

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Integrated Regional Development Projects

Economic and Social Fund for Development (ESFD)

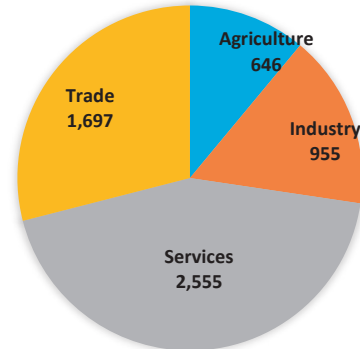
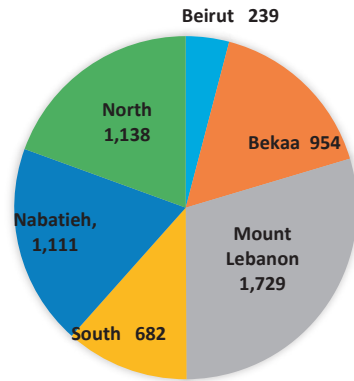
The Economic and Social Fund for Development (ESFD) contributes to social development in Lebanon and acts as a permanent poverty alleviation entity. The purpose of ESFD is to reach out to the under-served communities to improve their living conditions and create job opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprises, and to limit unemployment and call upon a balanced economic growth.

First: Job creation and income generation Component

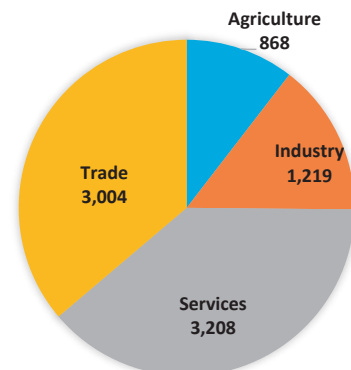
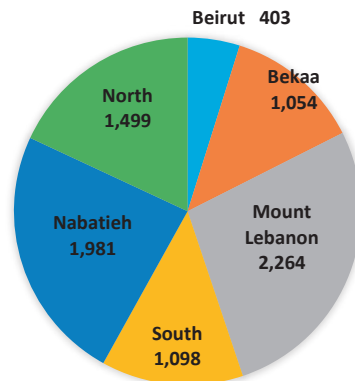
The job creation component provides financial assistance to private projects of SMEs in multiple sectors in order to increase employment opportunities across all Lebanese regions through the provision of productive loans and incentives in partnership with five commercial banks having branches across the Lebanese territory, and facilitate access to credits for financially excluded people.

In 2014, the ESFD offered financial support to a number of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to execute 611 projects, which led to the creation of 564 new jobs.

From 2004 until the end of 2014, the ESFD financed 8,299 projects and created 5,853 jobs.



Distribution of loans by sector and governorate until 2014



Business Consulting Services

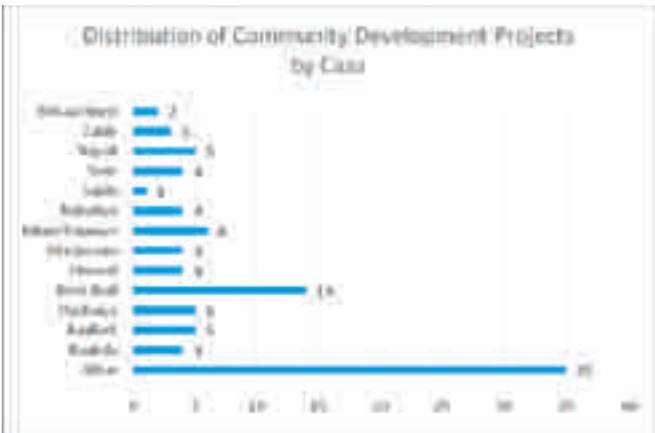
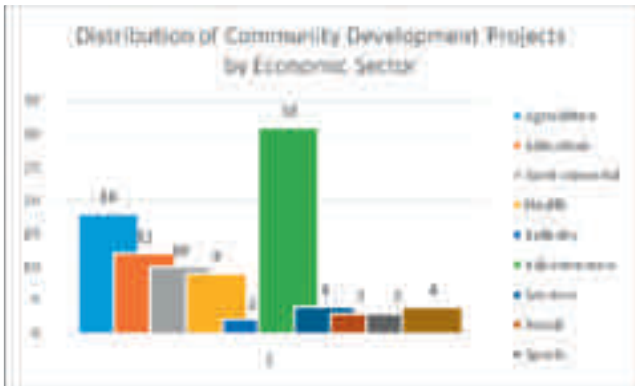
To provide individuals and SMEs with credit facilities to invest in new or existing economic activities, the ESFD seeks the help of mentoring experts. These mentors provide advice and guidance on how to create a business plan, prepare a cash flow forecast and fill applications to ensure that applicants are in the best possible position to receive funding from a bank collaborating with the Fund. These business consultation experts also follow up on the implementation of these business projects.

In 2014, the ESFD relied on a team of 14 Freelance Business Advisors to offer Business Consulting Services, which contributed to the funding of 268 projects and the creation of 286 new jobs.

Second: Local Development and livelihood Improvement Component

The EFSD helps 147 villages in the most deprived regions by mobilizing the efforts of partners in local communities, their elected representatives and other local stakeholders to implement development activities. Since the commencement of this Component up until the end of 2014, working groups and local committees received support to implement 96 local development projects, valued at around EUR 31,086,139 million. The EFSD follows a participatory approach in the local development process with emphasis on women needs and priorities and environment protection.





