



AID DEVELOPMENTS

United States provided a grant to Haigazian University

On 4 March 2011, the U.S. Embassy of Lebanon presented a \$85,155 grant to Haigazian University for student scholarships as the final installment of \$600,000 grant from the United States to Lebanon. The funds offer partial scholarships to 356 Lebanese students from all over Lebanon to attend Haigazian University. In 2011, the United States Agency for International Development will provide full four-year undergraduate scholarships at Haigazian University for 65 promising public high school students chosen from throughout Lebanon through a new \$6.6 million University Student Assistance Program.

Spain provided agricultural equipment to Lebanon

On 9 March 2011, the Ambassador of Spain announced that the Spanish Agency for International Development funded a project entitled Enhancing the Agricultural sector in Southern Lebanon by providing Euro 3 million worth of agricultural equipment. The project, which will benefit 13 cooperatives, will be implemented by the Rene Mouawad Foundation and the Social Promotion of Culture Association. The donation is the first phase of a three-year project, which will provide human resources training to help communities improve their performance and productivity in an effort to help revitalize the agriculture sector.

United States Agency for International Development funded a farming program

On 9 March 2011, the United States Agency for International Development launched a \$12 million five-year agricultural program aimed at improving the earnings of rural producers and increasing exports. The Developing Hydroponics to Access International Markets (DHAIM) program will help establish production of high-value fruit, vegetables and flowers, with the long-term goal of improving earnings and livelihoods of rural producers in this sector. The program will target around 1,000 greenhouse owners and will partner with local organizations to increase access to markets, increase access to credit, train smallholder greenhouse producers and improve post-harvest handling. The launch included the signing of agreements between ACDI/VOCA, the primary implementing partner, and seven local sub-partners for the implementation of DHAIM activities: Arcenciel, Hariri Foundation, Rene Mouawad Foundation, Safadi Foundation, and the Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Sidon, Tripoli and Zahle.

Spain signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Agriculture

On 21 March 2011, the Minister of Agriculture, the Catalan Institute of Forestry and the Young Men Christian Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding that aims to establish a collaboration for the realization of development projects for the management of forests and other natural resources.

Japan provided a grant to the Nahr El-Bared camp

On 22 March 2011, the Ambassador of Japan and the Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) Affairs in Lebanon signed an exchange of notes formalizing a \$2.4 million grant to the Reconstruction of the Nahr El-Bared camp. This contribution will be earmarked to the reconstruction of Package Three that includes the main commercial street and as such is a key component of the Nahr El-Bared camp reconstruction. Japan has contributed a total of \$6.5 million to UNRWA for NBC relief assistance under the Flash Appeal and Emergency Appeal.



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Correction to March 2011 Aid Coordination Newsletter

In the March 2011 issue, it was reported that the Canadian International Development Agency and the Lebanese Customs Administration launched a CAD 30,000 technical assistance project to support the implementation of e-payment systems via commercial banks in the Lebanese Customs Administration. The contribution by the Canadian International Development Agency will actually be around CAD 70,000.

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