

# Annual Report 2004



## HEALTH PROGRAM

### Beneficiaries:

20,066 people served at the pharmacy and the medical center  
14,739 served by mobile dispensaries  
846 received medical treatment  
293 received dental treatment  
2,119 people served at the laboratory  
25 received corneal implants

Total people benefiting from all community clinic services is about 40,000

**Provision of Primary Health Care for the Most Vulnerable Populations of North Lebanon**

### Partners:

- Agencia Espanola de Cooperacion International (AECI)
- Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura (FPSC)

**Budget:** 185,000 Euros

**Duration:** March 2004 – February 2005

### Description:

The objective of the project is the provision of medical services to the neediest populations of North Lebanon by creating better access to the various services

offered by the existing Community Clinic and the mobile dispensaries.

### Activities:

- Established a computerized management system, improving the tracking of patients and allowing more precise targeting of prevention campaigns.
- Acquired an equipment for hormonology tests for the laboratory.
- Created a paramedical equipment rental service.
- Organized the following:
  - Vaccination campaigns
  - Dental campaigns
  - Nutrition campaigns
  - Tobacco awareness
  - Accident prevention campaigns

*"Health is a basic need and an indisputable right"*

N.M.

# Annual Report 2004



## E D U C A T I O N A L   A N D   S O C I A L   P R O G R A M

The RMF's social development activities target mainly children, youth and rural women.

For each one of these social groups RMF delivers activities through individual projects or/and its established centers.

**Creation of The Center for Working Children (Bab al-Tebbaneh)**

**Donor:**

- Italian ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Cooperazione Italiana

**Partner:**

- Associazione Ricreativa Culturale Italiana (ARCI)

**Budget:** 1.137.000 Euro

**Duration:** June 2004 - May 2007

**Beneficiaries:** 385 children

**Description:**

In 2004, the site for the Center was bought in Bab al-Tebbaneh and rehabilitated, the facilities were mostly furnished. A staff of 5 teachers and 2 education specialists were recruited.

*“Make social justice and education accessible to all”*

*N.M.*

# Annual Report 2004



## Extension of the Youth Community Center

### Donors:

- Agencia Espanola de Cooperacion Internacional (AECI)
- Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura (FPSC)

### Partners:

- International Education Association (IEA) / Branch in Lebanon (iLEARN Lebanon)
- 11 schools in the North of Lebanon

**Budget:** 817,800 Euros

**Duration:** February 2003 – November 2004

### Beneficiaries:

3163 participants in the various activities  
In 2004, the following activities were

conducted:

- Environmental and Human Rights Clubs workshops and seminars (290 beneficiaries)
- Student Clubs activities (166 beneficiaries)
- Training of trainers workshops (15 beneficiaries)
- Vaccination and dental hygiene campaigns in 31 schools (2484 beneficiaries)
- Sports programs and tournaments (208 beneficiaries)
- Computer training sessions (71 beneficiaries)

### Addition of a Nursery:

A nursery was constructed above the Youth Community Center and equipped with new furniture and educational toys and games. It consists of four classrooms, two administrative offices, and two large indoor and outdoor playgrounds.

### The ACCESS project (Alternatives to Combat Exploitive Child Labor Through Education and Sustainable Services)

### Donor:

- United States Department of Labor (USDOL)

### Partner:

- Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF)- USA

**Duration:** September 2004 - September 2008

**Beneficiaries:** 135 children

### Description:

The ACCESS project aims to provide direct education interventions for working children and for children at risk of dropping out from schools. The project will strive to strengthen institutional capacity in order to eliminate exploitive child labor. One of its objectives is to address the need to expand access to girls' education. The targeted children are those below the legal working age (i.e. under 15 years), and those at risk of dropping out from school for financial reasons or learning difficulties.

The project will be implemented throughout Lebanon: Greater Beirut (Borj Hammoud, Sin el-Fil), the South (Nabatieh, Tyre), and the North (Akkar, Bab al-Tebbaneh, Tripoli). Its activities will include:

- Literacy classes, accelerated vocational training, remedial classes;
- Provision of school supplies (books and other);
- Infrastructural rehabilitation of selected schools/centers;
- Promotion of children's rights and awareness of the risks of child labor to parents and community leaders;
- Capacity building of teachers in Learner Centered education in selected schools;

- Advocacy for and development of national policies aimed at improving and facilitating enrollment and retention of children in schools.