A. Project on the Support of Local Development in North Lebanon (ADELNORD)

Within the framework of the funding agreement aimed at “Supporting local development in North Lebanon” signed between the European Union and the Lebanese Government, a EUR 2,9 million grant was allocated to support local development in the regions of Akkar, Hermel and Dannieh.

In June 2012, priority development projects were identified and nine grant contracts were signed. These projects were carried out by local communities, while the ESDF provided oversight over the implementation and supervised the bidding and contract awarding processes, to ensure that criteria and specifications are adhered to.

By September 2014, the Development Unit had implemented six grant agreements of an aggregate value of EUR 1,906.230 million in six clusters of villages and municipalities in Akkar, Dannieh and Hermel. Three projects are still underway under the same scope estimated at EUR 1,804,012.



Below are summarized the projects that have been implemented to date:

Project title	No. Of beneficiaries	Total value in EUR
North Hermel remote villages cluster		315,000,00
1. Installation of potable water networks and digging wells in the remote villages of North Hermel	29,700	
South Hermel remote villages cluster		
1. Supply of drinking water in the villages of Wadi El Ratl and Turkman	28,200	200,000,00
2. Provision of agricultural machinery and equipment to three agricultural cooperatives		60,000,00
Total		260,000,00
eit Younes (Akkar)	34,240	195,100,00
1. Rehabilitation of irrigation canals in Mechmech, Qaryat, Beit Ayoub		74,900,00
2. Provision of trash collection trucks and street cleaning vehicles to the municipalities of Beit Youness and Qorneh		
Total		270,000,00

Project title	No. Of beneficiaries	Total value in EUR
Hrar (Akkar)		
1. Rehabilitation of irrigation canals in the villages of Qabiit, Houaich, Khreibet el Jerd and Habchit	22,284	290,300,00
2. Establishment of an educational support center in Hrar Public School		
3. Renovation of the municipal hall		47,700,000
		14,000,000
Total		352,000,00
Danniyeh (Danniyeh District)		
1. Supply of drinking water in the villages of Debeel, Korhaya and Asyamout	15,300	194,683,33
2. Organization of training workshops for local associations		9,750,00
3. Provision of equipment to a primary health care centre in Kfarbanin		55,328,33
4. Rehabilitation of a playing field in Qmamin public school		40,238,34
Total		300,000,00
Wadi Khaled (Akkar)		
1. Provision of equipment to the health centres belonging to the network of the MoPH and MoSA in Hisheh and Amayer		274,025,00
2. Conducting expedited vocational training and school support	39,638	
		135,205,00
Total		409,230,00
General Total		1,906,230,00

Projects that are still active:

Fneideq (Akkar)		
1. Construction of solid waste treatment plant for	24,000	394,000,00
Mashta Hassan (Akkar)	22,400	
1. Provision of equipment to a primary care center		250,000,00
Dora (Akka)	4,100	
1. Construction of sewage network and wastewater treatment plant		440,012,00
General Total		
		1,084,012,00

B- Support to Municipal Finance in Lebanon-MUFIN:

In September 2013, the ESRF launched a new project funded by the EU and entitled "Support to Municipal Finance in Lebanon – MUFIN", to reduce the burdens of Syrian refugee influx on local host communities. The EUR 16 million project targets the municipalities of the local communities hosting the highest percentage of Syrian refugees in the North and the Bekaa. The project aims at improving the level and quantity of basic services rendered by these municipalities, through the implementation of infrastructure projects aimed at improving the supply of drinking water, and managing waste water and solid waste.

List of MUFIN projects in the Bekaa:

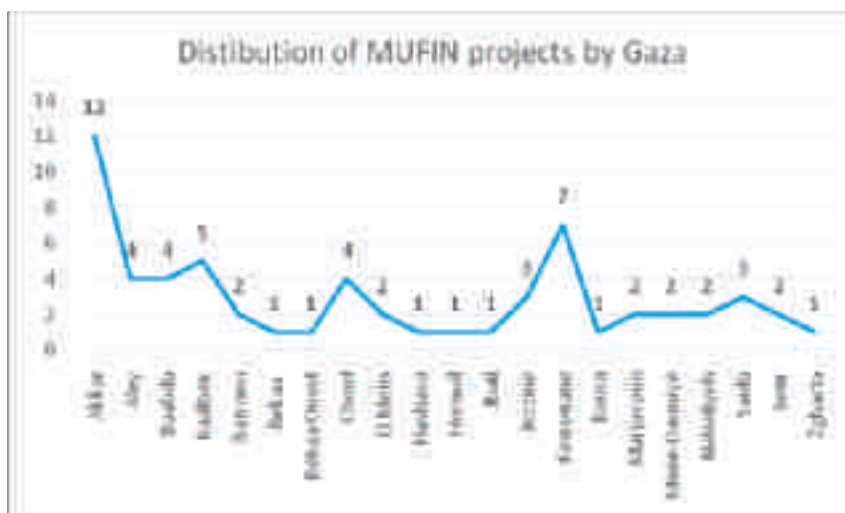
Local Community	Project	Number of Beneficiaries	Estimated Value (in Euro)
Kaa	Provision of trash collection vehicles to the Municipality	17,700	137,110
Gaza	Expansion of wastewater network and connecting it to the wastewater treatment plant in Jib Janin	26,500	241,109
Souairi	Construction of drinking water reservoir and connecting it with the general network	12,500	211,000
Dalhamieh	Procurement of solid waste collection trucks	8,700	64,505
Hermel	Installation of sewage network and waste water treatment plant	36,500	3,000,000
Bar Elias	Construction of solid waste treatment plant	166,500	4,000,000
El Marj			
Kab Elias			
Saadnayel	Rehabilitation of water distribution network	34,000	7,000,000

