



## **Additional Financing I**

West Bank and Gaza Resilient Municipal Services Project (P178723)

### **Addendum to the Original Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) of AF-I**

**April 19, 2024**

## 1. Introduction/Project Description

The Municipal Development Program (MDP) is a multi-phase national program that has been financed by the Palestinian government and several international financing partners. The program will support 159 municipalities in West Bank and Gaza (WB&G), which includes 25 municipalities in Gaza and 134 municipalities in the West Bank upon meeting the eligibility criteria.

The objective of phase four of the MDP, known as *West Bank and Gaza- Resilient Municipal Services Project (RSMP)*, is to strengthen municipal capacity to deliver accountable, sustainable, inclusive, and resilient services to the municipal population in the WB&G. The program is under implementation and has the following components:

- Component 1: Performance Based Service Delivery Grant Transfer
- Component 2: Sector Policy and Institutional Development
- Component 3: Competitive Grants for Natural hazard and Climate Change Resilience
- Component 4: Project Implementation Support and Management

### RSMP Additional Financing I

Additional Financing I West Bank and Gaza **Short-term Emergency Support for municipal services** builds on the ongoing MDP and aims to assist municipalities to address the current emergency.

#### 1.1 Potential Components of the short-term Emergency Support for municipal services

**Sub-component 1 - Emergency labor-intensive Municipal Services:** This sub-component will provide financial support to municipalities to maintain local services provision through labor-intensive operation and maintenance (O&M) of municipal infrastructure and services, as well as to support the temporary short-term employment within municipalities. This sub-component will facilitate temporary job creation through a cash-for-work (C4W) element, to partially address the wide-scale unemployment challenges expected to result from the current economic decline. The O&M activities to be supported can include the costs of labor, equipment, and supplies for:

- Solid waste collection and sorting,
- Public health activities,
- Cleaning and beautification of public spaces,
- Irrigation of municipal green areas,
- O&M of Public Facilities (Markets, City Hall, Culture centers, Libraries, Water and Wastewater facilities, solid waste facilities such as Transfer stations, cemeteries if operated by the municipality, Public Parks and gardens, municipal-owned sports facilities O&M of Slaughterhouses, etc.)
- Roads repairs and maintenance (filling of potholes, crack repair and sealing, etc.),
- Periodic cleanup of the drainage system,
- Fumigation.
- Landscaping of road medians,
- Stone walls/retaining Wall construction.

In addition, there may be a possibility of hiring professionals to do some activities related to archiving/coding/surveys/inventory/work supervision and quality control.

**Sub-component 2 - Recurrent Expenditures:** Given the severe funding constraints that municipalities are facing and will continue to grapple with resulting from the current war, this sub-

component will support municipalities with their non-wages recurrent expenditures using the same eligible categories included in the POM. For example, the supplies, fuel, and other recurrent costs of the basic municipal services would be eligible for support (for solid waste management, roads, drainage, water and sanitation etc.). More details are listed in the table below which might be expanded as needed:

#	Item Category	Details
1.	Oil for vehicles and electricity generators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Oil for service vehicles including the administration's vehicles</li> <li>- Oil for Water and Wastewater Facilities and the Administration (to operate the Stade by Generators)</li> </ul>
2.	Vehicles and Electricity Generators spare parts including tires and Batteries as well.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Items for service vehicles (all sectors)</li> <li>- Items for Service Electricity Generators (all Sectors)</li> <li>- 3. Items for electricity Generators for the administration</li> </ul>
3.	Electromechanical Maintenance contracts for Water and Wastewater Facilities Spare parts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost of maintenance contracts</li> </ul>
4.	Primary solid waste collection cost (hiring of labor)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hiring labor using donkey carts/using hand carts</li> </ul>
5.	Secondary solid waste collection through private sector (from transfer stations to the main landfill)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contracting private companies to transfer solid waste from the transfer stations to the main land fill</li> </ul>
6.	Solid waste councils' fees/ Solid Waste fees for the use of the Land fill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Payments against the solid waste service provided by the public entity on a regular basis.</li> </ul>
7.	Joint Service councils' fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Payments against municipal services provided by the service councils (using wheel loaders, trucks, wastewater vehicles.... etc.).</li> </ul>
8.	Materials for municipality workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small to medium size tools for municipal services maintenance regular activities</li> </ul>
9.	Maintenance of solid waste containers	-
10.	Materials and tools for safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Example clothes and shoes for workers (PPE)</li> </ul>
11.	Provision of equipment, materials, and supplies	
12.	All directly related to the provision of essential municipal services	
13.	Fuel for service vehicles and generators	
14.	Water& Wastewater, street lighting and Electricity Utilities related bills to municipal services	
15.	Vehicles and labor insurance	
16.	Office supplies	
17.	Public awareness related to increasing municipal revenues	
18.	Renting service vehicles	

