amount.

Indirect Cost

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity.

Participating Organizations

Organizations that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the MDTF Office and are thereby eligible to receive transfer of funds under the LRF.

Project Expenditure

Amount of project disbursement plus un-liquidated obligations related to payments due for the year.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under the approved programmatic document have been completed.

² Common definitions used by the MDTF Office in consolidated progress reports.

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF) was established at the request of the Government of Lebanon and enables donors to pool their resources and rapidly provide funding to recovery and reconstruction efforts related to the aftermaths of the July 2006 war. On 31 August 2006, the Government of Lebanon presented a strategy for a national early recovery process at the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, hosted by the Government of Sweden in close collaboration with the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations. At the conference, the Government presented its early recovery priorities, and a number of Donors pledged their support.

The Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (MDTF Office) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the Administrative Agent (AA) of the LRF and has, as of 31 December 2010, concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with twelve Participating Organizations, enabling them to receive funding through the LRF mechanism.

This Fourth Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities under the LRF provides extensive narrative and financial information on the implementation of projects (including extensions) that were operational during the current reporting period, 1 January – 31 December 2010. The Report should therefore be read as a sequence to previous years' LRF Annual Reports (2007, 2008 and 2009), all available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>).

The Report is consolidated based on information and data contained in the individual progress reports and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations to the MDTF Office. It is neither an evaluation of the LRF nor the MDTF Office's assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations.

Strategic Framework

The LRF, as stated in its Terms of Reference dated 3 November 2006, finances Government-approved priority recovery and reconstruction projects that can be executed with the support of Participating Organizations, in partnership and cooperation with government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), within the scope and time frame of national priorities. It also facilitates the Government's coordination of international assistance and enables the Government to ensure transparent fund administration and project implementation in line with its reform agenda.

The LRF complements other funding mechanisms that may be used by the Government and United Nations organizations, and its arrangements seek to ensure that:

- Each project approved for funding is part of a Government-approved priority programme for recovery and reconstruction activities based on and formulated in consultation with concerned line ministries and beneficiary communities and, to the extent possible, Donors and other stakeholders;
- The activities financed through Participating Organizations are implemented, to the extent possible, directly by or in collaboration with national implementation partners, under the overall ownership and leadership of the Government, to ensure sustainable local capacities; and
- Funding and implementation are undertaken with special attention to transparency and accountability as well as to ensure prompt delivery and efficient use of donor funds.

Governance

The LRF is governed by the LRF Steering Committee (SC) in accordance with its Terms of Reference (TOR) (3 November 2006). The LRF SC provides strategic guidance and oversight as well as makes final decisions on fund allocation. The SC is chaired by the Minister of Economy and Trade, or his/her designate, and composed of the Head of the Development Unit (formerly the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell), a representative from the Ministry of Finance, five representatives of Donors, and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC). A second tier of review involves the Project Advisory/Approval Group (PAG), which reviews and approves proposals and allocates funds for all projects specific to recovery activities. The Development Unit is located in the Office of the Prime Minister and is the designated national entity in Lebanon responsible for prioritization of and resource allocation to recovery and reconstruction. Ad-hoc Thematic Work Groups (ATWG) are established as required to review and prioritize project proposals and submit them to the SC.

Project Approval Status

One project extension of \$380,890 (LRF-18: 'Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon') was approved by the LRF SC in 2010, bringing the total LRF projects approved for funding (including extensions and returns of funds), as of the end of the reporting period, to 25, amounting to a net total of \$45,600,533. The projects were executed by 6 Participating Organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), UNDP, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

Project Implementation Status: Achievements and Challenges

During the current reporting period (1 January – 31 December 2010), the lessons learned during the first three years of the LRF (2007–09) have allowed Participating Organizations to take appropriate measures within existing projects to ensure that improved project implementation and management arrangements are introduced, where applicable. For projects approved in the second half of 2009, initial start-up activities, as well as experiences from projects approved in previous years, prepared the groundwork for Participating Organizations to continue the implementation of projects in 2010. Additional information on previous years' approved projects is included in the Annual Progress Reports for 2007, 2008 and 2009 (see the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>)).

A number of projects have reported notable achievements during the reporting period, with 17 of the 25 projects reporting a cumulative financial expenditure rate of 70 percent or above, and 13 of these projects reporting a delivery rate of over 90 percent, by the end of the reporting period. The overall expenditure/delivery rate is, as of 31 December 2010, 62.6 percent—which is a significant increase from that of the previous reporting period (31 December 2009; 39.5 percent).

The range of projects approved by the LRF SC is reflective of the vast recovery and reconstruction needs in Lebanon. Projects approved under the LRF as of the end of the reporting period include support to energy efficiency and renewable energy (LRF-1, LRF-10 and LRF-16); projects in support of the recovery of horticulture smallholders (LRF-3), resource-poor livestock keepers (LRF-4), livelihoods and economic recovery (LRF-2 and LRF-20) and dairy producers in North Lebanon (LRF-11), as well as a project in support of integrated forest fire management (LRF-14). Other projects include efforts to enhance the performance of the social sector (LRF-7), increased integration of the poor and disabled (LRF-8), flood management projects (LRF-9 and LRF-17), and socio-economic rehabilitation of Beirut and its suburbs (LRF-13) as well as in South Lebanon (LRF-5 and

LRF-22). The LRF SC has also approved projects in support of women empowerment (LRF-12), enhancing ICT education (LRF-15), supporting the digital documentation of World Heritage Sites (LRF-6), as well as supporting the RCs sub-offices in the North and South of Lebanon (LRF-18).

Whereas no new projects were approved during the current reporting year (only one project extension was approved; LRF-18), projects approved in previous years continued to be implemented, and several were operationally closed, having achieved most or all of their expected results.

Participating Organizations have reported notable project activities and achievements during the reporting period, with comprehensive details of these activities and achievements available in the report. As in previous years, a characteristic across nearly all projects is Participating Organizations' extensive collaboration with implementing partners, including national authorities, local foundations or NGOs. Across most projects, Government Ministries, foundations, NGOs and community-based groups have formed a core element of project formulation and implementation.

UNDP's 'Community Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (CEDRO)' project has become a part of a larger framework which aims not only at supporting Lebanon's recovery activities, but also at supporting Lebanon's recovery, reconstruction and reform activities, namely the power sector recovery, reconstruction and reform plan. Similarly, UNIDO's project 'Support for Livelihoods and Economic Recovery', has achieved its prime objective to get up-and-running again war-damaged enterprises from five agro-industrial sectors in the three most war-affected regions of Lebanon. Through the successful implementation of ILO's projects in the areas of local socio-economic recovery, a long-term development focus will lead to greater institutionalization, coordination and organization of local actors in the key economic sectors of South Lebanon, while addressing the lack of technical skills, coherent marketing plans, productive equipment and infrastructure and adequate financing to expand existing small businesses.

In the area of cultural heritage, UNESCO's 'Capacity-building of Human Resources for Digital Documentation of World Heritage Sites' contributed to the establishment of an integrated action plan for tangible cultural heritage conservation all over the country through the establishment of risk maps and exhaustive digital technical documentation for World Heritage Sites, as well as building the capacity of human resources able to ensure the enhancement of tangible cultural heritage in the country. UNDP's project 'Enhance Performance of the Social Sector' supported the implementation of a number of reform initiatives called upon in the Social Action Plan, including supporting the development of a National Social Development Strategy and an electronic portal to guide local development.

Through UNDP, the LRF also supports the Government of Lebanon in its recovery efforts in the conflict-affected and desertification-prone region of Baalbeck—El Hermel through better land management practices. Similarly, initiatives to promote social and economic development in North Lebanon through the strengthening of dairy production have been implemented. UNFPA's project to empower women was evaluated by the beneficiaries themselves and confirmed the project's success. Efforts were also made to address youth unemployment in Beirut and its suburbs, and the project succeeded in enhancing the implementation capacities of 60 NGOs in order to be able to move from "charity work" to "sustainable development". Furthermore, FAO continued to support efforts to combat forest fire through an integrated management approach. Through the ART-GOLD initiative, implemented by UNDP, efforts were made to increase access to primary public health care services and increase sustainable income generation and job opportunities, while enhancing the preservation of the environment and increasing youth participation in local development.

FAO's initiatives to support the recovery-rehabilitation and assistance to the livelihoods of vulnerable livestock keepers were well underway by providing the basic needs for livestock keepers and farmers (mostly female) to resume production and income-generation activities, including the formation of milk producers' cooperatives and associations. In the area of hydro-agriculture, though in its initial stages and despite start-up difficulties, UNDP has begun its work to support the local communities in Marjayoun to prepare the grounds for the supply of irrigation water by showing the advantages and efficiency of modern irrigation techniques.

Financial Performance

As of 31 December 2010, the cumulative amount contributed by donors to the LRF amounted to \$45,857,496. During the current reporting period, no additional deposits were made by donors. The three contributors to the LRF as of 31 December 2009 were Spain (\$35,400,500), Sweden (\$9,797,465) and Romania (\$659,531), totaling \$45,857,496. In addition, as of 31 December 2010, the LRF Fund Account had earned \$1,500,646 in interest, whereas Participating Organizations had reported and returned \$812,489 in interest. The total interest amount earned (\$2,313,135) far exceeds the AA fee of one percent (\$458,575) charged on donor contributions.

By the end of the reporting period, the LRF SC had approved funding to 6 Participating Organizations for 25 projects, amounting to a net transfer of \$45,600,533. Of this amount, a total of \$28,539,762 (62.6 percent) was reported as expenditure as of 31 December 2010, an increase from 39.45 percent the previous year. Participating Organizations' indirect support cost, as a percentage of total programme cost, was reported as 6.8 percent; just below the 7 percent permissible under the LRF MOU and LOA.

As no new deposits were made during the reporting period, no AA fee was deducted during the reporting period. The cumulative AA-fee charged at the approved rate of one percent on deposits amounted to \$458,575.

Transparency and Accountability of the LRF

The major vehicle for public transparency of operations under the LRF during the reporting period was the MDTF Office GATEWAY. In 2010, the MDTF Office officially launched the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>). It is a knowledge platform providing real-time data from the MDTF Office accounting system, with a maximum of two-hour delay, on financial information on donor contributions, programme budgets and transfers to Participating Organizations. It is designed to provide transparent, accountable fund-management services to the United Nations system to enhance its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency. Each MDTF and Joint Programme (JP) administered by the MDTF Office has its own website on the GATEWAY with extensive narrative and financial information on the MDTF/JP including on its strategic framework, governance arrangements, eligibility and allocation criteria. Annual financial and narrative progress reports and quarterly/semi-annual updates on the results being achieved are also available. In addition, each programme has a Factsheet with specific facts, figures and updates on that programme.

The GATEWAY provides easy access to more than 5,000 reports and documents on MDTFs/JPs and individual programmes, with tools and tables displaying related financial data. By enabling users in the field with easy access to upload progress reports and related documents, it also facilitates knowledge-sharing and management among UN agencies. The MDTF Office GATEWAY is already being recognized as a 'standard-setter' by peers and partners.

Conclusion

This fourth Progress Report on the LRF reports on the implementation of the 25 projects approved for funding as of 31 December 2010, with a particular focus on activities that were undertaken during the reporting period (1 January – 31 December 2010). The Progress Report is consolidated based on information and data contained in the individual progress reports and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations to the MDTF Office. It is neither an evaluation of the LRF nor the MDTF Office's assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations.

As of the end of the reporting period, the total number of LRF projects approved for funding (including extensions) was 25, amounting to a net total of \$45,600,533 (including refunds). One project extension was approved in 2010 (LRF-18: \$380,890). Whereas Participating Organizations in 2007, 2008 and 2009 primarily reported on project start-up activities that focused on establishing project implementation and management capacities and systems, identifying and contracting implementing partners, and completing preparatory work for the procurement of critical goods and services, this 2010 Annual Report increasingly reflects that a number of projects are underway in implementing their activities, and some completed all activities in 2010.

Financial delivery rate, across all 25 projects, is reported to be 62.6 percent as of 31 December 2010, an increase from 39.5 percent in 2009. A number of projects have reported notable achievements during the reporting period, with 17 of the 25 projects reporting a cumulative financial expenditure rate of 70 percent or above, and 13 of these projects reporting a delivery rate of over 90 percent, by the end of the reporting period.

The MDTF Office envisages that this Fourth Progress Report on the LRF will provide the LRF SC the basis on which to better assess and monitor the progress of implementation of projects funded through the LRF; and to consider any future resource requirements, as required and appropriate, in support of the recovery, reconstruction, and development needs in Lebanon.

Introduction

The Fourth Consolidated Annual Progress Report on Activities Implemented under the Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF) is submitted to the LRF Steering Committee (SC) for onwards submission to Donors contributing to the LRF, in fulfilment of the reporting provisions of the LRF Terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the UNDP Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (MDTF Office) and Participating Organizations, and the Letter of Agreement (LOA) between the MDTF Office and Donors. The MDTF Office represents UNDP as the Administrative Agent (AA) of the LRF. The Annual Progress Report covers the period from 1 January – 31 December 2010, but also includes comprehensive information on projects approved in the first three years of LRF operations (2007–2009). The separate 2007, 2008 and 2009 Annual Reports are available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>). The Progress Report provides information on progress made in the establishment and implementation of projects funded by the LRF, as well as the common challenges faced and lessons learned.

The Annual Progress Report is consolidated based on information and data contained in the individual progress reports and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations to the MDTF Office. It is neither an evaluation of the LRF nor the MDTF Office's assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations – tasks that belong to an independent evaluation. However, the report does provide the LRF Steering Committee with a comprehensive overview of achievements and challenges associated with projects funded through the LRF, enabling it to make strategic decisions and take corrective measures, as appropriate.

Report Structure

This Progress Report is a consolidation of individual project-level progress reports submitted by Participating Organizations. Chapter One provides a review of the strategic framework of the LRF as well as the establishment of the LRF. Chapter Two provides an overview of the LRF's governance and fund management arrangements and decision-making bodies. Chapter Three provides an update on project approvals and implementation status during the reporting period as well as highlights of key project implementation progress, with details to demonstrate the achievements, challenges, and lessons learned to-date. Chapter Four provides an overview of the financial performance of the LRF. Chapter Five elaborates on efforts made to ensure LRF transparency and accountability. Chapter Five provides concluding comments and observations.

1 Strategic Framework

The Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF) was established at the request of the Government of Lebanon and enables Donors to pool their resources and rapidly provide funding in the aftermath of the July 2006 war.

The month-long war caused immeasurable destruction to the lives, livelihoods, and social and physical infrastructure of the people of Lebanon. Prior to the conflict, the Government of Lebanon had prepared a reform agenda that sought to place the country on a path to solid growth and sustainable development. The war and the subsequent total land, sea, and air blockade imposed by Israel resulted in a major setback to the country's encouraging economic outlook and to the reform agenda that the Government of Lebanon had elaborated.

The Government presented a strategy for a national early recovery process at the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, hosted by the Government of Sweden in close collaboration with the Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, on 31 August 2006. At the conference, the Government presented its early recovery priorities, and a number of Donors pledged their support. The early recovery process included initial quick-impact, sector-based initiatives developed to respond to Lebanon's most critical needs.

According to the strategy, the Government provides overall coordination of the recovery process, ensuring that initiatives are in alignment with national priorities, and projects are implemented in close coordination with partners, including UN agencies, bilateral development agencies, and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The LRF, as stated in its TOR of 3 November 2006, finances Government-approved priority recovery and reconstruction projects that can be executed with the support of Participating Organizations, in partnership and cooperation with government organizations and NGOs, within the scope and time frame of national priorities. It also facilitates the Government's coordination of international assistance and enables the Government to ensure transparent fund administration and project implementation in line with its reform agenda.

The LRF complements other funding mechanisms that may be used by the Government and United Nations organizations, and its arrangements seek to ensure that:

- Each project approved for funding is part of a Government-approved priority programme for recovery and reconstruction activities based on and formulated in consultation with concerned line ministries and beneficiary communities and, to the extent possible, Donors and other stakeholders;
- The activities financed through Participating Organizations are implemented, to the extent possible, directly by or in collaboration with national implementation partners, under the overall ownership and leadership of the Government, to ensure sustainable local capacities; and
- Funding and implementation are undertaken with special attention to transparency and accountability as well as to ensure prompt delivery and efficient use of donor funds.

2 Governance

The LRF is governed by the LRF SC in accordance with its TOR (3 November 2006) which states the governance arrangements of the LRF. Below is an overview of the main bodies involved in the review, allocation, and decision-making process, as well as the fund administration of the LRF.

2.1 The LRF Steering Committee

The LRF SC provides strategic guidance and oversight, and makes final decisions on fund allocation. The Committee is chaired by the Minister of Economy and Trade, or his/her designate, and composed of the Minister of Finance, the Head of the Development Unit at the Prime Minister's Office, four representatives of donors (the European Commission, the State of Kuwait, the Kingdom of Spain, and the United Arab Emirates), and the UN Resident Coordinator (RC). The Committee's work is governed by its TOR and Rules of Procedure, operates by consensus, and whereas it is expected to meet regularly to review progress of the LRF operations and ensure reporting to all LRF Donors, it only met once (30 June 2010) during the current reporting period. During their meeting on 29 August 2008, members of the LRF SC agreed that decisions of the SC should remain at the strategic level, and that the SC should get involved in administrative and/or project details only on an exceptional basis. Accordingly, the role of the PAG will continue to support the SC, and more specifically to review thoroughly the LRF projects.

2.2 The Policy Advisory/Approval Group

A second tier of review involves the Project Advisory/Approval Group (PAG), which reviews and approves proposals and allocates funds for all projects specific to recovery activities. The PAG submits its decisions to the SC for endorsement on a no-objection basis within seven days of submission. The PAG is co-chaired by the Head of the Development Unit and the UN RC, and comprises leaders of the Ad-hoc Thematic Working Groups (ATWG), as necessary. The PAG met five times (1 February, 1 and 30 June, 16 September and 8 December 2010) during the reporting period.

2.3 The Development Unit

The Development Unit (formerly the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell) is located in the Office of the Prime Minister and is the designated national entity in Lebanon responsible for prioritization of and resource allocation to recovery and reconstruction. The Unit supports the work of the SC and PAG and reviews all projects submitted for funding by the LRF to ensure alignment with approved national priorities and available resources. Following its review, project submissions and recommendations are forwarded either to the SC or the PAG.

2.4 The Technical Support Group

The Technical Support Group is composed of technical representatives of the UN RC's Office, the Ministry of Economy and Trade, the Ministry of Finance and the Prime Minister's Office (LRF M&E Unit). It is chaired by the Head of the RC's Office. The Group meets on a regular basis to review the progress of the projects and plan for LRF activities including communication, visibility and resource mobilization. The Group met seven times during 2010.

2.5 The Administrative Agent

UNDP's MDTF Office is the AA for the LRF. Its responsibilities as AA include the receipt, administration, and management of contributions from Donors; disbursement of funds to the Participating Organizations in accordance with instructions from the SC; and consolidation of narrative and financial reports produced by each of the Participating Organizations, as well as provision of these reports to the SC for onward submission to Donors.

3 Project Approval and Implementation Updates

3.1 Project Approval Status

The first project under the LRF was approved in May 2007. An additional nine projects and extensions were approved and funds transferred during 2007, eight more projects and extensions were approved during 2008, and seven projects and extensions were approved in 2009. During the current reporting period (1 January – 31 December 2010), an additional project extension was approved and funds transferred, amounting to \$380,890. In total, the 25 projects and extensions that had been approved as of 31 December 2010 amounted to \$45,600,533. This number includes amounts returned by Participating Organizations.

The 25 projects and extensions are executed by 6 Participating Organizations; 14 projects and extensions by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that received \$28,262,501 of total funds transferred to Participating Organizations; 4 projects/extensions by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) amounting to \$8,370,670; 2 projects/extensions by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) amounting to \$4,500,000; 2 projects/extensions by the International Labour Organization (ILO) that received \$2,683,108; 2 projects by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) totalling \$789,396; and 1 project by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with an approved budget of \$994,858.

Table 3-1, below, provides details on the project extension approved for funding by the LRF SC during the reporting period (1 January – 31 December 2010). Annex 1 provides a complete list of all 25 projects and extensions approved from 2007–2010.