List of MUFIN projects in the North of Lebanon

Local Community	Project	Number of Beneficiaries	Estimated value (in Euro)
Tripoli/Qobeh	Digging and installation of artesian well in Qobeh and connecting it with the general network	185,394	194,467,60
Menieh	Providing the municipality with trash collection vehicles	100,000	198,220
Baddaoui	Providing the municipality with trash collection vehicles	44,000	67,706
Kfartoun -Akroum	Digging and installation of an artesian well	7,500	196,992,80
Qonnieh	Renovation of existing artesian well and construction of propelling line	2,350	135,083
Mouhamara	Digging and installation of an artesian well and expansion of the drinking water distribution network. Construction of a new underground reservoir and a water cistern	41,500	400,000
Sahle	Renovation of existing artesian well and underground reservoir and construction of propelling line to the reservoir. Construction of water network in the new area of the village	2,020	191,166
Wadi Khaled vil-lages cluster	Rehabilitation Nabaa el Safa station and transmission of water from this station to vil-lages and towns of Wadi Khaled	51,291	2,000,000



In addition to the active projects that the Fund will continue to implement through its two main components: Creation of jobs and local development, the Fund will continue, through the MUFIN project signed with the EU, to support the least underprivileged small municipalities across all districts, with an allocation of EUR 1,5 million:



Below are summarized the small projects that will be implemented by the Fund in the field of drinking water, wastewater and solid waste:

	District	Village	Project Title
1	Batroun	Kfarhi	Procurement of pick-up truck
2	Batroun	Edeh	Procurement of pick-up truck
3	West Bekaa	Zlaya	Procurement of pick-up truck
4	West Bekaa	Tak-Zanouh	Continuation of waste-water network
5	Chouf	Deir Kousha	Renovation of water sources and construction of necessary installations
6	Chouf	Alkanisa	Renovation of the historical water source of the village
7	Chouf	Haret Jandal	Installation of drinking water line from the village spring to the water reservoir
8	Chouf	Mazraet Al-Dhafer	Installation of artesian well
9	Koura	Bandael	Construction of water reservoir
10	North Metn	Kfaraab	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
11	Mennieh-Dannieh	Kfarshlan	Procurement of solid waste containers
12	Mennieh-Dannieh	Bhwita Afka Bshnata	Renovation of drinking water network
13	Nabatiyeh	Gazeh	Renovation of the existing well that alimnts the village's reservoir
14	Hermel	Mazraet Soujod	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
15	Baabda	Khrtada	Procurement of pick-up truck
16	Baabda	Jouret Arssoun	Construction of drinking water treatment plant
17	Baabda	Alkhraibeh	Procurement of Pick-up truck
18	Baabda	Deir El-Harf	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
19	Baalback	Khliila Alhafoush	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
20	Baalback	Mazraat al-Souedan	Construction of water reservoir
21	Baalback	Khrha	Procurement and installation of power generator to aliment the well of the village
22	Baalback Hermel	Alkhraibeh	Construction of water reservoir
23	Bint Jbeil	Faroun	Procurement of solid waster containers
24	Jbeil	Edeh	Procurement of Pick-up truck

25	Jezzine	Khtein Hdaieb	Procurement of Pick-up truck
26	Jezzine	Sabah	Rehabilitation of the Village water fountain
27	Jezzine	Rimat Shkadif	Procurement of Pick-up truck
28	Hasbaya	Koukaba	Continuation of wastewater network
29	Zgharta	Bnacheh	Procurement and installation of power generator to aliment the well of the village
30	Sour	Alhaninah	Procurement of Pick-up truck
31	Sour	Alnafakhiya	Procurement of Pick-up truck
32	Sidon	Abra	Procurement and installation of power generator to aliment the well of the village
33	Sidon	Kfarbeit	Procurement of Pick-up truck
34	Sidon	Tanbourit	Procurement of Road Sweeper
35	Aley	Ain Alsaideh	Continuation of wastewater network
36	Aley	Bouzraidah	Renovation of irrigation water dam and installation of canals
37	Aley	Alrjmah	Procurement of Pick-up truck
38	Aley	Sarhamoul	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
39	Akkar	Aoun Algouzlan	Procurement of Pick-up truck
40	Akkar	Alfardh	Procurement of Pick-up truck
41	Akkar	BaniSkhr	Provision and installation of power generator to aliment the well of the village
42	Akkar	Beit El-Haj	Renovation of water sources and construction of necessary installations
43	Akkar	Kroum Arab	Procurement of Pick-up truck
44	Akkar	Mounjez	Renovation of drinking water network
45	Akkar	Alnahrieh Boustan alhoursh	Installation of water transmission line from the artesian well to the village's reservoir
46	Akkar	Safinat Aldreib	Procurement of Pick-up truck
47	Akkar	Alkoueikhat	Road Sweeper)Procurement of)
48	Akkar	Dher Alkhnbarr	Procurement of Pick-up truck
49	Akkar	Algzailieh	Procurement of Pick-up truck
50	Akkar	Arka	Procurement of Pick-up truck
51	Kesserouan	Daraia	Renovation of irrigation canals
52	Kesserouan	Alhoussein	Renovation of water network
53	Kesserouan	Ghdrasa	Procurement of Pick-up truck
54	Kesserouan	Hayata	Installation of artesian well
55	Kesserouan	Alaazra Alouzr	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
56	Kesserouan	Batha	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
57	Kesserouan	Zeitoun	Procurement of Skid Road Loader
58	Marjeyoun	Eble Elssakhy	Renovation of village water spring and irrigation canals
59	Marjeyoun	Alkoulaiaa	Procurement of Pick-up truck



Main orientations of the Fund during 2015:

The Fund aims also at contributing to the stimulation of the local economy in the villages hosting Syrian refugees through the implementation of the Recovery of Local Economies In Lebanon (RELOC), a EUR 7 million project signed with the EU, to implement productive agricultural projects in order to support productive activities and create jobs in the North, the Bekaa and the South.

