Ms Najat Rochdi  
UN Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator in Lebanon

Najat Rochdi is the current UN Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon since the 1st of August 2020. Rochdi brings over 20 years of experience in development and humanitarian assistance and international coordination in conflict and post-conflict areas, including through her last assignment as Senior Adviser to the Special Envoy for Syria and Director of Peer to Peer with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Geneva.

She holds a doctorate in applied Maths and Engineer in Information Systems from the National Institute of Statistics and of Applied Economics in Rabat and a Master’s degree in Mathematics and Fundamental Applications from the University of Paris Sud 11. She is fluent in Arabic, English and French. Born in Morocco in 1961, she has four children.

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Mr Rony Gedeon  
Development Coordination Officer (Partnerships & Development Finance)

Rony has more than 12 years of experience working on development cooperation in Lebanon allowing him to acquire extensive experience in resource mobilisation, monitoring and evaluation and strategic planning and programming.

Rony is an expert in partnership building, joint financing, multi-stakeholder planning and joint programming with his decade of experience at the RCO.

Rony is a native Arabic speaker and is fluent in English with intermediary knowledge of French. He holds an MBA in Project & Operations Management from Notre Dame University in Lebanon.

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Ms Dima Krayem  
Senior Economist

Dima joined the RCO as a Senior Economist in August 2021. Prior to joining the RCO, Dima was the LOUISE Senior Project Manager for two years, working with three UN agencies on unified cash assistance to Syrian Refugees.

Her experience also includes working as a Research Analyst in human development for the World Bank. She was also an Economics instructor at the Lebanese American University.

Dima holds a PhD in Development Studies with a focus on political economy from the University of Cambridge, and an MA in International and Development Economics from Yale University.

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Ms Natalie Sarafian  
Head of RCO

Natalie joined the RCO as the Team Leader in March 2020. Natalie’s experience includes working in the United Nations Department of Policy, Evaluation, and Training in New York on Protection of Civilians policy matters as Civil Affairs Officer in the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire, as well as in the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic. She also worked with UNICEF in the Central African Republic in addition to working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Canada. Natalie is a Canadian national and holds an MSc in Global Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

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Ms Kristine Najjar  
Development Coordination Officer (Data Management & Results Monitoring/Reporting)

Kristine has served at the RCO for more than four years, with experience in data, coordination, strategic planning, research and communications. She has previously worked at the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in Beirut on economic affairs. Kristine holds an MSc in Local Economic Development and a BA in International Economics.

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Ms Farah Ballout  
Executive Associate to the Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator

Farah ensures the effective and efficient functioning of the UN Resident Coordinator Office and ensures provision of effective communications. Farah leads the execution of operational services of the UN Resident Coordinator Office through managing data and facilitating the implementation and administration of the UN Activities. She is a member of the UN Operations Management Team, Business Operations Strategy Working Groups, Local Salary Survey Committee, and contributes to various UN Working Groups on behalf of the Resident Coordinator Office.

Farah holds a Bachelor degree in Computer Science from the American University of Beirut.

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Ms Nadine Abi Zeid Daou  
National Information Officer

Nadine provides communications support to the Resident Coordinator as well as UNIC Beirut on global and national development priorities. Nadine has served at the UN Secretariat for more than 15 year, with experience in communications and advocacy, project management, programme planning, research, and partnerships and resource mobilisation.

Nadine holds a Master’s of Science in Poverty Reduction: Policy and Practice from the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies, and a Master’s of Arts in Translation & Languages from USEK-Lebanon.

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Mr Shadi Hamadi  
Driver

Shadi is the Driver of the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, working with the RCO as well as the Office as a whole. His work comprises logistical support, minor paperwork for the RCO, and VIP missions inclusive of the Airport. Shadi’s first experience with the United Nations was in 2007 when he worked at UNICEF. He then moved to ILO, then OCHA, and in March 2020 he moved to the RCO. As such, his experience spans 13 years and four United Nations’ agencies.

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