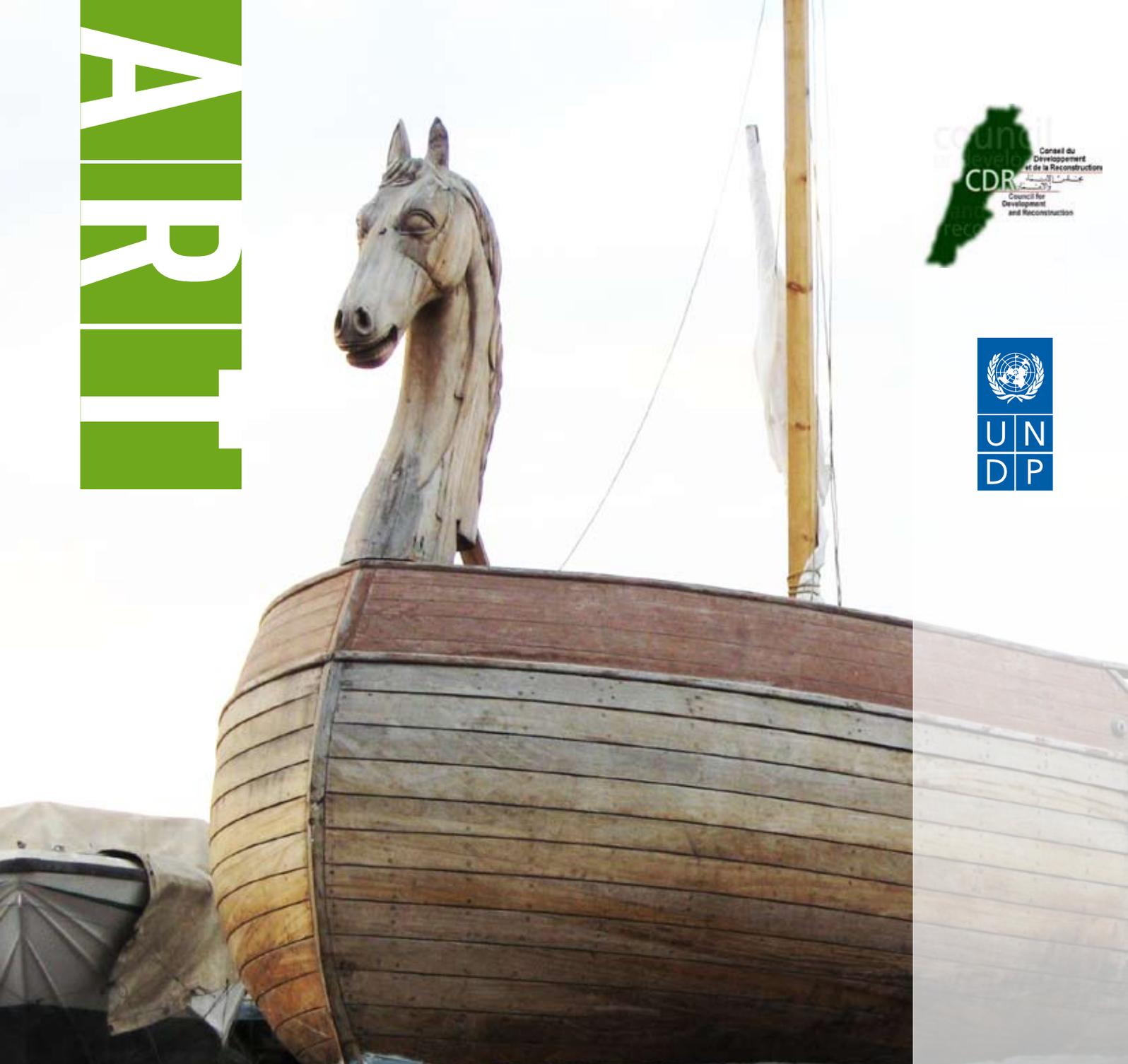


ART



ART GOLD LEBANON PROGRAMME

**GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON
COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND RECONSTRUCTION (CDR)**

