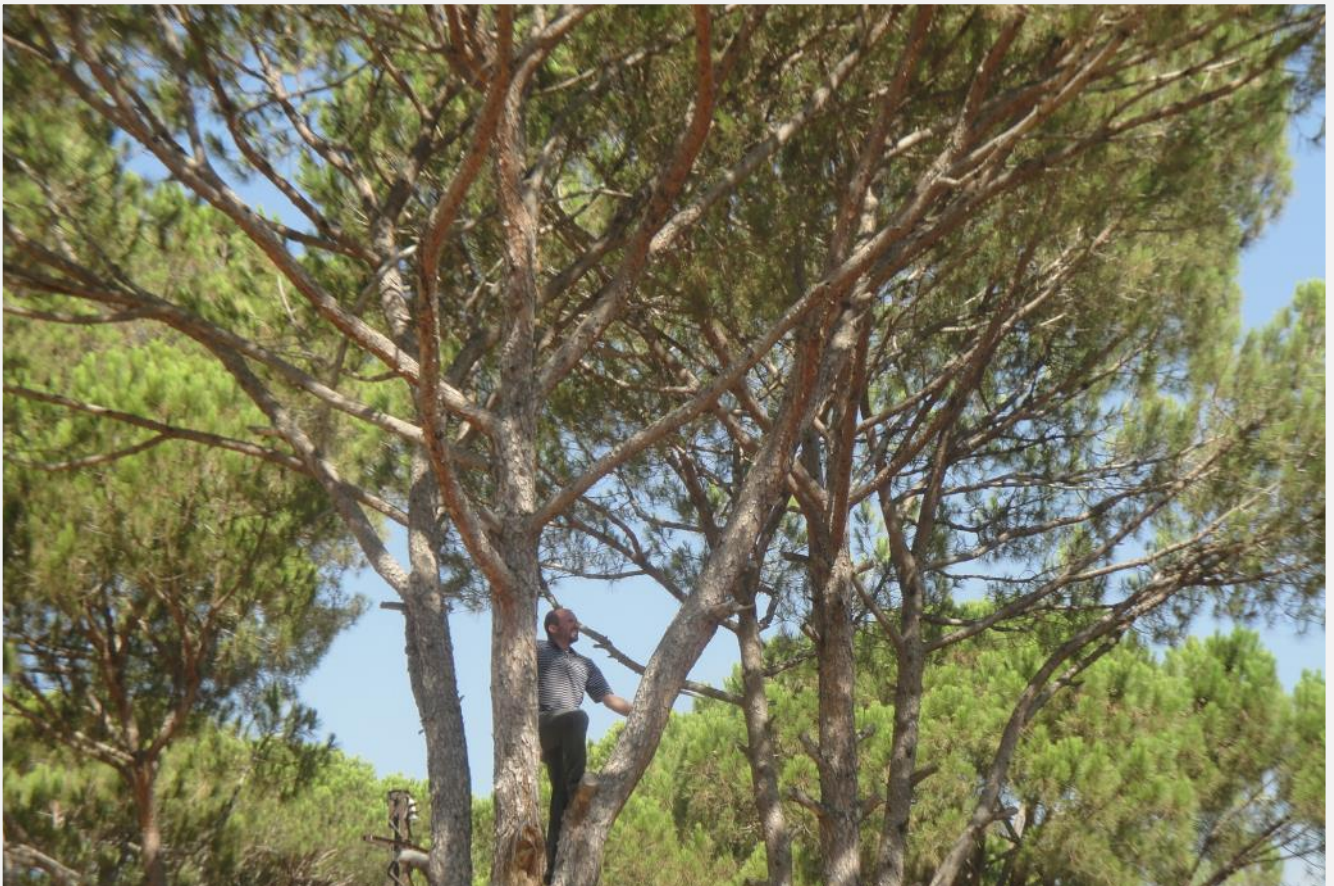




Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



PROJECTS' BRIEF
LEBANON | 2015



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FAO'S LEBANON KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2015-2016

- Contribute to the promotion of rural development and poverty alleviation, through supporting to the agricultural production systems to overcome agricultural constraints, boosting the investment in agriculture and assisting the small and poor farmers in reducing the production costs, increasing quality of produce, overcoming post-harvesting barriers thru the strengthening of the cooperatives and rural associations.
- Promote prevention and impact mitigation measures to preserve stability in Lebanon and support to maintain resilience capacities of all communities such as supporting specific sub-sectors of the agriculture being the main source of livelihood for the majority of communities hosting Syrian refugees.
- Promote natural resources sustainable management through climate-smart agriculture technologies and sound agro-environmental practices including support to the Ministry of Agriculture to achieve the National 40 Million trees Programme.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN LEBANON

Lebanon was among the first countries to benefit from a FAO Country Office to strengthen the Organization's programmes on the ground. Established in 1977, the office has sought to promote harmonious and sustainable development of the agricultural sector in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and other concerned ministries. FAO activities in Lebanon have generally been demand-driven, attempting to respond to the continuously shifting national priorities.

