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ANJAR
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ANJAR'S WILDFIRE PREVENTION

Submitted by – Environmental Committee, Municipality of Anjar



THE VILLAGE

Located in Zahle District, Bekaa Governorate of Lebanon.



RACHAIYA CORRIDOR PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Lebanon Reforestation Initiative (LRI), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by the US Forest Service International Programs (USFS-IP), is focusing its efforts on the reforestation of Social and Environmental Corridors (SECs), linking existing forests with recently reforested areas to create safe biocorridors for wildlife, expanding green areas and building stronger relationships between diverse neighboring communities to better manage their shared resources.

The Rachaiya SEC starts in Rachaiya and extends to reach Anjar. Its Corridor Planning Committee, composed of members of the Municipalities and communities have developed a strategic plan to fill the corridor gaps, enhance natural resource conservation and responsible rural tourism, and raise environmental awareness, in collaboration with the civil society, public, and private sectors.



THE WILDFIRE PREVENTION

IN ANJAR, 45,000 native tree seedlings have been planted by the Lebanon Reforestation Initiative over the years. Since 2013, three big wildfires have erupted in Anjar's forest. Fortunately, the community was able to extinguish the fires with smoke extinguishers. However the risk of fires is increasing and this has prompted Anjar's environmental committee to form a plan to prevent future wildfires and preserve the forest and trees.



THE PLAN

- Purchasing a firefighting truck, maintain it in a good ready-to-use state and park it in the forest.
- Building two towers in two strategic locations. These towers will allow the community to monitor the forest and quickly respond in case of a fire.
- Training the community on firefighting techniques and enhance their skills to prevent/ fight fires.
- Equipping Anjar's municipality with three weeding machines to clean wild grass to prevent fires to spread from one area to another.



TOTAL BUDGET REQUIRED: \$30,500