In collaboration
with UNDP

April 2008

PRESENTATION

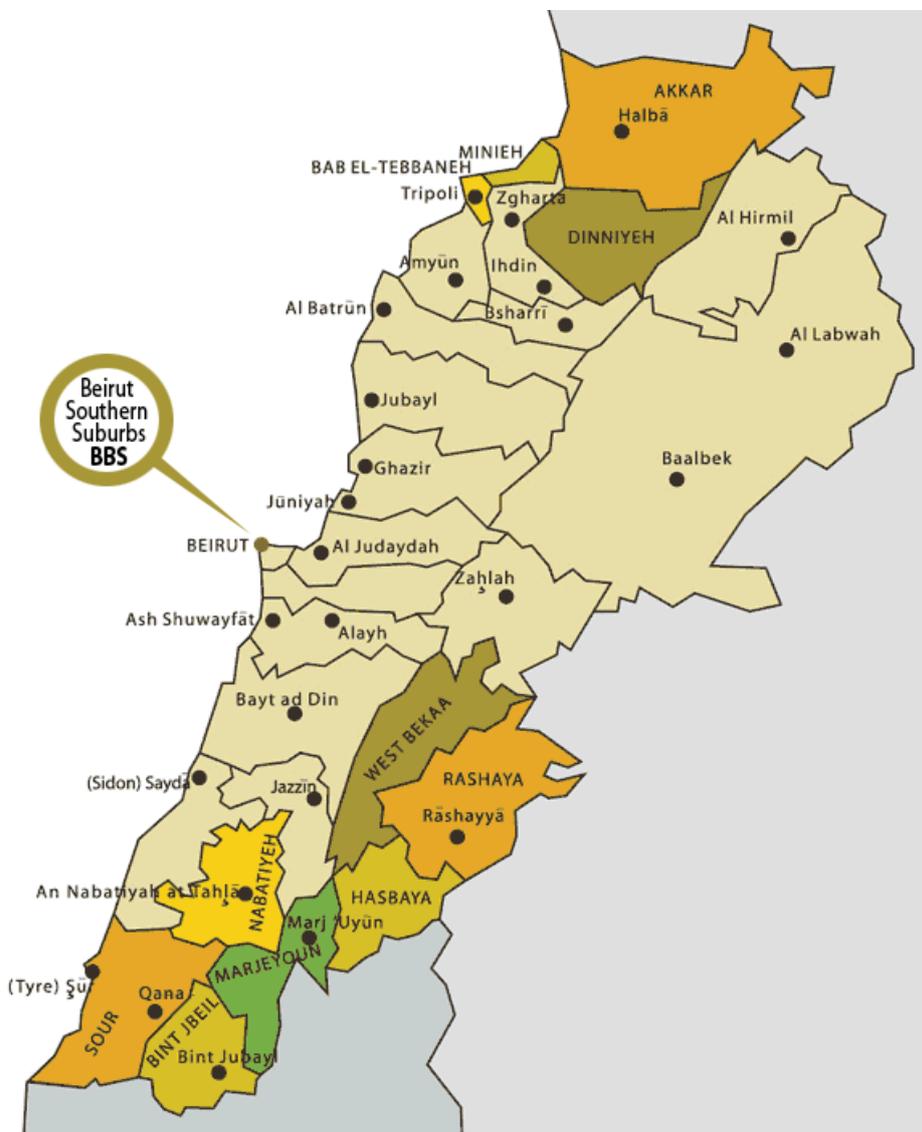
Over 80% of the Lebanese population currently lives in urbanized areas of the country, out of its estimated population of four million people. Lebanon has a diverse and multicultural society; but it is a country characterized by marginalization in its peripheral areas, mainly Akkar in the North, Beqaa in the East, and South Lebanon. Marginalization in South Lebanon has been made worse by long-lasting occupations and wars.

UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon is being implemented in the four neediest areas where there are high poverty rates and enormous socio-economic problems, made worse by the combination of deprivation and the effects of the July 2006 war. ART GOLD Lebanon's main aim, however, is to support the Lebanese national government and local communities in achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon utilizes a local development methodology. This methodology relies on territorial networks and partnerships, which are extremely poor in the Lebanese target areas. To this end, the first steps of the programme aimed at building-up and strengthening the relational and social capital of the target territories. The programme established 297 municipal and 4 regional working groups (RWGs) in its four target areas. The working groups bring together the main local development stakeholders, representatives of public administrations, civil society, business sector, decentralized and international cooperation, with the technical assistance of UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon. The municipal working groups identified their priority sectors and projects. A number of them were implemented and finalized. Based on the priorities identified at the municipal level, the regional working groups set up 22 regional thematic working groups that identified and agreed upon strategic regional projects. At the same time, a regional planning exercise in selected sectors was launched. The regional working groups requested training on participatory strategic planning, which UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon will provide within the

forthcoming months. Governance, Local Economic Development, Social Welfare, Health, Environment, Gender Equity and Education are UNDP ART GOLD's main fields of intervention at local and national levels. To support the efforts of regional working groups, UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon facilitated the set-up of a number of decentralized cooperation partnerships between Lebanese and European communities.

UNDP ART GOLD national interlocutor is the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR). The implementation of ART GOLD activities is also jointly liaised and closely coordinated with the national government through the National Committee, which was established by a decree of the Prime Minister in December 2007.



DURATION

3 years, starting May 2007

OPERATION AND COORDINATION STRUCTURES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

National Institution: The Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR)

The National Committee (NC) is chaired by CDR President and includes CDR Director of Planning and Programming, representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Interior & Municipalities and the Ministry of Economy & Trade, in addition to UNDP Country Director, UNDP Portfolio Manager, ART GOLD Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), and representatives of donor countries.

The National Committee (NC) was instituted by a decree of the Prime Minister issued at the end of October 2007 and the first meeting was held on 7 December 2007 at the Council for Development and Reconstruction. The NC guarantees that all the UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon initiatives are carried out in accordance with Government policies and strategies to promote local governance and sustainable development. The NC also supports working groups, promotes initiatives at the national level for local development and liaises with international partners, through the ART International Networks.

The Chief Technical Advisor, in coordination with the National Committee, is in charge of the operational management of the programme at the central level and on a day-to-day basis. He is also Executive Secretary to the National Committee

The Area Managers are the responsible for the four ART GOLD Lebanon area offices. Under the general direction of the CTA, the AMs are responsible for the provision of technical, coordination and managerial support to all the activities of the programme at the local level.

OPERATIONAL AND COORDINATION STRUCTURES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Working groups are the basic tool for promoting social dialogue and building relational capital in target areas and are chaired by local authorities. As instruments of territorial networking, they adopt participatory methodologies and facilitate the inclusion of the most disadvantaged people. The 4 regional working groups (RWGs) appointed 22 thematic working groups (TWGs), in accordance with territorial priorities. The WGs have played a crucial role in mitigating the fragmentation of national and international initiatives and attracted additional resources towards ART GOLD Lebanon target areas. UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon also organized 22 focus groups, made up of representatives of interest groups to identify and define shared problems and solutions.

UNDP ART GOLD is supporting the set-up of 4 regional economic development agencies, which will facilitate the creation of small-medium enterprises, mainly for the most vulnerable people. The agencies are the specialized economic tools of territorial partnership.

