

### Article: Training course of 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013

In the framework of the project “Socio-economic development of the rural population of southern Lebanon”, the National Observatory for Women in Agriculture and Rural Areas -NOWARA and the Italian NGO-CTM Onlus, have presented/supported a special nine-day training program in Zahle focused on the enhancement of women’s skills and capacities in business management. The training program targeted 36 women entrepreneurs and members of cooperatives from different rural areas in the Bekaa, and aimed to offer education courses in management, marketing, finance, accounting, and law, held and taught by professional experts in the field.

On 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013, Ms. Yelda Sakr held the fifth course of the training program which addressed the question of women and business law, and succeeded in boosting women’s insights for this area. The course, which attracted 24 participants, was carried out in an interesting and accurate way, using Power Point slides, participating and listening to discussions, and organizing two different workshops in which the women were divided in 7 groups.

Ms Sakr gave special attention on legal framework for business development, and on relevant matters and challenges that women face in their daily lives and works. She also emphasized the presence of discrimination against Women in some Lebanese laws (especially nationality law and the recognition of the role of women farmers), and mentioned some legal obstacles faced by women at work. Moreover, she addressed a great variety of topics related to traders, institutions and individual companies, legal risks, labor law and issues, bankruptcy, contracts, etc.

Although, during the course, several questions have been asked by the participants especially about issues regarding the registration of traders and institutions in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, rent contract, women's rights in selling stocks, will and inheritance, associations’ registration for social security, etc. These discussions have succeeded in enriching the lesson and the women’s knowledge.