The FAO strategy in Lebanon is aligned with the FAO strategy worldwide, to provide the necessary support within the scope of work of the organization to developing countries to help in the poverty alleviation process. Based on FAO's global mandate and strategic objectives, and appreciating the needs of Lebanon, the FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture co-signed a Country Programme Framework (2012-2015), which is organized around three major priority areas:

Priority Area A: Ensuring availability of safe and nutritious food and strengthening national capacities for improved food security;

Priority Area B: Fostering agricultural production, increasing competitiveness and improving food systems and livelihoods;

Priority Area C: Sustainable management and use of natural resources, fisheries and aquaculture resources for food security.

FAO is currently updating the strategic country programming framework in Lebanon to cover the period of 2016 to 2020, through consultations with the Ministry of Agriculture and all stakeholders in the agricultural sector.

The total value of FAO's ongoing projects in Lebanon amounts to approximately USD 10 million with more than 70% allocated to emergency and resilience projects.



PRIORITY AREA A: ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF SAFE AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD AND STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES FOR IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY

FAO provides technical support to improve food safety, quality management and nutrition and strengthen national capacities (mainly MOA as well as other concerned public agencies) to achieve food security. FAO continues to support Lebanon to develop its national food control systems and infrastructure. Work has been initiated since 2008 in the framework of the project on Strengthening Production and Marketing of Lebanese Agricultural Products. Policy and knowledge exchange on food and nutrition will also be supported building on regional expertise. Finally, national capacities of MOA are being strengthened for the development of an agricultural information system for policy development, planning and monitoring for improved food security and better nutrition.

Increase The Resilience Of The Small Scale Family Farming In Lebanon Through The Establishment Of Semi-Intensive Egg Production Units And The Initiation Of An Electronic Agriculture Inputs Delivery System.

Duration: October 2015 - September 2017

Donor: EU

Objective: Improve food security, nutrition and livelihood of vulnerable Lebanese households most affected by the Syria crisis through supporting eggs production and marketing and increasing access to high quality protein for poor households.

Strengthening the National Codex Committee and the Codex Contact Point in Lebanon

Duration: January 2013 – December 2015

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Improve food security for the Lebanese population by ensuring the safety and quality of food in the national market and through the improvements to the national economy by the higher returns of compliant agricultural products to international food safety requirements.

Support to the Ministry of Agriculture in Strengthening and Modernizing the Agricultural Statistics System.

Duration: February 2014 – December 2016

Donor: EU

Objective: Strengthen the technical capacity of MoA in generating agricultural statistics which will contribute in fostering agricultural production, increasing competitiveness and improving food systems and livelihoods.

Improving the Nutrition of Syrian Refugees and Host Communities through Garden Walls.

Duration: September 2015 – June 2016

Donor: OCHA

Objective: Promote the utilization of diversified and quality food and to promote food availability and support sustainable production to displaced Syrians and host communities.

Assessment and Development of a Programme to Alleviate the Conelet Losses in Pinus pinea in Lebanon

Duration: July 2014 – July 2016

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Respond to the request of the Government of Lebanon for technical assistance in fielding a mission to assess the nature and extent of the pine conelet losses in the Lebanese stone pine (*Pinus pinea*) forests, propose remedial actions and formulate a TCP project as a frame for the implementation of the proposed measures.

Strengthening of Food Security Information and Early Warning Systems for Effective Resilience-based Response in Countries Affected by the Protracted Syrian Crisis

Duration: March 2015 – February 2017

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Provide solutions and seed money for institutional and technical support needed improve the coordination and exchange of information between stakeholders for improved decision-making in policy formulation and/or programming.

Capacity Building for Food Loss Reduction in Middle East: Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon

Duration: September 2014 - Aug 2016

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Strengthen national capacity of local leaders and managers in the food industry, and extension personnel in the sub-region, in particular in these countries, on improved value chain management. For Lebanon, focus will be made on the fruit value chain.

Relieving the Suffering of Lebanese returnees and Host Communities through the Recovery of Smallholder Agricultural Production

Duration: January 2015 – August 2015

Donor: Ireland

Objective: Restore the agricultural livelihoods of Lebanese returnees and rural communities hosting returnees and Syrian refugees through enhanced crop and livestock production and marketing.

Food Security and Livelihoods analysis for Lebanese host communities

Duration: August 2014 – July 2015

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Provide technical assistance to better understand the implication of the Syria crisis on the food and livelihood security and the needs of Lebanese host communities.

Emergency assistance to vulnerable Lebanese farmers affected by the Syria crisis and to displaced Syrians to enhance their food security

Duration: June 2015 – February 2016

Donor: Belgium

Objective: Improve the food and nutrition security of 1 550 vulnerable Lebanese households.





PRIORITY AREA B: FOSTERING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, INCREASING COMPETITIVENESS AND IMPROVING FOOD SYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS

FAO provides high quality assistance and capacity development to transfer best practices to develop agriculture/value chains involving small-scale farmers, using innovative approaches. FAO assists in developing agricultural production (with special emphasis on dairy sector) through improved practices and the introduction of new technologies with a special focus on young farmers and women.