Working groups in South Lebanon: 170 municipal working groups; 1 regional working group; 7 thematic working groups: Environment, Education, Social, Youth, Health, Tourism and Economy

Working groups in Beqaa: 55 municipal working groups; 2 regional working groups (1 in West Beqaa and 1 in Rachaya); 5 thematic working groups on Education, Agriculture, Health, Environment and Economy

Working groups in North Lebanon: 65 local working groups across North Lebanon; 1 regional working group; 6 thematic working groups on Education, Health, Environment, the Nahr El-Bared issue, Governance and Economy; 1 municipal working group in Tripoli

Working groups in Beirut Southern Suburbs: 7 municipal working groups; 1 regional working groups; 7 thematic working groups on Waste Management, Potable Water, Education, Youth, Health, Social issue, Economy.

COOPERATION PARTNERS

UN AGENCIES

UNOPS is managing the whole of the international technical assistance.

DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION PARTNERS

South Lebanon: Coordination of the Italian Local Entities for Peace and Human Rights (around 40 local administrations, activated partnerships with the municipalities of Padua, Riccione and Turin, and the Province of Ferrara), Tuscany and the Catalonia Region.

Beqaa: “Les Amis du Liban”, an NGO from the Principality of Monaco, and the regions of Catalonia, Marche and Puglia.

North Lebanon: The regions of Abruzzo, Umbria and Marche, the provinces of Naples, Cosenza and Foligno, ANAAO National Association;

Beirut Southern Suburbs (BSS): Tuscany Region, the provinces of Arezzo and Naples, the municipalities of Grosseto, Prato, Pontedera and Milan, ARET Abruzzo, ARCI/UISP Tuscany

FUNDING

For 2007, 2008 and 2009, the UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon has a global budget of approx. US\$ 19m

Governments

The Italian government released the first allotment of US\$ 5,402,564 for 2007, from a total commitment of 8,187,406 euros over a three year period.

The Belgian government’s contribution amounts to US\$ 3m over a two year period in support of the local economic development component in North Lebanon and Beqaa.

The Spanish government approved a contribution of US\$ 2.2m for 2007 and US\$ 2.2m for 2008 in support of the four Lebanese regions targeted by ART GOLD.

The government of the Principality of Monaco approved a contribution of US\$ 100,000 for Beqaa.

The Canadian government is considering a contribution of US\$ 3m for North Lebanon.

International Partners: UNDP ART GOLD is co-financing projects, identified by the local working groups, with Italian Bilateral Cooperation in Lebanon, mainly in Beirut Southern Suburbs, Beqaa and South Lebanon.

National Partners: The Lebanese CDR has made a contribution of US\$ 100,000 to support education projects identified by the North Lebanon Regional Working Group.



LEBANON

RESULTS IN SOUTH LEBANON AREA

South Lebanon has an area of 2022 Km² (including Chebaa farms). It encompasses two governorates (Mohafazahs): South Lebanon (133 municipalities) and Nabatiyeh (119 municipalities), which are administratively divided into six Kadas (clusters of villages).

Implemented Projects

- Three pilot projects, dealing with water management, energy saving and waste treatment, were implemented in early 2008. These projects are supported by six Italian municipalities and provinces working under the Italian Coordination of Local Authorities for Peace and Human Rights. In the same context, two other pilot projects, on youth and education are being jointly formulated.
- The Catalonia region has channelled US\$ 167,000 through ART GOLD Lebanon, utilized for the restoration of a livestock market in support of the Federation of Cooperatives in Chamaa and 9 neighbouring villages.
- Tuscany Region, ROSS Programme, Italian NGOs (UCODEP and ARCS) and ART GOLD finalized the formulation of a joint project for supporting milk and dairy production in the villages of Arabsaleem and Qana, and surrounding areas in the districts of Tyre and Nabatiyeh. The project tackles two issues: (1) awareness campaigns, and (2) rehabilitation. ART GOLD is financing the awareness component, which amounts to US\$ 71,900

Ongoing Projects

35 projects are being implemented in health, social, urban, education, environment, and agriculture sectors.

HEALTH, SOCIAL AND URBAN

- Creation of a public park, part of which will be used as a public market in Choaya.
- Construction of a pavement with iron safety kerbs near the Red Cross in Hasbaya.
- Placement of florescent safety signs along the main roads in addition to safety kerbs and barriers in Adaisse.
- Reconstruction of pavements destroyed during the July 2006 war, 800m in length and 1m wide in Qsaibe.
- Construction of a 1200metre-long pavement to the village of Beit Leif.
- Provision of lighting on the main road from Alhinniye to Zibkeen.



EDUCATION

- Establishment of a public library with Internet access in addition to available resources including books and encyclopaedias in Blida village.
- Establishment of a public library including all the necessary equipment in Braiqaa village.
- Reparation of an IT lab with a minimum of 12 PCs + generator + LCD in Beni Hayyane village.
- Procurement of a photocopier (Ricoh Digital 2045) for the public school in Chaqra.

ENVIRONMENT

- Procurement of garbage collection trucks in Rmeish, Yater, Teir Harfa and Deir Mimas.
- Construction of a sewage system network 600m in length in Tibnine.
- Procurement of vehicles (pick up) + waste containers in Kfair Village.
- Procurement of a garbage collection truck in Kfar Hamam village.
- Procurement of a large street sweeper truck in Khiam village.



WATER MANAGEMENT AND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT - A PILOT WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN NABATIYEH AND BINT JBEIL CAZAS, SOUTH LEBANON.

