



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Aid Coordination Newsletter

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Aid Developments

European Union supports empowerment of Syrian refugee youth in Lebanon

On 28 October 2013, a contract for Euro 913,937 was signed between the European Union and the National Organization for Popular Activities (AMEL) entitled "Empowerment of Syrian refugee youths in Lebanon" (selected through call for proposals 133-773 launched in December 2012). The project aims to contribute to the sustainable empowerment of Syrian refugee youths in Lebanon through the enhancement of their professional capacities and life skills.

Italy supports infrastructure projects

On 21 October 2013, the Government of Italy, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, allocated a grant of Euro 862,600 for a technical assistance program in the infrastructure sector to benefit the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR). The three-year initiative aims at establishing a Program Management and Control Unit (PMCU) to strengthen CDR technical assistance services concerning the implementation of infrastructure projects.

Italy renews support for the National Museum

On 21 October 2013, the Government of Italy, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, allocated a grant of Euro 1,020,000 to implement an initiative entitled "Improvement of Beirut National Museum's Cultural Offer"; it will support the opening of a new section at the Museum dedicated to funerary art. The initiative will consolidate and strengthen the cooperation with the Directorate General of Antiquities of the Ministry of Culture..

European Union supports Public Finance Management (PFM) in Lebanon

On 1 October 2013, the Twinning contract on PFM started and the French Resident Twinning Adviser arrived in Beirut. The Twinning amounts to Euro 2,8 million and aims at supporting the Ministry of Finance to improve its public finance management. In particular, the Twinning will help the Ministry to reinforce procedures and capacities for revenue forecasting and budget preparation, strengthen budgeting capacities and budget execution control, and upgrade the Ministry's organization.

European Union supports enabling access to education for Syrian refugee school-age children in Lebanon

On 26 September 2013, a contract for Euro 1,028,762 was signed between the European Union and the British Council entitled "Enabling access to education for Syrian refugee school-age children in Lebanon" (selected through call for proposals 133-773 launched in December 2012). The project aims to support the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD) in the development of language teaching methodology and cultural awareness training, which will benefit both Syrian and Lebanese students.



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European Union provides further support for the reconstruction of Nahr El-Bared camp

On 3 September 2013, the European Union provided further support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) for the reconstruction of Nahr El-Bared Camp. The EU allocated -through its Instrument for Stability- a further Euro 12,000,000 contribution to continue the reconstruction of the camp. The overall objective of the intervention is to contribute to the long-term stability of North Lebanon, severely affected by the consequences of the Syrian conflict, by improving the social and economic prospects of the Palestinian community, particularly in Nahr El Bared Camp and adjacent areas.



Aid Coordination

A Lebanese delegation attends the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings

On 11-13 October 2013, a Lebanese delegation including the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Economy and Trade, the Governor of the Central Bank, the Director General of Finance and a representative of the Council for Development and Reconstruction participated in the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings in Washington D.C. The delegation discussed with officials from international financial institutions and representatives of potential donors fiscal, monetary and economic developments, as well as the economic and social situation in Lebanon resulting from the influx of the Syrian displaced.

Following the meeting of the International Support Group (ISG) for Lebanon in New York on 25 September, 2013, the Government of Lebanon discussed with potential donors at a Technical Meeting held by the World Bank during the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings the next steps to address the impact of the Syrian conflict on Lebanon's economic and social situation. The meeting included a discussion on a Roadmap for moving towards stabilization from the impact of the Syrian Conflict, and the modalities available to the international community to provide support to Lebanon at this critical time.

The Lebanese Government participates in the preparation of the Regional Response Plan (RRP 6)

In October 2013, the Lebanese Government participated in the planning of the Regional Response Plan 6 (RRP6) with UN agencies, national and international NGOs and international organizations. The plan will call for humanitarian assistance to over 1.5 million Syrians and 1.5 million affected Lebanese, in addition to Palestinian refugees from Syria and returning Lebanese who resided in Syria. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) participated in all discussions and led the Lebanese side in terms of gathering the necessary data in collaboration with relevant line Ministries. The focus of the Ministry's intervention is to reduce the negative impact on Lebanese host communities.

The RRP6 will set priority protection and assistance objectives for the region and each country receiving displaced persons, based on agreed beneficiary numbers and planning scenarios. It will outline the regional response to meet the protection and assistance needs of the most vulnerable refugees, their host communities and municipalities. The response plan will take into consideration community and host governments' capacities and design considerations will take into account a sustainable approach for assistance, strengthening host community and host government capacities to deliver and respond. The RRP6 will explain humanitarian agency and response plan engagement with development actors, including macro-development and finance institutions.

Also, common host community capacity assessments will analyze the extent to which existing host community coping mechanisms and local government institutions and services have the ability to respond to the additional needs of refugees as well as deal with the impact of the refugees crisis on the host communities themselves (social services and safety nets etc). The results of this analysis will help inform the humanitarian response to host communities and will complement capacity assessments being undertaken by other actors, such as World Bank and UNDP that aim to inform long-term development programmes.



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