

Beyond help... The right for economical initiative

Nº 24 The Bulletin 2018

# — Microcredit is doing well!



If there is one sector that stands out from today's gloomy economic environment, it is that of microcredit. Those engaged in AEP's small projects can give us all a lesson in optimism and dynamism. Their vitality reflects that of the Association itself, as it continues to grow while maintaining the values and purpose set by our founders and their successors.

To meet the diverse needs of its borrowers, AEP continues to set itself free to adapt to the current business climate and so offer a more effective all-embracing service.

The Executive Committee is working hard on two fronts:

- To expand our loan portfolio, with increased equity and the more effective recovery of unpaid bills,
- To increase our workforce, so as to meet the growing needs of loan applicants across all of Lebanon.

Partnerships and agreements with European and American institutions, either already signed or in the process of negotiation, are boosting both of these aspects.

As a founding member of the Board of LMFA (Lebanese Micro Finance Association), AEP is a key player in the micro-credit sector and the Association's direction, endeavors and integrity will remain a trademark and the key to success.

Chady Rached
President of AEP

The Bulletin





### **Testimonials**



#### > Farhat Youssef Farah

**Occupation:** Farmer **Location:** Ferzol

Originally from Ferzol, where he lives with his mother and brother, Farhat Youssef Farah has taken over his father's agricultural holding. He has seven greenhouses in which he grows a variety of vegetables, particularly tomatoes and cucumbers.

With the help of three loans from AEP, Farhat has purchased more seeds and seedlings, and built new greenhouses to develop these activities. Farhat uses only natural fertilizers and the products he cultivates are of excellent quality.



### Chery Clair Chahid Hadid

Trade: Cafeteria Location: Nahr Ibrahim

Chery Clair Chahid Hadid is a young mother who to add to the family income, two years ago, opened Zaytoun, a café in Nahr Ibrahim, selling liquid refreshments, saj bread and manakichs. She used her loan to equip her point of sale and has hired an employee to help out.



#### **AFP News**

#### **Lucky 13!**

For the last thirteen years, AEP has won 'best borrower' at the YMCA and CitiGroup competition!

This year, five borrowers from different regions won the following prizes:

- Fayez el Khoury: Koura, 2000 \$
- Imad Chafic Abdel Ghafour: Tripoli, 2000 \$
- Rania Mounir Keyrouz, North Bekaa, 1500 \$
- Chery Claire Hadid: Nahr Ibrahim, 1000 \$
- Farhat Youssef Farah: Central Bekaa, 1500 \$



#### **Departures and** new appointments

The Board accepted the resignation of Léna Sayad on October 17, 2017. Until the appointment of a new Director, the Council agreed that President of AEP, Chady Rached should take charge of current affairs and on an internal level, Mr. Tanios Keyrouz should be appointed Coordinator General of Loans.

#### AEP and LMFA: a promising partnership

AEP is a member of the Lebanese Micro-Finance Association, where it is represented by Chady Rached. An agreement between AEP and Banque du Liban will soon allow us to access information on risk from the Bank of Lebanon and via the LMFA. AEP will be able to obtain material and technical assistance on behalf of international donor institutions.

## **AEP News**

#### Team spirit

In September 2017, AEP organized an outing to the Ehmej reserve, at the invitation of Sheikh Iskandar Khoury.

All of AEP were present at the event, as well as Regional Teams and their families. On the day, honorary insignia were distributed to activists of the Association, in recognition of their contributions. A meal was preceded by a walk in the Cedars reserve and everyone enjoyed the gettogether.



The Bulletin maep

## Success Stories - Life Project



#### Antoine Fenianos

**Profession:** Milk Producer **Location:** Kfardlakous

A farmer for 20 years, Antoine Fenianos has a wife and three children and owns a dairy farm with ten cows. in Kfardlakous, North Lebanon. Antoine is a reputed dairy producer in the region and AEP granted him a loan of \$5000 to buy two more cows so as to increase his production of milk and yogurt to meet demand. He also received a grant from USAID LIFE project to finance the purchase of a milking machine, to produce more milk in less time and so increase his monthly income.



#### > Rania Keirouz

**Profession:** Beautician Location: Deir el Ahmar

Rania Keirouz is a mother of two who studied at Deir el Ahmar Beauty Institute. AEP's \$5000 loan served to renovate her studio and supply her with new equipment. In the framework of the LIFE project funded by USAID, Rania received a tattooing machine to encourage her to develop this skill and improve her family's welfare.