THE SOUTH LEBANON WATER SITUATION IS CRITICAL. THE MASSIVE DESTRUCTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE CAUSED BY THE JULY 2006 WAR RESULTED IN THE MAJORITY OF VILLAGES HAVING ACCESS TO WATER ONLY TWICE A WEEK. THE PROJECT WAS PROPOSED BY ITALIAN COORDINATION AND THE WORKING GROUPS IN FEBRUARY 2008, IN COLLABORATION WITH ITALIAN COOPERATION IN LEBANON. THE PROJECT AIMS TO IMPROVE WATER MANAGEMENT IN NABATIYEH AND BINT JBEIL CAZAS AND TARGETS AROUND 40,000 BENEFICIARIES. ITS MAIN ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- TRAINING OF FOUR LOCAL TECHNICIANS AND ONE ENGINEER ON PIPE NETWORK MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT IN TURIN, ITALY AND OTHERS IN TYRE.
- PURCHASING OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE CENTRES THAT WILL BE CREATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF NABATIYEH AND BINT JBEIL.
- CONDUCTING AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS AND COMMUNITY TRAINING ON WATER SAVING AND WATER SCARCITY REDUCTION.
- Construction of storm water conduits 1000m in length in Qabrikha village.
- Procurement of a water tanker to transport water to the village of Dibbinne.
- Procurement of a pick-up for waste collection in Houmine el Tahta village.
- Development of a spring to increase water supply in Kfar Fila village.
- Procurement of a 250KVA generator for the well in Sir el Gharbieh village.
- Provision of sewage pipes 1750m in length in the municipality of Ain Baal.
- Construction of storm water conduits 1500m in length, and covered in cement in Hanawey village.
- Construction of a public park: planting of trees and flowers, lighting, and children's playground equipment in Rmadieh village.
- Construction of storm water conduits of 800m in length in Mazraat Meshref village.
- Construction of road side to enhance road safety in Jabal Al Rihan Union of municipalities.
- Improvement of water management and water infrastructure in the Kadas of Nabatiyeh & Bint Jbei.
- Reducing environmental impact of municipal waste disposal sites in Taybe village.
- Increasing energy efficiency and the utilization of renewable energy sources in Tyre City.

REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF MUNICIPAL WASTE DISPOSAL SITES - A PILOT WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT IN MARJEYOUN CAZA, SOUTH LEBANON. 30,000 INHABITANTS OF THE SOUTH LEBANESE AREA OF MARJEYOUN CAZA WILL BENEFIT FROM THE PROJECT, WHICH WAS PROPOSED BY ITALIAN COORDINATION AND THE WORKING GROUPS IN FEBRUARY 2008, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE ITALIAN COOPERATION IN LEBANON. IT AIMS TO:

- PROMOTE WASTE RECYCLING AND IMPROVE THE COLLECTION SYSTEM.
- IMPROVE TEMPORARY STORAGE SITES AND ENHANCE RECYCLED-BASED ITEMS THROUGH VOLUME REDUCTION.
- DETECT HAZARDOUS URBAN WASTE AND MANAGE PROTECTED STORAGE.
- PROVIDE TRAINING ON WASTE MANAGEMENT IN ITALY TO ONE LEBANESE TECHNICAL EXPERT FROM THE CAZA AND ONE LEBANESE ENGINEER FOR EACH MUNICIPALITY.
- TRAIN OTHER LEBANESE TECHNICAL EXPERTS AND ENGINEERS IN LEBANON WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE ABOVEMENTIONED TRAINED EXPERT AND ENGINEERS.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Distribution of 190 beehives for bee keeping farmers in Maroun el Ras (each family will receive 5 beehives).
- Rehabilitation of natural spring and irrigation systems in Jarjoua village.
- Establishment of an irrigation dripping system in Jbaa village.
- Procurement of a tractor with all the supplies to help farmers and agriculture in Chehabieh.
- Construction of a second floor to the permanent public market in Deir Qanoun el Naher.
- Restoration of a livestock market in Chamaa.
- Supporting milk and dairy production in Arabsaleem and Qana villages.
- Preliminary map of strategic regional resources for sustainable economic development.
- Preliminary strategic guidelines for South Lebanon.



INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND UTILIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES - TYRE CITY. IT IS A PILOT PROJECT PROPOSED BY ITALIAN COORDINATION AND THE TYRE WORKING GROUP IN FEBRUARY 2008, IN COLLABORATION WITH ITALIAN COOPERATION IN LEBANON. THIS PROJECT AIMS TO INCREASE END-USE EFFICIENCY AND DEVELOP THE USE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES IN TYRE CITY.

FIVE MAIN ACTIVITIES ARE ENVISAGED:

- WATER SOLAR HEATING IN TYRE'S PUBLIC HOSPITAL.
- TRAINING ON END-USE EFFICIENCY.
- PRELIMINARY OVERVIEW OF ELECTRICAL NETWORK ANALYSIS.
- WATER PUMPING USING PHOTOVOLTAIC TECHNOLOGY THAT CONVERTS LIGHT DIRECTLY INTO ELECTRICITY.
- PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE GENERATION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY THROUGH WIND POWER.

THE SOLUTION OF PROVIDING IRRIGATION PUMPS WITH SOLAR ENERGY IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTING FOR THE SOUTH LEBANON AREA. ITALIAN COOPERATION IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF SUPPORTING THE DISSEMINATION OF THIS INNOVATION IN OTHER RURAL AREAS.

