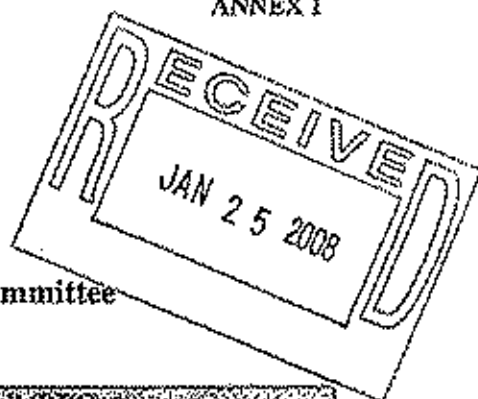




**Submission Form
To
The Lebanon Recovery Fund Steering Committee**



To be completed by the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell (RRC)	
Meeting No:	Date of Meeting:
Item No:	Programme/project:

(To be completed by the Participating UN Organisation
and endorsed by Working Group Chair)

To: Lebanon Recovery Trust Fund Steering Committee	Date of Submission: October 10, 2007
From: National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	Contact: Telephone number, email NCLW: info@nclw.org.lb, 05-454617 UNFPA: kurdahi@unfpa.org, 03-244386
Through: Working Group. The essence and content of this project proposal are extracted from the MDG Spanish gender project proposal elaborated in June 2007 by a UN working group and consisting of UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, UNHCR, OHCHR, and ESCWA.	Contact: Telephone number, email
Proposed submission, if approved would result in:	Proposed submission resulted from:
☒ Continuation of existing programme/project ☐ New programme/project ☐ Other (explain)	☒ National Authorities initiative within national priorities ☐ UN Agency initiative within national priorities ☐ Other (explain)
Programme/project title: Women Empowerment: Peaceful Action for Stability and Security (WE PASS)	
Amount of funds requested for proposed programme/project: \$929,774	
Estimated number of beneficiaries: direct \$50:650 indirect \$25,000:30,000	
Request against specific earmarking or unearmarked:	
Amount of indirect costs requested: (7%): \$65,084	

1. Background

Following the heavy hostilities in Lebanon during the period July-August 2006, early recovery related interventions and activities were initiated and aiming at supporting communities and population affected by the war in improving their status and conditions. To that effect, UNFPA, United Nations Population Fund, supported the initiation of a pioneer initiative within the context of various components of UNSCR 1325, *Women, Peace and Security*. The WE PASS project, *Women Empowerment, peaceful Action for Security and Stability*, aims at empowering women in contributing to building and promoting a peace culture within their families, communities, and societies through a proactive and lead role.

The WE PASS project is implemented by the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) with the participation of relevant NGOs and municipal councils and community leaders in the 10 following villages: South Tayaroun, Bmt Jbeil, Deir Minas, Dweir, Ghazieh, Kfeir, Nabatiyeh, and Yarine), Ras Raalbeck and Ghobeiri.

The first phase of the WE PASS project covered the period October 2006 - May 2007 and various interventions and activities were implemented as follows: (a) establishing and coordinating women networks and coalitions; (b) assessing women needs and priorities in the 10 villages; (c) sensitising the communities' leaders and stakeholders on key components and spirit of UNSCR 1325; (d) capacity development of local NGOs, health care providers, and organizations in areas related to Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender Based Violence, Family budget and health, Gender Equality and Equity; (e) building the capacities of women committees in each of the 10 villages on SCR 1325, conflict resolution, interpersonal skills, networking and coordination, human rights, etc; (f) outreach and awareness raising to the general population in the 10 villages on UNSCR 1325, and (g) provision of selected RH commodities including drugs, family hygiene kit, etc. The first phase adopted various approaches in implementing activities particularly awareness raising through entertainment methods and tools. This phase yielded very concrete results and outcomes such as building a strong network of women committees in the 10 villages, overcoming various cultural barriers for promoting women empowerment in decision making processes and participation, openness by the communities to a wide range of taboo issues mainly Gender Based Violence, the sensitization and advocacy events and efforts resulted in generating demand for further capacity development on human rights, peace building, participation and inclusion, etc. An estimated 250-300 women have directly benefited through building their capacities and empowering them to support their peer women. An estimated 100-150 community leaders (including members of the municipal councils) have been sensitised on gender equity and equality as well as SCR 1325. The first phase was financed by the Norwegian Government contributed to UNFPA under the Flash Appeal with a total allocation of \$330,000.

The second phase of the WE PASS project is currently being implemented for the period June 2007 - January 2008 and targeting the same villages covered under the first phase. The same activities under the first phase will be carried out through a participatory approach in partnership with local NGOs and Municipal councils and building on the outcome and lessons learned of the first phase. In addition, the empowerment of women in economic development will be clearly addressed through supporting women's income generating projects in 2-3 villages and based on the results of the rapid assessment study on women economic development conducted in April - May 07. Strengthening the institutional and technical capacities of the women machinery particularly the NCLW is also a key intervention in this project and in support of promoting capacities for policy dialogue and advocacy on peace building. One of the fundamental pillars in this project consist of articulating the Gender Based Violence (GBV) within the framework of the GBV national action plan. The GBV component will entail strengthening local capacities, creating support groups at community level for dealing with survivors of GBV, and advocating with leaders on impact of GBV on human rights. An estimated 100-150 community leaders (including members of the municipal councils) have been sensitised on gender equity and equality as well as SCR 1325. The second phase is financed by the Italian Government contributed to UNFPA within the Stockholm conference with a total allocation of \$658,761.

The proposed phase 3 will ensure the adoption of an intersectoral and multi-dimensional approach targeting women, community leaders and municipal councils, service providers, youth, grass root organizations, women machineries and coalition, and community sectors. It aims at ensuring the continuation of the first and second phases of the WE PASS project by expanding it to 7-10 additional villages towards empowerment of women by building their capacities in decision-making, economic development, citizenship, leadership, reducing their vulnerability to violence, literacy programmes, and peace-building. This phase will also entail building a solidarity network among an estimated 300-350 women (from the women committees established in the 10 villages plus 5 new ones) and putting in place a system/mechanism to ensure a linkage with the municipal councils and support to various community sectoral entities (health, education, agriculture, etc) for promoting women advancement at grass root level and a culture of peace. The third phase will ensure empowerment of youth - particularly girls - in peace building, decision-making and leadership at community level and in the targeted villages with a particular emphasis on the well being of young people within a life skills approach. Last but not least, this phase will consist of institutional and capacity building of women machineries and bodies at national and community levels through ensuring a participatory approach. The consensus on a revised and updated national women strategy linked to national priorities and aligned with the principles of the Social Action Plan (SAP) will also be a result of this phase. This third phase will extend over a period of 18 months i.e. December 2007 to May 2009 and an estimated budget of \$929,774 will be required to implement the proposed activities.