## Objectives for 2018

- > Continue our national campaign of communication, so as to provide information as required.
- > Boost the work of the Association through the recruitment of new members, with the exclusion of those who no longer participate in to retire.
- > Obtain new funds and new grants.
- > Instigate new personal loans for those borrowers who cooperate seriously with the Association.

### **AFP News**

#### **Finance Workshop**

Led by American micro-finance experts, a workshop on improved loan management was held in AEP's offices. An explanatory Loans Policy brochure was later printed, to be distributed regionally.

#### Two tons and more!

This year, chocolate production has reached new record of 2300kg. The company has participated in Christmas sales of the Institut Français and Les Créneaux.



Christmas arrangemen

#### Improvement of procedures

The Board of Directors reviewed a study by Camille Chédid, following up the delegates' work, and it was decided to implement all recommendations.

#### **AEP and USAID**

In accordance with the agreement between AEP and USAID, as part of the Palladium Life program, the Association received \$16.600 for 2017 and \$21.000 in all. In collaboration with USAID, to develop AEP's performance, two new delegates will be appointed, the first to West Bekaa and the second to the South. The program will also finance staff training and new software.



Emmaüs International

Following the resignation of Léna Sayad, the

Board of Directors agreed that Camille

Chédid should take her place as

a member of the Asia Council.

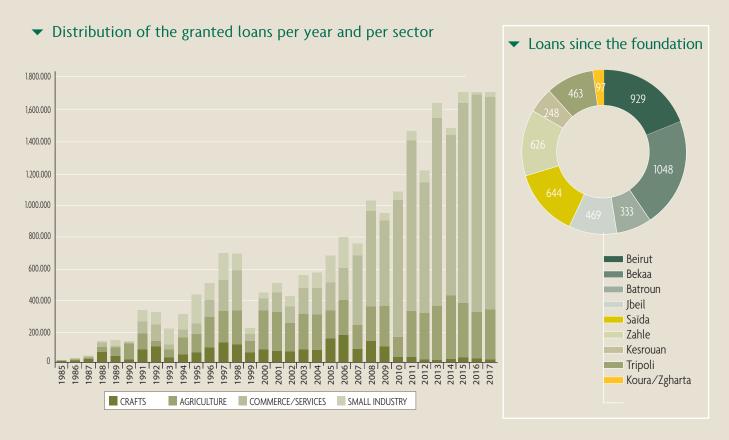
Assistance from the Emmaus movement amounted to ¤24,690 and was used to finance projects in the fields of water, ecotourism, training and microcredit.

## **Achievements**

Ever since its foundation in October 1984 until the 31th of december 2017, the "Parabank" has granted
 5 205 loans for a sum of 21 235 790 US\$ among which:

Coverage rate: **97%** 

→ 5 101 familial loans for a sum of
 → 97 collective loans for a sum of
 → 7 cooperative loans for a sum of
 18 769 528 US\$
 → 703 529 US\$
 → 132 962 US\$





#### **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:**

President :	Vice-President :	<b>Secretary :</b> Dolly Haddad	Treasury :
Chady Rached	Camille Chedid		Samira Khoury
Members :	Antoine Eid Wafaa Abou Charaf	Dolly Hélou Walid Osseirane	Iskandar Khoury

#### **AEP's Address**

144, El Alam street, Horsh Kfoury,

Badaro, Beirut

Tel. / Fax (961) 1 382610

P.O.Box: 116-5439 Museum 1106/2040 Beirut, Lebanon

E- mail: aep@inco.com.lb Website : www.aep.org.lb





## How to help the AEP?

The AEP needs your financial and/or technical solidarity and support. If you are convinced with the efficiency of its socio-economic action, many participation options are proposed to you: donations, loans, professional advice for the creditors or informing your neighborhood about the goals and actions of the AEP

YES, I WISH TO HELP 1	THE AEP		
Name and family name (Mrs., N	As, and M.)		
Complete address			
Postal code			
Tel	Fax	E-Mail	
☐ BY DONATING			
I wish to pay the annual subscr	iption :		
☐ 150 000LL	or 100 Euros	☐ or 100 US\$	
I wish to make a donation to su	upport the AEP in its action :		
Amount of the donation	L.L. or	Euros. or	US\$
The donations are paid to the A  Bank transfer: IBAN: LB730  Swift Code:	•	Account Nº : 0242112219500	
I wish, depending on my compe	etences. to advise the creditors	in their professional activity.	
Field	available time		
☐ BY INFORMING			
I wish to inform about the goal	s and actions of the AEP.		
Number of required bulletins			
Check the mentions that inter-	est you and send this page to t	the AEP address.	

The team of the AEP is at your complete disposal for any information on this number: 01/382610 from 8h till 16hfrom Monday to Friday