Project for Innovative Partnership to Promote Interregional Communication through Local Development (ART GOLD Lebanon)

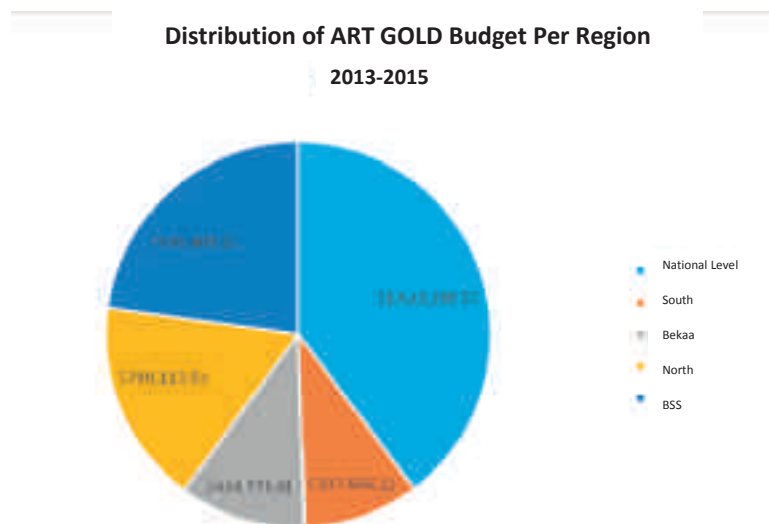
Since the launching of the ART GOLD (AGL) Programme in September, 22 2006, as part of the ART Global Initiative, UNDP continues, in partnership with the CDR, to implement this Programme in order to achieve balanced and sustainable development in four regions characterized by high poverty rates and raging socio-economic problems. These regions are:

1. North Lebanon (Three districts): Akkar, Minnieh-Danniyeh and Tripoli.
2. South Lebanon (Five districts): Marjeyoun, Bint Jbeil, Nabatieh, Sour and Hasbaya.
3. Bekaa (Five Districts): Rashaya, West Bekaa, Baalback, Hermel and Zahle.
4. Beirut Southern Suburbs (Baabda District): Municipalities of Chiyah, Borj El Brajne, Furn El Chebak, Ghobeiry, Haret Hreik and El Mreyjeh.

In the beginning of 2013, the AGL phase II was launched by the UNDP and the CDR, for an implementation period of 36 months (2013 to 2015). New financial contributions were secured from the EU, the Italian

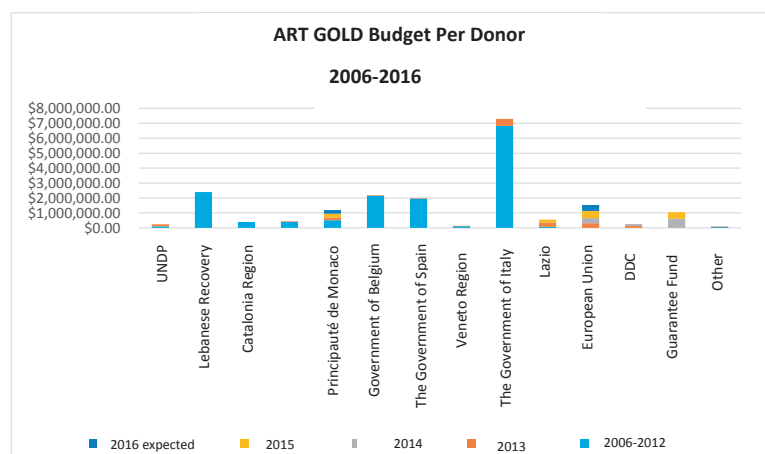
government and the Principality of Monaco in addition to contributions from NGO's and European decentralized cooperation institutions. The AGL three-year total budget (2013-2015) amounts to US\$ 4,086 million distributed by regions as follows:

Distribution of ART GOLD project budget by regions (2013-2015)



The total budget of ART GOLD since it has been launched in 2006 up until the end of 2014, amounted to around US\$ 17,6 million distributed as follows:

Distribution of ART GOLD project budget by donors (2006-2016)



Major achievements of ART GOLD Lebanon in 2014:

In 2014, the ART GOLD Programme has made significant accomplishments across various sectors, in partnership with local agencies and authorities in the targeted regions.

First: Main achievements across different sectors:

A. Local Economic Development Sector (including agriculture):

A.1 Local Economic Development Agencies (LEDAs):

In 2014, ART GOLD continued to offer support to Local Economic Development Agencies in the four targeted areas of the Programme to



help them in achieving self-sustainability and adopting a partial top-down support approach. Below are mapped out the main activities achieved in this context:

- Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between “Art Gold” and the “Local Economic Development Agency in the South of Lebanon” South LEDA, to cover the operational costs of the Agency for a period of nine months, provided that the Agency becomes financially auto-sufficient to cover the remaining operational costs as of April 2014.
- Inauguration of a packaging center in Sour in October 2014, under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Agriculture. The center was renovated and equipped during 2013 to support farmers and farmers’ cooperatives in Tyr and the neighboring villages. This initiative is implemented by the South LEDA and the relevant cooperatives in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Opening of the first ambulant market within the vicinity of Chiyeh Municipality, in Beirut Southern Suburbs, benefiting 100 business ventures including a number of cooperatives, SMEs and individuals.