RESULTS IN THE BEQAA AREA

The areas of ART GOLD operation in Beqaa include the Cazas of West Beqaa and Rachaya. West Beqaa is situated in the south-western part of the Beqaa Mohafaza. West Beqaa is separated from the coast by a western chain of mountain: Barouq Mountain (1940 m) and Niha Mountain (1700 m). West Beqaa is one of the five Cazas of the Governorate of Beqaa. It has an area of 465.25 Km² and a total estimated population of 54,252 persons. The area has 36 villages, of which 25 form municipal councils, and is divided upon two federations: Al Sahl (12,500 ha) 12 villages & Al Bouhaira (2,275 ha) 17 villages. The district has two main centres Jeb Jannine in winter and Saghbine in summer.

Rashaya is situated in the south-eastern part of the Beqaa Mohafaza. Rachaya is also one of the five Cazas of Beqaa. It has an area of 541.06 Km², and a total estimated population of 73,000 persons. The area has 28 villages, of which 26 form municipal councils.

Projects realized through decentralized cooperation partnerships

- The Catalonia Region supports the establishment of a market for small and medium-sized livestock breeders and fruit and vegetable in Al Marj village and the rehabilitation of open storm drainage canals in Daher El Ahmar -Rashaya area and Lebaya – West Beqaa area, worth a total of US\$ 193,000
- “Les Amis du Liban”, a Monaco Principality NGO, is supporting the procurement of medical equipment for the Primary Health Care Centre in Houch Harimeh.

Ongoing Projects

33 projects are being implemented in agriculture, environment, economy, health and education sectors.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Rehabilitation of agricultural roads in Mdkoukha, Baloul, Lala, Kawkaba, Deir El Ashayer, Ain Arab, Kfar Dinnes, Mhaydseh, Kfar Mishkek, Khirbet Rouha, and Al Rafeed villages.
- Rehabilitation of the agricultural road & public garden in Bakkifa village.
- Preliminary map of the regional strategic resources for sustainable economic development.
- Preliminary strategic guidelines for the Beqaa.
- Launch of the process for establishing a LEDA, planned to be operational by the summer.



ENVIRONMENT

- Rehabilitation of a public garden in Bakifa, rehabilitation of an open storm drainage canal in Daher El Ahmar and Lebaya villages.
- Rehabilitation of a pedestrian bridge and fishery in Qelya village.
- Procurement of mowers in Ghazeh and Jeb Janine villages.

ECONOMY

- Rehabilitation of a riverside restaurant and youth camp in Qelya village.
- Construction of a public market in Al Marj village.



CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC MARKET IN AL MARJ, WEST BEQAA. IT IS A 1,800M² LIVELIHOOD PROJECT THAT GENERATES DIRECT INCOME FOR LIVESTOCK AND VEGETABLE SELLERS OF AL MARJ AND NEIGHBORING VILLAGES, AS WELL AS FOR AL MARJ MUNICIPALITY. THE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES IS ESTIMATED AT MORE THAN 20,000 PERSONS. FUNDED BY THE CATALAN REGION, THE PROJECT IS IN COLLABORATION WITH THE LOCAL LIVESTOCK TRADERS, RETAILERS AND FARMERS.

HEALTH

- Construction of a library & dispensary in Al Saweiri village.
- Construction of a primary health care centre and procurement of medical equipment in Houch Harimeh village.
- Rehabilitation of a social & educational centre in Al Birreh village.

EDUCATION

- Rehabilitation of a public library in Rashaya Village.
- Rehabilitation of a public school metallic roof in Tanourah village.
- Rehabilitation a football playground in Daher El Ahmar village.
- Procurement of outdoor playground equipment in Jeb Janine village.
- Establishment of an IT centre (Children's Library Section) and procurement of outdoor playground equipment in Mansourah village.
- Establishment of an IT centre (8 PCs) in Qeraoun village.
- Construction of a public school playground ceiling in Kamed El Louz.
- Construction of a sports playground in Aitanit village.

RESULTS IN THE NORTH LEBANON AREA

North Lebanon is the poorest area in Lebanon, with the lowest indicators for human development. North Lebanon includes three districts/Cazas: Akkar, Menieh-Al Dinnieh and Bab Al Tebani in Tripoli city. It comprises 251 towns, of which 119 have municipalities.

Since 20 May, North Lebanon has suffered from serious security situation, due to the crisis of Nahr el Bared Palestinian refugee camp, situated 16 KM north of Tripoli near the coastal road. The three-month crisis that ended on 4 Sept affected the progress of ART GOLD in North Lebanon.

Projects realized with decentralized cooperation partnerships

Umbria Region, FELCOS Umbria and Foligno Province support local beekeepers. The Abruzzo and Marche Regions support the creation of the protected area of Akkar. Cosenza Province will support Primary Health Care activities. Campania Region and Napoli Province support projects for mitigating school drop-out levels.

Ongoing Projects

11 projects are being implemented in agriculture, social services and education:

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Rehabilitation of irrigation canals in Kfar Habou village.
- Establishment of agriculture irrigation canals in Ain Al-Ghaida village.
- Rehabilitation of agricultural roads in Ayn Al-Zayt village.
- Preliminary map of strategic regional resources for sustainable economic development.
- Preliminary strategic guidelines for South Lebanon.
- Launch of the process for establishing a LEDA, planned to be operational by the summer.





SOCIAL SERVICES:

- Providing drinking water in Assoun village.
- Establishment of a municipal mini-football pitch in West Tel Abbas village.
- Procurement of an electric water station generator in Mashta Hammoud village.
- Establishment of mini-football pitch & basketball courts in Akkar Attika village.

EDUCATION:

- Rehabilitation & equipping of an information centre in Beit Al-Fakes village.
- Establishment of a municipal centre for technology & languages in Al-Hmaira village.
- Establishment of a municipal cultural centre in Khraibet Al-Jindi village.
- Establishment of an IT centre in Al-Karkaf village.