Table 3-1 LRF SC-Approved Projects 1 January – 31 December 2010

Steering Committee Approval Date	Project Number	Project Title	Participating Organization	Approved 2010 Budget (US\$)
24 Oct 2008	LRF-18	Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon (extension)	UNDP	380,890
			TOTAL	380,890

3.2 Project Implementation Status: Achievements and Challenges

Projects approved under the LRF, 25 projects and extensions in total as of 31 December 2010, are designed to address and attempt to mitigate the effects of the destruction caused to the lives, livelihoods, and social and physical infrastructure of the people of Lebanon by the month-long war in July/August 2006. The war, coupled with the subsequent total land, sea and air blockade imposed by Israel, resulted in a major setback to the country's encouraging economic outlook and to the reform agenda that the Government of Lebanon had elaborated. The war also resulted in a longer-term unstable socio-economic and political environment in the country, posing initial challenges to and affecting the start-up of projects approved for funding under the LRF in the initial phases of the trust fund.

The following sections provide an overview of project implementation status, including achievements and challenges, as reported by Participating Organizations. It includes only projects that were operational during the reporting period (January – December 2010).

Additional information on all projects, including photos, details on activities undertaken during the reporting period and work plans for 2010, where applicable, is included in individual project reports on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>).

3.2.1 Community Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, CEDRO I, II, III—UNDP

The LRF SC has approved three phases of a UNDP project in the area of energy efficiency and renewable energy. The project, ‘Country Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Demonstration Project for Recovery of Lebanon (CEDRO)’ (LRF-1, LRF-10 and LRF-16) has been approved for a total of \$9,732,240. The three phases of the project are CEDRO I: October 2007 – March 2011; CEDRO II: January 2009 – January 2013; and CEDRO III: January 2010 – October 2013. All three phases of the project were operational during the reporting period (January – December 2010).

As of 31 December 2010, UNDP reported an overall financial delivery rate of 40.4 percent (\$3,932,720) of total funds received under the three phases (\$9,732,240). Phase I had a delivery rate of 92.3 percent, Phase II had a delivery rate of 36.4 percent and Phase III had a delivery rate of 3.9 percent.

The project’s main national implementing partners are the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR), the Ministry of Energy and Water (MoEW), and the Ministry of Finance.

Background

Lebanon imports around 97 percent of its energy needs in the form of fossil fuel. In 2004, the national energy bill amounted to around \$1.6 billion (around 20 percent of the annual public expenditure), increasing in 2005 to \$2.1 billion (around 26 percent of the annual public expenditure). Despite major steps taken by the Government of Lebanon since 1990 towards improving the electricity sector, the sector still faces major challenges, including the inability to meet increasing national energy demands as well as large financial subsidies provided to Électricité du Liban (around \$1 billion in 2006). As a result of the July/August 2006 conflict, the situation of the energy sector in Lebanon was further aggravated, leading to a reduction in electricity supply on a national level and an increase in electricity rationing. This only added to the existing electricity supply challenges faced by Lebanon and further deteriorated the living conditions in the country.

In light of this draining situation, the Government of Lebanon has placed the reform of the power sector among its highest national priorities. Given the enormity of the challenges faced by the power sector, the reform strategy has concentrated on addressing the energy supply side, without extending the scope to the demand side of energy management. The CEDRO project therefore aims at complementing the national power sector reform strategy by targeting the necessary counterpart (end-use energy conservation).

Objective

With the approval of the three phases of the CEDRO project, the initiative has become a part of a larger framework which aims not only at supporting Lebanon’s recovery activities, but also at supporting Lebanon’s recovery, reconstruction and reform activities, namely the power sector recovery, reconstruction and reform plan.

The objective of the CEDRO project is to support recovery, reconstruction and reform activities through the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy programme for public-sector buildings and facilities. To achieve this, the first phase of the CEDRO project (October 2007 – March 2011) targeted around 30 public-sector buildings and facilities in 3 recovery areas (South, Bekaa and Akkar) highly affected by the July 2006 conflict, while the second phase of the CEDRO project (January 2009 – January 2012) targets around 10 larger-scale public-sector buildings and facilities across all Lebanon and approximately 30–40 smaller ones. The third phase (January 2010 – October 2013) further supplements the aforementioned two CEDRO objectives with a third key objective, which is the setting of an enabling environment for the development and implementation of a national sustainable energy strategy and detailed action plan. The third phase of the CEDRO project is the final key component to enable sustainability and a nationwide multi-sector scope.

The key outputs of the CEDRO project include:

- 1) Installation of energy efficiency and renewable energy equipment and systems in public-sector buildings and facilities.
- 2) Increased public-sector awareness and knowledge on energy efficiency and renewable energy applications.
- 3) Availability of validated data on reduced energy consumption and cost.
- 4) Establishment of relevant policies and procedures to enable the continued implementation of sustainable energy measures in public-sector buildings and facilities.

The CEDRO project builds on the objectives of the MoEW to meet increased national energy demand, and the objectives of the Ministry of Finance to reduce government financial burdens.

Results and Achievements

As reported in earlier LRF Annual Reports, the CEDRO project faced some initial delays in the early phases of implementation. However, since then, progress on outputs since the inception of the project has picked up and include the following, categorized in four main areas:

Project Management:

- Coordination and follow-up on a regular basis with the Technical Backstopping Agency on all technical assessments for the selection of new sites, installation designs, supervision and monitoring of works.
- Preparation of regular progress reports and financial management of expenditures.
- Carry-out of project review meetings with the LRF Technical Committee (LRF Donor Meeting, 28 September 2010 and the Recovery Fund Workshop on Achievements and Lessons Learned, 8 September 2010).
- Organization of field missions and stakeholder meetings (regular meetings with the MoEW and with Electricité du Liban).
- Daily follow-up with site engineers and project staff.
- Coordination with all national stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- Provision of technical and policy advice to decision-makers in the MoEW and UNDP Country Office on renewable energy issues. In particular, CEDRO played an important role in:
 - Introducing the concept of net metering to the MoEW. Net metering is the quantitative exchange of electricity between a renewable or low-carbon electricity system and the national grid that enables the grid to bank renewable electricity output at times of low-energy requirement with

- high-renewable energy resource, and deduct these from times of net imports from the grid, usually during high-energy demand hours with lower renewable energy output.
- Streamlining the wind atlas study to kick off the wind energy sector in Lebanon.
 - Streamlining CEDRO’s activities to be a solid part of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP). In fact, CEDRO has contributed and has proposed to contribute to the majority of the 15 initiatives set forward by the NEEAP that cover most of the themes identified, from various renewable energy systems to energy efficiency measure.

Implementation of End-Use Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Demonstration Projects for Public-Sector Buildings and Facilities:

- One Photovoltaic (PV) system project has been initiated in Kfour Public School in South Lebanon; the school has approximately 40 students, yet is expected to increase in number as it is a newly opened public school. This system is similar to, yet slightly larger than, the 25 systems already implemented by CEDRO in 2009, consisting of PV modules, inverter, charge controller and data logger, and the rest of the balance of system (BoS) components. The PV system provides the school with renewable electricity for their lighting and for running their computers and equipment. The project is extremely important in Kfour, given that they do not have, as of yet, connection to the public electricity grid.
- Ten sites across Lebanon for wind-reading measurement studies are being implemented, using anemometers (wind-speed reading equipment) for some, while relying on computer modelling for others. After six months of wind readings, those sites with sufficient wind speeds will be selected for the implementation by CEDRO of a micro-wind system, or electricity from a small wind system, project.
- Ten sites for energy efficiency (lighting) have been targeted and completed in 2010. These involved changing the lighting fixtures in public buildings, such as the Basil Fuleihan Institute of Finance and the CDR, particularly changing the magnetic ballasts to electronic and changing incandescent light-bulbs to CFLs.
- The installation of five Solar Hot Water (SHW) systems in public hospitals has been completed. They are complete systems ranging from 2,000 litres to 12,000 litres with flat-plate collectors and storage tanks, including data recording equipment. These systems will provide 60–75 percent of the hot water demand by these hospitals, and therefore save similarly on the fuel consumption, fuel cost, and reduction of CO2 emissions. These hospitals are currently serving 264 beneficiaries (patients), yet will be serving up to 400 in the near future.
- Two large SHW sites have been initiated in 2010 and are currently being completed (exp. completion Q1 2011).
- Baalbeck Army Institute (1,600 beneficiaries).
- Roumieh Prison (built to take 1,000 prisoners, yet is currently taking 3,000).
- Thirty-three light-emitting diode (LED) street-lighting fixtures have been installed in Moukhtara (Chouf Area). LED fixtures save 30–40 percent more energy than normal street lighting fixtures.

Setting an Enabling Environment for the Conversion of Public-Sector Buildings and Facilities into Energy-Efficient Modalities:

- Issuing of newspaper releases and magazine articles (national coverage).
- Networking and coordination with national project partners and stakeholders, such as the Lebanese Order of Engineers, MoEW, Ministry of Public Works, etc.
- Synergy with the ongoing UNDP project at the MoEW, Lebanese Centre for Energy Conservation project (LCECP), on ongoing energy audits and activities to build on the project’s technical know-how,

experience on the ground, and lessons learnt during the implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy activities. This entails exchange of technical data and lessons learnt as well as brainstorming session to coordinate and maximise efforts for project implementation.

- The CEDRO website (www.cedro-undp.org) is running and is being continuously updated with new events and projects as they happen.
- Actively participated in the Beirut Energy Forum with the LCECP in October
- Official opening of a SHW system in Saida in 2010, attended by representatives of the MoEW, MoH, the Spanish Ambassador, and the UNDP Country Office, along with local politicians from deputies to municipality heads.
- Two newsletters were prepared and printed in 2010: Issue 3 and Issue 4.

Assisting the Establishment of a Sustainable Energy Strategy for Lebanon:

- Wind atlas for Lebanon has been completed. Results will be announced in the first quarter of 2011. The wind atlas will indicate where the windiest sites in Lebanon are through a 100-meter resolution map, and will indicate how much potential Lebanon has in wind power generation, putting to rest all discussion on potential, which has ranged from as little as 150 MW to 500 MW and more. Furthermore, the offshore wind power potential will be assessed and mapped as well. The wind atlas is a national document and has been adopted by MoEW.
- The National Bioenergy Assessment Study for Lebanon is underway. Again, bioenergy is a little-understood yet highly important energy source that needs analysis in Lebanon. A study is underway to assess all the potential of various bioenergy sources in Lebanon, assess conversion options, set scenarios of bioenergy uptake into the future, all under very strict sustainability criteria and with a focus on barriers in Lebanon for bioenergy uptake.
- PV farm and concentrated solar power expert hired by CEDRO and assessed the viability of solar energy; the results will be out in mid-2011. As stated above, two experts have been hired by CEDRO and will look at the potential of Lebanon for large solar plants.

CEDRO aims to assist the government in Lebanon in deciding which energy source to utilize to reach its objective of 12 percent of its electricity mix to come from renewable energy sources by 2020—an objective approved by the Council of Ministers and asserted in the Copenhagen Summit.

3.2.2 Support for Livelihoods and Economic Recovery—UNIDO

UNIDO's project 'Support for Livelihoods and Economic Recovery in War-affected Areas of Lebanon' (LRF-2, \$3,000,000) was approved for funding in May 2007, with an additional allocation for a Phase II of the project approved in April 2009 (LRF-20, \$1,500,000), bringing the total allocation to this project to \$4,500,000. Phase I of the project was operationally closed (all programme activities completed) by March 2010, whereas Phase II was expected to close by March 2011.

As of 31 December 2010, UNIDO reported an overall financial delivery rate of 95.3 percent (\$4,288,815) of the total funds received. The first phase (LRF-2) had a delivery rate of 95.1 percent, whereas the second phase (LRF-20) had a delivery rate of 95.7 percent.

The project's main national implementing partner is the Ministry of Industry.

Objective

The objective of the project is to support economic recovery and restore industrial units in war-affected areas of Lebanon, thereby generating employment and alleviating poverty in the country. Supporting this, the project's immediate objectives include: a) providing strategic support to the Ministry of Industry to monitor and implement the programme for the rehabilitation of the agro-industrial sector and b) providing technical assistance and inputs for the rehabilitation of damaged agro-processing facilities both in rural and urban areas.

The project aims to achieve its objectives through rehabilitating a number of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) agro-enterprises in South Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley Area and the Southern Suburb of Beirut. The project inputs, i.e. rehabilitation work, provision of equipment and capacity-building, are based on a comprehensive action plan. The action plan and its ensuing activities were prepared and agreed upon by all stakeholders in accordance with the Project Document.

Results and Achievements

Whereas results and achievements under Phase I of the project were comprehensively covered in previous LRF Annual Reports, the information below provides an overview of the achievements made in relation to the performance indicators under Phase II of the project:

Restored Economic Activities and Diversification of Economic/Income-Generating Activities:

- The project has directly supported 41 enterprises, all of which have had their operations restored or enhanced. The target for Phase II is 25–30 enterprises to be restored.

Increased Food Security in Households:

- Increased food security has been ensured for the owners and employees of the assisted enterprises through the provision of food-processing equipment. The capacity-building activities on basic food hygiene have played a catalytic role in the adoption of good manufacturing and hygiene practices in the enterprises, including understanding of technical concepts related to relevant standards for the implementation of Food Security Management Systems.

Project is Implemented Efficiently and in Accordance with the Work Plan:

- Implementation of Phase II was on time and on-schedule, with expected operational completion by the end of March 2011, and the unutilized funds will be returned to the LRF as soon as all financial transactions are finalized.

Number of Jobs Created:

- Many of the refurbished enterprises have been shown to generate new employment opportunities in their respective areas.
- According to a survey conducted in September 2009 among 48 enterprises, 655 new jobs have been created after the end of hostilities in 2006.

Replication:

- Development of knowledge and success stories where similar project is presently being implemented in Iraq, adopting a similar form of intervention.

Sustainability:

- The success of project has been rewarded by a Phase III, funded by the Government of Italy.

Overall, the project is on time and achieving its objectives; equally, in its implementation, it has followed the designed model for its execution, i.e. made a work plan and in other ways involved the beneficiaries and other stakeholders in the planning of the activities and selection of inputs etc.

Project Evaluation

During September–October 2009, an independent evaluation of the project was carried out. The evaluation concluded that the project achieved its prime objective to get up-and-running again war-damaged enterprises from five agro-industrial sectors in the three most war-affected regions of Lebanon. The evaluation further noted that all stakeholders agree that the performance of the project has been exceptional in providing tangible and visible support. The needs-based, impartial and transparent selection process associated with the project has been instrumental for this success.

3.2.3 Local Socio-Economic Recovery—ILO

The ILO project ‘Local Socio-economic Recovery in War-affected Areas in South Lebanon’ (LRF-5, \$1,183,108) was approved for funding in June 2007. A second phase of the project was approved in April 2009 (LRF-22, \$1,500,000) bringing the total funded amount to \$2,683,108. Whereas the first phase of the project was operationally closed in 2009, the second phase is expected to close in March 2011.

As of 31 December 2009, the project reported an overall expenditure rate of 82.9 percent (\$2,223,905) of the total funds received. The first phase (LRF-5) reported a 97.5 percent delivery rate, whereas the second phase (LRF-22) had a delivery rate of 71.4 percent.

The project’s main government counterpart is the Ministry of Labour. It is partnering 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, and workers’ and employers’ organizations present in the South. It is also establishing strategic partnerships with international institutions, including the Italian ROSS programme and INTERSOS.

Objective

Through its participatory approach, the project is implementing socio-economic recovery activities in war-affected areas of South Lebanon. It is coordinating 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, to generate both permanent and temporary employment. The project takes into consideration socio-economic assessments and recovery initiatives adopted by the Government of Lebanon, its partners, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and NGOs, in addition to the key elements of the ‘Social Action Plan Towards Strengthening Social Safety Nets and Access to Basic Social Services’ and the ‘United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)’.

The project is primarily working towards i) 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; and ii) strengthening the capacity of the local institutions in South Lebanon, so they can maintain and replicate participatory methodologies in promoting local economic development initiatives. The

project is partnering 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, as well as workers' and employers' organizations present in the South. It is also establishing strategic partnerships with international institutions, including NGOs funded by the Italian Programme ROSS, such as Ricerca e Cooperazione and Sheild (formerly known as Intersos).

Results and Achievements

Since its inception in August 2007, the project has utilized a participatory approach to address the local socio-economic needs of the Bint Jbeil caza. This approach relies on the active involvement of local stakeholders involved in the olive oil and beekeeping sectors to design and implement recovery projects.

The promising results achieved in the implementation of the first phase of the project (see 2009 LRF Annual Report for further details) paved the way for the identification of new areas of intervention, created possibilities for expansion in scope and prompted a shift in focus from short-term recovery to longer-term development. A long-term development focus will lead to greater institutionalization, coordination and organization of local actors in the key economic sectors of South Lebanon, while addressing the lack of technical skills, coherent marketing plans, productive equipment and infrastructure and adequate financing to expand existing small businesses. Hence, the second phase of the project implemented the following activities during the reporting period:

Capacity-Building:

- In order to promote the participatory approach of the project, and to apply the evaluation's recommendation, two training of trainers' workshops were held to train the project staff and the local stakeholders on the Participatory Value Chain Analysis (PVCA) methodology. The workshops aimed at increasing the capacities of the ILO staff and the local stakeholders in facilitating and contributing to the process of Local Economic Development planning.
- As was initially planned in the first phase of the project, a PVCA workshop was held for the Livestock/Dairy sector. Twelve public and civil society institutions contributed in the organization and the facilitation of the training, while approximately 80 institutions were involved in the process. The workshop included a hypothesis session to introduce newcomers to the adopted methodology, and five mini-workshops tackling the components of the dairy value chain: milk as raw material, production process, packaging and storing, training of labour, and marketing.
- As a follow-up to the Training of Trainers for Cooperative Extension workers, a work-plan was drafted to strengthen the capacities of cooperatives in South Lebanon. Nine of the trained extension workers were contracted by the project to assess the capacities of 24 cooperatives, and provide training to their members on the weak aspects detected through the assessment.
- The findings of the Organizational Capacity Assessment were validated by the assessed stakeholders, and the capacity-building plan to be implemented by the project was shared with them. One workshop, the training of municipalities, was conducted during the period under review, and two other trainings were prepared to be held during the first two months of 2011.

Micro-Finance and Small Enterprise Development:

- Al Majmoua and the Association for the Development of Rural Capacities (ADR) were identified to provide micro-credits and business-management training.
- Utilizing the new funds allocated for micro-finance, Al Majmoua and ADR provided 67 beneficiaries.
- Both institutions were provided with a Training of Trainers on the GET AHEAD tool.

Output 1.1: Local institutions in targeted economic sectors demonstrate enhanced managerial capacities so as to effectively plan, design and implement socio-economic projects.

The findings of the Organizational Capacity Assessment conducted for 19 potential partner institutions were discussed with the assessed stakeholders during a validation workshop. Moreover, a capacity-building plan was communicated to the stakeholders, where training workshops were planned to cater to their needs. 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 four full working days' sessions emphasizing the weaknesses spotted during the assessment, and it 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; on each day, at least one member from each municipality attended the session that was relevant to his function on the municipal board.

Moreover, various training institutions were requested to provide proposals for two training workshops. These workshops will cater to the major needs highlighted in the Assessment: one will tackle local economic development techniques, and the other will tackle the techniques of integrating people with disabilities in the job market. The International Management and Training Institution (IMTI) was selected to provide the LED training. The material was developed with the assistance of a pool of specialized trainers in the fields of strategic planning, proposal writing, and monitoring and evaluation. The training will include all 19 assessed institutions.

The Socio-Economic Research Centre (CSE) and the Lebanese Physically Handicapped Union (LPHU) were selected to provide the training on the integration of people with disabilities in the job market. The trainers from both organizations prepared the material. While CSE mainly contributes to the theoretical part of the training along with some real-life case studies on disabled people who are successfully surviving the increasing competitiveness of the job market, LPHU contributes with the practical part where it will help the institutions to build and maintain a database about the skills supplied by the disabled people versus the skills demanded by the market in South Lebanon. In addition to the five Social Development Centres, Intersos and LPHU, which were already included in the Assessment, and other active local NGOs working with disabled people in the South will be targeted.