#### Activities between September and December 2004:

Several meetings were held in preparation of activities with ministers, general directors of ministries, the Higher Council of Children, the Center for Educational Research and Development (CERD), school principals, mayors, and local NGOs. Team members were recruited, local project committees were established and the early work plan was drafted and initiated. 135 children have been recruited (75 are in need of literacy courses and 65 are at risk of dropping out of school).

#### The CUDMOS Project (Children and Youth Development and Mobilization of Opportunities)

##### Partners:

- The World Bank
- The Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR)
- Association d'Aide au Developpement Rural (CDR)
- Arcenciel

Budget: \$ 750.000

**Duration:** June 2004 - May 2006

##### Beneficiaries:

Children and youth between 12 and 18 years old throughout the country

##### Description:

CUDMOS is the Youth and Children component of the Community Development Projects (CDP) under the Lebanese Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR). RMF is leading a consortium responsible for the implementation of this component that includes Association d'Aide au Developpement Rural (ADR) and arcenciel.

CUDMOS is a multifaceted national initiative targeting youth and children between 12 and 18 years old with a focus on health, education, employment, and public participation with a crosscutting theme of advocacy and children's rights and laws.

The project's objective is to respond to the needs of Lebanese youth for a more youth-oriented and supportive environment for improved psychological health and an increased potential for employment. It will improve the following for youth:

- Life skills
- Access to employment opportunities
- Access to recreational spaces for self expression

- Provision and access to selected counseling services
- National awareness on youth and children's issues

CUDMOS will activate 7 focal centers in Lebanon. The following activities will use a peer-to-peer approach, building on existing material, integrating the project's focus areas of health, education, employment, and public participation:

- Development of training material and modules on life skills and psychological wellbeing
- Capacity building and training of community workers, community leaders, and peers
- Provision of direct services: counseling and referral, remedial summer schools, awareness sessions
- Advocacy and lobbying on youth-related issues and concerns

Between June and December 2004, the validation phase of the project was completed. A Thematic Social Assessment (TSA) was conducted involving the various beneficiary groups and stakeholders who reassessed and fine-tuned the initial proposal.



# Annual Report 2004



## The RWIGAT Project (Rural Women Income Generating Activities and Training Programs)

### Partners:

- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Ministry of Agriculture
- The Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR)
- Association d'Aide au Développement Rural (ADR)

Budget: \$500,000

Duration: October 2004 - September 2005

### Beneficiaries:

23 women's cooperatives: 400 women

### Description:

Benefiting from a loan by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the Irrigation Rehabilitation and Modernization Project (IRMP). RWIGAT, a component of the IRMP, targets the improvement of rural women's socio-economic status. RMF is leading the consortium, that includes ADR, to implement the project.

RWIGAT was officially inaugurated in

December 2004 and is being implemented in Northern Lebanon, Southern Lebanon, the Bekaa Valley, and Mount Lebanon. Its objective is to empower rural areas by strengthening rural women's capabilities and promoting local rural women's associations and community based organizations. It is doing so by targeting the food processing sector which includes food and agriculture production, agro-tourism, and other related activities.

### RWIGAT 's objectives are to:

- Identify local cooperatives and associations
- Identify a minimum of 20 Income Generating Activities (IGAs) to enhance the productivity of select groups
- Provide training in administration, marketing, and other specified training as part of the capacity building program
- Prepare technical documents in Arabic
- Implement and supervise IGAs

From October to December 2004, the following was accomplished:

- Identification of 40 women's associations with whom to work.



- Workshop on 16th December in Aandiit (Akkar) which subject was: *How to form cooperatives and associations* (25 participants).
- 22nd December: Official inauguration of the project and holding a seminar (200 participants).
- Workshop on 27th-28th December in Marjeyoun (South) to train the representatives of the first group of 10 associations on business development services for 18 beneficiaries.
- Workshop on 29th December in Mejdlaya (North) as an introductory training for representatives of a first group of 10 associations on marketing for 31 beneficiaries.

