



UNITED NATIONS
LEBANON



United Nations in Lebanon 2022 results report



Foreword

Faced with the impact of the economic and financial crisis, political paralysis and the continued repercussions of the Syrian crisis, 2022 continued to be a difficult year for Lebanon. Triple-digit inflation and sharp devaluation of the Lebanese pound, a health crisis resulting in a cholera outbreak, consistent environmental challenges, lack of full-time electricity and poor governance risking a collapse of public institutions are just a few of the challenges that have degraded the well-being of the population to historic lows.

With \$1.58 billion available in 2022, the United Nations focused on reducing the negative effects of such crises on the population by delivering key results in the social, economic, peace governance and environmental priority areas. This report provides further details on the results achieved through this work in 2022, breaks down available funding and highlights funding gaps. We, the United Nations in Lebanon, could not have done this work without the generous support of our donor and civil society partners, as well as public servants in state institutions.

Key results of our work highlighted in this report include: support for the consultative process and finalization of the National Social Protection Strategy, support to ensure the continued functioning of 272 health facilities and 350 water stations through the distribution of 10.4 million litres of fuel, setting up of the Whistleblower Office, properly equipping electoral polling stations for parliamentary elections, the installation of 3.026 megawatts of additional capacity in renewable energy and support enabling 568,677 children to receive public formal education through covered costs.

While these results have impacted the lives of thousands of people living in Lebanon, their effects will remain limited if not accompanied by much-needed reforms to help put Lebanon back on the path towards economic recovery, which in turn will help build trust to ensure progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and a development agenda for Lebanon. Indeed, development is the only way to sustainably address the challenges we see today. The United Nations commits to being a key partner cooperating with the country and the Government to achieve this transformational change.

Figure 1. Resident Coordinator for Lebanon, Imran Riza, meeting beneficiaries in Tripoli at a training event on agro-food processing held at the Industrial Development and Research Agri-Center (IDRAC) of the Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture of Tripoli (CCIAT) Center and supported by the United Nations Productive Sectors Development Programme



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The United Nations will strive towards greater efficiency and impact given the financial context and availability of funds, while always maintaining its own transparency and accountability to Lebanon. Moving forward, the 2023-2025 Cooperation Framework will guide the development work of the United Nations in the country and enhance the partnership with the Government.

Imran Riza

*UN Resident and Humanitarian
Coordinator for Lebanon*

Contents

Foreword	2
Overview: results of the United Nations in Lebanon in 2022	7
1. Introduction to the United Nations Country Team	11
2. Introduction to partners	12
3. Key developments in the country	14
4. Results of the United Nations working together	20
A. Social	20
B. Economic	32
C. Peace and governance.....	37
D. Environment	45
5. Financial overview	48
6. Way forward	49
List of figures	51
List of boxes	53
Acronyms	54
Endnotes.....	55

Overview: results of the United Nations in Lebanon in 2022

With \$1.663 billion available in 2022, the United Nations in Lebanon continued to provide immediate lifesaving and more medium-term support in its four main priority areas: social, economic, peace and governance and environment. Although the United Nations sought to achieve sustainable results, these will remain limited if much-needed reforms do not take place.

An overview of the results of efforts made by the United Nations through the implementation of the Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF), the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) can be found below.

Social

Health

- 181 health centres and healthcare providers (primary health care centres, hospitals, nurseries, private sector, non-governmental) increased their capacities to provide higher quality services through trainings, coverage of costs, equipment and other support.
- 272 health facilities remained functional for several months as a result of 5.1 million litres of fuel distributed in 26 districts in eight governorates.
- 1,990,552 consultations and hospital admissions were supported for vulnerable people.
- 1,150,000 people received the cholera vaccine.

Education

- 280 educational institutions damaged by the Beirut port explosion were rehabilitated.
- 16 public school libraries damaged by the Beirut port explosion were rehabilitated.
- 66,944 children and young people received non-formal education to avoid being left behind by their peers.
- 568,677 children enrolled in public formal education had their education-related costs subsidized.

Water and sanitation

- 350 water stations remained functional for several months as a result of 5.3 million litres of fuel distributed in 21 districts in eight governorates.
- Continuity of public water supply systems was maintained through urgent repairs carried out in over 600 water stations under the four regional water establishments.
- 266,687 Syrian residents in informal settlements were supported with safe drinking water supplies.

Housing and urban policy

- 25,870 people gained increased access to adequate housing and urban services, in accordance with international human rights standards.
- 287,954 individuals benefited from improved shelter conditions in informal settlements, non-residential buildings and shelters that meet humanitarian standards.
- Six public spaces in the blast-affected port areas were rehabilitated.

Social protection and basic assistance

- Finalization of the National Social Protection Strategy that was drafted through an in-depth consultation process.
- Completion of the Haddi child grant and launch of national consultations for the design of a National Child Grant.
- Agreement on High-level Design Note for the National Disability Allowance between the Ministry of Social Affairs, the ILO and UNICEF, and the beginning of development of operational modalities.
- Completion of the revision of draft legislation for reform of the end-of-service indemnity at the National Social Security Fund into a pension scheme at the parliamentary sub-committee. Development of a transitional arrangement for the End-of-Service Indemnity scheme to sustain minimum guarantees under old-age benefits with NSSF and Ministry of Labour (MoL).
- 548 Government and non-governmental organization (NGO) staff gained increased social protection capacities.
- 1,559,993 individuals were better able to meet their basic non-food needs by receiving unconditional cash assistance.

- 312,769,965 cash-based transfers of dollars disbursed for unconditional cash assistance.

Food and nutrition

- 1,516,938 individuals were better able to cover their basic food needs by receiving unconditional cash assistance.
- 396,768 Lebanese individuals were better able to cover food needs through in-kind food assistance.
- 70,508 schoolchildren received support through school snacks, increasing overall food consumption and improving access to education.

Protection and mental health

- 275,049 people benefited from protection cash assistance to prevent, mitigate and reduce the impact of protection threats.
- 118,666 people's protection risks and/or issues were partly addressed through specialized services to mitigate their protection risks.



Economic

Business support

- The first trade guide was developed explaining steps and procedures needed to export.
- More than 50 agri-food and agriculture businesses were able access to international markets through the Lebanon Export Academy.
- Lebanon Exports was created as an export platform, connecting Lebanese micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the agriculture and agri-food sectors with regional and international buyers and promoting made-in-Lebanon products.
- 592 private sector entities (including MSMEs) innovated their business practices.

- 28,745 farmers gained increased production capacity and better access to markets.
- 101 Agricultural cooperatives/associations accessed grants totalling \$336,429 upon approval of their respective business plans.

Jobs and entrepreneurship

- 24,765 people increased their income in the short term by engaging in income-generating activities.
- 10,023 people gained improved access to skills and lifelong learning programmes.

Figure 2. Aida is a Palestinian refugee living in Al Rashidieh camp in Lebanon who helped train over 100 women to grow vegetables on their home's rooftops. She was one of nine women leading the fight against climate change and featured in the UN Lebanon IWD campaign, in 2022



© UN Women Lebanon/Lauren Rooney - March 2022



Peace and governance

Accountability, transparency and effectiveness of state institutions

- The National Commission for Lebanese Women established an online platform to digitize the data collection on women, peace and security.
- The Lebanese Women and Children's Parliamentary Committee developed a comprehensive list of all gender legislation submitted to parliament over the last decade.
- 47 media practitioners were trained in identifying and debunking fake news (including 10 from the National News Agency).
- UN-Habitat and ESCWA published the State of the Lebanese Cities [report](#), advocating for an urban bias to policy deliberations about crisis response, recovery, and longer-term development in Lebanon.
- The 2022 Citizen Budget was completed and [published](#) in both English and Arabic languages on the Institute of Finance website in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and UN.
- A rapid impact assessment was completed and [launched](#) to document and analyse the repercussions of the ongoing crisis on Lebanon's state institutions and line ministries to operate and deliver public services.

Anti-corruption

- First comprehensive Anti-Corruption Code in Lebanon launched by the National Anti-Corruption Commission entitled “Fighting and Preventing Corruption: Between Legislation, Judgments and Doctrine”. The code compiles all laws, judgments, and doctrines ever developed in Lebanon.
- Lebanon’s United Nations Convention Against Corruption self-assessment report was finalized by the Legal Compliance Task Team with the active participation of specialized civil society organizations.
- The first National Youth Task Team was established to support the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.
- The Whistleblower Office was established and equipped to operate with increased capacity regarding activation of the whistleblower protection law.

Elections

- Supplies were procured for electoral polling stations (18,000 polling booths, 25,000 units of indelible ink and 150,000 packets of visibility materials).
- A national voter education media campaign was created and developed on behalf of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Supervisory Commission for Elections.
- Supervisory Commission for Elections recruited 30 media monitors, increasing its overall capacity.

Justice and human rights

- The National Human Rights Commission’s capacities increased through the development of its website and online complaint form, the development of Commission’s organigram (and associated terms of references) and coordination and advocacy efforts with other stakeholders to strengthen the functioning of the Commission.

- A database/management tool, a judicial evaluation methodology and an inspection methodology were developed by High Judicial Council (HJC).
- 102,538 people were able to access justice through legal services.
- 690 prisoners were ensured basic services including health.

Security, law enforcement and social stability

- Due to the impact of the economic crisis on the defence and security forces, international support extended for a second consecutive year to emergency and livelihood aids, in addition to developing Lebanese security institutions’ capabilities.
- The first Air Cargo Control Unit became operational at Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut.
- A training curriculum for ISF was developed on the sexual harassment law (205).
- The Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) increased the capacity of its Navy regarding maritime domain awareness and maritime law enforcement capabilities to prevent illicit trafficking of all kinds.
- Maintained LAF’s operational activities South of Litani, with non-lethal support such as fuel, food, and medicine.
- Over 200 municipalities in Lebanon began adhering to at least one element of the municipal police reform programme.
- In 45 municipalities, self-functioning conflict mitigation mechanisms were established that identify root causes of tension and mitigate conflicts at the municipal level and including all community representatives.
- 118 women peacebuilders and mediators worked jointly to address conflict and promote dialogue and reconciliation in Lebanon.



Climate change

- 3,026 megawatts of additional capacity was gained in installed renewable energy, primarily solar energy.
- 6,330 tons of CO₂ equivalent emissions were reduced.
- Potential yearly reduction of CO₂ equivalent emission by 8,300 tons, water consumption reduced by 18,700 m³, waste generation by 4,344 tons and energy by 30,233 megawatts in seven industrial companies.
- 367 hectares of degraded forest were under rehabilitation and restoration.

Environment and pollution

- 14.1 per cent reduction in the consumption of ozone depleting substances (in ozone depletion potential tons) reduced from 2021.
- Two general rangeland management plans, two sustainable tourism master plans and one policy gap analysis about mainstreaming circular practices and sustainability principles in industrial zones were developed.
- 1,785 people directly benefited from initiatives to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources.
- Safe management of 150,000 tons of mixed rubble generated from buildings affected by the Beirut port explosion.

Figure 3. Thyme harvesting and collection



© FAO Lebanon/Hadi Bou Ayash

1. Introduction to the United Nations Country Team



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



International Labour Organization



IOM
UN MIGRATION



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UN HABITAT



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



UNIC Beirut

unicef



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



UNOPS



unrwa
الأونروا



UNSCOL



UNTSO



UN
VOLUNTEERS



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



World Health
Organization

2. Introduction to partners

Government and public institutions: Central Administration of Statistics, the Civil Service Board, governors' offices, the High Judicial Council, the Institute of Finance, the Internal Security Forces, the Lebanese Armed Forces, the Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute, the Lebanese Civil Defense, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Energy and Water, the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the municipal police, the municipalities and Unions of Municipalities, the National Commission for Lebanese Women, the National Employment Office (NEO), the National Human Rights Commission, the National Social Security Fund, the Office of the Minister of State for Administration Reform, primary health-care centres (PHC), social development centres, water establishments, and the Whistleblower Office.

NGOs and foundations: ABAAD-Resource Center for Gender Equality, Arcenciel, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Akkarouna, Al Majmouaa, Makassed Philanthropic Islamic Association of Beirut, Lebanese Association for Human Promotion and Literacy (ALPHA), Amel Association, American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), the Arab Resource Center for Popular Arts (ARCPA), Caritas Lebanon, the Children Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL), the Development for People and Nature Association (DPNA), Forum of the Handicapped Association (FOH), Himaya, KAFA, LebRelief, the Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Woman (LECORVAW), the LEE Experience, the Lebanese Organization of Studies and Training (LOST), Lebanon Reforestation Initiative (LRI), the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities (LUPD), Mada, Makhzoumi, the Menonite Central Committee (MCC), Mouvement Social, Naba'a, Association Nabad for Development (NABAD), National Rehabilitation and Development Center (NRDC), Nusaned, Orphan Welfare Society (OWS), Restart Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture and Violence (RESTART Lebanon),

René Mouawad Foundation (RMF), Sawa for Development and Aid (SAWA), the SHEILD Association (SHEILD), Supportive Housing for Young Adults (SHIFT), Soins Infirmiers de Développement Communautaire (SIDC), Union Pour la Protection de l'Enfance au Liban (UPEL), the Youth Association of the Blind (YAB) and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA).

International NGOs and foundations: Action Against Hunger Spain (ACF), the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED), Associazione Volontari per Servizio Internazionale (AVSI), Borderless, CARE International, Concern, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Education Cannot Wait (ECW), First Step Together Association (FISTA), Gruppo Di Volontariato Civile (GVC), Handicap International (HI), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Orthodox Christian Charities Lebanon (IOCC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), INTERSOS, Medair, Mercy USA, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), AMI Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), Relief International (RI), Right to Play, the Syrian American Medical Society Foundation (SAMS), Save the Children International (SCI), SOLIDARITÉS INTERNATIONALE, Tabitha-Dorcas, Terre des Hommes Italia (TdH-It), Terre des Hommes Lebanon (TdH-L), War Child Holland (WCH), World Learning and World Vision International (WVI).

Private sector associations: Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI), the Beirut Bar Association (BBA), the General Confederation of Lebanon Workers (CGTL), the Lebanese Order of Midwives (LOM), the Lebanese Society of Obstetrics Gynecology (LSOG), the Social Workers' Syndicate in Lebanon (SWSL) and the National Federation of Worker and Employee Trade Unions in Lebanon (FENASOL), the Order of Physicians, the Order of Nurses.

International financial institutions: International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank (WB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).



AUSTRALIA



AUSTRIA



*BELGIUM



*CANADA



CHINA



CYPRUS



*DENMARK



THE EUROPEAN UNION



FINLAND



*FRANCE



*GERMANY



*ICELAND



*IRELAND



ITALY



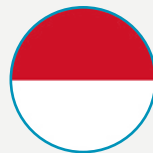
JAPAN



KUWAIT



LUXEMBOURG



MONACO



NETHERLANDS



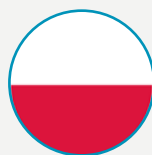
NEW ZEALAND



NORWAY



OMAN



POLAND



PRIVATE DONORS



QATAR



SAUDI ARABIA



SPAIN



*REPUBLIC OF KOREA



*SWEDEN



*SWITZERLAND



THE UNITED KINGDOM



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



OTHERS

*Donors that contributed to Lebanon-based pooled funds.

3. Key developments in the country

Since late 2019, Lebanon has suffered a socio-economic crisis so severe that its previous classification as a high middle-income country changed; Lebanon in 2022 was classified as a low-middle-income country. The crisis has impacted almost all aspects of people's lives in Lebanon, including the country's economy and its environment. Currency depreciation (98 per cent) since October 2019 continued to drive skyrocketing inflation, which reached 171.2 per cent in 2022.¹ Inflation directly impacts the most vulnerable people in society, hitting them the hardest as they are forced to make difficult trade-offs to cope with the sharp decline of purchasing power and livelihoods.

