

ALEDA
**(LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE SOUTHERN
SUBURBS OF BEIRUT - LEBANON)**



GENERAL INFORMATION

Date of establishment: 2010

Territory: With an area of 28 km², includes seven towns, and a population of 1,400,000 Lebanese, excluding Syrian and Palestinian refugees. The area has been built under unusual circumstances during Israeli invasion of South Lebanon in 1978, 1982, and historical poverty in Bekaa East Lebanon and North Lebanon.

The area has been built without any specific cultural, economic and social identity; there are residents, in the area, which are coming from various religious and ethnic origins.

Members: There are seven municipalities: Haret hreik, Gbayreh, Chiah, Hazmieh, Mrayjeh, Furn El Chebback, Buruj Al Barajneh; six representatives from the private sector; including head of traders' council in Chiah, School Principle, Head of Ouzaii Harbor and associates from Strategic Research Center.

Main objectives: fostering local economic development and developing a strategic economic identity for the area, increasing income generation and to creating job opportunities targeting individuals (particularly youth and women), entrepreneurs, SMEs, start-ups, cooperatives and unions.

Through a participatory approach, ALEDA collaborates with local stakeholders for the development of a common vision towards a sustainable and comprehensive economic future.

IMPACTS

Economic Impact

ALEDA has created a Mobile Market for provisioning and crafts, where more than 100 associations, cooperatives and more than 150 individuals have been exposing their products.

ALEDA has prepared clear and easy guidelines for helping entrepreneurs to improve their performance (Business Plan Template).

ALEDA has facilitated links between 73 companies and major commercial enterprises as well as between 23 company directors and the University for expanding their contacts and cooperation initiatives with students.





Strategic Impact

ALEDA is the main and first concrete instrument that is facilitating the dialogue between the 11 municipalities of the area, the private and public sectors; it is coordinating their common actions for facing the emergent territorial problems related to jobs, incomes, planning, environmental safeguard, and economic revival.

Its presence has allowed a relevant change in the municipal localist vision towards more comprehensive and sustainable solutions.

Social Impact

One of the strategic ALEDA service is the support for job creation and access, through monitoring demand and supply, posting vacancies on the ALEDA website, maintaining continuous relationships with major companies and universities.

In this framework, ALEDA has supported the creation of 139 job opportunities and 600 self-sufficiency opportunities.

ALEDA has received in its office 95 jobseekers that were assisted in their job application process; 34 jobs application requested by the companies were followed up and 13 people were accompanied in matching them.

Financial Impact

ALEDA prepared clear and easy guidelines for helping the entrepreneurs to access to loans (Bank Loans).

National Impact

The pressure of the local actors involved in the ALEDA creation process, allowed the government endorsement for the legal institutionalisation of the LEDAs in Lebanon.

Institutional Impact

ALEDA has strengthened the Haret Hreik Training & Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for delivering training about the food processing, sewing, crafts, mobiles and computers sectors.

The Haret Hreik Training & Rehabilitation Centre was launched in 2010, with the support of UNDP & SIDA (Sweden International Development Agency), as the first step to face unemployment and dropout, building capacity for women and youth in the area. Since then, 3500 persons had been trained in 23 different sectors like food processing, tailoring, soaps, sweets, hard craft, aerobics, cell phones, and electricity.

OTHER

Projects

So far, ALEDA has carried out the project for strengthening the Haret Hreik Training & Vocational Rehabilitation Centre.

Furthermore in 2015 it prepared projects for supporting the footwear sector, the artisans, and the Ouzaii fishermen harbour.

Networking

The LEDA is part of the ILS LEDA International Network.

To know more: www.aledabss.org