### Project for Equipping an Industrial Kitchen for Vocational Training in Mejdlaya

#### Donors:

- Japanese Embassy in Lebanon
- Ousseimi Foundation

Budget: \$ 390,000

**Duration:** September 2004 – August 2005

#### Beneficiaries:

- Youth without qualifications
- Rural women

#### Description:

The industrial kitchen in Mejdlaya was completed at the end of 2004 and is fully equipped and ready for use. It includes a bakery section, industrial-size fridges and washers, and all necessary cooking utensils.

The kitchen will offer the following:

1. Intensive training courses for youth without qualifications that include both

theoretical and practical elements, ending in an internship, as well as specialization courses for chefs.

2. Training of rural women in processing of produce and dairy products.
3. Processing of produce for local sale through a local distribution network.
4. Preparation of meals and snacks that will be sold in the cafeteria of the center.

In 2004, courses in food processing in July and August were held for 31 women. They learnt the best practices of food processing in addition to a dozen traditional home cooking recipes.



# Annual Report 2004



Funded by USAID, CEDARS is a three-year program aimed at strengthening the agribusiness industry as an engine of economic revitalization.

## RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

**CEDARS Program**  
(Clustering for Economic Development and Revitalization of Industry Sectors)

**Donor:**

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

**Partners:**

- Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF)
- RMF - USA

**Budget:** \$2,500,000

**Duration:**

September 2002 – September 2005

**Description:**

The objective of the CEDARS program is to support and promote the agribusiness industry in rural areas of Lebanon that nurture the highest growth potential. CEDARS focuses on strengthening the "product-to-market" chain for goods and services produced locally. To do so, CEDARS works on the national level with an Agribusiness Industry Advisory Council and, on the regional level, with an Economic Development Advisory Committee to support industry agents that seek to implement activities within the product to market chain. This allows rural areas to become activity zones. The RMF-USA operates under a Memorandum of

Understanding with CHF in the growth poles of North Lebanon and the Bekaa.

**Project Objectives:**

- Development of sectors with a strong growth potential, "industry anchors", in each of the four growth poles of North Lebanon, South Lebanon, Bekaa, and Mount Lebanon.
- Strengthening commercialization: technical improvement, quality standards, procurement of goods and services, strengthening market channels, and others.
- Building technical partnerships that span a broader confessional and geographically diverse area.

*"Create a dynamic of sustainable rural development"*

N.M.

# Annual Report 2004



Activities are grouped within 5 categories: acquisition of goods, technological improvement, quality control, strengthening of associations and development of marketing channels.

The RMF implements 5 projects within the CEDARS framework:

## Improvement of Forage Production and its Usage

Local partners:

- Cooperatives of Wadi Khaled, Tall Abbass, Zgharta and Koura

The objective of this project is to increase forage production and create new

plantations in the Akkar region. The project is of great benefit to both forage cooperatives and stockbreeders. First, the use of forage improves animal health and increases milk yield. Second, the creation of forage plantations in the Akkar region greatly reduces the cost of animal feed to stockbreeders in the North since forage costs twice as much in the Bekaa than in the North and transportation costs are greatly reduced.

## Improvement of Goat Breeding

Local partners:

- Centre International Caprin (CIC)
- Lebanese Agronomy Research Institute (LARI)

This project which is led in the frame of the revolving funds for goat breeding program targets 155 farmers that own about 460 goats, of which 210 were imported from France by the CAN to introduce new and better breeds (Saanen and Alpine) to Lebanon. These breeds yield 2.5 times more milk than local breeds and produce more kids per year.

Activities span the goat breeding sector: from raising the goats, to the creation of a Lebanese Goat Stockbreeders' Association, to commercialization of the milk products. Farmers visit the pilot farm to learn new techniques in goat breeding.



## Creation of an Agricultural Central Market

### Local partner:

- Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)

The goal of the Central Market is to facilitate the commercialization of farmers' fruits and vegetables, increase the value of their products, and decrease the number of intermediaries in marketing channels. The Market provides information services on prices and quantities of available agricultural products through a database, software, and website that match demand and supply of agricultural and agro-food products.

As a marketing center, it improves and expands the marketability of agricultural produce through the provision of sorting, packing, cutting and packaging services. It also develops relations between farmers and traders and collaborates with export agencies and companies to facilitate links to local and foreign export channels.

