



Leaders for Democracy Fellows

Weekly Review and Evaluation Report

Week 3: October 14 - 20, 2013

I. Review of the Week

The third week of the Leaders for Democracy Fellows (LDF) program began with two days of vacation for the *Al-Adha* holiday. The rest of the week addressed the theme: “Leadership Building and Conflict Resolution.” Among the themes covered during this week were the Role of Leadership in Times of Transition, Management and Strategic Planning Skills, Conflict Resolution, and Third Party Intervention among others. One of the highlights of the program was a meeting with former Minister of Interior and Municipalities Ziyad Baroud who discussed with the participants the subject of leadership in times of transition as well as ethical issues faced by leaders in power.

During this week, the program also organized a meeting between Mr. Erik Ryan, Second Secretary and Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Coordinator at the US Embassy in Lebanon, and the LDF participants. The meeting was also attended by Ms. Arabella Barbir Bohsali, Grants Program Manager at the US Embassy. The meeting was an opportunity for participants to learn about MEPI’s history, its approach and its activities in the region. Participant asked many questions about the criteria for securing and the way to apply for MEPI and USAID grants. Participants were also interested in learning how local nongovernmental organizations can find out about MEPI funding opportunities and where to seek assistance in developing their proposal and how to ensure that they are addressing the criteria set by the funder. Mr. Ryan emphasized the importance of sustainability of projects and the need to see the MEPI grants as a way to implement effective projects at the local level that can benefit society as well as strengthen US-Arab civil society ties.

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This “Weekly Review and Evaluation Report” is prepared by the Lebanese American University (LAU) Leaders for Democracy Fellows Program (LDF) team. For additional information or any inquiries, please consult: <http://ldf.lau.edu.lb>

The week also included a review of the capstone project template and a discussion of points to be covered by the project proposal and budget. The capstone project is aimed at giving each of the participants an opportunity to develop a project that can benefit their community or country and that they can design and receive feedback on during their stay at LAU.

“I enjoyed the interaction a lot”

Former Minister Ziyad Baroud commenting on his interaction with the LDF participants following his session.

The week closed with a simulation on third party intervention in an international political conflict in which all participants played different roles and experienced a process of political mediation. This simulation was also an opportunity to review the role of primary and secondary parties, observers, enforcers as well as how to manage the media and violent developments that take place during conflict mediation.

Finally, the participants spent a day in the region of the *Chouf* and visited the historical village of *Deir El-Qamar* and the Palace of *Beit El Dine*, former residence of the Emirs (rulers) of Mount Lebanon. The palace is currently used in part as a museum and artistic venue and in part as the summer residence of the President of the Lebanese Republic. The presidential quarters are open for visits by the public when the President is not in the palace.

During the weekly evaluation, participants requested additional sessions in a number of areas including political communication, women and leadership in the MENA region, as well as advanced practical applications in social media. The program will attempt to address some of those needs. Similarly, participants were eager to receive additional reading references to those received from presenters and from LAU faculty. A list of readings on key themes covered during the training is being compiled and will be made available through the website to the group. Similarly, PowerPoint presentations will be made available to participants at the end of the program in both English and Arabic.

II. Workshops: Content and Evaluation

Although this week was shorter than usual due to the *Al-Adha* holiday, participants were eager to engage and debate on several issues with the speakers during the three days. As in previous weeks participants requested to stay in touch with key speakers and sought further information on various topics. They also began using the library for their capstone projects. Below are selected pictures and a summary of the evaluations per session, broken down by subject.



LDF participants with Former Minister H.E. Ziyad Baroud



Dr. Josiane Sreih during the Management Skills Workshop



Simulation group work in the presence of Dr. Makram Ouais

(5: Excellent, 4= Very Good, 3= Good, 2= Fair, 1= Unsatisfactory)

| | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|---------------------------------|--|----|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Human Rights in the MENA region | 1 Speaker Presentation Skills | 12 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| | 2 Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| | 3 Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | 11 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 4 How do you rate the quality of the information presented | 9 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | 5 Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 8 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| | 6 Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 7 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 |

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| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|---|----------|--|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| The Role of Leadership in Political Transitions | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 18 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | 18 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | 17 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 15 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 16 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Introduction Capstone Project | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 10 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 2 | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | 10 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | 11 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 4 | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | 11 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 9 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 9 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|----------------------------|----------|--|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Management Skills Workshop | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 11 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| | 2 | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | 7 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| | 4 | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | 8 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| | | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 7 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 8 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|--------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Strategic Planning | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 7 | 7 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | 4 | 6 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | 9 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | 7 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 7 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 7 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Introduction to Conflict Resolution | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | 10 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | 12 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | 8 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 8 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 8 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|--|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Introduction to Third Party Intervention | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | | | | | | |
| | 2 | | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | | | | | | |
| | 3 | | 11 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | | | | | | |
| | 4 | | 11 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 11 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | Question | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | N/A |
|------------|----------|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Simulation | 1 | Speaker Presentation Skills | 12 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2 | Quality of Power Point and handouts (if applicable) | 12 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 3 | Relevance of the subject to the LDF Program | 12 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 4 | How do you rate the quality of the information presented | 11 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 5 | Presentation Benefit to your knowledge | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | 6 | Was the discussion/exercise helpful | 11 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

III. LDF Internship/Capstone Project Update

During the past week, LAU began finalizing agreements with host organizations for the internship component of the LDF program. All participants have now been allocated to one of 17 organizations. Furthermore, the LAU team finalized the capstone project template which was discussed with the fellows during a session with Internship Coordinator Dr. Marwan Rowayheb. Each capstone project is to be designed as a mini-proposal and include a small budget. Projects will be aimed at having a positive impact in their communities or country.

Fellows will develop their capstone projects with the support of the LAU faculty, drawing on the university and library resources. Each fellow will be expected in the last week of the program to defend their written proposal and budget in front of a committee of LAU faculty who will provide feedback on the project and suggestions on ways to better focus the proposal, ensure that it is realistic in its goals and activities as well as includes a solid evaluation section and budget.

Finally, preparations began for the internship briefings that will take place next week.

IV. Review of Operational Progress

During the past week, the LDF Iraqi participant had to leave the program unexpectedly due to a car accident that occurred with members of his family. The LDF program will attempt to accommodate the fellow back into the internship program if he is able to come back in time.

Participants also began making arrangements for the LDF Alumni meeting that will be taking place in Turkey between December 12 and 17, 2013.

All participants were part of the successful visit to the *Chouf* district.



Group photos during this week's outing to *Beiteddine area and palace, Chouf District*

V. Program Outreach

During the third week, the LDF team continued working on a draft of the English LDF website, which is almost complete. Once launched, the English version will soon be followed by the Arabic version.

Former Minister of Interior and Municipalities Ziyad Baroud and Academic Coordinator Dr. Makram Ouais were interviewed for an article which will be soon published in the LAU Magazine and available on the university website.