2. Purpose of Proposed Programme/Project

The proposed project is developed within the framework of human rights based approach building on the essence of SCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) as well as national frameworks and strategies (i.e. social action plan, National women strategy, national population policy, national Gender Based Violence action plan, national youth policy (draft)).

Specifically the objectives of the proposed project (Phase III) are derived from the spirit of UNSC Resolution 1325 and the national women strategy and will contribute to the following:

- Support institutional building of women machinery entities for advocacy and policy dialogue for mainstreaming gender in peace and security related programmes, initiatives, strategies, policies, etc.
- Promote advancement of women and youth in citizenship, democracy, decision making, leadership, literacy programmes, reduced vulnerability to violence.
- Promote and support protection of and respect of women and girls human rights.
- Promote and support protection of women and girls from gender based violence 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.

3. Evaluation of Proposals by the Working Group

The essence and content of this project proposal are extracted from the MDG Spanish gender project proposal elaborated in June 2007 by a UN working group and consisting of UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, UNIFEM, and ESCWA.

Implementability

	2007	2008	2009
Estimated commitments (\$mill)	\$0	\$525,000	\$404,774
Estimated disbursements (\$mill)	\$0	\$525,000	\$404,774

Does the project correspond to national priorities?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Please elaborate

The project is developed and implemented within the overall context of UNSCR 1325: Women, Peace, and Security and building on five fundamental national policies/strategies/frameworks as follows:

- Social Action Plan submitted to the Paris III conference calls for social reform and puts particular emphasis on vulnerable population including women. It estimates that there are more than 3,500 very poor women heads of households who lack sustainable livelihoods.
- National Population Policy endorsed in 2000 and illustrates the national population principles and priorities that would require particular emphasis mainly gender equity and equality, reducing women and girls vulnerability to violence, empower young people, reduce poverty by promoting regional and economic development.
- National women strategy developed in 1997 and addressing priority strategic areas towards empowering women in terms of legislations, politics/decision making, economics, education, health, environment, media, and women under occupation/in conflict areas. The proposed activities are aligned with the strategic priority areas of the women strategy.
- National Gender Based Violence action plan developed in 2005 and addressing priority areas including – but not exclusive to – ensuring access to services, referrals, community awareness, capacity development, support groups, etc. The proposed activities are aligned with the GBV action plan.
- National Youth Policy (draft) addressing the multi-faceted situation of Lebanese youth and identifying gaps and needs as well as recommendations for empowering young people in participation and social inclusion, as well as improving their well being.

4. Review by Recovery and Reconstruction Cell (RRC)

Check on Programme/Project Proposal Format Contents

☐ Cover sheet (first page)	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Logical Framework	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Programme/Project Justification	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Programme/Project Management Arrangements	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Risks and Assumptions	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Budget	Yes ☐	No ☐
☐ Support Cost	Yes ☐	No ☐

Overall review of programme submission
Recommendations

Elaborate

5. Decision of the LRF Steering Committee

- ☒ Approved for a total budget of \$ 994,858
☐ Approved with modification/condition
☐ Deferred

Reason/Comments

Elaborate

January 4, 2008
Date

6. Follow-up action taken by the Administrative Agent

- ☐ Project consistent with provisions of the Letter of Agreement with donors (if applicable)

Signature

Date

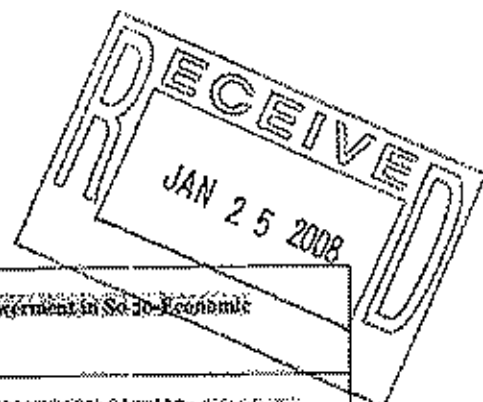
Lebanon Recovery Fund Programme/Project Proposal Format and Guidelines

Contents:

1. Cover sheet and description of programme/project document (Appendix A)
2. Logical Framework (Appendix B)
3. Programme/Project Budget (Appendix C)
4. Progress Report (Appendix D)



LEBANON RECOVERY FUND PROJECT DOCUMENT COVER SHEET



Participating UN Organisation: UNFPA	Sector: Women and youth empowerment in So-Economic development
Programme/Project Manager: Name: Dr. Fala Naima Secretary General National Commission for Lebanese Women Address: Hazmeh Telephone: 961-8-9451017 E-mail: info@nclw.org.lb	Working Group Chair: The essence and content of this project proposal are extracted from the MDG Spanish Gender project proposal elaborated in June 2007 by a UN working group and consisting of UNDP, ILO, UNFPA, UNIFEM, OHCHR, and ESCWA.
Programme/Project Title: Women Empowerment, Peaceful Action for Security and Stability Programme/Project Number: LBN2G102	Programme/Project Location: Post-war regions in South, Has Baidbeck, and Ghobeiry. Poor regions in North
Programme/Project Description: This programme is promoting gender equity, equality and empowerment of women through advancement of women in 17-20 post-war and poor villages by empowering them in decision making, leadership, citizenship, political participation, social support, coalition building, economic development, reducing vulnerability to violence, etc. The project will also target community leaders and municipal councils in the 17-20 villages by mobilizing and sensitizing them to provide support to gender equity and empowerment of women. Last but not least the proposed project will target young people in the selected villages by expanding a youth network and empowering them in local participation, community development, decision making, all addressed within a life skills approach to ensure their well being.	Total Programme/Project Cost: LRF: \$994,858 (including 7% overhead) Government Input: Other: To be mobilized by UNFPA & NCLW Total: Programme/Project Duration: December 2007- May 2009
Development Goal and Key Immediate Objectives: The proposed project is developed within the framework of human rights based approach. Specifically the objectives of the WE PASS project Phase III are derived from the spirit of UNSC Resolution 1325 and the National Women Strategy and will contribute to the following: • Support institutional building of women machinery entities for advocacy and policy dialogue for mainstreaming gender in peace and security-related programmes, initiatives, strategies, policies, etc. • Promote advancement of women in citizenship, democracy, decision-making, leadership, literacy programmes, reduced vulnerability to violence. • Promote and support protection of and respect of women and girls human rights. • Promote and support protection of women and girls from gender-based violence as well as other forms of violence in various initiatives and interventions. • Promote and support the full participation of women 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. The immediate objectives were identified as follows: To have contributed to integrated gender equity, equality, and empowerment of women in a) programmes/projects, initiatives developed and implemented in the 20 post-war and prior villages and b) national sectoral plans and strategies.	