Outputs 1.2: Beneficiaries in the targeted economic sector in South Lebanon demonstrate enhanced technical capacities in order to improve businesses

Upon the recommendation of the independent evaluator, oregano cultivation, which was considered as one of the successful interventions during the first phase, was replicated in the other cazas of South Lebanon. Hence, 115 beneficiaries from Hasbaya, Tyre, and Nabatieh cazas were provided with in-kind and technical assistance to plant one donom of oregano each. As a result of the oregano cultivation intervention, 115 households from South Lebanon benefited from an additional source of income. As such, the 115 donoms which used to be, in most cases, planted with tobacco, were subsequently planted with oregano instead, thereby contributing to a reduction of a substantive amount of the costs, intensive labour, and child labour. Moreover, these donoms provided the beekeepers in the region with additional pasture space for their beekeeping activities.

The extension workers, who were contracted by the project to implement the six-month work plan for cooperative development in South Lebanon, recommended three cooperatives from Hasbaya caza, which manifested great commitment to the project intervention, to be supported through the provision of technical training on beekeeping to 21 of their members. Each of the trained members received accordingly three beehives to enable him to start an income-generating activity. The 21 beneficiaries did not only benefit from technical assistance, but also from the

opportunity to start their own beekeeping activity. The provision of three beehives allowed them to implement what they have learned, and to develop a business without worrying about how to ensure the necessary initial capital. Also, as members of three cooperatives from Hasbaya caza, they would be able to pool this activity under the umbrella of their cooperative, and to work collectively to limit risks and increase profits.

Individual beneficiaries were also targeted through the micro-finance component of the project. The 67 beneficiaries who were provided with loans used the financial assistance to improve their current business. The targeted entrepreneurs can be illustrated as follows:

- 20.9 percent are women
- Sector distribution: 44.8 percent livestock, 4.5 percent general agriculture, 10.5 percent beekeeping, 10.5 percent olive, 6 percent oregano and 23.9 percent fisheries.
- Geographical distribution: 1.5 percent from Hasbaya, 38.9 percent from Tyre, 10.5 percent from Sidon, 4.5 percent from Marjayoun, 22.4 percent from Nabathieh and 22.4 percent from Bint Jbeil.

Output 1.3: Local institutions, entrepreneurs, and marginalised groups in the targeted economic sectors in South Lebanon are supported through the provision of financial services

Al Majmoua and the ADR were subcontracted by the project. These partnership agreements will allow the project to provide micro-credits to approximately 80–100 eligible beneficiaries in South Lebanon to start-up new or support existing businesses. During the last two quarters of 2010, the micro-finance partners were able to enable 67 beneficiaries, from the fishery, olive, beekeeping, oregano and livestock sectors, to access loans.

Both institutions were capacitated through involving their staff members in 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.

Output 2.1: Capacities of local stakeholders in exchanging practices is enhanced via establishing/strengthening existent forums related to the selected socio-economic sectors

Members of both economic forums established by the ILO, after being formally registered, are meeting regularly to discuss future plans, and to guide the project's interventions in the beekeeping and the cooperatives sectors. By involving representatives of the public sector, civil society and the local business community in the early planning of a broad recovery strategy, the local economic forums, as such, act as a sustainable coordination mechanism that provides all actors with a voice, irrespective of their representation status within the existing local power structure. Local economic forums provide a space through which local actors can communicate their needs, identify common interests, and share information and resources. In brief, a local economic forum enables stakeholders to:

- Share their perspectives on local economic development priorities.
- Increase their understanding of particular areas of public policy that affect the sector or territory.
- Identify practical solutions to these issues through joint planning and implementation of initiatives.
- Identify local resources and mobilize them more effectively.
- Involve the concerned ministries in the LER initiatives.
- Formulate LED strategies that can bring together all the different economic, social, political, trade, industrial and educational elements in coordination with the activities of public institutions at the central, regional and local levels.
- Build consensus around the LED strategy.
- Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the LED strategy.

The materials for the LED training to be held at the beginning of next year were tailored with special attention to the capacity-building needs of the local economic forums.

Output 2.2: Local stakeholders capacities are enhanced to replicate, plan and coordinate socio economic initiatives

During the period under review, the ILO supported the stakeholders of South Lebanon to draft development strategies for two sectors. The PVCA for the Livestock/Dairy sector enabled the stakeholders involved in the sector to diagnose problems and threats, and to propose action plans to overcome challenges and seize opportunities. Twelve public and civil society institutions contributed in the organization and the facilitation of the training, while approximately 80 institutions were involved in the process. The workshop included a hypothesis session to introduce newcomers to the adopted methodology, and five mini-workshops tackling the components of the dairy value chain: milk as raw material, production process, packaging and storing, training of labour, and marketing. As a result, the following strategic activities were proposed to develop the sector:

Short-Term Activities: Provide training for cooperatives in techniques for producing the distinctive packaging; assess training needs and develop a programme of integrated training; effectively form a consortium of workers in this sector; exchange of experiences with more advanced countries; a survey of farmers, producers and the factories (quantitative and qualitative); strengthen the capacity of municipalities to control laboratories; establishment of laboratories in the districts; development of the capacity of training institutions and their provision with the necessary resources; promotion of cooperatives to enter the milk-producing and other industries; train tour guides on rural tourism; and specialized centres: pots; machinery; feeding methods; pharmaceuticals; and vaccine.

Medium-Term Activities: Development of a handbook containing the contents of the product and the best ways of production; regional organization of exhibitions; website about the products and places of production in the south; provision of soft loans to small-holders and emerging entrepreneurs; and awareness campaigns through field visits to farms and factories.

Long-Term Activities: Coordinate between the municipalities to increase the green areas (pasture); provide small farms with freezer; and establish a development centre of the Dairy Milk Sector (Studies; Laboratory; Training; Marketing Plans).

The project also contracted a national consultant to assess potential green jobs; the report developed via the assessment highlighted potential positive contributions in the environment sector through creation of green jobs in the various economic sectors available in South Lebanon. The project aims at enabling local institutions and major implementing partners in South Lebanon to manage livelihoods projects applying acquired tools and methodologies, and the findings of this assessment, especially the suggestions drawn on where potential green jobs can be created, could be used by the local actors to create new jobs and develop new professions.

A validation workshop was organized by the project to enable the experts in the environment sector (and other correlated value chains) to validate the findings of the assessment, and to suggest other interventions which can contribute in the adaptation to and the mitigation against climate change while creating green job opportunities. Based on the findings of the Study on Green Jobs Assessment in South Lebanon, the workshop participants identified strategic potential green jobs project proposals, of which six were further developed in separate working groups. In all proposals, special emphasis was given to identifying objectives, activities, beneficiaries, partners and main implementing bodies, as well as to the estimated project duration, taking into account the

environmental benefit of the proposal, potential employment opportunities, feasibility and possibility to replicate project activities elsewhere. The six potential green jobs proposals that were specifically identified by the workshop participants as particularly viable are: 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, and Introduction of Modern Separation Machines for Recycling of Tyres and Cables.

Challenges

Some of the challenges faced, and reported on, during project implementation included:

- Concerning the support to be provided by the project to the Social Development Centres, there was an incompatibility between the needs and demands raised by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the support that can be provided by the project. While the ministry insisted on provision of equipment, the project has to make sure that this type of assistance, if provided, entails other components that guarantee the added value of the ILO's 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 the number of people involved in the sector activities, etc.
- 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.

Lessons Learned

A number of lessons learned have been identified during the implementation of the project. These include:

- Major efforts are to be made to maintain a healthy relationship with counterparts such as ministries and governmental departments, and continuous communication is required to achieve consensus and compromises on interventions and best practices.
- 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.

3.2.4 Capacity-Building of Human Resources for Digital Documentation of World Heritage Sites—UNESCO

The UNESCO-executed 'Building of Human Resources for Digital Documentation of World Heritage Sites Affected by the War' (LRF-6, \$767,226) was approved for funding in May 2007, but finalized and signed off on—and submitted for transfer of funds—only at the end of August 2007.

The project was operationally closed in December 2010. As of 31 December 2010, UNESCO reported an expenditure rate of 99.0 percent (\$759,684) against the project.

The project is implemented in collaboration with the Directorate General of Antiquities (DGA) and the Ministry of Culture of Lebanon, and with Leuven University.

Background

In the aftermath of the July – August 2006 conflict, UNESCO fielded an assessment mission for war damages on World Heritage Sites of Lebanon, and expressed concern regarding the routine maintenance of those sites and recommended to prioritize the establishment of an integrated action plan for tangible cultural heritage conservation all over the country.

UNESCO, as the Participating Organization executing this project, believes that the expressed urgent need for capacity-building of Lebanese human resources in the field of conservation and management of heritage sites is beneficial for the reconstruction of Lebanon. The assessment mission recommended that the digital documentation for heritage sites and its risk mapping could be launched by a limited operation on one selected World Heritage Site of Lebanon and be considered as a pilot experience that in the future would be extended to other sites. It is further envisaged that the establishment of a training tool concerning the digital documentation of a heritage site with the most advanced and sophisticated techniques, a tool which should be disseminated as an online course, and an on-site training of DGA staff and potential sites managers, students of the University of Lebanon, will contribute to the development of the country. Furthermore, the promotion of new information technology with the purpose of heritage management, conservation and daily maintenance will ensure the impact of heritage components in Lebanon, a country rich in heritage and strong tourism potential.

Objective

The main objective of the project was to respond to the concerns raised by the above-mentioned UNESCO assessment mission. The assessment raised concerns regarding the routine maintenance of sites, and recommended to prioritize the establishment of an integrated action plan for tangible cultural heritage conservation all over the country through the establishment of risk maps and exhaustive digital technical documentation for World Heritage Sites, as well as building the capacity of human resources able to ensure the enhancement of tangible cultural heritage in the country.

Results and Achievements

The project has achieved the development of guidelines and a solid methodology for the preparation of a ‘Risk Preparedness Strategy’ of Baalbek, based on the results of Phase I, in which a group of experts captured a complete physical 3D surface configuration of the property using a 3D laser scanner. It is important that the acquisition of a 3D mapping device and the ‘Risk Preparedness Strategy’ methodology—compiling results from the definition of a “damage atlas”, surface condition maps and a structural surface integrity study—are not put aside for the future conservation of this important heritage place.

A set of recommendations has been provided that build upon the success of the developed approach, while the information acquired, assessed and presented here should be aimed at ensuring timely, sufficient and relevant actions, such as:

- Prepare an integral approach for monitoring those “changes”—rate of change, other risk factors and hazards to visitors/staff—on the property, which have been identified in Phase II.
- Re-evaluate “significance” and its relation with integrity, based on these changes.
- Develop a preventive maintenance plan to ensure that issues identified in the Risk Preparedness Strategy (RPS) are tackled.

The current administration of the DGA has hired specialized staff on Geographic Information System (GIS) who has finished the design, development of an information system for cataloguing and storing all information about

heritage places in Lebanon. Additionally the DGA GIS staff is in the process of finalizing the proper GIS database that was initiated during the project implementation phase in collaboration with the international experts, in order to integrate the structural and surface condition survey results. It should provide the opportunity to share information among cultural heritage stakeholders. In addition, the DGA is in the process of updating its current “heritage information strategy”, in order to fully identify essential documentation on heritage places.

On the other hand, the close coordination between the DGA and the UNESCO office in Beirut, along with the international experts, allowed the project to reach its aims and to respond to the needs of the local heritage management administration. The methodologies and strategies developed during the implementation of the different phases of the project have set the needed basis and standards for the application of RPS to cover the entire site of Baalbek and consequently other heritage sites in Lebanon in the future. Furthermore, this experience can be of great help to other World Heritage sites management authorities. It could be taken as a model in the integrated approach using the latest technologies along with well-known research techniques for the implementation of RPS for their sites in the future. Moreover, the project contributed to the experience of both national and international experts; which will help both parties to further improve their methods and applications in their respective future projects.

A risk map was prepared for the pilot area of the project and a procedure was laid out that can be applied to the rest of the Baalbek site as well as other World Heritage Sites in Lebanon. The risk map will help identify areas that need urgent attention that should be addressed with proper conservation measures. DGA staff was trained on the use of laser scanning to document World Heritage Sites. The staff was also trained on the identification of surface degradations in order to define the type of risks affecting or that will eventually affect the monument. A booklet was published detailing the methods used throughout the project along with recommendations for future projects. This booklet will serve as a guide for site managers who want to carry out similar projects for documenting and mapping the risk for other sites.

The project ended on 31 December 2010 with the Ministry of Culture/Directorate General of Antiquities, the main beneficiary of the project, using the provided techniques/equipment for the management of other World Heritage Sites in the country.

3.2.5 Enhancing the Performance of the Public Sector—UNDP

The UNDP project ‘Enhance Performance of the Social Sector’ (LRF-7, \$270,000) was approved and funds transferred in October 2007, whereas activities were initiated in April 2008. The project is expected to operationally close by 31 March 2011.

As of 31 December 2010, the project reported an expenditure rate of 72.4 percent (\$195,579).

Background

The Social Action Plan that was submitted by the Government of Lebanon to the Paris III Donors Conference in January 2007 called for a number of initiatives to enhance the performance of the social sector. This project is the implementation tool of many of the Social Action Plan recommendations. The initiatives include the elaboration of a social strategy which represents the government’s vision and policy to improve the social conditions of the population and to push the social development forward. In addition to the social strategy, the Social Action Plan emphasized the need for increasing coordination and synchronization in the delivery of social services and programmes and the implementation of local development initiatives; both are crucial to improve efficiency in public social spending and implementation of social interventions.

Objective

The project 'Support to the Social Inter-Ministerial Committee' aims at supporting the implementation of a number of reform initiatives that were called upon in the Social Action Plan to be undertaken by the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Social Issues (IMC). The project supports the Inter-Ministerial Committee to enhance the performance of the social sector in the country through increased coordination in the implementation of social programmes and provision of social services as well as in devising and building consensus around a social development strategy.

The project outputs can be summarized as follows:

- Elaborate a national social development policy, strategy and related implementation plan.
- Enhance effectiveness in social service delivery and implementation of social programmes between public agencies; this is performed through in-depth revision of social services extended by public entities. Identify the overlaps in order to reduce duplication in the delivery of social services among the ministries of Social Affairs, Education and Higher Education, and Public Health.
- Enhance effectiveness in the implementation of local development initiatives through mapping of local development initiatives and defining a framework of national needs and priorities.

Results and Achievements

The project is on track for achieving the planned outputs contributing to enhancing the performance of the social sector:

National Social Development Strategy:

The process of preparing the national social development strategy was continued. The preparation of the strategy was done in close coordination and under the supervision of the technical team of the IMC. Four drafts of the strategy were prepared, reviewed and thoroughly discussed by the project team, the IMC, independent consultants, and various stakeholders and partners. The elaboration of the strategy entailed as well the organization of a number of focus groups to discuss suggested objectives and recommendations on specific issues. Moreover, periodic meetings were also organized, gathering the IMC team to stand on their views during the different phases of preparing the strategy.

In September, and within the same framework, a national workshop with the aim of discussing the proposed draft of the strategy was organized. The workshop gathered a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including representatives from the government, civil society, donor and international agencies, academia, political parties and the private sector. Workshop participants discussed in detail the proposed objectives and suggested interventions under the different elements of the strategy. The workshop resulted in a set of recommendations and highlighted several issues and comments that were incorporated and taken into consideration in the following drafts of the strategy.

By the end of the year, as a result of the various discussions and comments on the different drafts produced, a strategy document was produced in both Arabic and English which included a general overview of the socio-economic conditions in the country, a justification and rationale for a national social development strategy, the working methodology adopted in the preparation of the document as well as the strategy structure, which is composed of two transversal pillars (inclusion and development) and six elements with their relevant sub-elements and objectives as follows:

- Element 1: Achieve Better Health
- Element 2: Strengthen Social Protection Mechanisms
- Element 3: Provide Quality Education

- Element 4: Improve Opportunities for Equitable and Safe Employment
- Element 5: Revitalize Communities and Encourage the Development of Social Capital
- Element 6: Encourage Socio-Economic Development

In addition to the strategy document, a complete and elaborated version of the strategy (120 pages) was also developed. It is basically an expanded version of the strategy document that provides as well a detailed situational analysis of major challenges, issues and conditions for each sector/element.

Electronic Portal to Guide Local Development:

In line with the recommendations of the Social Action Plan (Paris III) and in accordance with the with the tasks of the IMC within the framework of improving coordination and increasing efficiency in the implementation of local development initiatives among the different government bodies, the project conceived and pushed for the development of the electronic portal to guide local development initiatives. The aim of the portal is to provide the different stakeholders with a user-friendly and easily accessible coordination tool/framework in the form of a map-enabled, online portal to be able to better assess, design and implement local development initiatives in the country. The online portal is envisaged to act as a reliable and up-to-date source of information that is geographically presented at the level of Mohafaza, Kada, and villages up to the smallest possible district, which includes the following information and data in both Arabic and English:

- Socio-economic indicators, developmental needs and overview of socio-economic conditions (by sector and region).
- Distribution and basic information on active development organizations (NGOs, schools, hospitals, etc.).
- Descriptions of developmental projects and initiatives under implementation by different organizations (2005–present)

In April 2010, the project managed to recruit Arabia GIS, a competent IT firm, to undertake the task of developing the portal and initiating the process. The development of the portal involved exerting substantive efforts in collecting information from a number of organizations and institutions. More than 50 institutions/bodies were contacted for various types of data, whether related to indicators, studies, reports, projects, organizations, or other. The project managed to organize, structure and re-arrange huge sets of data received from the various bodies according to the different templates and forms required by the portal.

The project, with support from the IT specialists at MoSA, revised and commented on more than three versions of the portal provided so far by Arabia GIS. By the end of the year, an almost complete version of the portal was finalized. A demonstration of the portal to the Minister and the IMC technical team is planned to take place in early January for their review and comments before being finalized and made available to the public.

Challenges

The constraints in implementation are in the component related to eliminating duplication in the delivery and implementation of social services and programmes. The team faced difficulties in obtaining relevant reliable data from concerned ministries. However, a first draft has been developed utilizing available information to be presented to the technical team of the inter-ministerial committee. During this year, MoSA took charge of this component through the Minister's advisors under the direct follow-up of the Minister himself.

The project was able to meet the deadline in preparing the social development strategy. However, the work plan for the strategy was not prepared; a prerequisite to the preparation of the work plan is to have the strategy endorsed by the Cabinet. It is anticipated that the endorsement of the strategy might face serious delays for

reasons beyond the capacity of the project, given the cabinet is currently inactive in light of the political context the country is going through.

The electronic portal is almost completed and the preparations of the portal are moving on track. Some natural, but manageable, delays were faced in collection and reorganization of data from various partners and stakeholders. However, the portal might risk some delays before it is launched due to the fact that the UNDP-MoSA Project ‘Capacity-building for Poverty Reduction’ is closing at the end of February 2011, whereas the LRF project activities are planned through the end of March 2011 and require ongoing follow-up for maintenance and updating. To overcome this risk, the project might hand over the electronic portal to another department (or project) at MoSA to follow up and maintain all portal-related activities.

3.2.6 Flood and Water Management for Livelihood Recovery—UNDP

The UNDP-executed project ‘Flood and Water Management for Livelihood Recovery in Baalback-Hermel’ (LRF-9, \$2,843,880) was approved in October 2007. In September 2008, the LRF SC approved a second phase of the project (LRF-17, \$3,800,000), bringing the total funding for the project to \$6,643,880. The first phase of the project operationally closed in May 2010, whereas the second phase is expected to end in December 2011.

As of 31 December 2010, the overall project had an expenditure rate of 37.6 percent (\$2,496,058), based on the total amount funded. The first phase of the project had a delivery rate of 73.1 percent, whereas the second phase had a delivery rate of 10.9 percent.

The MoEW is the main national project partner. In addition, the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) is involved in technical information sharing and coordination of the project, while the Arab Centre for Studies in Arid Zones and Drylands (ACSAD) has a technical backstopping role for the flood management component of the project.

Objective

The project aims at assisting the Government of Lebanon in its recovery efforts in the conflict-affected and desertification-prone region of Baalback-El Hermel through better land-management practices, namely: flood risk reduction, restoration of vegetation cover and improved availability of irrigation water needed to increase crop productivity and improve standards of living. This will be achieved through the construction of stone walls, check dams and water collection reservoirs to prevent runoff water from reaching villages and farms and through the restoration of land cover to reduce soil erosion. The objectives related to water management will be achieved through construction of several membrane-lined reservoirs to collect unused water from springs, rainfall and snow melts and through installation of water-use efficient irrigation networks and systems that will be used by local farmers to improve their crop diversity and productivity.

