

Unions of Municipalities as Enablers of Local Economic Development Project

Mrs. Mayssa EL TANNIR
Project Manager

United Cities Lebanon / Technical Office
for Lebanese Municipalities
mayssa.tannir@bt-villes.org

Anticipated outcomes:

- Participatory research to organize the LED effort through the initiation of formal partnerships with stakeholder groups, offer preliminary findings on the economic and governance structures, and design the tools that will be used **to run the field assessment.**
- Field assessment and data validation to deploy the developed research tools, fill the identified data gaps, and **develop the LED assessment drafts.**
- Long term action research to gain the endorsement of the UoMs on these reports, as well as use them to **produce a policy advocacy paper addressed to the Central government.**

Partners



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



United Cities Lebanon / Technical Office for Lebanese Municipalities

Toufic Salem St., Sakr Bldg., 3rd floor

Ras El Nabeh, Beirut – Damascus highway –

LEBANON

Visit our Facebook page or reach out to [contact@bt-](mailto:contact@bt-villes.org)



villes.org

Context: Lebanon is currently experiencing an unprecedented and deep financial, economic, social and health crisis that represents an imminent threat to the livelihood of its people. The poverty rate in the country doubled in 2020 to reach 55%, compared to 28% in 2019. Furthermore, the explosion of the port of Beirut, which led to significant human loss, has also caused economic losses estimated at about 7 to 10 billion dollars. This somber economic and social reality requires the active participation of all relevant actors expected to play a role in economic development and recovery. Lebanese local authorities, namely Municipalities and Unions of Municipalities (UoMs), have in this regard the responsibility to plan for, promote, and enable local economic development efforts.

Main objective: The objective of this project is to support three Unions of Municipalities (Urban Community of Al Fayhaa, Union of Municipalities of Tyre and the Federation of Northern Matn Municipalities) in assessing their local economic development potential and initiate a path forward to fulfill it in a context of crisis.

Specific objectives: The project aims to mobilize LED stakeholders in each UoM and engage them in undertaking a comprehensive LED governance systems and economic structure assessment in their respective areas.

This shall help UoMs gain a holistic understanding of the regulatory and institutional frameworks governing LED at the national and local levels, identify the constraints and opportunities affecting their economic development, as well as the financial and human resources needed for them to play their role as enabler of LED.

Finally, it will present them with concrete recommendations on how to take forward their Local Economic Development efforts.

This project is funded by the European Union through its regional trust fund mobilized in response to the Syrian crisis, the European Madad Fund, and implemented jointly by UN-Habitat and UNDP.