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**Work package 3: Support of local initiatives on service delivery, transparency and social cohesion**

تطوير ودعم مشاريع محلية لتأمين خدمات، باعتماد الشفافية والمحافظة على الوئام المجتمعي

**UPDATE 2**

Neighborhood committees (NC)s were formed in the four areas of Lebanon selected for intervention, having witnessed various types of conflicts in the bigger Lebanese crisis context. Their main deliverable will be the selection and implementation of much needed service delivery projects for social cohesion. After evaluating the community needs, placing a call for proposals and receiving a large number of submissions, the NCs started their selection process. Their focus is on participation and endorsement from local communities, as well as feasibility and sustainability based on the recommendations given by expert consultants.

The committee members showed an admirable level of professionalism, looking beyond their regional, political, and religious considerations to select projects that best bring people together and improve everyone's life.



Grievances from past frictions and clashes between communities still haunt relationships, but ongoing training has revealed the transformative benefit of overcoming such strains. So far, the NCs have shown a preference for finding unanimous consent within their groups to nominate projects for funding, rather than to decide by majority vote.

The first to start the selection process at the beginning of November was the NC in the mixed Islamic-Christian area of Kham-Marjeyoun region, at the intersection of the Lebanon-Syria-Israel border. Below is a summary of the projects they chose to support:

▪ Solar power for the Marjeyoun waste water treatment facility
▪ Equipment to rehabilitate the Ibl Saqi water station and pumping facility
▪ Solar energy light for illuminating the Kham-Marjeyoun-Beirut highway
▪ Rehabilitating and equipping the Kham regional trash recycling facility
▪ Robotics training for high school students
▪ Solar power for the Kham Social Cultural Community Center



The second NC project funding selection meeting took place in the upper region of Mount Lebanon, an agricultural area. The following are the projects selected for funding:

▪ Plowing tractors for the agricultural region
▪ Processing plant for recycling the olive pulp leftovers after oil is extracted
▪ Planting wheat and producing flour for local consumption
▪ Solar power to illuminate Btater and surrounding streets
▪ Solar energy for the Abey Health Clinic Refrigeration Unit