



PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting UN Organization	:	United Nations Development Programme
Country	:	Lebanon
Project No.	:	00063594
Project Title	:	<u>LRF-18 Recovery Coordination Support in Lebanon</u>
LRF Signature date	:	24 October 2008
Project Start date	:	30 October 2008
Project Timeframe	:	36 months
Reporting Period	:	1 October - 31 December 2010

I. PURPOSE

Project Summary:

The project aims at strengthening the coordination capacity of the Resident Coordinator 's Sub-Office in the north and south of Lebanon to ensure a more effective and efficient delivery of recovery interventions in the most affected areas of the country. This is a two-fold approach:

(a) **Enhance coordination at the field level through the RC sub-offices:** the primary function of the sub-offices is to facilitate and promote coordination of recovery efforts at the field level to avoid duplication and promote synergy and complementarities, strengthen community outreach in the regions and act as interlocutors with different partners and stakeholders (decentralized units of line ministries and government agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations etc.).

(b) **Support to Data Management and GIS functions:** one of the key coordination functions that can assist in making a difference in the recovery effort is to provide information on recovery and reconstruction to the national government, local and international partners, donors and media. A successful recovery response is dependent on the collection, analysis and distribution of information on the work of development partners on the ground to support the recovery and reconstruction efforts.

The ultimate goal of the coordination support structure falls into two principle areas:

- (1) to establish a coordination mechanism and information management system that allows the UN Resident Coordinator to ensure a smooth and coordinated implementation of recovery efforts and provide information to national and international actors involved in the recovery effort.
- (2) ensure coordination support structures strengthen national capacity and ownership, in order for national authorities to better coordinate and plan their own reconstruction and development.

Project Objective:

Enhance coordination of recovery activities at the field level;

Improve information sharing between actors and raise awareness on recovery activities, thus providing a gateway for various actors working or planning interventions;

Contribute to provision of linkages among various UN agencies, local and international NGOs, civil society entities, the communities, and the Lebanese government entities both at the central and local level, and

Work towards joint programming amongst various actors.

Project Outputs:

Enhanced coordination at the field level through strengthening of existing coordination sub-offices, and Comprehensive information collection system at the field level established and shared with stakeholders and the public at large.

Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:

Through sustained linkages between the UNRC Office in Beirut and the Government, the project was able to reflect government priorities in the work of the various UN and civil society organizations in the South. Moreover, the project provided a platform for the communities to share valid data on government and other interventions in a highly politicized environment.

Project Implementation Partners:

For the RCO Sub-Office in the North:

The main UN partners are UNRWA and the other UN agencies working in the NBC response operation and MDGF Programme (ILO, UN Habitat, UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and UNFPA); National and international NGOs participating in the Cluster system; Local authorities (i.e. authorities of the NBC surrounding municipalities and municipalities of the 3rd ring); LPDC ; Palestinian representatives, and Bilateral and multilateral donors (i.e. EC, WB).

For the RCO Sub-Office in the South:

UN agencies with a presence in South Lebanon (UNIFIL, UNDP and ILO) plus others involved in sector meetings and emergency preparedness (UNRWA, UNICEF, FAO, UNSCOL and UN-Habitat); Government officials at the central and regional level; Local authorities, regrouped in Unions of Municipalities and Steering Committees including national and international NGOs; Local and international NGOs, and Donors.

II. RESOURCES

Total budget approved	:	USD 747,122.00
Total disbursements as for 31 December 2010	:	USD 715,849.90
Balance	:	USD 31,272.10

CATEGORY	TOTAL BUDGET (USD)	TOTAL EXP (USD) as of December 2010	TOTAL EXP (USD) October-December 2010
1. Personnel (Incl. staff and consultants)	USD 368,040.00	USD 438,084.69	USD 61,654.96
2. Contracts (Incl. companies, professional services)	USD 50,004.00	USD 127,418.85	USD 9,976.32
3. Training	-	USD 1,500	USD 1,500
4. Transport	USD 54,800.00	USD 16,813.42	USD 3,431.48
5. Supplies and commodities	USD 81,200.00	USD 41,649.63	USD 5,815.86
6. Equipment	USD 63,800.00	USD 14,994.57	USD 227.7
7. Travel	-	USD 13,283.32	USD 12,366.32
8. Miscellaneous	USD 80,400.00	USD 15,274.12	USD 225.3
9. Agency Management Support	USD 48,878.00	USD 46,831.30	USD 6,663.86
TOTAL	USD 747,122.00	USD 715,849.90	USD 101,861.80

