



مؤسسة مخزومي
Makhzoumi Foundation

Projects Report

From 1997 to 2021



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Your support to Makhzoumi Foundation is precious

This publication was developed with contributions from Makhzoumi Foundation team, partners, and stakeholders.

***It is very important to note that all photos that contain human not wearing face masks and not abiding by the physical distancing protocols are obtained from Makhzoumi Foundation archive and taken before the Covid-19 pandemic.

Photos have been provided by their respective projects.

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About Us

Makhzoumi Foundation is private, not-for-profit Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). It was established in Lebanon in 1997 out of a strong desire to help empower the community in achieving self-sufficient independence. We are empowering individuals for a better community.

OUR VISION

To provide ultimate living conditions for every person in Lebanon.

OUR MISSION

To mobilize resources, build partnerships and develop the capacities of our community in Lebanon while promoting targeted education, affordable healthcare, workable startups, sustainable development and secured livelihoods.

OUR VALUES

Respect for Human Rights: We recognize that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

Empowerment: Empowering the community underlines everything we are and everything we do.

Leadership: Our best work comes through a collaborative approach that leads groups towards specific results.

Service Beyond Self: Philanthropy is our strong motivator to act from a concern for others.

Accountability: We are responsible for all our actions and decisions.

Transparency: We are guided by openness in the dissemination of our records.

Objective of this report

Makhzoumi Foundation works both on a program-based and a project-based approach. Inside our End of Year Report, you can find the description of all our program-based activities presented by numbers. In parallel, this report aims to brief all the projects implemented since its inception in 1997. It includes ongoing and closed projects. Actually, the first action of the Foundation in 1997 was the implementation of the Project “Environment Friendly Pest Control” in partnership with the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the American University of Beirut.

As per SDG 17, partnership for the goals, Makhzoumi Foundation encourages partnerships with local NGOs, Regional and International NGOs, Municipalities, Ministries, Embassies, Universities, Research Centers, Private Sector and other bodies in the implementation of its projects. Partnerships are an important vehicle for success that broaden support and expertise to attain common goals and mobilize efforts that lead to sustainable development.



Projects Achievements

AT A GLANCE



Projects Achievements AT A GLANCE

Makhzoumi Foundation projects are a joint cooperation between the working teams and local and international partners for the sustainable development of the community.

More than
100
Projects

More than
3 Million
Services

More than
500
Staff

Makhzoumi Foundation has received the following:

- Appreciation trophies from Lebanese American University, Beirut Arab University, Lebanese International University, American University of Science and Technology.
- Appreciation trophies from the Lebanese Canadian Community in Edmonton/Canada and the National Press Club of the Canada Association and Glengarry School/Edmonton.
- A tribute by the Ministry of Public Health for its performance during the war of 2006 in Lebanon.
- Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of volunteering activities.
- Four diamonds on Transparency from The Mix Market.
- Silver Award from Mix Market, CGAP, Michal and Suzan Dell Foundation and Ford Foundation, for Reporting on Social Indicators.
- Excellent Accreditation Award by Canada Accreditation for Primary healthcare Services.
- Best Primary Healthcare Center in Lebanon by the Ministry of Public Health.
- Micro-entrepreneurship awards from SANABEL and the International Citi-Group and YMCA.
- The International Quality Certificate ISO 9001:2000.
- CSR Levant Award for Community Development.
- The Arab Donor Institutions Award 2015.
- Risalat Hayat Trophy.
- CITI Group award.
- GHIRAS appreciation Trophy.
- Platinum Accreditation by AUB NGOi.

Our Projects

Innovative Approaches



The RETURN Project

USAID & LWR 2020 - 2021

The project was funded by USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) under the Shelter and Settlements sector and managed by Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in coordination with its Lebanese partner, Makhzoumi Foundation. The project was developed as an emergency response to the damage caused to people's homes as a result of the August 4 Beirut Port blast. The main aim of the project was to help make time spent in temporary shelter schemes as brief as possible to reduce the number of individuals displaced or experiencing physical or environmental threats while remaining in dwellings in disrepair. It achieved this by removing the unanticipated cost of repairs and supplies for families that cannot afford it, in a marketplace growing more expensive every day. The Project aimed to support at least 742 of the most vulnerable household members who experienced minor to moderate damage following the blast to return into habitable homes.

