

Improving Living Conditions in PALESTINIAN GATHERINGS Host Communities



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Quarterly Briefing | Issue 7

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HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ 7 infrastructure projects completed and 3 others launched in 8 Gatherings across Lebanon
- ✓ 40 PRS have safer and healthier shelters in Tawari Adjacent Area to Ain El Helwe Camp
- ✓ 286 Palestinian and Lebanese youth participated in eco-tournament to promote recycling in the North
- ✓ 400 families have access to safer and more inclusive neighborhoods in Daouk, Beirut
- ✓ 55 women start a four-month economic empowerment training

Improving Living Conditions in Palestinian Gatherings Host Communities is a project of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that falls under the UNDP Lebanon Stabilization and Recovery Program – Supporting Resilience in a Time of Crisis.

Active in the 42 Palestinian Gatherings across Lebanon since 2012, this project is designed to help stabilize and develop the resilience of these host communities, home to 110,000 original Palestinian dwellers (PRL) and some 25,000 Palestinian and Syrian refugees (PRS and SRS) as a result of the Syrian crisis.

In the previous quarter, we reached over 11,224 beneficiaries by upgrading WASH and basic urban services (BUS), enhancing shelter conditions, promoting hygiene and environmental practices, empowering women and youth, and coordinating efforts of NGOs and agencies in Palestinian Gatherings.

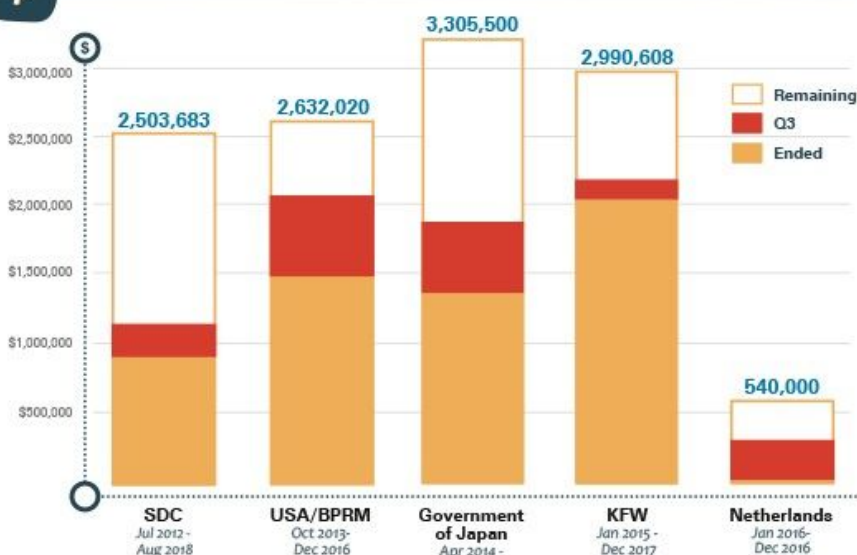


BENEFICIARIES

This quarter, we reached **12,602** dwellers in the Gatherings across Lebanon



FUNDS (as of January 2015)



Total Q3: \$1,698,415



GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE





BASIC URBAN SERVICES

Water brings life to thousands dwellers in Palestinian Gatherings

Capitalizing on a previous UNDP initiative, providing an elevated 500 cubic meter water tank to Kharayeb in Tyre, the UNDP project in Palestinian Gatherings took a step further this quarter by upgrading the main water network in Kharayeb, in an attempt to enhance access to safe water not only for the 2150 Lebanese and Syrian families living in Kharayeb, but also for 392 families residing in the four neighboring Palestinian Gatherings, namely Kfarbadda, Jim Jim, Wasta and Itanieh.

As a first step, the UNDP project extended the available network to a total length of 4,700 meters and connected it to the water network recently installed by the project in the neighboring Kfarbadda Palestinian Gathering. Currently, the project is studying the feasibility of extending the water network to the remaining three Gatherings.

Also this quarter, UNDP has launched and completed a number of water-related initiatives, namely in Mankoubin in the North, Daouk in Beirut, Wasta and Qasmieh in Tyre, Bustan ElKods and Baraksat Adjacent Areas to Ain El Helwe Camp where shortage in water supply has caused armed conflicts in recent years. These initiatives, made possible thanks to the generous support of KFW, PRM, SDC and the people of Japan, mainly include the rehabilitation and upgrading of water sources - including well rehabilitation works, the provision of new submersible pumps with high capacities and booster pumps in addition to the necessary connections, the installation of new collective manifolds, electrical panels and voltage regulator to operate the water systems.



