



URDA

اتحاد الجمعيات الإغاثية و التنمية
Union of Relief & Development Associations

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INTRODUCTION

URDA between May and June: an impact that goes beyond numbers

Between May, which brought smiles to children's faces during Eid Al-Adha celebrations, and June, which carried the return of displaced families, URDA was present as one family embracing everyone.

Over the past two months, our impact reached more than 150,000 beneficiaries through the Eid Al-Adha campaign. Our support also extended to journalists in need of psychosocial assistance, to a beach that deserved care and cleanliness, and to an international diplomatic delegation that came to witness firsthand what we live and work for.

In this newsletter, you will not only read numbers, you will read the stories of families who returned with joy only to be displaced again, stories of orphaned children who wore festive clothes for the first time, volunteers who gathered on a beach from 33 towns and villages, and media professionals who were given a day to breathe away from the pressure of breaking news.

Let the trace remain



URDA Concludes One of Lebanon's Largest Humanitarian Eid Al-Adha Campaign

A Trace That Stays ... Reaching 150,000 Beneficiaries

The Union of Relief and Development Associations in Lebanon (URDA) has successfully concluded its Eid Al-Adha 2026 campaign, held under the theme "A Trace That Stays" wrapping up days filled with compassion and intensive humanitarian fieldwork. URDA's teams reached thousands of the most vulnerable families across Lebanon.



The campaign featured the implementation of the Qurbani project across all Lebanese areas, benefiting over 30,000 families, approximately 150,000 individuals, including Lebanese citizens, Syrian and Palestinian refugees, as well as displaced families residing in shelters and schools. Meat distributions were carried out according to a comprehensive field plan spanning all regions of Lebanon: 14,910 families in the Bekaa, 2,100 in Baalbek, 8,380 in North Lebanon (Akkar and Tripoli), 1,765 in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, and 2,845 in Sidon. Each family received a 2 kg portion of fresh meat, prepared and distributed in full compliance with the highest religious and health standards.

Beyond the distributions, the campaign extended to a series of festive events and recreational activities held across North Lebanon, Sidon, and South Lebanon, bringing joy to children and families throughout the Eid days. More than 2,100 children participated in diverse recreational and educational programs that captured the warmth and spirit of the occasion.

In a dedicated initiative for orphaned children, URDA provided Eid clothing to over 500 orphans, contributing to putting smiles on their faces and allowing them to share in the joy of the celebration.



URDA Relief Sector: Continuous Response Across Regions Despite Security Challenges

URDA's Relief Sector continued implementing its humanitarian interventions throughout May and June across the Bekaa, Mount Lebanon, the North, Saida, and the South, amid difficult security conditions and ongoing challenges in Lebanon, reaffirming the continuity of humanitarian action and its reach to the most vulnerable communities.

The interventions included the large-scale distribution of essential food and relief items, with 3,116 bread loaves, 2,452 gallons of water, and 1,649 food parcels delivered, in addition to 360 hot meals.

The response also included the distribution of 218 dignity kits, 202 hygiene kits, 60 rechargeable lamps, and 500 pillows, as part of efforts to strengthen household resilience and improve living conditions for affected families.

These figures reflect the scale of continuous field response carried out by URDA's Relief Sector, in line with its commitment to reaching communities across Lebanon despite increasing challenges.



URDA Sponsorship Sector: Continuous Presence and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Families

URDA's Sponsorship Sector continued its humanitarian efforts throughout May 2026, as part of the ongoing impact of extended support campaigns, reaching a large number of orphaned children and vulnerable families across various regions in Lebanon.

Distribution activities began in the Bekaa through three consecutive batches covering 283 children, before extending to Akkar, Tripoli, and Mount Lebanon through two additional batches that included 180 orphans. This reflects URDA's commitment to expanding its protection umbrella and reaching the most vulnerable groups.

These efforts reaffirm that behind every sponsorship case lies a human story of a child who lost their caregiver and a family facing difficult living conditions. This makes URDA's Sponsorship Sector more than regular financial support, it is a commitment that strengthens stability and continues to bring hope.



URDA Organizes a Psychosocial Support Session for Media Professionals in Saida

As part of the "Promoting Human Rights through Digital Transformation in Lebanon" project, funded by the European Union

The Union of Relief and Development Associations (URDA), in partnership with DCA and DOT, organized a psychosocial support session for journalists and media professionals in Saida on Thursday, 18 June 2026.

Held at Moro Resto Café in Saida, the session brought together journalists, bloggers, and media practitioners from various platforms. It aimed to equip participants with practical knowledge and tools to manage stress, build psychological resilience, and maintain mental well-being while working in challenging environments.

The activity was organized in response to the ongoing psychological and social impact of the recent security developments in Lebanon. Through this initiative, URDA and its partners sought to provide a supportive space for media professionals, helping strengthen their resilience and promote psychosocial well-being.

This activity is part of the "Promoting Human Rights through Digital Transformation in Lebanon" project, funded by the European Union, which aims to advance human rights standards and support vulnerable groups through digital empowerment and capacity-building initiatives across Lebanon.