The RSMP and additional financing **Short-term Emergency Support** have been prepared under the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework (ESF). Per Environmental and Social Standard ESS10 on

Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure, the implementing agencies should provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, or intimidation.

**2. Objective/Description of SEP**

This SEP for the additional financing aims to establish a program for stakeholder involvement that covers public information disclosure and consultation at every stage of the project lifecycle. In addition to providing a method for people to voice concerns, offer input, or file complaints on project-related activities, the SEP also describes the project team's communication strategy with stakeholders.

**3. Stakeholder identification and analysis**

**3.1 Methodology**

- Stakeholder engagement principles include openness, informed involvement, sensitivity and inclusivity and flexibility. A description of those principles is provided in the parent project SEP.

**3.2. Affected parties and other interested parties**

Affected parties under the AF-I include 159 municipalities in West Bank and Gaza and the joint service councils, workers including university graduates and members of households benefiting from the C4W activities, public facilities that would benefit from the project activities such as City Hall, Culture centers, Libraries, etc.

The projects' other interested parties under the AF-I includes members of the local communities.

**3.3. Disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals or groups**

The project will target under AF-1 disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and groups including, but not limited to, the following:

#	Vulnerable or disadvantaged groups	Barriers to accessing information and/or Project Benefits	Representative Organizations in Stakeholder Engagement
1	Unemployed men and women and workers who lost their source of living due to the conflict (i.e. workers who no longer have work permits to work in the Israeli market, refugees, Bedouin communities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deteriorating and fragile political and socio-economic contexts, resulting in reduced access to information on assistance and support.</li> <li>• Limitations on accessibility and transportation in the Access Restricted Areas ( ARAs) and Area C.</li> <li>• Lack of infrastructure and distance to main establishments to receive information and disclosure printed material.</li> </ul>	Ministry of Social Development, Municipalities, community leaders.

Vulnerable groups within the communities affected by the Project may be added, further confirmed, and consulted through dedicated means, as appropriate. Description of the methods of engagement that will be undertaken by the project is provided in the following sections.

## 4. Stakeholder Engagement Program

### 4.1. Summary of stakeholder engagement done during project preparation

Despite the national emergency, efforts have been made to finish the preparations required for the implementation of phase four of the municipal development program. The Fund created a procurement plan for each of the program windows after notifying the municipalities of their allocations. Along with identifying capacity building packages for the municipalities, a list of West Bank infrastructure projects was also produced and sent to donors. Until the projects are ultimately approved and bids are requested, they are now undergoing environmental and social assessments. It is anticipated that packages for capacity building and infrastructure projects would start to be implemented in the second half of 2024.

As part of the project preparation of RSMP and the proposed first addition financing (AF I), consultations were held with the municipalities and, MOLG, .... The following public consultation meetings and activities were conducted:

1. Group meeting: Orientation workshops and consultation meetings were held with the participation of all targeted municipalities. The workshops and meetings focused on introducing the RSMP components and its proposed interventions, its implementation arrangements, identified E&S risks as well as mitigation measures. Additionally, the consultation provided an overview of the LMP and SEP. The SEP program was discussed, the GM (public and workers) and the GRS were introduced.
2. As for the current status of the projects in the southern and northern governorates, there is no doubt that the recent war launched by the Israeli occupation after October 7, 2023 on the southern governorates and the accompanying Israeli measures on the northern governorates had consequences at the level of the projects under implementation or even on Future directions to support the local government sector. This was present in the discussion of multiple scenarios with the Ministry of Local Government and donors to deal with these effects.
3. The Capacity development component was prepared, including the preparation phase, procurement phase, implementation phase and the closing phase. The Capacity building manual was updated to include new elements of RSMP such as the social and environmental aspects. Four orientation sessions in person (3 in WB and 1 in Gaza) were conducted on September 2023, virtual workshops on January 2024, for all municipalities to introduce the RSMP capacity building interventions. Application forms were updated and launched electronically on the MDLF website. Grant Implementation Agreements (GIAs) were updated. The Capacity Development plan was prepared for projects activities in consistency with costing and procurement plan. The application forms were evaluated by the CB technical committee according to identified criteria. Municipalities were informed about the packages they were qualified for, and ToR's are prepared for each package. A focal point for each municipality was nominated and selected for each package to facilitate the processes. New capacity development packages were identified and agreed upon including (Institutional package, and advanced package).
4. Focus groups sessions were conducted in different locations for several municipalities, for introducing the project and its activities to the stakeholders, and to allow of input any necessary implementation modifications, in addition to covering the E&S concerns, impacts and mitigations, and grievance mechanism.
5. Some agreements were signed with affected beneficiaries and other agreements will be signed during the E&S screening and assessment phase.
6. A virtual consultation meeting (Via MS Teams) was conducted on March 25, 2024, where relevant stakeholders were invited including Municipalities (i.e. Al-Bireh, Beit Ummar), NGOs such as the General Union of Palestinian Women (GUPW), , the Palestinian Engineering Association (PALENG), The Association of Palestinian Local Authorities (APLA), Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA), Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Labour (MoL), Ministry of Women Affairs (MoWA), Environment Quality Authority (EQA), Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), Palestinian Civil Defense (PCD), Palestine Polytechnic University, Palestine Green Building Council, Palestine General Federation Of trade Unions, Palestinian contractors Union, and many others, the minutes of meeting is shown in annex 1. Institutions that were unable to attend the workshop contacted MDLF to inquire about the workshop and ensure that it was in the same context as the previous project within the Covid-19 pandemic, which was part of the MDP3.

7.

#### **4.2. Summary of project stakeholder needs and methods, tools, and techniques for stakeholder engagement**

With reference to the original SEP prepared for the project (MDP4), the project will conduct various consultation sessions with stakeholders to gather input and make necessary modifications. These sessions will include virtual or in-person group meetings, where stakeholders can share general knowledge, voice opinions, and provide feedback. Directly impacted parties will participate in virtual or in-person meetings to discuss grievance procedures, E&S concerns, and project activities. One-on-one interviews will be conducted with vulnerable groups to gather input. Formal meetings with institutional actors will be inclusive and address the needs of vulnerable populations. The project will provide comprehensive instructions on handling grievances and implementing additional beneficiary feedback channels.

#### **4.3. Stakeholder engagement plan**

Activities for the AF-I are covered in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in the original SEP prepared for the Parent project available at at [https://www.mdlf.org.ps/Document/Stakeholder%20Engagement%20Plan%20\(SEP\)%204.pdf](https://www.mdlf.org.ps/Document/Stakeholder%20Engagement%20Plan%20(SEP)%204.pdf). This addendum should be read and applied along with the original SEP. This addendum to the original SEP for the AF-I and the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) for AF-I will be publicly disclosed on the MDLF website and on the Bank's system. Printed material (manuals, brochures, posters, etc.) will be prepared and used based on identified needs. English and Arabic languages will be used to disclose information on MDLF website.

#### **4.4. Reporting back to stakeholders**

As the project advances, stakeholders will be updated on its environmental and social performance, as well as on how the stakeholder engagement strategy and grievance mechanism are being implemented and how the project is progressing overall in terms of execution.

### **5. Resources and Responsibilities for implementing stakeholder engagement activities**

#### **5.1. Resources**

The project implementing agency, MDLF, will be in charge of the implementation of the stakeholder engagement activities. The MDLF will amend the contracts of the environmental and social experts who have been hired to assist municipalities in implementing their subprojects under RSMP.

The budget allocated for the implementation of the sub-components 1.1 and component 2 under the AF of the project is \$3000. A detailed budget is provided in annex 2.