III. RESULTS

Progress in Project Implementation:

Project Outputs & Activities	Status
<p>Output 1: Enhanced coordination at the field level through strengthening of existing coordination sub-offices.</p>	
<p>1.1 Liaise with regional and local authorities:</p>	<p><u>RCO Sub-Office in the South (Tyre):</u> The sub-office continued to liaise with central and local authorities on an information sharing level.</p> <p>The Sub-Office maintained its support to the coordination office created within the Union of Municipalities of Tyre Region, following CESVI announcement that they were closing their offices in the South and would no longer support financially and logistically the small office, and</p> <p>On the regional level, the Ministry of Agriculture maintained contact with the South Sub-Office regarding the Ministry workplan for the following year.</p> <p><u>RCO Sub-Office in the North (Tripoli):</u> The Sub-Office met with officials of the Ministry of Agriculture at the regional level to discuss the dairy sector in the North (details are below).</p> <p>The Sub-Office visited several municipalities in Akkar along with UNDP, ILO and UNFPA. These meetings varied in objective: monitoring, advocacy and implementation of activities under the MDG-F joint-programme, and</p> <p>For UN Day, The Sub-Office organized a concert by the Lebanese Palestinian Choir (established through a UNDP LRF project) and invited the Mayors of all the municipalities in the North and Palestinian Officials. The event was well attended by representatives of the municipalities in the North and provided visibility to the UN presence in the area.</p>
<p>1.2 Liaise with civil society, national and international NGOs, donors</p>	<p><u>RCO Sub-Office in the South:</u> The sub-office pursued its collaboration with civil society, national and international NGOs with a focus for this Quarter on Gender related issues;</p> <p>In addition to the usual stakeholders, the newly formed</p>

informal platform for Gender regrouped UNIFIL, ILO, UNDP, UNRC, UNRWA, Save the Children, Mouvement Social, LPHU, Amel, Imam Sadr Foundation, GVC, in addition to 18 local women's associations from Tyre, Tayrf alsaqieh, Qana, Abbassieh, Bourj Rahal, Toura, MaarKe, Bedyass, Marjayoun, Hasbaya, El Khiam.

As a donor, EU expressed their interest in information-sharing and collaboration on Gender issues. A meeting was organized with the Programme Officer from Italian Embassy Development Cooperation Office, Chair of the EU Working Group on Gender and the EU Programme Officer, and

Finally, the Sub-Office responded to invitations and participated in events and workshops organized by NGOs in the South.

RCO Sub-Office in the North:

The Sub-Office continued its collaboration with more than 30 stakeholders from the civil society, national and international NGOs in both NBC and Beddawi Camps to enhance the participation of local and international NGOs in the Clusters meetings;

The Sub-Office is in the process of mapping all the activities undertaken by NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies in the North. The objective of this effort is two-fold:

- (1) to define who is doing what, where and when and
- (2) to determine needs and gaps thus avoiding duplication.

The Sub-Office provides technical and operational support to the MDG-F Programme "Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in North Lebanon". The Office also supports the six UN agencies working on the Programme and actively participates in the inter-agency bi-weekly meetings;

The Sub-Office actively participated and supported the UNDP/FAO Olive Oil Sector workshop. The meeting aimed at mapping the activities and projects targeting the olive sector in Akkar region so as determine the gaps and challenges. Consequently, a joint UNDP/FAO project proposal was developed based on the needs in the area;

The Sub-Office also supported UNDP in data collection from greenhouse owners in Akkar and Mennieh- Dannieh, and

The Sub-Office participated in a workshop to discuss the results of the ILO assessment on the ILO/UNRWA Vocational Training and Employment Centre at Beddawi and NBC. The discussion focused on the partnership between the agencies, the efficiency of the Centre and review of the lessons learnt.

