

Municipality of Menjez



Assisting Reforestation and
forest Development Activities
in partnership with local
Communities



This project is financed by the
[European Union](#)

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[Ministry of Agriculture](#)

Implementing lead partner:
Land and Natural Resources
Program

[Institute of the Environment](#)
[University of Balamand](#)

In partnership with:
Municipality of Menjez

Starting Point

- To prepare a solid ground for establishing a joint participation of the Non-State Actor and the Local Authority in sustainable forestation and reforestation actions.
- To implement and promote pilot reforestation / afforestation activities in line with the 40 million trees program.
- To promote rural development, create opportunities for improved socio-economic livelihoods and poverty reduction, and increase the resilience of the local community, especially the most vulnerable villagers, and women in particular, through sustainable forestry management.

Institutional Setting

- Produce the Local Inventory Report (LIR) of LULUCF Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions/removals for the years 2014 up to 2018.
- Conduct reforestation/afforestation activities and demonstrate best approaches/methods of forest landscape restoration.



Approach

Selected Activities:

- Develop a resource management plan for the existing laurel forest, and prepare a feasibility study and business plan for the community-based enterprise.
- Conduct a training workshop to train local participants on collecting laurel seeds, and producing, planting and maintaining their seedlings.
- Conduct a training workshop to train women on processing laurel leaves and laurel oil.



Outputs:



- The training comprised theoretical and practical sessions on extraction of essential oil from laurel leaves using a distiller.

- Trainees acquired hands-on experience for future sustainable extraction of essential oil taking advantage of the existing laurel forest in Menjez.



Lessons

- Preserving the environment
- Benefiting economically from the natural assets rather than being burdened by it.
- A promising potential income source for the municipality and local workers.



Transfer

- Study in advance and planning of this practice, study the needs of the municipality by taking into account the conditions of its inhabitants and surroundings.
- Conduct economic census, gender assessment, and youth needs audit.