Questions and Answers
at the Orientation Sessions Undertaken
on July 18 and 20 in Sin El Fil, Mejdlaya, Saida and Zahleh

1. **Question:** The municipality has a water well that benefits the village, but the cost of electricity is very high. Can BALADI fund a solar pumping system?

   Answer: Solar energy is accepted in BALADI projects. To be noted that an official permit is needed for pumping water from the well and the well should be legal.

2. **Question:** Can the private sector participate in this program?

   Answer: Baladi program promotes partnerships with local partners, private sector and the local community; this partnership should bring value to the project.

3. **Question:** Should there be a special employee to be hired for this project by the municipality?

   Answer: The municipality sets up the project operation structure with the partners. As main applicant, the Municipality is the main contact of Baladi.

4. **Question:** Can the municipality apply to Baladi program without having any partners?

   Answer: Yes, however Baladi program encourages partnerships.

5. **Question:** Should the project be sustainable?

   Answer: Yes, sustainability is a main criteria in projects selection.

6. **Question:** Can the municipality submit a proposal for many projects?

   Answer: No, a municipality can submit only one application for one project.

7. **Question:** Can we give examples?

   Answer: Municipalities are encouraged to propose projects based on their needs.

8. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a project of surveillance cameras installation?

   Answer: Surveillance cameras cannot be funded be Baladi, however they can be included in the cost share.

9. **Question:** What is the deadline to apply?

   Answer: Deadline for application is 10 August 2017.

10. **Question:** How does the principle of competition apply if municipalities have different needs?

    Answer: The principle of competition applies as applications are evaluated and graded according to the criteria mentioned in the Request for Municipal Applications 3 (RFMA3).

11. **Question:** Is equipment that needs more than 6 months to be delivered eligible in Baladi?

    Answer: In Baladi Round 3, the period of installation and commissioning of the equipment should be not be more than 4 months.

12. **Question:** Is it possible for the municipality to submit a joint project with other municipalities?

    Answer: Yes, sure partnerships are encouraged under BALADI.

13. Question: Can the civil society be involved in Baladi program?

   Answer: The civil society is encouraged to be involved in Baladi program.

14. Question: How can the institution ensure that the municipality has contributed 20% of the project value?

   Answer: The minimum 20% should appear in the cost application.

15. Question: Should the operational costs of the project be paid by the municipality?

   Answer: Operational costs are not eligible for Baladi funding and should be part of the cost share, to be paid by the municipality or the partners.

16. Question: If the municipality can provide a rental agreement or a plot of land for the project, is this a part of the cost share?

   Answer: A rental agreement or a plot of land for the project, can be part of the cost share.

17. Question: Is it possible to extend the deadline for applications submission?

   Answer: It is not possible to extend the deadline for applications submission.

18. Question: Can Baladi support the procurement of equipment for a hospital?

   Answer: Baladi can support the procurement of equipment for a hospital.

19. Question: Can Baladi funding for a project exceed the amount of 100,000$?

   Answer: Baladi funding for a project cannot exceed the amount of 100,000$.

20. **Question:** Can Baladi fund the "Slot agriculture roads" project?
    Answer: No.

21. **Question:** Can Baladi fund the "Waste Sorting" project?
    Answer: No.

22. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a new "Factory"?
    Answer: No.

23. **Question:** If the duration of the project exceeds a five months, it can be funded?
    Answer: No.

24. **Question:** What is the project value?
    Answer: Baladi provided the amount of 100.000$ for each project.

25. **Question:** Who should stamp the application?
    Answer: The municipality should stamp the application.

26. **Question:** Do you want to see the municipal budget?
    Answer: Yes.

27. **Question:** Can Baladi fund an "archaeological" project?
    Answer: Yes.

28. **Question:** If there is a partnership in the project, should the partner pay with the municipality?
    Answer: You should see to the agreement between the municipality and their partner.

29. **Question:** How can we know what are the projects implemented in the previous rounds, in order to direct our thought to the right path?
    Answer: Yes, municipalities are encouraged to propose projects based on their needs. Previously implemented projects are listed on Baladi website.

30. **Question:** Does RMF accept the implementation of a project already exists with another municipality or should we create a new projects?
Answer: Yes we can accept, but each project must be based on the needs of the village.

