Annual Review - Summary Sheet

PROGRAMME TITLE: Lebanon CSSF Security Programme		
Country/Region:	Lebanon	
HMG Partners (LEAD in bold)	**Foreign and Commonwealth Office**, Ministry Of Defence, Home Office	
Total Budget:	ODA: £4m	Non-ODA: £11.43m
Start Date: 1 April 2016		**End Date:** 31 March 2017

Outputs	Score
1. External security	A
2. Internal security	A
3. Minimising violent extremism	A

Outcome:
1. Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) able to manage its land border with Syria.
2. LAF and Internal Security Forces better able to manage internal security threats arising from domestic tensions, community cohesion and presence of refugees in Beirut.
3. Minimising the influence of extremist groups on vulnerable communities.

Outcome Score: N/A	**Risk:** High

Summary of Programme Performance

Year	15/16	16/17						
Programme Score	**A**	**A**						
Risk Rating	**High**	**High**						

What support is the UK providing?

The UK is providing a total of over £41m (FY 2015-19) in support of National Security Council (NSC) Strategy Objective 3 to build Lebanese capacity to tackle threats to Lebanon and mitigate spill over from the Syria crisis. This support is given in three complementary areas: building the capacity of the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) primarily to secure borders; building the capacity of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) and Lebanese Armed Forces primarily to manage domestic tension and build community cohesion; and supporting local peacebuilding and countering violent extremism (CVE) projects.

Summary of progress and lessons learnt/actions taken since last review

Overall, the programme is performing well in a difficult operating environment.

Support to the LAF training of significant numbers of troops in Urban Ops and Rural Ops (for the Land Border Regiments) has continued steadily throughout this annual review period. Also significant is the successful deployment of the 3rd Land Border Regiment (3 LBR), establishing Lebanese state control along 70% of the border with Syria and starting the deployment of the 4th Land Border Regiment (4 LBR).

The review period also saw the development and finalisation of the LAF National Security Assistance Project Programme Delivery Plan. This forms the basis of UK support to the LAF, through to 2019, securing the border with Syria, in accordance with the UK Strategy for Lebanon 2017 to 2020.

The British Police Support Programme (BPSP) has continued to strengthen key relationships at senior level, ensuring that there is a real commitment and sense of ownership that will be crucial to delivering successful changes over the next two years of the project. Progress has been made for the roll-out of community policing to begin in earnest in the next year. Similarly, significant steps have been achieved on a public order manual, and towards bringing in new training curricula that should contribute to long term change in Internal Security Forces (ISF) practices.

Two innovative peacebuilding projects were initiated during the year in question. Both are extensions of pilot projects and work on local level, in distinctive but linked ways: through engaging young people, religious leaders and through working on dialogue, diversity and cohesion. Both have made good progress.

Further to recommendations in the last annual review, this year has seen the arrival of a Police Advisor at the Embassy who is engaging with the programme team and helping to build UK government relationships with the ISF and Ministry of Interior (MoI). The Police Advisor has contributed to challenge the theory of change and organises a coordination committee with other international actors. In addition, good progress has been made on strengthening monitoring and evaluation across the programme, through the development of a plan with the regional Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning team and the commissioning of a range of analysis and reviews. A senior level Strategic Project Management Committee has been set up this year and the CSSF team is working on coordinating with other major donors through it in the next financial year.

Summary of recommendations for the next year

- Overall, the programme is moving in the right direction in terms of its focus on outcomes and mutually supportive programme strands.

- The UK's support to border security has been highly successful. Moving forward, the British Embassy Beirut, along with partners, should develop a sustainability plan and exit strategy. The plan should consider options and focus on finding the right balance between LAF ownership and capacity, and UK support to maximise on its investments.

- On internal security, The British Police Support Programme (BPSP) is poised to deliver well in the year ahead; the year under review was a year primarily of groundwork, planning and strategy. The review team recommends careful prioritisation for the rest of FY 2017/18. If the BPSP is extended beyond the current project, the CSSF team should tender the project in order to invite some competition and added scrutiny on Value for Money (VfM).

- On preventative security, there is currently limited attention paid to this sub-strand in the programme document. The review recommends, with Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning support, the development of a clear strategic plan for this sub-strand, to include ongoing needs assessment, development of a theory of change, market analysis, research and evidence, and evaluation.

- The British Embassy Beirut team has done a good job of stepping up on monitoring and evaluation, evidence and learning. This includes planning an independent evaluation. It will be important to ensure that lessons learned from this programme are widely shared and used. As well as being security and defence projects, this is a programme very much in line with emerging thinking on Thinking & Working Politically and should be recognised as such.

- On gender, the development of gender analysis and a gender strategy remains outstanding from FY 15/16 although the development of a gender champions network overseen by the Ambassador sends a powerful message.