#### **5.2. Management functions and responsibilities**

The current execution plans under the parent project will serve as the foundation for the proposed AF. The MDLF will be in charge of conducting initiatives aimed at engaging stakeholders. The MDLF-established management structure will be used to carry out these tasks. The Social Specialist at the MDLF will be responsible for the implementation of the Project SEP including this Addendum to the original SEP of the AF-I.

The actions related to stakeholder involvement will be recorded in accordance with the project ESCP and the standards for project progress reporting.

### **6. Grievance Mechanism**

Additional financing will use the GM developed for RSMP program.

The GM provides an appeals process if the complainant is not satisfied with the proposed resolution of the complaint. Once all possible means to resolve the complaint have been proposed and if the complainant is still not satisfied, then they will be advised of their right to legal recourse.

The MDLF will also provide any additional requisite labor management measures for the AFI, as the situation allows. A labor GM is already established and available for the parent project. In addition, the labor GM shall also be available at the level of all MDLF partners (e.g. NGOs, CBOs), who will be required to develop and establish labor GMs for their workers. The MDLF shall provide clear and detailed information on the GM to workers who will be employed or engaged in connection with the Project during implementation.

## **7. Monitoring and Reporting**

Monitoring and Reporting mechanisms are described in the original SEP available at at [https://www.mdlf.org.ps/Document/Stakeholder%20Engagement%20Plan%20\(SEP\)%204.pdf](https://www.mdlf.org.ps/Document/Stakeholder%20Engagement%20Plan%20(SEP)%204.pdf)

## **8. Annexes**

### **8.1. Annex 1: Minutes of meeting**

## Annex 1: Minutes of Meeting

### Stakeholders Engagement Plan Workshop Minutes of Meeting

<b>Project (Project N°)</b>	Municipal Development Program – Phase 4 “MDP4” (PIDC 34550) Additional Financing - Resilient Municipal Services Project (P181678)		
<b>Client Name</b>	Municipal Development & Lending Fund (MDLF)		
<b>Participants</b>	33		
<b>Place</b>	Virtual, Online vial MS Teams	<b>Date</b>	March 25, 2024 10:00 – 10:45 Palestine Time

#### **Purpose:**

The intention of the consultation workshop was to discuss the Latest developments on the environmental and social framework as well as the stakeholder plan related to the municipal development program, phase four, regarding the additional financing to support municipalities operational expenses and the employment of workers.

#### **Discussed Items:**

##### Introduction of the Project

MDLF has welcomed the participants and introduced the project to all stakeholders and has informed them of the latest updates regarding MDP4 and the additional financing for the emergency component.

#### 1. Objectives of the stakeholder engagement plan

- The environmental and social framework of the MDP will remain the approved basis and will be updated as necessary regarding the additional subpart of the program related to emergency support.
- Labor management procedures for the MPD IV will remain unchanged.
- The framework procedures for LALF for the MPD IV will remain unchanged.
- The overall objective of the (SEP) is to define a program/mechanisms and tools for stakeholder engagement, including public information disclosure and consultations, over the proposed project cycle and including the project establishment and operation period.
- The SEP sets out the ways in which the Fund and municipalities will communicate with stakeholders and includes a mechanism through which the public can raise concerns, provide feedback or submit complaints.
- Providing guidance and instructions for stakeholder engagement and disclosure of information, especially that which meets World Bank standards and the environmental and social framework.
- Identify key stakeholders for project components and proposed activities.
- Providing the opportunity for identified stakeholders to participate in identifying any potential impacts of the project.
- Determine the environmental and social impacts of the project, which may be considered essential and important during the process of disclosure and disclosure of information for consultations in accordance with the requirements of the World Bank and ESS10.
- Ensure an appropriate and efficient approach is adopted during the implementation process.
- Determine the most efficient and effective method, timing and structure for sharing project information in a regular, accessible, transparent and appropriately consulted manner.
- Clarifying roles and responsibilities for implementing the stakeholder engagement plan.



