

WPHF PHASE III

SUPPORTED PROJECTS IN LEBANON

Since 2020, the United Nations Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) has supported a total of 24 projects led by 31 organizations in Lebanon. The WPHF is currently supporting 12 projects in Lebanon under the third round of funding, focused on improving women's participation in peacebuilding and enhancing the protection, security and mental health of women and girls. These initiatives target women and girls experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination – including marginalization and exclusion due to poverty, ethnicity, disability, age, geography, migratory status, HIV status, among others – in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's key principle of leaving no one behind. In addition, institutional funding is also allowing civil society organizations working on gender-specific issues in peacebuilding and humanitarian contexts to sustain itself and maximize its impact.

Participation and peacebuilding related projects:

1. Ruwwad Al-Tanmeya; and Catalytic Action Charity / Location: Tripoli

With a target of 2,400 women and young women, this joint project aims to promote their active participation in local peacebuilding initiatives in Tripoli's Bab al-Tabbaneh and Jabal Mohsen neighbourhoods, which have been in conflict or at odds with one another. The project seeks to **promote reconciliation in the targeted areas through capacity-building interventions that address gender inequalities, and participatory community design**, whereby (young) women will select, **co-design and lead the rehabilitation of public spaces in their neighbourhoods**.

2. Seenaryo; and Women Now for Development / Location: Bekaa

This joint project seeks to build a diverse cohort of empowered women leaders from **marginalized communities in Bekaa, trained as theatre facilitators, leaders and peacebuilders** to contribute to inclusive and informed communities that champion women's rights and participation. It focuses on **increasing well-being, self-esteem and resilience among women**, providing a **public platform for advocacy and dialogue**, developing strong artistic, social and decision-making skills, **building social cohesion and reducing negative stereotypes**, and building community leaders' ability to advocate for their needs and lead advocacy initiatives in their communities.

3. ASSABIL – Culture for all / Location: Beirut, Mount Lebanon, South, North, Bekaa and Palestinian Camps

With a target of 1,100 women, this project aims to decrease social tensions and conflicts between refugee and host communities by **reviving public libraries as safe space for inclusive dialogue**. It seeks to **improve the participation and decision-making of young women** in particular in peacebuilding processes through the **positive engagement and empowerment of female librarians** and library staff. The project is organizing training sessions, debating clubs and workshops on positive change, and is actively engaging women in designing initiatives in their communities.

4. Auberge Beity Association / Location: Beirut

This project aims to improve women's participation and decision-making in the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) and Internal Security Forces (ISF), and promoting peacebuilding initiatives in local communities in various Lebanese regions. It seeks to identify 30 women members in these public institutions and train them to better lead initiatives in their communities. It is also engaging targeted women in the **participatory design of improvements plans** and in the implementation of three initiatives in different regions.

5. Assi Development Association / Location: Hermel

This project seeks to invest in women through increasing their awareness on gender equality and enhancing their advocacy skills with the aim of **introducing an alternative discourse on gender equality and women's participation** in decision making processes. Through **empowering women and increasing their well-being, self-esteem** to challenge dominant social norms, this project will contribute to

changing the local community attitudes and reduce tension and conflict and their impact on women, as a result of women active participation in **fostering dialogues and discussions, improving community coordination and collaboration**; and the **creation of a local support women committee** that leads the implementation of local initiatives that responds to the needs of the community.

Protection related projects:

1. Development Action to All People – Mousawat; and the Tripoli Bar Association / Location: Tripoli

This joint project is informing women and girls about how to prevent and **report sexual harassment in taxis** while providing **legal support** and a **safe space** for them to **access psychosocial support services**. The project is also providing case management and legal consultations. It began with a training-of-trainers on protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, includes awareness-raising on sexual harassment in public transport, and will launch a mobile app as a **reporting tool and referral system** for harassment cases.

2. Association Najdeh; and Werdaniyati / Location: Palestinian camps in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, Bekaa, Saida, Tyre and North

With a target of 7,000 direct beneficiaries, this joint project aims to **enhance the safety and security and mental health of women and girls** living in Palestinian refugee camps through awareness-raising, holistic protection, case management and advocacy campaigns on women's rights. The project is ensuring **access to eight safe centres** and spaces where activists and women experiencing violence can gather and interact. It is also **strengthening networks and coalitions of women NGOs** working with both Lebanese and Palestinian communities on joint advocacy and mobilization.

3. Anti-Racism Movement / Location: Beirut

With a target of 1,000 women migrant workers, this project is **addressing the increasing violations to the safety, security and human rights of women migrant domestic workers** living under the Kafala system in Lebanon with a view to **increase their voice and participation**. It seeks to **address the absence of safe spaces** where **migrant workers can build social networks and share their challenges**. Using a migrant-centred approach, the project empowers and mobilizes migrant women leaders and groups to push for greater respect for their human rights in the country.

4. The MENA Organization for Services, Advocacy, Integration and Capacity Building (MOSAIC) / Location: Beirut

With a target of **100 individuals, in all their diversity**, this project is providing services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and other (LGBTIQ+) individuals living in Lebanon, including gender-based violence **case management, psychological support, legal aid and counselling**. The project is also raising awareness and training five women's organizations and five humanitarian organizations on **inclusive case management to improve the skills of 40 case managers, social workers and project managers** to deliver more inclusive, sensitive and better-quality services to LGBTIQ+ beneficiaries and their families.

5. Haqi-Awrath (My Right to Inherit) / Location: Baalbeck

With a target of 1,700 beneficiaries (at least 50% women), this project focuses on **access to inheritance rights** and preventing economic violence against women and girls in Baalbeck. It seeks to increase awareness of women's inheritance and property rights and **build the skills of women, girls and men in the areas of leadership, conflict resolution, advocacy and community mobilization**. It will also provide **legal support to 60 women** requesting consultations or assistance to claim their inheritance and property rights.

6. Skoun, Lebanese Addictions Center / Location: Beirut, Tripoli, Baalbeck

The project targets 2,100 women who use drugs and are affected by gender-based violence. Skoun advocates for an integration of substance use into the response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). **A baseline assessment of substance use trends** within specific communities of vulnerable women will be followed by **training for actors engaged in the response to SGBV, on drugs, substance use disorders**, screening, and referrals to specialized services. The project will also provide **specialized mental health services** for women who are at risk of, or survivors of, SGBV, in coordination with SGBV service providers and primarily health care centers.

Institutional support related projects:

Borderless NGO / Location: Beirut

Borderless is a youth-focused, women-led organization that promotes gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian responses in Lebanon, particularly in the marginalized suburbs of Beirut. This project sought and is receiving institutional funding to improve the organization's capacities, enhance the leadership and management skills of its female staff, and sustain the project's outcomes beyond the financing period.