A.2 “Enhancing Economic and Social Development in North Lebanon” Project, funded by the Government of Italy: the purpose of the project is to improve the economic and social conditions of farmers who have been under a lot of strain due to the exacerbation of the Syrian crisis and the closure of the northern borders. The project also aims at improving the level of primary health care services in Wadi Khaled-Akkar, including public schools within a period one year. In 2014, the project team implemented a number of activities within the framework of the two main components as follows:

1- Economic Development component: the project targeted 942 cows breeders in Wadi

Khaled, through the signature of an agreement with the Local Economic Development Agency which resulted in the following achievements:

- Conducting a survey about the cow breeders situation covering facts about economic and social statuses of cow breeders, number of cows, quantity of milk produced, milk selling mechanisms, processing intended for sale and domestic consumption, milking methods adopted, health and hygiene and veterinary services.
- Organization of a health and nutrition training workshop for breeders. 615 out of 942 breeders participated to the workshop.
- Distribution of hygiene and milk testing instruments to 890 breeders.
- Distribution of hygiene and nutrition posters to 890 breeders.
- Conducting field visits to cowsheds by specialist to give guidance to breeders.
- Formation of a working group of active breeders to establish a milk production cooperative in Wadi Khaled.

2 - Integrated social services component:

The programme launched a communication and dialogue mechanism that brought together municipalities, primary health care centers, development services centers and public schools in order to activate the health services system in Wadi Khaled. Below are summarized the main activities carried out under this component:

- Conducting meetings with the heads of municipalities to raise their awareness and increase their motivation regarding the importance of health services and the role of municipalities in providing health services.
- Conducting meetings with primary health care centers and development services centers to identify their services and the problems and challenges that they face.

- organization of a workshop for

municipalities, representatives of primary health care centers, social development centers, school principals, representatives of the Ministries of Education and Health and the UNDP, with the participation of experts from Tuscany region in Italy.

The purpose of this workshop was to conceptualize the improvement of primary health care system in Wadi Khaled and identify priority needs.

- Provision of equipment to the primary health care center in Wadi Khaled affiliated with Al Makassed Islamic charitable association which belongs to the network of primary health care centers adopted by the Ministry of Agriculture. The center was equipped with a multi-purpose ultra sound device and a microbus to provide transportation services from and to the center.

- Creation and equipping of dispensaries in 11 public schools in Wadi Khaled to conduct school health examinations for students and linking the dispensaries with the primary health care centers operating within the geographical area of these schools.

B - Tourism Sector:

In 2013, the Municipality of Marseille in partnership with ART GOLD offered financial and technical support to the Al Fayhaa Union of Municipalities, to encourage historical and archeological tourism. A GIS Application was created to enable visitors and tourists using smart phones to look into the history of historical sites on the distribution map in the three Al Fayhaa cities (Tripoli, El Mina and Badoui). 25 archeological buildings and sites were selected to be included in the GIS Application that offers main information in Arabic, English and French when scanning the code affixed



on the entrance of the site. The project duration is 2 years (2013 – 2014).

In 2014, the number of heritage buildings which received coded signs reached 53 buildings. A specialized heritage buildings expert was contracted to formulate the historical descriptive texts of such buildings. The team works in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Culture to complete the necessary procedures and wrap up the project during 2015.

C- Health Sector:

Strengthening primary health care in Ghobeiry/Beirut Southern Suburbs (BSS) Municipality: In the context of the activities of the new primary health care center established by the municipality of Ghobeiry in 2013, the medical staff of the center performed medical examinations to 1800 students in elementary public schools. A number of students were referred to the primary health care center for treatment and follow up.

D- Governance Sector:

- Social survey of family livelihood conditions in Furn El Chebak/Southern Suburbs of Beirut: The purpose of the survey is to collect and analyze data on family livelihood conditions in the region of Furn El Chebak and Beirut Southern Suburbs, in order to formulate a strategy for the municipality to implement projects that respond to local community needs.

In 2014, the draft final report of the social survey was elaborated covering 8723 residents and economic units (shops, clinics...).

E- Education Sector:

Study on school dropout rate in El Mreyjeh/Beirut Southern Suburbs: Within the framework of the initiative designed to reduce

the drop out of children aged 8-14 years old – the ART GOLD Programme trained the staff of the social municipal office of the Municipality of El Mreyjeh on collecting data, in collaboration with stakeholders in all five targeted public schools (Tahwitat El Ghadir Public School, Laylake Public School, El Ghadir Public School, Borj El Brajne Public school). In 2014, the survey participants issued the final report in light of the data collected in 2013.

Second: ART GOLD succeeded in securing additional funding to implement the following projects:

1- Projects funded by the European Union - ENPI Projects:

- “Live Your Tour” project for the development of sustainable tourism: “Live your Tour” (2013-2015) is implemented in the Bekaa by the Union of Baalbeck and Deir El Ahmar Municipalities, the Union of Chouf El Souayjani Municipalities and the American University of Culture and Education (AUCE). The project is designed to promote Chouf and Baalbeck/Deir El Ahmar as attractive tourist areas. Besides Lebanon, “Live your Tour” involves three Mediterranean countries, Italy, Spain and Tunis.