2. Identify and analyze stakeholders for the MDP IV emergency financing project
  - Individuals - affected parties
  - Individuals - other parties with an interest
  - Vulnerable and marginalized groups
  
3. Classification of stakeholders for the MDPIV relief support project
  - Project Components
  - Activities
  - Potential stakeholders
  
4. Employment and working conditions, discussing the following topics
  - The term “project workers” including; Direct, Contracted, and essential supply workers.
  - The Terms and conditions of employment
  - Non-discrimination and equal opportunities
  - Occupational Health and Safety
  
5. Emergency municipal services - labor intensive including;
  - Solid waste collection and sorting
  - Public health activities
  - Cleaning and beautification of public places
  - Irrigating municipal green areas,
  - Operating and maintaining public facilities
  - Road repair and maintenance
  - Periodic cleaning of the sewage system
  - Road landscaping
  - Stone walls/retaining wall constructions,
  - In addition to the possibility of employing short-term specialists to carry out some activities related to archiving/coding/surveys/inventory/work supervision and quality control.
  
6. Municipal operating expenses including;
  - Fuel and oils for utility vehicles and machinery, including water and sewage
  - Contracting with private companies to transport solid waste from transfer stations to the main landfill
  - Solid waste council fees/solid waste fees for landfill use
  - Water, sewer, street lighting, and electric utility bills related to municipal services
  - Vehicle and workers insurance
  - etc.

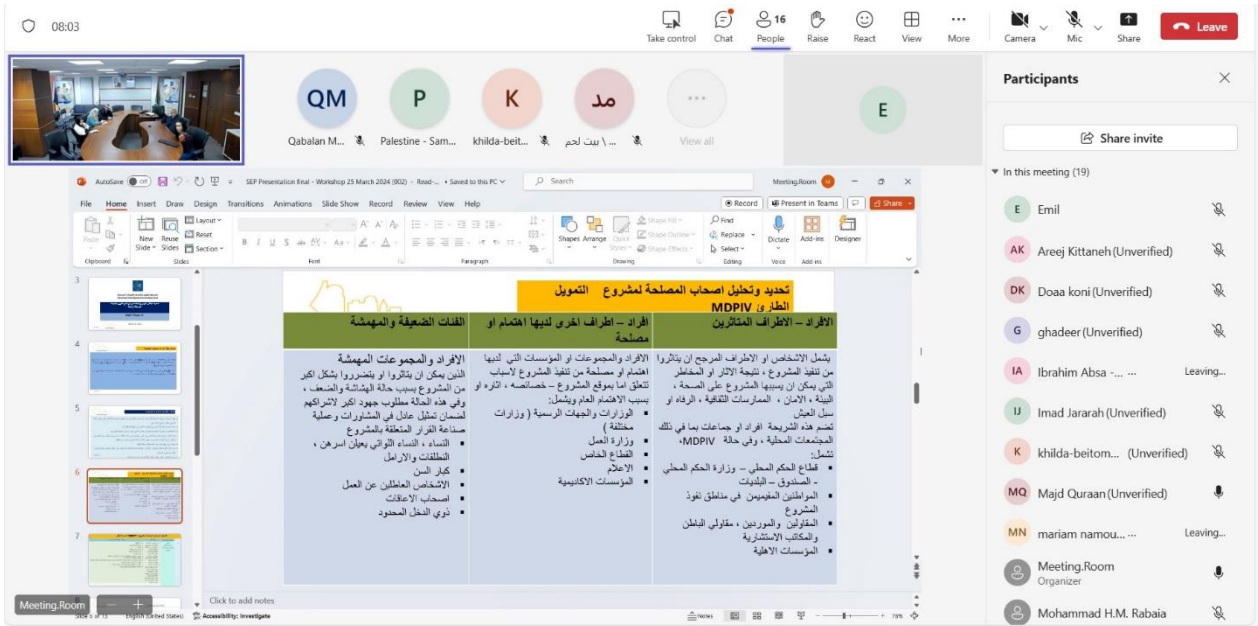
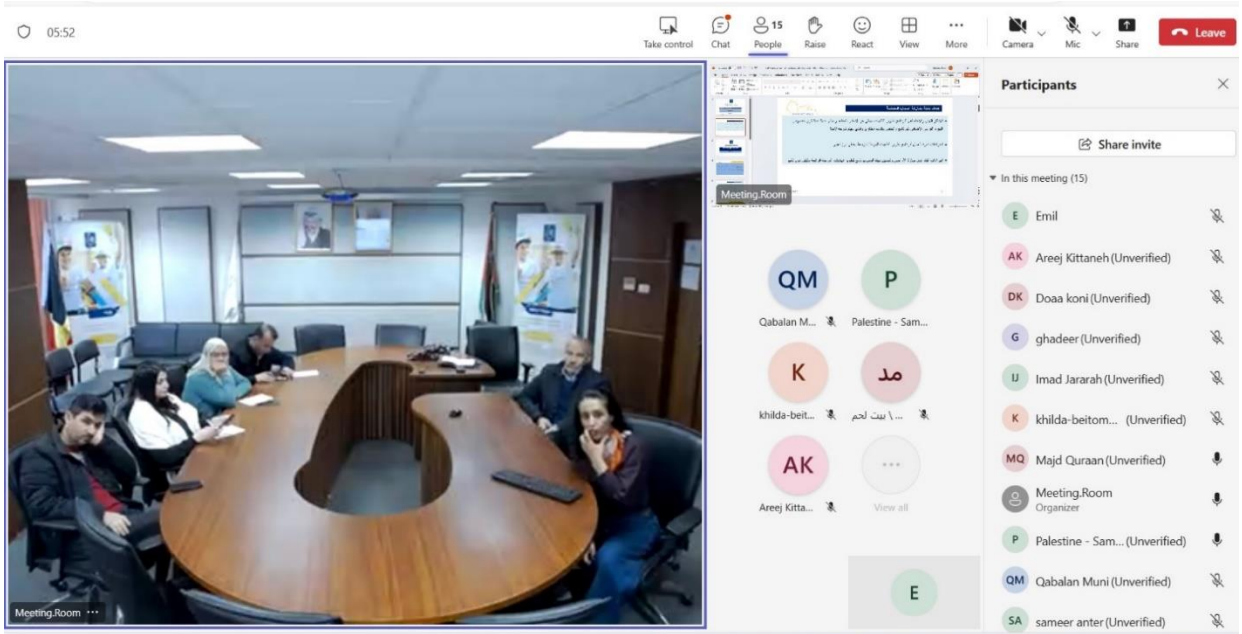
**Raised Items:**