Outputs and Key Activities:

Paragraph outlining essential details of the programme/project

The project's key outputs have been identified as follows:

1. *Technical and Institutional Capacities of Women Machineries, Municipal Councils, and Organizations for advocacy, policy development and networking towards women's advancement strengthened*
2. *SCR 1325 Related Awareness Raising, community mobilization, Community Outreach, and Services Provided and Met*
3. *Capacities for Women Economic Empowerment promoted and strengthened*
4. *A youth networking mechanism and strategic approach for empowering young people in public participation, peace and conflict prevention, reduction in high risk behaviors including HIV/AIDS prevention for young people established*
5. *National women strategic priorities and framework revised, elaborated, and concurred upon in a participatory approach to be mainstreamed in national sectoral strategies and action plans*

For description of activities, please refer to logframe.

Working Group Review Date: _____

RRC Review Date: _____

Steering Committee/Project Approval Group Approval Date: _____

On behalf of

UNRPA

NCLW

Chair, LRF

2. Logical Framework

A logical framework (LFA) is required for programmes/projects greater than \$500,000. See Appendix B for the LFA format. For smaller programmes/projects, if a log frame is not used, a narrative statement including clearly stated objectives, outputs, activities, indicators and risks should be provided.

THE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Objectives	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
Development Objective Promote gender equity, equality and empowerment of women through advancement of women in 20 post war and poor countries			Security situation in the country remains stable for allowing project activities to be implemented as planned
Immediate Objectives: <i>To have contributed to integrated gender equity, equality, and empowerment of women – and youth in a) programmed projects, initiatives developed and implemented in the 77-20 post war and poor villages and b) national sectoral plans and strategies</i>	• Sectoral strategies and plans reflecting gender dimensions • National women strategy developed and agreed upon	• Progress reports • M&E reports • Minutes meetings • Women committees reports • Training reports • Women strategic framework	Security situation in the country remains stable for allowing project activities to be implemented as planned
OUTPUTS: 1. Technical and Institutional Capacities of Women Machineries, Municipal Councils, and Organizations for advocacy, policy development and networking towards women's advancement strengthened 2. Outreach, Awareness Raising, community mobilization on SCR 1325 as well as Comprehensive service package (health, GBV, literacy, and life skills) provided in targeted areas 3. Capacities for Women Economic Empowerment promoted and strengthened 4. A youth networking mechanism and strategic approach for empowering young people in public participation, peace and conflict prevention, reduction in high risk behaviors including HIV/AIDS prevention for young people established 5. National women strategic	• Number of projects - with integrated gender components -- initiated and implemented by women NGOs & women committees with support by municipal boards • Number of micro credit projects targeting women initiated and implemented • Consensus on women priority areas and national women strategy • Women conditions and networks among and within targeted villages established and operationalized • Solidarity related activities conducted in all targeted villages • At least 70% of municipal councils understand SCR 1325 framework and relevance in their communities • At least 50% of women committees trained on identified areas and themes • At least 70% of centers in target villages providing comprehensive service package (including referrals) • Number of youth NGOs/groups engaged in local development initiatives • Youth network established and operationalized	• Monitoring reports • Project quarterly and yearly reports • Rapid assessment findings • Mapping results • NCLW records • Minutes of meetings • Training modules • Training reports • MoU re micro-credit • TORs of networks • Action plans by youth • Partner NGOs reports • Consultancy reports	• Security and political situation remains calm • No turnover of municipal councils and membership • Additional targeted villages will express readiness to SCR 1325 principles and framework

<i>priorities and framework revised, elaborated, and concurred in a participatory approach to be mainstreamed in national sectoral strategies and action plans</i>			
ACTIVITIES: - Support in the development of NCLW and NGOs (in post war and poor villages) organizational procedures (structure/system and tools) - Organize training for NCLW's members, project staff, partners, women NGOs and concerned stakeholders (areas related to Strategic Planning & RBM, Management and Thematic) - Conduct a thorough gender assessment in order to identify existing gender gaps, inequalities and inequities that need to be addressed within policy directions and programs of the country strategies - Revise and update the 1997 "Women National Strategy" through consultative and participatory approach - Undertake policy research, review of legislation, and comparative studies on various priority areas for policy development and advocacy - Capacity building of women committees (in 20 post war and poor villages) on communication, advocacy and negotiation/conflict resolution skills and related topics (Reproductive Health and Rights, Gender Equality, Equity and Women Empowerment as well as UNRC 1325) - Capacity development of community leaders in the 20 post war and poor villages on SCR 1325, gender equity and equality, human rights, etc - Establish and operationalize solidarity and coalition network among the 20 women committees, the respective municipalities, and the local NGOs - Promote advocacy and awareness raising among governmental and non-	INPUTS Project staff Training Sub-contracts Grants Consultants Micro-credit Supplies Commodities	- Financial reports - Supervisors reports - Field Monitoring reports - Quarterly reports - Yearly report - Final report - Training reports - Consultancy reports - Minutes of Steering Committee meetings - Minutes of meetings of SDSC and MOPH health centers - Minutes of meetings of municipalities - Minutes of collaboration with UN agencies	- Political and security stability - Staff members movement restrictions

