

Community Empowerment and Livelihoods Enhancement Project

Project title:	Community Empowerment and Livelihoods Enhancement Project
Starting date:	2010
Duration:	24 months
Government Co-ordinating agency:	Ministry of Industry (Mol) and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)
Executing agency/ cooperating agency:	UNIDO in partnership with an Italian partner (ICU)
Financing of the project	Government of Italy

Brief description of the Project :

This project has been designed to empower communities in Lebanon through the revitalization of their productive capacities. It will strengthen and sustain their livelihood process by support a number of agro-processing enterprises and other economic activities in North, South Lebanon and Bekaa.

In line with this objective, the project's interventions are the following:

1. Provision technical assistance (equipment and training) needed to rehabilitate and develop agro-processing enterprises especially small and medium-sized them.
2. Civil works assistance(for rehabilitation).
3. Support to livelihoods enhancement in rural areas through technology transfer and Promotion of non-farm income-generating activities partners.

Beneficiaries:

The potential beneficiaries of the project are as follows:

- The agro-based industries (micro, small, and medium enterprises which have legal permit) which would benefit from the training and technology upgrading aspects of the programme.
- The rural communities who can access better services/technologies for producing and processing their products. The programme is expected to benefit some 250 families. These households will be selected from the most vulnerable sectors of the population.

Outcomes Expected:

- It is expected that about 30 small- and medium agro-enterprises will be revitalized, which will lead to a direct increase in employment.
Apart from the benefits of an increase in direct employment, this activity will have a multiplier effect in creating more jobs in food and non-food productions as well as improving the quality of life of the rural population, increasing food supply, and contributing to poverty reduction.
- Approximately 250 households will benefit from this support which is expected to:
 1. Revitalize the rural communities' productive capacity.
 2. Diversify non-farm jobs.
 3. Expand markets.

In parallel to the above outcomes, it is expected that the project develops the required human resources for proper operation of the agro-processing equipment introduced; training workers and technicians in new technologies/processes, making and assembling new products.