



## BML Livelihoods Sector Working Groups Meeting - Minutes

<b>BML Livelihoods WG Minutes of Meeting</b>			
<b>Name</b>	Livelihoods WG / Coordination Meeting	<b>Meeting Date</b>	12 December 2024
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Online - Teams	<b>Meeting Time</b>	10:00 am till 11:00 am
<b>Chairperson</b>	Marianne Al Haibe/ UNDP Amir Mounif / MoSA	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	1h
<b>Minutes Prepared By</b>	Marianne Al Haibe / UNDP		
<b>Participants</b> <b>20 Organizations</b>	Amir Mounif / <b>MoSA</b> – Abdallah Al Assaad / <b>UNDP</b> – Rawan AL Hakim / <b>IOM</b> – Claude Geagea / <b>YMCA</b> – Elie Abou Chaaya / <b>Plan International</b> – Ghassan Nehme / UNDP – Hala Sukkariyeh / <b>Sahaja</b> – Hala Al Ahmadiye / <b>ACTED</b> – Hoda Khatoun / <b>AMEL</b> – Joseph Bou Assi / <b>Caritas</b> – Dania Abi Chahine / Caritas – Joseph Bou Jaoudeh / <b>NRC</b> – Dina Sayegh / <b>SIF</b> – Patil Mardigian / <b>ILO</b> – Mohammad Bissani / <b>LOYAC</b> – Mohannad Abbas / <b>Unponteper</b> – Nagham Al Hendi / <b>Anera</b> – Rayan Fakhoury / <b>LOYAC</b> – Rosy Cherfane / <b>Dorcus Tabitha</b> – Taymour Hassaniyeh / <b>Mercy Corps</b> – Tugce Atak Gulmez / <b>UNHCR</b> – Veronica Bonelli / Unponteper – Youssef Chehadeh / <b>CESVI</b> – Ahmad Haidar / <b>ACTED</b> – Fadia Chinder / <b>UNICEF</b> .		
<b>Meeting Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome and Introductions</li> <li>- National Updates</li> <li>- Field Updates</li> <li>- AoB</li> </ul>		

### Summary of Discussion Points

<b>I.</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>
	The meeting started with a round of introductions for all attending partners.
<b>II.</b>	<b>National Updates</b>
	Still in the process of planning for 2025 for the sector. The process will continue this month and in January. Invited participants to attend the national meeting.
<b>III.</b>	<b>Field Updates</b>

## Regular Programming:

- ⇒ **ACTED:** Continuing with support to MSMEs working in agrifood supported by GIZ in Chouf, Bekaa, Hasbaya, and Baalbak. I resumed partially during the emergency in Chouf and started a needs assessment. I am planning to start the training next year, followed by in-kind assistance and cash grants. Online sessions remained ongoing as a mitigation measure in the past period. They are coordinating with the FSAS.
- ⇒ **LOYAC:** will resume their programs this week. PSS activities in Burj camp and Bekaa. The fashion design and life empowerment skills program and theater program will start at the end of December under emergency.
- ⇒ **ANERA:** Ongoing TVET classes since before the emergency. During the emergency some classes kept taking place. A class was taking place in Khaldeh on agro-food during the emergency. An ongoing course is also taking place in Spears. A construction course will start in Barja.
- ⇒ **Plan International:** Moubadiroun project providing support for businesses (18-45 y.o.) and entrepreneurs (18 -30 y.o.). Supporting with online training and followed by start-up capital for both groups. Working in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. WBL is also being provided for 30 employees. They started an assessment in the field to identify the potential markets to refer employees. The project will end in September 2025. Their target is 100 participants MSMEs and entrepreneurs. More than 60% will be MSMEs. No specific areas – all BML. The WBL focus is on agriculture, construction, and the environment. WBL outreach was referrals. MSMEs and entrepreneurs were through an open online call and some sessions are starting now.
- ⇒ **Mercy Corps:** The Forsa program is coming to an end. They postponed their activities for a while when escalations started. The aim is to empower youth in the digital sector. They supported 3 TVET centers and one co-working space. Finishing internship targets.
- ⇒ **ILO:** Continuing their activities in 7 areas related to road maintenance and movement in Baabdat, Beit el Din, Amshit, and Araya doing pedestrian networks in Jbeil and Jounieh. In Jbeil, linking old souks to the beach to make a better pedestrian network between old souks and the beach. Another component of agriculture through the rehabilitation of farm infrastructure for vulnerable farmers throughout the country. Farms in Mount Lebanon are also targeted. All through Cash for Work activities.
- ⇒ **Caritas:** Providing sewing training in Furn el Chebbak within 6 months. Started training to support 40 beneficiaries in partnership with ILO. Finished planning and starting in January the implementation of a pilot project in partnership with the General Directorate of Vocational and Educational Training. The project will be implemented in Ajaltoun Technical School as they will provide support for students enrolled in plumbing and electrical courses with CfW and provision of tools as they will rehabilitate their school. Preparing for launching an MSMEs support project. They will target MSMEs directly and indirectly affected by the war.
- ⇒ **Dorcus Tabitha:** In the closure phase of the CNC where they supported 70 MSMEs in Ashrafieh and the neighborhood. Provided sewing classes for 70 women and are now in the last cycle and will be getting sewing machines for participants.

- ⇒ **AMEL:** Two TVET projects. One multi-sectoral project will also be implemented in BML. They also have digital marketing and content creation training in Beirut.

**Emergency Updates:**

**- Assessments:**

- ⇒ **LOYAC:** During the emergency, they supported 46 shelters in BML but now after the war has ended most of those shelters have closed and IDPs have moved to other shelters and are now in the process of assessment to see which shelters need help. Focusing on Bhamdoun, Aley, and Chouf.
- ⇒ **Caritas:** Were covering interventions in collective shelters. Currently, they are conducting an informal assessment in Beirut and Mount Lebanon to assess those businesses. Aim to support 100-200 businesses directly or indirectly affected by the war. Trying to focus on Saida road from Choueifat Kfarshima to Tayyouneh.

**- Cash For Work:**

⇒ **Caritas:** Sewing

⇒ **ILO:** Shelters have been closed but they managed to finish the work. Their aim was not to only rehabilitate the shelter but to rehabilitate the structure for future use. In the long term, their project was efficient. Even after having the IDPs leave the work continued. CfW was open for IDPs and the host community. The donor was understanding of the high mobility of IDPs.

⇒ **ACF:** Multisectoral support. Started CfW interventions supporting IPDs through having vans that are moving and cleaning shelters that are empty now so they can be ready for students again. Launching communication with BSS, started working in Dekwaneh, and will be checking the needs in Ghobeiry, Choueifat, and Aramoun.

**- MSMEs Support:**

- ⇒ **ACTED:** repurposing some of their funding to support affected MSMEs and have an upcoming project with RDPP that will be nationwide covering 15 MSMEs.
- ⇒ **Caritas:** Two projects as explained above trying to reach 200 MSMEs. Planning to support MSMEs with around 1,500 USD. Assessment will determine the exact needed amount.
- ⇒ **IOM:** Hoping to expand activities in BML with the new project coming in 2025. Mainly with CfW and MSMEs support. The current main work is in the North and Bekaa.

- Organizations were asked to update the BML Tracking Sheet:

[2024 BML Livelihoods, SoST, and Municipal Requests - Google Sheets](#)

**VI. AOB**

- [Reporting activities related to IDPs](#)
- [Reporting on Activity Info and Service Mapping](#)
- [2024 Activities](#)