



THE LOCALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL AID IN THE WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR IN LEBANON



Working Group No. 2 :

THE INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL NGOs IN THE WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR IN LEBANON



THEME

There is a consensus on the need to strengthen the role of local Non-Governmental Organizations in the humanitarian sector.

Strengthening the role of NGOs is not only perceived as a guarantee to better assess needs but also to improve the understanding and acceptance of projects by the beneficiaries. It also provides an answer to current security challenges.

Despite the existence of a consensus around the need to strengthen the role of local NGOs, the latter only receive 1.6% of funds allocated to NGOs in the humanitarian sector. Furthermore, they are only partially associated in the aid provided by international NGOs.

Several practical factors may explain this gap such as:

- Time constraints
- Difficult identification of local NGOs
- Language barrier

Moreover, donors and international NGOs highlight their fear that the humanitarian principles will not be respected by these local NGOs. The latter are perceived as partisan and respond to political, community or confessional logics.

Strengthening the role of local NGOs also raises the question of the partnerships form. The absence of consultation of these structures during the project set-up phase and the recourse to sub-contracts creates a sense of being perceived as beneficiaries of the project and not as real partners.

Strengthening the role of local NGOs also poses the threat of the loss of the territorial anchoring of these NGOs and the impoverishment of the organizational fabric's diversity.

OBJECTIVES

This working group constitutes a meeting space between local NGOs and international actors in order to discuss and debate on:

- The difficulties faced by international actors and local NGOs;
- The role that these local NGOs might play in the water sector;
- The involvement of local NGOs in the aid coordination mechanisms;
- Questioning existing funding arrangements for local NGOs.

PUBLIC

Working groups are organized within the framework of [LEWAP](#) platform, facilitated by pS-Eau. They bring together actors, with notable expertise in the field of water and sanitation, interested in sharing their experiences and discussing their practices.