URDA Strengthens Social Cohesion and Environmental Protection Through Community Action in Saida

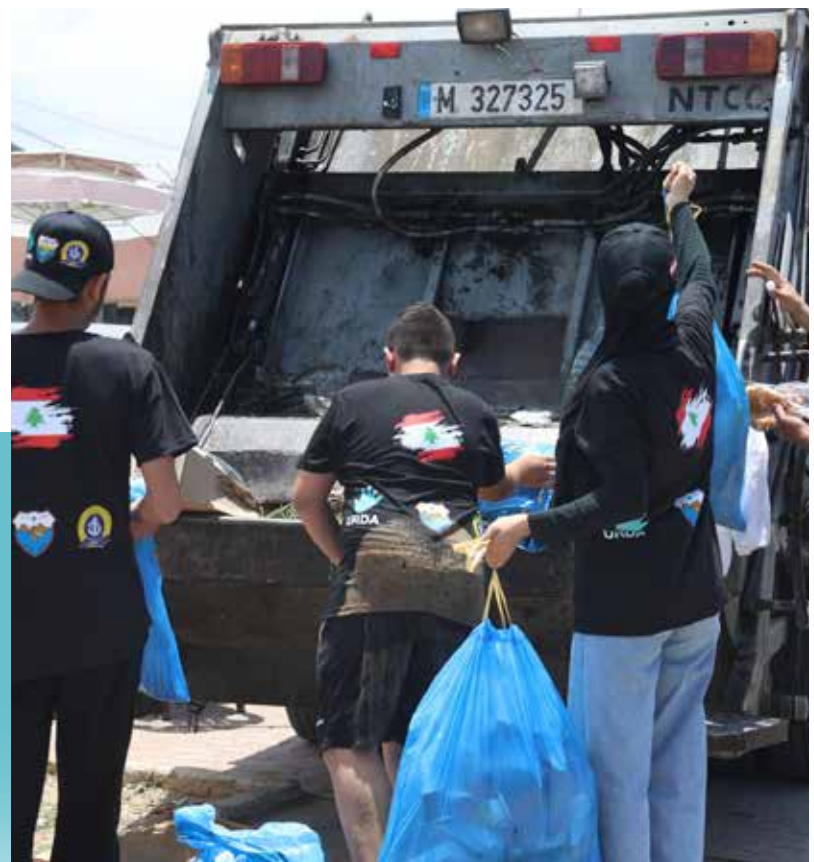
As part of its efforts to promote volunteerism, strengthen social responsibility, and protect the environment, URDA organized a community environmental activity at Saida's beach on Saturday, 16 May 2026. The initiative was implemented in cooperation with the Municipality of Saida's Environment Committee and attended by the Mayor of Saida, Engineer Mustafa Hijazi.

The activity brought together 25 students from the National Evangelical Institute for Girls and Boys (NEIGB) in Saida, 72 URDA volunteers, and a number of displaced participants from 33 towns and villages in southern Lebanon, reflecting the values of solidarity, inclusion, and social cohesion.

The initiative also received logistical support from NTCC, which was responsible for collecting and transporting the waste removed from the beach, highlighting the importance of private sector partnerships in supporting environmental initiatives.

Before the cleanup began, URDA provided breakfast for all participants to foster team spirit and a sense of belonging. The event also featured interactive and recreational activities designed to encourage engagement and social connection, including tug-of-war games and patriotic songs.

In support of the initiative, Hayat Doner Al Turki sponsored the event by providing sandwiches and soft drinks for all participants, reinforcing the role of the private sector in supporting community-driven activities.



International Diplomatic Delegation Visits URDA-Managed Shelter in Saida to Review Conditions of Displaced Families

A high level diplomatic delegation visited the Kuwait School shelter in Saida, managed by URDA, on Friday, 19 June, to observe the living conditions of displaced families and the ongoing relief efforts, amid a continued rise in displacement from southern Lebanon.

The delegation included French Minister "Eleanor Caro", French Ambassador to Lebanon "Hervé Magro", British Minister "Jenny Chapman", as well as the UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Lebanon "Imran Riza", Head of the OCHA Office in Lebanon "Christine Knudsen", and Head of the Disaster Risk Management Unit in Saida "Wafaa Choueib". They were joined by URDA Executive Director "Jihan Kaissi" and the Principal of the Kuwait School "Widad Jaradi".



During the visit, the delegation reviewed the difficult humanitarian conditions faced by displaced families for more than 100 days, amid ongoing instability, daily pressures, and uncertainty about the future.

URDA Executive Director "Jihan Kaissi" said: "The center hosts more than 800 displaced individuals from various southern villages. Yesterday, about half of the families left to return home in hope and joy, but they were forced to come back today after continuous airstrikes made them displaced once again, in an atmosphere of fear and anxiety."

She added: "At URDA, we do not see this place as just a shelter; it is a real home. We have lived with these families for more than three months, sharing their daily lives, their pain, and their hope, until they became part of our extended family."



**In her eyes, there is a story that
no statistics can ever fully capture.**

Since the escalation of the war in Lebanon, 316 children have lost their lives, while 1,450 more have been injured. UNICEF reports that during the deadliest period of the conflict, more than three children were killed every single day. Beyond the physical toll, countless children were displaced, forced out of their classrooms, and left carrying invisible scars that may last a lifetime. Yet, this little girl reminds us that children are born to dream, not to fear. May we never allow the light in those eyes to fade.