In September 2020, Makhzoumi Foundation organized 14 teams to carry out in-person visits, comprised of 2 young university graduates assigned as a technical surveyor to check the severity of the damage and overall building safety, and a clerk responsible for documenting the survey and inputs from the visit. The teams were given virtual training session on the CommCare surveying tool as well as a Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) training.

From the period of September 22nd to October 27th, 1567 households had been surveyed after taking appointments and posting announcement flyers. Repairs of houses started in November and are still ongoing in 2021.



Covid-19 Pandemic Precautions and Assistances

UNHCR 2020 - 2021

COVID-19 pandemic had a huge impact on Makhzoumi Foundation Relief and Humanitarian Unit processes. First of all, Makhzoumi Foundation management took all the necessary precautions to maintain the safety of both refugees and staff. A professional health service provider was hired to sanitize the office once per week. Personal protective equipment (PPE) kits including gloves, masks, and sanitizers were provided for staff. The temperature of every member entering the Community Development Center (CDC) was measured on daily basis.

Moreover, the case management and activities modalities all changed due to the imposed lockdown and measures that needed to be implemented. Makhzoumi Foundation altered their case management process. They stopped face to face case management. Makhzoumi Foundation received only very high risk cases based on appointment. Separator plexi-glass was installed on the reception desk, in the screening and consultation rooms.

Additionally, activities were stopped to ensure the safety of beneficiaries. Makhzoumi Foundation resumed the sessions mid-July while taking all precaution measures. Social distancing was also respected between attendees. A maximum of 10 attendees was allocated to each session. Most sessions during the lockdown were provided through zoom, WhatsApp calls, phone calls, etc. Furthermore, Makhzoumi Foundation team distributed more than 2000 Hygiene kits, 1000 COVID-19 Hygiene kits, and 2000 food parcels. The team also distributed more than 1500 Hygiene items to other NGOs such as Intersos and NRDC. They also provided support to families in quarantine by delivering water and some hygiene supplies.



Rapid Response Team

UNHCR 2020 - 2021

The Rapid Response Team UNHCR project was initiated in response to COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020, funded by UNHCR. It aims to provide awareness and support for the refugees who suffer from COVID-19, as well as to their families and communities. Three registered nurses are responsible for mentoring and monitoring 6 community health volunteers. The project covers Beirut, Keserwan, Mount Lebanon, Byblos and Metn camps and settlements. The activity is conducted through site visits, in addition to remote follow-up with the suspected or the infected individuals. The responsible team attended trainings on COVID-19, personal hygiene and use of personal protective equipment (PPE). They were also trained on the use of UNHCR Kobo online survey for the filling of the information of the refugees.

In 2021, with the increased need for vaccination against COVID-19, the team started raising awareness on the importance of getting vaccinated, and debunking the myths and misconceptions. The team is also responsible for filling in a questionnaire with every refugee counseled on vaccination. Individuals who are willing to take the vaccine need to be signed in on the MoPH Covax Impact platform. The community health volunteers assist the refugees by registering them on the platform, to ensure their appointments for the vaccine. Follow up took place with 1797 positive cases and 202 suspected cases. The community health volunteers also assisted in the AstraZeneca Vaccination Day Marathon, in Al Sahel General Hospital and in Al Naccash Hospital.

A new component will be activated in July 2021 including community awareness to increase the refugees' acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccination.



Relief International Project

RI 2020 - 2021

In response to the increased need of the community for health services, post Beirut Blast, Relief International project started in the last quarter of 2020. The aim of the project is to provide support for the susceptible Lebanese community, in addition to the refugee community, through the provision of affordable high quality health services and psychosocial support services.

The project subsidized the fees of the health services at the primary health care center of Makhzoumi Foundation including the costs of: mental health consultations (psychology and psychiatry), general physicians and specialty physicians' consultations, ophthalmology consultations, dietetic consultations for patients with chronic diseases, dental services, a number of laboratory tests, radiology imaging, x-ray and ultrasound services. The project also focuses on child and maternal malnutrition, the Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) services for the child and adult survivors.

