For Immediate Release

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and UNOPS strengthen learning environment in Lebanon

Beirut, July 24, 2025 - The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) of Lebanon and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) launched a new project in support of Lebanon's public education sector. Implemented by UNOPS, the project will deliver rapid pilot activities - light rehabilitation and provision of school furniture and equipment to selected public schools, along with capacity building training for school representatives for scaling-up MEHE's School Improvement Plan (SIP) initiatives.

The project builds on JICA's continued support to the education sector in Lebanon and UNOPS experience in sustainable integrated infrastructure approach for enhancing critical public services. While addressing the impact of the years of conflict that Lebanon has faced, this project will contribute to ensuring improved learning outcomes for children and youth through enhanced quality of education services in line with Lebanon's Five-Year General Education Plan (2021-2025).

Since 2017, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has launched various educational projects to support the Lebanese educational system. This current pilot project builds upon those efforts and aims to enhance the leadership and administrative capacities of Lebanese public school principals, equipping them with modern leadership skills, strategic planning, and self-evaluation. MEHE extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of Japan, JICA, UNOPS, and all those who will contribute to the success of this project, and looks forward to further technical cooperation in the future to support sustainable educational development in Lebanon.

Mr. Masayuki Magoshi, Ambassador of Japan in Lebanon, highlighted that "Japan considers that Lebanon's public education sector is central to the country's social and economic recovery, and a key investment in its youth and future. This JICA initiative is part of our continued support to ensure that students in Lebanon have access to a fostering learning environment and opportunities to reach their full potential."

Mr. Morihata Shingo, Chief Representative of JICA Jordan Office thanked MEHE for its longtime cooperation; "Since 2017, JICA has been working closely with MEHE to improve school-based management through dispatching experts and facilitating MEHE officials' study visit to Japan." He emphasized that "This new project not only addresses the urgent needs of schools affected by conflict, but also empowers school principals and school communities to lead their own development through schools-based management through SIP. We believe this approach will enhance learning outcomes, promote accountability, and strengthen resilience. "

"With a growing number of humanitarian crises and emergencies, it is imperative to respond to the needs of all those affected, including children," said Muhammad Usman Akram, Representative and Director of UNOPS Multi-country Office in Amman. He added, "The conflict has placed immense strain on the Government of Lebanon in provision of essential basic services. Together with JICA and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, through this project, UNOPS aims to contribute towards a brighter and better learning environment for children and the future generation of Lebanon."

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