

## **Lebanon Enterprise and Employment Programme – LEEP**

The Lebanon Enterprise and Employment Programme (LEEP) supports Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to help grow their business and increase employment by providing funding and Business Development Services (BDS). LEEP partners with Financial Institutions such as BLC Bank to enhance the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) access to finance, stimulate growth-oriented financing and provide them with quality business development services.

LEEP matches up to 50% of business loans ranging between \$8,000 and \$75,000, taken since November 19, 2018 onwards.

The program is funded by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID)/UK Aid and implemented by Palladium.

Being one of LEEP's main partners, BLC Bank is proud to provide a program supporting SMEs allowing them to grow their business and increase employment. In fact, BLC bank offers this program based on the following the below criteria:

- Ongoing profitable Lebanese owned businesses with operations in Lebanon,
- Willing to accept business development and advisory services from BLC Bank,
- Having less than 50 employees and maximum of 5 billion LBP of yearly turnover
- And most importantly willing to create at least 1 job within a period of 3 months and 2 jobs within a period of 6 months.

Although Lebanon is facing extraneous circumstances, making it difficult for Businesses to maintain production, sustain employees and survive this crisis, we are pleased to announce that BLC Bank has received more than 135 applications, of which:

- More than 90 SMEs were able to already benefit from LEEP through BLC Bank, and more than 20 applicants are still in the pipeline
- 17.7% of the business BLC Bank catered too are women owned business
- More than USD 1,400,000 was disbursed by LEEP via BLC Bank
- More than 260 jobs were created through this program.

Should you be interested in benefiting from the LEEP program, do not hesitate to contact us by emailing us on [leep@blcbank.com](mailto:leep@blcbank.com)