governmental institutions on the importance of incorporating SCR 1325 into related policies, development and strategic frameworks and action plans with the aim of promoting and supporting women's contribution to peace culture, processes and initiatives – from conflict prevention to post conflict reconstruction/transformation and development j. Develop and agree on a comprehensive income generating package for selected (10-12) women groups and cooperatives consistent with the overall meaning of women economic empowerment k. Support the establishment of women cooperatives in targeted villages l. Support the establishment and operationalization of a youth network in the targeted areas m. Identify youth priorities and needs in the targeted villages and within a participatory approach n. Capacity development of youth on identified priorities (i.e. participation, decision making, conflict resolution, human rights, etc) while emphasizing a life skills approach o. Support the strengthening and establishment of youth friendly services and package in the targeted areas p. Promote awareness raising and outreach targeting young people			
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3. Programme/Project Justification

The background to the programme/project, and the approach adopted should be explained

This proposed project (Phase II) aims at contributing to implementing components of the UNSCR 1325 within the country specific context while taking into consideration the overall national frameworks such as the national women strategy, the social action plan, the national youth policy, and the gender-based action plan. In particular, it aims at advancing women in 17-20 post-war/poor villages by promoting gender equity, equality, and empowerment of women within a cross sectoral approach and package that addresses decision making, participation, literacy, economic empowerment, reproductive health, gender-based violence, human rights, peace, etc. In addition, the project also aims at empowering young people in decision making and participation while ensuring the adoption of a life skills approach. The 5 key project pillars consist of: 1) awareness raising and advocacy on UNSCR 1325; 2) creation of solidarity network lead by women committees and municipal councils; 3) institutional building of women machineries and entities for mainstreaming 1325 and gender equity and equality in policies and programmes and capacity building of women committees on identified priority areas such as participation, decision making, conflict resolution, etc; 4) empowering women in economic development through income generating projects; and 5) empowering young people in support and contributing to peace building presses and mechanisms in targeted communities.

What experience does the organisation have of working on this issue in Lebanon or countries in similar circumstances?

UNFPA is a lead agency in promoting gender equality, equity, and empowerment of women as guided by the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), and the Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals (2000). Throughout its operations in Lebanon, UNFPA has continuously ensured mainstreaming of gender dimensions across all its projects be it in contribution to development of sectoral strategies (i.e. health, education, etc), undertaking of focused interventions targeting specific population (women, youth, vulnerable groups, etc), support to capacity development and awareness raising initiatives, and data collection and analysis such as PAF, HLD and PAFAM surveys as well as qualitative research focusing on women's needs, protection, etc. Specifically, UNFPA has supported various projects on Gender Based Violence and hence contributed to building capacities of selected partners in further focusing their interventions based on research evidence. UNFPA supported the elaboration of the national GBV action plan with the participation of concerned stakeholders and under the auspices of the Ministers of Social Affairs and of Public Health. In the past 10 years, UNFPA supported the preparations of various national reports on CEDAW and follow up to Beijing Platform of Action. Promoting youth well-being and youth empowerment in decision making and programming is yet another strength demonstrated by UNFPA through its ongoing projects and initiatives.

In terms of the proposed project, UNFPA has supported since October 2006 the implementation of the WE PASS (Women Empowerment, peaceful Action for Security and Stability) project within the overall context of SCR 1325 (Women, Peace, and Security) and in accordance with national frameworks while ensuring all the project's dimensions are developed and implemented within a rights-based approach to development. UNFPA Lebanon gained significant experience on the framework of SCR 1325 through learning from neighbouring countries (i.e. OPT) and ensuring proper and timely technical assistance is provided by UNFPA regional Technical support team and specifically the regional gender and socio-culture advisor.

The partnership with the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) as an implementing agency proved to be sound and appropriate given the high institutional and coordination mechanism it enjoys, capacity to implement efficiently and timely, its interest in ensuring a national and multi-sectoral approach to development and empowerment of women, and its advisory and guiding role in view of its mandate throughout all stages of the project duration.

This project will also continue coordinating its efforts with key partners such as the Ministry of Social Affairs particularly through its social development service centers, as well as local municipal councils. It will link up with grass root organizations with an added value in working with women, youth, vulnerable population, economic development, gender based violence, women empowerment, etc. The project will liaise with relevant UN agencies such as UNDP, ILO, UNESCO, OHCHR, and UNIFEM regional office (Amman) for technical assistance, advisory support and guidance, and harmonization of selected activities.

Programme/project approach

What problem(s) does the programme/project address? What specific assessments have been made and by whom?

- The proposed project (Phase III) will be focusing on empowering women in the initial 10 villages as well as 7-10 additional post-war/poor villages in decision-making and participation at the level of their communities. The key results and outcomes of the first phase showed the following:
1. The perception of women empowerment was only understood in relation to what women could bring to their family and community, irrespective of their self-worth, personal accomplishment, or contribution to gender equality and equity. This perception changed not only among women but the male community leaders.
 2. The same women, who were considering community development projects as the only activity that can sustain their interest in the project, were now calling for training on inter-personal skills and awareness on women rights and support structures against injustices like Gender Based Violence.
 3. Women's relation to the concept of women empowerment evolved to a great extent from where it was at the beginning of the project when it was mostly reflected by them and their communities as "impossible", "inconsequential", or "no need to change the status quo".
 4. Sensitization on GBV took place in all communities, and those who were initially resistant to organizing public sessions on this topic gained knowledge of its importance on women's well-being and that of society as a whole. They eventually realized that such forbidden/taboo topics could be discussed within an enlightening context that helps and supports its victims.
 5. Unless local post-conflict communities, and mainly women, are given the opportunity to participate in spreading peace and contributing to the development of interventions designed to improve their conditions, livelihoods and status, they will miss the benefits of any such intervention.

