



## AID DEVELOPMENTS

### **Japan supports Palestinian refugees**

On 29 July 2011, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) announced its allocation of \$2 million to upgrade the infrastructure and sewage network in Ain El Helwe camp and neighboring area. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and the Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC) will be the agencies supervising the project.

### **Canadian International Development Agency and the World Bank support the social sector**

On 2 August 2011, the World Bank and the Lebanese Minister of Finance signed a US\$1,765,094 grant agreement for the Second Emergency Social Protection Implementation Support Project (ESPISP II). The funds were provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) according to an agreement signed between the World Bank and CIDA on May 25, 2010. The grant received the Council of Ministers' approval decision No.52 on 14 July 2011, and became effective on 1 September 2011. The objective of the project is to support the Lebanese Government in the implementation of its National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP) for the delivery of social transfers and services to improve living standards of the population, in particular the poor and vulnerable.

### **European Union supports municipalities, environmental governance and the justice system**

On 17 August 2011, within the context of the European Neighborhood Policy, the European Union announced the Annual Action Programme 2011 for Lebanon, consisting of a cooperation package of Euro 33 million to benefit three reform areas: municipal finance, environmental governance and justice. The Support to the Reform of Municipal Finance project, Euro 20 million, aims to achieve better balanced socioeconomic development through modernized municipal administration and effective central support to local governments. The Support to the Reform of Environmental Governance, Euro 8 million, aims to improve the environmental performance of the Lebanese public sector by reforming environmental governance. Training will be provided to the Ministry of Environment and as well to other stakeholders in the sector, to help them better plan and implement environmental policy, including law enforcement. The final component, Support to the Reform of the Judiciary, Euro 5 million, aims at contributing to a more independent and better-performing judiciary system, thus increasing its legitimacy and trust among the Lebanese public.



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

On 13 July 2011, representatives from the Department for International Development DFID (UK) visited the Nahr El-Bared (NBC) camp and the Adjacent Areas to learn more about the situation on the ground. The DFID representatives visited the reconstruction site, where they were briefed on the ongoing works and the challenges to progress, mainly that of funding.

On 2 September 2011, UNRWA announced that, with the exception of Block N1, all of the first package (P1) has been handed over to the residents. Moreover, UNRWA signed a new contract with Akkar (Rahhal) Hospital to provide secondary health care to the Palestinian patients, in addition to the other contracted hospitals in the North. The new contract will be beneficial in a number of ways: increasing the number of beds for the patients; increasing the intensive care beds for premature delivery; and, having a contracted hospital near NBC (nine kilometers away).