

## Awareness Campaign "Stories from our village"

### Workshop second phase – December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013

The National Observatory for Women in Agriculture and Rural Areas - NOWARA – and the Italian NGO CTM Onlus, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Culture and the Italian Development Cooperation, have organized the second workshop for directors and counselors of elementary schools in Lebanon who had participated in the campaign "Stories from our village", implemented with "Les Amis des Marionnettes" in the framework of the project "Socio-economic development of the rural population of southern Lebanon". This workshop, held on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 in the conference room of the Ministry of Education in Beirut, has involved 14 public schools selected by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 6 awarded schools during the first phase of the campaign, and 30 public libraries selected by the Ministry of Culture.

The workshop was an opportunity to present and deliver the CD-ROM that contains the campaign's song and 7 stories recorded by professional actors. The stories were written and finalized by students from 6 schools after a competition for the best dialogue story, which was organized during the first phase of the campaign and saw the participation of 24 schools from all over Lebanon. In addition, a book of stories was distributed to the participants in order to choose a story with the students, develop and submit it during the last phase of the campaign. Furthermore, the schools' representatives have played some of the various stories in the book that address many social issues such as the protection of sea turtles; beach cleaning; elections and the role of women; the importance of cultural and sports center, and other topics. In addition, the public libraries have received materials in order to develop the educational project and help the application of this activity in schools. This campaign aims to raise awareness of the new generations about the importance of the development of rural areas, as well as it highlights the role of women in development and rural family, in addition to the promotion of questions concerning gender equality and maintenance of the heritage and traditions.

