



## PROGRESS REPORT

<b>Reporting UN Organization</b>	: United Nations Development Programme
<b>Country</b>	: Lebanon
<b>Project No.</b>	: '00059955
<b>Project Title</b>	: Youth Mobilization and Development in Beirut and its Suburbs
<b>LRF Signature date</b>	: 27 February 2008
<b>Project Start date</b>	: April 2008
<b>Project Timeframe</b>	: * 23 months
<b>Reporting Period</b>	: Jul- Sep 2009

### I. PURPOSE

#### Project Summary:

The project aims at both rapidly implementing socio-economic recovery activities targeting the youth, as well as enhancing the capacities of institutions (local NGOs and CSOs) at the community level of Beirut and its suburbs, in identifying, prioritizing and implementing socio-economic activities in an autonomous manner.

This target includes youths residing in the disadvantaged areas of Beirut and its suburbs, building their skills to play a leading facilitative role in the development of strategically planned, locally-driven, partnership approaches to rebuilding livelihoods.

The overall objective of the project is to promote social equity and local stakeholders' empowerment through local employment recovery and livelihood opportunities projects in Beirut and its immediate suburbs.

#### Project Objectives:

The project will contribute towards three main objectives:

1. To enhance implementation capacities of local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods. Local stakeholders can then select and implement community projects for recovery of livelihood.
2. To provide skills training for unemployed youth and support job creation through employment/ job search centre matching demand and supply. The centre will act as the enabling structure to create, enhance and develop skills and competencies of the youths.
3. To rehabilitate (through the trained youth) 2 underserved Beirut neighborhoods with a focus on the poor and multi-cultural neighborhoods after providing the youth with the proper training on how to enhance the socio-economic capacities for local communities.

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## **Project Outcomes:**

The project outcomes consist of:

- A network of qualified youths belonging to neighborhood committees and to Greater Beirut NGOs trained to participate in local community development projects
- A training manual serving as a reference for all members of CSOs on how to design, manage and evaluate development projects and programmes along with the methods of implementation.
- A labor market study developed to decide on the skills needed in the market and help in matching labor supply and demand.
- a database for the youth unemployed and jobs needed to try to match demand and supply is formed
- An employment creation center established to help unemployed youth finding a job and meet the labor supply market, and provide them with the adequate skills and competencies when needed.
- A participatory study developed to determine the 2 areas/ neighborhoods to be upgraded
- Two underserved Beirut neighborhoods rehabilitated by the trained youth

## **Project Linkages to National Priorities and Reconstruction Goals:**

The Project is part of the Lebanon Recovery Fund Program that is initially addressed to recover Lebanon from the aftermath of July 2006 war. Most of the recovery projects post July 2006 war concentrated on areas outside Beirut. However, this project realizes that Beirut also has been greatly affected by the recent hostilities and hence, is in need of attention from the on-going development initiatives, especially for youth employment and mobilization.

The importance of including the capital of Lebanon, Beirut, in the development programs resided in the fact that besides being the most densely populated area, it is the city that encompasses the highest levels of social and economic injustices, crimes, abuses, social gaps and disparities, illiteracy and unemployment.

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

Moreover, the events that have occurred consecutively after the war turned the country into a deep crisis. Two years after the war, Beirut is still struggling with economic stagnation, political instability, sectarian unrest, all reflected in different forms of manifestations, reaching to the dreadful outburst of the capital in May 2008, which reminded the Lebanese citizens of the dark days of the 1975-1990 civil war.

The crisis, notably the sectarian clashes that took place in May 2008 has radically increased distrust among citizens. It highlighted a number of crucial political and humanitarian themes and made a major impact on Lebanese citizens notably the youth, leading to further deprivation, immigration, unemployment, etc. Unemployment is currently estimated at 25 percent of the work force, and the inflation rate is said to have been about 225 percent in the first nine months of this year. In addition, many factories and other businesses have been destroyed in the years of factional fighting, and foreign investment has dried up.

The aforementioned incidents and the repercussions highlight the significance and urgency for carrying this project further into immediate implementation for embracing the youth and creating social

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safety net in a vibrant positive atmosphere that is capable of participating in the development of their communities.

