

Going through the training was very beneficial as it allowed us to acquire new skills and to be introduced to the Ministry of Finance. In addition, it created an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the work environment, the needed skills and the expected behavior for our future professional career.

*George and Fadia, Internship Program 2007*

The training program was exceptional. My perception of the Ministry of Finance and especially its staff was transformed as we sensed the youthful spirit and disciplined work at the ministry.

*Maher and Marilyn, Internship Program 2007*



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE



For further information please contact



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Ministry of Finance - UNDP Project - Tel: 961 1 981057/8 - Fax: 961 1 981059  
infocenter@finance.gov.lb - www.finance.gov.lb



Institute of Finance - Basil Fuleihan Institute - Tel: 961 1 425147/9 - Fax: 961 1 426860  
contact@if.org.lb - www.if.org.lb

Ministry of Finance  
**Empowering  
Youth**

# Ministry of Finance Empowering Youth

Recognizing the importance of empowering youth to be informed future leaders, the Ministry of Finance has led a number of initiatives aimed at engaging youth in economic decision making and raising awareness of the role and functions of the ministry.

## BADER

BADER Young Entrepreneurs Program is a community of inspired and committed young business leaders engaged in supporting young entrepreneurs and promoting small businesses. BADER works nationwide with several partners to provide training and support to the next generation of young entrepreneurial leaders, and introduce new financial tools to encourage Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). BADER Young Entrepreneurs Program is a joint initiative of the Minister of Finance and forty young Lebanese business leaders.

### Objectives

- > Reduce brain drain
- > Lower unemployment
- > Promote excellence
- > Foster entrepreneurial spirit

**Year of launch** 2005

### Achievements

- > Closed the Building Block Equity Fund, focusing on Lebanese and Lebanese related SMEs in July 2007 at \$17 million
- > Participated in the MIT Arab Business Plan Competition (2006-2007)
- > Launched a mentoring contest in fashion, technology, agro-food and design

[www.baderlebanon.com](http://www.baderlebanon.com) [info@baderlebanon.com](mailto:info@baderlebanon.com)



## YOUTH ECONOMIC FORUM

The Youth Economic Forum is a partnership of youth student groups and NGOs creating a platform for dialogue on economic and social issues among youth, experts and policymakers from various backgrounds. The forum was based on an initiative spearheaded by the Minister of Finance to engage youth and promote real dialogue.

### Objectives

- > Encourage constructive debate on economic policy issues
- > Promote active involvement of youth in economic policy-making
- > Build confidence between youth and the public sector

**Year of launch** 2007



## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

### YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

In partnership with LebYouth, the Ministry of Finance has developed a month-long internship program for university students. Selected applicants were assigned functions at the Ministry of Finance based on the needs identified by the different directorates. A training program was developed for interns and their coaches. The internship program included students from six Lebanese universities. Successful interns were presented with certificates in a reception hosted by the Minister of Finance.

### Objectives

- > Launch the first initiative of its kind to receive university students in public sector departments
- > Familiarize university students with work at the Ministry of Finance
- > Allow the Ministry of Finance to positively benefit from youth's potential

### Year of launch

2006 (internship program suspended due to war);  
2007 session completed

### Number of participants in 2007

38 selected; 28 completed internship



### GET TO KNOW THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"Youth: Get to Know the Ministry of Finance" is a one day orientation program aimed at introducing university students to the role and functions of the Ministry of Finance. The program includes training on the functions of the Ministry of Finance, its vision, the Lebanese tax system, and the Ministry's debt management policy. The orientation also includes field visits.

### Objectives

- > Inform students about reform and modernization projects at the Ministry of Finance
- > Teach students about Lebanese tax system and debt management processes
- > Introduce the role of youth at the Ministry of Finance and the current recruitment process

**Year of launch** 2001

### Number of participants in 2006

253 students from six Lebanese universities

## JOIN THE TEAM !

The Ministry of Finance launched a communication campaign for the 2006/2007 recruitment session by the Civil Service Board to attract the brightest candidates. The communication campaign included the issuance of a guide entitled "Join the Ministry of Finance Team", which addresses the key role played by the Ministry of Finance in the national economy, as well as the ministry's internal organisation and recruitment system.

### Objectives

- > Attract qualified young candidates to the Ministry

**Year of campaign** 2006/2007

### Achievements

The 2007 cohort of new recruits was competitively selected. They were welcomed into the Ministry of Finance team on August 27th, 2007 with a reception hosted by Minister Jihad Azour, with Carlos Ghosn, President and CEO of Nissan and Renault as the keynote speaker.



### DIALOGUE WITH THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

The Minister of Finance has been accessible to youth through dialogue in partnership with LebYouth (an inter-university group), and the American University of Beirut's Economic Student's Society.

The Minister met with students on several occasions in Question & Answer sessions based on the government's reform program and the role of youth in this regard.

LebYouth has been appointed as a Junior Advisory Board to the Minister of Finance, with the objective of providing the Ministry with feedback on Lebanese economic issues, and the youth's concerns and aspirations.

### Objectives

- > Facilitate dialogue between youth and the Ministry of Finance
- > Discuss the role of youth in the reform program