The Lebanese Organization for Studies and Training (LOST)
September 2017 Achievement Report in Baalbeck-Hermel

79Education

●924 Syrian children (471 male & 453 female) were provided with education as part of the "Supporting the Enrollment and Retention of Vulnerable Children in Public Schools in Lebanon" program, funded by UNICEF. Also, 140 houses were outreached, 3 awareness sessions were held (2 in Ersal, 1 in Hermel), and 5 plays were held as part of the back to school campaign.

● 17 teachers were trained on computer and life skills. Aside from the trainings, 400 houses in Labwe were outreached by the project volunteers in order to inform them about the project, as part of the "Una Scuola per Tutti" project, funded by the Italian Cooperation Agency and in collaboration with LOST and Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (GVC).

Governance and Supporting Local Government Forms

● 70 participants benefitted from a workshop held in Chmestar on electoral law, a training workshop has been conducted in El Ein on the subject of good governance (the relation between the local authorities and citizens), and 2 training workshops were conducted in Hermel on the new electoral law and good governance. Aside from the trainings, all preparatory meetings were held in 5 LOST branches in order to explain the project to trainees, as part of the "Promoting Democratic Values and Practices in Baalbeck-Hermel" project, funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Humanitarian Assistance

●70 families received clothing as part of the "Nehna la Baad" initiative, supported by LOST and local donations. The distribution assisted men, women, and children.

Livelihood

● 79 youth were trained on digital skills to use technology for education and for social and economic opportunities. In addition, 59 youth were trained on entrepreneurship, in order to acquire the knowledge to launch a project and expand it. This was set up as part of the "Promoting Adolescent and Youth Empowerment and Engagement in Baalbeck through Learning and Skills Programs", funded by UNICEF, in partnership with DOT and INJAZ organizations.

● 145 Lebanese and Syrians received English courses, and 91 other participants attended two town hall meetings to explain the program and the rules to go by, as part of the "Food for Training" program. The program is in partnership with WFP and AUB (American University of Beirut), and aims at training Lebanese and Syrian beneficiaries on skills that will help them in generating income. Also, as part of cycle 3 of the project, 550 possible beneficiaries have been outreached by phone calls and 300 via door-to-door visits.

● 43 participants benefitted from training in Health and Elderly Care profession, 15 participants benefitted from training in Water and Sanitation profession, and 37 others benefitted from training in Hotel and Gastronomy profession. Aside from the trainings, 100 participants attended 2 profiling sessions to ensure that the professions fit them. 95 of the profiled participants committed, as part of the "Bina" project in partnership with the training and development centers of the Bavarian Employers' Associations (bfz gGmbH). These trainings will help Baalbeck-Hermel youth become better qualified for the job market.

Social Stability

●10 meetings with municipalities were held to discuss needs assessment surveys. As a result, the needs assessment surveys are being distributed in Bedneyel, Baalbeck, Chaat, Chmestar, Ein, Ersal, Hermel, Bouday, Britel , and Hawsh El Refqa, as part of the "Engaging Syrian and Lebanese Women in Social Stability" program, which was launched in partnership with Global Affairs Canada (GAC).

● 10 workshops on life skills, such as conflict resolution and municipal law were provided to 79 members (35 females & 44 males) of the Volunteer Mobilizing Committees (VMCs), as part of the "Networks of Peace" project, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The project functions on re-bridging the society according to common needs, resources, and interests, thus transforming the conflict into social stabilizing mechanisms.

● As part of "A Step towards Social Stability" (PISCA) program, funded by the French Embassy, 25 training workshops on needs assessment and form creating were given to 125 influential stakeholders. Aside from the trainings, 5 meetings with INGOs and municipalities, and Mr. Kaser Hmadeh (the director of the medical center in Hermel) were held to discuss local needs. This project functions on applying collaborative, conflict-sensitive, and non-violent responses to rising communal tensions.

●The project, "Creating Syrian and Lebanese Youth Role Models to Promote Social Cohesion in Hermel", funded by UNESCO, and in partnership with LOST has provided various trainings to three sets of youth. 46 youth received civic training, 36 youth received sports training, and 10 youth received mural painting training, as a mean of enhancing cohesion and social stability amongst youth of Lebanese and Syrian background in Hermel.

Water Hygiene and Sanitation

● Launching the "WASH Intervention at ISs in Baalbeck-Hermel" program, funded by UNICEF, the following activities were conducted:

- 8,005 displaced Syrians received 5,842.94 liters of safe drinking water, which was provided to informal settlements through water trucking or other modalities (m3)
- A total amount of 2,054 m3 of sludge was removed from informal settlements (ISs) in Ersal, Taybe, Iaat, and Yamouneh, during the month of September.

- 7 latrines were rehabilitated and 13 were constructed in Yamouneh, and 6 latrines were constructed in Taybe. Aside from the latrines, 52 rehabilitation kits, as well as 627 (275 liters) water tanks were distributed in Ersal ISs.
- 2,812 beneficiaries benefited from the hygiene promotion sessions.
- A cleaning campaign for Baalbek Ras El Ein river has started in cooperation with Baalbek Municipality. Also, a composting construction site is being built in Bouday, as part of the "Sorting from the Source" campaign.

Food Security

● 44 beneficiaries, 12 from Hermel, 21 from Baalbeck, and 11 from Bedneyel benefitted from four life skills training workshops (2 in Baalbeck, 1 in Hermel, and 1 in Bedneyel), as part of the "Food Security for Vulnerable People in Baalbeck-Hermel" initiative, supported by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).

• The "Food for Assets" program, funded by World Food Program (WFP), aims to increase the livelihood and resilience levels of people in Baalbeck-Hermel through support of the agriculture sector. Lebanese and Syrians will work together for 7 months. 450 participants (220 Lebanese & 230 Syrians) were outreached and filled in applications to be part of the program. 532 (266 Lebanese & 266 Syrians) have already began doing field work, and as a result, more than 200 m of storm canals were built in Baalbeck, more than 600 m of irrigation canals in Bouday and 300 m in Ein. Also, 46,000 m squared of land was cleaned in Baalbek, Iaat, and Douris for forestation.

• 4,000 meals were distributed to 70 families in Baalbeck, as part of the "Field Kitchen" project, funded by OrientHelfer.

Health

● "Community Engagement and Empowerment in Public Discussions", funded by UNICEF, is a project that targets/engages women from 45 different areas in Baalbeck-Hermel, by messages that explain the benefits of breastfeeding, optimal infant and young child feeding practices, immunization, and the service provision at MOPH Primary Health Care centers (PHCCs). The number of caregivers reached in September was 2,000. Aside from the sessions, a midwife has been assigned to support and guide lactating mothers who face difficulties re-initiating, and the breastfeeding process. Mother support groups have been established, and three municipal committees received training on needs assessment and conducted the needs assessment in their villages.

Protection

● 200 women benefitted from 44 trainings on the subjects of trauma healing and coping mechanisms for these trauma victims to continue their lives normally, as part of the "Trauma Healing and Psychosocial Support" project, funded by the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC).