



## 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>	4 <sup>th</sup> July 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>23 Organizations</b>	Ahmad Haidar/ <b>ACTED</b> – Caline Banna/ <b>LRC</b> – Amir Mounif/ <b>MoSA</b> – Charbel Nakhoul/ <b>Neopreneur</b> – Dina Bou Karroum/ <b>FSF</b> – Elias Sahyoun/ <b>JRS</b> – Elissa Naim/ <b>FAO</b> – Hoda Khatoun/ <b>Amel Association</b> – Rachad Sakr/ <b>LMTA</b> – Sara Jeitani/ <b>WFP</b> – Tamara Zorub/ <b>Merath</b> – Taymour Hassanieh/ <b>Mercy Corps</b> – Veronique Salame/ <b>UNHCR</b> – Youssef Chehade/ <b>CISP</b> – Zeina Abdel Wahed/ <b>Swiss Contact</b> – Abdul Hamid Aouad/ <b>Tahaddi</b> – Mia Roupheal/ <b>CDLL</b> – Mouna Ramadan/ <b>UNDP</b> – Nagham El Hendi/ <b>ANERA</b> – Bashar / <b>SIF</b> – Lama Kawtharani/ <b>Sphere Building Tomorrow</b> – Joseph Bou Assi/ <b>Caritas</b> - Mouna El Khatib/ <b>Bassmeh and Zeytoun</b> -		
<b>Meeting Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome and Introductions</li> <li>- Round of Activities Updates</li> <li>- Mid-year assessment: Challenges and Lessons Learned</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>IV.</b>	<b>Field Updates</b>

- **Tahaddi:**

Women Empowerment Program: They have a sewing atelier with 19 women working there. They provide all types of training in the atelier: quilting, stitching, crochet, and soft and technical skills. They participate in a lot of fairs. They work with different NGOs such as UNICEF and Merath by providing them with winterization products and baby products. They also started a carpentry workshop with Merath. They are training 30 youth on VT regarding wood workshop and sewing. This year was challenging because of the increase in the prices. They work in Hayy El Gharbe in Ghobeiry which is located near Chatila and Sports City. They are a CBO and only work for Hayy el Gharbe community with all its members. <https://tahaddilebanon.org/> - <https://www.instagram.com/atelier.tahaddi/> - contact details: [info@tahaddilebanon.org](mailto:info@tahaddilebanon.org)

- **ACTED:**

They are supporting 40 MSMEs in the agri-food sector in Chouf, Hasbaya, Bekaa, and Baalbak. Next week they will launch the call for applications.

They have another consortium project funded by the EU in partnership with AUB and DOT. They are supporting 10 MSMEs and 10 CSOs in digitization.

- **SIF:**

They are currently in the selection phase of 50 MSMEs in North Lebanon (mainly Tripoli - Akkar - Zgharta - Minnieh - Ras Maska). They will provide technical support, business training workshops, business plans and/or business recovery plans for each business, and a cash grant to complement their business plan (they also support cost sharing). They will also deliver life skills, career counseling, vocational training, job placement, and ToT in BML and Tripoli. They are also providing their participants with GBV awareness sessions. Contact Details: [fftbusofficer.lb@secours-islamique.org](mailto:fftbusofficer.lb@secours-islamique.org) – 71530038

- **FSF:**

They had four livelihoods projects for this year:

1- Women Empowerment Project: completed (supported women in southern areas in BML and in Hasbaya and Rachaya with VT and seed funds)

2- Salam Project: Targeting the Kaldanian community: VT – CfW – Digital Marketing Training – Seed funds.

3- Idea Lab Program - with Berytech: supporting 10 startups in agri-food, agri-tech, and clean-tech sectors as they provide them with technical skills and up to 1500\$ grant. (All nationalities)

4- YEP Project – in partnership with Asmae: providing VT – Entrepreneurship training – Life skills training in the areas of Karantina, Burj Hamoud, and Khandaa El Ghamii'. The VT delivered are barber, food production, and hospitality. The project is expected to end at the end of this year. (Lebanese and Syrians) – They provide transportation through buses.

- **JRS:**

They are implementing a Livelihoods project in Bourj Hammoud targeting Lebanese and Syrians residing in Bourj Hammoud and surrounding areas. Activities provided are: VT – apprenticeship – and then some of the participants will receive a seed fund of 1500\$ - training conducted are in fashion design and event decoration.

- **SBT:**

In the process of preparing a new Livelihoods project with Leb Relief and funded by ILO. Supporting MSMEs to support them with technical skills in infrastructure then they will monitor them to be in an incubation period. The targeted area is in Damour. Technical skills training will be decided after completing the needs assessment next week.