In this context “Live your tour” carried out the following activities in the Bekaa, in 2014:

- A contract was awarded to an expert in tourism planning to formulate a plan to organize and revive the tourism sector in Baalback and Deir el Ahmar, in order to promote the regions landmarks within an institutional framework that ensures sustainability and efficient management of the sector.

- Creation of a GIS system for each of the participating unions to facilitate data collection and mapping of tourist landmarks, historical sites and tourist services centers. The geographical

database will be developed in 2015 in order to be made available on the internet to the largest number of interested persons locally and internationally.

- In 2015, a contract was awarded to a tourism consultant to map out important historical and tourist landmarks, in order to a) promote such landmarks and put in place a comprehensive plan for their development to enable them to receive more visitors and b) place these landmarks on a tourist route, in collaboration with national and international tourism companies and c) issue brochures containing major information related to these landmarks.

a. Local Agenda 21 in Territorial Planning in Energy and Waste Management: The project is implemented in the South of Lebanon from 2013 to 2015 in partnership with the Union of Municipalities of Jabal Amel. Below are outlined the major accomplishments of Local Agenda 21:

- Attendance by the project’s team of the second steering committee meeting in Jordan.

- Elaboration of the regional plan on energy resources and waste management that includes 16 villages from the Union of Municipalities of Jabal Amel, by the consultant contracted for this purpose.

- Implementation of environmental activities by environmental volunteers recruited by the Union of Municipalities of Jabal Amel.

- Inclusive Governance of Sustainable Coastal Metropolis (MEDSEATIES): The project’s aim is to empower targeted local authorities in the multi-level decision-making processes related to environmental, economic and urban management of coast cities. The project is implemented in six metropolitan areas from 5 Mediterranean countries: Aqaba/Jordan, Tripoli/Lebanon, Thessaloniki/Greece, Genoa/



Italy, Marseilles and Toulon/ France. The Project duration is one year (2014-2015).

In 2014, the Lebanon team achieved the following:

- Establishment of the Lebanon project committee headed by the Union of Al Fayhaa Municipalities and composed by representatives from Al Manar University, LEDA North and the UNDP.

- Assessment of existing initiatives and procedures pertaining to the management of coastlines in Lebanon in accordance with the indicators and criteria adopted in the management of coastlines.

- Identification of potential partners involved in coastlines management and of the legislations adopted in coastlines management.

In addition to these tasks, the UNDP, being the implementing partner of the Governance component of this project, collaborated with MEDSEATIES partners in other countries to develop a report encompassing the achievements of all partners.

b. Territorial networking for capacity building and local development: a cross border experience linking Lebanon, Jordan, France, Italy. The project is implemented in Beirut Southern Suburbs from 2012 until April 2015 in partnership with the Federation of Municipalities of Zgharta, Tyr, and Jezzine, Greater Madaba Municipality, the regions of Tuscany and PACA in Italy, OXFAM/Italy and ARCI. The project aims at promoting networking between partners to achieve economic development. The project launched its activities by conducting a study on the leather-manufacturing sector in Beirut Southern Suburbs to identify the needs and problems faced by this sector in collaboration with the Beirut Southern Suburb LEDA.

c. Supporting Dry Land Development: a project funded by the UN Dry Land Development

Center, whose purpose is a) to support women cooperatives involved in agro-food processing in the South of Lebanon and the Bekaa in order to improve their economic situation and b) to focus on renewable energy. The project implementation period will be wrapped up by the end of 2015.

During 2014, the United Nations Development Programme started the implementation of a project aimed at installing a system that works on solar energy (PV Solar System) to pump irrigation water to a wooded area within the municipality of Hermel in the Bekaa stretched over more than 20,000 square meters. This project will help the Municipality of Hermel to preserve the green forest areas, which are few in the region, through the supply of irrigation water using renewable energy and reducing the electricity bill which constitutes a burden on the municipality.

The UNDP has continued, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce of the Bekaa, to implement the plan aimed at supporting the women cooperatives specialized in the food industry in the Bekaa by providing some equipment and materials, organizing training courses and helping to market their products in the local and global markets.

Third: Main orientations of the Programme in 2015:

- Pursuing the projects that were launched in 2014, while continuing to support the Lebanese host communities affected by the Syrian crisis and alleviating the repercussions of the crisis on the poorest communities.
- Promoting the Decentralized Cooperation Partnerships to learn from international best practices and experiences related to local development across all sectors.
- Continuing to support the Local Economic Develop-

ment Agencies (LEDAs) in the four regions to strengthen their participation in boosting the economy of the areas where each LEDA operates and to ensure the sustainability of their interventions.

- Regional Development Program in Akkar – Phase II

In 2014, the CDR and the UNDP continued the implementation of activities agreed under the Regional Development Program in Akkar – Phase II, while continue their collaboration efforts to support the development process in the Akkar district, in particular in Wadi Khaled.

Consultative meetings were intensified between both parties to develop this partnership and modify the orientations of the regional development program in Akkar in order to launch the third phase of this program by focusing on the development of value chains in agricultural productive sectors that will have a positive impact in advancing economic development in Akkar, one of the poorest areas in Lebanon.

This new approach is expected to help reduce the repercussions of the Syrian crisis and the huge influx of Syrian refugees to Akkar that place a huge strain on the economic and social conditions.

Joint Projects with UN Organizations working in Lebanon:

First: Support to the Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals-MDGs

The CDR and UNDP signed the “Support to The Implementation of The Millennium Development Goals” project on 24/07/2008. The project aims at helping the Lebanese government implement policies and activities that contribute to the attainment of



MDGs by 2015, as agreed by Lebanon and the countries of the world. These activities were completed by the end of April 2014.