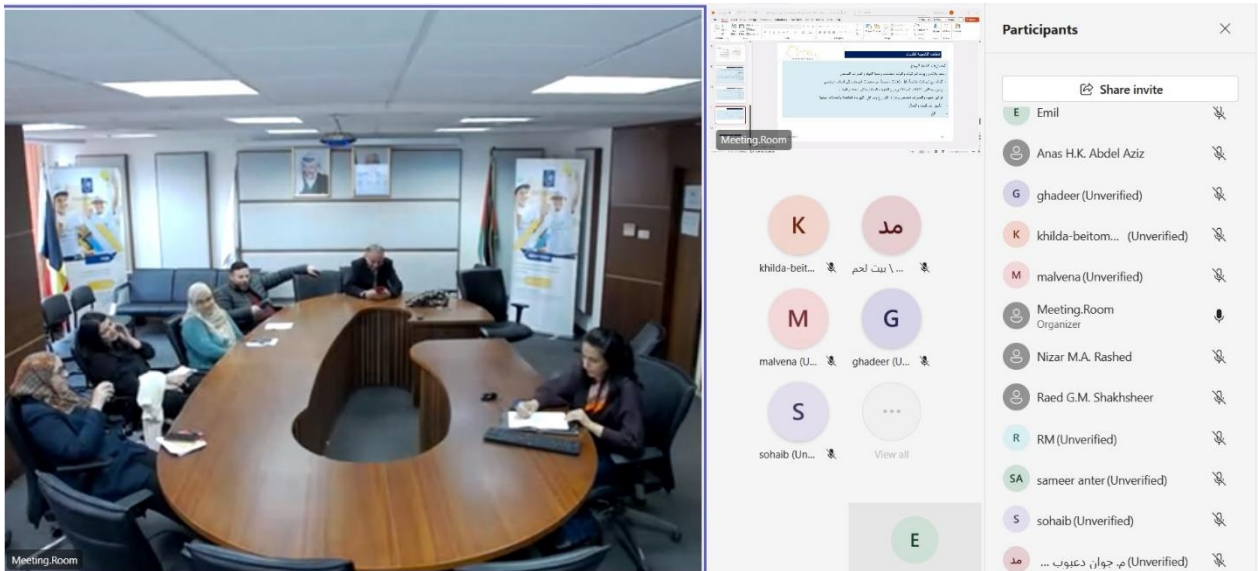
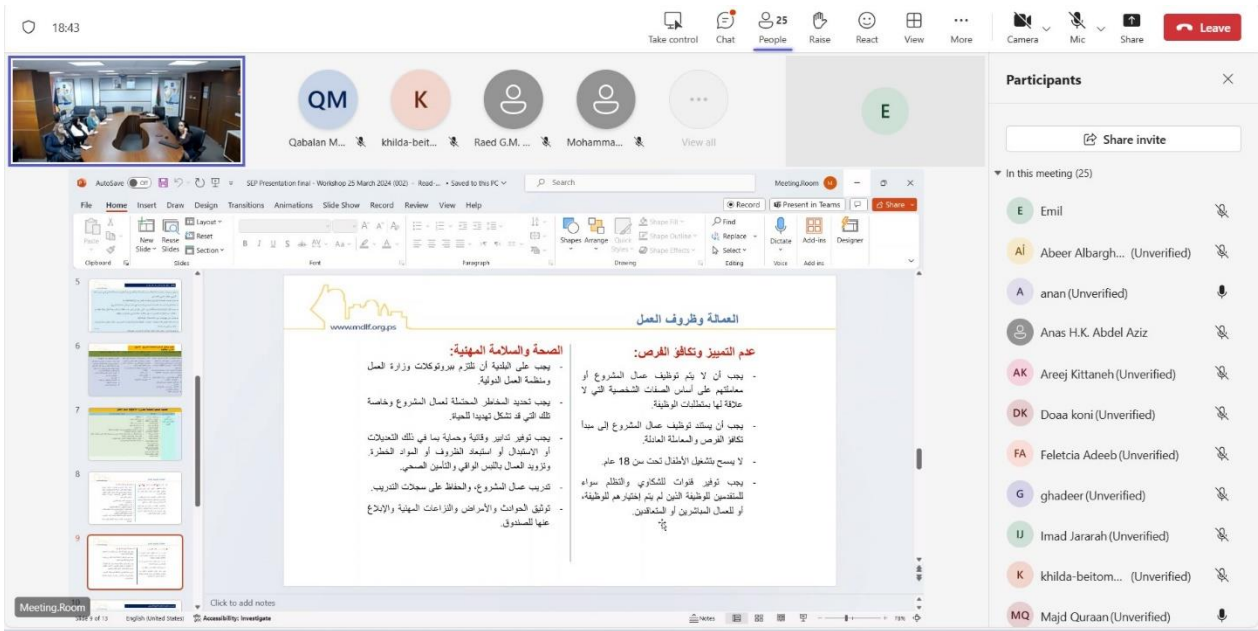
1. The Support/Fund amounts
2. Eligibility and required documentation to apply.
3. Simplifying the procedures and documents
4. The implementation arrangements are to be allowed for both types: direct contracts with workers or through contractors.
5. Percentage of covering of recurrent expenditures

**Response:**

MDLF will provide the municipalities with the related documentation and ways to apply, in addition to the percentage of covering once finalizing the additional financing project requirements with the donors. As it is an emergency fund, the procedures will be simplified as possible in matching with the manuals and agreements with donors.

### Pictures





Annex 2: A detailed budget lines for AF-1 activities

Budget Category	Quantity	Unit Costs (USD)	Times/Years	Total Costs (USD)
<b>1. Events</b>				
1a. Project Launch event	0	0	0	0
1b. PAPs meetings (virtual)	0	0	0	0
1c. In person Engagement information sessions to be conducted when the security situation on the ground allows it	2	500	2	1000
<b>2. Communication campaigns</b>				
2a. Communications materials (posters, pamphlets, flyers... including design) when the security situation on the ground allows it	LS	LS	LS	1000

2b. Information disclosure including media	LS	LS	LS	500
<b>3. Trainings</b>				
3a. E.g., training on compliance with Bank's requirements including gender-based violence (GBV)	2	250	2	500
<b>TOTAL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT BUDGET:</b>				3,000