



AID DEVELOPMENTS

Belgium announced €1 million grant for Nahr el-Bared

On 29 November 2008, Belgium announced that it will contribute €1 million for the reconstruction and recovery of the Nahr el-Bared Camp. The funds will be channeled through UNRWA.

Lebanon and France signed Partnership Framework 2008-12 and several cooperation agreements

On 20-21 November 2008, a French delegation led by Prime Minister Francois Fillon visited Lebanon and signed the France-Lebanon Partnership Framework covering the period 2008-12. The Partnership Framework agreement specifies the main areas of cooperation between the two countries. On the same occasion, France and Lebanon signed several cooperation agreements in the areas of budget support, finance, fishing, insurance, defense, mine removal, and justice. The budget support agreement amends the signed loan agreement concerning the disbursement of the second tranche of €125 million (out of a total of €375 million).

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and CDR signed KD 21 million loan agreement

On 7 November 2008, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR) signed KD 21 million (\$77 million) loan agreement to complete the construction of the Arab highway project. The project was originally financed by KFAED.

Turkey and CDR signed agreement for \$20 million in-kind support

On 3 November 2008 and in fulfillment of the Paris III pledge, Turkey and CDR signed an agreement for the construction of a trauma and rehabilitation center for the physically disabled in Saïda. The in-kind support is estimated at \$20 million and will be implemented by the Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency.

Lebanon and IMF entered into a second Emergency Post-Conflict Assistance agreement

The Lebanese Government requested a second Emergency Post-Conflict Assistance (EPCA) agreement from the International Monetary Fund on 3 November 2008. The IMF Board approved the program on 14 November 2008. The program reiterates Lebanon's commitment to reforms and provides Lebanon with additional expertise and technical support from the IMF. An amount of \$37 million were transferred to Lebanon on 17 November 2008 as a loan for balance of payments support.

The European Investment Bank approved agreements of €52 million for private sector financing

As part of Paris III private sector support, the Board of Directors of the European Investment Bank approved loan agreements totaling €52 million, including: €25 million to Bank of Beirut, €20 million to Credit Libanais, and €7 million to IBL Bank. EIB pledged a total of €960 million in Paris III, €545 million of which for private sector support. By end November 2008, a total of €420 million in loans to the private sector were committed.

In addition, EIB agreed in principle to provide a loan of €70 million for a waste and waste water project in Kesrwan. A mission will visit Lebanon to discuss the loan and finalize the agreement during the first week of December.



Saudi Arabia grants \$1 million for mine removal

Saudi Arabia informed the United Nations that it will provide \$1 million to support mine removal in South Lebanon. Mine removal has been ongoing since the July 2006 war.

Kuwait continues to disburse financial support for housing damages through the High Relief Committee

In November 2008, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development provided an additional \$4.6 million to the High Relief Committee. The funds are to compensate individuals for housing damages incurred during the July 2006 war. Total disbursements for housing compensation by Kuwait reached US\$85 million out of total US\$115 million pledged for that purpose.

AID COORDINATION

Workshop on the Recovery and Development Initiatives in Nahr el-Bared Camp Surrounding Communities

The Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC), with support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), held a Workshop on the Recovery and Development Initiatives in Nahr el-Bared Camp Surrounding Communities on November 26, 2008. Presenters included representatives from LPDC, the affected municipalities, the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, donors, civil society and the United Nations.