The first and current second phases of the project have generated significant findings and evidence upon which the remaining second phase and proposed third phase will be built upon. Specifically, data has been generated from each of the ten targeted villages in areas related to community needs with particular focus on women needs. In addition, a women economic situation analysis was conducted for determining criteria towards selecting villages to support income-generating projects. More so, a mapping of all services and resources is currently being conducted in relation to Gender Based Violence and hence will allow a more structured and comprehensive service and referral system.

How do the proposed outputs and activities help solve these problems? How does the programme/project fit in with the national priorities? What would happen without the programme/project?

The suggested proposed outputs and activities (refer to logical framework) are systematically aligned with national priorities stipulated with relevant sectoral strategies and priorities. Specifically, the proposed activities will aim at responding to the key fundamental dimensions of the Social Action Plan through catering to the poor and vulnerable population (women and youth), strengthening the public sector capacities to serve the poor and vulnerable, and strengthening capacities of the communities and local authorities for promoting access to social services and gender equity and equality. In parallel, the proposed activities also respond to key priorities and principles of the national

women strategy by empowering women in terms of participation in decision-making and economic development. More so specific activities will aim at empowering women in alleviating illiteracy (such as in Yammou) and ensuring access to a wide range of services (health, counselling, protection, etc) generated through awareness-raising and outreach activities. Finally, the national women strategy calls for special attention and interventions in support of women under occupation in conflict situations and in this regard, the overarching umbrella of this proposed project is UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace and Security).

This project is essentially important given the coordinated and structured mechanism it has established through the creation and empowerment of Women Committees (WC) in 10 villages and consisting so far of some 200 women. The advocacy and capacity building work conducted with these WC enabled them to gain the trust of their communities, selected municipal councils, and their peers to promoting women's advancement and a culture of peace; for instance, in Kfeir people say that the project is the first initiative that brings together different and opposing stakeholders to work on common cause. Equally important is the proactive and supportive role of the community stakeholders and municipal councils in also promoting the role and functions of these WC and the decision of selected municipalities (Ayatoun) to invite the WC to participate in the periodic meetings of the municipal boards and to benefit from the allocated financial resources towards activities identified and prioritised by the WC in support of their respective communities.

Hence failure to sustain this project's achievements and ground work may result in a possible downfall of the efforts accomplished so far, especially that women are now eager to make a difference in their lives and are starting to seek tools and methods to advance their status in their societies. On the other hand, the so far gained trust of local stakeholders need further efforts for the local machineries to enhance the role of women and create referrals and services tailored to cater for vulnerable groups. The geographic designation of the project in remote and sometimes poor villages is an incentive to continue empower women who have been deprived of basic rights. Last but not least, the proposed project should be able to endorse sustainability plans for all efforts accomplished during previous phases, specifically by continuing to empower the Women Committees who are gaining skills to enable them participate in decision making like the coming municipal elections in 2010.

What are the essential features of the programme/project's operating environment including the problems and opportunities provided by evolving social, political, institutional and economic context in Lebanon?

The project works towards the achievement of its objectives as part of the recovery activities after the July-August 2006 war. During the recovery phase, where progress has been made on the level of human development, there was a focus on addressing basic survival needs. Little importance was given to addressing issues related to women and children who are known to be the most affected by armed conflict and hence the first two phases of this project were developed and articulated to cater for the needs and well-being of war affected women by empowering them to be more proactive in peace process and decision making. This proposed phase will continue to build on the efforts exerted during the first two phases towards supporting women at local community level in overcoming social and economic burdens that resulted from the war, in addition to provision of psycho-social services since such need was assessed during the initial phases of the project. The project's essential features being derived from the UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace and Security) as well as national frameworks will contribute to the development of capacities and institutional capacity building on the local as well as national levels to enhance a culture of tolerance and contained conflict.

Were any alternative approaches considered to the ones proposed? If so why were they rejected?

N/A

Who are the main beneficiaries, and how will they benefit? Are there other stakeholders who may gain or lose as a result of the programme/project? How will stakeholder participation be handled?

The main beneficiaries are the following: women committees, local community stakeholders, and

community at large

The **women committees (WC)** have already been established for each of the 10 targeted villages. Similar committees will be created for the 5 additional villages. Each women committee consist of 15-50 members all selected based on specific criteria (i.e. proactive in the community, member in the municipal council, ready and willing to support various interventions and activities under this project, etc). The committees have expanded significantly since the initiation of the project given the interest of the women in the scope and nature of the project and due to the fact that they perceived the project's objectives to cater for their needs and aims of enhancing their capacities in decision-making. The WC will benefit substantively from the project given that their capacities will be further developed in several areas such as interpersonal skills, coordination and team building, conflict prevention, advocacy, awareness raising. More so, further skills will be developed in key substantive areas related particularly to income generating projects, reducing vulnerability to violence, gender equity and equality, participation in decision making, etc. The monitoring system of the WC will continue to be supervised and guided by the project team for increased effectiveness of these WC in their proactive role with their respective communities.

The **local community stakeholders (LCS)** vary in terms of composition. In some villages they consist of the municipal board/council, chairs of local committees, service providers, school directors, or a combination of some or all of the previously mentioned stakeholders. The LCS will benefit from the project through the socialization events that will cover a wide array of issues such as gender equity and equality, empowerment of women in decision-making, conflict prevention, supporting youth initiatives in the communities, etc. The project team will work very closely with the LCS throughout all the stages of the project in order to overcome any unforeseen resistance on the adopted approaches and/or themes. The project will also ensure that the WC is continuously collaborating with the LCS in the implementation of selected activities.

The **community at large** will be the group that will benefit from the project since this group will be involved in mass campaigns and awareness raising activities that will be implemented by the WC (guided by the project team) and supported by the LCS. In fact, the collaboration between the WC and the LCS will be translated into concrete positive outcomes that will benefit the community by raising their awareness on the overall peace culture in general and promotion of gender equity and advancement of women.

Are the needs of particularly vulnerable or marginalised groups addressed? How?