Main achievements in 2014

- Staff training on management and statistical skills and the provision of office furniture and computers to the National Employment Institution within the scope of the initiative aimed at creating the “Employment Fund in Lebanon”.

- The launch of the “Lebanon Millennium Development Goals Report for the year 2013-2014” under the auspices of the Prime Minister and with the participation of representatives from public administrations and institutions, including the Council for Development and Reconstruction, and the civil society. This ceremony took place during the visit of Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to Lebanon in September 2014.

Second: Enhancing Capacity for Social Development

The “Enhancing Capacity for Social Development” project is jointly implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). The purpose of the project is to offer the necessary support to MoSA to shift from a Ministry of social affairs to a Ministry of social development and promote its leading role in the improvement of the quality of life of local communities and groups from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Lebanon is witnessing a sharp rising influx of refugees representing a burden weighing heavily on the Lebanese host communities and competing for

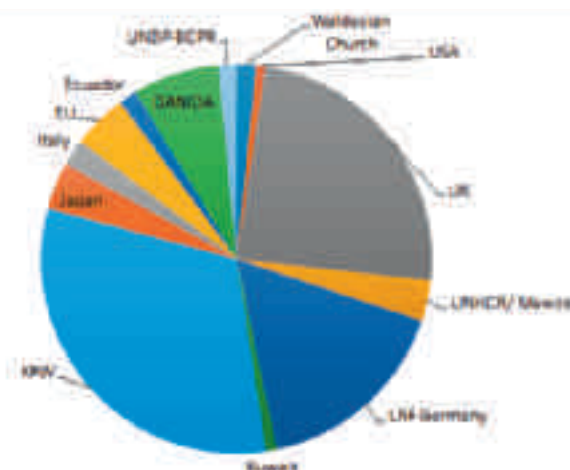
already limited social services, employment and other economic opportunities. To tackle this issue, the Lebanese Host Communities Support Project (LHSP) was created as part of the Enhancing Capacity for Development Project. The LHSP aims at increasing and sustaining stability in the areas affected by the Syrian crisis through improving livelihoods and providing basic social services. The project will also contribute to strengthening the capacities of the MoSA’s and local civil society actors in order to set priorities, mitigate conflicts, settle disputes, provide services and create jobs in the most affected areas. A steering committee was formed to provide strategic direction for the LHSP and ensure that adequate mechanisms are in place to select and implement projects.

This committee is formed by representatives of the following entities:

- The Presidency of the Council of Ministers
- The Ministry of Social Affairs
- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
- The Council for Development and Reconstruction
- The World Bank
- The European Union
- UNHCR
- UNDP

Main achievements in 2014

With the financial support of UNHCR, Denmark, Ecuador, Italy, Japan, Monaco, United States, UK Development Fund, European Union, Germany, Lebanese Development Fund and Waldesian Church, the LHSP implemented projects in different sectors as follows:



Health Sector: Projects aimed at supporting primary health care centers and hospitals by equipping them with necessary laboratory and x-ray equipment and supplies. By supporting health centers, health services become available to both Lebanese and Syrians at reduced costs.

Education Sector:

- a) Projects aimed at providing public schools with the necessary laboratory and IT equipment
- b) Projects aimed at renovating a number of schools to increase school enrolment capacity

Water management:

People living in isolated remote areas are faced with water scarcity; they do not obtain water in sufficient quantities to cater for their daily



needs. To tackle this problem, the LHSP installed water pipes and provided vehicles equipped with water reservoirs to transport water.

Waste management:

Due to the increasing number of Syrian refugees and the incapacity of municipalities to handle huge quantities of accumulated trash, the LHSP provided municipalities with waste bins and trash collection and transfer vehicles and installed or renovation of sewer networks.

Income generating projects:

a) Provision of new equipment and materials to women food associations to increase their productivity and improve the quality of their products.

Social projects:

The purpose of these projects is to encourage social activities that gather people from different social backgrounds and to ensure entertainment opportunities for the youth.

Social cohesion projects:

The aim of these projects is to promote interaction and communication between Syrian refugees and Lebanese host communities.

Infrastructure Projects:

a) Renovations and repairs of internal roads to facilitate students' access to schools and employees' access to the workplace.

b) Cleaning and renovation of sewer networks.

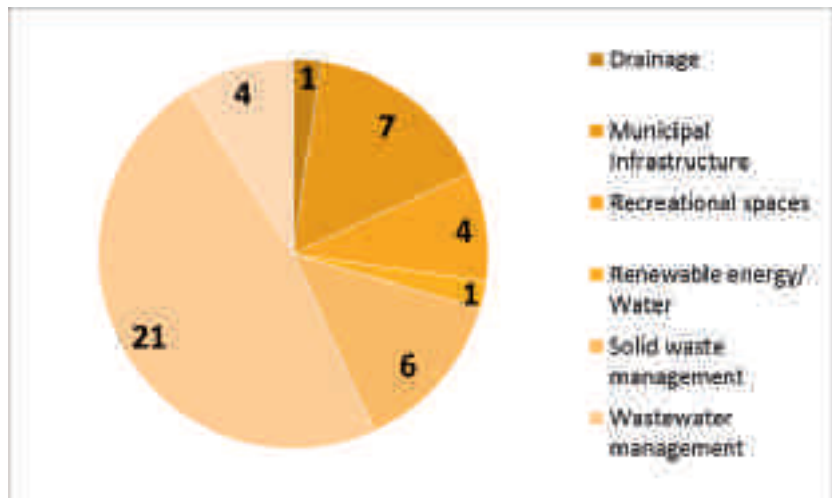
Another initiative was also implemented in partnership with the UNDP, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Ministry of Social Affairs. A memorandum of understanding was signed for that purpose to promote cooperation among the partners in order to 1) strengthen local governance to achieve local development on the regional level and b) improve social and economic conditions of local communities.