The project objectives will be met through the following outputs:

- Coordination and linkage with ongoing projects established and strengthened.
- Risks and damages caused by floods in target area managed and reduced.
- Water for irrigation harvested, managed and made available to farmers.
- Land cover in risk areas increased and soil erosion reduced.
- Sustainability, capacity-building and public awareness.

The expected outcomes from the current project—particularly those related to water harvesting, increased vegetation cover and higher productivity—will serve very well the national efforts and plans aiming at combating

desertification and alleviating poverty in North Bekaa. They will also serve the recovery efforts made by the Lebanese government in normalizing the living conditions of rural communities and in restoring the basic needs and infrastructure for practicing sound and profitable agriculture in the affected area.

Results and Achievements

During the current reporting period for year 2010, the remaining works under Phase I of the project were continued and the preparations for launching Phase II of the project were initiated. Overall, within Phase I of the project, the project completed the building of the smaller flood structures (walls and bunds), undertook capacity-building exercises and completed 80 percent of the large flood management excavations and the water reservoir (in Deir El Ahmar). In addition, reforestation activities were completed in Aarsal area. As for Phase II of the project, a consultancy firm was hired to design the flood management structures in Ras Baalback, which were completed but not finalized by year end given that many technical issues remained to be confirmed with the different ministries and partners on the ground. Furthermore, an expression of interest was launched for the selection of qualified contractors to undertake the excavation works in the second phase.

Project Management and Coordination:

- Project management is being undertaken on a fulltime basis by the PMU. This involves project administration, field visits to Aarsal, Ras Baalback and Deir el Ahmar, supervision of and support to consultants and contractors, meetings with stakeholders and resource mobilization. The previous project manager left in October 2009, and a new project manager was recruited in late 2009.
- A Project Board Review Meeting (PBRM) was undertaken in the presence of concerned stakeholders and the MoA H.E. Dr. Hussein el Hajj Hassan. The PBRM is a meeting of all project stakeholders to discuss the progress of the project and the activities of the coming year. As a new Minister at the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), H.E. was presented with a full briefing on the project and its progress from its inception until his taking of office. The Minister showed keen interest in the project and expressed his desire for new flood projects covering other watersheds in the region. The Minister requested and was given, with his advisors, regular quarterly briefings on the progress of the project.
- Partnerships were initiated with MoE, MoEW, Green Plan, and CDR. These will be discussed below under the relevant sections.
- A visit by the MoA international projects inspectorate was undertaken to Aarsal and Ras Baalback to check the work on site. The site visit was preceded by a meeting between the project manager and the international projects inspector at MoA.

Flood Risk Management and Reduction

Phase I:

- Given that the flood risk management structures in this phase had already been designed by ACSAD and the works were completed by the contractors (eight reservoirs with a total of 330,000 m³ capacity and 161 walls were completed), only capacity-building activities were undertaken by the project during early 2010.
- ACSAD provided hands-on training to the municipality members throughout the project for the upkeep and maintenance of the structures. A workshop was undertaken for the members of the flood committee; four people were present during the selection of land, the design process and the implementation. The land owners, around 24 people, were given face-to-face awareness-raising on the importance of flood mitigation. Finally, a workshop on the maintenance of flood structures was given by ACSAD and the PMU team for 28 people including, farmers, land owners, and representatives from the municipality.

- A Caterpillar 320 DL excavator was purchased through a process of international bidding and has been provided to the Municipality of Aarsal in a media-covered handover event involving the MoA, the Ambassador of Spain, the UNDP Resident Representative, and all concerned stakeholders. The excavator will allow the Municipality of Aarsal to undertake maintenance work on the flood structures. The event included a site visit of built structures and reservoirs where a detailed explanation of the project and its achievements was given to those present.

Phase II:

- An international bidding process was launched for the modelling of the watershed in Phase II, and the contract was awarded to Earth Links and Advanced Resources Development (ELARD). The PMU provided very close support to ELARD through provision of data, verification of assumptions and review of designs. Joint field visits were undertaken in order to gather site data and field truth findings.
- The design of reservoirs and walls for Phase II has been finalized and field-trothing is ongoing. Thirteen potential sites have been identified and specifications developed. Given the issue related to land ownership, all the reservoirs selected were located in the public domain such that there is no need for compensatory payments for expropriation of land. The large reservoirs were subdivided into smaller basins. This design will reduce the maintenance costs and improve the efficiency of the system. The first basin will act as a stilling basin and will take most of the sediment load without spreading it to the rest of the reservoirs. The water flowing out of the first basin will have lower solid content and will accordingly cause less blockage of the soil in the subsequent basins and thus will not reduce water infiltration.
- Based on the designs developed for the reservoirs, an international invitation for Expressions of Interest (EOI) was launched by UNDP on both its national and international websites. Ten EOIs were received and evaluated; however, the full invitation to bid will be launched in 2011.
- An invitation to bid was launched for the purchase of a tractor and a wheeled loader for maintenance of the flood management structures for the municipality of Ras Baalback. Bids were received and a best supplier selected, based on UNDP procurement rules and regulations.
- The objectives of the flood project, in Phase II, were expanded from the construction of infrastructure to a wider scope including institutional capacity development and non-structural measures. A historical perspective on all types of flood in Lebanon is being gathered through research and a timeline, starting 1293 A.D, has been drawn. This will help the people working on the project understand if there are changes in the flood patterns over time. So far, the timeline shows an increase in the frequency of flooding.
- A cost assessment of direct flood damages has been done through data collected from the published records of the Lebanese Higher Relief Council. It has been estimated that the direct costs of one flood event in Aarsal and Fakeha is equivalent to \$2.5 million. The investments in infrastructure of the flood project have a return on investment (ROI) of just two years.
- Improving green cover is one of the tools used in reducing flood risks and consequent damages. Increasing the green cover is strongly hindered by overgrazing. Accordingly, there is a need to address the issues related to grazing prior to reforestation. Consequently, the PMU has initiated grazing-related work on several fronts. It has started collaboration with the Development Studies Association (DSA) and specifically through their Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Fund project on promoting the concept of inter-cropping for herdsmen. A presentation to the MoA staff was done by experts from the DSA. In addition to the presentation, work was initiated between UNDP and MoA on grazing. A joint field visit was undertaken to Ras Baalback and Aarsal in order to assess the area for a joint project on sustainable grazing.

The flood project has selected an area of land for a grazing demonstration plot in cooperation with the MoA. The MoA will provide seeds, and the rest of the work will be undertaken by UNDP.

- A programme of capacity-building was initiated by the project. Accordingly, a five-day training involving ministry staff on flood modelling was organized by the project. The project site engineer is preparing a note on wall structures in flood risk management based on a review of literature and field experience.
- The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) programme of UNDP is working on institutional response measures to floods and other risks. The project is coordinating closely with the DRM on assessing the scope of flood risks on the national level. An expert will be hired to develop a national flood risk map based on a desk review and field assessments. The PMU prepared disaster scenarios for flash, river and urban floods. These scenarios will be used to develop standard operating procedures for the Army, Security Forces, the Red Cross and others on response to floods in the different regions.
- The PMU co-organized with MoA and Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) the workshop entitled 'Water Harvesting Techniques and Practices and their Role in Enhancing Rural Livelihoods' held between 26 September and 2 October 2010 to exchange and learn from the experience of the AARDO member countries. Forty participants from 15 different countries were present in the event.
- UNDP opened strong venues of cooperation with the MoEW: a presentation of the project was made to the Minister of Energy and Water in the presence of his advisors. Furthermore, flood management considerations were incorporated, based on the input provided by the project team, into the National Water Strategy developed by the MoEW.

Water Harvesting for Extending Irrigation Periods (Only Phase I):

- In 2009, the construction of a reservoir in Deir el Ahmar with a capacity of 33,000m³ was contracted through an international bidding process to a Lebanese contracting company, Farhat Group. Weekly follow-up of the construction of the reservoir in Deir el Ahmar has been done by the PMU with some modification of design due to constraints on the terrain. The reservoir is currently in its final stages of construction.
- The project also supported local farmers to secure piping to upgrade the usage of an existing pond and improve its efficiency. The pond was fed by an earthen channel leading to major losses in water. The project provided a polyethylene pipe that carries water from a main feeding channel to the reservoir. This has increased the irrigation potential of the reservoir.

Land Cover Increase and Soil Erosion Reduction

Phase I:

- A soil erosion susceptibility map was developed by the project team and provided to the Aarsal Municipality, Aarsal Rural Development Association (ARDA) and the MoA. Site selection for planting of trees was based on the erosion map, with the possibility for protection from grazing by the municipality and land ownership.
- 20,000 seedlings were produced by the local NGO ARDA, and planting of 15,000 seedlings was undertaken. The number of seedling was reduced from 20,000 due to unavailability of proper planting areas. Close follow-up was insured by the PMU.
- Maintenance of the seedlings was delegated to the municipality of Aarsal to ensure sustainability of the work.

Phase II:

- The selection of lands suitable for reforestation was finalized for Phase II. This was based mainly on the development of a soil erosion map that was prepared by the project GIS expert. This was overlaid with a land ownership map in order to identify the most suitable areas for reforestation.
- A partnership has been created with the Ministry of Environment (MoE) reforestation project for testing new reforestation protocols. The specifications manuals for reforestation of the MoE and MoA stipulate the planting of seedlings that are at least 18 months old. The practice has shown to be unsuccessful due to the curling of the root ball around the stem and the subsequent death of the tree. The two projects are testing the use of seedlings that are only six to eight months old. The projects are also testing “solid water” irrigation techniques. “Solid water” is an innovative irrigation technique using either rechargeable or non-rechargeable gels that will hold and slowly release water close to the root zone and for a long period of time. The aim of these pilot tests is to contribute to cost reduction and the improvement of the efficiency of reforestation projects. Reforestation is a costly endeavour due to the need for heavy works during planting and for irrigation at least for the first two years. The project is testing reforestation techniques using seeds and not seedlings. Seeds require minimal labour and no irrigation systems.
- A bid for reforestation was launched but cancelled due to the receipt of only one and technically non-compliant bid. Requests for bids will be modified and re-launched.
- A tractor and a 4000L cistern equipped with two pumps will be donated to the municipality of Ras Baalback to ensure maintenance of the reforested plots, based on a needs assessment of the local community.
- Preliminary talks have begun with the herders in Ras Baalback and Aarsal in order to try to find a solution to the problems of overgrazing affecting reforestation.

Capacity-Building and Awareness-Raising:

- A communication strategy was initiated by the Flood Project. It includes dissemination of information to all levels of stakeholders from decision-makers to local communities.
- An informative calendar including the flood project was designed, printed and distributed. It has been noticed by the PMU that the calendar has been used by many and it has helped raise the awareness of the different stakeholders on the flood project.
- A documentary on the UNDP Sustainable Land Management (SLM) programme with the MoA, including the flood project, was produced. The documentary is being used to raise the awareness of the different stakeholders. It was shown most recently during the World Food Day events organized by the FAO and the LRF donors meeting.
- Continuous meetings were convened and hands-on training was done by the project team for all stakeholders. This included members of the agriculture cooperatives, municipal board members and farmers. Meetings regarding Phase II were initiated with the municipality of Ras Baalback, which is currently involved in each decision made by the project in order to ensure local support and sustainability of the activities of the project.
- The project actively participated in World Food Day events with a presentation on the flood project, as well as during the LRF Donors Meeting in September 2010 as an exhibitor, and published an article on flood risk in the winter edition of a local environmental magazine called “Beyond Magazine”.

Challenges

Challenges faced during the implementation of the project included:

Land Ownership

Land ownership is a serious problem in North Bekaa region. Selection of land areas for planting trees has been affected by land ownership. The project was faced with the issue of identifying the land owners and getting their approval for the use of the land to construct reservoirs for flood mitigation. The process of identification of owners is very tedious, since these are almost abandoned and un-delimited lands and ownership has been passed from generation to generation without clear documentation. The process of approval has also taken its toll on time. The concept of flood mitigation is new in the area. Accordingly, it took a certain length of time to explain to owners the objectives of the project in order to acquire the acceptance of some of them.

Overgrazing

The selection of planting sites has been strongly influenced by the capacity of the municipality of Aarsal to protect the planted areas from grazing herds. Aarsal has the largest herd of sheep and goats in Lebanon. Overgrazing is a major problem. Plots were selected close to Aarsal with a possibility to be viewed and warded from the village. Far areas could not be planted because the municipality did not have enough capacity to guard the planted trees.

Availability of Data

The design of flood risk management structure depends on the availability of weather data. The lack of weather stations in the regions of Ras Baalback and Aarsal resulted in the need to use statistical modelling to develop the data needed in flood modelling.

Capacity of Contractors

The design of the water harvesting pond in Deir el Ahmar is almost unique in Lebanon and does not follow the usual design criteria used commonly for ponds in Lebanon. The design most commonly used is a dug area of land covered with a lining membrane. The design of Deir el Ahmar is, first, unique in the fact that the pond is located on a slope and not in flat lands (this to ensure gravity feed for irrigation), and second, the specification includes drainage layers on slopes made of porous concrete and gravel. These drainage layers serve to protect the membrane and increase the time that the water is conserved in the pond in case of membrane failure. The design also includes a 13m by 170m dam structure. The uniqueness of the design and the fact that it has not been done before by contractors has had a major impact on the execution schedule and the need for very close supervision by the PMU and coordination between the contractor and the consultant who has designed the reservoir.

3.2.7 Strengthening Dairy Production—UNDP

The UNDP project ‘Strengthening the Dairy Production Channel in North Lebanon’ (LRF-11, \$1,000,000) was approved in November 2007, but submitted for funding in January 2008. The project was operationally closed, as expected, in May 2010.

As of 31 December 2010, the project reported an expenditure rate of 99.8 percent (\$997,993).

The project’s main national implementing partner is the Rene Moawad Foundation.

Background

The July/August 2006 conflict resulted in massive destruction of infrastructure and services. Agriculture workers, already rated among the poorest in the country, suffered from huge losses resulting from the interruptions in harvesting, difficulty of marketing and destruction of facilities. This has resulted in a decline in living conditions and loss of income and revenues for a significant group of the population in North Lebanon. The Rene Moawad Foundation (RMF), given its extensive experience in the North and the agricultural sector, had the comparative advantage to develop and implement this specific project, prioritizing war-affected agricultural workers/farmers/small industries, thus leading to economic development through job creation in SMEs. Although the project upgrades the production capacity of three dairy centres located in North Lebanon, a larger number of cooperatives were targeted by the capacity development and technical assistance components. These centres, once operational in their full capacity, will contribute to the reinforcement of this channel, ultimately leading to restoring the war losses. Furthermore, supporting the forage production will help improve the quality of the milk and reduce the costs of milk production. The project meets the priorities set by the Government in a region where agriculture and agro-food processing are major sectors to promote social and economic development in North Lebanon.

Objective

The main objective of the project is to promote social and economic development in North Lebanon, one of the most deprived regions as indicated in the poverty report, where social and economic indicators show high levels of illiteracy (especially among women), high rates of unemployment, low incomes, and lesser access to services. In spite of many factors that impede agricultural development, such as lack of extension services, difficulty accessing credits, and high costs of production, there are a few niches of production with high potential. By strengthening the integrated channel (breeding/dairy products), including downstream and upstream activities and targeting not only breeders but also small-scale industrialists involved in the processing phase, the project aims at improving the quality of local productions and increasing competitiveness.

Results and Achievements

As planned in the project proposal, all activities have been accomplished successfully within the project duration and budget:

- Construction of a Pilot Dairy Processing unit in Mejdlaya.
- Rehabilitation of five small dairy industries in Meyata, Kobayat, Tekrit, Aidamoun and Halba.
- Assessment of cooperatives and small-scale dairy industries needs had been achieved in nine villages in Akkar and Zghorta regions: Tikrit, Aidamoun, Aabdeh, Kobayet, Tal Abbas, Kweichra, Meryata, Akkar El-Aatika and Mejdlaya.
- Implementation of 52 intensive sessions in animal production, benefiting 685 growers.
- 452 cows belonging to 57 farmers had benefited from artificial insemination.
- 1,893.2 tons of milk were collected from 464 farmers.
- 5,126.988 tons of forage had been planted and marketed, benefiting 112 growers.
- 200 farmers and growers from 42 villages had benefited from technical assistance.
- 15 new dairy farms had been created in assistance of the engineers.
- 101 farmers from 28 villages had benefited from the veterinary pharmacy.
- Implementation of 23 conferences in dairy processing had benefited 188 participants.
- Implementation of 85 practical training sessions in dairy processing had benefited 170 participants.

Challenges

Bad weather conditions had caused a delay in the early construction phase, which necessitated an extension of the project to accomplish the work.

3.2.8 Women Empowerment—UNFPA

The UNFPA project ‘Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Stability and Security (WE PASS)’ (LRF-12, \$994,858) was approved in November 2007, but submitted for funding in January 2008. The project was operationally closed in May 2010.

As of 31 December 2010, the project reported an expenditure rate of 99.8 percent (\$992,615).

The project’s main national implementing partner is the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW).

Background

As part of the post-war recovery initiatives, UNFPA pursued the partnership with the NCLW to seek funding for the third phase of the project ‘Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Security and Stability (WE PASS)’ through the LRF. The first phase of the project was funded by the Government of Norway and the second phase by the Government of Italy. The idea started initially as a pilot project that aimed to promote the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) relative to its context in Lebanon targeting selected communities that suffered from the war of July/August 2006. It was launched in cooperation with municipal councils and Social Development Service Centres (SDSC) of the MoSA in selected communities. One of its main results was the establishment of WE PASS Women Committees (WWC) that act as beneficiaries of capacity-building programmes and partners to conduct community activities. The project complements United Nations programmes on women empowerment through transparent fund administration and project implementation in line with the Government reform agenda. The activities are executed by national partners with the aim of transferring ownership to beneficiaries to ensure sustainability. The project also abides by transparency and accountability principles and is implemented with efficient utilization of donor funds.

Objective

In addition to the above, the focus of the project is to accomplish the following objectives:

- Support institutional building of women’s entities for advocacy and policy dialogue for mainstreaming gender in peace- and security-related programmes, initiatives, strategies and policies.
- Promote advancement of women and youth in citizenship, democracy, decision-making, leadership, literacy programmes, and reduced vulnerability to violence.
- Promote and support protection of and respect for women’s and girls’ human rights.
- Promote and support protection of women and girls from gender-based violence (GBV), as well as other forms of violence in various initiatives and interventions.
- Promote and support the full participation of women and youth in the peace process and conflict prevention at community and national levels.
- Promote and fully support the empowerment of women in economic development.
- Promote and support creation and operationalization of solidarity and coalition networks within and between the targeted villages, as well as with national entities.

Results and Achievements

Under the reporting period of the LRF/project Phase III, extending from March 2008 – May 2010, the following indicators provide an overall picture of the achievements. (This list provides only a sample of achievements; for a full list, see the project report.)

