How Does URDA Deal with Lebanon's Economic crisis?
Lebanese families and the most vulnerable people in Lebanon are suffering from poverty. According to a recent United Nations study, poverty has affected 80 percent of Lebanese families. Poverty is considered one of the social scourges that bring social tragedy and problems if occurred, since the resulted deprivation will cause an increase in the rate of social and economic conflicts such as crimes, robbery, delinquency, unemployment, etc.

How Does URDA Deal with the Crisis?
Referring to all the above, and believing in URDA's vision of being the safe place for all people in need in Lebanon and the balanced reference for humanitarian action, URDA intervenes in assisting families affected by the crisis by providing basic support and necessities to the most vulnerable groups through several humanitarian projects:

- Distributing food parcels
- Distributing hot meals
- Distributing hygiene kits and women hygiene kits
- Reconstructing camps and shelters
- Providing needed medications
- Supplying medical centers and providing the needed medical devices
- Monthly sponsoring families in need and orphans
- Sponsoring students and providing school necessities
- Organizing awareness-raising lectures regarding domestic violence, legal protection, and children's rights
- Supporting women empowerment projects and small-scale productive projects
- Supporting agricultural projects
- Providing vocational courses
Another Fire Reaches 11 Refugee Tents in Al Bekaa

Yesterday, a fire hit tents that refugees see as home in 001 and 008 Camps in Qob Elias, Al Bekaa, as if the struggle of being refugees has been enough. Since the fire destroyed eleven tents, 11 families totaling over 60 people have been forced to relocate to a new camp.

URDA's Emergency Relief Team was ready to control this humanitarian crisis. Their professional sectors are working on escorting the victims and gathering their primary information through lists and schedules to provide food, medicines, and alternative shelters. The team is also working on providing the victims with legal papers that have been damaged because of the fire.

The Reproductive Health Services Benefit More than 2000 Women Since 2022

As a result of Covid19- and the severe economic situation that has hit Lebanon, more people of Lebanese and Syrian nationalities require medical assistance. Pregnant women and children make up a large portion of this population, which has raised the risk to the mother and her kid. This affects primary and secondary healthcare centers, as the number of patients and deaths increases.

In this context, the Medical Village Center in Bekaa and Al Rawda Medical Center in Beirut have been sponsored to cover reproductive healthcare since the beginning of 2022. Prenatal care for over 2400 pregnant women and postnatal care for 460 mothers and babies are among the services provided. In addition, 2000 pregnant women received ultrasound services, 1036 women had laboratory testing, and various evaluations and medications linked to pregnancy were offered.
URDA's Education Sector Includes Students with Disability in its Educational Programs

URDA's Education Sector included 20 disabled kids from Al-Rawafed School in Bekaa in its educational programs. The pupils have different disabilities including limited mobility, visual impairment, and speech impairment.

A team of teachers and professionals helps students to improve their life and academic skills using a creative curriculum and tactics of a professional teaching cadre. This guarantees their enrollment in the formal educational system of Lebanon. In addition, a physical therapist examines students regularly to ensure their safe educational journey.

School transportation is critical for the educational process. However, URDA has provided the students with transportation from their tents and homes to the school, despite long distances.

A Fun Candle-Making Workshop with the Children

The Education Sector organized a candle-making workshop with the children of Al-Yasmine Camp in Al-Bekaa. This workshop, which is part of the "REACH A CHILD" program, was attended by volunteers from Global Giving.

In the workshop, several types of candles, their shapes, stages of creation, and tools required were discussed. Their scents, colors, wicks, and molds were shown, as well as new and creative candle-making and decorating techniques.

This enjoyable event provided an excellent opportunity to bring together the children and their online teachers.
The Sponsorship Sector’s Projects Provide a Great Support to the Most Vulnerable Groups

The Sponsorship Sector has been regularly conducting various activities to offer joy to orphans, widows, and the most vulnerable families. These types of activities help to foster a sense of community in the society. Furthermore, donations were granted to 810 orphans, 390 families, and 410 widows throughout February 2022.

The Sponsorship Sector’s teams in several Lebanese regions provided the families with basic requirements. Meat portions, 100 bread bundles, 100 hygiene kits, 150 toys, and 100 sweets portions were distributed to 135 families.

A Fun Day for 50 Orphans in Bekaa

URDA’s Sponsorship Sector hosted an exciting day for 50 orphans of both Lebanese and Syrian nationalities in Bekaa.

To reduce the psychological and social strains on children caused by harsh economic conditions and other crises, the event included entertainment activities, singing, and cultural performances.

One of the volunteers stressed that such activities ensure that children are a source of hope and future for the culture, education, love, and peace. At the end of the event, gifts and sweets were distributed to the kids after they had their meal.
With the support of kind benefactors, URDA’s Livelihood Sector has developed two plastic greenhouses for hydroponics as an alternative. Yahya, a 44-year-old project beneficiary, who is responsible for one of the plastic greenhouses, said regarding the benefits of horizontal plastic greenhouses: “Plastic greenhouses use approximately half the quantity of water that traditional agriculture requires. As a result, it is advantageous to maximize space and plant in large quantities on less than half of the area.” URDA’s Livelihood Sector promotes projects and services that empower societies while also ensuring sustainability and environmental protection.

In Lebanon, sanitary pads and diapers were never on the list of subsidized items. Their prices, like those of other products, have recently risen by 500 percent. However, these products are not considered luxuries since they are essential for both women and babies. From this perspective, the Livelihood Sector in URDA has helped one of the donors to support 10 expert female tailors in working and producing reusable sanitary pads and diapers. These reusable items will then be distributed to Al-Bekaa’s families in need. Contributions like these initiate economic opportunities that help in improving the living standards of the most vulnerable groups. This occurs through financial assistance in exchange for their efforts and a reduction in daily expense.