From the start of 2021 till May 2021, the project subsidized health services for a total of 3,027 services. The services supported are distributed as follows: 463 laboratory tests, 2343 different health consultations, 45 radiology services, 71 dental services, 105 EKG services. Out of the total number of subsidized services, 63% were delivered to Lebanese beneficiaries and 37% were provided for non-Lebanese (Syrian and other) beneficiaries.



Emergency Response to COVID-19 in Beirut

LWR 2020

The Covid-19 outbreak affected all the people living in the Lebanese territories and specially in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. A high demand to receive food and hygiene materials was noted from refugees and Lebanese host communities. Lots of people were staying home due to the lockdown enforced by the Lebanese government. These people, refugees and Lebanese communities contacted the Foundation on hotlines asking for support in these fields. The main aim of this project, which is funded by the Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation is to support vulnerable Lebanese and refugees by providing them with food parcels and detergents. A total of 588 food parcels were prepared and distributed to needy families as follows: 144 in the Bekaa and 444 in Greater Beirut.

Each food parcel included the following food items Rice 3 kg, Sugar 2 kg, Iodized salt 1 kg, Lentils 1 kg, Bourghul 1 kg, Cheese rounded packs 2, Milk 1 kg, Pasta 3 packs, Tuna 2 cans, Chickpeas 1 kg, Tomato paste 1 jar, Olive oil 1 liter, Vegetable oil 1 liter. In addition, the parcel contained hand washing and dishwashing liquid soap.



Since 2011, there has been a regular influx of Syrian refugees into Lebanon. Although the exact number is unknown, Lebanon is considered to be the country with the most significant socio-economic burden as a consequence of the Syrian crisis. The estimated number of Syrian refugees is around 1 million. This situation is causing a lot of pressure and tension within the hosting community. The estimated unemployment rate for the Lebanese population is 27%. Though there is no definitive estimation for unemployment amongst Palestinian, Iraqi and Syrian refugees, prevailing estimates put the figure at above 50%.

The first phase of this project entitled Income Development & Entrepreneurship Acceleration for Lebanese & Syrians (IDEA.LS), started in July 2016 and trainings were completed by March 2018, in a collaboration between Makhzoumi Foundation and Positive Planet International (PPI). More than 430 people have completed this rigorous training program. It included vocational training courses of between 24 to 140 hours depending on vocation (hairdressers, male barbers, caterers and beauticians), 20 hours of business and entrepreneurship skills training per beneficiary including personal financial management, and a vocation “kit” to enable beneficiaries to start their business immediately

The overall Project Goal is to reduce the burden on the host communities and enable the most vulnerable of both communities to cope with their hurdles, take control of their finances and enhance their household income and standard of living. Building on the success of the first phase and lessons learnt to reach more beneficiaries and further enable and support graduates to actually start their own income generating projects. And to indirectly improve trust and cooperation between the Syrian displaced and the hosting communities through working together and helping each other attain their goals.

Therefore, in alignment with this goal, Makhzoumi Foundation started the Phase II of the project with Positive Planet International (PPI), entitled IDEA.LS. It is a coaching service that Makhzoumi Foundation has implemented with PPI. The project targets 25 from the graduated trainees of the first project or those having received the same entrepreneurship training.

The first plan was to use a blended approach of attendance, including hours from home and hours at the offices. But with the COVID-19, a full online method was opted for. In addition, the planned online graduation ceremony was canceled due to the Beirut Blast.

Beirut Blast Response

UNHCR 2020

On the 4th of August 2020, two explosions occurred at the port of the city of Beirut causing at least 220 deaths and 7,000 injuries. Some of the areas were severely affected by the powerful blast. Hundreds of thousands of people have had their homes completely or partially damaged in the explosion.

The massive explosion adds to the already severe economic crisis that had pushed many Lebanese and refugees deeper into poverty, further aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with the currency losing about 90% of its value and the nation dealing with widespread food insecurity.

