Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon Project

Fact Sheet

Who we are

The UNDP Strengthening Civil Peace in Lebanon project addresses the underlying causes of conflict and tensions in Lebanon. It creates “safe spaces” for local identity groups (youth, high school teachers, media, NGOs, municipal council members and mukhars) to discuss their concerns openly and enhance mutual understanding of the “other”.

Our goal

Our goal is to reduce sectarian and communal divides and the risks of conflict relapse and consolidate domestic peace in Lebanon by addressing the root causes of conflict through supporting existing national capacities for civil peace, dialogue and reconciliation to create conflict resolution and peace building mechanisms.

Who we work with

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school teachers</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal officials</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO representatives</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalists and editors-in-chief</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key achievements under each societal level

Local

- Series of training programs for municipal officials representing all six governorates on conflict prevention and resolution skills, mediation, as well as proposal writing for fundraising purposes. This led to the provision of 10 small-grants to municipalities from all six governorates in order to implement projects related to peace building and conflict resolution.
- Production and distribution of a study paper on the current position and role of mukhtars in strengthening civil peace as well as a booklet on local authorities’ role in peace building.
- Development of local level peace building strategies to mitigate tensions in 3 pilot conflict prone areas of Lebanon: Fnaydek, Wadi Khaled and Bourj Hammoud.
Civil society

- Series of trainings for national NGOs working in peace building and conflict resolution as well as on proposal writing.
- Provision of technical assistance to a core group of peace building NGOs to develop a strategy based on national and regional priority-setting.
- Establishment of civil society platform on truth and reconciliation as well as provision of capacity building sessions on key concepts of peace building, networking, and dealing with the past.

Education

- Series of trainings for high school teachers on peace building and conflict resolution methodologies in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) - Center for Research Education and Development.
- Design, production and testing of a peace building toolbox in collaboration with MEHE aimed at promoting peace education in classroom.
- Implementation of initiatives to promote collective memory among children, youth and adults through non-formal channels including mobile exhibitions, film screenings and providing access to civil war archives.

Media

- Series of capacity building sessions on objective coverage in conflict situations, objective coverage of parliamentary and municipal elections, MDGS, media ethics, and online reporting. These have led to the production of a manual on objective coverage of conflict in collaboration with the AFP Foundation.
- Production of the Journalists’ Pact after facilitated consultations with senior journalists, editors and producers of key media organizations. Also, production of a TV spot reflecting the messages mentioned in the Pact.
- Publication and distribution of 3 news supplements with two widespread newspapers Annahar and As-safir on strategic peace building issues in Lebanon, jointly prepared by reporters from various newspapers. Topics covered: “connectors” and “dividers” in the Lebanese society, civil campaigns in Lebanon as well as the impact of the Syrian crisis on the Lebanese host communities.

Youth

- Series of skills development trainings for youth on conflict prevention, peace building, leadership and advocacy techniques.
- Establishment of Peace Building Clubs in selected universities.
- Implementation of action plans and activities on strategic national themes such as volunteerism and youth activism, human rights and MDGs, citizenship as well as history, memory and reconciliation.

Strategic Donors and Partners

For more information: 01-980583 or 70-119160