Amid the deepening economic and financial crisis, the Mikati-led Government re-engaged the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and reached a staff-level agreement in April 2022. The Government committed to implementing a range of prior actions to prepare for an eventual IMF program. Due to ongoing disagreements between political and financial stakeholders, progress was slow and there is as yet no clear plan for economic recovery and macro-economic stability.



A. Political

After a period of political uncertainty and despite the challenging conditions, Lebanon held parliamentary elections in May to elect 128 members to a four-year term. The overall voter turnout, including out-of-country voters, reached 49.2 per cent, compared with 49.7 per cent in 2018. Eight women were elected, up from six in 2018. Electoral observers encouraged strengthening the electoral process including through campaign finance reform, independent oversight and measures to increase women's political representation.

Municipal elections, scheduled to coincide with the parliamentary elections, were postponed until May 2023.

In June, President Aoun held parliamentary consultations to identify the next Prime Minister to form a Government, resulting in the designation of Najib Mikati. President Aoun and the Prime Minister-designate were unable to agree on the composition of a new Government before the end of the six-year presidential term on 31 October, prolonging the Cabinet's caretaker status that it had assumed since the parliamentary elections. The Parliament convened ten times to elect a President without success, creating an unprecedented, multilayered executive vacuum. The devolution of presidential prerogatives to a caretaker cabinet faced political opposition, which increased existing tensions and polarization in Lebanon.

The independence of the judiciary remains a major issue. Marking the second anniversary since the 4 August 2020 Beirut port explosion, the investigation remained stalled in 2022. The International Support Group for Lebanon repeatedly called for the formation of a Government, the election of a President and the implementation of the commitments in the IMF staff-level agreement, as well as to overcome hurdles to the completion of an impartial, thorough and transparent investigation in the port explosion.

Figure 4. Residents of Maarach neighbourhood, part of the rehabilitating 5 alleyways, in partnership with Polish Centre for International Aid through funding from Polish Aid. 5 May 2022, Bourj Hammoud, Lebanon



© UN-Habitat Lebanon



B. Social

Vulnerabilities in Lebanon remained high² in 2022, with the vast majority of Lebanese considered income vulnerable³ and 1.29 million Lebanese residents and 0.69 million displaced Syrians (37 per cent of the population residing in Lebanon) estimated to be in situations of acute food insecurity.⁴ Inequality rates have also skyrocketed, increasing from 0.449 in 2018 to 0.653⁵ in 2022, attesting to uneven levels of deprivation across the population. The ongoing socioeconomic crisis has left 89 per cent of displaced Syrians unable to afford the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket, compared to 55 per cent in 2019.⁶ Poverty among Palestinian refugees is a significant issue with 80 per cent of individuals living below the poverty line. The challenges faced by the social security system in providing adequate social protection benefits, coupled with the loss of savings and income due to the crisis has also impacted the ability of residents, especially the most vulnerable, to cover their basic needs and access adequate and affordable health, education, and housing. The scale-up of response by the United Nations and government safety nets enabled one million Lebanese and 1.41 million displaced Syrians to receive assistance and meet essential needs.

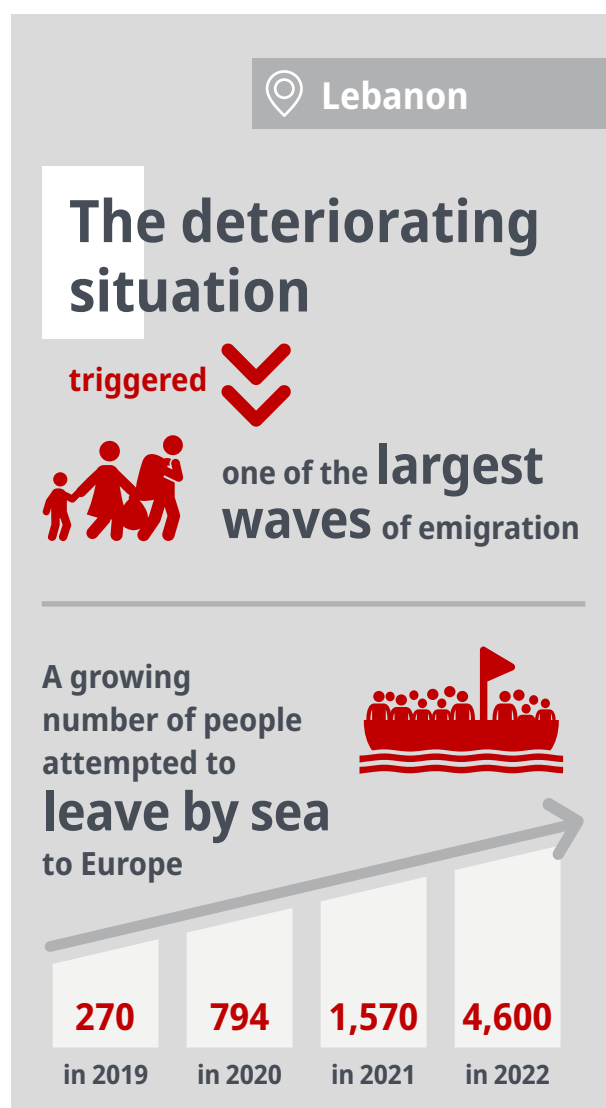
In 2022, multiple crises continued to affect access to quality and inclusive basic services such as education. While 707,000 children were out of school, the proportion of Lebanese children out of school decreased from 21 per cent in 2021 to 16 per cent in 2022 but the proportion of refugee children increased from 55 per cent to 63 per cent.⁷ Youth unemployment rate (aged 15–24) increased from 23.3 per cent in 2019 to 47.8 per cent in 2022 whereas 12 per cent of children are working.⁸

Of the total population in Lebanon, 67 per cent needed increased, inclusive and equitable access to quality healthcare services, including 1.5 million children, 1.9 million women, 300,000 older persons and 500,000 persons with disabilities. The deterioration of the health sector, coupled with the double Covid-19 and cholera crises, has led to a drop in the operational capacity of health facilities, with escalating operational costs and emigration of qualified staff. Hospital admissions covered by the Ministry of Public Health decreased by 23 per cent in 2022 while the availability of acute and chronic medication at primary health care centres for the most vulnerable also continued to decrease. Data available points towards increased maternal and neonatal mortality, jeopardizing the gains in population health.

Migrants have been severely affected by the ongoing socioeconomic crisis in the country. Thousands have lost their livelihoods and are facing specific barriers

that make it difficult for them to access humanitarian aid. Many have been left stranded, wishing to return home but lacking the means to do so. Many migrant workers in Lebanon were, and continue to be, routinely subjected to violence, exploitation and abuse, including human trafficking. Their vulnerability is exacerbated by the kafala (sponsorship) system and the fact that many migrant workers are not protected by national labour legislation, such as domestic workers.

Lebanon's deteriorating situation has triggered one of the largest waves of emigration in the country's history. A growing number of people (largely displaced Syrians) and Lebanese have attempted to leave irregularly by sea to Europe, often with the help of smugglers. Over 4,600 people attempted the journey in 2022, compared to 1,570 in 2021, 794 in 2020 and 270 in 2019. These sea journeys are very dangerous, as evidenced by incidents in April, September and December 2022 where migrant boats capsized, together resulting in loss of life for approximately 140 people.





C. Economic

In a context of high uncertainties coupled with subsidy lifting, increasing fuel and excessive electricity prices due to the quasi-complete stoppage of public electricity provision, as well as a triple digit inflation, multiple exchange rates, growing economic uncertainty and political paralysis that is hampering national recovery, the economy and private sector in Lebanon struggled in 2022 to rebound from multiple severe crises. The Central Bank has been intervening on the exchange market to try and tame the depreciation of the pound in recent years, at the expense of the remaining national reserves which are rapidly being depleted. However, these interventions often take the shape of dollar withdrawals at preferential rates made available to everyone, which fuelled speculative actions on the parallel market and ultimately had no effect on the exchange rate. Banks continued to block access to deposits and imposed significant haircuts on depositors, which deprives citizens and businesses of a significant portion of their own wealth. The Lebanese economy adjusted by becoming cash-based, increasing risks of tax fraud and money laundering.

The labour market also continued struggling in 2022 to cope with the ongoing crisis. While some private sector activity is returning, the instability imposed by constant currency depreciation hampered growth.

Figure 5. UNDP_Fishermen_Mount Lebanon 2022 August



© UNDP

Meanwhile, a large share of the labour force was still being paid in Lebanese Pounds and being crushed under the weight of inflation, which has also been exacerbated by the invasion of Ukraine. Several wage increases were agreed upon and implemented through consensus. However, these increases were outpaced by inflation every time as structural economic issues remained unresolved. Moreover, wage increases were often limited to the private sector, even while public sector employees mobilized throughout the year calling for wage corrections (including by holding long strikes that further disrupted government).

In light of the continued public sector strikes, widespread unemployment, and the inability of Social Security benefits to keep up with inflation, informality increased from 54.9 per cent in 2019⁹ to 62.4 per cent in 2022,¹⁰ indicating a continued degradation in the quality of employment in the country. Legal constraints also pose obstacles to employment for Palestine refugees who are more likely to accept hazardous working conditions as they often have few alternatives and as a result they tend to occupy informal, low-skill, and low-paid positions in the sectors in which they are permitted to work.¹¹

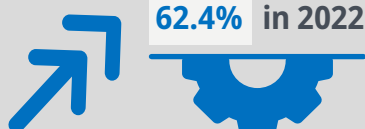
In addition to recurrent fuel shortages and rising fuel prices, the lack of a functional and sustainable transport system (including effective public transport options and non-motorized mobility options) continued to be a barrier to economic development.¹²

Degradation in the quality of employment in the country due to:



- ▶ continued public sector strikes
- ▶ widespread unemployment
- ▶ inability of Social Security benefits to keep up with inflation

informality increased **54.9%** in 2019 **62.4%** in 2022





D. Peace and governance

On 27 October, Lebanon and Israel had agreed to formally end their maritime boundary dispute and establish a permanent maritime boundary between them. The relative quiet along the Blue Line remained with sporadic standoffs between the Lebanese Armed Forces and the Israel Defense Forces in a context of resumed construction of a defensive wall by the latter, also in sensitive areas where the trajectory of the Blue Line is contested. Incidents in which UNIFIL's patrols were restricted, although relatively rare, culminated with the killing of a UNIFIL peacekeeper in a village north of the UNIFIL area of operation on 14 December. Three other peacekeepers were injured in the incident. Seven persons have been charged by the military prosecutor and one of the accused was detained. Against the backdrop of an escalation of violence in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, rockets were fired from Lebanon across the Blue Line in April, presumably by Palestinian factions. Israel launched several dozen mortar shells in retaliation. This was the only breach of the cessation of hostilities in 2022. The crisis has negatively impacted the capacities and services of all state institutions, including the Lebanese Armed Forces, other institutions and municipalities, risking a collapse of public institutions. The inability of public institutions to operate efficiently affects the well-being of people in Lebanon, especially as demand for public services increases. The massive abandonment of civil servants from their respective

workplaces continued, along with an increase in the prevalence of bribery. There continues to be reports of sporadic demonstrations and roadblocks to protest the deteriorating economic conditions and the lack of basic services, while (sometimes armed) individuals forcefully entered banks to demand access to their funds.

The deep socioeconomic, political and financial crisis has exacerbated intra- and inter-community tensions along traditional fault lines from the civil war. Criminal incidents continued to be high, especially personal disputes escalating into shooting, robberies, thefts and vehicular thefts. In spite of these factors, the overall security environment in the country remains stable and under control by the security forces. However, a prolonged presidential vacuum and the paralysis of state institutions will add strain to an already volatile environment.

In January 2022, the first six members of the National Anti-Corruption Commission were appointed, following the enactment of the law establishing it in May 2020. This commission represents a key institutional cornerstone on the fight against corruption in Lebanon. It is designed to be politically, financially and administratively independent of the executive, legislative and judiciary branches to the maximum possible extent.



E. Environment

Environmental deterioration has been widespread for many years, gradually destroying Lebanese ecosystems. In 2022, the lack of public electricity led to rampant use of private generators that produced more air pollution. Lebanon still faced a water and solid waste problem that affects natural resources and the health of the population; 900 was the last known number of open dumps in the country and the majority of wastewater is not treated before being discharged. Forest coverage kept declining and was further impacted by urban sprawl, rising demand for alternative energy sources (such as wood) and forest fires, which have grown larger in recent years.

The Government of Lebanon did not move forward on the needed environmental reforms, which has hindered the achievement of real policy change in this sector. Although some technical-level decisions and strategies were prepared and endorsed, such as

the Solid Waste Action Plan and decisions on ozone-depleting substances, these were far removed from the immediate needs of the population (in terms of the national development agenda and the SDG targets). Furthermore, the inability of the Government to cover the cost of operations and maintenance of facilities, such as solid waste treatment facilities, wastewater treatment plants and water pumping stations, posed a threat to public and environmental health. Critical changes in the legislation and tariff structures urgently need to take place.

On the other hand, with the removal of subsidies on diesel, the real cost of electricity generation has kicked and resulted in increased demand for renewable energy technologies, given that these systems became financially viable with the change in tariffs. However, additional reform is still needed in the energy sector.



6.78% seats
were held by women
in Parliament,
a record number



65%
of the Integrated Border
Management Strategy
was implemented



689 civil
unrest incidents
occurred, including
demonstrations/sit-ins,
marches, roadblocks



32 female cadets
(25 per cent) enrolled in the
LAF National Cadet
Officer's Academy



37% of residents
in Lebanon were
in situations of
acute food insecurity¹³



16% of Lebanese
children were
out of school¹⁴



20% of Syrian girls
aged 15-19 in Lebanon
were married¹⁵
4% of Lebanese girls
aged of 15-19
were married¹⁶



The Lebanese economy
shrank by **32%**
between 2018 and 2021,
erasing **\$16.14** billion
in output



The annual inflation
rate in 2022 was
171.2%, on top
of **154.8%**
in 2021



Informality rose
from **44%** of jobs
in 2018 to
57% of jobs
in 2022



1 in 2
young people
in Lebanon (47.8 per cent)
were unemployed



Lebanese women's
unemployment doubled
from **17%** in 2018 to **33%**
in 2022, while Syrian women's
unemployment remained high
at **40%** since 2019



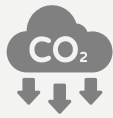
Only **6%** of Palestinian women participated in the labour force in 2022 compared with **67%** of Palestinian men¹⁷



From 2001 to 2021, Lebanon lost **5.29** kilo hectares of tree cover, representing an **8.1%** decrease in tree cover since 2000¹⁸



Lebanon produced **6,500 tons** of solid waste per day, half of which is organic



Lebanon emitted an average of **35.13** million tons of CO₂ annually, representing **0.07%** of global emissions in 2022²⁰