Several vulnerable groups will be addressed through this project as follows: women who are particularly poor, female heads of households, and abused women/victims of violence. Their needs will be met through further identifying their specific situations and conditions, and hence adopting activities such as awareness raising and outreach, capacity development, services provision including counselling, advocacy, etc. In addition, the project will strive to harmonize its activities with the UNDP/MOSA poverty reduction project. Women who are also illiterate in selected villages will be targeted through developing and implementing literacy programmes while ensuring coordination with local centers such as Social Development Service Centers (SDSC) among others. Micro-credit projects will be initiated in this project targeting women groups and cooperatives in selected villages and giving due attention to poor communities. In addition, young people will be targeted for ensuring their access to youth friendly services (including reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, substance use, etc) and for empowering them to be involved in participation, community development, etc.

Will the beneficiaries of the programme/project participate in its development and delivery? How?

The beneficiaries of the project will participate in its development and delivery ensuring adoption of a participatory approach. This will be achieved by engaging the selected communities and various groups in a) identifying specific needs (particularly relevant to the WC and women in the communities, as well as young people), b) agreeing on key priority tasks and activities to be implemented, and c) agreeing on methods and approaches to be adopted in the activities of the interventions (i.e. awareness raising, sensitization, training of trainers, assessment, use of entertainment education, etc). It is worth noting in this regard that where feasible and needed, activities and approaches will be developed based on the specificity and capacities of the relevant communities while ensuring the adoption of a human rights

based and a cultural sensitive approach throughout all interventions and activities and across all communities. This methodology has been adopted under the first and second phases of the said project and was proven to yield concrete outcomes such as acceptance and openness of the communities and particularly conservative stakeholders of the variety of issues addressed (i.e. Gender based violence, women equity and equality, empowering women in decision makers, etc)

Will men and women benefit from the programme/project? How will any gender inequalities be handled?

The project targets both men and women in its totality. As mentioned above, it primarily targets women in 15 post war conflict areas with the aim of empowering them to be involved in peace building as well as to promote advancement of women. Several interventions and activities will be implemented to ensure that the activities are developed based on identified needs by women themselves and endorsed by their respective communities including men. The latter will also benefit from the project with a two-fold approach: men who are key stakeholders in the communities such as members of the municipal councils and boards, community committees members, school and health centers directors, etc. This group will be serving as a support group by promoting the efforts and tasks to be implemented by the WC but they will also benefit from the sensitization and advocacy events aiming at increasing their understanding of gender equity and equality and the importance of women's role in the advancement of the communities and societies. The second group are the men at large and who will be targeted through various community awareness activities related to gender equity, gender based violence, human rights, etc. The project will adopt a particular approach for ensuring the establishment of a synergy between men and women in the respective communities towards promoting equity and equality as well as advancement of women's role in the community.

Have environmental concerns been addressed including environmental impact/risk assessment where relevant? Not relevant

Are there specific issues in relation to the security situation? How will they be handled?

The project will be developed within the context of human rights based approach and principles of SCR 1325 related to Women, Peace, and Security. Therefore various related issues to SCR 1325 will be covered including conflict prevention and resolution, networking, team building, community support, etc.

The project will ensure provision of training to communities on *Basics on Emergency Relief in Conflict Situations*, noting the fact that the communities selected were targeted during the July-August 2006 war. Under the second - and current phase - this activity emerged from a pressing need for women in conflict areas as a result of the challenging health situations and the absence of the possibility to reach relevant service providers due to war hostilities.

The solidarity approach to be adopted within and among the targeted communities will also contribute to provision of needed support during crisis as well as decreasing possible tension as a result of the capacity development on conflict resolution and peace building.

How does the programme/project relate to existing ministerial structures and how will it contribute to capacity building in ministries?

Though the primary implementing agency is the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW), the project will continue linking up with the Ministry of Social Affairs in terms of involving the Social Development Service Centers (SDSC) in the provision of services and outreach (such as literacy programmes, counselling, gender based violence, etc) and through their trained personnel. Coordination will be established with the Ministry of Public Health in terms of benefiting from the various services (i.e. reproductive health, etc) offered by the Primary Health Care centers functioning in the targeted areas.

What lessons have been learnt from previous experience in this area or type of programme/project?

Because of the adoption of a participatory approach and continuous monitoring by the project team and

partners. It is easy to draw lessons learned from the previous phases of the project that would be essential to take into consideration during the implementation of the current phase, particularly in terms of sustainability. For instance, there is a need to systematically revisit the mobilization plan in some communities to achieve the endorsement of community leaders and not just the head of municipalities (the rotation of chairmanship of the municipal council in Dveir reconsidered the status of the WC in that community). It was also clear that future planning should build on the tangible accomplishments of the current phase as a way to nurture the investment done so far. Equally important is to remain culturally sensitive throughout the project implementation and develop genuine relations with local stakeholders. Finally, an important lesson learned is the need to link the WC to national stakeholders to take the women empowerment cause beyond the borders of the local community and hence ensure further support and increase chances for sustainability.

4. Management Arrangements

Give a brief description of programme/project implementation and monitoring arrangements to ensure the cost-effective and efficient attainment of the outputs identified in the logical framework, including:

Programme/project implementation and supervision arrangements; indicate in-country and region based capacity of organisation including length of presence and staff; indicate names, track record and expertise of any implementing partners;

The project will be implemented by the NCLW with a primary execution modality by UNFPA Lebanon. A steering committee (SC) has already been established under the first phase of the project with clear Terms of Reference (TORs) and composed of NCLW and UNFPA. The SC mechanism has been very efficient towards providing guidance and overall supervision on the key project's component. The SC, which meets every 4-6 weeks, has also been involved in operational aspects such as recruitment of staff, revision and implementation of workplan, management of funds, and ensuring an optimal degree of coordination and collaboration between and with the implementing partners. To increase the efficiency of the NCLW's management of the project, UNFPA is providing technical assistance in revising and updating the NCLW's organizational procedures and guidelines. Various activities will be subcontracted to local partners including local NGOs, academic institutions, and research institutes with comparative advantage. Specifically, collaboration will be established with the following NGOs: KAFA and Lebanese Council to Resist Violence (on Gender-Based Violence), CRTD (on capacity development), Progressive Women Union, Nour Association, and Freedom Youth Club in Kfar Kila, DPNA and Caritas in Dar Munas, Red Cross and Cultural Association in Bini Jbeil, Scout association in Ras Baalbeck, and Islamic health association in Yatron. Additional NGOs will be identified throughout the project implementation. Italian NGOs (as funders of the current project phase with comparative advantage on Micro-credit) will also be approached for possible collaboration. Specific UN agencies will be providing technical assistance and advice on the project's activities such as ILO (livelihood and economic empowerment), INSTRAW/LAO (comprehensive gender-based package), UNIFEM (women issues), UNDP (conflict resolution and ART GOLD), UNESCO (literacy programme), UNFPA (community support and referral hotline, UNFPA's current joint project on HIV/AIDS prevention and mainstreaming of gender in UNFPA's operations). As adopted under the first and second phases, UNFPA will continue to provide the overall technical assistance (through both its country office and regional advisers), as well as overall guidance to NCLW.