	<p>This joint ILO and UNRWA endeavour was deemed successful and will be replicated by these agencies in South Lebanon.</p>
<p>1.3 Strengthen coordination mechanisms</p>	<p><u>RCO Sub-Office in the South:</u> Due to the refocusing of UN and International NGOs on activities elsewhere in Lebanon, the number of Inter-Agency and General Coordination meetings were rescheduled to monthly instead of bi-weekly meetings. This led to a more coordinated approach focusing on themes, namely Gender issues for the period covering October-December 2010;</p> <p>SC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was discussed, as well as women rights in the work place and empowering women, enhancing skills and supporting cooperatives and income generating activities. In addition, in its contribution to the Open Day in New York, UNIFIL underlined the work of the RC Office highlighting progress on SCR 1325;</p> <p>Gender as an UNDAF outcome, was the perfect illustration of a two-way communication channel established between UN agencies “acting as one”, UNIFIL, UNDP, ILO, UNRWA and UNRCO on one hand, and international, national and regional NGOs and women associations on the other hand;</p> <p>UN Day celebrations gave also more visibility to agencies present in the South and their involvement with local communities. The focus was on environment involving a beach cleaning campaign organized on 24 October 2010. In addition, there were performances by artists and youth groups in Beit El Medina where UN agencies had set up stands with brochures and other promotional materiel, and</p> <p>The Head of UNRCO and UNIFIL Civil Affairs met in Naqoura and agreed on a monthly bi-lateral meeting to enhance their collaboration. As a consequence, UNRC assisted UNIFIL Civil Affairs in liaising with UNDP and International NGOs regarding their 2011 workplan.</p> <p><u>RCO Sub Office in the North:</u> Under the LRF # 21 project, “Recovery and Rehabilitation of Dairy Sector in Bekaa Valley and Hermel-Akkar Uplands”, the RCO Tripoli Sub-Office is currently collaborating with FAO to undertake a sectoral coordination meeting bringing together all NGOs, INGOs, UN Agencies, Ministries and cooperatives working on the agricultural sector and specifically livestock. The Sub-Office is currently mapping all the activities and projects pertaining to this sector to identify the needs and gaps in the North. Simultaneously, the Sub-Office is collecting information through bi-lateral meetings</p>

with representatives of concerned key line Ministries and organizations working on the subject in addition to the mapping activity currently in progress;

The Sub-Office participated in a monitoring visit to the LRF # 24 project in the North. This included a field visit to the CBO in Babnine, the slaughterhouse in Halba and the Abdeh Harbor;

The UNRCO Tripoli Sub-Office organized two events in commemoration of UN Day on 23 October 2010. These included the viewing of a film for school children in Beddawi Camp and a concert by the Lebanese Palestinian Choir in Tripoli. Both events were well attended by the Palestinians and Lebanese. UNDP, UNRWA and Mouvement Social collaborated with the Sub-Office;

On 3 December, UNRWA, Al Najdeh, BAAS, Nabaa, Palestinian Cultural Club, CBRA & PSGA and the Sub-Office gathered at Al Kawkab School and hosted 506 student including 40 students with special needs for an Open Day. The seven hour schedule of activities included games, singing, poetry, face painting and competitions. The objective was to enhance coordination and collaboration between UNRWA and local NGOs working in the field of Education and to strengthen the Education Cluster ties. The day was considered a success where all participants expressed their gratitude and happiness with this activity. Prizes were distributed to the winners at the end of each competition. Participating NGOs also expressed their intent to make it a regular practice in NBC & BC;

The Sub-Office actively participated in the event organized by UNDP- Early Recovery of Nahr El Bared Surrounding municipalities' project inauguration of the newly dredged Abdeh Harbor after the completion of the dredging works in November at the Abdeh Harbour; and

In addition to many bilateral meetings with organizations in Beirut and throughout the North, nine Cluster meetings took place during the reporting period October - December 2010:

- Two Education & Health/MHPS Cluster meetings
- Two Shelter/WatSan Cluster meetings, and
- Five Education Cluster meetings (joint activity planning).

Output 2: Comprehensive information collection system at the field level established and shared with stakeholders and the public at large.