In 2004, 103,582 crates of apples (about 2,072 tons) and 9,422 crates of pears (about 282 tons) were sold in the local market and 2,521 tons of apples were sorted and exported to Egypt and Jordan at about \$300-\$400 per ton.

## Valorization of Arboriculture Growing

### Local partner:

- Cooperatives of Bazbina, Zgharta and the Bekaa.

The project has created a pilot orchard of 435 apple trees in Ehden which provides technical assistance to farmers through: agricultural training, diffusion of new information and technologies, and technical support. These services prove to farmers that adequate cultivation practices undertaken at the right time and conditions reduce costs and increase income. The project also introduces new fruit varieties at competitive prices and renews non productive orchards.

In 2004, 4,670 fruit trees (apples, nectarines, plums, peaches, pomegranates) were distributed to 57 growers. In addition, several workshops were conducted, mainly on post harvest techniques, new apple varieties, organic farming of strawberries, and packaging of produce.

### Strengthening the capacity of cooperatives: Douriss Cold Storage

### Local partner:

- Barakat Cooperatives

This project provides assistance to the Barakat cooperative, in Douriss in the Bekaa region, through the creation of a cold storage and packing unit for farmers' produce. The storing techniques applied delay the ripening process and avoid the risk of possible disease.

In 2004, 38,025 crates of apples were stored of which 1,378 were exported to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, in addition to the following:

Item	Exported to	Amount Exported (Tons)
Onions	Jordan	323
Potatoes	Jordan & Syria	138
Grapes	Saudi Arabia	2
Grapes	Jordan	96.6
Tomatoes	Saudi Arabia	9
Cabbages	Saudi Arabia	0.495
Cucumbers	Saudi Arabia	0.276
Nectarines	Saudi Arabia	0.623
	Total:	570

## Annual Report 2004



### Development Program for Olive Oil Sector in the Batroun Region

#### Donor:

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

#### Local Partner:

- Cooperative of Olive growers of the Batroun Region

Budget: USAID: 893,060 US\$  
RMF: 559,007 US\$

Duration: May 2002 – May 2004

Beneficiaries: 720 olive growers

#### Description:

One of RMF's objectives is to contribute to the development of the olive oil sector

throughout Lebanon. The program in Batroun aims to improve the quality of olive oil in the region and foster its commercialization in both the local and international markets. The project consists of training and workshops, an olive oil press in Kfifane, a bottling line, a laboratory, a liquid waste treatment plant, and a marketing mechanism.

In 2004, 1,000 farmers and more than 76 villages benefited from the press; 1,000 tons of olives were processed which yielded 250 tons of oil.

#### Extension Services

A cooperative assembling the olive growers of the region was founded in 2002 to manage the project. It monitors every stage of the production process, from cultivation to bottling. Olive growers

involved in the project benefit from the technical assistance of the press's three engineers who guide them through each stage, from the maintenance of trees to the harvesting and storing of olives. At each stage, the use of methods that preserve the environment is encouraged. Agricultural machinery and fertilizers are provided to the farmers at a reduced price. Instead of paying in cash, the cost is deducted from their oil extracted at the press at a later date.

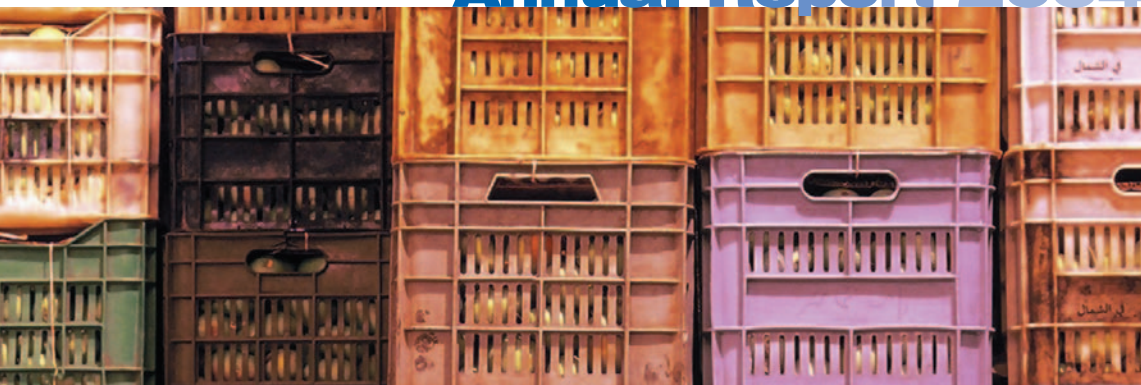
#### Press in Kfifane

One of the most technologically advanced presses on the market is used to extract the olive oil. It operates under strict standards of hygiene, producing a high quality product. This extra virgin olive oil is monitored by the laboratory for its physical and chemical quality before it is bottled and sold on the market.