FAO works to develop innovative approaches with the Government, NGOs and private sector partners in agriculture and rural development. This has been particularly successful in the FAO project on recovery and rehabilitation of the dairy sector in southern Lebanon, Bekaa Valley and Hermel-Akkar-Uplands, and will be expanded to include the development of other new value chains involving small-scale farmers. Similarly, upgrading post-harvest processes and value addition will require innovative approaches involving stakeholders beyond government. The success of FAO projects on strengthening production and marketing of Lebanese agricultural products as well the Lebanese observatory for agricultural development is expected to trigger further related work.

FAO will continue to support Lebanon to improve marketing and traceability of agricultural products and assist in the development of marketing systems and infrastructure. In addition, FAO will continue to developing national capacities in sanitary and phytosanitary related areas.

Emergency Vaccination and Targeted Feeding of Livestock Grazing in Areas along the Syria-Lebanon Border

Duration: August 2013 – November 2015

Donor: DFID - UK

Objective: Enhance food security conditions of the population affected by the ongoing crisis by reducing: (i) the threat of transboundary animal diseases and (ii) the number of animals dying, malnourished and being sold at reduced prices. The planned support will help local farmers/Bedouins keep their livestock assets – their only source of income during these difficult times, and their access to nutritious animal protein.





Technical assistance for the introduction of Quinoa and appropriation/institutionalization of its production in Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Mauritania, Sudan and Yemen

Duration: December 2013 – November 2015

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Asses the potential for introducing, producing and adopting Quinoa, and fostering and strengthening transfer of knowledge competencies and exchange of ideas at regional and intra-regional levels.

Enhance the livelihood and food security of vulnerable Lebanese women through improving their dairy production practices and supporting their dairy processing activities

Duration September 2015 – August 2016

Donor: Italian Cooperation

Objective: Provide assistance to 200 dairy producers and 200 women dairy processors engaged in the program to increase levels of income through improved milk quality and dairy products and improve the hygienic quality of milk produced by farmers engaged in the program by reducing bacteriological contamination by 50%. Emphasis is made on improving the quality and hygienic standards of milk and dairy products to safeguard the Lebanese consumer and improve the milk prices.

Management of Tomato Borer: *Tuta absoluta* in Near East Region: Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen

Duration: March 2013 – September 2015

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Program

Objective: Strengthen the regional collaboration, coordination, information and knowledge exchange in management of *T. absoluta* as well as assist in mapping the pest and contain its spread within the region.





PRIORITY AREA C: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT AND USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE RESOURCES FOR FOOD SECURITY

FAO works to support research and development activities for sustainable use and management of natural resources, fisheries and aquaculture, in coordination with the main actors currently engaged in the sector. FAO will work to develop plans and policy for sustainable management of forests in the context of climate change and support in the implementation of reforestation programmes. FAO will implement a number of initiatives to improve land and water management particularly with the Ministry of Energy and Water and will conduct a pilot activity to promote the use of renewable energy. Finally, FAO will provide assistance to improve governance of fisheries and aquaculture and to support a number of sector-related development actions.

Development of Water Management in the Caza of Marjeyoun

Duration: September 2011 – September 2015

Donor: Italy

Objective: Strengthen local and national capacities to increase agricultural productivity through improved water demand management. The project contributes to the modernization of the irrigation systems and management in Lebanon. More specifically, the project foresees the following immediate objectives: Contribute towards improved water demand management in irrigation and contribute to increased knowledge of farmers and institutional personnel with regard to new irrigation technology and management practices to enhance the efficiency and the productivity of water use.

Strengthening the Coordination of the National Afforestation and Reforestation Programme in Lebanon

Duration: October 2015 – September 2017

Donor: FAO Technical Cooperation Programme

Objective: Support the MoA based on the recommendation made in the FAO supported road map (National Afforestation and Reforestation Programme), prepared and approved by MoA in 2013.

Scientific and Institutional Cooperation to Support Responsible Fisheries in the Eastern Mediterranean (EastMed)

Duration: 2004-2015

Donor: Greece, Italy, EU

Objective: Contribute to the sustainable management of marine fisheries in the Eastern Mediterranean, and thereby at supporting national economies and protecting the livelihoods of those involved in the fisheries sector.

Coping with Water Scarcity (The Role of Agriculture): Phase III - Strengthening national capacities

Duration: March 2011– February 2014

Donor: Italy

Objective: Improve countries' capacity to cope with water scarcity as a result of improved knowledge of their water resources situation in general and increased skills of technology in the way water is being used in the agricultural sector in particular.

About FAO

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is leading international efforts in the fight against hunger. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. It helps developing countries and countries in transition modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and guarantees good nutrition for all. Since its founding, in 1945, FAO paid special attention to developing rural areas, where 70 percent of the world's poor live. Since its establishment in 1945, achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts – to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.

Achieving FAO's goals to end hunger and poverty is a challenging and complex task. Today, thanks to major changes in how we do business, FAO is a fitter, flatter and more flexible organization, whose activities are driven by five strategic objectives:

- Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition
- Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable
- Reduce rural poverty
- Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises



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