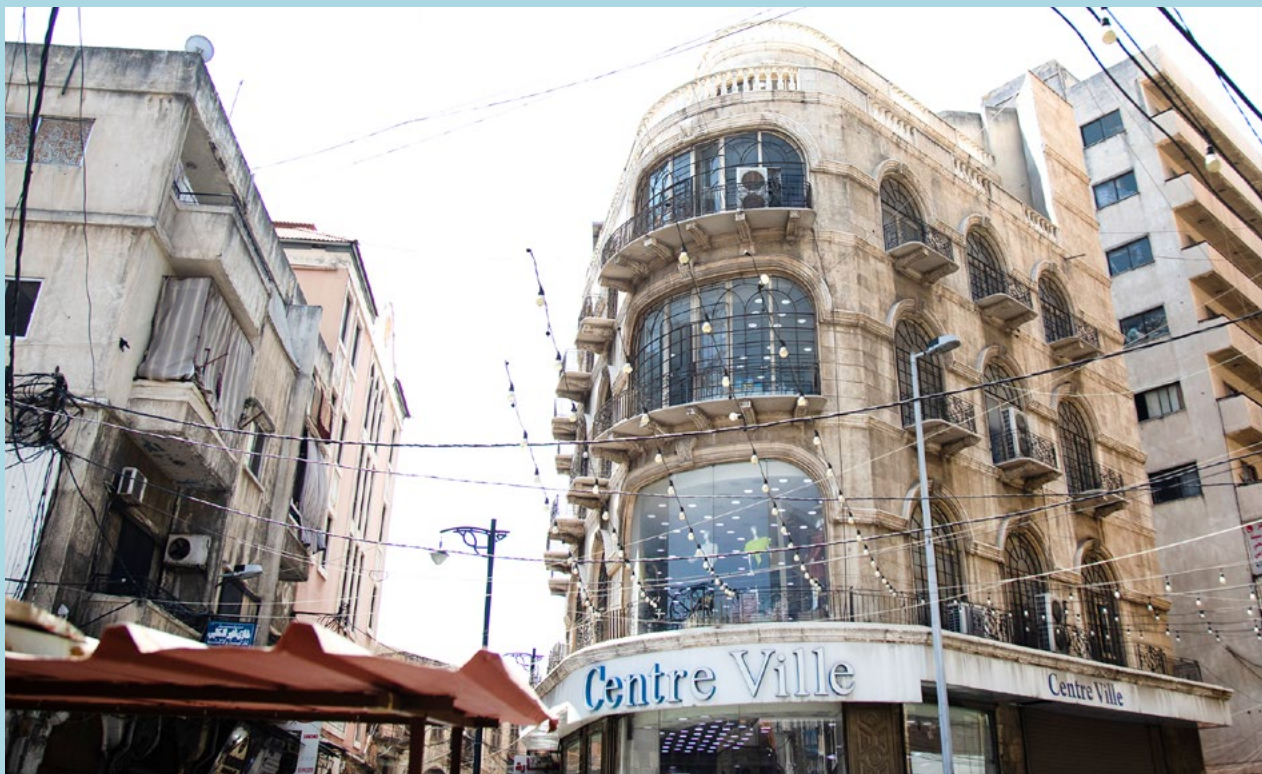
Only **48%** of the population had access to safely managed water, while only **20%** had access to safely managed sanitation²¹

50% of this waste was haphazardly dumped in landfills,

35% was buried

and, finally, only **15%** was recycled¹⁹

Figure 6. Tripoli



© UNDP Lebanon

4. Results of the United Nations working together

A. Social



Funds available: \$1.397 billion.²²

Donors who contributed: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Central Emergency Response Fund, China, Cyprus, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Private Donors, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Others.

United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN-Women WFP, WHO.

NGOs: ABAAD, ACF Spain, ACTED, ADRA, Akkarouna, Al Makassed, ALPHA, Amel, AND, ANERA, ARCPA, AVSI, Borderless, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, CCCL, Concern, DPNA, DRC, FISTA, FoH, GVC, HI, Himaya, IMC, INTERSOS, IOCC Lebanon, IRC, KAFA, LebRelief, LECORVAW, LOST, MADA, Makhzoumi, MCC, MEDAIR, Mercy USA, Mouvement Social, Naba'a, NABAD, NRC, NRDC, Nusaned, OWS, PU-AMI, RESTART Lebanon, RI, RMF, SAMS, SAWA, SCI, SHEILD, SHIFT, SI, SIDC, SWSL, Tabitha-Dorcas, TdH-It, TdH-L, UPEL, WCH, World Learning, WVI, YAB, YMCA.

1. Health (excluding COVID-19 and cholera)

a. Capacities of institutions

- 181 health centres and healthcare providers (primary health care centres, hospitals, nurseries, private sector, NGOs) gained increased capacities to provide better quality-services through trainings, coverage of costs, reconstruction, rehabilitation, equipment and other forms of support.
- 272 health facilities remained functional for several months as a result of 5.1 million litres of fuel distributed in 26 districts in eight governorates.
- One national mental health diploma was launched and 27 professionals graduated within the National Mental Health Programme.
- A total of 1,237 nurses and nurses aid were recruited to fill the gap in human resources in 12 public hospitals, covering a total of 66,247 12 hours shifts in maintaining access to advanced hospital care for the most vulnerable population groups.

b. Direct support to people

- **1,990,552 consultations** were provided to vulnerable people.
 - **1,473,479** consultations were provided for people with acute medical conditions at primary health care centres, including acute medication provision.
 - **128,001** consultations related to sexual and reproductive health services were provided.
 - **411,141** children received routine vaccination of children under 10.
 - **204,000** vulnerable people with non-communicable diseases benefited from uninterrupted access to medications at primary health care centres.

- **1,977** people with HIV received treatment (antiretroviral medication through National AIDS Programme).

- **392,617** children were screened for acute malnutrition through nutrition programmes in primary healthcare centres.

Figure 7. Joud, one-year-old, receiving his polio vaccine at the Naqaa' Medical Centre. The European Union, UNICEF and the Ministry of Public Health provide all essential routine vaccines for free in more than 800 public primary healthcare facilities to reach all children residing in the country



© UNICEF, 12 April 2022

Alissar helps curb the spread of cholera – Ministry of Public Health, Tripoli Governmental Hospital, WHO

Since her graduation, Alissar, a 22-year-old nurse, joined other frontline healthcare workers in the fight against first the COVID-19 pandemic and now cholera, two viral outbreaks that have stretched the healthcare system in Lebanon. Along with other nurses, doctors, and infectious disease specialists at the Diarrheal Treatment Center in the Tripoli Governmental Hospital, Alissar contributed to curbing the spread of cholera in North Lebanon as the second month of the cholera outbreak unfolded across the country.

Alissar is a specialized nurse trained in supporting intensive care units and cardiovascular departments. She was selected with few other nurses to join the team curbing the spread of cholera in North Lebanon after passing a technical exam in her areas of specialization. "I knew that the Ministry of Public Health, was looking for nurses to join their team at the Tripoli Governmental Hospital to work on the cholera response, so I decided to apply," Alissar explained.

With the aim of providing a comprehensive overview of the cholera outbreak response and in order to improve the prevention preparedness and the management of cholera cases, WHO has been collaborating with the Ministry of Public Health to jointly lead the cholera outbreak response. Through this project, WHO and the Ministry are deploying and training multidisciplinary teams at designated hospitals in North Lebanon, including Menniyeh Governmental Hospital, Tripoli Governmental Hospital, Bebnine Field Hospital and Halba Governmental Hospital.

WHO is also providing technical and financial support to the teams working on the cholera response to ensure patients are accurately admitted, quality case management is provided, the medical team is confident in providing the right care and both the healthcare staff and patients' caregivers are protected.

"Facing crises requires discipline and abidance by health guidance. I am happy to be receiving this important knowledge from WHO and the Ministry of Public Health because it reassures me that I know what I got to do to save people's lives while keeping safe," said Alissar.

Figure 8. Alissar, a 22-year-old nurse, was part of the multidisciplinary team working on curbing the spread of cholera in the Diarrheal Treatment Center in Tripoli Governmental Hospital in North Lebanon



© WHO/Roni Ziadah, 1 December 2022

2. Education

a. Reforms and policies

- Development of a National Strategic Framework for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) began and four TVET curricula were developed

and endorsed by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

b. Capacities of institutions

- 280 educational institutions damaged by the Beirut port explosion were rehabilitated.
- 133 “Direction d’Orientation Pédagogique et Scolaire” personnel increased their skills using peacebuilding tools and the Violence Free Schools strategy.
- Five online courses on blended learning and teaching were created and 48 trainers and 323 teachers increased their blended learning teaching capacities.
- The Ministry of Education and Higher Education increased its capacity through the provision of 50 laptops; it also improved 100 public schools by providing 1,118 laptops.
- 16 public school libraries damaged by the Beirut port explosion were rehabilitated.
- Two TVET institutions improved their capacities to deliver training and assessments.

Figure 9. Students in their classroom in Lydda school in Al Zaheria, Tripoli



© UNRWA/Maysoun Mustafa, 2022

c. Direct support to people

- **66,944** children and young people received non-formal education to avoid being left behind their peers, distributed as follows:
 - Community based-early childhood education: **14,532**.
 - Youth basic literacy and numeracy classes: **2,697**.
 - Basic literacy and numeracy classes: **17,893**.
 - Remedial, retention and homework support: **31,955**.
- **568,677** children enrolled in public formal education whose education related costs were subsidized:
 - 296,352 girls.
 - 272,325 boys.

3. Water and sanitation

Capacities of institutions

- Continuity of public water supply systems maintained through urgent repairs to over 600 water stations under the four Regional Water Establishments.
- 350 water stations remained functional for several months as a result of 5.3 million litres of fuel distributed in 21 districts in eight governorates. Increased the capacity of the North Lebanon Water Establishment through the provision of new laboratory equipment to conduct irrigation water quality analysis and the development of a prototype monitoring system.
- The capacity of 50 staff members from different public institutions on water resources management was also improved through the provision of a training on Integrated Water Resources Management.
- 10 buildings were connected to domestic water and sewage services in Rmeil Cluster, Beirut.
- Seven additional landfill sites were secured to maintain proper solid waste management in camps.
- 12.4 tons of medical/infectious wastes were collected from UNRWA health centres.

- 266,687 displaced Syrians were assisted with temporary access to an adequate quantity of safe drinking water.
- 160,544 displaced Syrians benefited from an awareness-raising campaign on water conservation,

the impact of climate change and water, sanitation and hygiene training sessions.

- 5 water quality monitoring labs were re-established in 5 public hospitals.

4. Housing and urban policy

Direct support to people

- 25,870 people gained increased access to adequate housing and urban services, in accordance with international human rights standards.
- 287,954 individuals accessed improved shelter conditions in informal settlements, non-residential buildings and shelters that meet humanitarian standards.
- 27,112 individuals were provided cash for shelter.
- Six public spaces in the blast-affected areas were rehabilitated.
- 2,387 displaced Syrian households registered their claims to their housing, land and property in the Syrian Arab Republic. A total of 2,652 claims were collected and recorded, around 60 per cent of which were made by women.

Figure 10. Reactivated Karantina streets and sidewalks in Beirut



© UN-Habitat, Catalytic Action, 2 March 2022

Reviving Mar Mikhael's main heritage stairs to provide vibrant public spaces designed by children – Catalytic Action, the Directorate General of Antiquities, the Municipality of Beirut, UN-Habitat, UNIDO

80-year-old Toufic lived most of his life in Mar Mikhael. "These stairs date back to the Ottoman era. They were first built to connect pathways linking the neighbourhoods to the main streets. As Beirut went through various periods of turmoil, these stairs stood tall throughout its history and over generations, representing the city's cultural heritage. The area was heavily damaged by the Beirut port explosion in August 2020, especially the stairs. "We were unable to get to our homes," Toufic recalled.

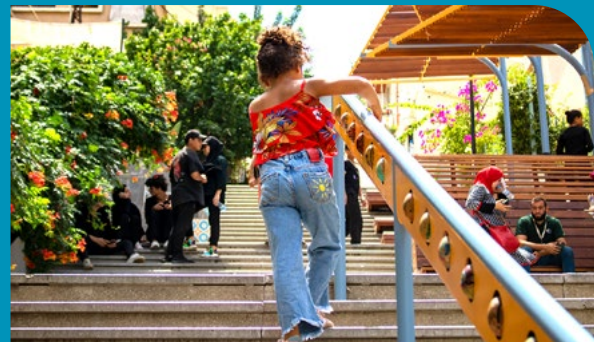
As part of its efforts to support urban recovery following the port explosion, UN-Habitat partnered with Catalytic Action with funding from Block by Block to rehabilitate and revive the stairs of St. Nicholas, Vendome and Laziza.

"Today, I am very thankful for the upgraded stairs and the newly fixed handrails. They are very useful, especially for us, the elderly. Before, I was unable to get to my home. Now I can lean on the handrails and go up to my home without worrying if I am going to fall," he added.

Inspired by the designs of the youth and community, the stairs were transformed into a practical, safe, inclusive, colourful and playful public space. Kids can now play with new speaking pipes and interactive panels installed on all three stairs or they can enjoy using the slide at the Vendome stairs. All wooden platforms and benches installed were custom-made by local carpenters through the support of UNIDO.

"I always dreamed of living next to a big playground, but since we live in the city this was not an option. With the stairs we now have, I spend my summer days playing outside with my friends," said a young girl living near the newly renovated Vendome stairs.

Figure 11. A young girl playing on the Vendome stairs in Beirut, after their rehabilitation and reactivation by UN-Habitat Lebanon and Catalytic Action. The wooden platforms and seats were created by local carpenters with UNIDO support



© UN-Habitat/CatalyticAction, 6 September 2022

5. Social protection and basic assistance

a. Reforms and policies

- A National Disability Allowance of \$40/month, for Lebanese and non-Lebanese beneficiaries, was approved by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA) and will be launched in April 2023 to support at least 20,000 young people certified as living with a disability.
- Discussions on transitioning the Haddi child grant into a national child grant have begun with MOSA with the design of the program expected to be finalized in June 2023.
- A policy paper drafted in consultation with the Ministry of Social Affairs to assess the opportunities and obstacles of integrating migrants into social protection schemes has been finalized and approved for publication, with a release date expected in August-September 2023.
- The National Social Protection Strategy drafted through an in-depth consultation process and adopting a rights-based, comprehensive and inclusive approach to addressing the need for universal access through a combination of contributory and non-contributory mechanisms, was initially approved by the Council of Ministers in May 2022, pending final revisions. Revisions are expected to be incorporated in 2023 and Strategy adopted.
- The national [youth policy action plan](#) was drafted and launched by the Government in September 2022.
- The National Strategy for Persons with Disabilities for Lebanon was drafted in 2022.
- Draft legislation for reform of the end-of-service indemnity at the National Social Security Fund into a pension scheme, in line with international standards was revised and submitted by the sub-parliamentary committee to the joint committees. In addition, a transitional arrangement for the End-of-Service Indemnity scheme at NSSF was developed with MOL to guarantee minimum old-age benefits to retirees of the fund. The new system is expected to go to the NSSF board for discussion and approval.

Figure 12. Agri-food business leaders meeting with international buyers at the B2B Matchmaking event



© UNIDO Lebanon/Chloe Khoury, 23 March 2022

b. Capacities of institutions

- 588 Government and NGO staff increased their capacities on social protection:
 - 534 Government staff trained in gender-based violence and gender issues pertaining to social protection.
 - Six Lebanese participants took part in a regional TRANSFORM initiative course (Training of Trainers) on establishing social protection floors in the Middle East and North Africa region.
 - Eight National Social Security Fund inspectors and managers received further training on social security inspection.

c. Direct support to people

- 1,559,993 individuals were better able to meet their basic non-food needs by receiving unconditional cash assistance:
 - 356,163 Lebanese.
 - 1,037,907 displaced Syrians.
 - 135,626 PRL.
 - 30,297 PRS.
 - 1,106,920 individuals received seasonal cash assistance for basic survival needs:
 - 52,904 Lebanese.
 - 1,063,058 displaced Syrians.
 - 13,484 PRL.
 - 29,679 PRS.
 - 312,769,965 cash-based transfers in dollars disbursed as unconditional cash assistance.
 - 128,925 children received cash-based transfers disbursed as unconditional cash assistance and lifecycle vulnerability social grants (Haddi):
 - 66,780 women.
 - 62,145 men.
 - 45,706 Lebanese.
 - 70,794 displaced Syrians.
 - 10,854 PRL.
 - 1,161 PRS.
 - 410 people with other nationalities.
 - 13,182 children living with a disability.
- Four years into a United Nations communication campaign to involve the public in the implementation of the SDGs through social policy experiments, the focus in 2022 was on extreme poverty in Lebanon. The United Nations captured people's genuine reactions to rising extreme poverty in a public relations initiative that produced a widely circulated video. In addition to raising awareness on the issue, the video aimed to convey a message of solidarity by highlighting how small individual actions to support

others can make a big difference. This public relations initiative was followed by social media posts providing additional information about extreme poverty. Overall,

the video and social media posts together reached around 1.7 million people and approximately 36,600 people directly engaged with the social media posts.