MANAGEMENT OF THE PROTECTED AREA OF JOURDS. THE GREEN AREA OF JOURDS IS THE LARGEST IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ENCOMPASSES 16 VILLAGES. THE NATURALIST LEBANESE NGO MADA IS CARRYING OUT EXCELLENT WORK IN THE AREA, TRYING TO INVOLVE ALL TERRITORIAL STAKEHOLDERS. UNDP ARTGOLD ESTABLISHED A THEMATIC WORKING GROUP, AIMED AT ESTABLISHING AND MANAGING A PROTECTED AREA. ONE OF THE MAIN PROBLEMS OF THE AREA WAS THE 20-YEAR CONFLICT BETWEEN THE VILLAGES OF AKKAR AL ATIKA AND FNAYDEK. BUT, THANKS TO THE CORRECT APPROACH ADOPTED BY MADA AND THE METHODOLOGY PROPOSED BY ARTGOLD, THE TWO MAYORS, KHALED BAHRI AND SAMIH ABDEL HAYTHE, DECIDED TO WORK TOGETHER FOR MUTUAL DEVELOPMENT, STOPPING THE CONFLICT. UNDP ARTGOLD IS SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A PROMOTION COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTED AREA, WHICH WILL INCLUDE ALL 16 MAYORS, WHILE ABRUZZO AND MARCHE REGIONS WILL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELABORATION OF A STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE AREA, LINKING BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND URBAN PLANNING OF THE 16 VILLAGES. THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE ITALIAN, BELGIAN, SPANISH AND CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS.



RESULTS IN BEIRUT SOUTHERN SUBURBS (BSS)

Beirut Southern Suburbs is located south of Beirut and is part of the capital. It is administratively affiliated with the Governorate of Mount Lebanon. Beirut Southern Suburbs, also known as “Dahya”, includes eight municipalities: Borj Al Barajneh, Haret Hreik, Ghobeiry, Chiah, Mrayjeh, Forn El Chebak, Hadath and Chouiefat.

The population of “Dahya” grew sporadically, especially during the Lebanese civil war, as a result of forced migration from the area of Borj Hamoud in East Beirut. This was compounded by migrations from villages in south Lebanon and the Beqaa valley during the Israel invasion to Lebanon in 1978. The result was an unchecked expansion that left a detrimental impact on the socio-economic conditions in the area, with a great increase in poverty. “Dahya” has never really had the chance, since then, to benefit from proper planning in terms of physical, social or economic infrastructure.

Projects realized with decentralized cooperation partnerships

- The Tuscany Region and ARCI support a project to help young people at risk of social exclusion.
- The Municipality of Milan supports a project for water treatment and social communication.
- The Province of Arezzo supports a pilot project for the reorganization of basic health services.
- The Campania Region and the Province of Naples are formulating a pilot project for mitigating school drop-out levels, in partnership with the Naples “Chance” Initiative.

Ongoing Projects

SOCIAL

- Boosting the capacity of social workers and animators to deal with youth and develop a youth social plan in Chiah, Forn al Chebbak and Hadath municipalities.

HEALTH

- Enhancing the primary health care system in Haret Hreik municipality.



SOCIO-ACADEMIC INTERVENTION IN SCHOOLS - A PILOT EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN MREYJEH MUNICIPALITY. SOCIO-ACADEMIC INTERVENTION IN SCHOOLS IS AN EXTRACURRICULAR PILOT PROJECT LAUNCHED IN BEIRUT SOUTHERN SUBURBS THAT WILL BE REPLICATED IN OTHER AREAS, INCLUDING NORTH LEBANON AMONG OTHERS. THE PILOT PROJECT ATTEMPTS TO STRENGTHEN THE UTILIZATION OF ACTIVE TEACHING METHODS THAT PROVIDE PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS. THIS OBJECTIVE IS ACHIEVED BY UTILIZING ACTIVE TEACHING METHODS TO BOOST THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF TEACHERS.

EDUCATION

- Scholastic Maps of Needs and Resources in Schools and Neighbourhoods - a pilot education programme in Mreyjeh, Municipality.
- Innovative Methods for Education, to strengthen and develop the skills of teachers and students through artistic and cultural activities in Mreyjeh Municipality.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Preliminary map of the strategic regional resources for sustainable economic development
- Preliminary strategic guidelines for South Lebanon
- Launch of the process for establishing a LEDA, planned to be operational by the summer.

ME, MY SCHOOL AND MY NEIGHBOURHOODS - A PILOT EDUCATION PROGRAMME IN MREYJEH, BSS. THE ART GOLD EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAMME IN MREYJEH MUNICIPALITY OF BEIRUT SOUTHERN SUBURBS IS IMPLEMENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION AND THE ITALIAN BILATERAL COOPERATION IN LEBANON.

THE PROGRAMME APPLIES THE MAPS OF NEEDS AND RESOURCES IN SCHOOLS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS, A PARTICIPATORY METHODOLOGY WHICH A SCHOOL TEAM OF DIRECTORS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS USE TOGETHER WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO AGREE UPON A SHARED ANALYSIS OF THEIR NEEDS, PROBLEMS AND RESOURCES. IT IS A SIMPLE AND PRACTICAL METHOD, ALREADY SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED IN LATIN AMERICA, AFRICA AND BOSNIA, MAINLY TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

THE MAPS IS AN EXERCISE WHERE TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND PARENTS PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WITH THE AIM OF RAISING AWARENESS AND PROMOTING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION. MOST SIGNIFICANTLY, THE MAPS UTILIZE THE STUDENTS AS SOCIAL PROMOTERS WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY, LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND INSTITUTIONS PLAY A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE IN THE CREATION OF THE NON-CONVENTIONAL MAPS.

