



اتحاد الجمعيات الإغاثية و التنمية
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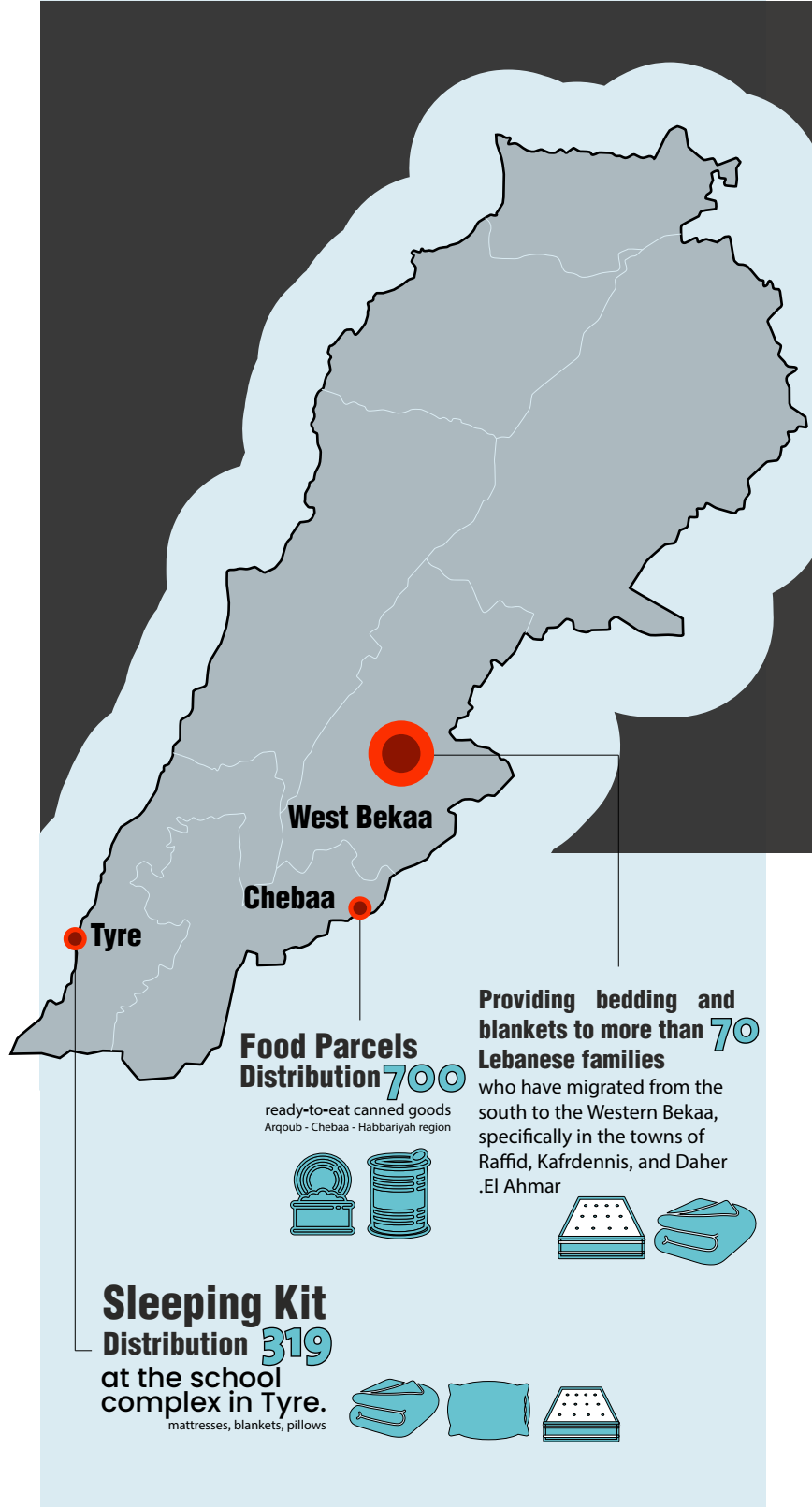
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Ongoing humanitarian support in Southern Lebanon

URDA's emergency response teams were deployed this month to the southern villages of Al Hebariyeh, Kafer Shouba and Shebaa'a which have experienced heavy bombardment over the last few weeks. Our interventions have also reached displaced families in Tyr (Sour) which was coordinated with Tyr municipality and other local authorities. Our emergency response teams have also coordinated an elaborate emergency relief effort inside Gaza for over 5 international partners this month, as well as putting plans together for a humanitarian convoy to go into Gaza from the Rafah crossing.