31. **Question:** Is it possible for the municipality to submit for her own project and can it accepts its request if other municipalities participate in another application?
Answer: Yes, but the municipality cannot be the main applicant in both applications.

32. **Question:** Does the project depend on the principle of competition?
Answer: Yes, based on the constructive competition. Each applicant must submit a comprehensive application for high scores.

33. **Question:** Does the project have to be productive?
Answer: Not necessarily, but the project should be sustainable and continually.

34. **Question:** How many applications can a municipality submit?
Answer: A municipality can be a Main applicant for only one application. However, it can be a partner (not Main) in other applications.

35. **Question:** Is there a consultant to read projects?
Answer: No, you can send questions on Baladi website: http://www.baladi-lebanon.org/

36. **Question:** If the municipality is decadent, how can the village apply?
Answer: The municipality can apply with a municipal union in partnership with private sector, NGO…etc.

37. **Question:** How many projects will be funded in Baladi round 3?
Answer: Between 11 and 20 projects distributed in all Lebanon.

38. **Question:** In case the municipality received funding for a project in previous rounds, is it possible to win a project at this round?

Answer: Priority will be given to municipalities that have not received funding.

39. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a "construction work" project?
    Answer: No.

40. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a "Kitchen Equipment for Food Distribution" project?
    Answer: Yes.

41. **Question:** Can Baladi fund the "Solar Lighting" project?
    Answer: Yes.

42. **Question:** Can Baladi fund an "Environmental Tourism or Environmental Laboratory" project?
    Answer: Environmental tourism yes, for example (kiosk), and Environmental laboratory according to the materials used.

43. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a "cultural library" project?
    Answer: if this means equipping of a library then yes.

44. **Question:** Can municipalities receive cash support?
    Answer: No, Baladi program does not provide cash grants to municipalities and/ or municipal unions.

45. **Question:** What do you mean by the 20% contribution of municipalities of the cost of the project?
    Answer: The local community (municipal and/ or NGO's and/ or private sector…) should submit a contribution at least 20% (in kind or in cash contribution) of the total value of the project.

46. **Question:** If there is a "generator" project, where is the role of women will be?
    Answer: The role of women will be in running the project

47. Question: How is it possible to know the number of beneficiaries of the "road lighting" project?
Answer: From the numbers of the village Residents.

48. Question: In case there is refugees in the village, we can mention them with the number of beneficiaries?
Answer: Yes.

49. Question: If the municipality in partnership submitted an application with the local communities, who will considered the contribution of 20 % of the cost of the project?
Answer: Both of them (the municipality and the local communities).

50. Question: If there is a building, equipped can Baladi fund the equipment.
Answer: yes, but depending on what type of equipment. The equipment that does not need more than 4 months for installation and commissioning and that respond to the need of the village.

51. Question: Can any center be equipped with mobile vehicles?
Answer: No.

52. Question: Is the project fund to help people or municipalities?
Answer: the project will fund the municipality that can other people in the surround will benefit from.

53. Question: What are the projects that an applicant may submit?
Answer: There is no list of approved projects since each project should stem from the needs of the village. Participants are encouraged to submit innovative projects that serve the public interest and increase economic opportunities and create jobs. However, BALADI Program lists the projects that are not eligible for funding. All these projects are listed in RFMA3 document.

54. Question: Can the quotation be enter in the equipment list?
Answer: Yes.

55. Question: Who is responsible for securing the project premises?

Answer: The municipality is responsible on the building

56. **Question:** If an application was submitted by the municipality in partnership with the private sector and some local organization, however the land on which the project will be implemented on is for the private sector, in this case may the land be considered as a part of the 20% of the applicant's contribution.
    Answer: It is not a must that the land offered by the coalition be for the municipality. But it should be mentioned that the municipality has legally a full right to implement the project through a partnership agreement. It is to be noted that the financial value of the contribution is estimated based on the standards approved by legal experts and jury in the courts. Note that it is supposed that the investment is for a long term (more than 10 years) which is necessary to secure sustainability of the project.

57. **Question:** Is it possible to extend the deadline for applications submission?
    Answer: No, it is not possible to extend the deadline for applications submission.