SHELTER

40 Palestinian families from Syria have safer shelters in Tawari, Saida

73 refugee families residing in Salwa ElHout Building in Beirut benefit from rehabilitation works

53 shelters rehabilitated and equipped with WASH facilities in Adjacent Areas to Ain ElHelwe Camp

81 others in Palestinian Gatherings across Lebanon assessed to be rehabilitated

Safer and Healthier Collective Shelter for 40 PRS Families in AlBahaa Compound

Responding to the alarming conditions in Rawdat AlBahaa compound, located in the Tawari Adjacent Area to Ain El Helwe Camp and home to 40 Palestinian families displaced from Syria, the UNDP project implemented

this quarter a series of improvements related to sewage, electricity, ventilation, lighting and other basic needs, thanks to the generous support of SDC.

The compound, initially established as a kindergarten with an underground shelter, has been recently re-arranged to accommodate 220 recent refugees from Syria, the majority of whom are widowed women and children. Families are sheltered in rooms made of gypsum walls and zinc panels and distributed over the ground floor and the basement level.

UNDP's rehabilitation works has put an end to the frequent sewage flooding, power shortage as well as safety hazards caused by the poor conditions of the available electricity network. Conditions of the basement level have particularly improved, with the introduction of lighting and an air ventilation system for the first time.

Also this quarter in the Adjacent Areas to Ain El Helwe Camp, the UNDP project rehabilitated 53 shelters and equipped them with WASH facilities, thanks to the generous support of the Netherlands.





HYGIENE PROMOTION

286 Palestinian and Lebanese youth promote recycling and social cohesion in eco-sports tournament

17 Health Educators in UNRWA schools in the North trained on "Wash-Friendly School Toolkit"

Waste reduction and social cohesion promoted through sports in Palestinian Gatherings in the North under the patronage of Bebnin Municipality



In partnership with local partner Beit Atfal Assumoud, UNDP organized in August 2016 the fourth eco-sports tournament in North Lebanon, bringing together 256 male adolescent football players and for the first time 30 female adolescent ping-pong players. The 32 football teams and the 30 ping-pong players, included Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian adolescents (15-18) affiliated with official clubs as well as individual players from Nahr ElBared and Beddawi Adjacent Areas, Tebbaneh and Jabal Mohsen in Tripoli, as well as from different regions in Akkar (namely Minieh, Mohamara, Behanin, Bebnin, Kosha, Hosaynyeh, Berkayel, Bezal, AlHakour, Fnaydek).

Through this year's slogan "All Pennants to reduce waste", the SDC-funded tournament seeks to encourage different community groups to reduce consumption, re-use material and sort out waste, in order to decrease waste at the household level. Players and audience were encouraged to recycle produced waste during the daily games, using coded bins installed at the local partner's center in Beddawi as well as in Bebnin's football field. Operating waste collection and recycling centers in North Lebanon were advertised through big banners on games' sites. Waste sorted during the tournament was delivered by Beit Atfal Assumoud to Arcenciel collection center in Halba, Akkar.



Following 32 football games and 30 ping-pong games organized between 10 and 31 August, the tournament was concluded in a closing ceremony on September 16, bringing together Akkar mayors and sports entities in North Lebanon, among other stakeholders. All participants received sports uniforms to thank their participation. Beit Atfal Assumoud and Bebnin Mayor honored winning teams and players, namely Janine Wehbe (Palestine), Lamia Khoder (Syria), Hanine Keblawi (Palestine), Ghida Hassan (Lebanese), Assumoud Football team (Palestine) and Berkayel Football team (Lebanon).



WOMEN & YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

37 young men and women in Palestinian Gatherings in Tyre trained on design and management of small businesses

55 women from Tarik ElJdide and Palestinian Gatherings in Beirut start a four-month economic empowerment training

A new chapter in the lives of 55 women in Tarik ElJdideh and Palestinian Gatherings in Beirut

Thanks to the UNDP and Makassed partnership aiming to economically empower women in need, this quarter marks a new chapter in the lives of 55 Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian women residing in the Tarik ElJdideh area, including the Palestinian Gatherings of Daouk, Said Ghawash and Gaza Buildings.

In early September, the 55 women have started a four-month training in cooking and baking, artisanal handicrafts and beauty services. Since then, participants are meeting three times weekly in the equipped center of Ward AlMakassed in Kaskas, accompanied by professional trainers.

The generous support of the people of Japan will not only allow the transfer of livelihood skills to women in need but will also provide them with income-generating opportunities, thanks to rehabilitation works led by the UNDP project to establish an outdoor restaurant and a permanent exhibition area in the Makassed center. These spaces are expected to support trained women in selling crafts they will produce and engaging in the catering services of the restaurant.





NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

400 families have access to safer and more inclusive neighborhood in Daouk, Beirut

18 students of architecture and urban design participate in a challenge to design community space in Shabriha Palestinian Gathering in Tyre

UNDP concludes its pilot neighborhood improvement plan in Daouk

After 9 months of joint efforts between UNDP and local partner PARD, over 2600 dwellers are now living in relatively healthier neighborhoods in the Daouk Palestinian Gathering in Beirut. The success of the neighborhood improvement plan, a pilot initiative possible thanks to the generous support of PRM, KFW and the people of Japan, relied on the direct participation of 150 women, youth and children. The last quarter witnessed the final stages of the improvement plan, developed through a community mapping exercise conducted in early 2016.



This quarter, interventions focused on establishing an effective solid waste management system in the Gathering. In July 2016, the UNDP project launched a community initiative to sort plastic and metal at source. PARD community mobilizers had knocked at the doors of 336 families during June 2016 to promote positive practices contributing to waste reduction and inform them that recycling is now possible and easy in Daouk. It's been two months already that Zero Waste Act, a private collection center, has been bi-weekly collecting sorted waste from a large bin placed by UNDP in Daouk. This initiative also coincided with a large clean-up campaign led by youth groups, using cleaning tools and other material provided by UNDP. During the clean-up campaign, UNDP introduced steel grates to the 50 storm water channels in the Gathering, to prevent clogging and subsequent flooding. 20 small bins were also added. On that same day, lighting for a 140 meter space was also introduced to Daouk, making the Gathering now fully lit and much safer.

During September, UNDP rehabilitated the community hall, a public space used by dwellers to host various activities in the Gathering. Starting October 2016, an additional public space would be accessible for the children of Daouk. "Stouh AIDaouk" (the rooftop of Daouk), a garden initiated and equipped by UNDP on the roof of PARD's kindergarten, will provide a safe and inclusive space for 100 children (5-6) enrolled in the kindergarten and would be accessible as well for children (7-11) on Fridays and Sundays.

UNDP will celebrate on October 5th the success of the improvement plan, bringing together donors and UN agencies among other stakeholders. The closing ceremony will include the opening of the roof garden and the honoring of children and women who have participated in various workshops, including photography, animation and recycled arts.





A glimpse into KHARAYEB

Kharayeb is a Lebanese village located north of the Litani River in South Lebanon. Situated at 150 meters above sea level, Kharayeb is considered an agrarian society home to 1800 Lebanese families in addition to some 350 families who have escaped violence in Syria in the past years. Kharayeb also hosts the 4 Palestinian Gatherings of Kfarbadda, Jim Jim, Wasta and Itanieh, home to 392 Palestinian-majority families. Since 2015, the UNDP project has been joining efforts with the Municipality of Kharayeb to lead upgrading initiatives targeting Lebanese and Palestinian communities.

In July 2016, UNDP provided 2 trucks to collect solid waste and recyclable material from Kharayeb and the 4 surrounding Gatherings. Also this year, UNDP upgraded the water networks in Kharayeb and Kfarbadda. Currently, UNDP is seeking to replicate this effort in the other three Gatherings.



IN DEPTH



KHARAYEB AND SURROUNDING PALESTINIAN GATHERINGS SOON TO LAUNCH SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN



In August 2016, the UNDP project kicked off a pilot initiative aiming at encouraging and supporting the municipality of Kharayeb in Tyre to adopt a comprehensive solid waste management strategy, relying on recycling efforts and covering the Lebanese town of Kharayeb as well as the four surrounding Palestinian Gatherings (Kfarbadda, Jim Jim, Wasta and Itanieh) which fall within its municipal domain.

This initiative builds on efforts made by the UNDP project since early 2016, through direct meetings with the municipality of Kharayeb as well as local partner PARD responsible for solid waste collection in the surrounding Palestinian Gatherings.

Last quarter, the UNDP project has also provided the municipality with two solid waste collection vehicles, thanks to support of PRM and KFW.

This quarter, thanks to the support of SDC, UNDP is taking this initiative a step further. Its support will not be limited only to providing resources guaranteeing the eco-friendly treatment of solid waste, but will also rely on a large scale behavior change campaign aiming at promoting at-source recycling and waste reduction among Lebanese and Palestinian households and enterprises.

For this purpose, UNDP contracted a specialized consultant to help in assessing the actual solid waste risky behaviors and management mechanisms in Kharayeb and the four Palestinian Gatherings. Hired consultant will also support the pilot project's steering committee (including representatives from UNDP project team, local NGO PARD as well as the municipality and the civil society of Kharayeb) design and implement the solid waste management plan. Next, UNDP will recruit and train 18 local community mobilizers to conduct door-to-door visits among other activities. In parallel, the UNDP project will establish a proper network to drop-off waste and link sorted waste to collection and recycling centers.

For more information, please contact us: sheeraz.moujally@undp.org
Badaro Main Street, Beirut – Nadim Comeir Bldg. 5th floor
Tel: +961 71 535144 | +961 1 384263/4

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