#### Marketing

Since 2003, the extra virgin olive oil has been exported to Europe and the United States through a partnership with OLIVIERS and CO, a high and internationally recognized distributor with 75 outlets around the world. Locally, the oil is sold under the Zeytouna label. An extensive website was created at [www.zeytouna.com](http://www.zeytouna.com) for promotion of the product.

# Annual Report 2004



## Professional Training and Integrated Rural Development in North Lebanon

### Donor:

- Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italian Cooperation

Partner: Movimondo

Budget: 1,430,000 Euros

Duration: January 2003 – December 2005

### Beneficiaries:

- 40 stockbreeders of the dairy cooperative of Zgharta
- Cooperative of olive growers in the Batroun region.

### Description:

Movimondo and the RMF are implementing a 3-year project financed by the Italian Cooperation.

Its objective is to offer technical assistance and professional training to producers in North Lebanon. In 2003-2004, the following activities were carried out:

### Organic production

A mechanism has been put in place with a certification institute, for certification prior to the commercialization of products. Experimental land parcels for the production of fruits and vegetables have been prepared and other pilot parcels have been selected in association with the cooperatives of the region. In addition to punctual technical

assistance, trainings on the methods of organic farming were provided to farmers.

### Olive cultivation

A technical assistance system has been established to support olive growers in adopting innovative and ecologically sustainable agricultural practices. This is carried out through a monitoring system for olive flies, to insure Integrated Pest Management in Zgharta and Batroun. 300 producers benefited from field visits, technical assistance regarding harvesting techniques, the publication and distribution of a calendar describing olive agricultural techniques and olive oil quality.

### Mechanization

The existing services have been reinforced thanks to the construction of a hangar of 180 m<sup>2</sup> for tractor maintenance and the acquisition of new equipments.

### Milk processing

Improvement of the transportation services of dairy products through the acquisition of a refrigerated van and trials for the processing of goat cheese.

### The Support Center for the Promotion of Local Development

#### Donor:

- Agencia Espanola de Cooperacion International (AECI)

#### Partners:

- UNDP (United Nations Development Project)
- Fundación Promoción Social de la Cultura (FPSC)

**Budget:** 136,000 Euros

**Duration:** September 2004 - February 2005

#### Beneficiaries:

Associations, cooperatives, municipalities

and business entrepreneurs.

#### Description:

This project aims at empowering local institutions, private or public to enable them to better assess their needs, design their projects to find the necessary funds and then to manage them. This will provide technical support to municipalities, organizations, and cooperatives in the private and public sectors. A workshop was held in October 2004 to enhance the RMF's institutional capacity which was preceded by a workshop that gathered all the trainers.

Within this scope, as part of a national economical development project, RMF worked with the UNDP on a study of possible reforms of the cooperative sector to reduce the various obstacles that the sector is facing in Lebanon. The study was divided into two components: a legal study on cooperative laws and a field survey with cooperatives.

On a regional basis, a geographic information system (GIS) was created. It gathers data on health, education economy, agriculture, and environment. This tool is then used at various levels to identify and assess local needs.

The capacity building component includes the implementation of various trainings in accounting, marketing, and business development services targeting members of local associations and agricultural cooperatives.

The legal study included an extensive review of the current cooperative law in Lebanon, the recent cooperative laws in other countries and the recent international guidelines and recommendations on the cooperative sector. A report was drawn proposing needed modifications to the current law leading to a seminar held on 17th November 2004 to discuss the recommendations.

The field survey involved 90 active cooperatives and associations in the North, focusing on their actual activity, the obstacles that they are facing and their relationship with the government's institutions. The survey will lead to the drafting of a report and recommendations and a final seminar for discussion.