- Project launched in ten new villages (in addition to the ten villages under Phases I and II) with new WE PASS Women Committees (WWCs) established in all villages and three WWCs becoming official NGOs, with two of these becoming cooperatives.
- 70 women acquired skills and knowledge on municipality elections, and 27 women ran for the municipality elections, whereas 12 women won the municipality elections in their villages, and one woman became the vice president of municipal council.
- An estimated 600 people, including parliamentarians and religious leaders, attended the announcement of the newly established NGO in Kfeir: “WESA”.
- 45 women graduated from the “level I” literacy programme, and 250 persons attended the literacy graduation event organized by the Yarin WCC.
- 15 percent of municipal councils and community leaders in project-targeted communities sensitized on UNSC 1325 with focus on GBV.
- 40 percent of SDC trained on comprehensive gender service package.
- 380 persons sensitized on GBV, and 35 women attended GBV support groups.
- An estimated 500 women and youth from all the villages participated in the event celebrating Women’s Day, contributing to the strengthening of the solidarity chain created through the project.
- 160 women and men, young girls and boys of targeted communities gained skills on drawing techniques and were sensitized on gender equality through participation in a drawing contest.
- 310 boys and girls were sensitized on women’s participation in decision-making.
- 135 women from local communities contributed to the revision of the National Woman Strategy.
- 350 women gained knowledge on life skills, including communication skills, fundraising, proposal writing, networking, organization and planning of community events, community mobilization, dialogue, fighting discrimination, enhancing self-esteem.
- 60 were women sensitized on environmental issues; 70 persons gained knowledge in the English language; 125 women gained knowledge in computer skills; 50 women gained knowledge in mechanical car skills; 715 women gained knowledge in reproductive health issues; 170 persons gained knowledge on first aid skills.
- 100 women benefited from mammography-screening services.
- 30 health care providers gained knowledge and skills on reproductive health and GBV services, and 50 women gained knowledge on mental health and its impact on women.
- Micro-credit services were launched in 10 villages, with 135 individual benefitting from loans and 102 women benefitting from grants in the form of equipment or tools for their small businesses.
- Business Development Service (BDS) packages were delivered in all the villages.
- 600 direct beneficiaries established non-financial services within the economic empowerment component in 20 villages.
- 21 women participated in a field trip to Syria, 38 women participated in a Marketing Day (Souk el Tayeb), and 24 women participated in an entrepreneurial trip to Amman.
- 99 women improved their business performance and increased income through an income-generating activity, whereas 25 women started up new businesses.
- 65 women acquired knowledge and skills on advanced vocational training.
- 11 staff members at NCLW trained on institutional capacities.

- National Woman strategy finalized for validation.
- 75 women participated in the final evaluation of the project.

Final Project Evaluation

The project concluded its activities by organizing a Final Project Evaluation meeting during a workshop attended by 75 women beneficiaries. The workshop was an occasion to share good practices and lessons learned from the three phases of the project. These remarks will be a guiding framework in implementing and replicating similar projects in the future. The following are the main points resulting from the final evaluation meeting and are based on the beneficiaries' feedback:

Challenges:

- The title of the project mentioning “women empowerment” required more mobilization effort for both men and women to participate in activities, especially at the beginning and particularly in engaging men in activities.
- Partnership with municipality sometimes alienates a whole part of society due to local conflicts.
- Long distances among villages, and from villages to central areas where collective events used to be organized.
- GBV is a sensitive issue; to discuss it openly was therefore a challenge.
- Economic challenges and lack of financial resources among WWC members, and lack of financial support from municipalities affected mobilization and local communication.
- Jealousy among women from emerging leaders in the committees, which required continuous effort from project staff to enhance cooperation and team work.
- Challenge of consistent coordination among members of WWC while preparing for any activity.
- Gaining support of religious leaders.
- Fears about security of certain regions (South Lebanon) affected participation of some WWC and youth in events organized in the villages of the south.

Successes:

- Interaction among women from different backgrounds and on national level.
- Exposure of grass-root groups to national NGOs, experts, and relation with NCLW.
- Support of some municipalities.
- High participation in activities by community members.
- High interest of women to be part of the WWC.
- Transparency of the implementing organization/project staff.
- Flexibility in planning, taking into consideration local priorities, seasonal commitments especially relevant to agriculture or schooling, and respecting the commitment of working women while planning timeline of activities.
- Gaining credibility from women in their villages through the successful and creative community events organized by the project.
- Sensitizing health care providers on gender issues, especially GBV.
- Literacy programme.
- Ability of some WWC to sustain their group by becoming NGOs or cooperatives.
- Enthusiasm and commitment of women to take part in the local/municipal elections.
- High interest of women to attend reproductive health awareness sessions due to lack of knowledge and services in the rural areas.

- Start-up of new businesses by women.
- Support of projects for new businesses created by women through considering them suppliers whenever applicable.
- Participatory planning, resulting in realism in planning based on needs and existing capacities.
- Working according to priority and timeline defined by the local WWC.
- Credibility of experts and partners who implemented activities.

Lessons Learned:

- Build relations with all active stakeholders in the community, as opposed to focusing on the municipality only.
- Be creative in organizing events that attract both men and women to change perception on gender roles.
- Ensure protection of women in conservative communities (through local support of religious and community leaders).
- Use the peer-to-peer approach when working with men on women's rights.
- Organize activities for youth and children in order to mobilize women to build trust towards the WWCs.
- Focus on economic empowerment.
- Thorough preparation of events and timely community mobilization leads to success of events.
- Availability of financial and human resources enhance the chances of success.
- Proper time-planning relative to the target group.
- Importance of diversity of products by women benefiting from economic empowerment services to increase sales and customer chains.
- Increased participation of women in marketing events enhances their know-how and skills.

Recommendations:

- Address women with disability as a target group.
- Continue the work on community sensitization on GBV, and empowerment of GBV survivors.
- Plan side activities for children to facilitate participation of mothers in events.
- Enhance creative approaches to reach awareness, especially with forum theatre and other art activities.
- Address community leaders personally; this enhances their support and participation in events.
- Organizing joint training workshops empowers women and decreases stereotyping and discrimination
- Define criteria for participants in activities even if this will limit the number of beneficiaries; it will increase the benefit due to more harmony among the attendants.
- Add days to training programmes to increase spaces for breaks and recreational activities, since women are not used to long, intensive workshops.
- Need for more quality packaging and labelling of know-how for marketable products produced and sold by women.

Impact of Project:

- Prior to the project start-up and implementation, women had no sense of self-significance; their families came first at the expense of their personal well-being. Thanks to the project, this has introduced more balance.
- The project assisted women in adopting a modern approach to the upbringing and education of children.
- Women gained knowledge on household budget management, which made them gain power at home.
- Increased interest and knowledge in public and political participation.
- Spreading the culture of group work versus individualism.

- Creation of job opportunities through the “literacy programme”.
- New income-generating projects by women.
- Networking with national NGOs and experts helped sustainability of efforts.

3.2.9 Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Recovery of Beirut and its Suburbs—UNDP

The UNDP-executed project ‘Socio-economic Rehabilitation and Recovery of War-affected Beirut and its Suburbs’ (LRF-13, \$996,919) was approved in November 2007, but submitted for funding in January 2008. The project was operationally closed in June 2010.

As of 31 December 2010, the project reported an expenditure rate of 100.0 percent (\$996,919).

The project’s main national implementing partner is the Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development (HFSHD).

Background

Whereas most of the recovery projects that were approved in the post July/August-war period concentrated on areas outside Beirut, this project places emphasis on Beirut since it has been greatly affected by the war and the recent hostilities and hence, is in need of attention from the ongoing development initiatives, especially for youth employment and mobilization. The importance of including the capital of Lebanon, Beirut, in the development programmes resides in the fact that besides being the most densely populated area, it also encompasses high levels of social and economic injustices, crimes, abuses and social gaps.

Youth unemployment increased as a result of the 2006 war and its aftermath effect on tourism and economic sectors. Unlike the previous wars, the July war has severely impacted the private sector and hindered its capability to respond and contribute to the recovery, rehabilitation and revitalization of the country. In this context, the project addresses reviving the human potential, especially youth, as well as mobilizing the local NGOs.

Objective

The main objective of the project is to promote social equity and local stakeholders’ empowerment through local employment recovery and livelihood opportunities projects in Beirut and its suburbs. The project is tailored to address three main outputs:

- Enhancing the implementation capacities of local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods. Local stakeholders can then select and implement community projects for recovery of livelihood.
- Providing skills training for unemployed youth and supporting job creation through employment/job search centre matching demand and supply. The centre will act as the enabling structure to create, enhance and develop skills and competencies of the youths.
- Rehabilitating two underserved areas in Beirut, with a focus on the poor and multi-cultural neighbourhoods after providing the youth with the proper training on how to enhance the socio-economic capacities for local communities.

Results and Achievements

Against the three main objectives of the project, the following achievements were reported:

- Enhance the implementation capacities of 75 young volunteers (personal and community service) and 60 local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods.

- Provide skills training for unemployed youth, helping them finding a job and meet the labour supply market through the creation of a job-creation centre.
- Rehabilitate two underserved Beirut neighbourhoods, namely Karm El Zeytoun and Sabra.

As far as capacity-building of the youth is concerned, the project has succeeded in forming a network of 75 youth from different backgrounds. They were trained on both the personal level (communication, administrative, and leadership skills, how to write a CV/portfolio, how to ace a job interview), as well as civic engagement/community service level. In this regard, they were trained first on concepts of volunteerism and community service projects. Afterwards, they submitted project proposals and implemented eight community service projects. Prizes and recognition were granted to them through:

- Certification ceremony: with prizes.
- Episode with Zaven: “*Sireh win Fatahit*”.
- Road trip to Baskinta, including team-building activities.

As far as capacity-building of NGOs is concerned, the project has succeeded in enhancing the implementation capacities of 60 local NGOs in order to be able to move from “charity work” to “sustainable development”. The aim was to empower them on how to prioritize the needs of their community, and how to select and implement community service and development projects. As such, the process went through different phases:

- *Phase 1: Assessment Phase* (assessing the current situation of local NGOs, discovering their abilities and needs, and setting the potential areas of improvement).
- *Phase 2: Designing a training programme* (based on the results of the assessment). An agreement was made between the HFSHD, UNDP and MoSA (capacity-building for NGOs unit) to validate and promote the training manual developed on internal governance for NGOs. As such, several meetings were held with the NGOs to explore their capacities and potentials and to share with them their concerns in order to design the most efficient training on the topics of the training manual.
- *Phase 3: TOT Training*: aimed at forming a training unit capable of conducting training workshops related to the internal governance for NGOs.
- *Phase 4: Implementation Phase* (training 60 local NGOs on several topics related to “*internal governance for NGOs*”—strategic planning, legislative status of NGOs, proposal writing, volunteerism, networking, budgeting).

As a result, 60 NGOs were skilled on how to make the best use of their resources to grant the greatest benefit for the community they serve acting on global standards. Furthermore, they were able to network together in order to discuss how to best support each other in using the gained skills to generate new development strategies enabling them to shift from a charity perspective to more sustainable development work.

As for the second component, job creation, a Labour Market Study was done with the American University of Beirut, identifying the majors mostly targeted by youth and matching them with the requirements of the local labour market, as guidance for the youth to find new job opportunities. In parallel, a business plan with an analysis of local labour demand and supply was prepared to provide an overview of the labour market and to identify what kind of professions or skills are required, as well provide profiles of unemployed youth. The business plan also studied the function of the job creation centre: guiding the youth and enhancing their skills to match the market’s requirements:

- Assist job seekers whose skills are in excess of market supply—or with no employable skills—to become employable or economically self-sustained.
- Assist employers seeking skills in short market supply to recruit and habilitate promising candidates.

Furthermore, the foundation organized the first national career fair, 'Youth & Professions 2010', geared towards high school and first-year university students. It brought together experts and students to help the latter assess whether a given specialization is particularly suited to meet their interests, expectations and future aspirations. It has also provided detailed information about each occupation, academic requirements, job prospects and challenges. The fair successfully covered four different regions in Lebanon: Beirut, Zahle, Saida and Tripoli (15 April – 14 May 2010).

For the rehabilitation component, the foundation has partnered with the Centre for Civic Engagement and Community Service (CCECS) and the Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management (LDEM) department at American University of Beirut (AUB), to conduct a community development project in the Karm El Zeitoun and Sabra neighbourhoods in Beirut. The process also included the volunteer students in the needs assessment, drawing and implementation phases. At the same time, the project team was able to form a committee from the targeted audience and stakeholders to be informed and participate in every step and to follow-up after the implementation.

Short-term objectives: mapping the open spaces; surveying the community activities of the neighbourhood; choosing a site for intervention and implementation of a design that would foster community life and enhance the open-space situation; and supervising and following-up closely the work implementation.

Long-term objectives: a comprehensive study of both areas in order to improve the life quality and livelihood of the community; and the areas of intervention were chosen by the foundation, based on their level of poverty, marginalization, environment and livelihood deterioration, and the nature of the inhabitants in terms of coming from different backgrounds, sects and social status.

In Karm Al Zeytoun area, the phases included:

- *Phase 1:* a qualitative study of the neighbourhood (history, land ownerships, socio-economic aspects, landmarks, street morphologies, identification of areas for intervention).
- *Phase 2:* design guidelines and development (green trail, link, street, plaza, stairs, open spaces in Ararat street).
- *Phase 3:* the implementation phase (stairs, planters, painting building's facades, stone paving, lighting, church plaza design and paving, creating support base for tents, etc.).

The project's aim was to upgrade the physical and social aspect of Karm Zeytoun, to boost the pride of its local inhabitants, fostering community life and enhancing the open-space situation. Several success stories were registered, of which:

- Intention of the municipality to undertake the other stairs with the same approach.
- Interest of the Armenian community, and notably Deputy MP Bakradounian, and request to expand our work to Bourj Hammoud.
- Reply of the political council of the Lebanese Armenian Community (in-depth review and analysis).

For the Souq of Sabra, the aim was to upgrade the area at the physical, social and programme level, in an attempt to build a social safety network in the Souq, without changing the system and living pattern of the community. The areas of intervention include the reorganization of the Souq and shops, paving and elevating the sidewalks to block sewerage problems, rehabilitating 22 retail shops' facades and building uniform shelters, painting the surrounding buildings, and adding lighting. The success stories encountered during the implementation included the formation of the Sabra committee (to carry out, promote and sustain the project); getting the approval, support

and concerns of end-users (owners, inhabitants, retailers, street vendors); media coverage; and interest of other organizations and potential partners.

3.2.10 Integrated Forest Fire Management—FAO

The FAO-executed project ‘Forest Fires Management—Forest Fires Prevention, Forest Fires Fighting (Control) and Damaged Forests Assessment and Rehabilitation’ (LRF-14, \$2,600,000) was approved in November 2007, but submitted for funding in February 2008. The project was expected to operationally close by 30 May 2011.

As of 31 December 2010, the project had an expenditure rate of 71.2 percent (\$1,851,317).

The project’s main national implementing partners are the MoE and the Association for Forests, Development and Conservation (AFDC).

Background

The programme is part of the MoE’s National Campaign for the management of forests in Lebanon (prevention, control and rehabilitation) that has been recently launched in cooperation with the various partners and stakeholders.

Objective

The objective of the project is to create an enabling environment for the Government of Lebanon to address through its early recovery efforts: 1) the prevention of future forest fires; 2) the efficient fighting of fires when they occur; 3) updating the assessment of the ecological and socio-economic damage resulting from the July/August 2006 war as well as by the enormous fires that erupted simultaneously and repeatedly during October 2007 in different parts of the country; and 4) the rehabilitation of forests that were damaged during the July 2006 war and recent environmental disasters to allow for re-access of rural communities to their land resources (woodlands, forests, etc.) through the alleviation of obstacles, such as demining.

In line with the project document and the project outcome to support early recovery and alleviating poverty through improved forest fires management (prevention, control, assessment and rehabilitation), and their associated benefits to environment and rural communities, five immediate objectives have been set:

- 1) Adoption and implementation of preventive measures aiming at forests’ protection from fires and other risks.
- 2) Adoption and implementation of control measures aiming at efficient forest fire fighting.
- 3) Assessment of the cost of environmental degradation from forest fires.
- 4) Assessment and rehabilitation of forests in areas that suffered from the July 2006 war and October devastating fires.
- 5) Restoration of livelihoods generated from the sound and sustainable use of forested trees (long term).

Results and Achievements

The project has reported a number of results during the reporting period. These include:

- Truck accessories for retrofitting six pick-up trucks purchased under the project into fire trucks have been purchased and delivered to the Civil Defence in Lebanon during the last quarter of 2010.
- Training to nearly 200 Civil Defence, Air Force, Lebanese Army, volunteers and communities has been completed.
- FAO finalized a legal framework review on forest fires and identified gaps, contradictions and recommendations with forest law in Lebanon.

- Under the Small Grants Programme, FAO, in coordination with MoE, reached out at the community level and has projects which are going to have continued financing from local governments to continue sustainability.
- FAO and its partners have made every effort to complete project activities by the project end date; however, as outlined below, a no-cost extension is required to finalize the implementation of all planned project activities. In June 2010, municipal elections were held and new Municipal Council members were elected in municipalities which FAO and AFDC were carrying out activities.
- In addition, two of the fire trucks mentioned above are for handover to the Municipalities of Andket and Dmit, and this handover has encountered an unforeseen delay for vehicle registration due to the recent resignation of the Government in Lebanon in January 2011. The fire trucks require a special government decree to complete registration in order to be handed over from FAO to the Municipalities, and this is expected to be completed once the new government is formed.

3.2.11 Recovery Coordination Support—UNDP

The UNDP-executed project ‘Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon’ (LRF-18, \$747,122) was approved by the LRF SC in October 2008. The project received an additional allocation of \$380,890 in 2010, bringing the total allocated amount to \$1,128,012. Along with the additional allocation, the project was extended and is expected to end by 31 December 2011.

UNDP reported an expenditure rate of 63.5 percent (\$715,862) for the project as of 31 December 2010.

The project’s main national implementing partner is the Development Unit, Office of the Prime Minister.

Objective

The project aims at strengthening the coordination capacity of the RC sub-offices in Lebanon to ensure a more effective and efficient delivery of recovery interventions in the most affected areas of the country through:

- *Enhancing 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.).
- *Supporting data management and GIS functions:* one of the key coordination functions that assists 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 twofold: i) to establish a coordination mechanism and information management system that allows the UN RC to ensure a smooth and coordinated implementation of recovery efforts and provide information to national and international actors involved in the recovery effort; and ii) 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 initiatives as well as addressing issues concerning risk reduction and contingency planning.

More specifically, the objectives of the project are to:

- 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 between various actors.

Results and Achievements

Achievements under the project are clustered in two areas; coordination at the field level and the level of comprehensive information collection system, both in relations to results for the RC sub-offices in the north and the south.

Coordination at the Field Level

For the RC North Sub-Office:

- The Sub-Office conducted field visits to civil society, national and international NGOs operating in both Nahr el-Bared and Beddawi Camps to enhance the participation of these organizations in the cluster and working group meetings.
- The Sub-Office provided liaison services to the Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC) as well as the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell to ensure field coordination efforts were in line with government priorities. For most of the year, the LPDC had a field officer participating in all cluster meetings.
- The North Sub-Office continued with the implementation of its mandate. Support to United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) via Clusters and Working Groups continued. However, there has been an increase in focus, and a modification of efforts, in the areas of Education, Health, Mental Health and Psycho-Social activities. As a result, the Sub-Office initiated sub-working groups that resulted in collaborations with organizations, such as Skoun, to provide training sessions on drug-use prevention and treatment. The Sub-Office also coordinated joint activities for local NGOs operating in both Camps.
- Taking into account the shift in the UN agency's work to areas outside of the Nahr el Bared Camp (NBC) and the Beddawi Camp (BC), the Sub-Office has followed suit, increasingly adapting its operations to match. In this regard, the Sub-Office initiated and conducted 'One UN Coordination' visits to Municipal Authorities following the June 2010 Municipal elections. The Sub-Office is constantly providing operational and technical support to, and accompanying UN agencies on, official field visits and assisting with workshops and training sessions. The Sub-Office also provides this support to the UN agencies working in the North on a needs basis.
- The Sub-Office continued to update Cluster action plans and to disseminate the information to the relevant stakeholders.
- To promote the work of UN agencies in the North, the Sub-Office organized three activities commemorating UN Day 2010. All UN agencies operating in the North collaborated on these activities which included: a football tournament targeting both Lebanese and Palestinian youth in the North; a cinema club targeting Lebanese and Palestinian Children; and a concert performed by the Lebanese Palestinian Choir targeted municipal authorities, international and national NGOs as well as the Lebanese and Palestinian communities.
- The Sub-Office organized and implemented with several other UN agencies in the North the 'UN Teach-In' sessions, which aimed at raising awareness of youth on a variety of issues (Millennium Development Goals [MDGs], etc.) in the North through visits to the schools.

