



## AID DEVELOPMENTS

### **Belgium provided a grant to the United Nations Development Program for a project supporting the Lebanon Mine Action Program**

On 8 April 2011, the Ambassador of Belgium announced a Euro 1 million grant to the United Nations Development Program for the Support to Lebanon Mine Action Program - Phase II, undertaken in partnership with the Ministry of Defense and the Lebanese Mine Action Center (LMAC). UNDP support to the Lebanese Mine Action Program was initiated in 2001 with a view to strengthening the capacity of the LMAC to effectively manage mine clearance operations.

### **European Union provided a grant to the Business Incubation Association in Tripoli**

On 15 April 2011, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Lebanon and the Minister of Economy and Trade launched the European Union Support to the Business Incubation Association in Tripoli (BIAT) and inaugurated BIAT's Innovation Center. The EU support to BIAT consists of a Euro 853,000 grant to upgrade and consolidate its incubation services in Tripoli and North Lebanon. This support is part of an EU grant of Euro 2.8 million to develop a national Network of Business Development Centers covering all Lebanon; it also includes Berytech (Beirut and Mount Lebanon) and SouthBIC (Saida and Southern Lebanon). BIAT and the Network of Business Development Centers will also benefit from specialized training by European incubation professionals and institutions.



## AID DEVELOPMENTS

### **Reconstruction of the Nahr El-Bared Camp and surrounding areas**

On 19 April 2011, UNRWA handed the first 19 newly reconstructed buildings to 43 NBC families in Package 1 out of eight packages of Nahr el-Bared camp during an inaugural celebration.

The gradual return to the Camp will continue over the months and years to come as the different packages get designed, funded, and constructed. The rest of Package 1 will be completed during summer 2011, with blocks being handed over to their residents as they are completed, with the first blocks of Package 2 being handed over soon after that.

The returning families received keys, furniture grant cheques, lists of a few outstanding works and a letter from UNRWA outlining the division of responsibilities borne by the contractor, the families and UNRWA.

Currently, reconstruction works are underway in both Packages 1 and 2 and three of the six school complexes contained within the UNRWA Compound are expected to be completed, equipped and ready for use by the beginning of the 2011-2012 scholastic year. These three complexes will house four separate schools and a vocational training centre.

However, lack of funding remains the major constraint for the reconstruction of the camp. As of April 2011, only 40 percent of the funding requirements for NBC reconstruction had been met. The Agency still requires around US\$ 207 million in order to fully-fund the remaining packages and three more school complexes.