Lebanon's economic challenges remain one of the key obstacles to many communities who URDA works with, which our livelihoods sector is actively working for in the Cash for Work and Recycling spaces to improve resilience against poverty. URDA's centers in Akkar and Iqlim Al Kharrub, for example, have increased their capacity for recycling associated trainings which is gaining much interest from our partners to co-fund.

November is expected to be a quite difficult month for Lebanon's disadvantaged communities, as winter comes with a shortage in fuel and electricity, all whilst living conditions are exacerbated with poor governance and municipal services, such as mounting rubbish and poor roads for example.



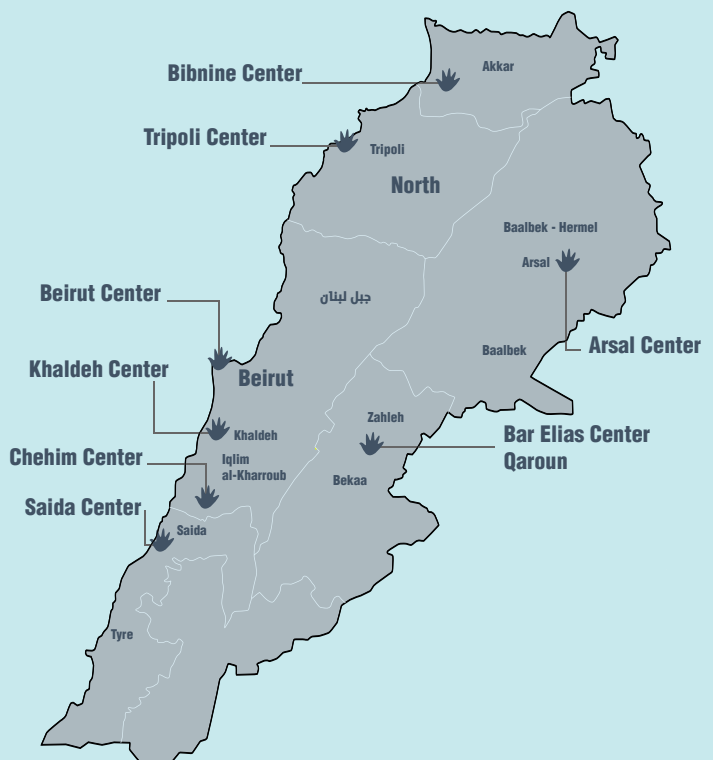
It is worth mentioning that the number of displaced Lebanese has reached more than 19,000 as a result of recent escalations in border areas. In the same context, the relief sector is preparing to implement the second phase of the emergency response plan in case the war expands. This involves preparing:



			Beneficiaries
4,100		Hot Meal	10,250
1,700		Food Parcels	8,500
2,000	Mattresses-Blankets Pillows	Sleeping Kit	2,000
2,000	5Litres	Drinking Water	10,000
2,000		Bread	11,000
1,000		Hygiene kits	5,000
500		Candy Portions	500

In addition to implementing various relief and shelter projects, URDA is on high alert in case of any deteriorating security conditions in Lebanon. The organization is also coordinating with local and international entities to organize field and relief work. URDA is part of the overall Lebanon response plan where our team has attended various meetings with organisations led by the UNHCR this month. Our teams have prepared all our assets in Tyre, Chehim, Khaldeh, Cola, Bekaa, Arsal, Tripoli, Akkar in anticipation of mass internal displacement.

Map of URDA's assets prepared for mass displacement.








Ongoing Efforts shelter rehabilitation post camp fires:

The relief and shelter sector continues its efforts by implementing projects through the distribution of food parcels and bread (at a rate of 1500 loaves daily) to vulnerable Lebanese and non-Lebanese families within its operational scope in Akkar, Bekaa, and Aarsal. This month our team undertook a rapid response intervention at the Yasmine Camp in Bekaa following the burning of 13 tents. Alongside the ongoing, we are providing 169 food hot-meals and repaired 9 communal bathrooms. We also intervened in the Abu Askar Camp in the Bhanin area, northern Lebanon, following the burning of 12 tents. Alongside the tents, 4 outdoor bathrooms were constructed along with the installation of 9 water tanks, repair of 12 communal bathrooms, and ground paving.

Continuation of humanitarian assistance in-side Gaza:

For the last four weeks, URDA has been providing emergency food, winter, and medical aid across the Gaza strip, particularly in Rafah and Khan Yousis. As the need is quite desperate and there is hope for bigger humanitarian windows of relief interventions, URDA is working with its partners to bring in aid trucks from its bases in Egypt. This month, our team in Egypt has worked to deliver 4 tucks and is currently working with our partners to increase this number.