For the RC Sub-Office in the South:

- The Sub-Office continued to liaise with central and local authorities on an information-sharing level. The Sub-Office pursued its collaboration with civil society, national and international NGOs with a focus on agriculture during the first quarter of 2010, on green jobs and income-generating activities and vulnerable groups for the rest of the year, namely youth, child protection and gender-related issues. Working groups, including some focussing on livelihoods, were created. Regular inter-agency and general coordination meetings were conducted.
- Although the number of UN agencies with active presence has been reduced to UNDP and ILO, the Sub-Office continued implementing its activities in 2010 according to its set work plan, which included coordination and information management assistance to FAO, UNICEF, UNRWA, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL).
- The Sub-Office also actively participated in the ‘Teach-in’ initiative launched during the ‘Education For All’ week, which was 23 to 30 April 2010.
- UN Day celebrations gave more visibility to agencies present in the South and their involvement with local communities. The focus was on environment, involving a beach-cleaning campaign organized on 24 October 2010. In addition, there were performances by artists and youth groups in Beit El Medina where UN agencies had set up stands with brochures and other promotional material.
- The Sub-Office oversaw the day-to-day management of the UN House in Tyre, supporting the finalization of cost-sharing arrangements between UNDP, ILO and the UN RC’s Office, and continued to respond to a number of inquiries and requests regarding UN agencies and NGOs (contact lists, funding and available data on villages and municipalities).

Comprehensive Information Collection System:

The Sub-Offices were, and will be, engaged in updating their contacts list and mapping the activities of local and international NGOs, UN agencies and CSOs working in the North and the South. Bilateral meetings will oversee the validation of the information and enhance collaboration among the key stakeholders. This information will be incorporated into the UNRCO central information management system, including its online facility.

For the RC Sub-Office in the North:

- Documents and minutes of meetings, datasets, action plans, reports and statistics have been regularly uploaded on the Lebanon Support NBC website. The Sub-Office maintains an updated contact list of all active stakeholders in Nahr el Bared and Beddawi Camps as well as the North, and shares this list with stakeholders on a regular basis.
- The UNRWA NBC Updates weekly newsletter is disseminated regularly to all stakeholders. A media review is conducted on a daily basis and disseminated to relevant partners.
- The Sub-Office provided support to several NGOs in the dissemination of information.

For the RC Sub-Office in the South:

- The Sub-Office continued to provide coordination and liaison services to the UNCT representatives in the south and visiting missions and delegations. The inter-agency and general coordination meetings’ decisions and action plans were supported through follow-up activities and dissemination of information to all relevant stakeholders.

Information Management Unit (IMU):

In order to provide high-quality technical assistance and respond to the need for sharing and managing information for the UNCT, government counterparts and implementing partners, an Information Management Unit (IMU) was established in early 2010 in the RCO, based in Beirut.

The UNCT website has been redesigned, and the IMU continues to liaise with UN agencies to update and upload information (including LRF page) on the website regularly. Latest and updated information can now be accessed on www.un.org.lb. The IMU focuses on increasing the visibility of the UN through creating promotional materials, including a UN brochure (a briefing on the UN agencies working in Lebanon); quarterly media statistics (analysing the perception of the UN), and quarterly newsletters (highlighting the recent work of the UN agencies activities and projects in Lebanon). The IMU prepares and provides information kits to visiting delegations and missions to Lebanon.

The IMU is engaged in updating and mapping the contact list and activities of local and international NGOs, UN agencies, and CSOs working in Lebanon. During 2010, the unit was continuously updating maps related to recovery, sector interventions maps, area maps, and administrative maps in support of the activities carried out by the recovery partners. Also, the IMU responded to over 100 requests for maps. The Unit continues to liaise with UN agencies, namely UNIFIL and UNDP, as well as Cluster Working Groups, for the harmonization of data entry and information collection to ensure up-to-date information is available in real time.

The IMU provides technical support to the UNCT's monthly meetings, the UNCT Retreat and various UNCT events, and consolidates information on who does what where to ensure real-time information is available for strategic and development planning and monitoring.

During 2010, the IMU supported the organization of four key events:

- The consolidation of database information from all areas in Lebanon relating to UN agency activities.
- The MDG photo competition, which raised the awareness of the MDGs, its progress and challenges today, to achieve the goals while promoting youth participation and highlighting the UN's mandate and achievements in Lebanon.
- The 2010 UN Day reception held in Beirut attended by government, diplomatic and civil society leaders in Lebanon.
- The Beirut Arab International Book Fair, which was attended by all UN agencies, and where 40,000 published items were disseminated to the public.

In October 2010, a call for proposals was initiated to produce a documentary to promote the LRF Programme. This seven-to-ten-minute documentary will present an overview of LRF and capture its impact on different sectors and themes featuring the implementing of best practices and achievements. In the absence of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Lebanon, the IMU provides support to the Contingency Planning Core Group through managing and editing relevant data from Cluster Lead agencies. The IMU participates in Cluster Technical Working Group meetings.

IMU facilitated and supported the Donor Meeting events through providing promotional materials and publications and provided support to the LRF Monitoring and Evaluation Unit activities. Additionally, the IMU provided support to the United Nations Communication Group (UNCG) in the formulation of joint work plans and participates in the UNCG meetings and retreat.

Challenges

For both RCO Sub-Offices in Tyre and Tripoli, the continuing security instability impacts adversely on their working environment and on the willingness of donors and international NGOs to expand their programmes. This may also reduce, over 2011, financial inputs to current UN joint and inter-agency projects so that greater UNRCO involvement in resource mobilization may become necessary. The shift in focus of international and national NGOs to more active participation in the North and the continuing instability of the security situation in the South may require an adjustment during the first two quarters of 2011 to ensure the RCO Sub-Office in the South remains operational. This includes being able to mount a robust coordination response, led by and strongly supported from Beirut resources, in support of any developing humanitarian emergency. The North Sub-Office has adapted its work plan to reflect the changes and demands of UN agencies and partners in the North.

The key lessons learned for maintaining effective and relevant coordination in the field as well as strong linkages between headquarters and the sub-offices are the continuous follow-up and constant communication with all stakeholders. Both field sub-offices have efficiently incorporated these into the implementation of their work. Also, both field sub-offices are continuously assessing the situation on the ground and adapting their work plans to address the actual needs of stakeholders in their respective areas.

3.2.12 Socio-Economic Rehabilitation in the Framework of ART GOLD Lebanon—UNDP

The UNDP project ‘Socio-Economic Rehabilitation Programme in the Framework of ART GOLD Lebanon’ (LRF-19, \$2,391,450) was approved by the LRF SC in March 2009. The project was expected to operationally close in February 2011.

As of 31 December 2010, the project reported a financial delivery rate of 98.6 percent (\$2,357,020).

The project’s main national implementing partner is the CDR.

Objective

The ART GOLD Lebanon’s (AGL) overall objective is to support the Lebanese national government and the local communities in elaborating and implementing Strategic Development Plans within the programme’s target areas while focusing on the most disadvantaged people, towards the achievement of the MDGs.

More specifically, the programme aims to i) increase access to primary public health care services; ii) increase sustainable income generation and job opportunities; iii) enhance the preservation of the environment; and iv) increase youth participation in local development and enhance their social integration.

UNDP AGL adopts a multi-scale development approach, which relies on three main components:

- *Participatory Approach and Working Groups Component* which aims at improving skills and capacities of local authorities and administrations to plan, manage, execute, monitor and evaluate human development interventions in a wide ranging partnership with the private and civil society sector through the establishment of Local, Regional and Thematic Working Groups which are participative and consultative structures, used to build or reinforce the relational and social capital in the target territories.
- *Local Economic Development Component* which aims at promoting balanced and inclusive local economic development through the establishment of Local Economic Development Agencies (LEDAs) promoting sustainable socio-economic development, reinforcing local competitive systems, and creating inclusive markets for disadvantaged people.

- *Decentralized Cooperation Component* which aims to establish long-term partnerships between North and South partners, and will allow access to technical assistance and financial resources from a wide-range of international partners.

The programme adopts the strategic planning approach to build an agreement on shared goals among territorial stakeholders towards the achievement of a balanced and sustainable development.

Results and Achievements

All implemented projects for 2010 were coherent with AGL strategic objectives, outcomes and outputs. Moreover, projects were implemented in partnership with the working groups, line ministries, relevant municipalities, local stakeholders and DC partners.

At the national level, in collaboration with the CDR, the programme coordinated with relevant ministries such as the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities to implement several initiatives targeting different social sectors and economic initiatives.

Through year 2010, ART GOLD programme continued to attract several foreign donors, such as Decentralized Cooperation Partners and other European donors. It is important to mention that the project has registered comprehensive progress throughout 2010; and overcame major challenges like municipal elections that hindered the work with the municipalities in the four areas of Lebanon (South, Bekaa, BSS and North) for almost three months, and this reason has led the programme to request an extension for the duration through the end of February 2011 to be capable to meet its target as planned.

The Primary Health Care Sector:

- A primary health care centre (PHCC) was established in Al-Qaser, Bekaa. The beneficiaries from this initiative reached 15,000 inhabitants in Al Qaser and the nearby villages, as well.
- Three PHCCs were rehabilitated in Abboudieh, Bahkoun and in Tebbeneh, North Lebanon.
- 75 female health workers were trained to better address the community's health issues.
- Equipment was provided to PHCCs in Haret Hreik, Ghobeiry and Burj Al Barajneh, Beirut Southern Suburbs.
- Quality and quantity of the services improved at relevant/targeted PHCCs in Bekaa, North Lebanon and Beirut Southern Suburbs.

The health care centres in the three areas Bekaa region, North Lebanon and Beirut Southern Suburbs were in need for one of two criterion or even both: modern medical equipment and/or capacity development for PHCC staff. UNDP, through its presence in these mentioned areas, tried to target the health care centres and meet their needs after doing surveys and needs analysis. Some of the equipment provided to those PHCCs varied from one place to another by which the need for updated modern equipment was common in all of them. For example, in North Lebanon, equipment and machines that were provided included a gynaecological examination table and set, three pieces of paravant, a height/weight scale, a tension-meter and stethoscope, a printer and UPS for echography, a mercury sphygmomanometer, a medical sterilizer and equipment table, as well as a mobile-lit examination lamp.

In addition to equipping them with technological equipment—like desktop PCs, and printers—external backup hard disks, in order to ensure proper filling and maintaining different types of databases (including patients and medicines lists, schedules, etc.) are needed for proper monitoring and functioning of these centres. With respect to

BSS, equipping was focused on procurement of clinics' furniture; however, capacity development was the major intervention at those PHCCs.

PHCC Medical and Paramedical Personnel Skills Improved:

- Training on chronic diseases protocols; training informatics medical record; training on planning and implementing health prevention programme; study tour to Italy.

PHCC Management System Enhanced:

- Health informatics system improved—epidemiological data collected from the three PHCCs—training on financial management of the PHCCs.
- Female health workers trained to better address community's health issues. More than 100 girls obtained skills in general health issues to support families and communities through health awareness campaigns. Questionnaires were distributed to identify the needs and the types of topics to be addressed.

The Local Economic Development Component:

- Four local economic development offices were established in the four areas of operations (Bekaa, South, North and Beirut Southern Suburbs). These LEDA offices were officially registered by the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM).
- A soil and water testing facility was established in Abdeh, North Lebanon.
- 15 kiosks were constructed in Baalbeck, Bekaa.
- Around 30 youth were trained as trainers on skills related to IT, enhancing their employability.
- A network of women's cooperatives was established. More than ten women's cooperatives were established in the North and South Lebanon. These women's cooperatives shared in several forums for resource mobilization; in addition, they participated in many trainings to strengthen their capacities and skills for production.
- A quality control centre is equipped at LARI/Tyre availing a testing facility for food products' quality assurance.
- A regional Mediterranean forum was hosted with the MoA, discussing and recommending solutions for enhancing the beekeeping sector in Lebanon.
- On the national level, intensive coordination efforts were exerted with the MoA, enforcing the collaboration on many levels and leading to amelioration of the beekeeping sector, whether strategically or operationally.
- On the level of organization of the beekeeping sector, AGL supported through international expertise the issuing of national legislation draft law to organize the beekeeping sector in Lebanon. It also assisted the Lebanese MoA to develop software for managing the information collected by the government on the beekeeping sector in synergy to national strategy for performing a national census on beekeepers, bee hives and bee diseases.
- Several trainings on disease control have been conducted for approximately 200 beekeepers, in addition to analysis of honey quality and disease prevalence to prepare them for the market. An Italian expert has presented the results of the first analysis at March's 2010 meeting.
- Three beekeepers from North and South Lebanon and the Bekaa region attended a ten-day workshop in Perugia, Italy.
- Over 130 (local and international) participants attended the fourth Mediterranean beekeeping forum conducted for two days, which AGL organized with the MoA in collaboration with the Association of Umbrian Beekeepers (APAU), FELCOS Umbria, Foligno Municipality and ART Initiative.

- The forum, which helped exchange ideas, information, and experiences, constituted a venue for elaboration of better solutions to the problems facing the beekeeping sector. A letter comprising main recommendations for improving the beekeeping sector in Lebanon was the outcome which was raised to the Minister's attention for follow-up.

The Youth Sector:

- Two offices for youth development were established at Al Hadath and Furn El Chebbak municipalities, Beirut Southern Suburbs.
- Two Cultural Centres were established in Halba and Azaki, North Lebanon.
- Four IT centres were established in Akkar, Minnieh Dinnieh and Tripoli in North Lebanon.
- Two public parks for children were established in Fneidek and Halba, North Lebanon. The number of beneficiaries reached 100 children from both villages. The intervention strengthened the social relationships among the youth and provided them a safe place to enjoy their leisure times and practice outdoor activities.
- A municipal playground was built in Kfarchalan, North Lebanon. This project benefited Kfarchalan youth in addition to the ones in the nearby villages. The project also allowed the youth to organize sports tournaments among the villages, and thus created a social environment for youth to meet from different areas and share ideas and exchange thoughts. The total numbers of beneficiaries is estimated to be around 250 youths.

The Environment Sector:

- A water irrigation canal of 500 ML was constructed in Nahle, Baalbeck.
- 7,000 trees (for honey bees) were planted to increase honey production in West bekaa and Rachaya.
- Two water maintenance centres were established in Tyre and Marjayoun, South Lebanon.

The Local Governance Sector:

- Working groups were re-established on the regional level following the municipal elections and activated to ensure proper prioritization of community needs and implementation of relevant projects.
- Around ten DC partnerships facilitated between local authorities in Lebanon and in Europe, enhancing networking opportunities and skills development.
- Local authorities engaged in sustainable social, health and LED initiatives (social municipal offices, municipal PHCCs led by municipalities and LEDAs).

Challenges

Two hindering factors have delayed the timely delivery of projects, including:

- 1) 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 for 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 time frame required to acquaint the new municipal members with the ART work and their roles and responsibilities. Projects were implemented during the last quarter of 2010, and direct procurement process was followed by UNDP, especially with newly elected municipalities that don't have the capacity to do so, and transfer of assets was done at the end of the process.

- 2) Weak structure and capacities of government bodies, namely ministries, interrupted work rhythm in some instances, which was overcome by exerting more effort in coordination and back-up covering of partners' role.

3.2.13 Recovery and Rehabilitation of the Dairy Sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel Akkar Uplands— FAO

The FAO project 'Recovery and Rehabilitation of the Dairy Sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel Akkar Uplands' (LRF-21, \$2,500,000) was approved by the LRF SC in April 2009. The project is expected to operationally close by 30 September 2012.

FAO reported a financial delivery rate of 40.3 percent (\$1,007,808) on this project as of 31 December 2010.

The project's main national implementing partner is MoA.

Objective

The objective of this project is to enable the recovery, rehabilitation and assistance to the livelihoods of vulnerable livestock keepers (almost one-third of whom are female-headed families) from Central Bekaa Valley, North Akkar and Hermel-Akkar Highlands, who are currently unable to keep up with the serious competition in the sub-sector. Farmers will draw indirect benefits from the project through veterinary and artificial insemination services as well as training sessions. The project, therefore, aims to provide the basic needs for livestock keepers and farmers to resume production and income-generating activities

Results and Achievements

During the reporting period, FAO initiated the formation of milk producers' cooperatives and associations through the constitution of Village Dairy Producers' Association (VDPAs) to help improve the standard of the dairy sector in Lebanon. VDPAs' aim is to upgrade the dairy sector for better marketing and profitable return on dairy products and act as focal points for providing other services to farmers, including artificial insemination, training programmes to improve farm management practices, milk hygiene and feeding. FAO plans to organize approximately 26 cooperatives throughout the project area (18 VDPAs in Bekaa-Hermel and 6 VDPAs in Akkar) and reach most of the small- to medium-size farmers and dairy producers. FAO supported the legal procedures for the establishment of 15 VDPAs, which were officially authorized by the MoA; in addition, the project helped set up a Management Board with the support of the Bekaa Directorate of Cooperatives.

The Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) conducted comprehensive training, extension and demonstration programmes covering practical technical areas to help increase small livestock holder dairy productivity to VDPAs. The VDPAs have begun training farmers to improve farm management practices, milk hygiene, animal feeding and animal health. Easy-to-understand training materials were prepared and on-farm demonstrations were carried out. Training topics included treating milk composition, pollution sources of the milk, and good milking practices, as well as methods to improve dairy cow nutrition, basic elements of a good feed formula, roughage production in Lebanon, and the diseases that could be prevented by ensuring the use of good concentrate and roughage feed management. Milk testing is also done for farmers in the milk-collection centre so farmers understand the importance of good milk hygiene. Approximately 25 percent of the trainees are women who are mainly involved in milk production.

FMD Vaccination Campaign

According to the survey conducted by the FAO, it was found that the animal health situation in the region is alarming: most dairy farmers (60 percent) do not follow any regular vaccination programme. They depend on very sporadic vaccination programmes conducted by MoA in cases of outbreak of diseases. Also, 28 percent of interviewed farmers do not vaccinate at all, and only 12 percent followed regular vaccination programmes. Since it is an indigenous disease in Lebanon, most, if not all, the dairy farms have suffered from the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). In many cases great losses has been encountered due to the depreciated economic and overall value of the cows after recovering from the FMD disease.

The MoA has launched a national vaccination campaign for FMD after recording many outbreaks in dairy cattle farms. The LRF-FAO project has a major intervention concern to improve the general health and veterinary standards of dairy cows in the targeted areas. It is also a strategic stand for us to support all the MoA field activities. For that reason, the LRF-FAO project personnel and vehicles were engaged with the MoA veterinarians in covering all the dairy farms in the Bekaa area. It should be noted also that most of the farms vaccinated in this campaign are of the small size (one to ten cows) since most of the larger farms have their own veterinarians that can do the job using the MoA vaccine or purchased vaccines. The total number of cows vaccinated in Bekaa was 10,000 heads.

Workshop with Dairy Cooperatives

The project organized a workshop with dairy cooperatives in October 2010 to discuss the role of the VDPAs and the new regulations issued by the MoA concerning the dairy sub-sector. The attendance reached 280 people including H.E. Minister MoA Dr. Hussein Hajj Hassan and his consultants, FAO representative in Lebanon Dr. Ali Moumen, Head of Sugar Beet Cooperative Mr George Herawi, Regional Director of the Cooperatives in Bekaa, Administrative Boards of the already established VDPAs and its members, milk dealers and collectors, owners of the dairy processing plants, and farmers.

Milk Testing and Analysis

In Lebanon, the milk quality problem is old and critical. It has been correlated and linked to serious health hazards and diseases, in addition to other troubles such as adulteration. One of the most important goals of the FAO project OSRO/LEB/901/UNJ is the general improvement of raw milk quality at the different milk chain levels. Numerous diagnostic tests are used to evaluate the quality of milk. These tests can be grouped under the following major categories: biological and microbial tests, physical tests, chemical tests and adulteration tests.

The milk quality tests to evaluate the general milk situation in the areas covered by the project are: Total Aerobic Count or Standard Plate Count (SPC), Coliform Count, Titratable milk acidity, pH, Specific gravity (Density) and temperature, fat, SNF (solid non-fat), protein content, added water, freezing point, and added carbonates. The sampling activity was planned and studied to cover all the areas and cazas in the Beqaa Valley. For that purpose, the project team collected 100 samples from farms and from milk dealers' transportation trucks; the results were well below standards.

