Words from the Heart

On the Occasion of Eid Al Adha, we greet our URDA family who are currently sacrificing their efforts and time to serve our community in the face of poverty, hunger, disease and ignorance and striving to bring joy to the hearts of people.

I cannot say many happy and blissful returns since you are the joy and blessings of every year... ... 

URDA's General Manager
Houssam Al Ghali

Over 161,000 Beneficiaries Have Benefited from URDA's 2021 Adha Projects

The Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) concluded its “Giving Hope” campaign for 2021, which aimed to provide sacrificial meat portions to the most deprived Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian families across Lebanon. URDA's field teams were fully prepared around the clock during the four days of Eid to provide sacrificial meat portions to those in need in accordance with high-quality legal and health standards, under the supervision of specialized committees and municipalities in the regions.

To ensure the safety of the distributed meat and the availability of sanitary conditions, sacrificed meat was transported for distribution to beneficiaries in refrigerated vehicles, taking into account precautionary measures and safety conditions, especially in light of the high temperature.

This year's sacrifices included 462 sheep and 408 calves that were distributed to 32,256 families, the equivalent of 161,280 beneficiaries in Aarsal, Bekaa, North and South Lebanon, Beirut, Saida and Mount Lebanon.

This seasonal project, which URDA annually carries out, occurred this holiday amid a severe economic and social crisis that most needy families in Lebanon have to live in, where this year's sacrifices are witnessing a marked increase in the number of targeted areas and beneficiary families. URDA's General Manager, Houssam Al-Ghali confirmed that over the course of four days, URDA's relief teams including 150 workers and volunteers had been focused on implementing the Adha project with full compliance with the conditions and measures of public safety and strict preventive measures to reduce the spread of COVID19+, moving between farms, slaughterhouses and refugee camps and poverty-stricken areas, and added that the number of workers in the sacrificial season this year reached more than 150 individuals, the largest part of which are volunteers who chose to spend Eid serving the needy away from their families where they eagerly celebrated this Adha in innovative and professional ways.

In order to contribute to the spirit of giving and hope, the relief sector provided Eid clothing, toys and candies to children, especially orphans and children of low-income families, where 460 purchase vouchers were distributed in Akkar and Saida to about 460 children.

During Eid al-Adha, the Child Protection Program strived to bring joy to children's hearts, carrying out a series of recreational activities for 420 children in the Bekaa, Akkar and Aarsal. Activities during the first two days of Eid varied to include the story of Eid al-Adha presented by an Eid storyteller (Hakawati) in Akkar and Bekaa, which aimed to spread the spirit of giving and hope, as well as to celebrate the birthday of a number of children in Aarsal and to provide candies and gifts to around 830 children across Lebanon. Provided support, played a role in releasing low-income families from their financial burdens, and brought joy to the hearts of children and families. URDA also thanks to the municipalities of the regions and all volunteers for all their help which was provided to facilitate and organize the distribution process.
Situational Report Prepared by URDA on the Suffering of the Lebanese Amidst the Economic Crisis as Eid Al-ADHA Approaches.

Click on the image above to read the report

URDA’s Preparations to Welcome Eid Al Adha

“Giving Hope” Campaign Achievements

URDA’s Adha Achievements in Numbers

Click on the image to watch the video:
The Sponsorship Sector Supports Over 2,000 Beneficiaries Just Before Eid Al Adha

As part of URDA’s “Giving Hope” campaign, as Eid Al Adha approaches, the Sponsorship sector in URDA has been working hard for nearly two weeks to provide cash assistance to orphaned children and vulnerable families so that they can welcome Eid Al Adha with a smile on their faces without being burdened by financial problems.

In addition to cash assistance to over 2000 beneficiaries all over Lebanon, field teams organized recreational activities for children to spread the joy and spirit of Eid.

In turn, the beneficiaries including families and orphans sent their best wishes and thanks to all donors from all over the world and to all those working in the sponsorship sector for their efforts.

URDA Offered Eid Clothes for Children before Eid Al Adha

URDA continues its preparations to welcome the blessed occasion of Eid Al-Adha through the “Giving Hope” campaign where children received their share of the joy on Thursday, 15 July 2021, in Akkar, where our teams distributed purchase vouchers to 150 children so they can buy Eid outfits from the Akkar Plaza shops.

The joy of the children was felt at a time when 40% of the children in Lebanon belonged to families with no provider, while 77% of them belong to families that, according to UNICEF,

receive no social assistance. One of URDA’s volunteers who joined us in the distribution activity confirmed that this project is an annual humanitarian intervention aimed at providing in-kind clothing assistance to children from the most vulnerable and deprived families to draw smiles on their faces as Eid Al Adha approaches.

URDA’s Protection Sector Organizes Adha Activities for Children

In an effort to bring joy to the hearts of children during the Holy Eid of Adha, the Child Protection Program in the Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) carried out a series of recreational activities for 420 children in Bekaa, Akkar and Arsal. During the first two days of Eid, activities varied to include the Eid story presented by the Eid storyteller in Akkar and the Bekaa, which aimed to spread the spirit of giving and hope, as well as to celebrate the birth of a number of children in Arsal and to give candies and gifts to needy children.