Finally, the Objectives of this project are also in line with the Social Action Plan's main objectives i.e.:

- (i) alleviate poverty and improve living standards;
- (ii) improve the role of NGOs in development; and
- (iii) encourage investment and other job-creating activities in the more deprived areas.

#### Project Implementation Partners:

International Partners: UNDP

National Partners: Hariri Foundation for Sustainable Human Development

## II. RESOURCES

	<i>As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008</i>	<i>As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009</i>	<i>As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009</i>	<i>As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009</i>	
<b>Total budget approved</b>	\$996,919.00	\$996,919.00	\$996,919.00	\$996,919.00	
<b>Disbursements</b>	\$113,386.83	\$113,386.83	\$420,040.27	\$470,655.55	
<b>Available Balance</b>	\$883,532.17	\$883,532.17	\$576,878.73	\$526,263.45	
<b>Commitments for next quarter</b>	<b>USD 243,374</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>TOTAL BUDGET (USD)</b>	<b>TOTAL EXP. TO DATE (USD)</b>	<b>TOTAL EXP. TO DATE (USD)</b>	<b>TOTAL EXP. TO DATE (USD)</b>	<b>TOTAL EXP. TO DATE (USD)</b>
Personnel	352,700.00	73,775.00	73,775.00	158,475.00	192,206.00
Contracts	300,000.00	0.00	0.00	144,320.00	144,320.00
Training	74,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Supplies & Commodities	98,500.00	12,673.00	12,673.00	35,278.00	20,931.00
Equipment	40,000.00	12,796.00	12,796.00	20,754.00	42,901.00
Travel	46,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	15,013.00	15,013.00
Miscellaneous	931,700.00	1,725.00	1,725.00	18,721.00	24,494.00
Agency Management Support (7%)	65,219.00	7,417.83	7,417.83	27,479.27	30,790.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>996,919.00</b>	<b>113,386.83</b>	<b>113,386.83</b>	<b>420,040.27</b>	<b>470,655.55</b>

#### Project Outputs and Indicators:

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OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT	INDICATORS	Timeframe									
				Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 5	Q 6				
<b>Objective 1: Enhance implementation capacities of local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods. Local stakeholders can then select and implement community projects for recovery of livelihood.</b>													
1.3 Preparation of the Training manual	1. Work with the capacity building unit of the Ministry of Social Affairs on validating and promoting the training manual they have developed on "Internal Governance for NGOs". The manual is found to be consistent with our field of intervention as	Manual tested and validated between the foundation and the ministry of Social affairs to serve as an efficient guiding tool for local NGOs and CSOs working in all human and	The final draft of the manual										

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	it tackles 7 areas validated by our previous assessment made by INTRAC organization during the second quarter.	social development and fields							
	2. Training of trainers on internal governance and structuring of NGOs. The content of the training will be based on the topics included in the manual as a serving tool to test the manual	Around 25 trainers from different NGOs trained on how to use the manual and eventually become trainers for other members in their organizations as well as other NGOs	Contract with the consultant Training material No. of participants Filled application forms Evaluation Form Program schedule						
	3- Hold Follow-up workshop with top 12 selected trainers to prepare them for training local NGOs.	A training unit formed to work with NGOs on their internal governance: legal status, structure, budgeting, how to raise funds, etc.	Number of the trainers Reports of the participants						
	4- Meeting with local NGOs interested in the training, and explore their capacities and potentials, in order to prepare the adequate training accordingly	48 NGOs assessed and selected as potential participants to get trained by the training unit formed	No. of meetings No. of application filled by the NGOs No. of members per NGO assigned to get trained						
	5. Organize a schedule for conducting a series of training for local NGOs, to be held by the trainers just formed. These trainings will be followed-up and assessed by the training consultant, the foundation and the ministry of Social Affairs	48 Local NGOs acquiring progressively new skills and capacities enabling them to better manage their organization, moving from charity work to a more sustainable development work.	Training material per trainer Schedule of training sessions No. of members per NGO assigned to get trained Certificates distributed to the trainers after achieving their tasks						
	6. Finalize the designing of the manual and its related material (posters, brochures, CDs, pamphlets)	Manual and its related material ready for printing	Draft of the final material						
<b>Objective 2: Skills training for unemployed youth and supporting job creation through employment/ job search centre matching demand and supply. The centre will act as the enabling structure to create, enhance and develop skills and competencies of the youths.</b>									
2.1 Decide on the skills needed in the market	7. Finalize and launch the labor market study. It provides recommendations and information on opportunities that could help bridge the gap between labor supply and demand.	A labor market study is developed as a guiding reference for the functioning of the job creation center. It also entails recommendations useful for decision-makers	A final draft of the study						
	8. Work on the design of the study to print it and distribute it in an appropriate form	A well designed copy of the study that is useful for the sectors interested in the situation of the demand and supply of the labor force in Lebanon	The draft of the study in its final form						
	9. Prepare with the AUB the launching event for the study. The Issam Fares Institute agreed to host the event.	A launching ceremony held to distribute the study and disseminate its findings	No. of invitees Invitation form						

