

Support to Women Cooperatives and Associations in the Agro- food Sector of Lebanon

GCP/LEB/030/CAN

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REGEND National Meeting

UN-ESCWA

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رائدات الريف
التعاونية مؤنث



Workshop Name

Workshop notes

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Impact

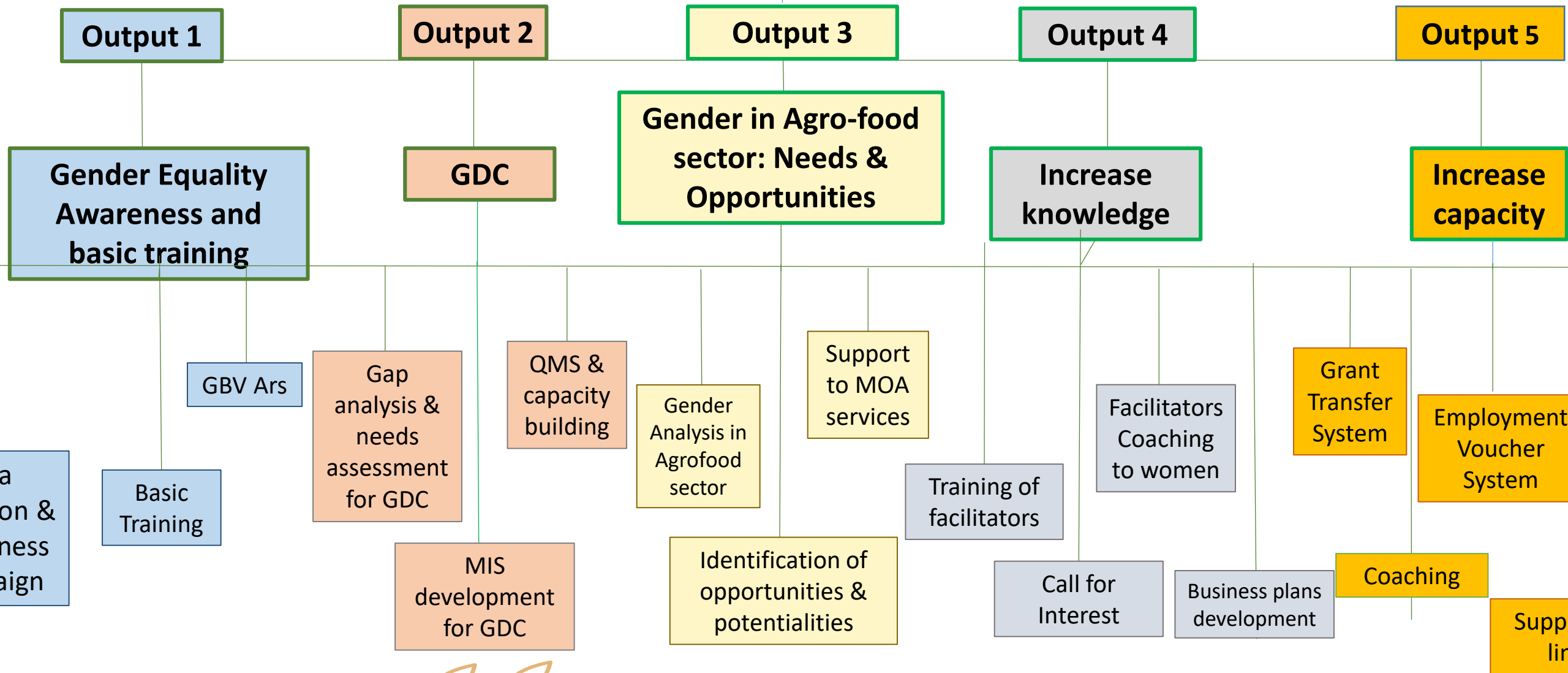
Contribute to the reinforcement of Lebanese local economies and social stability by empowering and improving the livelihoods of rural women in Lebanon.