What National Poverty Targeting Programme assistance means to women – Ministry of Social Affairs, UN-Women, WFP

“My son’s lifeline.” These are the words Amina chose to describe the support she received from the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP) for her five-year-old’s severe asthma, which allowed her to save part of the cash assistance she received to buy her son an oxygen machine.

Assessing and improving NPTP’s capacity to meet the growing needs of vulnerable women, girls and marginalized groups remains at the heart of work by the Ministry of Social Affairs, WFP, and UN-Women over the past year. For example, they conducted a qualitative gender assessment that echoed the voices of multiple NPTP recipients, both women and men.

National Poverty Targeting Programme support has played a critical role in not only meeting the basic needs of eligible families, but also in giving women a sense of autonomy without having to rely as much on family members and friends when in need. Lina, a middle-aged widow with two children, explained how she used to “panic at the start of the month because other families were not able to financially assist.” The support she received from the Programme in the form of monthly cash assistance, however, provided her with a sense of security.

356,163 Lebanese people such as Lina received unconditional cash assistance through the Programme in 2022.

Figure 13. Awatef and her granddaughter in Bekaa rely on National Poverty Training Programme assistance to buy food and pay for other household expenses



© WFP/Dana Houalla

6. Food and nutrition

a. Direct support to people

- 1,516,938 individuals were better able to cover their basic food needs by receiving unconditional cash assistance:
 - 52 per cent women.
 - 48 per cent men.
 - 356,163 Lebanese.
 - 1,153,774 displaced Syrians.
 - 7,001 refugees of other nationalities.
- 396,768 Lebanese were better able to cover food needs through in-kind food assistance.
- 70,508 schoolchildren received support through school snacks, increasing overall food consumption and access to education:
 - 30,015 Lebanese.
 - 40,493 displaced Syrians.

Figure 14. Schoolchildren carrying their school meals outside in Akkar, North Lebanon



© WFP/Khadija Dia

b. Reports and analysis

- Three reports on food security in Lebanon incorporating Vulnerability, Analysis and Monitoring (VAM) surveys were produced in October, November and December 2022.
- A Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (VASyR) in Lebanon was completed in 2022.
- An Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis report of acute food insecurity in Lebanon was completed.

Cash assistance brings relief to Ramadan and his family – UNHCR, WFP

Ramadan is 15 years-old. He lives in Beirut with his parents and brothers. He wakes up every morning at 7 a.m. to go to work before going to school in the afternoon. He fixes car tires and motors in a nearby mechanic shop. His family is dependent on cash assistance provided by UNHCR and on the little income he makes, as his father has been unable to work for years. His parents prioritize the assistance they receive to cover the essentials: food and rent. In a country where 90 per cent of refugees depend on humanitarian assistance to survive, they would be unable to live without this assistance. Ramadan is one of more than 1.56 million people in Lebanon that benefit from this life-saving cash assistance.

Figure 15. Ramadan Mawas is 15 years-old and forced to work in the morning before going to school in the afternoon



© UNHCR/Samer Khatib, 30 March 2022

Figure 16. A windmill at DAZ Agria Grounds in Shalfeh, Tripoli. 27 January 2023



© UN-HABITAT Lebanon

7. Protection

Direct support to people

- 275,412 persons at risk benefited from protection cash assistance, to prevent, mitigate and reduce the impact of protection threats encompassing the risks of violence, coercion and deliberate deprivation such as eviction, exploitation, physical and psychological harassment and/or neglect and isolation:
 - 20,045 received gender-based violence protection assistance.
 - 255,367 received child protection and general protection assistance.
 - 119,125 persons at heightened risk were supported to address their protection risks, through case management, mental health and psychosocial support, safe shelters, rehabilitation and assistive products.
 - Of the total number of people that benefited from assistance in 2022: 27,354 were supported with Gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response programmes.
 - 58,875 received child protection assistance.
 - 32,896 were persons with specific needs.
 - 5,298 were older persons.
 - 77,793 were women.
 - 39,289 were men.
- 468 vulnerable migrants returned to their countries of origin through Assisted Voluntary Return (IOM).

8. Resettlements and relocations

- 9,657 people resettled to third countries.
- 222 people were assisted to facilitate travel under complementary pathways.

In the words of Salma: “We, as women and girls, deserve better” – KAFA, UNICEF, UN-Women

Salma, 26, shared her testimony: “We, as women and girls, deserve better.” She recounted the physical and psychological violence she faced in her marriage, describing her journey to overcome this plight through the support she received to escape, divorce her husband and win custody of her three daughters.

Salma received psychological and legal support through the joint UN-Women and UNICEF project implemented in partnership with KAFA, a Lebanese NGO. Entitled “Supporting vulnerable women and victims of gender-based violence in accessing protection, employment and other income generating opportunities,” this project is generously supported by the Government of Austria.

As part of the protection services KAFA provided in 2022, Salma obtained a mobile phone she could use if threatened. They assured her that there would be shelter and assistance for her and her children when she decided to leave her husband. Salma was able to escape a few days later and stayed in KAFA shelters, receiving support until her divorce was complete and parental custody rights granted in her favour.

Salma says this journey has offered her liberty. “Only three years ago, I would have never thought I would be here, feeling strong, proud and positive about the future. My family abandoned me following the divorce.

Leaving my husband’s house is not acceptable and is shameful in our society. But I don’t care; I see myself as the strongest woman in my community. I may have lost my family, but I gained freedom and justice for my daughters, which is all that matters.” Salma is one of 118,666 people empowered to partly address these kinds of issues as a direct result of the support of the United Nations.

Figure 17. Salma, photographed in Beirut



© UN-Women/Nour Abdul Reda



A.1 In focus: the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator and managed by OCHA, the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund²³ (LHF) is a flexible country-based pooled funding mechanism designed to respond quickly and efficiently in a changing context, while still retaining accountable, inclusive and transparent processes. The LHF launches evidence-based multi-sectoral allocations targeting beneficiaries with acute vulnerabilities across all population groups (Lebanese, displaced Syrians, Palestine refugees and other migrants) and looks at certain programming areas including disability inclusion, the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, accountability to affected people, gender equality and related programming with a focus on resilience. Employing a people-centred-approach to focus on those most vulnerable and at most risk, the LHF fulfils a critical and niche function in supporting those in greatest need and supporting a more sustainable localized response. The Lebanon Humanitarian Fund works with all humanitarian actors, including the United Nations and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, although funding almost exclusively goes to national and international NGOs.

Figure 18. UNDP_Barouk YLP clay_2022 December



© UNDP Barouk

In 2022

**the Lebanon
Humanitarian
Fund** supported

41 partners



**\$28.5
million**

to deliver

50 humanitarian
response projects

In 2022, the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund supported 41 partners with \$28.5 million to deliver 50 humanitarian response projects, including support in response to the cholera outbreak. With this funding and through direct packages of support, 305,397 people were supported across the country in the following sectors: education, food security, health, migration, nutrition, protection, shelter and water, and sanitation and hygiene. Women and girls represented 55 per cent of those supported by the Fund. In 2022, approximately 22 per cent of funding disbursed through 16 projects was directly allocated to local and national NGOs, in addition to \$2.55 million channelled indirectly to national partners through equitable partnership arrangements.

In 2022, the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund was supported through contributions of \$24.2 million from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.



A.2 United Nations outbreak response (Cholera and COVID-19)

A cholera outbreak was declared on 6 October 2022, by the Ministry of Public Health in Lebanon following the confirmation of the first laboratory-confirmed case after over 29 years of no suspected cholera cases in the country. The outbreak rapidly spread across eight governorates of Lebanon (20 out of the 26 districts). As of 12 February 2023, 6,454 suspected and confirmed cholera cases were reported along with 23 associated deaths, resulting in a case-fatality ratio of 0.37 per cent. The Ministry of Public Health led and coordinated the cholera response in Lebanon with the support of international and national partners from different sectors.

Cholera outbreak



declared on 6 October 2022

▶ **6,454** suspected and confirmed cholera cases reported



▶ **23** associated deaths

A.2.1 Cholera response 2022

1. Coordination and leadership

- Ministry-led weekly cholera taskforce meetings were held on the implementation of the response and coordination between the Government of Lebanon and international and national partners.
- Public Health Emergency Operations Centre and other sub-committees of the cholera taskforce

were supported by the United Nations to lead and coordinate the response. Support included 22 surge staff for six months.

- Bi-monthly “Ad-Hoc National Health Sector Working Group Cholera Meetings” were held to follow up on implementation and to guide partners on cholera response.

2. Surveillance for early detection and referral of cases

- The Epidemiological Surveillance Unit at the Ministry of Public Health gained increased capacity as a result of United Nations support to:
 - Mobilize all resources to receive cholera alerts and respond accordingly.
 - Provisionally conduct stool collection, water sampling and rapid diagnostic tests in the areas targeted by rapid response teams.
- Cholera surveillance and reporting at the level of health facilities increased as a result of joint field visits by the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit team and the United Nations, improving the application of standardized case definitions and adequate and timely linkages to case management.
- 1,116 staff members increased their knowledge of standardized case definition, cholera testing and detection strategy as a result of support from the United Nations and its partners.

- Over 21,100 rapid diagnostic tests and 2,000 Cary-Blair transport mediums were deployed at central and peripheral levels.

▶ **1,116** staff members increased their knowledge of

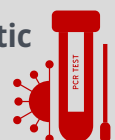


standardized case definition

cholera testing

detection strategy

▶ **21,100** rapid diagnostic tests were deployed at central and peripheral levels



3. Laboratory capacity

As a result of the support provided to the National Laboratory Committee:

- A review was conducted of the overall capacity of peripheral governmental hospital laboratories for the detection and confirmation of cholera, the competency of staff and the adopted practices.
- The capacities of laboratory specialists and doctors in Halba, Tripoli, Saida, Nabatieh, Zahle, Marjaoun, Daher El Beshek and Baalbek governmental hospital labs were further developed.
- Culture and sequencing testing for more than 1,300 samples were conducted in the peripheral and

reference labs (Rafik Hariri University Hospital and American University of Beirut) and the quality of cholera testing was monitored.

- A report was finalized determining the origin of the strains currently circulating in Lebanon, based on specimens sent to the Pasteur Institute (France) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (United States) for strain genotype and antibiotic sensitivity analysis.
- Increased capacity at Rafik Hariri University Hospital through the temporary provision of nine staff members.

4. Case management and infection prevention and control

As a result of United Nations support provided to improve the preparedness and the management of cholera cases:

- The hospitalization committee at the Ministry of Public Health increased its capacity with the addition of a team of 18 qualified healthcare providers (eight infectious disease doctors, ten senior nurses and infection prevention and control officers) to cholera/diarrhea treatment centres in areas with confirmed cholera cases.
- 20 health facilities were assessed for the possibility of treating cholera patients.
- 991 healthcare staff members increased their capacities in case management and infection prevention and control.
- 18 cholera treatment centres, hospitals and primary health care centres received infection prevention and control kits, resulting in greater preparedness to halt the spread of infection.
- 12 cholera treatment centres received 33 cholera treating kits consisting of medication and basic supplies, improving the capacity of these centres to administer care.
- A contingency stock of essential medications and supplies for up to 5,000 potential patients hospitalized for cholera were stored in Ministry of Public Health warehouses.
- 17,361 oral rehydration solutions were made available.

United Nations support

▶ **20** health facilities assessed for treating cholera patients

▶ **991** healthcare staff members increased their capacities in



case management

infection prevention and control

▶ **12** cholera treatment centres received 33 cholera treating kits

▶ A contingency stock of essential medications and supplies for up to

 **5,000** potential patients

5. Water, sanitation and hygiene

- With support from the Global Wash Cluster and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, water, sanitation and hygiene practitioner capacity increased with regard to overall cholera response, particularly

knowledge gained about cholera transmission, case studies on cholera response methodologies (including the Case Area Targeted Intervention) and performing safe household chlorination in theory and practice.

- 64,000 chlorination tablets and over 1.8 tons of chlorination powder were provided.
- 8,241 cholera hygiene kits and 9,327 cholera disinfection kits were distributed to affected households and households in the proximity of confirmed cases.
- Pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants that ensure the safety of the water distributed through the public network continued to operate after 485,000 litres of fuel and 34 tons of chlorine were provided.
- Continued functioning of disinfection systems in pumping stations was ensured through 33 emergency repairs and one rehabilitation.
- Three water establishment laboratories increased capacity as a result of receiving consumables for quick water quality screening.

6. Cholera vaccine

- The International Coordinating Group²⁴ has approved two Ministry of Public Health applications for oral cholera vaccines.
- 1,501,800 oral vaccine doses for Lebanon were procured, about 80 per cent of which were provided to populations living in high-risk areas in the country as a result of United Nations support.
- The national vaccination campaign facilitated implementation by:
 - Coordinating the mobilization of over 250 vaccination teams for door-to-door vaccine provision.
 - Distributing cholera education materials to promote vaccination.
 - Increasing awareness of positive and healthy behaviors.
 - Ensuring other practical and logistical support.

A.2.2 Risk communication and community engagement

Increased awareness of cholera symptoms, transmission, prevention, treatment (including chlorination) and the importance of the oral cholera vaccine to influence positive behaviors:

- Over 2.5 million people were reached by national cholera messaging, including through medical professionals on prevention and positive behaviors, through traditional media and through social media (250,818 people).
- Over 5,400 individuals from United Nations partner organizations, teachers, frontline workers, municipality workers, public and private school participants and community volunteers attended cholera sensitive awareness-raising sessions, which were made fully accessible to ensure inclusion of persons with disabilities.
- Cholera and oral vaccine materials, such as posters and flyers, were mass-distributed to municipalities, communities, partners, and other stakeholders.
- An outdoor billboard campaign to boost cholera prevention messaging to the public in key areas was put up across Beirut, Bekaa and the North.
- 55,000 households in permanent and non-permanent locations were reached through cholera awareness sessions promoting safe drinking water practices.
- Over 480,000 people received awareness messages on cholera prevention and treatment through community engagement and door-to-door campaigning in vulnerable high-risk areas.
- Customized messages and training targeted refugees and migrants.
- SMS text messages to enhance cholera prevention were disseminated to United Nations rightsholders and beneficiaries.

A.2.3 COVID-19

As a result of WHO support, public hospitals were able to continue providing care for COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses to 138,325 patients (from the start of the pandemic up to December 2022) since by funding medical doctors and registered nurses in intensive care units, regular floors and one emergency room.

1,396 patients were also able to receive COVID-19 care as a result of financial support provided by the United Nations to cover treatment costs.



Funds available: \$70.8 million.

Donors who contributed: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Germany, Government of Lebanon, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, Others.

United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: FAO, UNIDO, ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNRWA, UN-Women.

NGOs: ACTED, Al Majmoua, Arcenciel, AVSI, DRC, KAFA, LEE Experience, LRI, LUPD, Mouvement Social, Right to Play, RMF, SCI.

