



Lebanon

Country Fact Sheet

The MDG-F in Lebanon	
Joint Programmes: 1	Total Budget: USD 4,955,659
Joint Programmes Information	
Joint Programme	<i>“Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in North Lebanon (MDGF-1976)”</i>
Thematic Window	Conflict Prevention and Peace Building
Budget	USD 4,955,659
Participating Agencies	UNDP, ILO, UNRWA, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF
Participating Government Agencies	National level: Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR), Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Popular Committee of the Nahr el Bared Camp (NBC); and the Reconstruction and Recovery Cell (RRC) of the Prime Minister Office. Local level: municipalities and seven Civil Society organizations.
Dates	2 September 2009 – 31 August 2012
Regions of Intervention	North Lebanon: Selected Palestinian refugee camps: Nahr el Bared Camp (NBC), Beddawi. Marginalized border communities in Akkar area. Jabal Mohsen and Bab Tabbaneh neighbourhoods in Tripoli.
Programme in Brief:	
<p>This joint programme (JP) has as main objective to mitigate the risk of relapse into violent conflict through promotion of socioeconomic development and peace building in conflict prone communities. Its specific objectives are: (1) identification and promotion of sustainable conflict prevention tools to facilitate resolution of inter-and intra-communal tensions between the Palestinian and Lebanese communities; (2) implementation of equitable socio-economic development interventions decreasing the divide amongst the communities; and (3) promotion of youth and women’s active participation in local level development.</p>	

Key Achievements¹

- The programme activities addressing the youth were catalysts of positive dynamics oriented to minimize both conflict problems identified in the design and the ongoing conflict. Especially, the component developed by the MoEHE seems to have had a direct and quick impact on the attitudes of students in schools. The MoEHE highlighted the great quality of the capacity building activities delivered to teachers and assessed the experience as highly sustainable.
- Training sessions for CBOs/NGOs working with youth in the North of Lebanon were assessed as good or very good by participants. Issues covered reproductive health, characterization of the youth, characterization of the North region, rights of the youth in the North, life skills, animation and group dynamics, problems faced by the youth.
- Youth Dialogue Clubs created in seven schools (four Lebanese schools and three UNRWA schools), which have promoted dialogue between Palestinian and Lebanese youth.
- The youth from Bab El Tabbaneh and Jabal Mohsen are a remarkable example of working with excluded groups since very few of the participants have ever participated in NGOs activities before.
- The programme promoted the creation of groups of women and youth groups in NBC and Beddawi. Activities included trainings (journalism, proposal writing, community needs assessment) and the identification of a number of small projects at the community level with the intention of funding them.
- 36 loans disbursed in the identified regions; 40 women participated in get ahead training; 91 individuals benefited from business management training.
- For the first time there is documentation on an agreement between municipalities and the Popular Committees since 1948: The municipality and NBC Popular Committee signed a memorandum of understanding to organize and formalize the working relationship; although sustainability of formal meetings seem to need the facilitating role of UNDP or other UN body.
- The members of the Popular Committee (PC) in NBC recognize that the JP has showed them the need to be open to the UN System and international donors. For the first time some women have been accepted as members of Popular Committees. The expansion of the Martyrs Cemetery seems to have had contributed to smooth tensions among the population of the camp
- The creation of a Claims and Appeals System to allow NBC inhabitants to raise their concerns related to the conduction of the reconstruction of the camp has helped to solve a number of the conflicts among/between neighbors (size of the houses, design of the houses, etc.)
- The programme has enhanced the reach of the LPDC (Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee) by funding some positions and by providing trainings to LPDC social facilitators to work with the youth.
- Formation of two cooperatives in Akkar was successful in cementing already existing working relationship between community leaders from the villages of the Sahel.

More information

<http://www.mdgfund.org/program/conflictpreventionandpeacebuildinglebanon>

¹ Carravilla C., Yassin N. (2012) Independent Joint Programme Final Evaluation: *Conflict Prevention and Peace Building in North Lebanon*.