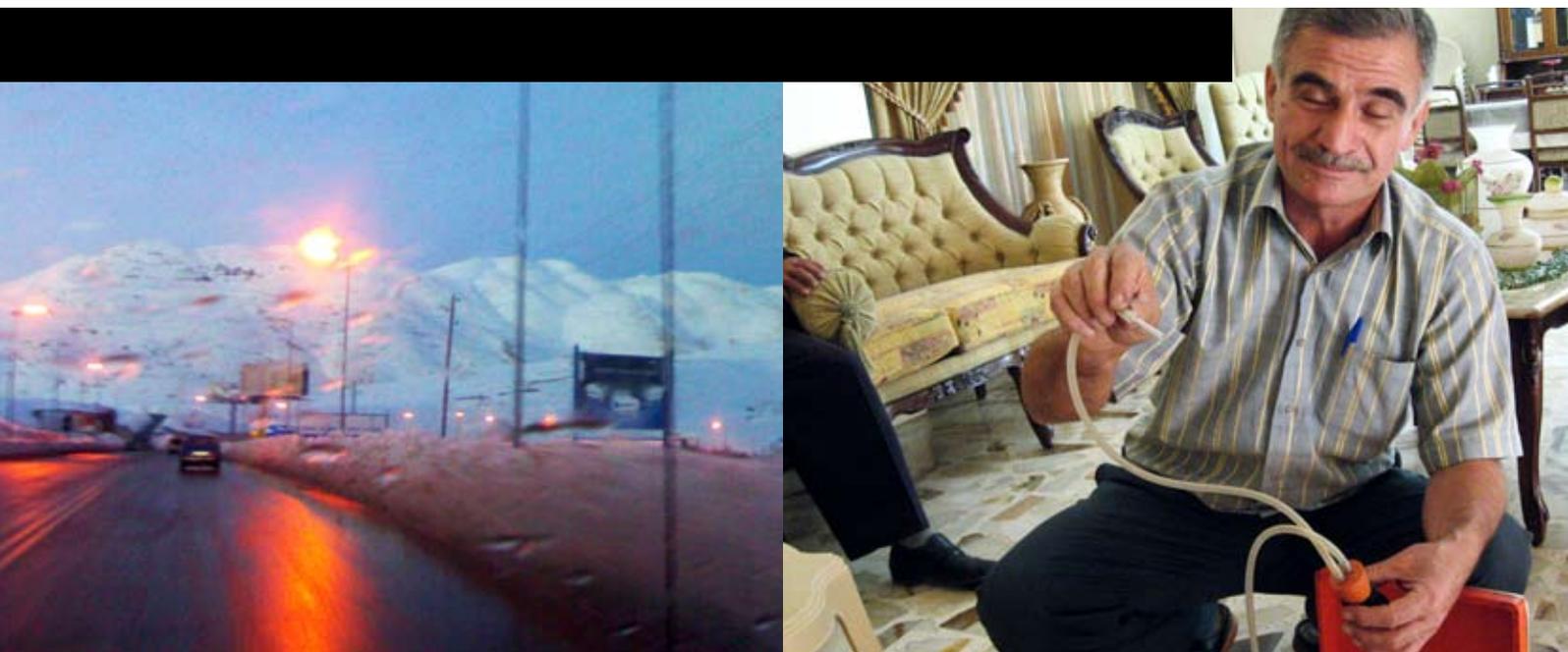
ART GOLD IS IMPLEMENTING THIS METHODOLOGY, THROUGH THE LEBANESE NGO AL-KAJAL, IN FOUR MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN MREYJEH IN BEIRUT SOUTHERN SUBURBS TARGETING AROUND 500 STUDENTS AND INVOLVING 32 TEACHERS AND FOUR FACILITATORS. THE METHODOLOGY IS BEING IMPLEMENTED ALSO IN OTHER LEBANESE AREAS.



RESULTS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

The main projects and activities implemented by the Programme at the national level in the different fields involve:

- Supervising all pilot projects within UNDP ART GOLD target areas, to disseminate achieved results and replicate good practices at the national level.
- Supporting the National Committee (NC) in resource mobilization activities.
- Supporting the NC in the implementation of activities identified in the first year action plan.
- Supporting the NC in promoting the MDGs in target areas.
- Articulating the programme's actions with projects developed by UN agencies, other cooperation organizations and government initiatives.
- Promoting national events in support of the pilot projects developed in target areas.
- Promoting the dissemination of information and activities regarding the programme's good practices and achievements.
- Finalizing the study "Strategic Guidelines for Local Economic Development in Lebanon", carried out by IS-LED experts, on the competitive advantages of Lebanese products and a proposed strategy for supporting them through the planned LEDAs.
- Supporting the set-up of a national secretariat for the IDEASS initiative and promoting the first national survey on innovation for local development in Lebanon.
- Supporting specific national development strategies and policies concerning governance, the environment, local economic development, health, education and culture.
- Facilitating the establishment of partnerships with all interested decentralized cooperation partners.
- Identifying and finalizing national studies and surveys concerning local development in Lebanon.