2000 Kits		Kids Clothing
6,000 Bread Packs		2,500 Beneficiaries
2,300 Food Parcels		11,500 Beneficiaries
11,600 Hot Meals		29,000 Beneficiaries
500 First Aid Kits		600 Wounded
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical supplies for hospitals worth \$65,000 • Boxes (baby formula + diapers) 600 		

Urda will strive to continue providing assistance to the affected residents of Gaza despite all circumstances through relief and healthcare initiatives

Livelihood Sector:



New horizons for employment in the face of economic challenges:

Our teams have been offering intensive courses to over 300 beneficiaries in various fields (electricity, mobile phone repair, refrigeration and air conditioning repair, hairstyling, assistant chef, sewing), working to integrate them into the labor market. Additionally, 10 individuals were selected from vulnerable families to be provided with tuk-tuks for their own sustainable income generation. The project is to empower our beneficiaries in identifying new opportunities for their resilience in an unfavorable economic climate.

Many host and refugee communities in Lebanon are facing a sharp decline in purchasing power, whilst the unemployment rate has risen from 16.3% in 2018 to 64.7% in 2023, according to the International Labour Organization's reports. With this in mind, Cash for Work will be an area of programmatic focus for URDA and a several of our partners in the coming period, to fulfil our aim of resilience in the face of economic hardships to our beneficiaries and proving stabilisation within our communities.



Improved livelihood opportunities through agricultural sustainable programming:



The livelihoods team has conducted studies this month on agricultural lands in both, Bekaa and Akkar as it prepares for wide-reaching agricultural projects. In its pipeline of projects, URDA has training programmes that will share and promote best practices to our beneficiary farmer communities.

Also in our pipeline are "Work for Cash - stabilisation" programmes in collaboration with local community and municipalities in Saida to

increase employment opportunities for young people. The projects will target unskilled day laborers who are out of work and are suffering immensely due the economic hardship of Lebanon. The projects will support local authorities through maintaining public gardens, clearing waste from streets and communal pass-ways, painting walls and the unclogging of guttering

Legal Protection:



Legal Protection Sector Activities with PASC Network:

The Legal Protection Sector continues to implement a project monitoring the needs of the most vulnerable groups for personal documents such as birth and marriage certificates and other legal documents, in coordination and collaboration with the PASC network in the governorates of Saida and Akkar.

Our legal team has helped many of our beneficiaries secure missing documentations such as birth and marriage certificates amongst other specific legal documentations which are periodically lost or damaged in campfires or constant movement due to refugee status. Our teams have worked very closely with the governorates and the PASC network of Saida and Akkar. URDA's protection team has also delivered two lectures for 40 participants on the 'principles of mediation and conflict resolution' in collaboration with the PASC network. Through our collaboration with the PASC network, we have contributed to building the capacity of field of human rights and protection in Lebanon and the ability of the participants to monitor and influence frameworks and policies related to the protection of refugees and forcibly displaced individuals.

Talent Support Sector:



"Ibdaa" Center in the Bekaa region accommodates outstanding students with exceptional talents. The necessary support and training are provided to them through a comprehensive workshop aimed at developing the artistic talent of 80 students in the field of drawing. The dedication to supporting talents doesn't stop there; initiatives have continued to include 60 students with golden voices, who undergo intensive training as part of the "Voice, Music, and Composition" program.

In reaffirmation of the Innovation Center's commitment to developing students' potentials and creativity, a "Training and Education" photography studio is currently being set up. This studio has been funded in collaboration with the American University of Beirut.

Sponsorship Sector:



In the midst of the challenging conditions in Lebanon, especially following the escalation of security tensions on the southern borders, the Sponsorship Sector has provided cash assistance to sponsored families in the Bekaa, Tripoli & Akkar, Arsal, Beirut as well as Saida and Mount Lebanon. In collaboration with our international partners, we are assisting beneficiaries with medical special needs during this month. With the starting of the school year in Lebanon, our teams are working with children to advance their registration into the formal schooling system. With the contribution of our partners, we aim to assist 100 children immediately.



Education Sector:



Aman School" continues its excellence in promoting solidarity in the Bar Elias community in the Bekaa region.

Aman School strives to provide distinctive educational opportunities for approximately 1,150 children, including Syrian refugees and the local community in the town of Bar Elias in the Bekaa. The school operates with morning and evening sessions throughout the day, implementing the Lebanese curriculum in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE).

The school takes various measures to ensure the success of its students, offering continuous support to those facing academic difficulties. As part of supporting the educational environment, the education sector distributed school uniforms, supplies, books, and school bags to all students, aiming to provide conducive conditions for their educational achievement.



URDA in Mainstream Media

A television interview with Abdulrahman Darwish, the Public Relations Coordinator at URDA, via Al-Noor channel, to discuss URDA's plan for managing the recent displacement crisis



Click [here](#) to watch the full interview.