1. Business support

a. Reforms and policies

- The first trade guide was developed explaining steps and procedures needed to export.
- A new online tool providing all mandatory food safety requirements issued by the Ministry of Agriculture was developed.
- The first national Export Academy was set up to provide training to MSMEs and cooperatives in the agriculture and agro-food sector, including training on how to access markets, with 50 MSMEs trained.
- Lebanon Exports was created as an exports platform connecting Lebanese MSMEs in the agriculture and agri-food sectors with regional and international buyers and promoting made-in-Lebanon products.

b. Capacities of institutions

- 82 staff members from the General Directorate of Cooperatives and the Ministry of Agriculture increased their knowledge of food quality.
- 12 staff members from the Ministry of Agriculture were trained to update and implement food safety standards.

c. Capacities of private sectors entities and farmers

- 592 **private sector entities** (including MSMEs) innovated their business practices by mainstreaming elements of environmental, social or economic sustainability.
- 142 private sector entities (MSMEs) in the agro-food and agriculture sectors were provided with access to market support, resulting in 10 of them making 10 business deals.
- 18 businesses benefited from free product shipping and storage in the United States as part of a fast-track program where businesses are able to test market appetite and learn about export potential to the United States through one-on-one coaching with a consultant based there.
- 164 Agricultural **cooperatives**/associations/MSMEs accessed grants, more than half of which also developed business plans.
- 262 members of agricultural cooperatives (78 per cent women, 22 per cent men) gained increased knowledge of food safety, quality control and soap production.
- 28,745 **farmers** gained increased production capacity and better access to markets through the provision of vouchers to purchase agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, animal feed and veterinary inputs):
 - 72 small-scale farmers (35 per cent women) received inputs, training and/or technical support about agricultural and livestock practices.
 - 478 small-scale farmers (almost 40 per cent women) received financial, technical support and/or other inputs.
 - 253 farmers (almost 40 per cent women) benefited from new or rehabilitated infrastructure and assets.

d. Reports and analysis

- Data collected by Emergencies/Food Security Monitoring (Round 1, 2, 3 and 4).
- Detailed market reports were published as part of the national trade platform LEBTRADE by the Ministry of Economy and Trade.
- Six pre-feasibility studies were developed for six value chains identified as having high potential for social and economic growth.

Figure 19. Austrian ambassador visits an “Access Kitchen” in Mar Mikhail, Beirut managed by the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities, which provides income-generating jobs to women with disabilities



© UN-Women, August 2022

From grieving the loss of a child to starting a new agri-food business – FAO, ILO, Lebanese League For Women in Business, UNIDO, UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Women

Ramzieh Hammoud, 52, is a Lebanese farmer from Nemrine in Akkar, the northernmost governorate of Lebanon. At 33, Ramzieh faced the tragedy of losing her three-year-old son to a fatal fall. Devastated, she resorted to agriculture to cope with her grief in her own way, finding hope in growing life in the soil.

Ramzieh recently joined a business planning training course provided by the Lebanese League for Women in Business to women working in the fruit, vegetable and nut value chains in the north of the country. “I was excited to join the business planning training provided. It empowered me at different levels, as I have become more vocal, and more self-confident to express openly my opinions and views. I also realized that I am experienced in my field and that what I think matters. I developed memorable friendships, and I found a community with similar experiences working in agriculture.”

Supported by UN-Women, this training course is part of the United Nations Productive Sector Development Programme, generously funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by six United Nations entities: FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO, ILO and UN-Women.

“This training has encouraged me to start my own project: a homemade food store serving Akkar and different regions in Lebanon. I want everyone from all over the country to have a taste of Akkar through organically cultivated and produced food.

I am hopeful and have ambitious ideas for the future, and I cannot wait to implement them. From grieving the loss of a child to starting a new agri-food business, I stand proud of what I have achieved.”

Figure 20. Ramzieh Hammoud, 52, in her hometown in Akkar



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Modern greenhouse initiative transforming farmer productivity – ILO, UNICEF, UNHCR

As part of the Prospects Initiative that brings together the ILO, UNICEF and UNHCR, the ILO piloted an initiative to provide more spacious and better ventilated modern greenhouses to help farmers in Bekaa and Akkar improve the productivity of their farms while also improving the working conditions of the mostly Syrian workers engaged there.

The positive impact of this pilot initiative was clear to farmer Qassem in Baalbeck: “Compared to the traditional greenhouses, the new one can produce 50 boxes (of tomatoes) while the other one produces 30-33 boxes... So we save a lot and the product is better. I wish that all the greenhouses we have were like this one here.”

Meanwhile, Ahmad, another farmer from Shmustar in Baalbeck-Hermel, reported a 100 per cent increase in the productivity of his cucumber and tomato plants. Workers on Qassem’s and Ahmad’s farms have also felt the difference. Aysha and Sabah, two Syrian farm workers stated, “There is more space for production, and it is more comfortable for workers, we have more space to move around.”

Qassem and Ahmad are two of the 28,745 farmers the United Nations supported to increase their production capacity and gain better access to markets. Moreover, because these modern greenhouses offer better pest protection, exposure to pesticide (a grave risk, both to the farmer and the end consumer) has greatly decreased. Less pesticide use also translates into a lowering of operating costs, as many pesticides are imported and priced in dollars.

At a time where profitability and financial survival is at stake, the introduction of modern greenhouses is helping

vulnerable host communities and displaced Syrians weather the compounded crises facing Lebanon, creating decent and safe jobs for communities when and where they need it the most and helping the agricultural sector survive the economic collapse. The ILO is now working on upscaling the project to target a larger number of farms.

Figure 21. Modern greenhouses offer better ventilation, lower temperatures and are less physically demanding to work in than traditional greenhouses



© ILO, 2022

Women-led cooperatives amidst crises – Al Atayeb, UNDP, UNIC

“I enjoy teaching other women food processing techniques and helping my neighbours find income generating opportunities,” said Samira Zoughaib Akiki, 58, the chair of Al Atayeb cooperative located in Kfardebian town, north of Beirut. In 2004, Samira and some other women established Al Atayeb (The Delicacies) cooperative to support their local community.

Al Atayeb is a women-led cooperative specialized in producing Lebanese local and traditional food. It follows the Food and Drug Administration criteria of food safety.

Today, the cooperative involves 13 women from various age groups who work in food processing. These women are also shareholders in the cooperative so they receive a share of its profits, in addition to the salary they earn from working in food preparation and processing. The cooperative also supports farmers by buying their local crops and provides job opportunities to local workers who can perform the necessary logistic and technical tasks that food processing requires.

Similar to many cooperatives across Lebanon, Al Atayeb faced challenges that threatened its sustainability during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, when Lebanon was also reeling under the economic crisis.

The UNDP, with funds from the KfW Development Bank (Germany), implemented a project to reduce the downturn impact of COVID-19 on cooperatives, MSMEs and farmers. Under this project, UNDP supported 94 cooperatives from different villages in Lebanon; at least 6,000 individuals in Lebanon benefited from this project.

For Al Atayeb, “the UN provided monthly salaries for women to sustain their income, in addition to oil and sugar we use to produce our food, as well as the jars necessary for preserving produce.” “The type of assistance that the UN provided was very efficient because it addressed our financial needs and compensating our losses. We were able to resume our activities at a time when many businesses were shutting down,” Akiki said.

“Supporting small businesses in Lebanon is the only way to help Lebanon recover from its crisis,” said Joanna Gerages, 32.

Over the past four years, Joanna has taken over her family winery (Chateau Cana), which was founded by her father 22 years ago in Bhamdoun. “Chateau Cana is not only a profit-oriented family business; it is a purposeful project for which I left my rewarding full-time job in order to rescue it from bankruptcy,” she explained.

UNIDO and UNDP organized, with Berytech, the “Business-To-Business (B2B) Matchmaking” event during the Agri-Food Innovation Days held in March 2022. The event created business opportunities for MSMEs such as Joanna’s by connecting them to international buyers, thus helping them reach international markets. The B2B Matchmaking event fell under the Productive Sector Development Programme, a three-year joint United Nations initiative funded by the Government of Canada, led by the United Nations Resident Coordinator Office and implemented by FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO and UN-Women.

During Agri-Food Innovation Days, 100+ agri-food MSMEs met with more than 26 international buyers at the Business Matchmaking Agri-Food Innovators and Women-Led MSME event with the goal of building visibility for their products and creating export opportunities.

As Joanna was searching for gainful opportunities to sustain her family business, the B2B matchmaking events came at the right time amid the country’s severe financial crisis,

which made access to financing difficult and the import of raw materials too expensive for her and other entrepreneurs. Through her meetings, she was able to gain valuable insights on international market potential for her wine; it also gave her the motivation she needed to sustain and expand her business abroad.

Figure 22. Agri-food business leaders meeting with international buyers at the B2B Matchmaking event



© UNIDO Lebanon/Chloe Khoury, 23 March 2022

2. Jobs and entrepreneurship

Direct support to people

- **24,768** people with increased income in the short term from income-generating activities:
 - 7,805 women.
 - 16,963 men.
 - 15,795 Lebanese.
 - 8,357 displaced Syrians.
- 566 PRL.
- 39 PRS.
- 11 other nationalities.
- **10,023** people with improved access to skills and lifelong learning programmes, including comprehensive sexuality education.

Figure 23. Our #GIL participant Maroun, is a young entrepreneur who wants to improve our environment! With his partner Sarkis, they created Hydro-Green, a project that uses a newly developed method of growing plants



© UNICEF/Fouad Choufany, 2022

Two years after the Beirut port explosion, Rita, Maha and other women and girls train as nursing aides to help manage the ongoing crisis – Mouvement Social, UNICEF, UN-Women

Even though Rita was physically unharmed from the Beirut port explosion, she was distraught listening to the stories of the victims. “I lost friends who were working their shifts at hospitals nearby. Other friends lost their children, parents or loved ones. We all lost the feeling of safety.”

Rita joined the nursing aide vocational training course. “Even though I worked as a private nurse for two years, I lacked a lot of medical knowledge and had not been able to afford to enrol myself in nursing school,” she said.

To address the emerging needs of women and girls affected by the Beirut port explosion and living in vulnerability, UN-Women partnered with Mouvement Social to provide vocational and life skills training as part of a project jointly implemented jointly with UNICEF and generously supported by the Government of Austria.

After the training course, Rita began working at the dispensary of the Makassed Hospital in Qasqas, Beirut. “I am very happy with this opportunity and cannot wait to share what I have learnt with colleagues,” she said.

For another student in the nursing classes, Maha Thamen, a 30-year-old displaced Syrian with six children and a sick husband, the training that she enrolled in allowed her to bridge her skill gaps.

“I am so grateful that, through this training, I found a passion for helping others. The classroom has been a safe space to learn, grow, and meet wonderful people,” said Maha.

Maha learned how to provide health care and medical support to patients in a medical care facility for elderly, disabled, mentally ill and injured patients. Maha is now preparing to begin work at a shelter for the older persons in Bourj Hammoud, where she will assist with their daily tasks and medical needs.

Figure 24. Rita Habib, 32, participated in Mouvement Social's vocational training course in Beirut



© UN-Women/Nour Abdul Reda

Access Kitchen: a newfound purpose for women with disabilities after the Beirut port explosion – LUPD, UNICEF, UN-Women

For Hanan, 28, there is never a day when she does not think of the Beirut port explosion. “My sister and husband lost their lives, and I almost lost my leg. The memory haunts me to this day.” Hanan had to undergo endless surgeries to save her leg.

“The explosion left me disabled for life. I am grateful that I got to keep my leg, but still, it is hard to face society. People yell at me and ask me to walk normally. It is awful.” The Beirut port explosion created new vulnerabilities in affected areas and worsened an already difficult situation for women with disabilities and their families.

UN-Women and UNICEF partnered with the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities to provide income-generating jobs to women with disabilities like Hanan through “Access Kitchen,” a community kitchen established in Beirut as part of a joint project named “Emergency Livelihoods for Affected Marginalized Populations in the Beirut Explosion Area” funded by the Government of Austria.

The project aims to reduce the impact of both the economic and COVID-19 crises, improve community engagement and support women and girls with disabilities. The kitchen also serves as a community-safe space for dialogue and exchange. “First we were provided with trainings on food safety, social media marketing, and accounting, and then we started cooking together,” Hanan recounted.

Hanan found a second family in her 30 teammates at the community kitchen who helped her overcome her trauma. “I have realized that our disabilities make us stronger. We are unique in our ability to stay positive, despite the challenges, and in spite of a society that looks down on persons with disabilities.”

Figure 25. Women and girls with disabilities preparing hot meals at the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities community kitchen in Beirut



© UN-Women/Nour Abdul Reda/LUPD



Funds available: \$63.6 million.

Donors who contributed: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Others.

United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIFIL, UNODC, UNRWA, UNSCOL, UN-Women.

NGOs: ACTED, Concern, INTERSOS, SHEILD.

1. Accountability, transparency and effectiveness of state institutions

a. Capacities of institutions

- A Regional Technical Office was established in the municipality of Bourj Hammoud made up of local technical and social experts, who support and enhance the planning and provision of public and municipal services.
- Seven officials from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Interior and Municipalities gained knowledge to improve their work with municipalities and increased their capacities to better in their work with municipalities and social development centres.
- The gender department of the Lebanese Armed Forces was furnished and equipped as part of efforts to mainstream gender equality in public institutions and tackle social norms.
- The Lebanese Women and Children's Parliamentary Committee developed a comprehensive list of all gender legislation submitted to parliament over the last decade and identified which items remain a priority, including 'low hanging fruit' and what needs to be passed but is more ambitious.
- The National Commission for Lebanese Women established an online platform to digitize data collection on women, peace and security, raising public awareness through social media campaigns on ending child marriage and encouraging political participation of women.

b. Capacities of people

- 37 reporters from over 17 national media outlets and 10 reporters from the National News Agency gained increased knowledge of fact-checking practices.
- 24 stability and local development groups/local committees increased their capacity for conflict resolution. Together with municipalities, these committees developed a local stability and development plans that include ideas for direct intervention and for creating positive social change while addressing the specific needs and challenges of the targeted communities.

c. Reforms and policies

- Ministry of Environment's decrees and decisions related to the law 80/2018 on environment protection, which were submitted to the Civil Service Board.
- Ministry of Environment's Solid Waste Management guidelines, Memo 4/1 on Template Tender Documents for Solid Waste Collection & Sweeping.

d. Reports and analysis

- The State of the Lebanese Cities report was published, which advocates for an urban bias to policy deliberations about crisis response, recovery, and longer-term development in Lebanon, an overwhelmingly urban country.
- A Ministry of Interior and Municipalities security report on tension and the security situation was received by the United Nations and fed into its Syria crisis response.

- The Citizen Budget for 2022 was completed following the 2022 Budget Law approval, and published on the Institute of Finance website in both English and Arabic languages.
- A rapid impact assessment of the crisis on state institutions and line ministries to operate and deliver public services was launched and published in November 2022.

Figure 26. Workshop on community participation and advocacy in Beirut as part of the post-blast recovery framework



© UNDP/Rana Sweidan

2. Anti-corruption

a. Reforms and policies

- The first comprehensive Anti-Corruption Code in Lebanon was launched by the National Anti-Corruption Commission, entitled “Fighting and Preventing Corruption: Between Legislation, Judgments and Doctrine”. The code compiles all laws, judgments and doctrines ever developed in Lebanon and constitutes an established reference for lawmakers, policymakers and practitioners on anti-corruption matters, as well as on the effective implementation of the corresponding legal framework.
- Publication of a guide for administrations on the implementation of the Access to Information Law to provide stakeholders with practical implementation guidelines.

b. Reports and analysis

- Lebanon’s United Nations Convention Against Corruption self-assessment report was finalized by the Legal Compliance Task Team with the active participation of specialized civil society organizations.
- The first progress report on the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy was finalized and disseminated.

c. Capacities of institutions

- National Anti-Corruption Commission capacity was strengthened through the provision of the needed institutional and operational support, as well as through technical assistance aiming at activating the implementation of anti-corruption laws and the establishment of asset recovery unit offices.
- The Youth Advocacy Force for Development and Anti-Corruption in Lebanon was established to mobilize Lebanese young people and garner their support for the reform agenda and the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategies and specialized laws.
- The first National Youth Task Team was established to support the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, to advocate for substantial governance reforms and to provide young people with a platform to contribute to the national anti-corruption efforts.
- The Whistleblower Office was established and equipped. It operates with increased knowledge and capacity to activate the whistleblower protection law in coordination with the office of the General Prosecutor and the Ministry of Justice.