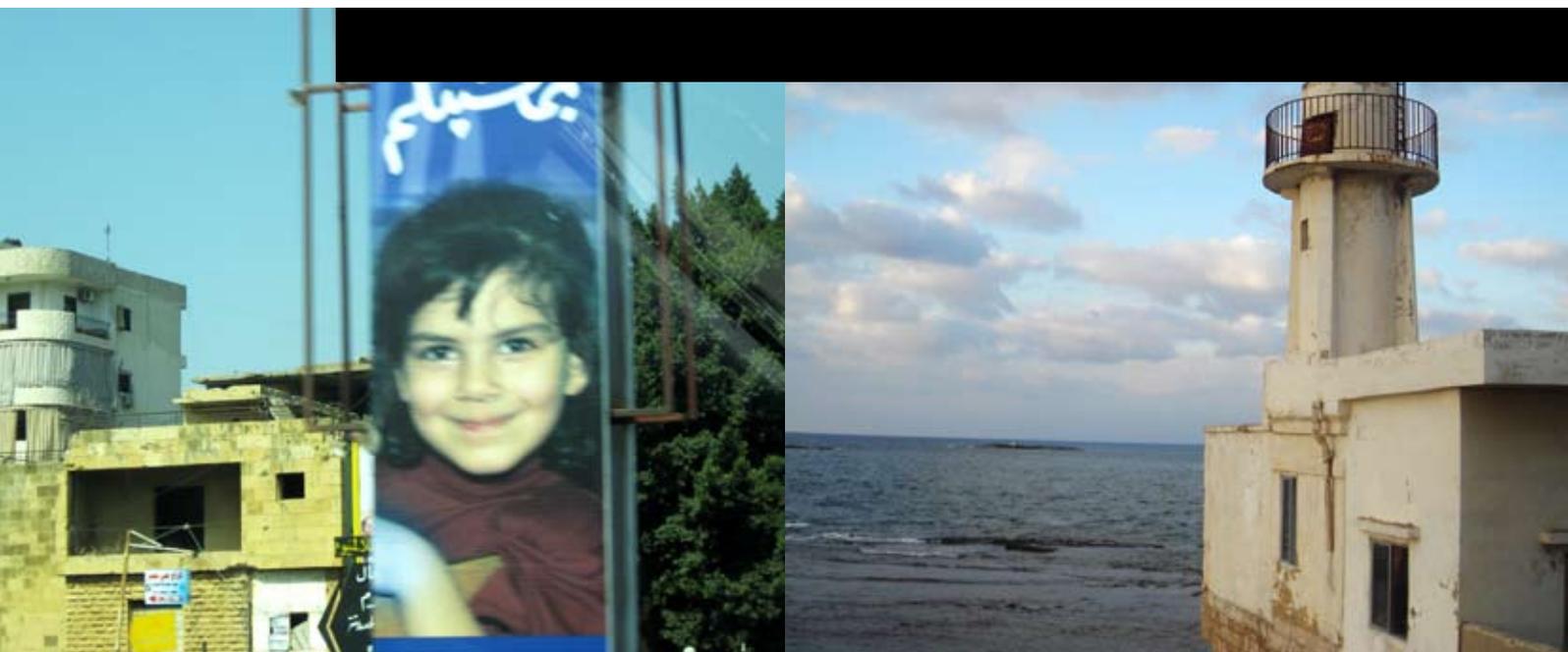
RESULTS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

On 24th September 2007, during a meeting in the French Senate in Paris, the International ART GOLD Lebanon Committee, chaired by former French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy and Italian Senator Rosa Villecco Calipari, was officially established. The main aim of the International Committee is to provide an international sounding board for requests made by Lebanese working groups, especially in the areas of social dialogue, conflict prevention, and local development support, taking part in fundraising activities and disseminating quality results achieved by the Lebanese programme, especially in decision-making bodies and for European public opinion. It represents an important opportunity to focus international political attention on the Lebanese situation and mobilise support for local Lebanese communities.

UNDP ART GOLD Lebanon is carrying out activities on local development, with the support of UNDP ART International networks in Geneva, Spain and Italy, in order to guarantee the participation of national and local partners in international events and the organization of missions by ART International experts to provide technical support to the programme.

The programme's activities also aim to promote the participation of Lebanese stakeholders in international cooperation networks, the establishment of decentralized cooperation partnerships between Lebanese and European communities and the transfer of identified innovations from and to the country.

- Providing technical assistance through ART ISLEDA service, to set up four local economic development agencies (LEDAs) and guarantee functionality.
- Promoting the IDEASS innovations Catalogue in Lebanon, to improve the quality of local development, and identifying local innovations to be promoted at the international level.
- Establishing, through ART UNIVERSITAS, cooperation partnerships between international universities and Lebanese counterparts.
- Organizing technical missions by decentralized cooperation partners to support the development of initiatives in different ARTGOLD fields of action.
- Organizing training on local strategic planning and participatory methodologies for the working groups.
- Organizing study tours to Europe to exchange experiences on best practices.
- Organizing resource mobilization activities with decentralized cooperation partners.



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THE ART INITIATIVE

ART is an international co-operation initiative that brings together programmes and activities of several United Nations Agencies: UNDP, ILO, UNIFEM, UNESCO, UNITAR, UNHCR, UNOPS, WHO and others. It promotes a new type of multilateralism in which the United Nations system works with governments to promote the active participation of local communities and social actors from all countries. ART shares the Millennium Development Goals.

At present, ART GOLD Programmes are underway in Albania, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Lebanon, Morocco, Serbia, Sri Lanka and Uruguay. Other initiatives are being planned in Bolivia, Indonesia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Mozambique. Thematic ART networks also carry out activities in Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The ART Initiative is supported by the governments of Belgium, France, Italy and Spain. The governments of other donor countries such as Canada, Japan, Monaco, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, as well as the European Commission, contribute to various ART country programmes. More than 400 regional and local governments, and their associations, such as CPMR, FOGAR, NRG4SD, REVES, ANCI, the Spanish Confederation of local and regional Cooperation Funds, collaborate with the ART Initiative at the international level and in countries.

