

## **NOWARA PRESENTED “NOWARA AWARD 2013” AND “THE BEST STORY ABOUT WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS” IN HORECA**

The National Observatory for Women in Agriculture and Rural Areas – NOWARA – has held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, in NOWARA’s stand L15-L19 in HORECA exhibition at Biel, the ceremony of **“NOWARA Award 2013” – an Annual National Award for the best economic initiative carried out by women in the Lebanese rural areas**, in its third edition and allocated this year to women involved in cooperatives, and the ceremony for **“the Best story about women in rural areas”** offered to students of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades of Lebanese public schools, who participated in the awareness campaign “Stories from our village”, implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education since 2012.

The ceremonies were attended by Mrs. Wafa’a Dikah Hamzé – NOWARA founder member – the Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture Mr. Louis Lahoud; the Director General of the Ministry of Industry Mr. Dani Jadaoun; Ms. Vera Zaytouni representing the Director General of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education; H.E. Mr. Giuseppe Morabito, Ambassador of Italy in Lebanon; and Mr. Cristiano Pasini – UNIDO Representative in Lebanon, and the Italian NGO CTM Onlus – who have presented NOWARA Award 2013 to Ms. Samira Zogheib, member of Kfarzebian Women cooperative and winner of the food processing category, and Dr. Raghida El Masri, member of Zadat Al Khairat cooperative winner of the food catering category. They had also delivered the certificates to the six public elementary schools – Al Fawar, Al Hilaliyeh, Al Marwaniyeh, Al Smaiyeih, Kawakaba and Kfarfakoud schools – in the presence of Les Amis des Marionnettes.

“NOWARA Award” and the awareness campaign “Stories from our village” are organized in the framework of the project “Socio-economic development of the rural population of southern Lebanon”, promoted by NOWARA and CTM Onlus, in partnership with the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture, and co-funded by the Italian Development Cooperation. This year, NOWARA Award is supported by the project CELEP for the empowerment of local communities, implemented by UNIDO and ICU, funded by the Italian Development Cooperation.