Projects Implemented to support Municipal Services (a total of 44 projects):

Distribution by geographical area and category

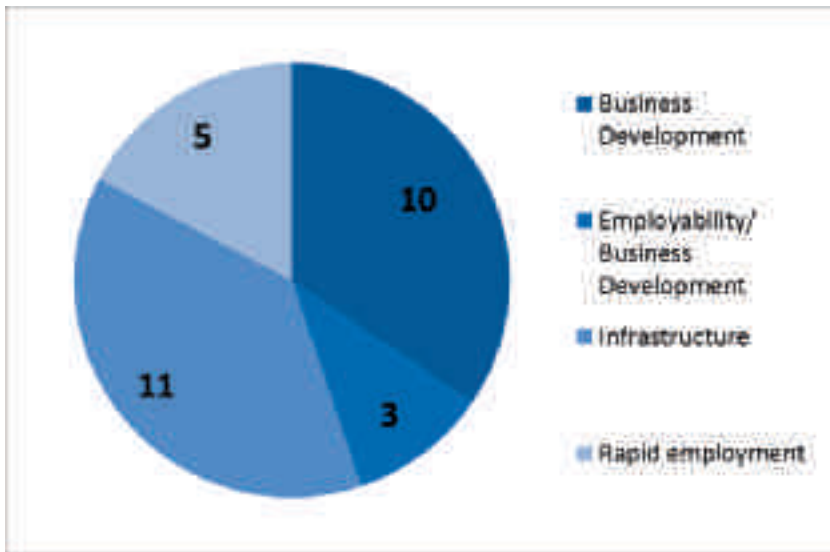
Total Lebanese Beneficiaries: 396,000

Total Syrian Beneficiaries: 137,000

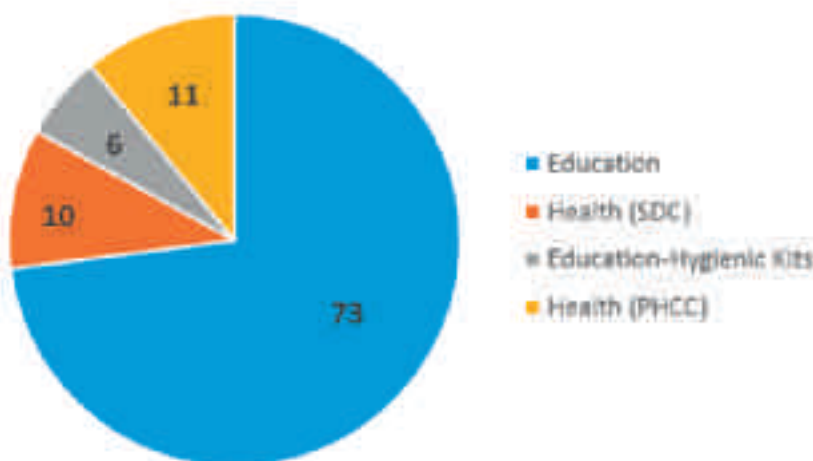
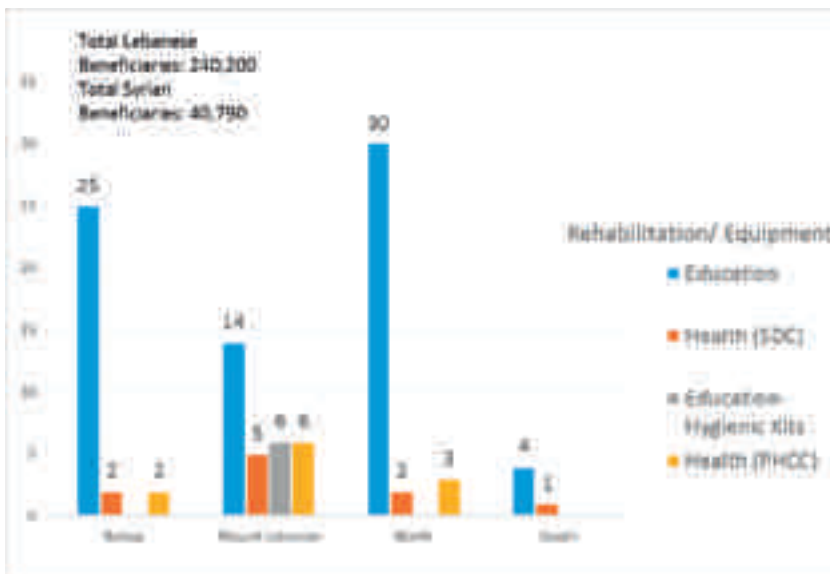


Projects Implemented to support Livelihood (a total of 29 projects): distribution by geographical area and category





Projects Implemented to support Education & Health (a total of 100 projects):
Distribution by geographical area and category



Mains orientations of LHSP in 2015:

The LHSP will continue to assess priority needs based on a participatory approach, will put in place an integrated plan targeting the most affected communities and will continue to develop the Maps of Risks and Resources (MRR) that were launched at the end of 2014 in a number of host communities.

The LHSP will continue to implement projects to respond to priority need that were identified in light of the assessment of needs that was conducted in full cooperation with local stakeholders and relevant government entities.