The number of samples that scored for the E-coli count less than 1000 cfu/gr was about 23 percent, whereas the number of samples for the total aerobic count that scored less than 100,000 cfu/gr was 14 (about 14 percent). As for the pH, 32.8 percent were found to have values above the acceptable minimum of 6.6. All the other values were below 6.6 and 16 (27.6 percent) were dangerously below 6.5. While as for the Dornic Acidity, only 25 samples (31.6 percent) were found to have values below or equal to the acceptable maximum of 18 degrees. All the other values (68.4 percent) were above 18. Fifteen samples (42.9 percent) were found to have densities

with acceptable values above 1.028 grs/c.c. and less than 1.032 grs/c.c. Twenty-five samples (71.4 percent) were found with a good freezing point lower than -0.54°C with a corresponding added water content of acceptable value of below 2.5 percent, 24 samples (68.6 percent) had a fat content of more than 3.5 percent, 88.6 percent of the samples were within the normal range for the solid non-fat with a maximum of 8.89 percent. All the results for the protein analysis were satisfactory and comply with the Lebanese and international standards of cow raw fresh milk (2.6–3.6 percent).

Milk Collection Centres

FAO, in full collaboration with the MoA, began plans to revive six milk collection centres that belong to the MoA (funded by International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD]) located in Barr Ellias, Kherbt Rouha, Hermel, Baalbeck, Al Abdeh, and Wadi Khaled. These centres are an important support to the project and act as intermediaries between farmers and the milk processing plants. Therefore, the legal procedures for leasing the MoA's milk collection centres are currently under preparation, and very shortly a national bid invitation will be launched. The Council of Ministers, held on 21 July 2010, has officially agreed on their lease to the private sector, and the MoA will empower the position of VDPAs through the lease of insulated milk trucks.

In the Bekâa and Akkar region, there is a total of 2,065 dairy farmers, of which 310 farmers are women and their role is mainly to take care of the cows. The average number of dependants for farmers is five to eight family members. The majority of farmers have poor living standards. Milk production is low, and the total quantity of milk produced daily is 28 tons, with an average of nine kg of milk per cow per day. Farmers still use rudimentary utensils, and the hygiene level is low. Through this project, FAO is planning to help farmers increase milk production, increase farmer's knowledge and capacity and improve hygiene.

Poor milk practices and handling are the major causes of low-quality standards and low milk prices. Almost all the farmers and milk dealers use obsolete milk cans and milk cows by hand. These unhygienic methods are the source of contaminated milk.

Procurement and Delivery of Project Inputs

During the reporting period, the following equipment was delivered: 350 milking machines, 1,200 stainless steel milk cans, and 1,200 milk filters. This equipment will be distributed to low-income and vulnerable beneficiaries that own between three to six cows during the first quarter of 2011.

Small dairy farmers will be provided with veterinary services, including a vaccination campaign, and supplied with appropriate veterinary drugs and equipment to control the major diseases and milk hygiene. Veterinarians and technicians from MoA will be fully involved in supporting this programme through their assignment to the VDPAs, and FAO will support farmers through the distribution of veterinary drugs, vaccines and prevention and treatment kits for common animal diseases. A procurement plan of necessary supplies was prepared during the reporting period, and tendering for supplies will be carried out during the next reporting period. Technical specifications for essential tools and utensils for milk testing, receiving, filtration and refrigeration such as: milk cooling tanks, generators, milk testing and analysis kits, detergents and utensils for cleaning of cooling tanks were prepared during the reporting period, and the tendering is to be completed during the first quarter of 2011.

3.2.14 Hydro Agricultural Development for Marjayoun Area—UNDP

The UNDP project 'Hydro Agricultural Development for Marjayoun Area' (LRF-23, \$2,000,000) was approved by the LRF SC in May 2009. The project was originally extended until October 2011, but a further extension is being sought until December 2012.

UNDP reported a financial delivery rate of 10.8 percent (\$215,958) on this project as of 31 December 2010.

The project's main government counterpart is the MoEW and has partnered with the LRA, an autonomous public establishment which is under the tutelage of the MoEW. The LRA covers a larger scope than just the Litani River; it includes the execution of works for irrigation, studies and construction of dams and hydroelectric power plants and the management of both surface and ground water resources.

Objective

The Government of Lebanon is currently working on the construction of a large water canal (Canal 800) that will channel irrigation water from the Litani River to the southern border of Lebanon. The Canal will irrigate about 15,000 hectares of arable land in South Lebanon, distributed across the Cazas of Marjayoun, Nabatiyeh and South Qassmieh. Although funding for the main Canal has been secured and execution of work will be initiated shortly, the irrigation networks, land levelling and related hydrant plans require preparation and funding to ensure that the irrigation water reaches the farmers in the different regions.

This project bridges the gap between Canal 800 and the local communities in one of the areas, namely Marjayoun, to prepare the grounds for the supply of irrigation water and serve as a pilot project for the remaining Cazas. The project will show the advantages and efficiency of modern irrigation techniques, will propose the new cropping patterns in the region, and will support the establishment of a much-needed Water Users Association. The project will have a direct impact on the livelihood of at least 1,250 households within 5 communities affected by the July 2006 conflict through extending the areas suitable for agriculture, and will provide direct assistance to the farmers in the area. The project will produce topo-cadastral maps, which are the bases for designing the irrigation distribution networks, will establish a land classification database as a prerequisite for the development of the hydrant implementation plans, and will execute land reclamation for an area of 522 hectares, setting up the infrastructure for the water distribution network.

The project's national partner is the Litani River Authority (LRA), an autonomous public establishment which is under the tutelage of the MoEW. The LRA covers a larger scope than just the Litani River; it includes the execution of works for irrigation, studies and construction of dams and hydroelectric power plants, as well as the management of both surface and ground water resources. Amongst its responsibilities is the implementation of irrigation schemes in South Bekaa and South Lebanon (Law 221 - Water Authorities Law). The project is being implemented in close technical coordination with the Association of the Friends of Ibrahim Abd El Al (AFIAL). The Association works on awareness and advocacy of water issues for both decision-makers and the general public. It has successfully implemented several water projects and continues to raise funds and lobby for the promotion of integrated water resource management at the national level.

Results and Achievements

The project was successfully launched and initiated during this year, including the set-up of its offices at the LRA premises, the recruitment of the project team and the contractual arrangements with AFIAL finalized. Furthermore, a good working relationship was established between the project team, the LRA, and the local communities in the region of Marjayoun, with several introductory meetings being held and extensive on-the-

ground surveys to identify farmers' needs completed. At the policy level, the draft Water Users Association law was completed based on input from both local and international experts in the field. The project, however, experienced delays in the design of the hydrant plans and the execution of reclamation works mainly due to non-availability and difficulties in accessing data in the region. Despite several official requests to the concerned ministries and institutions to provide cadastral maps for the targeted villages, maps were not provided. The project had to resort to other means (such as copying the maps from third parties) to acquire the needed information, which then had to be digitized into electronic formats, resulting in further delays. Given that these maps are needed in order to initiate the ensuing activities, namely the development of land classification, the hydrant plans and the reclamation works, the delay in acquiring the needed maps resulted in an overall delay in the activities on the ground.

Challenges

Political and Security Situation South of the Litani

Given that the project location is south of the Litani, access to the sites remains a high security risk, and authorization is required from local authorities as well as UNIFIL. Accordingly, letters were issued by UNDP CO for both the Lebanese Armed Forces—Ministry of Defense as well as the UNIFIL force commander, requesting assistance in facilitating the access of the project team as well as the consultants to the project area in order to complete their desired tasks. During some periods of heightened security, access to the field was denied, delaying some of the project activities.

Presence of Cluster Bombs and Explosive Remnants of War

Marjayoun area is still contaminated with unexploded ordnances (UXOs); some zones remain unmapped and un-cleared to date. To ensure the safety and security of the project staff and consultants, the project is coordinating with the Lebanon Mine Action Center (LMAC) and the United Nations Mine Action Centre (UNMAC).

Delays in Launching the Project

The project experienced delays during the first phase of implementation due to the difficulty in acquiring the necessary data, particularly the cadastral maps for the five villages in Marjayoun. The required maps were originally requested from the directorate of cadastre and real estate (the responsible authority), but feedback was never received. After around two months of follow-up and inquiries, the directorate stated that only paper maps will be provided. As well, the latter request did not materialise. As such, a letter was forwarded to the Ministry of Finance requesting their endorsement to acquire the needed documents. The project in turn received an exhaustive list of land owners in the five villages that would be used to identify the agricultural lands at the preliminary phase of the project, and then will be consolidated with data from the stakeholders on the ground. This, however, was not a sufficient replacement of the initially requested maps, which were crucial to the effective launch of the project's activities. Following all efforts to acquire the needed maps, the project managed to obtain paper maps through a third party. These had to be scanned and digitized in order to prepare the soft copies that will form the bases for designing the irrigation distribution networks. This was very time-consuming, and the maps were not ready before October 2010. The cadastral maps are essential in order to finalize the land classification, which in turn is required to complete the design of the hydrant plans, and ultimately the land reclamation. As such, delays in acquiring these maps early on in the process subsequently imposed further delays on the delivery of the remaining sequential activities.

3.2.15 Early Recovery of Nahr el Bared Surrounding Lebanese Communities Affected by 2006 and 2007 Conflicts—UNDP

The UNDP project ‘Early Recovery of Nahr el Bared Surrounding Lebanese Communities Affected by 2006 and 2007 Conflicts’ (LRF-24, \$2,500,000) was approved by the LRF SC in August 2009. The project duration is expected to end in February 2011.

UNDP reported a financial delivery rate of 26.9 percent (\$671,316) on this project as of 31 December 2010.

The project’s main national implementing partner is Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

Objective

The project is designed to restore the 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 conflict of July/August 2006 and/or 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.

The specific objective of the project is to promote the social cohesion through restoring and improving livelihoods, capacity-building and local-level dialogue, whereas the project outputs include:

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

Results and Achievements

Output 1: Livelihood of farmers, fishermen and SME owners improved through socio-economic interventions targeting training, technical and assets needs

This component of the project seeks to improve the livelihoods of small- and medium-sized business owners, farmers, fishermen and women working on fishing net rehabilitation through dedicated interventions.

Improvement of the Livelihoods of SME Owners Affected by the NBC Crisis

Following the NBC crisis, large numbers of businesses were totally or partially destroyed, thereby severely affecting economic activities in the area. The damages caused by the crisis, however, extended far beyond direct damages, as many Lebanese businesses also suffered from the loss of income resulting from the lack of access to the main trade routes and the interruption of labour supply during the crisis. At the end of December 2010, 44 SME business owners were supported through this project, and received an average micro-credit of \$1,600 to recover businesses directly or indirectly impacted by Nahr El Bared crisis, as per the selection criteria identified below. The loans were provided mainly to recover incomes of existing businesses, although 6 loans were also given to establish new businesses. To date, this intervention helped sustain 153 existing jobs and created an additional 12 jobs. In an effort to target the most vulnerable groups, 41 percent of the loans have been provided to youth that were negatively affected by the crisis. In order to measure the impact of the initiative, a comprehensive baseline was prepared (including detailed information on the income, profit and number of employees of the prospective beneficiaries). A follow-up assessment is planned to be undertaken six months after the disbursement of loans and will be complemented by a client-impact study after a year period.

Improvement of the Livelihoods of Farmers

With support from FAO, significant progress was made towards the identification of the key agricultural sectors which will be supported through this project, as well as the programmatic interventions to be undertaken. Based on the findings of the agricultural assessment conducted, UNDP's support will focus on the olive and greenhouse sectors, in an effort to strengthen the livelihoods of farmers affected by the NBC crisis. To this end, UNDP will provide an integrated package of support consisting of provision of assets and capacity-building targeting the farmers themselves as well as the extension agents from the MoA located in the North.

Improvement of the Livelihoods of Fishermen and Women Working in the Fishing Nets Rehabilitation in Abdeh/Bebnine

Fishermen: During the course of the project, support was provided to 1,100 fishermen working in the Abdeh Harbour with the objective of improving their livelihoods. This support forms part of a broader strategy on the part of UNDP to improve the livelihoods of the fishermen in the aftermath of the NBC crisis, which initially focused on the dredging of the Abdeh Harbour. A first key component of this support was the provision of the lighting in the harbour, which decreased the frequent accidents that used to take place in the past when the fishermen had to operate in the dark, thereby reducing the need for constant repairs on the vessels and decreasing the expenditures related to their work. Hygiene conditions in the harbour were also improved through the instalment of shaded areas on the berths of the harbour. A second key aspect of this support has focused on the fishing cooperative based in Abdeh Harbour, in order to strengthen its role in accessing markets, and in reducing production costs for the fishing community.

Women working in fishing net rehabilitation: During the course of the project, UNDP supported a group of 150 women involved in the rehabilitation of fishing nets from Bebnine, in an effort to improve their livelihoods and their working conditions. To this end, the women received technical assistance and capacity support from UNDP to establish a cooperative, which will serve as the main interface to access clients along the coast of Lebanon, as opposed to relying on middlemen. Assets were also identified to improve their difficult working conditions and to improve the efficiency of their work, and will shortly be provided to this group of beneficiaries.

Output 2: Living conditions and livelihoods of communities improved through small-scale infrastructure projects

The second component of the project aims at improving the livelihoods of communities through the completion of small scale infrastructure projects with a productive aim.

Renovation of Critical Agricultural Roads:

The agricultural roads, which will be renovated during the course of the project, will benefit over 1,000 farmers in the area, with a view to facilitating the trading of their produce. By the end of December 2010, over 200 farmers were already benefitting from the renovation of these roads.

Upgrading of the Slaughterhouse in Halba

In the context of this project, a priority intervention was the upgrading of the slaughterhouse in Halba, which will directly benefit 25 butchers in the area, in an effort to improve their working conditions and the value of their products. The benefits of the butcher house will be far-reaching, and the indirect beneficiaries include all the residents in the Shafat union of municipalities, who as consumers will have access to better-quality meat.

Establishment of an Olive Solid Waste Composting Facility

The olive solid waste composting facility, which this initiative will support, will directly benefit 54 farmers that are the members of the four cooperatives targeted through this intervention. As the facility is designed to use olive solid waste to produce organic fertilizer, all farmers in the area will indirectly benefit from this intervention, as the organic fertilizer that will be produced is cheaper and more environmentally friendly than the chemical fertilizers available in the market.

Waste Water Treatment Facility

This initiative was identified to serve a clear conflict resolution and livelihood improvement objective. Once finalized, this project will reduce tensions among the three municipalities and provide a multi-purpose facility benefitting 300 farmers directly through provision of irrigation water and 3,500 residents indirectly through the environmental improvements proposed through the establishment of the waste water treatment facility.

Output 3: Dialogue improved through local level interventions, particularly targeting youth

At least 200 young Lebanese and Palestinians participated in dialogue and trust-building initiatives supported by UNDP in the context of this initiative, in an effort to reduce local-level tensions in the aftermath of the NBC crisis. In particular, among the youth who participated in these activities, friendships were created and new contacts and networks established. For example, while the Palestinian-Lebanese choir was established to provide a systematic space for Lebanese and Palestinian youth to come together to rehearse and sing together, the youth took the initiative to organize group activities outside the choir trainings.

Challenges

Some challenges were faced during the project-implementation phase, and led to unforeseen delays in project implementation. They include:

Municipal Elections

Progress in the project implementation was slowed considerably by the municipal elections that took place at the end of May 2010. The electoral campaigns started a month before the elections and most of the old municipal leaders were engaged in them. After the elections, formation of the municipal boards and committees was postponed until early July 2010. 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. This meant that, in practice, many of the activities related to the identification of infrastructure projects and the livelihoods needs were put on hold for a period of three months.

Definition of the Approach to Support Greenhouse Crop Production Sector

With respect to support to greenhouse crop production, the initial agreement with FAO, which provided technical assistance to UNDP in this area, was to provide farmers affected by the crisis in the region with assets to upgrade their existing greenhouses. The original beneficiaries' target estimated 700 farmers with lost greenhouse assets. However, following a FAO technical mission in November 2010, and based on additional consultations, it became clear that the traditional greenhouse model is unsustainable, entails low yields and is highly prone to the spread of plant diseases and pests, thus having significantly less impact on food security. To provide a similar structure would have little or possibly negative impact on greenhouse crop production. Therefore, the methodology agreed upon as a result of the technical assistance mission was to identify 100 poor farmers and install an upgraded version of the greenhouse. These greenhouses, which FAO has successfully installed in Lebanon under a previous LRF project in the South, have proven to be highly appreciated by the farmers, and more sustainable and durable than the previous model. The experience demonstrates the improvements possible in

crop production and quality, higher market prices and increased incomes, reduced need for pesticides, and therefore reduced levels of toxins in the food supply, leading to better food safety and health outcomes. Finally, food security and nutrition at the household level are enhanced. While important in the medium- and long-term, this change in the proposed methodology led to delays in the finalization of the technical specifications for the procurement of assets for greenhouse production.

Low Rate of Loan Disbursement

The rate of loan disbursements in the context of the micro-credit component of the project, implemented by ILO in partnership with Al Majmoua, has been slower than expected for a number of reasons. First, there has been some reluctance on the part of business owners affected by the NBC crisis to consider micro-credit options, as many benefited from grants in the aftermath of the NBC crisis and expressed their preference for continued support in the form of grants, as compared to micro-credits which one must pay back. Secondly, the implementing NGO partner Al Majmoua experienced problems related to staff retention, in view of increasing pressures from the communities to adopt Islamic micro-financing approaches. However, steps have been taken to address the above challenges, in close collaboration with UNDP and ILO, to meet the disbursement target. At the end of February 2011, this number had reached 78 businesses, and the project is moving ahead quickly.

3.2.16 Monitoring and Evaluation Team for the LRF—UNDP

The UNDP project ‘Monitoring and Evaluation Team for the LRF’ (LRF-25, \$200,000) was approved by the LRF SC in mid-December 2009. The project is expected to end by December 2012.

UNDP reported a financial delivery rate of 13.9 percent (\$27,811) as of the end of the reporting period, 31 December 2010.

The project’s main national implementing partner is the Ministry of Economy and Trade.

Objective

The proposal to establish an M&E team was made on the basis of enhancing the efficiency, preventing unnecessary expenditures and avoiding project delays. It is expected to address these issues by expanding overall oversight management. Specifically, it is expected to enhance the LRF monitoring mechanism, currently being carried out by PAG representatives, by incorporating the aforementioned activities into a more coherent and efficient framework. This framework will consist of:

- An increased frequency of field trips and monitoring meetings.
- Closer and more technical follow-ups on project implementation and financial activities.
- A continuous evaluation and objective re-assessment of project achievements against pre-set targets.
- A support system to meet timely completion with the objective of raising the effectiveness of projects and ensure cost-efficiency in their implementation.
- A support system to examine the final evaluation of the projects implemented under the LRF.

Effective oversight of a project is time-enhancing and cost-efficient to both donors and beneficiaries. Hence the expected benefits of employing an M&E team will be extensive, reaching across all parties engaged with the LRF projects. Since the M&E team will oversee all aspects of the project activities, project managers are supported in achieving their pre-set deadlines in a timely manner. This will be advantageous to the benefactors since it will prevent the postponement of the project’s objectives. Furthermore, any revisions made in the outstanding projects—such as a no-cost time extension, a budget re-evaluation or change in scope—will be effectively

assessed and evaluated by the M&E team and hence, improve the cost-efficiency and decision-making outcomes of those projects by the PAG team and LRF committee.

The development goal of the M&E team is to generate a framework whereby the operation and delivery of current and prospective projects approved under the LRF are able to improve efficiency, recognize and prevent unnecessary expenditures and project delays that may arise over the present time frame of each individual project. The immediate objective of establishing an M&E team is to strengthen the existing LRF monitoring mechanism by improving the timeliness, cost-efficiency and reliability of the current LRF project activities. Project outputs include:

- Support project managers in achieving their pre-set deadlines in a timely manner, thus working in favour of the beneficiaries of each project.
- Revisions made in the outstanding projects—such as a no-cost time extension, a budget re-evaluation or change in scope—will be effectively assessed and evaluated by the M&E team. This will improve all decision-making outcomes and will ensure compliance with the above revisions.

Results and Achievements

An M&E strategy was developed and had established internal reporting formats for routine field visits, regular follow-up and project review meetings. The adopted formats aim to improve the communication system, increase monitoring efficiency and will allow for a closer follow up on the project's progress and impacts. These reporting formats include draft templates for the external evaluation and will be used as a standard format by all UN agencies supported by the LRF to ensure consistency in the evaluations of projects. Also, to highlight the LRF results, outcomes, and impact, the M&E unit developed a TOR for the production of a documentary aiming to promote LRF achievements.