Objective

150 women coop/assoc. have a grant and labor vouchers to implement a business



Empowerment of Women Coops in Lebanon



Output 1: Gender Equality Awareness Campaign & Basic Training

Act.1.1: Gender Equality Awareness Campaign

Act.1.2 : Basic Training

Act.1.3: Gender- Based Violence Awareness



Activity 1.1: Gender Equality Awareness Campaign



Pre-awareness Data collection

Generate data, findings and analysis to understand:

- values perceptions and attitudes
- social norms
- everyday beliefs
- behaviours of men and women
- family patterns of gender roles
- implication of gender inequality on boys and girls personality
- interplay of the change
- drivers and the barriers for change
- Etc...

Women Focus Group Discussions :

- Targeting 320 rural women
- 16 FGDs (2/Mohafazat)
- 20 women/group

Family Discussion Groups:

- Targeting 480 influencers
- 16 FGDs (2/Mohafazat)
- 30 influencers per group

Target: 500 families (50% Syrian)



Activity 1.1: Gender Equality Awareness Campaign



Use findings of data collection and analysis to adapt and contextualize the gender equality awareness campaign

Traditional Awareness Sessions:

- Targeting 1000 families : (50% Syrian)
- 1 or 2 sessions per Caza over 25 cazas
- 30 participants/ session from 5 different villages of the Caza itself.

Awareness Sessions applying GALS Methodology:

A community led methodology to empower women and men. It can treat of Violence, decision making, property ownership, gender justice. It provokes discussion and rapidly identify actions which could lead to rapid tangible valued changes in a short period of time through participants' own actions in their households and communities.

- 13 days duration
- 5 GALS to be applied in different Mohafazats
- 20 participants/ group (men & women)



Activity 1.2: Basic training

Curriculum

- Business basics
- Sustainability,
- Marketing,
- Communication,
- Value Chain,
- Quality and Safety,
- “My COOP” training package,
- Constructive dialogue and negotiation,
- Building a common vision,
- GBV, PSEA,
- Ethical behaviour and prevention of fraud.

Target: 500 Leb. women + 250 Syrian women/girls

Compensated by a “**Rewarding Points System**” Laurel leaves



Rewarding system



Activity 1.3: Awareness on Gender-Based Violence

Target: 1200 registered Syrian women/girls -farm labourers

40 awareness raising sessions



Output 2: Increased capacity of the General Directorate of Cooperatives (GDC) / Legalization of NOWARA

Act. 2.1: Gap Analysis/ Needs assessment for GDC

Act. 2.2 : Capacity building /MIS

Act. 2.3 : Quality Management System/ Capacity building



Act.2.1: Gap Analysis/ Needs assessment for GDC

- Analysis of the current work and GDC capacities
- Identification of existing gaps, challenges, needs
- Road map preparation for GDC to follow

Who: National consultant in Quality Management System

NOWARA

Explore options for institutionalization/legal registration of NOWARA

Who: National consultant expert in legal and institutional issues



Activity 2.2 : Capacity building /MIS

GDC

- Update & overall development of GDC's MIS
- Integrate sex and age dis aggregated data
- Improve of GDC's IT resources
- Training & on-job trainings of employees

NOWARA

- Upgrade the website



Activity 2.3 : Quality Management System/ Capacity building

GDC

- Road map implementation for the GDC to become compliant with the QMS
- Preparation of a vision and strategy (gender sensitive)
- Preparation and delivery of a package of capacity building to the GDC personnel
- Preparation & provision of training materials & SOPs or manuals for GDC staff to improve their fulfillment of all their mandate
- Provision of training for different topics



Output 3: Gender Analysis in Agro-food sector: Needs & Opportunities

Act.3.1: Gender Analysis in Agro-food Sector

Act.3.2: Identification of opportunities & potentialities

Act.3.3: Support to MOA services



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Activity 3.1 : Gender analysis of the Agro-food sector

- Better understanding of the women's and men's roles in the agro-food sector
- Identify areas of inequalities
- Highlight women's challenges & opportunities within households & existing agro-food cooperatives/associations

Dimensions / coverage :


- Plant production, animal production, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, food-processing
- Value chain approach
- Individual women/ women cooperatives/ economic sector
- Access to productive resources and services, power and agency (capabilities, self confidence, decision making power)

How: Literature review, survey, Focus group discussions, qualitative and quantitative data



Activity 3.2 : Opportunities and potentialities

Identify opportunities in :

- Existing women accessible value chains
 - Traditionally men reserved value chains
 - New value chains
- 
- Ideas for business plans**
- Improve women inclusion & performance in the agro-food sector promote women leadership
 - Identify relevant arrangements & mechanisms related to the cooperatives laws or regulations that may be better applied to achieve obj.1



