



URDA

اتحاد الجمعيات الإغاثية و التنمية
Union of Relief & Development Associations

urda-lb.org



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Introduction

URDA: Renewed Achievements on the Path of Humanity

As 2025 begins, the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) continues its humanitarian mission despite the severe challenges left by the war on Lebanon. With determination and perseverance, URDA has reaffirmed its leadership in the field of relief work by managing and operating **26** displacement shelters across various Lebanese regions. Additionally, its ongoing achievements in sponsorship, education, relief, shelter, and livelihood programs have served as a lifeline for the most vulnerable communities in the country.

January bore special significance as the Municipality of Saida honored URDA in recognition of its humanitarian efforts during the war, further solidifying URDA's role as an active partner in bridging gaps and fostering solidarity across Lebanese regions.

URDA's efforts extended beyond Lebanon's borders to Syria with the launch of the "Together for Syria" campaign. Under this initiative, the organization dispatched **15** humanitarian convoys, laden with food and non-food aid, under the banner "Caravans of Return", reaffirming its unwavering commitment to standing by distressed communities.

This intensive humanitarian activity coincides with a renewed sense of hope in Lebanon following the election of the country's new president, General Joseph Aoun. Having previously led the Lebanese Army, President Aoun has commended URDA's humanitarian efforts, emphasizing that humanity and generosity are Lebanon's path to a brighter future.

We hope that this year will bring more goodness and achievements, as we continue working together to support those in need and build a more promising future for Lebanon and the region.



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URDA Honored for Its Humanitarian Efforts During the War on Lebanon

In a gesture of appreciation, the Association of Institutions in Saida honored the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) for its "national and humanitarian efforts during the September 2024 aggression, in support of the nation's resilience and victory."

Throughout the 66 days of war, URDA mobilized all its resources to respond swiftly to the humanitarian call of duty, providing aid and relief in collaboration with other humanitarian entities. These efforts included the provision of food, medicine, healthcare services, and psychological support to hundreds of war-affected individuals, with URDA continuing its mission to this day.

The honoring ceremony was organized by the Secretariat of the Association of Institutions in Saida, under the patronage of the Municipality of Saida, to recognize local institutions, international organizations, emergency response teams, and individual initiatives that contributed to supporting Lebanon during the war.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Saida, Dr. Hazem Badi', and the President of the Association of Institutions in Saida, Mr. Majed Hamto, who delivered speeches of gratitude and appreciation to all entities that worked tirelessly throughout the crisis.



URDA Congratulates General Joseph Aoun on His Election as President of the Lebanese Republic

The Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) is pleased to extend its warmest congratulations to His Excellency the newly elected President of the Lebanese Republic, General Joseph Aoun. This milestone represents a beacon of hope for the Lebanese people after years of presidential vacancy and challenges that have tested their resilience.

URDA joins the nation in looking forward to a new era marked by humanity, peace, and an end to wars. We aspire to a phase of state-building, development, and economic recovery under the leadership of President Aoun, fostering stability and progress for all citizens.

During his tenure as Commander of the Lebanese Army, URDA had the honor of receiving letters of commendation from General Joseph Aoun, in which he praised the vital role played by the organization in supporting humanitarian causes and serving various segments of Lebanese society. These commendations reflect our shared commitment to the values of solidarity and service that unite us all.



URDA Launches the "Together for Syria" Campaign and Facilitates the Voluntary Return of Syrian Refugees

URDA has announced the launch of the "Together for Syria" campaign for 2024/2025, aimed at supporting the most vulnerable groups in Syria and alleviating their suffering by providing essential needs such as shelter, food, education, and healthcare. The campaign focuses on empowering families and rebuilding Syrian communities through sustainable development projects and educational initiatives. It is part of URDA's ongoing efforts to provide humanitarian support in the region.

URDA provided **1,700** essential services to **8,500** beneficiaries in Syria, including ready-to-eat meals, blankets, mattresses, fresh bread, pillows, windows, drinking water, hot meals, and doors.

In a related effort, URDA organized 15 convoys to facilitate the voluntary return of Syrian refugees from the Inmaa Camp in Akkar to Syria. A total of 42 families (approximately 170 individuals) were safely transported along with their personal belongings to resume their lives in their homeland.

Despite this positive return, many refugees in Lebanon continue to face ongoing challenges. URDA remains committed to providing humanitarian aid in both Lebanon and Syria.



For more information or to donate, scan the following code:



URDA Participates in a Training Workshop on Awareness of the Dangers of Ammunition and Explosive Materials

The Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) participated in a training workshop titled "Awareness of the Dangers of Ammunition and Explosive Materials", organized by DCA at its headquarters.

The training focused on raising awareness about the dangers of explosive remnants of war, such as landmines and unexploded ordnance, and provided guidance on how to maintain safety in areas affected by the aftermath of conflict.



Given the ongoing security challenges in Lebanon, explosive remnants of war continue to pose a significant threat to the lives and safety of communities. The workshop provided participants with essential knowledge on how to identify, avoid, and effectively report these threats to reduce risks and protect lives. Participants also reviewed practical measures to prevent accidents, contributing to URDA's efforts to protect affected communities and enhance public safety in conflict areas.



URDA Welcomes 2025 with Renewed Spirit After a Year of Humanitarian Achievements

With the start of 2025, the Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) embarks on the new year with a renewed spirit, inspired by the humanitarian accomplishments that distinguished 2024.

In the past year, URDA cemented its position as a beacon of hope and resilience through its various sectors, which included education, relief and shelter, sponsorships, and protection.

The organization spared no effort in supporting the most vulnerable families, whether in Lebanon, Syria, or Palestine, turning challenges into tangible successes and achievements.

As the new year begins, URDA reaffirms its commitment to its humanitarian mission that transcends borders, aiming to achieve even more accomplishments that will positively impact the lives of the most vulnerable.

Sector Achievements in Numbers:

Relief and Shelter Sector	530,264 services
Healthcare Sector	400,000 services
Education Sector	157,299 services
Protection Sector	31,946 services
Sponsorship Sector	10,499 services
Livelihood Sector	5,841 services

Happy New Year to all! Stay tuned in 2025 to witness more generosity and humanitarian achievements



A Heartfelt Farewell: Tesneem's Journey of Gratitude and Pain

Tesneem, a 16-year-old girl from Inmaa Camp in Akkar, shared her feelings as her family prepared to return to Syria after eleven years of living in Lebanon. "I never felt like a refugee or that I was treated as one during these 11 years. You treated us like family and cared for us in a way no one else ever has," she said, her voice tinged with emotion. As they now leave the camp, the place that had become a home, Tesneem's heart aches deeply.

The warmth, care, and respect they received from URDA, and the camp's community will forever stay with her, even as they head back to an uncertain future in Syria.

