World Refugee Day 2022: Anyone, wherever they are, and at any time has the right to seek safety

On June 20 of each year, the world celebrates World Refugee Day, which was introduced by the United Nations to recognize the determination and strength of refugees around the world, and the victims of disasters and crises who were forced to leave their homes and properties. The occasion is an opportunity to mobilize sympathy and understanding for their plight and to acknowledge their determination to rebuild their lives.

The United Nations says that every minute twenty people flee war and persecution. What drives them to that bad choice of displacement or asylum, is to avoid what is worse than it. This right is even more important for refugees who seek safety in their place of residence.

According to a United Nations study on poverty in Lebanon under the title "Priority Needs", the number of Syrian refugees registered with the United Nations as refugees below the poverty line is 720,000, and the registered Syrian refugees above the poverty line are 780,000, in addition to 178,200 refugees. Palestinians are below the poverty line and 91,800 Palestinian refugees are above the poverty line.

On World Refugee Day, URDA believes that everyone has the right to seek safety regardless of their race, gender, or nationality. URDA’s humanitarian sectors and services provide the most vulnerable refugees with various opportunities to utilize their energy and talents in meaningful and positive ways that lead to community development.
After the collapse of a building in Dahr El Maghar: The relief sector in URDA

After a three-storey apartment building collapsed in the Lebanese city of Tripoli last week, which led to the death of a two-year-old girl, URDA’s relief team supported the affected families, by providing food rations, mattresses and blankets to mitigate the impact of the incident that damaged material and morale to them.

It is noteworthy that the city of Tripoli suffers from difficult economic conditions in light of the high prices of foodstuffs and fuel, and the pricing of goods according to the black market dollar. According to a new study, 20% of Tripoli families sleep hungry.

Adha together URDA’s campaign for the Al-Adha season 2022AD / 1443 AH

Under the slogan "Adha Together", the Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA) launches the Eid Al-Adha campaign for the year 2022 AD / 1443 AH, which seeks to provide sacrificial meat and Eid clothing to those who deserve it from the most vulnerable families in Lebanon of various Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian nationalities, starting from Beirut and Mount Lebanon to Sidon Tire and Shebaa in the south, to the north, the Bekaa and Arsal.
The shelter sector continues its efforts to restore the tents affected by the fire in the Marj area

As part of its continuous efforts to secure shelter for refugees and the most vulnerable groups within decent housing conditions, the Shelter Sector renovated the tents damaged by the fire that broke out earlier in the Marj camp in Bekaa. The shelter sector’s field team worked to fully rehabilitate the damaged tents and provide them with wooden supplies, prepared the interior rooms and provided electrical supplies, and they covered 15 partially damaged tents with plastic sheets.

It's noteworthy that the shelter sector always seeks to implement periodic projects that provide security and protection from the harsh cold and summer's heat, by preparing the basic infrastructure for residents in shelter centers and rehabilitating damaged buildings in various Lebanese regions.

The shelter sector faces weather factors through restoration projects

As part of its efforts to counter the damage caused by weather factors such as rain, sunlight and others throughout the year, the shelter sector teams in URDA continue to rehabilitate and maintain the roads and infrastructure of the Syrian refugee camps in Arsal and the Bekaa, as 72 tents have been restored in Abu Sharif camp, along with 29 A tent in Ain al-Tanour camp. The restoration process included providing tents with wood, boards, and electrical supplies, in addition to paving dirt roads with gravel, in the two camps, in order to facilitate the movement of residents and the arrival of vehicles and aid to the camps.
The Livelihood Sector Celebrates the Graduation of 17 Participants in Income Generation Courses in Saida

In order to implement its mission of sustainability and community development, the Livelihoods Sector celebrated the graduation of 17 participants of its professional training courses for handicrafts in Sidon, which aims to increase income generation and transform participants from consumers to producers in their communities.

Livelihood Sector Supports the art of “Glass Painting”

As part of its efforts to enrich the talents of the beneficiaries of its services, the Livelihood Sector is conducting a training course in glass painting for women, in order to enable them to acquire craftsmanship and provide them with self-efficacy to rely on themselves and increase their income through selling products.

The protection sector continues to provide its services in Sidon

With the aim of protecting children and ensuring the best possible care for them, the URDA Protection Sector Team organized sessions for parents of children registered at Iqra Nursery in Ain El-Hilweh camp in Saida and assessed their needs.

It is worth noting that the ultimate goal of the protection sector in URDA is to respect the rights of vulnerable people in Lebanon to live in safety and dignity.
The Livelihood sector supports hydroponics projects

The livelihood sector seeks to develop economic resources, improve food security, and support and adopt new agricultural approaches in the community, through the implementation of several projects, including the hydroponics project in the Bekaa / Bar Elias.

The idea of hydroponics is based on the exclusion of soil in agriculture, to be replaced with water rich in nutrient solutions and salts in specific proportions monitored by special devices, and pumps are used to continuously pump water rich in elements and salts into the system, so that each plant gets its need of these elements.

Specialists and farmers are taking care of agricultural seedlings and plastic tents, so that in addition to cash for work, about 200 families benefit from this project, which produces seasonal crops, which satiates their livelihood and makes them, at a minimum, out of need.

The education sector celebrates the graduation of 1130 students from its academic projects

At the end of the school year 2022/2021, the education sector of the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon "URDA" honored more than 970 students from its graduates in URDA-affiliated schools in Bekaa and Arsal, in addition to the 160 students of "School in a bus" in Bekaa and Mount Lebanon. They graduated and became eligible students to enroll in Lebanese schools.

The graduation was attended by a group of students, parents, and guests of honor, in addition to the educational staff and the education sector teams distributed in various Lebanese regions.

In her speech, Noha, a 10-year-old graduate, expressed her great happiness with her graduation and her peers, and called on the students to continue their educational path, regardless of their circumstances, because education is the basis of the future.
Sponsoring an orphan: Painting a smile on their faces and planting happiness in their hearts

The sponsorship sector in URDA takes care of all aspects of the lives of its sponsored persons, provides them with various services, and organizes entertainment festivals, aimed at alleviating their suffering, and bringing them up in their natural place with their parents in conditions that ensure a dignified life for them. During the months of May and June, the sponsorship team provided cash guarantees to 1,845 orphans and needy children, 40 families and 92 widows to meet their basic life needs, in addition to distributing 50 gifts and 200 shoes to orphans.

A gift brings joy to the hearts of adults and children alike, and leaves a beautiful impact on their souls, so how about orphaned children, or the children of poor families? Sponsorship is a gift that brings orphaned children the feeling of warmth, fatherhood and the value of giving.

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