Activity 3.3 : Support to MOA services

- Create linkages between MOA services and cooperatives
- Upgrade MOA's capacity
- Enable MOA better assist cooperatives in their respective regions, responding to their needs of technical nature

How: Inclusion of MOA staff in training activities with Subject matters specialists



Output 4: Increased Knowledge / Business plan

Act. 4.1: Training of facilitators

Act. 4.2: Call for Interest

Act. 4.3: Facilitators coaching to women

Act. 4.4: Business plans development



Activity 4.1. : Training of Facilitators

Facilitators :

- 20 facilitators / 4 supervisors / 1 Master facilitator (10 women)
- GDC staff/ MOA extension staff/ NGOs/ Lead farmers
- Covering all geographical areas
- Selection criteria
- Trained to train and coach the cooperatives

Curriculum :

- Basic package of Output1
- Technical trainings, Value chain
- Farm Business School
- Business Plan Development



Activity 4.2. : Call for Interest

- Wide outreach : Women/ Coops/ Associations
- Calls for interest, announcements, communication strategy and media channels
- Women should undergo basic trainings to be considered for eligibility in Act.4.3
- Build database



Activity 4.3 : Facilitators coaching for women

Facilitators will :

- Provide coaching sessions to Coop/assoc.: 10 visits / coop
- Train coops/assoc. through FBS approach on business related topics
- Conduct preliminary feasibility studies for expressed ideas of interest received
- Coached by the specific Subject matter specialists, they train on technical matters and value chains



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Activity 4.4 : Business plan development

Facilitators guide 360-500 representatives of coop (200-250 Coop/Assoc.) to develop a business plan

- Facilitators train coops/assoc. through FBS approach on business related topics
- Facilitators conduct preliminary feasibility studies for expressed ideas of interest received
- Coached by the specific Subject matter specialists, facilitators will train and adapt on technical matters

2 women representatives/coop remunerated 200 USD

Target : 200 -250 Business plans developed

Select : 150 Best ones



Activity 4.4 : Business plan development

Select : 150 Best ones

Selection criteria include :

- Robustness of business plan and feasibility study
- Number of rewarding points collected through the training
- Environmental safeguard
- Inclusion of people with special needs
- Inclusion of youth



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Output 5: Increased capacity of Women Coop/Assoc.

Act.5.1: Grant Transfer System

Act.5.2: Coaching

Act.5.3: Employment Voucher System

Act.5.4: Supply Market Linkages

Act.5.5: Monitoring & Evaluation



Activity 5.1 : Grant transfer

- Coaching continues to validate the production activity
- Signature of contract with coops (USD 8000 – USD 12000)
- Transfer of first installment based on first milestone



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Activity 5.2 : Coaching

- Coaching continues for execution of business plan
- Transfer of second installment based on second milestone
- Linkages with value chain stakeholders



Activity 5.3 : Employment vouchers

- Coaching continues for execution of business plan and employment
- Transfer of third installment based on third milestone
- Transfer of labor vouchers : 8 person/month per coop



Activity 5.4 : Supply market linkages

Workshop/s, exhibitions :

- Dissemination of information on supply and demand
- Promotion of the produces



Activity 5.5 : Monitoring and Evaluation

- Identify indicators, baseline and target values
- Frequency of data collection and responsibilities
- Reporting and advise to project management for actions or corrections



Management

Project Steering Committee

- Strategic leadership
- Composed of : MOA, GAC and FAO
- Meeting every 6 months

Project coordination Unit

- Coordinate project implementation
- Composed of : MOA and FAO

Coordination platform

- Create synergies and complementarity and avoid duplication
- Composed of FAO, UNDP, Mercy Corps, and any other ad-hoc members



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Grievance mechanism



- For direct, indirect beneficiaries, stakeholders, partners, consultants, counterpart, ...
- Can file a complaint of dissatisfaction or discontent
- Has the right of follow-up and feedback



Environment

- “Greening the blue” initiative
- Reduction of wastes (workshops and meetings)
- Impact on environment to be considered for the businesses



Inclusiveness

- Reach out to individuals with special needs and accommodate their integration in the project



Thank you for your kind attention