2.1 Display comprehensive database on the webpage	<p>The North Sub-Office continued uploading information to ensure an accurate update of all recovery operations information on the NBC website. www.lebanon-support.org/nbc.</p> <p>All up-to-date information could be accessed now on www.un.org.lb.</p>
1.2 Development, production and dissemination of maps	<p>The Sub-Offices were engaged in updating their contacts list and mapping the activities of local and international non-governmental organizations, UN Agencies and civil society organizations working in the North and the South. Bi-lateral meetings oversaw the validation of the information and enhance collaboration among the key stakeholders. This information will be incorporated into the UNRCO central information management system including its on-line facility.</p>
2.3 Develop strong links with other GIS staff	<p><u>RCO Sub Office in the South</u> continued liaising with UNIFIL regarding a shared data base.</p> <p><u>RCO Sub Office in the North</u> continued to maintain an updated contact list of all active stakeholders in both Nahr el-Bared and Beddawi Camps. This list is shared with partners upon request. The Sub-Office has also developed a contact list for Akkar, Minnieh/Dinnieh and Tripoli.</p>
2.4 Produce maps that support sectoral working groups	<p><u>RC Sub Office in the North</u> held meetings and minutes and other information was disseminated to all participants and posted online at www.lebanon-support.org/nbc.</p> <p>Education and Health/MHPS Action Plans were updated and circulated to all participants. Shelter/WatSan Clusters' Action Plan is to be updated during 2011.</p>

Implementation Constraints

For both RCO Sub-Offices in Tyre and Tripoli, the continuing security instability impacts adversely on their working environment and on the willingness of donors and International NGOs to expand their programmes. This may also reduce, over 2011, financial inputs to current UN joint and inter-agency projects so that greater resource mobilization become necessary.

Key Partnerships & Collaboration

For the RCO Sub-Office in the South, the reporting period witnessed enhanced inter-agency collaboration and more interaction between UN agencies and NGOs present in the South on specific themes of common interests identified by the sub-office.

For the RC) Sub-Office in the North, the reporting period saw a continuation of its partnerships and collaboration with the communities, local authorities, civil society organizations, international and national NGOs, donors and UN agencies.

IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

KEY ACTIVITIES	October				November				December			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Output 1 Enhanced coordination at the field level through strengthening of existing coordination sub-offices.												
Liaise between the central and regional level	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Strengthen relations with newly elected municipalities.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Support advocacy campaigns regarding the rights of vulnerable groups, Set up a child protection platform	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Work towards the creation of a gender platform	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Coordination of Shelter/WatSan Cluster meetings (including agendas, MoM, and Action Plan)			x							x		
Coordination of Education, Health/MHPS Cluster Meetings (including agendas, MoM, and Action Plan)				x						x		
Coordination of Education Sub-Working group (including agendas, MoM, and Action Plan)			x	x		x		x			x	
Convening regularly General Coordination Meetings (including agendas, MoM, and Action Plan)	x				x							
Attending NMU Meetings		x		x		x			x	x		x
Maintaining an updated contact list for active organizations in NBC	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Liaising with local and international NGOs	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Liaising with local authorities									x	x	x	x
Liaising with LPDC	x	x	x	x								
Liaising with RRC												
Liaising with UN Agencies	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hold regular UN inter-agency meeting in the North composed of all UN agencies working in the area.									x			
Providing technical support to UN agencies in the North on a needs basis	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Output 2 Comprehensive information collection system at the field level established and shared												

with stakeholders and the public at large.													
Re-design the data management system and upload relevant info on the website	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Create promotional material and a newsletter.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Liaising with Lebanon Support and uploading necessary cluster documents to the website	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Conducting Media Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Releasing a regular newsletter that covers all UNRCO activities in Lebanon	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Establishing a GIS system	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Maintaining an updated contact list for active UN agencies, municipalities, donors and line ministries in Lebanon	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Mapping the activities of all organizations working in North and South	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Adjustments to strategies, outcomes or outputs:

RC Sub-Office in the South.

The shift in focus of international and national NGOs to more active participation in the North and the continuing instability of the security situation in the South may require an adjustment during the first two quarters of 2011 to ensure the RCO Sub-Office in the South remains relevant and effective. This includes being able to mount a robust coordination response in support of any developing humanitarian emergency.

RC Sub-Office in the North

The office has adapted its work plan to reflect the changes and demands of UN agencies partners in the North.