# Annual Report 2004



## DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

In an effort to increase the participation and build the capacity of civil society, RMF organizes educational programs and training sessions to promote democratic values, with focus on human rights and children's rights.

### Increasing Human Rights Awareness among Youth

**Partner:**

- National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

**Budget:** \$45,000

**Duration:** February 2003 – February 2004

**Beneficiaries:** 306 students

**Description:**

Human rights and children's rights clubs were created in 18 schools in Beirut and North Lebanon to promote the principles and practices of human rights and participatory democracy among 14-18 year olds. The clubs were led by young university student volunteers trained by the RMF in human rights, training skills, and group dynamics. They implemented 244 activities among 306 student beneficiaries. These activities involved awareness

building, training, and social action. During the course of the project, the RMF team designed a training manual of activities to guide the university student facilitators. In addition, in collaboration with UNICEF and two groups of children, a simplified version of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Houkoukouna (Our Rights) was published in Arabic to target 14-18 year olds. In January and February 2004, 1,000 copies of this publication were distributed among students.

### Enhancing Youth Participation in Public Life

**Partner:** Friedrich Naumann Stiftung

**Duration:** November 2004 – December 2005

**Description:**

This project consists of a series of workshops aimed at increasing the participation of youth in civil society and educating them on issues of political participation, human rights, citizenship, democracy, electoral processes, conflict resolution, and leadership and communication skills.

*“Consolidate the foundations of a civil society that will promote national unity”*

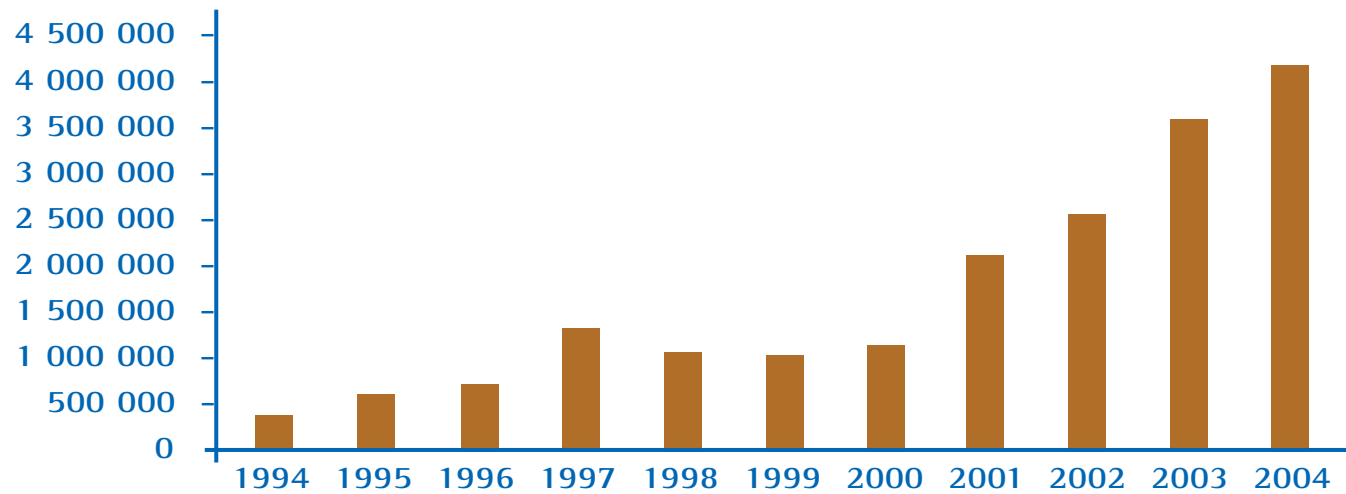
N.M.