- 52 Information Officers representing ministries, public administrations and public institutions gained greater knowledge of the enforcement of information law provisions, as well as how to develop the required annual and expenditure reports.
- Launch of a web-based series that aims to inform, advocate for, monitor and communicate the progress achieved in the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and related laws.

3. Elections

a. Capacities of people

- 1,600 women and young people increased their awareness of parliamentary electoral law, women's political participation and the electoral cycle.
- 450 women improved their political knowledge, enabling many of them to participate in the 2022 electoral cycle on party lists.
- 405 women who received an in-depth training package (90 per cent of the total) ran for elections, two who then got elected. Eight female members of Parliament increased their ability to influence decisions and to advance the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment agenda.
- 2.5 million impressions and over 700,000 stakeholders were reached on social media platforms to increase awareness of elections and the role of women in politics (#VoteEqual).
- A television program named "5050 in Politics" was developed and launched to give 15 women candidates an opportunity to speak directly to their voters and share their respective agendas and political plans.

b. Capacities of institutions

- Supplies procured for the elections' polling stations:
 - 18,000 polling booths.
 - 2,000 ballot Boxes.
 - 25,000 units of indelible ink.
 - 25,500 COVID-19 kits.
 - 38,000 vests and masks.
 - 150,000 packets of visibility materials.
- A national voter education media campaign was created and developed on behalf of the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Supervisory Commission for Elections, with the following results:
 - 425,400 people were reached on social media by three television commercials.
 - 772,000 people viewed animated awareness videos on social media.
 - 900 billboards were displayed.
 - 6,000 posters were displayed.
 - 10,000 flyers were distributed.
 - Over one million SMS text messages were sent.
- The Supervisory Commission for Election increased its capacity by recruiting 30 media monitors to conduct the following:
 - 300 newspapers were monitored.
 - 1,300 articles were analysed.
 - 937 violations were detected, of which 90 were referred to the Court of Publication.
 - 1,500 hours of audiovisual content was broadcasted and monitored.
 - 1,844 electoral violations were detected, of which more than 400 were referred to the Court of Publication.
 - 250,000 online materials were analysed through the use of an e-monitor tool.
- The electoral working group that brings together 13 NGOs working on elections and relevant international partners met on a monthly basis to share experiences and activities.

c. Reforms and policies

- Electoral, legal and gender experts developed a proposed gender quota law that was submitted to the parliament.

d. Reports and analysis

- A report entitled "2022 Parliamentary Elections: Milestones and Lessons Learned".
- A report entitled "Media and Gender Monitoring of the 2022 Elections".
- Four monthly reports (January–April) monitoring media behaviour during the elections.
- A report entitled "Women at the Table: Insights from Lebanese Women in Politics".

The Ministry of Justice, in partnership with UNDP and UNHCR and in coordination with the Beirut and Tripoli Bar Associations, established free, high-quality legal aid helpdesks at the local level to enhance access to justice and improve social stability. As a result of United Nations support, a total of 6,217 people have benefited from these legal aid help desks. One of these helpdesks was established in Baalbek in collaboration with the municipality in 2021.

The legal helpdesk in Baalbek has been bringing justice closer to local communities by providing outreach and awareness sessions and legal advice. It has supported Lebanese citizens, displaced Syrians and migrants in accessing legal assistance, knowing their rights and making judicial procedures more understandable and accessible.

One of the areas where the helpdesk has had an impact is in assisting survivors of sexual and gender-based violence access justice and protection. Jasmin, a Lebanese woman from the Bekaa region, is one of the many women who has been supported by the helpdesk. The helpdesk provided her with legal representation and supported her through complex judicial proceedings to finalize her divorce and custody of her children.

Jasmin said, “I urge every woman who is facing problems and need legal support to seek the assistance of the legal aid helpdesk in Baalbek. Those who think that women are not offered support or are deprived of their rights are mistaken. The legal helpdesk helped me gain back my self-confidence, empowered me, and gave me strength to overcome any challenge.”

Figure 27. A lawyer and a legal assistant in Bekaa providing legal counselling at the legal helpdesk office



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4. Justice and human rights

a. Capacities of institutions

- National Human Rights Commission's capacities increased through:
 - Development of its website and online complaint form.
 - Development of its organigram and associated terms of reference.
 - Coordination and advocacy efforts with other stakeholders on strengthening the functioning of the Commission.
- Development of a database management tool, a judges' evaluation methodology and an inspection

methodology (*référentiels d'inspection*) by the **High Judicial Council** to inform decision-making and improve the efficiency and independence of the justice system.

- The municipal police in 63 municipalities gained increased capacity on human rights and access to justice.
- 17 e-hearing systems were set up in detention facilities.

b. Reforms and policies

- Convening of dialogues and exchanges around legislation on judicial independence, including

through support to the Venice Commission.

c. Capacities of people

- 180 people gained increased knowledge of conflict sensitivity based on UN reports and analysis.
- An awareness-raising campaign on women's housing, land and property rights in Lebanon reached over two million people through social media platforms and 72 people through a roundtable event.
- 6,976 people officially registered a legal identity with UN support.
- **102,538** people were able to access justice:
 - 6,149 of whom benefited from the services of the three pilot helpdesks established by the Access

to Justice Working Group (Ministry of Justice, the Beirut & Tripoli Bar Associations, UNDP and UNHCR).

- 3,688 individuals benefited from awareness-raising sessions conducted by the pilot helpdesks.
- 690 children, youth and adults in detention participated in rehabilitation programmes including crime prevention activities, and prevention of violent extremism.
- 7,690 health kits were distributed across prisons.

- 50 women in Beirut prison and men in Roumieh prison increased their skills and benefited from income-generating activities, including on:
 - Sewing, where 7,690 bed linen and towels used in health kits were produced.
 - 750 maintenance interventions on Internal Security Forces (ISF) vehicles used to escort prisoners to court.
 - Bread production covering 40 per cent of daily needs.
- 9,021 young people and 120 families increased their resilience in the fight against crime, violence and drugs.

One United Nations communication objective is to break stereotypes and combat hate speech. To this end, the United Nations produced a video as part of a public relations initiative to raise awareness of this phenomenon and the associated risks to human rights, democracy and the rule of law. People on the ground were invited to say #NoToHate and counter it with positive speech. The video reached a total of 1.3 million people with direct engagement by 745,000 people on all United Nations social media platforms in Lebanon.

d. Reports and analysis

- Three conflict-sensitive guidance notes were published ([Getting Started with Conflict Sensitivity in Lebanon: Conflict Sensitivity throughout the Project Design Cycle in Lebanon](#); [Conflict-Sensitive Procurement, Recruitment, and Accountability in Lebanon](#)).
- 20 reports on tension monitoring and analysis were circulated.
- One thematic paper on social tensions was published.
- A mutual legal assistance (MLA) assessment was conducted and provided recommendations related to MLA law provisions for legislative reform and strengthening Lebanon’s MLA institutional and operational capacities.

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon established in 1978, is a peacekeeping mission that plays a crucial role in restoring international peace and security and assists the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the extension of its effective authority in southern Lebanon and in support of the Lebanese Armed Forces, the Area of Operations of UNIFIL between the Litani river and the Blue Line, is to be free of weapons, assets and personnel other than those of the Lebanese Armed Forces or UNIFIL, under the mandate expanded after the 2006 war (UN Security Council Resolution 1701). Around 10,000 peacekeepers from 47 troop-contributing countries daily perform operational activities, such as extensive patrolling, mine clearance, interaction with local communities. UNIFIL liaison and coordination mechanism, and the unique tripartite forum (where the Lebanese Armed Forces and the Israel Defense Forces meet)

are key factors in diffusing tensions and preventing escalation along the Blue Line.

United Nations Special Coordinator’s Office for Lebanon

UNSCOL’s mandate combines a political/good offices role for Lebanon offering political guidance to the United Nations system with a coordination role for the UN family in the country. UNSCOL advocates for interventions that aims to achieve the peace and security in Lebanon.

In discharging its political mandate, UNSCOL provides assistance and reports on the implementation of Resolution 1701 (2006) which established a cessation of hostilities at the end of the 33-day war between Lebanon and Israel in the summer of 2006. UNSCOL also works with the Lebanese authorities and different Lebanese parties and sectors to promote long-term stability in the country.

5. Security, law enforcement and social stability

a. Capacities of institutions

- At least 14 countries coordinated support to the Lebanese Armed Forces in 2022. Due to the impact of the economic crisis on the defence and security forces, international support extended for a second consecutive year to emergency and livelihood aids, in addition to developing Lebanese’s security institutions capabilities.

- Announcement of \$72.5 million in funding from the United States and the roll-out of the livelihood support project for both the Lebanese Armed Forces and the Internal Security Forces. These funds will be channelled in cash to all active-duty personnel through a United Nations financial mechanism that will be implemented throughout 2023 (within Human Rights Due Diligence Policy parameters).
- The capacities of the Internal Security Forces increased:
 - A training curricula to ISF was developed on the sexual harassment law (205).
 - Capacities of 16 ISF members enhanced on sexual harassment Law 205 in order to ensure they deliver an inclusive, adequate, and equitable provision of care and transmit technical know-how relating to article 205 throughout the ISF.
 - 40 ISF involved in investigation, security, and protection of women and girls experiencing violence trained to equip them with the tools and knowledge to deliver high-quality services for women and girls experiencing violence (in line with domestic violence 293).
 - 61 officers from the Internal Security Forces received training to improve their policing skills (e.g., car searches, arrest, weapons handling, fingerprint detection, financial crimes).
 - Solar power was provided at to Internal Security Forces in Tyre to ensure the continued availability of electricity and to facilitate telecommunication tasks.
 - The capacities of the Lebanese Armed Forces increased:
 - Maintained LAF's operational activities South of Litani, with non-lethal support such as fuel, food, and medicine.
 - 250 LAF Land Forces and LAF Navy improved their operational capabilities through monthly training exercises on crises response, embarking at sea.
- The capability of the Lebanese Armed Forces Navy in taking on responsibilities in Lebanese territorial waters was increased as a result of upgrading of the costal radar stations.
- 134 officials gained greater knowledge of maritime domain awareness and maritime law enforcement capabilities when facing illicit trafficking of all kinds; related equipment was also provided.
- Providing advanced information technology tools, training and equipment on cybercrime and criminal intelligence analysis to both security agencies.
- The search and rescue capabilities of the General Directorate of General Security and the naval branch of the Lebanese Armed Forces improved as a result of necessary equipment provision and continual needs assessment.
- The first Air Cargo Control Unit became operational at the Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut, increasing the capacity of Lebanese customs authorities to identify high-risk passengers and combat transnational threats.
- 154 municipalities maintained their ability to provide services and decrease tensions.
- The Ministry of Interior and Municipalities increased its capacity to conduct security surveys on tensions and the security situation in 85 per cent of municipalities.
- Over 200 municipalities in Lebanon began adhering to at least one element of the municipal police reform programme.
- The municipal police reform programme was upscaled in one district and consolidated in two others, impacting more than 50 municipalities.

b. Reforms and policies

- In 45 municipalities, self-functioning conflict mitigation mechanisms were established that identify root causes of tension and mitigate conflicts at the municipal level and including all community representatives.
- The Human Rights standards document followed by the Internal Security Forces was updated to better respect and protect human rights (advocacy, policy, technical support and capacity building to integrate human rights in the context of national law enforcement).

c. Capacities of people

- 118 women peacebuilders and mediators worked jointly to address conflict and promote dialogue and reconciliation in Lebanon, 85 per cent of which skills and knowledge of peacebuilding, mediation, reconciliation and dialogue improved after training.
- A women's national peacebuilding network in Lebanon was established, fulfilling a commitment made under Lebanon's National Action Plan 2019-2023 on UNSCR 1325.
- 11 local women's mediation networks implemented community initiatives that addressed community tensions by applying mediation efforts. Three of these mediation networks developed gender-sensitive early warning systems and piloted them in their communities.
- 51 young media students were trained on countering fake news and hate speech and achieved the following results:
 - They supported the organization of 21 local campaigns to raise awareness of the negative impact of fake news and hate speech across Lebanon.

- They contributed to the launch of six national #CountTillTen campaigns.
- They launched SAWAB, the first online fact-checking platform led by young people. SAWAB monitors the

spread of news on a daily basis, verifies whether news is legitimate or fake, fact-checks potential fake news and shares the legitimate news on a WhatsApp group with the wide audience.

d. Reports and analysis

- Four reports were produced that monitor and analyse hate speech trends.
- A report entitled “Prospects and challenges for women’s roles in conflict prevention and reconciliation in Lebanon: Lessons from leading women peacebuilders in Tripoli and Baalbek” was published.
- University students prepared and presented their university theses examining different aspects of the Lebanese Civil War and the forcibly disappeared.

Figure 28. Ruba, a participant in the Creating Space for Women Peacebuilders implemented by UN Women, Lebanon. September 6, 2022



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Empowering media professionals to counter fake news – Agence France Presse, UNDP

Reporters and journalists from traditional and online media outlets are confronted daily with fake news but often lack the knowledge of how to detect it and the means to debunk them.

With its goal of mainstreaming a culture of fact-checking in Lebanese media institutions and building on previous experiences working with media outlets, the UNDP, in partnership with Agence France Press and with the generous financial support of KfW Development Bank (Germany), developed a digital verification guidebook that includes basic image, text and video fact-checking tools and techniques that can be used as a reference by media professionals.

Based on the guidebook, the UNDP provided a two-day training for 37 media professionals from different media outlets (television, newspaper radio and digital) on how to fact-check any news being circulated. After the training, coaching sessions were held to address any challenges participants faced when integrating the newly acquired tools into their daily work.

Halima Tabiaa, a news reporter from the Al Jadeed television station, found the training invaluable, saying, “Reporters don’t usually receive the training needed to enhance their skills, especially when it comes to busting fake news. Those two days were rich with tools I didn’t even know existed. It will definitely help me out in my field of practice.”

Nawal Achkar, a Tele Liban news reporter, shared similar sentiments, stating, “I know that there are so many sources of fake news around, and as a reporter, we are very cautious of what we share. Yet, it’s not enough to be cautious, this training was needed to know how to act when debunking fake news.”

The training included learning more about digital applications and practical methods to use in their daily work as reporters and journalists. Coaching sessions were also provided post-training to tackle and discuss the challenges of the daily implementation of these tools.

After the training, many media professionals reported paying more attention to details they were previously unaware of. Recognizing the importance of countering fake news, they also formed interpersonal bonds. They now double-check information together through a WhatsApp group, prioritizing the delivery of safe and accurate news over being the first to break a story.

Overall, this training was an important step in empowering media professionals to counter fake news and promoting a culture of fact-checking in Lebanon.