Specific delivery mechanism chosen reflecting security conditions and in particular detailing proposed use of international staff in Lebanon both from private contractors and NGOs

The project will be rationally executed in terms of implementing agency (i.e. NCLW) and partners (i.e. subcontracted local NGOs, academic and research institutions). National experts/researchers who have been identified and engaged under the first and second phases as resource persons will also be involved in the project activities as well as new additional experts where need be. The current project team is composed entirely of nationals and if need be additional staff will be recruited under the proposed project. Collaboration with Italian NGOs - already operating in South Lebanon - will be

established particularly with regard to the economic development component given their expertise and technical capacities. UNFPA international advisor on Gender and Socio-economic will be providing technical assistance through selected and critical stages of the project as requested by the implementing agency and on specific missions (i.e. 2-3 missions of 10 days/mission throughout the lifetime of this proposed phase).

Indicate line ministry counterpart and extent of cooperation;

As mentioned earlier, the project will be implemented by NCLW, a governmental body considered the highest national women machinery in Lebanon. The Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Public Health are key partners through their community centers (social development center and primary health care center) whereby proposed services and referrals (i.e. reproductive health counselling, youth friendly services, etc.) will be offered through the trained staff in these centers. The project team will also explore the possibility of negotiating with the SDSC for allocating sometime and space for the WC to hold their meetings and hence should this investigation materialize, the SDSC will be contributing to the sustainability and continuity of the WC's role and efforts within their communities. In addition to the 2 ministries, collaboration will continue with the respective local municipalities both as partners on one hand, and as beneficiaries on the other.

Indicate intra-sector cooperation and what goods/services other agencies are supplying or intend to supply including proposed utilisation of common services;

This project will be benefiting considerably from various UNFPA and other relevant UN-supported projects in Lebanon to maximize efficiency, increase delivery of results and reduce duplication of activities. As indicated earlier, the project will link up with the UNFPA-supported projects on youth peer education, awareness raising at community level on youth reproductive health, preventing gender based violence, and provision of quality reproductive health services. The project will also benefit from the expertise of UN agencies such as ILO (livelihood and economic empowerment), UNIFEM (women issues), UNDP (conflict resolution and ARI GOLD), UNESCO (literacy programme), OHCHR (on human rights) and UNHCR (community support and referral) noting UNFPA's current joint project on HIV/AIDS prevention and mainstreaming of gender in UNHCR's operations. The project may link up with the UN Youth Task Force (chaired by UNICEF) on youth related activities. The support to be requested by these agencies will be mainly technical as well as joint implementation of selected activities.

Indicate the overall timeframe for the programme/project, work plan, and timetable for specific activities;

The proposed WE PASS project (third phase) will be implemented over a period of 48 months (i.e. December 2007 - May 2009) since the current second phase is being implemented during the period June 2007 - January 2008 and hence there will be an overlap of two months between the second (current) phase and the third (proposed project). Since the proposed project is a continuation of an existing project, about 45-50% of the activities will continue to be implemented and the remaining activities will focus primarily on additional proposed activities such as the engagement of the 5 new villages and the expansion in the economic empowerment component through micro-credit projects.

Reliability of the costing of programme/project inputs and comparability with other UN organisations; arrangements for procuring and transporting programme/project inputs, to ensure local appropriateness and acceptability, as well as security and value-for-money under the circumstances; For the economic empowerment:

As mentioned earlier, the project will link up with sister UN agencies and UNFPA supported projects as well as with local and international NGOs (i.e. Italian NGOs operating in Lebanon) for maximizing the cost effectiveness of the deliverables and expected results particularly with regards to the income generating projects. The costing of various activities related to training and outreach have already been defined and applied during the first and second phases of the project. Remuneration of the national experts and institutions has been established and based on UNFPA/UNDP's price list for similar tasks. Moreover procurement of project commodities for supporting local communities (i.e. medical equipment

and supplies (IT drugs, audio-visuals, etc) will be made through UNFPA Procurement service unit in Copenhagen. Local procurement of project equipment will be governed by agreed upon procedures between UNFPA and NCLW. Finally, it is to be noted that the revised/updated NCLW organizational procedures currently being supported by UNFPA will ensure transparency and accountability in terms of programme delivery and financial management.

Systems for programme/project monitoring (including financial tracking and accounting audit), quality control (including lesson learning, and corrections), and impact assessment; methods for data collection and monitoring

The project will be nationally implemented by the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) in coordination with women NGOs, especially umbrella organizations, SOSC (MOSA), primary health care centers (MOPH) and local municipalities. It is worth noting that NCLW has shown growing capabilities under the first phase in executing the project's various activities. This was clearly demonstrated through the efficiency in implementing the activities and based on agreed upon procedures and regulations. In addition to the project team already in place, the NCLW has assigned a project director/NCLW focal point (with clear TORs) whose role is to provide guidance and advise on behalf of NCLW and who will be working closely with the We Pass project team.

UNFPA will be entrusted with the guidance, technical assistance, overall monitoring and evaluation of the project. In addition, UNFPA will provide necessary support for advocacy activities that are implemented under various parallel projects. More so, the UNFPA CO will necessarily shoulder some specific execution related to procurement, recruitment of national consultants, selected sub-contracts, evaluation, while ensuring building the national capacity in Results-Based Management (RBM) to optimize the use of resources and to manage results.

