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Lebanese Republic
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Lebanese-Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC)



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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

Towards Sustainable Solutions for Improved Living Conditions of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon

General Information

- **Duration:** 36 months (March 2012 until February 2015)
- **Implementing Agency:** Joint Programme between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- **Local Partners:** Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee (LPDC)
- **Beneficiaries:** Dwellers in the Palestinian Gatherings in Lebanon including the Adjacent Areas (AAs) of Palestinian Refugee Camps, and the concerned Municipalities.

Objective

This Joint Programme aims at working at the national and local levels to improve dwellers' access to Basic Urban Services (BUS) in the Palestinian Gatherings in Lebanon, with particular attention to the Adjacent Areas (AAs) of Palestinian Refugee Camps. BUS cover the sectors of water provision, sewerage, solid waste management, electricity and road networks.

Scope of the Joint Programme

The Joint Programme shall intervene, in an integrated manner, at the four following levels:

1. **At the National Level:** Encouraging policy oriented dialogue, led by LPDC, towards enhancing access to Basic Urban Services in the gatherings.
2. **At the Local Level:** Strengthening communication and collaboration between concerned actors (municipalities, Popular Committees in the camps and Local Committees in the gatherings and AAs) for improved service delivery.
3. **In the Camps' Adjacent Areas:** Improving access and management of BUS through the implementation of upgrading projects and infrastructure networks;
4. **At the Municipal Level:** Strengthening the capacities of concerned municipalities to address urban challenges and local development needs within their geographic boundaries.

Palestinian Gatherings:

- ▶ Gatherings typically constitute relatively homogeneous refugee communities, such as smaller "villages", households living in the same multi-storey residential building, along the same street, etc... (Fafu, 2003)
- ▶ There are 42 gatherings, including AAs, distributed in northern Lebanon, Beirut, the Bekaa, and the South (Saida and Sour), which accommodate more than 60,000 persons.

Adjacent Areas:

- ▶ Identified as a specific category of Palestinian gatherings that are located along the boundaries of official Palestinian refugee camps (UNDP & UN-Habitat, 2010).
- ▶ There are 12 Adjacent Areas in Lebanon, with a total population of around 35,000, located around the four camps of Nahr el Bared and Beddawi in the North and Ain el Helwe and Mieh Mieh in the South.