Figure 29. Media professionals and reporters in a training session on fact-checking tools and techniques



© UNDP

“Ultimate peace is inner peace,” said Ruba, a Lebanese social activist and mother of four from Baalbek. Ruba does her best to lead a calm and stable life at home today despite having had an unstable childhood following her parents’ divorce and living in an area notorious for recurring armed conflicts. She is convinced that as a woman leader in her community, she can promote a culture of peace and non-violent conflict resolution in her community. To support this work, Ruba is participating in “Creating Space for Women Peacebuilders”, a project jointly implemented by UN-Women and International Alert that promotes peaceful dialogue in local communities with women from the North and Bekaa governorates.

Ruba has had the opportunity to work with her peers to develop a detailed plan to engage young people and community groups in promoting civil peace in Baalbek. As part of this plan, she visited decision-makers in the area to get them on board with her plans and join her in advocating for peaceful conflict resolution. Ruba is one of 118 women peacebuilders and mediators who worked jointly to address conflict and promote dialogue and reconciliation in Lebanon as a result of the support of UN-Women.

Ruba has always been determined to fulfil her ambitions, despite being raised in a conservative environment where she was often told women did not belong outside of the home. She was able to pursue an education in programming and systems analysis, becoming the first woman in Baalbek to earn a degree in this field. “I encourage all women to be able to fulfil their ambitions and get rid of fear. I call all women to express themselves and to play an active role in their communities, similar to the important role they play at home.”

Figure 30. Hammama Regional School for Humanitarian Demining in Lebanon trains military personnel to remove mines and explosive remnants of war



© UNDP/Rana Sweidan

D. Environment



Funds available: \$68.3 million.

Donors who contributed: European Union Germany, Government of Lebanon, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Norway, Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Others.

United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: FAO, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS.

1. Renewable energy

Capacities of institutions

- **6,330 tons of CO₂** equivalent emissions were reduced in 2022 through United Nations support.
- **3.026 megawatts** of additional capacity was gained in installed renewable energy, primarily solar energy.

Turning crisis into opportunity: How solar energy made a difference in Batloun – Batloun Public Intermediate School, Municipality of Batloun, UNDP, UNIC

“Running a school without power is impossible. We need power for heating, lighting, printing, and running labs and libraries. Unfortunately, with the constant power cut, students had to learn in cold and dark classes,” said Maha Hassan, Principal of Batloun Public Intermediate School. The geographical location of the school at an altitude of around 1,050 meters above sea level made it difficult to endure the winter season without the necessary energy sources.

The school relied on three energy sources that proved expensive and unreliable: a private generator that the school owned and ran on fuel, a subscription with a privately-owned generator that supplied energy for schools and residences in the village that also runs on fuel and the national utility supply (Électricité du Liban).

The UNDP installed a solar photovoltaic system in Batloun school as part of a CEDRO 5 (Country Entrepreneurship for Distributed Renewables Opportunities) project funded by the European Union. The UNDP had selected interventions based on the priority Action Plans as identified and designed through the implemented SEACAPS (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan) studies, focusing project activities on the installation of renewable energy systems and related energy efficiency applications.

Head of the Municipality of Batloun, Marwan Kais, believes that “solar panels are essential for public schools since it saves the cost of fuel which is very expensive compared to the limited financial capacities of these institutions”.

The installation of the panels has decreased the energy bill of Batloun Intermediate School by producing 10 megawatt hours per year, leading to eight tons of carbon dioxide savings and covering more than 70 per cent of the energy bill for the school.

After installing the photovoltaic system, the daily lives of both teachers and students became less exhausting.

Figure 31. Rayan and Shimah, ninth-grade students at Batloun Public Intermediate School



© UNIC Beirut/Georges Roukouz, 24 May 2022

Figure 32. Supporting sorting from the source through the provision of solid waste management equipment in Majdl Anjar, Bekaa



© UNDP/Rana Sweidan, 4 April 2022

2. Climate change

- **1,017** hectares of degraded forest underwent rehabilitation restoration with United Nations support.
- 10 clusters of trees were planted, improving rangeland productivity; each cluster included six to eight large trees to enable shepherds to restore rangeland ecosystems.

▶ **1,017** hectares
of degraded
forest restored



Figure 33. An awareness-raising activity organized by UNRWA at an UNRWA school in Beirut about recycling and environmental issues targeting students from first grade to fourth grade



© UNRWA, 2022

3. Environment/Pollution

a. Direct support

- **1,785** people directly benefited from various United Nations initiatives to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources.
- 14.1 per cent reduction in the consumption of ozone-depleting substances (in ozone depletion potential tons) since 2021.
- Seven industrial companies revealed their respective potential to achieve yearly reductions in primary energy by 30,233 megawatts, in CO₂-equivalent emissions by 8,300 tons, in water consumption by 18,700 m³ and in waste generation by 4,344 tons.

b. Reforms/Policies

- Two general rangeland management plans were produced for Akkar and Jbeil.
- Two sustainable tourism master plans for Akkar and Jbeil were produced.
- One Sustainable Mountain Tourism Strategy for Lebanon was produced.
- One policy gap analysis for mainstreaming circular practices and sustainability principles in industrial zones was conducted.

4. Waste (solid and wastewater)

a. Direct support

- 150,000 tons of mixed rubble generated from the buildings affected by the Beirut port explosion were safely managed by the Rubble to Mountains consortium in Karantina-Beirut.
- Two sediment sumps were constructed in the upstream stretch of Akkar to better convey water to irrigation canals in El Bared and to optimize water flow.
- Greater knowledge of the impact of water pollution and the importance of good solid waste management practices was gained by 23 Trainers of Trainers, seventeen of whom increased the sensitization levels and awareness of 118 beneficiaries from different villages from Akkar.

Figure 34. Reforestation activities in South Lebanon



© FAO Lebanon/Souheil Semaan

b. Reports/Analysis

- A baseline analysis of infectious medical waste quantities and disposal/treatment practices was completed.

Greening restaurants: A business with an impact – Mayrig Restaurant, Nusaned NGO, UNEP, UNIC

“Generating profit might be easy, but it’s hard to reach a point where you’re proud of your work,” said Aline Kamakian, 53, owner of Mayrig Restaurant in Beirut. Over the past nine years, Aline has been working on reducing the environmental footprint of her business. Today she is transforming Mayrig into a zero-waste project with passion, perseverance and hard work. Instead of throwing away leftovers, plastics and glass bottles together in landfills, Aline transforms food waste into compost that nourishes plants and plastics and glass into new useful items despite the challenges.

“When we first started sorting, my employees thought that the extra tasks were inefficient and exhausting. But, with time, they started realizing the importance of sorting to Lebanon’s environment. So today, they’re keen on sorting and treating waste like we do,” she adds.

Aline handled this process alone for nine years until the financial crisis hit Lebanon in 2019. The cost of sorting, composting and recycling became an extra burden for Aline’s business, and greening Mayrig was thus compromised for the sake of other priorities.

The UNEP Regional Office for West Asia based in Beirut was looking for restaurants in the Mar Mikhael/ Gemmayze area to partner with on targeting the waste problem in Lebanon. Under this project (July 2022-June 2023), which is part of the SwitchMed II Programme funded by the European Union and implemented in collaboration with local civil society organization NUSANED, the United Nations is supporting Mayrig by collecting their food waste.

“For each kilogram of plastics that households put in our bins, they receive points that eventually become shopping vouchers at local businesses in the area, and this is one of the incentive mechanisms we will be using for the purpose of encouraging waste prevention under this project,” said Rasha Sukkarieh, the programme manager at NUSANED.

Today, Mayrig alone produces around 20 kilograms of food waste and between four and seven kilograms of plastic per day.

Figure 35. Aline Kamakian, founder of Mayrig restaurant, Beirut



© UNIC Beirut/Georges Roukoz, 18 August 2022

5. Financial overview

Generous donor support to Lebanon has reached almost nine billion dollars since 2017, demonstrating the strong solidarity and commitment of the international community to Lebanon, especially affected Lebanese, refugee and migrant populations. The United States, the European Union and Germany alone contributed more than half of all international assistance to Lebanon in the past six years and are consistently the top three donors in the country.

This funding helped implement critical activities under the active Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF), as well as activities under the completed COVID-19 response, the Beirut port explosion flash appeal and the United Nations Strategic Framework. The majority of funding continues to be invested in priority areas that help reduce hardships caused by the multiple national crises. For example, in 2022, the “social” priority area alone received \$1.39 billion in comparison to the \$202.7 million in combined funds provided to the remaining three priority areas (economic, peace and governance and environment).

Due to the nature of the reporting system and information shared by donor and implementing partners, Lebanon aid tracking does not provide a delineation between humanitarian and development funding and is instead disaggregated by response plan.

Funding for sustainable development remains constrained due to lack of progress on key reforms and their enactment and implementation. Moreover, development loans available for the country are underutilized, prioritizing short-term solutions at the expense of essential long-term development approaches.

During this difficult time for the country, it is crucial that Lebanon remains high on the agenda of the international community to ensure that urgent support reaches those most affected by the multiple crises and those most at risk of being left behind. It is equally critical to invest in urgent development for Lebanon, the only real and sustainable way to prevent protracted humanitarian crisis and avoid further exacerbating the vulnerabilities of the Lebanese population and institutions.²⁵

Figure 36. Lamia, a forest hero of Lebanon, is a woman understanding sustainable living, environment and working for sustainable forest management



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Figure 37. Funding received per year since 2017 (Millions of dollars)

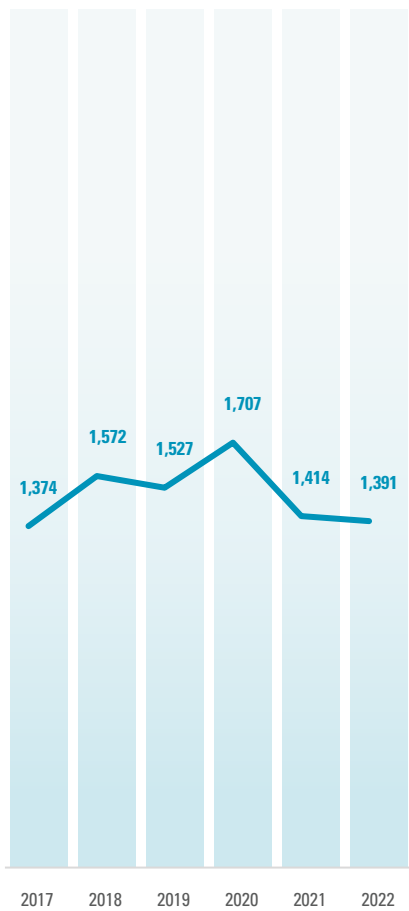


Figure 38. Funding received by top ten donors since 2017 (Millions of dollars)

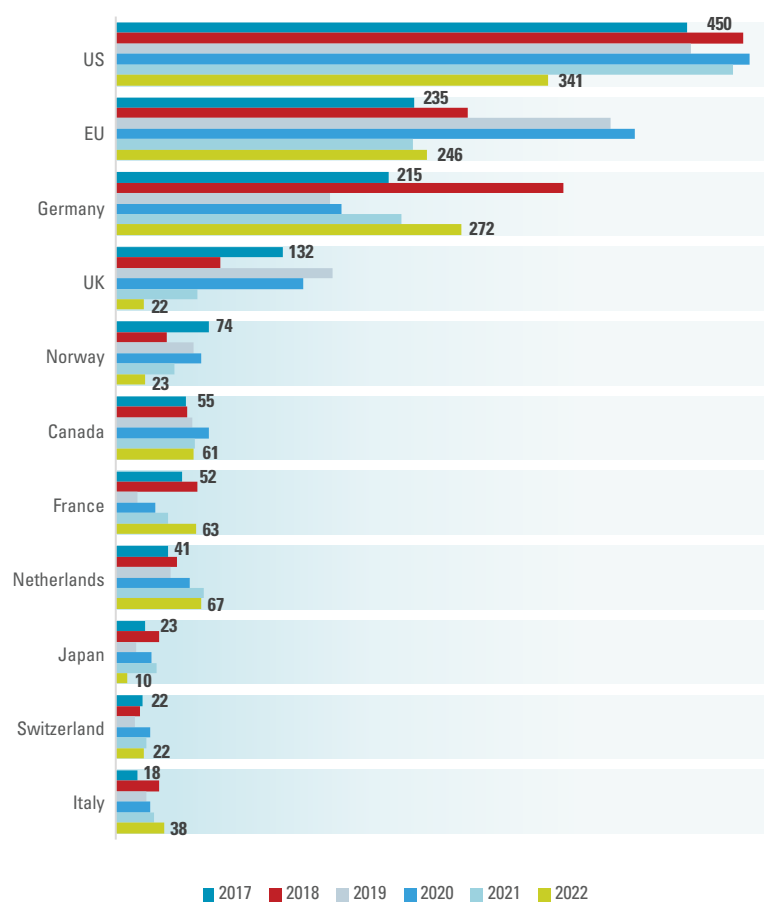


Figure 39. Funding available in 2022 by SDG (Millions of dollars)

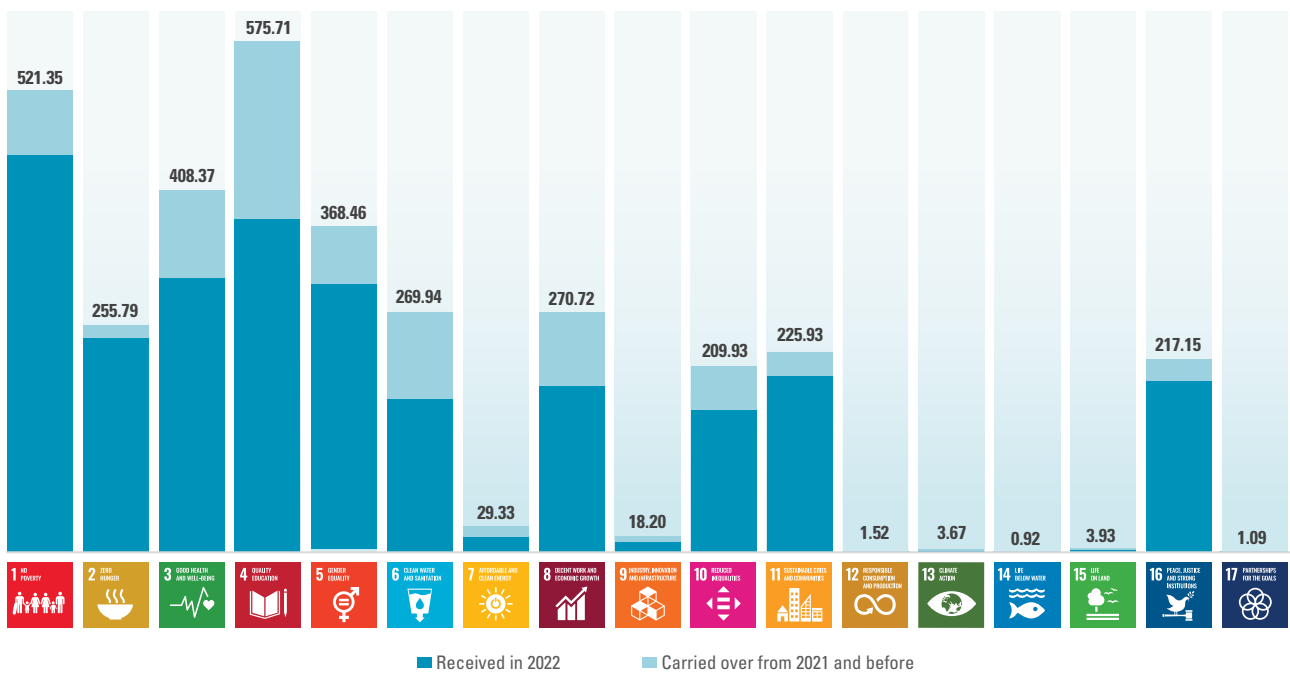


Figure 40. Funding available in 2022 by United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes (Millions of dollars)