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			No. of attendees							
	10. Meeting with the World Bank to share our knowledge on active labor market programs, and explore other stakeholders and local organization working in such programs that increase employment opportunities	A Network of organizations from the public and private sectors, Civil society and international organizations working in the field of employability and labor market programs	No. of organizations involved No. of ministries represented No. of meetings held							
2.2 Establish an employment creation center	11. Finalize the business plan for the employment center.	A business plan is developed to outline the functioning and sustainability of the center.	Draft report Final Business plan							
	12. Proceed with the Recruitment of the personnel for the center.	Recruited staff: project director, for the center, project officer, project assistant, call center operator, marketing coordinator, part-time field coordinator, two field officers	CVs of the staff recruited Interviews held Salaries paid							
2.3 Elaborate a database for the youth unemployed and jobs needed to try to match demand and supply	13. Collect personal details (name, contact details, work experience, education history, qualifications and preferences) and preferences of applicants to initiate the recruitment process.	A database centralizing all the information will be available to all	No. of applications Data collected							
	14. Filter the database of applicants in order to start matching the needs and requirements of the private and public sectors with those of the unemployed. The website may play a pivotal role in the field.									
<b>Objective 3: Rehabilitate 2 green areas of Beirut neighborhoods with a focus on the poor and multi-cultural neighborhoods after providing the youth with the proper training on how to enhance the socio-economic capacities for local communities</b>										
3.1 Undertake a field survey to select the appropriate neighborhoods	15. Partner with the American University of Beirut to conduct a comprehensive research project on Karm El Zeytoun, in order to prioritize the areas of intervention. The project is conducted by the youth/ volunteers and led by the civic engagement department and the Landscape Unit of the AUB, to ensure a better formation of these youth on how to conduct community projects	A comprehensive field survey determining the needs assessments and priorities for the area selected.  A network of youth able to conduct field projects in a professional way	Draft of the assessment study  Number of youth participating in the research							
	16. Schedule a meeting with the municipality, along with active community members of Karm El Zeytoun to present to them our potential intervention to rehabilitate the area. This is also helpful in getting the consent and approval of the inhabitants, municipality and other involved parties for implanting the rehabilitation work.	Awareness of the inhabitants of Karm Zeytoun on the importance of rehabilitating their area (notably the main stairs and the commercial road leading to it)  A group of active community members interested in enhancing their living area	Presentation  No. of participants in the meeting							
	17. Collaborate with the AUB to conduct the same project for the Tarik Jdida area	A comprehensive field survey determining the needs assessments and priorities for the area selected.  A network of youth able to conduct field projects in a professional way	Draft of the assessment study  No. of youth participating in the research							

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	<p>18. Prepare for the infrastructure and rehabilitation work in the neighborhoods. Equipments are being purchased. Meeting with the concerned parties were held to get the approval for work, including municipalities of Beirut and Ghobeiry, along with some of the inhabitants surrounding the selected areas</p>	<p>Well rehabilitated areas enabling inhabitants to live in a better sustainable environment taking in consideration security and sanitary conditions</p>	<p>Type of work conducted Rehabilitation activities achieved</p>					
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## Progress in Project Implementation:

OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT	STATUS
<b>Objective 1: Enhance implementation capacities of local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods. Local stakeholders can then select and implement community projects for recovery of livelihood.</b>			
1.3 Preparation of the Training manual	1. Work with the capacity building unit of the Ministry of Social Affairs on validating and promoting the training manual they've developed on "Internal Governance for NGOs". The manual is found to be consistent with our field of intervention as it tackles 7 areas validated by our previous assessment made by INTRAC organization during the second quarter.	Manual tested and validated between the foundation and the ministry of Social affairs to serve as an efficient guiding tool for local NGOs and CSOs working in all human and social development and fields	completed
	2. Training of trainers on internal governance and structuring of NGOs. The content of the training will be based on the topics included in the manual as a serving tool to test the manual	Around 25 trainers from different NGOs trained on how to use the manual and eventually become trainers for other members in their organizations as well as other NGOs	completed
	3. Organize a series of training for local NGOs, to be conducted by the trainers after they have accomplished the TOT.	Around 60 Local NGOs acquiring progressively new skills and capacities enabling them to better manage their organization, moving from charity work to a more sustainable development work.	In progress
	4. Printing the manual and distributing it to serve as a reliable guide for local NGOs	2000 copies of the manual printed	In progress
<b>Objective 2: Skills training for unemployed youth and supporting job creation through employment/ job search centre matching demand and supply. The centre will act as the enabling structure to create, enhance and develop skills and competencies of the youths.</b>			
2.1 Decide on the skills needed in the market	5. Finalize and launch the labor market study. It provides recommendations and information on opportunities that could help bridge the gap between labor supply and demand.	A labor market study is developed as a guiding reference for the functioning of the job creation center.	completed
2.2 Establish an employment creation center	6. Finalize the business plan for the employment center.	A business plan is developed to outline the functioning and sustainability of the center.	In progress
	7. Recruit skilled personnel in charge of managing the center, after a competitive selection process.	Personnel includes: project director, for the center, project officer, project assistant, call center operator, marketing coordinator, part-time field coordinator, two field officers	In progress
2.3 Elaborate a database for the youth unemployed and jobs needed to try to match demand and supply	8. Collect personal details (name, contact details, work experience, education history, qualifications and preferences) and preferences of applicants to initiate the recruitment process.	A database centralizing all the information will be available to all	In progress
	9. Filter the database of applicants in order to start matching the needs and requirements of the private and public sectors with those of the unemployed. The website may play a pivotal role in the field.		In progress

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**Objective 3: Rehabilitate 2 green areas of Beirut neighborhoods with a focus on the poor and multi-cultural neighborhoods after providing the youth with the proper training on how to enhance the socio-economic capacities for local communities**

3.1 Undertake a field survey to select the appropriate neighborhoods	10. Working with the Civic Engagement department and Landscaping Unit at the AUB on studying thoroughly the areas that will be rehabilitated in Karm El Zeytoun and Sabra/ Tarik Jdida area, before beginning the implementation. Preparing for the infrastructure and rehabilitation work in the neighborhoods. Equipments are being purchased. Meeting with the concerned parties were held to get the approval for work, including municipalities of Beirut and Ghobeiry, along with some of the inhabitants surrounding the selected areas	Well rehabilitated areas enabling inhabitants to live in a better sustainable environment taking in consideration security and sanitary conditions	Completed
	11. Meeting with the municipality of Beirut to work with them on rehabilitating Beirut public gardens and other potential community development projects, led by the project's youth network.	More green and rehabilitated areas that could be of benefit to the community,  A network of youth that is able to act and respond to the needs of their surrounding s and the community	In progress

## **Implementation Constraints and Lessons Learned:**

The TOT workshops held were achieved successfully, whereby all participants showed their full commitment, willingness and motivation, to enhance their training skills and prepare their training material to build the capacities of NGOs working in the community development field, based on the manual developed. However the training of NGOs to be conducted by the prepared team was postponed due to Ramdan period, during which several local organizations that showed their interest in the training program, are overwhelmed with their charity activities in this holy month.

As for the training manual, negotiation to print the manual is finalized, which is expected next month. Furthermore, the Labour Market study is being finalized. A launching ceremony will be held to show the emanating results. Several local and international institutions showed their interest to know more about the study and collaborate with HF to expand it further, notably the World Bank within their ALMP (Active Labor Market Programs).

Concerning the rehabilitation of the two sets of neighbourhoods, a partnership is developed with the Center for Civic Engagement and community Service at AUB to conduct a development community service (Study and Landscape Design Project) in the selected areas in a way that takes into consideration the concept of sustainable human development and how to enhance the living standards of the inhabitants in a sustainable way. The project consists of mapping and surveying the open spaces and the community activities of that particular neighbourhood in order to choose a site and implement a design for it that would foster community life and enhance the open space situation.