- **CDLL:**  
Substance program in BML.
- **Bassmeh and Zeytouneh:**  
My Career My Choice: Currently in the second cycle of the project – they finished cycle one where they targeted 156 participants with Life skills, VT, and Job placement. Targeted 50 participants in cycle two and they still have to target 45 participants.
- **LHSP/UNDP:**  
Currently, they have two big Livelihoods projects:
  - 1- In coastal Metn, (Bourj Hammoud, Jdeideh, Sin el Fil, and Dikwaneh), the project is still in the evaluation stages, aiming to support 50 startups and MSMEs in different growth stages. They will provide tailored training, grant support, and customized coaching.
  - 2- In Arkoub el Haref Union of Municipalities in Chouf (10 villages), the project aims to enhance the rural tourism infrastructure to create a compelling destination for visitors and stimulate economic growth leading to the development of the rural tourism sector and hospitality sector in the area. The project will target at least 40 MSME coops and farmers. It includes Training, raw material provision, production input, tools, marketing, and packaging... based on the assessment findings. It will also have a component targeting the infrastructure in the area.
- **ANERA:**  
VT through partnerships with the private sector (such as Al Jawwad) and NGOs. They started year two, are in the outreach stage, and will be delivering 15 classes (20 persons each) in agrifood, IT, sewing, healthcare, and education. Age criteria are between 18 to 24 y.o., out of school for more than 2 years, 50% Lebanese, 44% Syrians, and 6% Palestinians per class. Delivering CBT (150-250 hours), Life skills (10 days), and YFS (youth functional skills). Then they choose the top 15 youths from each class to be admitted to the Cash for Work activity to implement what they learned after finding them a place to be employed.  
Areas of implementation: Khaldeh, Sidd el Bauchriyeh, Badaro, Semkanieh, Barja, Baabda, and Zalka. They are providing refreshments and transportation.
- **Mercy Corps:**  
Main project in BML is the freelance academy. They still have 6 months left of the project. Introduced upskilling component by giving 20 hours of technical skills delivered by CIS. Giving 10\$ compensation for transportation. They are open for referrals.  
They have open internship opportunities as well for 40 working days and they are also providing 10\$/day as transportation compensation. The target is to employ them.  
They also trained 25 persons on a digital skills training of trainers.  
[thassanieh@mercycoprs.org](mailto:thassanieh@mercycoprs.org); 81990613 - <https://freelanceacademy.mercycoprs.org.lb/>
- **LMTA:**  
Launched on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June a new project, as they are developing a new hiking trail from Annoubine to Harissa (half of it will be in ML). This will provide 300 participants the opportunity to take part in cash-for-work activities then champions will be identified for long-term employment as local tourist guides. They will be trained in tourist and mountaineering guiding. Some guest house owners will be trained on different related topics. Some guesthouses will be given grants to enhance their buildings. Targeting only Lebanese locals living in villages that are crossed by the trail. Refreshments and transportation are provided.  
Finishing a project that started a year ago about studies and surveys about climate change and their impact on Livelihoods. They are in the final stages of this study. At the end of the summer, they will start

a school exchange program and awareness campaigns to raise awareness of climate change and its effects on rural areas.

- **WFP:**

They have a project with AFDC – implementation shall start in August – Mainly in Aley district in Jisr el Qadi and Ain Treiz: Development and execution of a landscape plan focusing on fire risk management and eco-tourism and training volunteers on forest fighting, early warning systems, forest protection...

- **Merath:**

VT and sewing in Sinn el Fil.

- **UNHCR:**

They operate through their partners in their 9 community centers operated by Amel, Caritas, and Makhzoumi and they provide skills development training. They deliver different types of training such as mobile repair, jewelry making, detergent making, video editing, barbering, make-up, candle production, hair-dressing, photography... In addition to delivering learning skills such as languages and computer skills. They also provide top up courses on life skills and linkages with market and sales. They still need to follow-up on providing advanced training and this will be done through referrals.

- **CISP:**

No LH projects yet at this level – still waiting for a grant they applied for.

- **Swiss Contact:**

They are in their 4<sup>th</sup> year of the 4 years Tafawoq program. They are heading to close the program by the end of the year. For BML this program includes coaching for employment for youth between 15 and 35. They support youth through soft-skills training and coach them based on individualized plans then help them secure short internships and then support them in mapping the market where they can potentially work. The trainings are given in Chouf and Dikwaneh and receive applications from all BML.

Naaam platform is under the construction sector: they support MSMEs through business skills development training and then they combine them through their network and link them to experts to land bigger jobs. This network includes more than 1000 SMEs today.

[zeina.abdelwahed@swisscontact.org](mailto:zeina.abdelwahed@swisscontact.org); <https://naaam.org/>

- **AMEL:**

They will start the implementation of their new multisectoral project that was presented previously in July. Under the livelihoods sector, this project includes VT and computer literacy for participants between 18 to 35 years old. 50% Syrians 50% Lebanese. In ML the project will be implemented in Amel's centers in Chiyah and Hay el Sellom.

They have a one-year extension of the Live France project which they implemented in Hay EL Sellom on digital marketing and content creation. No restriction on nationality – age 18+.

- **Caritas:**

A graduation ceremony will take place on Tuesday for around 100 graduates who were enrolled in digital skills classes for two months. Still supporting businesses with a target of 150 MSMEs.

- Organizations were asked to update the BML Tracking Sheet:

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

<b>VI.</b>	<b>AOB</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Reporting activities related to IDPs</b></li><li>- <b>Reporting on Activity Info and Service Mapping</b></li><li>- <b>2024 Activities</b></li><li>- <b>Next meeting will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2024</b></li></ul>