The M&E unit also supported project managers in achieving their pre-set objectives, by identifying the project constraints and limitations and recommending complementary measures when possible to face certain challenges and obstacles. In addition, this unit had assisted the LRF team in the in the preparation of the LRF donors' meeting and the achievement and lessons learned workshop.

Adopted Strategy: The M&E unit focus was on the LRF implementation progress and challenges following a particular priority to monitor the LRF projects based on the following criteria:

- 1) High-priority projects.
- 2) Closing dates.
- 3) Projects with multiple no-cost extensions.
- 4) Slow disbursement or under-spending.
- 5) Multi-phased and problematic projects.

The M&E unit is steered and managed by a Technical Steering Committee (TSG) represented by the MOF, the Ministry of Economy and Trade (MoET), the UNRC and M&E unit. The TSG meets every six weeks to provide strategic advice and technical support to the unit.

4 Financial performance

This Financial Performance section includes key financial data on the LRF. Financial information is also available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>). Due to rounding, totals in the tables may not add up. All amounts in the tables are in US\$ thousands.

4.1 Financial overview

Table 4-1, below, provides a financial overview of the LRF as of 31 December 2010, highlighting key figures as well as the balance available, both with the AA (MDTF Office) and with Participating Organizations. As of the end of the reporting period, 31 December 2010, the balance of funds with the AA is \$2,111,522, or 4.6 percent of the total gross donor deposits (\$45,857,496). The unutilized balances remaining with Participating Organizations, as of 31 December 2010, was \$19,172,293, or 42 percent of the cumulative net funds transferred to them by the AA (\$45,600,533).

Table 4-1 Financial Overview (\$000)

	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL
Sources of Funds			
Gross Donor Contributions	45,857	–	45,857
Fund-Earned Interest Income	1,488	13	1,501
Interest Income Received from Participating Orgs	143	670	812
Refunds by Administrative Agent (Interest/Others)	–	–	–
Other Revenue	–	–	–
TOTAL: Sources of Funds	47,488	683	48,171
Uses of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	46,017	381	46,398
Refunds Received from Participating Organizations	–	(798)	(798)
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations	–	(417)	45,601
Administrative Agent Fees	459	–	459
Direct Costs (Steering Committee Secretariat, etc.)	–	–	–
Bank Charges	–	–	–
Other Expenditures	–	–	–
TOTAL: Uses of Funds	46,476	(417)	46,059
Balance of Funds Available with Administrative Agent	1,012	1,100	2,112
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations	46,017	(417)	45,601
Participating Organizations' Expenditure	18,154	10,386	28,540
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations	27,864	4,415	17,061

4.2 Donor contributions

No donor contributions were made to the LRF in 2010. Cumulatively, the largest contribution to the LRF has been made by Spain (\$35,400,000), followed by Sweden (\$9,797,465) and Romania (\$659,531). Table 4-2 gives the breakdown of the total contribution received, amounting to \$45,857,496 as of the end of the reporting period, 31 December 2010.

Table 4-2 Donor Contributions (\$000)

Donors	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL
Romania	659,531	–	659,531
Spain	35,400,500	–	35,400,500
Sweden	9,797,465	–	9,797,465
TOTAL	45,857,496	–	45,857,496

4.3 Earned interest

Fund- and agency-earned interest together cumulatively amounts to, as of 31 December 2010, \$2,313,135. This amount is an additional source of income for the LRF and increases the amount of funds available for project funding. The breakdown of fund- and agency-earned interest is as follows:

- *Fund-Earned Interest*: Fund-earned interest (i.e. interest earned by the LRF Account and administered by the LRF Administrative Agent—the MDTF Office) amounted to \$13,041 in 2010, bringing the total, cumulative fund-earned interest to \$1,500,646 as of 31 December 2010.
- *Agency Interest Earned by Participating Organizations*: All interest earned by the Participating Organizations is expected to be credited to the LRF Account unless the governing bodies of the said organization has approved decisions that govern the specific use of interest earned on donor contributions. The refunded interest will be used to augment the availability of funds for project funding. In 2010, total interest reported and refunded by Participating Organizations under the LRF amounted to \$669,561. As per Table 4-3, below, cumulative agency-earned interest amounted to \$812,489 as of 31 December 2010.

Table 4-3 Received Interest at the Fund and Agency Levels (\$000)

	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL
Fund-Earned Interest (Administrative Agent)	1,488	13	1,501
TOTAL: Fund-Earned Interest	1,488	13	1,501
FAO	62	–	62
ILO	–	41	41
UNDP	74	387	461
UNESCO	7	57	64
UNFPA	–	46	46
UNIDO	–	138	138
TOTAL: Agency-Earned Interest	143	670	812
TOTAL: Interest Earned	1,631	683	2,313

4.4 Transfer of Approved Funding to Participating Organizations

As of 31 December 2010, the LRF had transferred funds to six Participating Organizations for approved projects for a net total of \$45,600,533. The distribution of net transfers, consolidated by Participating Organization, is summarized in Table 4-4, below.

Table 4-4 Transfer of Net-Funded Amount by Participating Organization (\$000)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year Jan–Dec 2010	TOTAL
FAO	8,371	–	8,371
ILO	2,683	–	2,683
UNDP	27,882	381	28,263
UNESCO	1,587	(798)	789
UNFPA	995	–	995
UNIDO	4,500	–	4,500
TOTAL	46,017	(417)	45,601

4.5 Expenditure

During the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2010, a total of \$10,385,797 was reported by Participating Organizations as expenditure, bringing the total expenditure to \$28,539,762. This is the equivalent of 62.6 percent of the net transferred to Participating Organizations as of 31 December 2010 (\$45,600,533). As in 2009, all expenditure reported for the year 2010 was submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations through the MDTF Office's UNEX Financial Reporting Portal, and extracted and analysed by the MDTF Office. The below tables provide different cuts on this expenditure data. A complete list of expenditures by project is available in Table 4-6. Additional tables on expenditure, including expenditure tables by Participating Organization with breakdowns by budget category, are available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>).

Table 4-5 Expenditure by Participating Organization (\$000)

Participating Organization	Net-Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate (%)
		Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL	
FAO	8,371	5,141	1,101	6,242	74.6
ILO	2,683	1,423	801	2,224	82.9
UNDP	28,263	7,599	6,412	14,010	49.6
UNESCO	789	471	310	782	99.0
UNFPA	995	596	397	993	99.8
UNIDO	4,500	2,924	1,365	4,289	95.3
TOTAL	45,601	18,154	10,385	28,540	62.6

Table 4-6 Expenditure by Project (\$000)

Project (Participating Organization)	Net-Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate (%)
		Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL	
LRF-1: CEDRO Phase I (UNDP)	2,732	1,551	971	2,522	92.29
LRF-2: Livelihoods Phase I (UNIDO)	3,000	2,819	34	2,853	95.09
LRF-3: Horticulture (FAO)	1,371	1,439	–	1,439	104.98
LRF-4: Livestock Keepers (FAO)	1,900	1,944	–	1,944	102.33
LRF-5: Socio-Econ Rec Phase I (ILO)	1,183	1,104	49	1,153	97.47
LRF-6: HR for Digital Doc. (UNESCO)	767	449	310	760	99.02
LRF-7: Social Sector (UNDP)	270	99	96	196	72.44
LRF-8: Integration of Disabled (UNDP)	1,400	1,403	–	1,403	100.22
LRF-9: Flood Water Management (UNDP)	2,844	1,777	303	2,080	73.14
LRF-10: CEDRO Phase II (UNDP)	3,500	184	1,091	1,275	36.43
LRF-11: Dairy Production (UNDP)	1,000	590	408	998	99.80
LRF-12: Women Empowerment (UNFPA)	995	596	397	993	99.77
LRF-13: Socio-Econ. Recovery (UNDP)	997	537	460	997	100.00
LRF-14: Forest Fires Management (FAO)	2,600	1,544	308	1,851	71.20
LRF-15: ICT in Education (UNESCO)	22	22	–	22	100.00
LRF-16: CEDRO Phase III (UNDP)	3,500	–	136	136	3.89
LRF-17: Flood Risks Prevention (UNDP)	3,800	79	337	416	10.95
LRF-18: Recovery Coord. (UNDP)	1,128	355	361	716	63.46
LRF-19: ART GOLD Lebanon (UNDP)	2,391	1,023	1,334	2,357	98.56
LRF-20: Livelihoods Phase II (UNIDO)	1,500	105	1,331	1,436	95.75
LRF-21: Dairy Sector (FAO)	2,500	215	793	1,008	40.31
LRF-22: Socio-Econ Rec Phase I (ILO)	1,500	319	752	1,071	71.39
LRF-23: Hydro Agriculture (UNDP)	2,000	–	216	216	10.80
LRF-24: Early Recovery (UNDP)	2,500	–	671	671	26.85
LRF-25: M&E Team for the LRF (UNDP)	200	–	28	28	13.91
TOTAL	45,601	18,154	10,386	28,540	62.59

Table 4-7 Expenditure by Budget Category (\$000)

Budget Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost (%)
	Prior Years as of 31 Dec 2009	Current Year (2010)	TOTAL	
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment	6,022	2,592	8,613	32.24
Personnel	3,814	3,005	6,819	25.52
Training of Counterparts	373	184	557	2.09
Contracts	5,220	2,802	8,022	30.03
Other Direct Costs	1,570	1,136	2,706	10.13
Total Programme Costs	16,998	9,719	26,717	100.00
Indirect Support Costs	1,156	667	1,823	6.82
TOTAL	18,154	10,386	28,540	

4.6 Cost Recovery

The cost recovery for LRF is guided by the applicable provisions of the LRF TOR, the LOAs concluded between the MDTF Office, as the AA of the LRF, with Donors, and the MOU concluded between the MDTF Office and Participating Organizations.

For the reporting period, the actual costs were as follows:

- 1) As no new donor deposits were made during the reporting period, no AA-fee was deducted. Cumulatively, for the period 2007–2010, \$458,575 has been deducted as AA-fees, charged for the entire duration of the LRF, which amounts to one percent of donor deposits.
- 2) The cumulative average rate of indirect support costs charged by the Participating Organizations to date amounts to 6.8 percent, which is below the 7 percent specified for indirect support costs in the LRF TOR, LOA and MOU. Some Participating Organizations may charge indirect support costs on total project budget amounts instead of on actual expenditures, as permissible by their regulations and rules, with appropriate adjustments to be made upon project completion.

5 Transparency and accountability

The major vehicle for public transparency of operations under the LRF during the reporting period was the MDTF Office GATEWAY.

In 2010, the MDTF Office officially launched the MDTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mdtf.undp.org>). It is a knowledge platform providing real-time data from the MDTF Office accounting system, with a maximum of two-hour delay, on financial information on donor contributions, programme budgets and transfers to Participating Organizations. It is designed to provide transparent, accountable fund-management services to the United Nations system to enhance its coherence, effectiveness and efficiency.

Each MDTF and JP administered by the MDTF Office has its own website on the GATEWAY with extensive narrative and financial information on the MDTF/JP, including on its strategic framework, governance arrangements, eligibility and allocation criteria. Annual financial and narrative progress reports and quarterly/semi-annual updates on the results being achieved are also available. In addition, each programme has a Factsheet with specific facts, figures and updates on that programme.

The GATEWAY provides easy access to more than 5,000 reports and documents on MDTFs/JPs and individual programmes, with tools and tables displaying related financial data. By enabling users in the field with easy access to upload progress reports and related documents, it also facilitates knowledge-sharing and management among UN agencies. The MDTF Office GATEWAY is already being recognized as a ‘standard setter’ by peers and partners.

All LRF Participating Organizations’ Annual or Final Reports on individual projects are available on the MDTF Office GATEWAY.

6 Conclusion

This Fourth Consolidated Progress Report on Activities under the LRF reports on the implementation of the 25 projects (including extensions) approved for funding as of 31 December 2010, the fourth year of operations of the LRF. The Progress Report is consolidated based on information and data contained in the individual progress reports and financial statements submitted by Participating Organizations to the MDTF Office. It is neither an evaluation of the LRF nor the MDTF Office's assessment of the performance of the Participating Organizations.

The first project under the LRF was approved in May 2007, followed by another nine in 2007. In 2008, an additional eight projects were approved and funds transferred to Participating Organizations, whereas in 2009 seven projects were approved. In 2010, the current reporting period, one project extension was approved. The total number of projects approved for funding under the LRF as of 31 December 2010 therefore stands at 25, with a net amount of \$45,600,533 transferred to six Participating Organizations.

The range of projects approved by the LRF SC is notable, reflecting the vast recovery and reconstruction needs in the country. Projects and extensions approved under the LRF as of the end of the reporting period include support to energy efficiency and renewable energy (LRF-1, LRF-10 and LRF-16); projects in support of the recovery of horticulture smallholders (LRF-3), resource-poor livestock keepers (LRF-4), livelihoods and economic recovery (LRF-2 and LRF-20) and dairy producers in North Lebanon (LRF-11), as well as a project in support of integrated forest fire management (LRF-14). Other projects include efforts to enhance the performance of the social sector (LRF-7), increased integration of the poor and disabled (LRF-8), flood management projects (LRF-9 and LRF-17), and socio-economic rehabilitation of Beirut and its suburbs (LRF-13) as well as in South Lebanon (LRF-5 and LRF-22). The LRF SC has also approved projects in support of women empowerment (LRF-12), enhancing ICT education (LRF-15), supporting the digital documentation of World Heritage Sites (LRF-6), as well as supporting the Resident Coordinators sub-offices in the North and South of Lebanon (LRF-18). During the current reporting year, new projects were approved in the areas of socio-economic rehabilitation (LRF-19 and LRF-24), recovery and rehabilitation of the dairy sector (LRF-21), hydro agricultural development (LRF-23) and LRF monitoring and evaluation (LRF-25).

Whereas Participating Organizations in 2007, 2008 and 2009 primarily reported on project start-up activities that focused on establishing project implementation and management capacities and systems, identifying and contracting implementing partners, and completing preparatory work for the procurement of critical goods and services, this 2010 Annual Report increasingly reflects that a number of projects are underway in implementing their activities, and many completed all activities in 2010.

Financial delivery rate, across all 25 projects, is reported to be 62.6 percent as of 31 December 2010, an increase from 39.5 percent in 2009. A number of projects have reported notable achievements during the reporting period, with 17 of the 25 projects reporting a cumulative financial expenditure rate of 70 percent or above, and 13 of these projects reporting a delivery rate of over 90 percent, by the end of the reporting period.

Comprehensive details of these financial and programmatic achievements have been included in the report, and a notable characteristic across nearly all projects is Participating Organizations' partnering with implementing partners, including national authorities, local foundations or NGOs. Across nearly all projects, Ministries, foundations, NGOs and community-based groups form a core element of the projects.

As of the end of the reporting period, most projects—if not already operationally closed—were reported to be on track with implementation, some having requested a no-cost project extension.

The MDTF Office envisages that this Fourth Consolidated Progress Report on Activities under the Lebanon Recovery Fund will provide the LRF SC the basis on which to better assess the future of the LRF, including its resource requirements, and to advocate and mobilize additional funding in support of the recovery, reconstruction, and development process in Lebanon, as required and as appropriate.

Financial Annexes

Annex 1: LRF SC Approved Projects as of 31 December 2010

Steering Committee Approval Date	Project Number	Project Number and Title	Participating Organization	Government/ NGO Counterpart	Net Transfer Amount (US\$)	Implementation Status (financial delivery rate)
7 May 2007	LRF-1	Community Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Demonstration Project for the Recovery of Lebanon (CEDRO I)	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	2,732,240	Ongoing (92.3%)
7 May 2007	LRF-2	Support for Livelihoods and Economic Recovery in War-affected Areas of Lebanon	UNIDO	Ministry of Industry	3,000,000	Operationally closed (95.1%)
12 Jun 2007	LRF-3	Early Recovery Assistance for the Horticulture Smallholder	FAO	Ministry of Agriculture	1,370,670	Operationally closed (105%)
12 Jun 2007	LRF-4	Early Recovery Assistance to War-affected Resource-poor Livestock Keepers in South Lebanon	FAO	Ministry of Agriculture	1,900,000	Operationally closed (102.3%)
12 Jun 2007	LRF-5	Local Socio-economic Recovery in War-affected Areas in South Lebanon	ILO	Ministry of Labour	1,183,108	Operationally closed (97.5%)
7 May 2007	LRF-6	Building of Human Resources for Digital Documentation of World Heritage Sites Affected by the War	UNESCO	Ministry of Culture	767,226	Operationally closed (99.0%)
3 Oct 2007	LRF-7	Enhance Performance of the Social Sector	UNDP	Ministry of Social Affairs	270,000	Ongoing (72.4%)
10 Oct 2007	LRF-8	Increased Integration of the Poor Disabled	UNDP	Ministry of Social Affairs	1,400,000	Operationally closed (100.2%)
10 Oct 2007	LRF-9	Flood and Water Management for Livelihood Recovery in Baalback-Hermel	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	2,843,880	Operationally closed (73.1%)
10 Oct 2007	LRF-10	Country Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Demonstration Project for the Recovery of Lebanon (CEDRO II)	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	3,500,000	Ongoing (36.4%)
5 Nov 2007 (transfer in 2008)	LRF-11	Strengthening the Dairy Production Channel in North Lebanon	UNDP	Renee Maawad Foundation	1,000,000	Operationally closed (99.8%)
5 Nov 2007 (transfer in 2008)	LRF-12	Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Stability and Security (WE PASS)	UNFPA	National Commission for Lebanese Women	994,858	Operationally closed (98.8%)
5 Nov 2007 (transfer in 2008)	LRF-13	Socio-Economic Rehabilitation and Recovery of War-affected Beirut and its Suburbs	UNDP	Hariri Foundation	996,919	Operationally closed (100.0%)

Steering Committee Approval Date	Project Number	Project Number and Title	Participating Organization	Government/ NGO Counterpart	Net Transfer Amount (US\$)	Implementation Status (financial delivery rate)
5 Nov 2007 (transfer in 2008)	LRF-14	Forest Fires Management—Forest Fires Prevention, Forest Fires Fighting (Control) and Damaged Forests Assessment and Rehabilitation	FAO	Ministry of Environment	2,600,000	Ongoing (71.2%)
21 Aug 2008	LRF-15	Enhancing ICT in Education	UNESCO	–	22,170	Terminated (100.0%)
19 Sept 2008	LRF-16	Country Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Demonstration Project for the Development of Lebanon (CEDRO III)	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	3,500,000	Ongoing (3.9%)
19 Sept 2008	LRF-17	Flood Risks Prevention and Management in Baalbeck - Hermel	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	3,800,000	Ongoing (10.9%)
24 Oct 2008 9 Dec 2010	LRF-18	Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon	UNDP	Development Unit, Office of the Prime Minister	1,128,012	Ongoing (63.5%)
26 Mar 2009	LRF-19	Socio-Economic Rehabilitation Programme in the Framework of ART GOLD Lebanon	UNDP	Council for Development and Reconstruction	2,391,450	Ongoing (98.6%)
1 Apr 2009	LRF-20	Support for Livelihoods and Economic Recovery in War-affected Areas of Lebanon (Phase II)	UNIDO	Ministry of Industry	1,500,000	Ongoing (95.7%)
15 Apr 2009	LRF-21	Recovery and Rehabilitation of Dairy Sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel-Akkar Uplands	FAO	Ministry of Agriculture	2,500,000	Ongoing (40.3%)
15 Apr 2009	LRF-22	Supporting Local Socio-Economic Development in War-affected Areas of South Lebanon (Phase II)	ILO	Ministry of Labour	1,500,000	Ongoing (71.4%)
29 May 2009	LRF-23	Hydro Agricultural Development for Marjayoun Area	UNDP	Ministry of Energy and Water	2,000,000	Ongoing (10.8%)
13 Aug 2009	LRF-24	Early Recovery of Nahr el Bared Surrounding Lebanese Communities Affected by 2006 and 2007 Conflicts	UNDP	Presidency of the Council of Ministers	2,500,000	Ongoing (26.9%)
15 Dec 2009	LRF-25	Monitoring & Evaluation Team for the LRF	UNDP	Ministry of Economy and Trade	200,000	Ongoing (13.9%)
TOTAL					45,600,533	62.9%