The contracted company (OGER) that is supposed to conduct the rehabilitation work has showed their lack of expertise in assessing the needs and prioritising the areas of intervention in a way that best serve the community in need. This has led us to partner with the AUB team to help us select the activities mostly needed, along with the phases and procedures of intervention. Also, during the field work, several youths/ volunteers will be involved in the research and implementation phases, and ultimately they will benefit from the expertise of the AUB team, which will enhance their skills in conducting community development projects.

## IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN

KEY MILESTONES					Quarter 6		
OBJECTIVE	ACTIVITIES	OUTPUT	IMPACT	INDICATORS	Oc t	No v	De c
<b>Objective 1: Enhance implementation capacities of local stakeholders (NGOs and CSOs) in identifying and providing direct services to recover sustainable livelihoods. Local stakeholders can then select and implement community projects for recovery of livelihood.</b>							
1.3 Preparation of the Training manual	1. Organize a series of training for local NGOs, to be conducted by the trainers after they have accomplished the TOT.	Around 50 Local NGOs acquiring progressively new skills and capacities enabling them to better manage their organization, moving from charity work to a more sustainable development work.	An active civil society that is able to address community development in an effective and sustainable way.	Number of trainings held by each trainer  Number of NGOs benefiting			
	2. Printing the manual and distributing it to serve as a reliable guide for local NGOs , along with its related materials (pamphlets, CDs and posters)	2000 copies of the manual printed	Local NGOs equipped with better internal governance skills to better manage development projects	Copies printed  Copies distributed			
<b>Objective 2: Skills training for unemployed youth and supporting job creation through employment/ job search centre matching demand and supply. The centre will act as the enabling structure to create, enhance and develop skills and competencies of the youths.</b>							
2.1 Decide on the skills needed in the market	3. Finalize and print the labor market study. It provides recommendations and information on opportunities that could help bridge the gap between labor supply and demand.	A labor market study developed as a guiding reference for the functioning of the center. It also entails recommendations for decision-makers		A final draft of the study			
	4. Organize a ceremony/workshop to launch the study at AUB and disseminate its findings.	A launching ceremony held to distribute the study and disseminate its findings among academics, decision-makers, NGOs, interested in the situation of the labor market in Lebanon.	Awareness among actors about the gaps and potential solutions towards the local labor market.	Invitation letter  Number of attendees  Program			
2.2 Establish an employment creation center	5. Finalize the business plan of the center for the next 3 years. It ensures the well-functioning of the center and provides its reason for existing..	A business plan is developed to outline the functioning and sustainability of the center.		Final Business plan			
	6. Finalize and validate the recruitment of the personnel in charge of managing the center, after a competitive selection process.	Personnel includes: Center Manager, Marketing/PR officer, Coordinator, field officers		TORs- Nb of CVs- Signed contracts			

**Objective 3: Rehabilitate 2 green areas of Beirut neighborhoods with a focus on the poor and multi-cultural neighborhoods after providing the youth with the proper training on how to enhance the socio-economic capacities for local communities**

3.1 Undertake a field survey to select the appropriate neighborhoods	7. Hold a meeting with the municipality, along with active community members of the neighborhoods chosen to present to them our potential intervention to rehabilitate the area. This is also helpful in getting the consent and approval of the inhabitants, municipality and other involved parties for implanting the rehabilitation work.	Awareness of the inhabitants of both neighborhoods on the importance of rehabilitating their areas (notably the main stairs and the commercial road leading to it)  A group of active community members interested in enhancing their living area	Increase awareness among local inhabitants on the urgency to redress their surrounding community to be a better place for living	Type of work conducted  Rehabilitation activities achieved			
	8. Develop and detail the final and comprehensive design for the sites under rehabilitation	A well developed project responsive to the most urgent needs of the inhabitants  A network of youth that is able to act and respond to the needs of their surroundings and the community			Inhabitants able to live and interact socially in a better sustainable environment	Agreement with the municipality and concerned parties	
	9. Undertake the infrastructure and rehabilitation work in the sites, under the supervision of the AUB/HF team.	Well rehabilitated areas enabling inhabitants to live in a better sustainable environment taking in consideration security and sanitary conditions		Youth engaged in the beautification process of the city			