



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Aid Coordination Newsletter

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Aid Developments

Italy supports capacity development in public procurement management

On 24 February 2014, the Government of Italy, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, approved the allocation of a grant of Euro 231, 450 to strengthen the institutional capacities related to public procurement management in Lebanon and Jordan. A training course will benefit 25 civil servants from Lebanese and Jordanian institutions. At the end of a ten-month course at the "Tor Vergata" University in Rome, the trainees will achieve the title of "Master in Public Procurement Management".

Italy renews support to Syrian refugees and hosting communities in Lebanon

On 6 March 2014, the Government of Italy, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, approved the allocation of a grant of Euro 2 million to implement a program aimed at improving living conditions of Syrian refugees in Lebanon and hosting communities. Projects will be implemented by the Italian Development Cooperation and eligible Italian NGOs in areas of Lebanon with high concentration of refugees among residents.

Germany funds an initiative to provide support for the Lebanese hosting communities

On 30 March 2014, the Lebanese Government launched a German initiative of \$ 5 million grant through the Lebanon Recovery Fund (LRF) for the Lebanese communities hosting Syrian refugees in Lebanon. The LRF was established by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) following the Stockholm Conference held on 31 August, 2006 in support of Lebanon's recovery. The UNDP Multi-Donor Trust Fund Office (MDTF Office) serves as the Administrative Agent. The LRF was established following a request of the Government of Lebanon to devise a pooled funding facility that would channel donor resources for the financing of priority recovery and reconstruction activities approved by the Government and that can be executed with the support of United Nations organizations, in partnership with government and non-governmental organizations, within the scope and time frame of national priorities. The LRF Steering Committee is chaired by the Minister of Economy and Trade and composed of the Head of the Recovery and Reconstruction Cell of the Prime Minister's Office, a representative from the Ministry of Finance, representatives of donors (the European Commission, the State of Kuwait, the Kingdom of Spain and the United Arab Emirates) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator.



Aid Coordination

International Support Group meeting for Lebanon

On 5 March 2014, the International Support Group (ISG) for Lebanon met in Paris at the invitation of France to support Lebanon's economy and to aid the Syrian refugees in the country. Following the meeting, the United Nations Department of Information published the following note ...” Participants reiterated their concern at the severe negative impact of the Syrian conflict on vulnerable communities and key sectors in Lebanon, including health, education, infrastructure and employment. They noted the importance of the Roadmap for Stabilization developed since the initial ISG meeting by the Government of Lebanon in partnership with the World Bank and the United Nations, which sets out priority interventions to mitigate the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon. They encouraged the Government of Lebanon and partners to move forward expeditiously in implementation of the Roadmap, and to take all steps necessary to facilitate and closely coordinate the provision of available assistance. Participants stressed the value of assistance already provided to Lebanon through long-term partnerships, which had intensified since the start of the Syrian crisis, and noted the support that has already been provided for immediate projects to benefit Government programmes and host communities in line with the Roadmap. They encouraged further such assistance both through existing humanitarian and development instruments and through the World Bank-managed Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Lebanon. They expressed thanks to the **Governments of Norway, France and Finland**, and to the **World Bank**, for initial contributions made to the Fund, and welcomed the declared intention of the Lebanese authorities to put in place governance arrangements to facilitate expeditious disbursement.”

To read more visit: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2014/dsg7.doc.htm>

European Commission to fund urban sustainable energy initiatives

The European Commission launched a call for proposals worth a total of Euro 8.25 million for the regional program “SUDEP- Sustainable Urban Demonstration Energy projects”. The call is open to local authorities from Lebanon and other countries in the Middle East and North Africa. The main objective of the call is to enable the implementation of sustainable energy actions, leading to increased levels of energy savings and energy efficiency and the deployment of renewable energy sources. The implementation of the energy actions must not exceed 36 months and must take place in the territory of these local authorities. The EU would prioritize actions that are innovative in the local economy and make sure the best use of locally available resources. Grants requested under the call must fall between a minimum of Euro 200, 000 and a maximum of Euro 1 million. If a company wishes to apply, it needs to partner with a municipality as the program mainly targets municipalities, and to present a joint proposal to the European Commission.



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For further information, contact:

Ministry of Finance

Donor Coordination Unit

Tel: 961 1 981057/8

Fax: 961 1 981059

E-mail: dcu@finance.gov.lb

Website: www.finance.gov.lb