These activities were greatly welcomed by children who thanked the protection program team, which has always provided them with support at all psychological, social and other levels. In turn, URDA’s Child Program Manager Alaa Kaddoura expressed her happiness at the interaction of the children as they engaged in the Eid event, mainly that they have experienced a long year of solitude due to COVID19-. She added that URDA’s child protection program will do its best to make it up for the children and allow them to access their rights to play and safety.
URDA's Education Sector Conducts a Training on Active Learning to Al Nour School Teachers

Based on URDA’s education sector’s principles regarding the creation of an active modern teacher, a training course on active learning was held on Friday, July 9th, 2021, in the Baalbek Palace hall with trainers Ali Tartosi and Hanin Saleh.

Through activities that included colors, clay, papers, and pens, long training hours felt like enjoyable interactive minutes that were based on games, exercises and movement derived from several theories of learning.

Project coordinator, Hamza Diab confirmed that the training conducted by the education sector in URDA is practical and applied directly to the teaching process at Al Nour School in Aarsal through a series of workshops and planning. The impact of the training is measured by the student’s attachment to the school and the extent of their academic improvement.

The training was concluded at the Baalbeck Palace hall, where participants thanked the working cadre for these enjoyable educational activities.

URDA's Education Sector Partners with Anera Within the YFS Project Funded by UNICEF

URDA's education sector, in partnership with Anera, an organization funded by UNICEF, is implementing the Youth Functional Skills program (YFS), which comes as part of the youth empowerment project which aims at providing young people with future job skills that are required in a creative society based on innovation and building opportunities that are talent-based, in addition to other needed requirements.

The project has completed its first phase and will begin with the second phase by the beginning of next week.

The project targets young Lebanese students who have dropped out of school due to deteriorating economic conditions and aims to offer intensive courses in English, mathematics, and computer with a number of instructors specializing in the field of education.

For our part in URDA’s education sector, we stress the importance of building partnerships with local and international organizations that we can collaborate with to help children and young people to achieve their basic right to quality education in Lebanon.
URDA Offers Emergency Humanitarian Aid to the Families Affected by the “Hilal” Refugee Camp Fire

Upon hearing about the fire that broke out on Monday evening, July 11, 2021, in the “Hilal” Syrian refugee camp in Al Taybeh area in Baalbeck, URDA’s emergency relief team rushed to support the families affected by the fire, which damaged 45 out of 110 tents completely and provided 160 grilled chicken and 160 gallons of water, as well as 320 bread bundles to 160 families.

The manager of the relief and shelter sector in URDA, Fares Fares, confirmed that the tents are built on loose foundations of wooden and metal columns, covered with a light layer of fabrics and plastic casings that contributed significantly to the spread of fire faster, adding that Syrian refugee camps in Lebanon are constantly subjected to fires of varying severity where losses cannot be counted, appealing to the concerned authorities to offer their help to the affected at all levels whether health or legal, in addition to spreading awareness among refugees about avoiding such incidents and how to face them.

Lebanon is home to some 1.5 million Syrian refugees, spread over informal camps and residential areas, according to official Lebanese estimates, and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) says it has about 900,000 refugees facing difficult living conditions.

WEE CAN Projects Supports 3 Women-Owned Small Businesses

In collaboration with COSPE, URDA’s WEE.CAN project managed to support 3 different businesses owned by women. These businesses received a grant that helped them to develop their work, purchase new equipment and guaranteed them sustainability. #MSMEs and #SMEs support to reach income generation is one of the most important goals of our livelihood Sector.

URDA’s Relief Sector Distributes Aid to Needy Families Amidst Lebanon’s Economic Crisis

In the light of the crippling economic and financial crises under which the needy of all nationalities across Lebanon are suffering, the relief sector in URDA has taken the responsibility to provide relief assistance to the deprived Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian families.

In this context, field teams in the poorest areas in Lebanon are preparing to provide various relief aid, in hope that it may be a dose of reassurance to families who lack security and safety during such difficult times. Our relief teams distributed around 250 food parcels to Palestinian refugees in Saida in addition to 1400 hot meals to deprived Lebanese and Palestinian families, and 200 food parcels to Syrian refugees in Bekaa.

Poor areas and slums in North Lebanon received a large share of relief assistance where around 300 food parcels have been distributed to Lebanese families in the Bab Al Tabbeneh area and 200 others to Syrian families in Tripoli, in addition to 100 food parcels to Palestinian refugee families in Al Badawi camp.

It is worth mentioning that the relief sector is preparing to implement this year’s Adha projects under the slogan “Giving Hope,” which will be distributing meat portions, Eid clothes and children’s toys.
Based on a UNICEF needs assessment to examine the impact of the current situation in Lebanon on children, 80% of children were worse off than at the beginning of 2020, with the impact mainly on education, food and mental health.