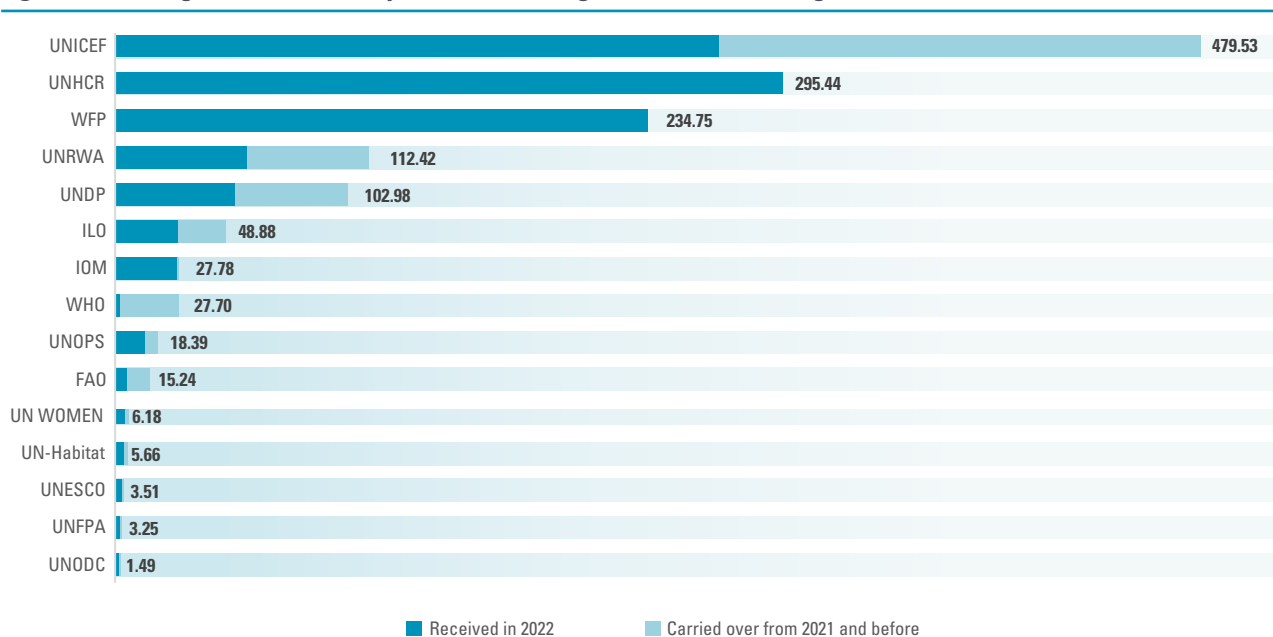
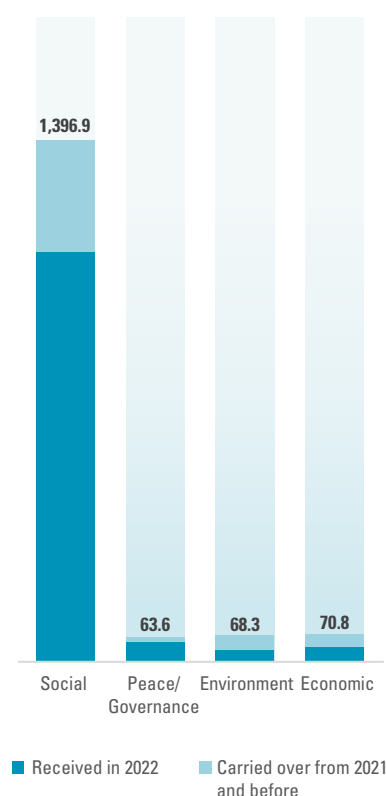


Figure 41. Funding received in 2022 by donor (Millions of dollars)



Figure 42. Funding available in 2022 by priority area (Millions of dollars)



Note: Figures 36–42 include data reported in the quarterly aid tracking exercise conducted by the Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) and the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan Inter-agency (LCRP Inter-Agency). Figure 42 additionally includes data reported in the Financial Tracking Services, which could include some overlap.

6. Way forward

Given the multiplying challenges facing Lebanon (which must be addressed through a recovery and development lens), the United Nations is committed to providing support that can help put Lebanon back on the development trajectory towards the SDGs and alignment with an IMF programme.

United Nations development support from 2023 to 2025 will be framed under the four priority areas of

the Cooperation Framework (CF), which was signed with the Government in April 2022. The priorities in the Cooperation Framework were shaped as a result of the findings of the Final Review of the previous framework, the common country analysis by the United Nations and consultations with key stakeholders, including Government at the local and national levels. The four priority areas, specific outcomes and outputs are:

People

- **Outcome 1:** Enhanced inclusive, equitable, comprehensive and sustainable social protection systems and programmes.
 - 1.1: Social assistance and insurance schemes strengthened to ensure better integration, sustainability, extension of coverage and improved adequacy of benefits; establishing a social protection floor.
 - 1.2: Local and national capacities and frameworks of institutions mandated for social protection strengthened to ensure greater national stewardship.
- **Outcome 2:** Strengthened provision of and equitable access to quality services, including basic services.
 - 2.1: Barriers of all nature (including financial, gendered, cultural, geographical, physical, human

and infrastructural) to access quality basic services mitigated.

- 2.2: Quality of basic services improved, including for the most vulnerable.

- **Outcome 3:** Enhanced protection for the most vulnerable.
 - 3.1: Lebanon's legal and policy framework strengthened to provide a safe and inclusive environment for the most vulnerable.
 - 3.2: Participation of the most vulnerable in identifying, preventing, mitigating and addressing protection issues strengthened.
 - 3.3: The access to protection services for the most vulnerable are increased.

Prosperity

- **Outcome 1:** Enhanced competitiveness and business environment of MSMEs and high potential productive sector value chains.
 - 1.1: MSMEs and farmers have improved capacities to implement sustainable and gender-inclusive production and business practices.
 - 1.2: Legal policy frameworks enhanced to support productive sectors towards an equitable and gender inclusive economic growth.

- **Outcome 2:** Strengthened diversified income opportunities to promote social and economic inclusion.

- 2.1: Labour force entrants, particularly among young people, women and vulnerable groups, have enhanced access to decent employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- 2.2: Capacities of municipalities, national institutions, local cooperatives and local business associations improved.

Peace and Governance

- **Outcome 1:** Strengthened inclusive social contract grounded in human rights to enhance good governance, effective and accountable institutions and women's participation.
 - 1.1: Accountability, transparency and effectiveness of state institutions at national and local level, including on key strategic reforms, improved.
 - 1.2: Corruption reduced in line with Lebanon's commitment under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, the national anti-corruption strategy and the SDGs.
 - 1.3: Inclusive, efficient and transparent participatory decision-making improved with emphasis on inclusion of women, young people and marginalized groups.
- **Outcome 2:** Strengthened security, stability, justice and peace.
 - 2.1: Social intra- and inter-community cohesion enhanced.
 - 2.2: Lebanese Army and law enforcement institutions strengthened in line with international commitments.
 - 2.3: Culture of peace strengthened to reject violence and prevent conflict.
 - 2.4: Independence, accountability, accessibility and effectiveness of justice and human rights institutions and mechanisms strengthened in line with international standards and the Secretary-General's call for action on human rights.

Planet

- **Outcome 1:** Strengthened stabilization and green recovery to reduce vulnerabilities and environmental risks.
 - 1.1: Pollution reduced and natural resource efficiency maintained through sustainable production and consumption towards green recovery and reform.
 - 1.2: Climate change mitigation and adaptation intensified, including climate security and agricultural resilience implemented.
 - 1.3: Management of land resources, marine and coastal ecosystems including gender-sensitive urban environments enacted.

The funds required from 2023 to 2025 to achieve these outputs and contribute to these outcomes stand at \$4.63 billion, while currently only \$362 million is available. With the existing \$4.27 billion gap,

the United Nations will prioritize and agree on specific areas that will provide the biggest impact with the available funds. Government participation and coordination will be a priority for the United Nations as the implementation of reforms (including those under an IMF agreement) and national programmes will be necessary for the achievement of the Cooperation Framework outcomes.

The Cooperation Framework will be critical for greater coordination with all key partners in recovery and development towards achieving the SDGs. It will help ensure transparency and accountability of actions and commitments. Oversight will be provided through the Joint Steering Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

Figure 43. Mural art at a private school rehabilitated by UN-Habitat



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List of figures

Figure 1. Resident Coordinator for Lebanon, Imran Riza, meeting beneficiaries in Tripoli at a training event on agro-food processing held at the Industrial Development and Research Agri-Center (IDRAC) of the Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture of Tripoli (CCIAT) Center and supported by the United Nations Productive Sectors Development Programme	2
Figure 2. Aida is a Palestinian refugee living in Al Rashidieh camp in Lebanon who helped train over 100 women to grow vegetables on their home's rooftops. She was one of nine women leading the fight against climate change and featured in the UN Lebanon IWD campaign, in 2022	6
Figure 3. Thyme harvesting and collection	8
Figure 4. Residents of Maarach neighbourhood, part of the rehabilitating 5 alleyways, in partnership with Polish Centre for International Aid through funding from Polish Aid. 5 May 2022, Bourj Hammoud, Lebanon	12
Figure 5. UNDP_Fishermen_Mount Lebanon 2022 August	14
Figure 6. Tripoli	17
Figure 7. Joud, one-year-old, receiving his polio vaccine at the Naqaa' Medical Centre. The European Union, UNICEF and the Ministry of Public Health provide all essential routine vaccines for free in more than 800 public primary healthcare facilities to reach all children residing in the country	19
Figure 8. Alissar, a 22-year-old nurse, was part of the multidisciplinary team working on curbing the spread of cholera in the Diarrheal Treatment Center in Tripoli Governmental Hospital in North Lebanon	19
Figure 9. Students in their classroom in Lydda school in Al Zaheria, Tripoli	20
Figure 10. Reactivated Karantina streets and sidewalks in Beirut	21
Figure 11. A young girl playing on the Vendome stairs in Beirut, after their rehabilitation and reactivation by UN-Habitat Lebanon and Catalytic Action. The wooden platforms and seats were created by local carpenters with UNIDO support	21
Figure 12. Agri-food business leaders meeting with international buyers at the B2B Matchmaking event	22
Figure 13. Awatef and her granddaughter in Bekaa rely on National Poverty Training Programme assistance to buy food and pay for other household expenses	23
Figure 14. Schoolchildren carrying their school meals outside in Akkar, North Lebanon	23
Figure 15. Ramadan Mawas is 15 years-old and forced to work in the morning before going to school in the afternoon	24
Figure 16. A windmill at DAZ Agria Grounds in Shalfeh, Tripoli. 27 January 2023	24
Figure 17. Salma, photographed in Beirut	25
Figure 18. UNDP_Barouk YLP clay_2022 December	26
Figure 19. Austrian ambassador visits an "Access Kitchen" in Mar Mikhail, Beirut managed by the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities, which provides income-generating jobs to women with disabilities	31
Figure 20. Ramzieh Hammoud, 52, in her hometown in Akkar	31
Figure 21. Modern greenhouses offer better ventilation, lower temperatures and are less physically demanding to work in than traditional greenhouses	32

Figure 22. Agri-food business leaders meeting with international buyers at the B2B Matchmaking event	33
Figure 23. Our #GIL participant Maroun, is a young entrepreneur who wants to improve our environment! With his partner Sarkis, they created Hydro-Green a project that uses a newly developed method of growing plants	33
Figure 24. Rita Habib, 32, participated in Mouvement Social’s vocational training course in Beirut	34
Figure 25. Women and girls with disabilities preparing hot meals at the Lebanese Union for People with Physical Disabilities community kitchen in Beirut	34
Figure 26. Workshop on community participation and advocacy in Beirut as part of the post-blast recovery framework	36
Figure 27. A lawyer and a legal assistant in Bekaa providing legal counselling at the legal helpdesk office	38
Figure 28. Ruba, a participant in the Creating Space for Women Peacebuilders implemented by UN Women, Lebanon. September 6, 2022	41
Figure 29. Media professionals and reporters in a training session on fact-checking tools and techniques	41
Figure 30. Hammana Regional School for Humanitarian Demining in Lebanon trains military personnel to remove mines and explosive remnants of war	42
Figure 31. Rayan and Shimah, ninth-grade students at Batloun Public Intermediate School	43
Figure 32. Supporting sorting from the source through the provision of solid waste management equipment in Majdl Anjar, Bekaa	44
Figure 33. An awareness-raising activity organized by UNRWA at an UNRWA school in Beirut about recycling and environmental issues targeting students from first grade to fourth grade	44
Figure 34. Reforestation activities in South Lebanon	45
Figure 35. Aline Kamakian, founder of Mayrig restaurant, Beirut	45
Figure 36. Lamia, a forest hero of Lebanon, is a woman understanding sustainable living, environment and working for sustainable forest management.....	46
Figure 37. Funding received per year since 2017.....	47
Figure 38. Funding received by top ten donors since 2017	47
Figure 39. Funding available in 2022 by SDG	47
Figure 40. Funding available in 2022 by United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes	48
Figure 41. Funding received in 2022 by donor	48
Figure 42. Funding available in 2022 by priority area	48
Figure 43. Mural art at a private school rehabilitated by UN-Habitat	50

List of boxes

Alissar helps curb the spread of cholera – Ministry of Public Health, Tripoli Governmental Hospital, WHO	19
Reviving Mar Mikhael’s main heritage stairs to provide vibrant public spaces designed by children – Catalytic Action, the Directorate General of Antiquities, the Municipality of Beirut, UN-Habitat, UNIDO.....	21
What National Poverty Targeting Programme assistance means to women – Ministry of Social Affairs, UN-Women, WFP	23
Cash assistance brings relief to Ramadan and his family – UNHCR, WFP.....	24
In the words of Salma: “We, as women and girls, deserve better” – KAFA, UNICEF, UN-Women	25
From grieving the loss of a child to starting a new agri-food business – FAO, ILO, Lebanese League For Women in Business, UNIDO, UNDP, UNICEF, UN-Women.....	31
Modern greenhouse initiative transforming farmer productivity – ILO, UNICEF, UNHCR	32
Women-led cooperatives amidst crises – Al Atayeb, UNDP, UNIC	32
Boosting the export skills of Lebanese businesses – UNDP, UNIDO	33
Two years after the Beirut port explosion, Rita, Maha and other women and girls train as nursing aides to help manage the ongoing crisis – Mouvement Social, UNICEF, UN-Women	34
Access Kitchen: A newfound purpose for women with disabilities after the Beirut port explosion – LUPD, UNICEF, UN-Women	34
The story of Nahla – Ministry of Justice, Beirut and Tripoli Bar Associations, UNDP, UNHCR.....	38
Empowering media professionals to counter fake news – Agence France Presse, UNDP.....	41
Lebanese women at the forefront of non-violent conflict resolution – UNIC, International Alert, UNIC, UN-Women	42
Turning crisis into opportunity: how solar energy made a difference in Batloun – Batloun Public Intermediate School, Municipality of Batloun, UNDP, UNIC	43
Greening restaurants: a business with an impact – Mayrig Restaurant, Nusaned NGO, UNEP, UNIC	45

Acronyms

3RF	Recovery, Reconstruction and Reform Framework
DSS	Department of Safety and Security (United Nations)
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HJC	High Judicial Council
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LCRP	Lebanon Crisis Response Plan
MSME	micro, small and medium enterprise
NGO	non-governmental organization
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PRL	Palestinian Refugees Living in Lebanon
PRS	Palestinian Refugees from Syria
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIC Beirut	United Nations Information Centres Beirut
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNSCOL	United Nations Special Coordinator Office for Lebanon
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

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