# Annual Report 2004

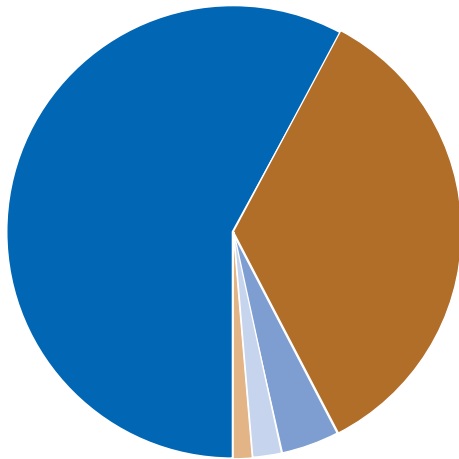


## RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Annual budget evolution (USD)

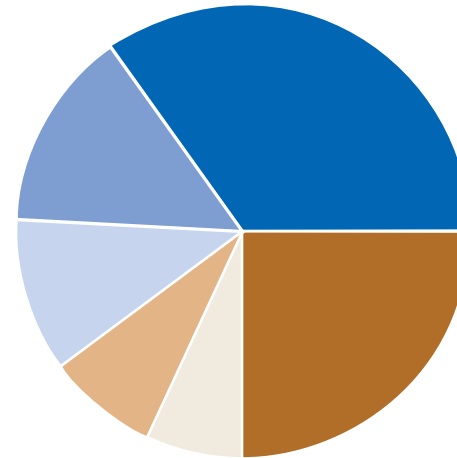


## Sources of income



- 58,87% Projects / Partners and donors contributions
- 32,41% Activities revenues
- 5,4% Fundraising
- 1,87% BOT
- 1,45% RMF - USA

## Expenses by sector of activity



- 35% Rural and agriculture
- 23% Social
- 13% Project expenses
- 12% Democracy and human rights
- 9% Medical
- 8% Administration and communication

Projected expenses qre funds committed to be executed on projects in 2005.



The accounts of RMF-Lebanon are audited by PMB Audit service.  
 Moreover, all international funded projects are audited by Talal Abu-Ghazaleh & co.  
 RMF-USA accounts are audited by Reitberger, Pollekoff & Kozak, P.C..

# Annual Report 2004



## R M F - U S A

The René Moawad Foundation, USA celebrated its 11th year of work in the United States.

Its annual budget rose dramatically to \$1,326,399.42 thanks to its partnership with CHF International and the USAID funded CEDARS-Program in Lebanon that focuses on agricultural development. A large portion of these funds was earmarked for the purchase of agricultural machinery from the United States.

As usual, the RMF - USA held its annual benefit dinner that was its most successful one ever, both financially and in terms of attendance. The Gala was held on October 9, at the newly opened five-star hotel the Mandarin Oriental. The event netted \$120,000 and was attended by 450 people from the Arab-American community and many other friends of Lebanon. This large turnout came to honor Lebanese-American businessman, community activist and

philanthropist James Sams. The MP Nayla Moawad presented Mr Sams with the René Moawad Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award. His wife Betty Sams also received the Distinguished Personal Achievement award for her role in promoting the arts, both Lebanese and American. Many prominent leaders of the Lebanese-American community in the Washington area and Arab Ambassadors attended the evening.



## A C T I V I T I E S   A N D   F U N D   R A I S I N G

The evening also featured a fashion show by Lebanese designer Abed Mahfouz whose exquisite designs thrilled the audience.

The evening's Master of Ceremonies was Mr. Richard Shadyac, CEO of St. Jude/ALSAC. The proceeds of the event were earmarked once again to the working children literacy program in Bab al-Tebbaneh, a project that provides afternoon classes to working children.

The Lebanese-American Community in Miami, Florida organized two fundraising events for the Foundation that raised \$15,760. One was held at Khoury's Restaurant which graciously donated the food and beverage, and the other at Our Lady of Lebanon Church. Mrs. Moawad spoke at both events and the Foundation's short documentary was shown.

Through the help of Dr. Nabil Jabbour of the ForSight Foundation and a board member of RMF, as well as Dr. Selim Butrus, RMF-USA sent \$26,000 worth of corneas to Lebanon and approximately \$20,000 worth of medication.

## *RMF-USA*

### *2004 Board Members*

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*Honorary President*

*Edward D. Soma*

*President*

*James Kaddo*

*Vice-President*

*Nadia Abourizk-Asaad*

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*Dalia M. Fateh*

*Jay Ghazal*

*Usama S. Hamdan*

*Michael Hudson*

*Fariba Jahanbani*

*Nabil Jabbour*

*Marwan Al-Jamal*

*Adib Kassis*

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*Nick Rahall*

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