As UNFPA requires that all projects are audited yearly, services of a Government and/or independent audit firm will be obtained to provide a systematic examination of the project's accounting records and equipment. Auditors will be selected, subject to joint agreement of the NCLW and UNFPA. The NCLW is expected to meet all reporting and audit requirements for the project. Thus, the supporting financial documents, statements, and vouchers will be furnished, as requested to UNFPA. Moreover, at the end of the each calendar year, a financial statement of the expenditure of ERF funds (as well as any additional contributions to be possible mobilized), certified by an independent auditor, must be prepared and submitted to NCLW and UNFPA. Both parties will make sure to comply with the recommendations of the auditor to the extent possible.

UNFPA will make available to the project relevant guidelines and procedures regarding the status of the equipment procured by UNFPA in terms of transfer of equipment, disposal of equipment, etc.

5. Analysis of risks and assumptions

Key assumptions with regard to external factors that are outside programme/project control but nevertheless necessary to the achievement of programme/project outputs and purpose should be stated in the log frame.

Assess other main potential causes of failure, their likelihood of occurrence, and the seriousness of consequences that would be suffered;

Due to the project's geographic target, there is always the risk of security factors that may cripple parts or all the project's activities. Another risk factors are the local political conflicts, which are influenced by the political situation on the national level, but could also be rooted in the local communities themselves and are mostly emphasized in relation to municipal elections. It is worth noting that this latter risk was strongly felt during the first and second project's phases. Last but not least, a further risk is related to the possible turnover of local authorities, a matter experienced in Gouven and Ras Bialbeck.

Options considered and the steps taken in programme/project design and implementation to address, and minimise or mitigate the potential risks:

In case of a conflict crisis, the project would certainly suffer in respect of empowering WC and support institutions at local level, yet the design of the project allows it to follow up the beneficiaries wherever they are and launch activities based on their emerging need while respecting the framework of the initial project. Also the peer-to-peer support programme among the WC will enable them to assist other women in need (in case of displacement or community under attack). As for the risk of turnover of power and local authorities, it is protected through the mobilization plan and maintaining good relations with all stakeholders and more successfully through the adopted method of participatory approach which creates ownership by stakeholders to the project. Moreover, it is envisaged that the training package and outreach programme will mainstream conflict resolution as a main parameter that could be put in practice wherever needed.

Any undertakings or agreements made with partners which impact on programme/project implementation; how observance of undertakings will be monitored; the implications of non-compliance

The monitoring and evaluation exercises will follow the standard UNFPA guidelines. NCISW will be closely monitored by the UNFPA CO. The indicators set forth in the log-frame matrix will be used to assess both processes and performance of the project towards the attainment of its anticipated results. To ensure effective operationalization of the results-based management approach, the UNFPA country office would develop a monitoring and evaluation plan. A standard form for results-based reporting would be developed on an annual basis at all levels of project management. Field monitoring visits will be undertaken with the aim of identifying technical issues for backstopping missions, identifying technical and/or operational strengths and weaknesses, deciding with the implementing agency on corrective measure. Annual project review and sub-programme review meetings will take place annually to follow up on recommendations from previous years to review progress made in terms of the outputs and activities and on basis of the log-frame, and to identify and discuss any reasons for problems encountered and determine corrective actions and recommendations indicating when, by whom and where they are to be taken. In the event a mid-term programme review (MTK) is held for all UNFPA supported project, the proposed project will be included as well as all terms of continuation of all projects to the overall goal and outcomes of the country programme based on the established outputs and respective OVs whereby recommendations could be made for changes in the programme directions and duration on basis of progress, achievements, constraints and obstacles in implementation. A Final Project report is due at the end of the project that aims at recording all the activities undertaken and its contribution to achieving the outputs by providing summation of the achievements of the component project and recommendations for the effective utilization of the component project experiences and results. The closure of the project will entail financial and operational completion of the project and will be carried out jointly with the UNFPA CO in accordance with the established UNFPA procedures which will be made available to the project in due time. The end of country programme/project evaluation would be conducted at the end of the country programme cycle and aim at assessing the extent to which all projects achieved their outputs in light of the OVs established and develop lessons learned from this analysis in terms of contribution, performance and complementarity of each component for the achievement of the programme outputs. Monitoring and evaluation would be based on quantitative and qualitative indicators linked to each of the programme goals, purposes and outputs. UNFPA will exert maximum efforts to make use of national experts for the undertaking of various monitoring and evaluation exercises. During the monitoring and evaluation tasks, participation of CSJ advisors as well as Headquarters programme/technical staff may envisaged.

6. Programme/Project Budget

See Appendix C for recommended format.

THE PROGRAMME/PROJECT BUDGET

The budget would utilise the Standard Format agreed by UNDG Financial Policies Working Group.

CATEGORY	ITEM	UNIT COST	NUMBER OF UNITS	TOTAL COST
1. Personnel Incl. staff and consultants	• Project manager	• 3,500	• 1 x 18 months	63,000
	• Coordinators	• 1,800	• 3 x 18 months	97,200
	• Administrative	• 1,000	• 1 x 18 months	18,000
	• Drivers	• 700	• 2 x 18 months	25,200
	• Accountant	• 800	• 1 x 18 months	14,400
	• Consultants	• 5,000	• 5	25,000
2. Contracts Incl. companies, professional services, grants	• Micro credit	• 20,000	• 7	160,000
	• Grants	• 20,000	• 5	100,000
	• Sub-contract	• 25,000	• 7	175,000
3. Training	• Training/TOT	• 5,000	• 20	100,000
4. Transport	• Van	• 1000	• 18 months	18,000
	• Vehicle	• 1000	• 18 months	18,000
	• Travel	• 450	• 18 months	8,100
5. Supplies and commodities	• Medical equip	• 5,000	• 5	25,000
	• Audio-visual	• 3,000	• 10	30,000
6. Equipment	Office equipment			20,000
7. Travel	Study tour or fellowship	4,000	5	22,874
8. Miscellaneous				10,000
Sub-total				929,774
9. Agency Management Support*	7%			65,084
GRAND TOTAL				994,858

* The rate will be within the UNDG agreed range of 5% to 9%, with overall expected average of 7%, of the total of categories 1-8. To the maximum extent possible such costs should be integrated into categories 1-7 if appropriately determined as "direct costs attributable to the programme/project" thereby reducing the overall indirect cost rates.