58. **Question:** Can Baladi fund the "Waste Sorting" project?
    Answer: No.

59. Question: Can Baladi fund an "olive press" project?
    Answer: Yes if the Environmental Impact assessment is available and approved by the Ministry of Environment.

60. **Question:** Is it possible for a group of municipalities to submit a joint project?
    Answer: Yes, groups of municipalities can submit a joint application.

61. **Question:** Is it possible for a municipality to submit a project application while simultaneously participates in submitting a project application with a group of other municipalities.

    Answer: Yes, but this municipality cannot be the Main Applicant in both applications.

62. Question: Can Baladi fund a "child care" project if there is equipped dispensary?
Answer: Yes.

63. Question: Can Baladi funded a "laboratory project" for soil examination?
Answer: Yes.

64. Question: Is it possible for a municipality to submit a project application while simultaneously participates in submitting a project application with a group of other municipalities?
Answer: Yes, but this municipality cannot be the Main Applicant in both applications.

65. Question: Is it possible to establish a football field?
Answer: No

66. Question: Can Baladi fund a training course project? Per example (computer system training).
Answer: Yes but the training will not be the main objective of the project.

67. Question: Can Baladi fund a road lighting project?
Answer: Yes.

68. Question: Can Baladi fund a library?
Answer: yes.

69. Question: Can Baladi fund a "GIS" project?
Answer: Yes

70. Question: Is it possible to fund part of a project?
Answer: In case a project has been divided into parts or phases, the part funded by BALADI Program should have impact during the project implementation period.

71. Question: In the case of undressed land, shall we have to inform you?

Answer: The land that the project will apply on should have official documents.

72. **Question:** Can an available assessment study can cover the needs assessment part?
    Answer: yes.
73. **Question:** If there is no refugees in the village can the municipality, submit?
    Answer: Sure, you can apply, Baladi program is done to develop the municipalities in Lebanon whether refuges are or not in the village.

74. **Question:** If the municipality have a big budget, shall will get a chance to receive a fund from Baladi program?
    Answer: It depends on the projects and the need of the area.

75. **Question:** Can we consult a consultant?
    Answer: Yes but it's under the operational cost of the municipality

76. **Question:** Do we place proforma invoices in the file submitted to RMF?
    Answer: Yes, It is better to include it in the application.

77. **Question:** In case the cost of purchases is more expensive than the budget of the project?
    Answer: The municipality with their partners should pay the extra charge.

78. **Question:** Does the municipal employee received a special pension if he works for the project?
    Answer: The municipality will decide as it's under the operational cost that the municipality will pay.

79. **Question:** Can the municipality member be the Project management?
    Answer: Yes.

80. **Question:** Is an agricultural project rejected if it takes a long time after the deadline for the end of the course? (Long fruitful trees for prosperity)
    Answer: Yes, the duration of the execution of the project with its impact should not exceed 4 months.

81. **Question:** In case the land or property submitted by the municipality, we provide documentary and legal papers?
    Answer: Yes sure.

82. **Question:** Can Baladi fund a generator project?
    Answer: Yes, It should follow the terms and conditions mentioned by the ministry of environment.

83. **Question:** Is the rental contract paid?
    Answer: No, It is under the operational cost that should be paid by the municipality.

84. **Question:** Can we apply without partnership?
    Answer: There is no problem but we prefer to have a partner.

85. **Question:** Can Baladi fund furniture project for empty building?
    Answer: Yes, if the furniture is for a project to develop the village

86. **Question:** Can we as local NGO work with more than one municipality?
    Answer: A local NGO can work with more than one municipality.

87. **Question:** Can we apply for a fire fighter tools as a project that may be funded?
    Answer: Firefighting tools are eligible for BALADI funding except for vehicles.

88. **Question:** In "Annex D: List of Projects That Require an EIA Study", power generation and supply projects require and EIA yet Solar energy projects are eligible under BALADI program. Do we still require an EIA for a solar project, and can costs incurred for such an EIA be counted in BALADI's contribution portion (as opposed to the municipality's cost share)?
    Answer: The Municipality should ensure that the solar energy project proposed for funding does not require an EIA from the Ministry of Environment. To be noted that projects requiring an EIA even as part of the cost-share are not eligible under BALADI RFMA3 funding.