





USAID Assistance Program Around Naher El Bared Camp



What is the Program?

- Three main objectives:
- Improve <u>capacity of municipalities</u> to design and implement socioeconomic development programming;
- (2) Broaden <u>stakeholder participation</u> and cooperation in local socioeconomic development
- (3) <u>Increase economic growth</u> through effective and sustainable public-private partnerships.
- The program is currently:
- (1) conducting an **economic assessment** for the targeted areas;
- (2) developing, in close coordination with the municipalities, local communities, and private sector stakeholders, <u>local economic</u> <u>development plans (LEPD)</u> for each community;
- (3) Identifying, funding and implementing several <u>local development</u> <u>projects</u> based on the LEDPs and needs;
- (4) Providing grants to entrepreneurs through an economic expansion fund; and
- (5) Providing <u>microfinance loans</u> to entrepreneurs --- directly or through Byblos- Bank Kafalat network.



Who, Where, How Much, for How Long?

Cooperative
Housing
Foundation (CHF)
– 6 villages

• Borj El Arab

- Homaira
- Majdala
- Mar Touma
- Ouadi Jamous
- Qarqaf
- Deir Daloum
- Zouk El Moukacherine
- Zouk El Haddara
- Zouk El Habalsah
- Zouk El Hassineh
- Bkarzla
- Qantara
- Karm Asfour
- Mazraat Ghattas
- Hakour
- Minyara
- Zouarib
- Shiekh Taba
- Jdidet El Joumeh
- Halba

\$6 Million Third Ring 2008-2011

Relief International (RI) – 15 villages



What has been done so far?

Capacity Building

Economic assessments

LEDPs

Projects

Loans

Grants



Capacity Building

For:

- Municipal Council
 Members
- Municipal Development Committees
- Local community

Subjects Include:

- Local Economic development best practices.
- Design of local economic development plans
- Strategic planning
- Public-private partnerships
- Project design and feasibility studies.
- Business skills

136 persons so far from 21 villages.



Economic Assessments and Tools for Economic Projects

- Economic assessment surveys/ municipal economic profiles/ Local Economic
 Development Handbook fully completed in 6 villages and ongoing in 15 villages.
- Public private partnerships
- Encouraging Lebanese Diaspora in economic partnerships in their original villages – 75 Lebanese emigrants identified.
- Economic GIS Mapping in 15 villages.



Local Economic Development Plans

- Fully completed for:
 - Borj El Arab, Homaira, Majdala, Mar Touma, Ouadi Jamous, and Qarqaf.
 - Each municipal development committee came up with up to eight livelihood projects for each of their villages.
 - 11 LED committees formed for the 15 villages identifying their projects is underway.



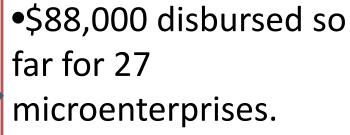
Projects

- Participatory democratic approach to identifying projects.
 Economic feasibility studies undertaken.
- List of projects identified so far and being implemented/ prospects for implementation through USAID assistance:
- 1. Olive oil mill in Mar Touma
- 2. Olive production and packing center in Majdala
- 3. Car industrial park in Al Qarqaf
- 4. After-school learning center in Al Qarqaf
- 5. Plastic box molding factory in Bourj El Arab
- 6. Irrigation canal in Wadi Al Jamous
- 7. Expanding the existing school in Homeira
- 8. Olive extension municipal resource centers
- 9. Business development center in Halba
- 10. Establishment of a well in Halba to serve the whole village
- 11. Establishment of a public garden with income generation area in Jdeidet El Joumeh



Loans

- Micro-enterprise loans:
 - a. Under Relief International
 - Technical assistance and funds
 - Microloan fund: \$400,000 from USAID
 - Loan amount: LL 500,000 LL 10,000,000
 - 2 years
- Micro-enterprise loans:
 - b. Under CHF
 - Network with AMEEN microfinance institution program
- Small and Medium enterprise loans:
 - Under Relief International;
 - Technical assistance
 - Funds: from Byblos Bank Kafalat Program.
 - Loan amount: LL 10M LL 600M
 - 5 years



•\$ 73,000 for 21 micro-enterprises under evaluation.

\$1M under study for 12 projects.



Direct Grants for Enterprises

- Under Relief International: Enterprise Expansion Fund (\$990,000):
 - Community Cost share 20-25% in cash.
 - Increase income/Increase employment
 - Final evaluation stages for first round of 9 grants (totaling \$100,000) for businesses --- NGOs and Individuals (embroidery, carpentry, olive enterprise, car mechanics, and food enterprise, catering business, and agro-processing); direct employment of additional 21 persons.
 - Second round of 26 grants (estimated at \$200,000) currently under study by the program.



Next Steps and Parallel Programs in Akkar

- Next steps under this program:
 - Continue Implementation of the program to achieve targets.
 - Continue coordination with other donors who are working/are planning to work in the 3rd ring to maximize complementarity.
- Parallel assistance programs:
 - Ongoing municipal assistance program for all Akkar, Minieh, and Dinnieh.
 - LEAD Program:
 - 37 schools in the Akkar and Minieh district funded at \$1,154,000. Most of the assistance is completed and includes the provision of rehabilitation works, science labs, equipment, as well as the participation in extra-curricular activities and awareness lectures/medical check ups.
 - USAID OTI program grants: encourage community participation in shared decision-making, build consensus around solutions to community problems, foster community development, preserve and strengthen civil peace, and Promote national solidarity and a culture of citizenship.







THANK YOU