



**REPUBLIC OF LEBANON**  
**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH**



Project funded by the  
European Union

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The Ministry of Public Health with the European Union and in partnership with the World Health Organization supports healthcare services in Rashayya with the “Mother and Child Health Care” Initiative**

BEKAA, Rashayya, 19 September 2014 (WHO): The Ministry of Public Health today launched a “Mother and Child Health Care” Initiative which aims to provide quality primary healthcare services to hundreds of mothers and children throughout Lebanon.

The initiative, which was inaugurated by the Minister of Public Health, Mr. Wael Abou Faour at the participating Rashayya Public Hospital, is part of a 20 million euro Instrument for Stability (IfS) Project “*Conflict Reduction through Improving Healthcare Services for the vulnerable population in Lebanon*”, funded by the European Union.

The “Mother and Child Health Care” initiative is led by the Ministry of Public Health and implemented by the World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with the Makassed Philanthropic Organization. In Rashayya, the project will capacitate four primary healthcare centres linked to the Rashayya Governmental Hospital with full healthcare services for non-insured pregnant women living in the area, including antenatal and delivery services in addition to child healthcare and vaccination for children up to twenty four months of age.

The “Maternal and Child Health Care” initiative is a critical component of the EU IfS Project, which is managed and administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The project aims to alleviate the impact of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon by strengthening the public healthcare system’s capacity to manage communicable diseases to provide quality primary healthcare services and to ensure adequate provision of vaccines and medications throughout Lebanon in a conflict sensitive approach.

The Instrument for Stability project engages a range of organisations under the leadership of the Ministry of Public Health and is implemented principally through WHO. Other participating agencies include UNICEF, International Relief and Development, and International Alert.





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