



Press Release

(Beirut, 17th of April 2006). The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Lebanese Council for Development & Reconstruction (CDR), Balamand University, Fares Foundation and the Union of Jouma Municipalities, invite you to attend the launching ceremony of the geographic, economic and social survey of Jouma area in Akkar in **the presence of H.E. Mr. Jean Ogasapian, Minister of State for Administrative Reform, H.E. Mr. Yaacoub Al Sarraf, Minister of Environment, and the North Parliamentarians, on Wednesday the 19th of April 2006, at 10:00 am at the UN House, Conference Hall B1, Riad Al Solh Square, Beirut.**

There will be presentation for the outcomes of the geographic, economic and social survey. This study aims at enhancing balanced development and reducing poverty in one of the most deprived areas in Lebanon. Regarding the families included in this study, they reached around 4900 living in 18 villages of the Akkar area.

The survey covered the demographic and educational fields, work, employment and financial incomes, in addition to the families' social and health aspect, in order to identify the size of problems to be tackled by the Municipalities.

The ceremony will include statements by UNDP Resident Representative Dr. Mona Hammam, President of Fares Foundation Dr. Paul Salem, and President of the Jouma's Municipalities Union, CDR Representative, and the President of Balamand University.

The ceremony will be followed by a map exhibition in the open hall.

For Further Information please contact UNDP at 01/978702.