Makhzoumi Foundation team was mobilized according to the crisis response plan. The protection teams were providing emergency protection services since day one. The services were taking place on daily basis in the field and on the Fun Bus. The Fun Bus activities and team of experts helped children deal with their trauma after the explosion. The psychosocial support provided through the hotline 24/7 was also very beneficial for people who were looking for emotional and psychological support.

Additionally, Makhzoumi Foundation team was daily deployed on the field to clean the debris of all affected areas in Beirut. The areas included: Charles Helou, Armenia Street, Gemayze, Saifi, Karantina, Mar Elias, Mazraa, Bashoura, Zokak El Blat, Salim Slem, Achrafieh, Sodeco, Mar Mkhayel, Martyr's Square etc.

The team aided in cleaning and removing piles of broken glass and stones from Geitawi, Wardieh and Saint George Hospitals. They also helped clean several schools and gardens.

Moreover, Makhzoumi Foundation team distributed more than 150 hot meals per day in addition to approximately 20 food parcels. Hygiene kits were also distributed in addition to Non-Food items such as mattresses and kitchen kits.

Until the end of 2020, Makhzoumi Foundation Relief Unit was funded by UNHCR. Makhzoumi Foundation team provided case management to 471 cases affected by Beirut Blast. The team also provided several PSS sessions to 943 affected persons and 945 emergency cash assistances to people from all nationalities affected by Beirut Blast in addition to 8 solidarity initiatives targeting 420 individuals. The activities took place at Makhzoumi Foundation new center in Gemayze, by a team of newly recruited professionals.

Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health UNICEF 2019 - 2021

MNCAH community project is funded by UNICEF in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Its objective is to raise community awareness on maternal and child public health topics. It tackles the importance of healthy infant and young child feeding practices such as breastfeeding and complementary feeding, in addition to health topics such as vaccination, reproductive health, personal health and mental health, with a focus on adolescents' health. The project started in December 2019, and it is ongoing in 2021. 60,315 caregivers received health awareness through site and door to door field visits. The workers were provided with a 20-hr training on breastfeeding and complementary feeding, in addition to several trainings and refreshers on reproductive health, psychosocial support and personal hygiene. During the pandemic, the COVID-19 related safety measures and healthy practices was addressed.

The project also entails a referral component, knowing that a breastfeeding consultant is available at the PHC to tend to the pregnant and lactating women's needs in regards to breastfeeding preparation and challenges. The community engagement component is also present in the project, with three community health volunteers serving their refugee communities with knowledge and awareness on the health topics. The team also provides 13,253 micronutrients, in addition to flyers, and face masks. The project also supports Karantina Hospital through three registered nurses, who serve in the Neonatal Care Unit. Activities were carried out under the project, including: the volunteers and health workers' trainings, community awareness sessions in the PHCs, follow-up phone calls with the caregivers. Psychosocial support for the community was also provided after Beirut Blast. Makhzoumi Foundation-UNICEF field workers supported the National Measles campaign in Beirut.



Friends of Disabled Project FDA 2019 - 2021

The Friends of the Disabled Association (FDA) project contributed to an educational approach in the development of capacity building of students with learning and intellectual disabilities. The project with FDA targeted 30 children in Beirut and Baabda districts. A daily educational program was developed to meet the needs and strengthen the weakness points of each child. The program took into account the educational background, personality, behavior, adaptability of the students and the time management of the daily activities. Throughout the academic year 2019-2020, students showed improvements in different educational domains. For example, in mathematical skill, some students at the beginning of the project didn't have the ability to count from 1-10 or write them. They also faced difficulties with indicating their body parts or recognizing the colors.

On the other hand, the Individualized Educational Plan aimed to support the parents and integrate them within the team. Awareness workshops and educational lectures were provided that included all the educational services and vocational techniques. In the beginning of March 2020, and due to Covid-19, FDA closed its center and started the e-learning process. Weekly educational videos including general instructions for parents during quarantine were prepared. In addition to that, simple educational worksheets were sent to the parents. The positive aspect was that parents worked hard and were able to adapt to this new change in the learning program. A mixed learning modality between face-to-face courses and remote activities is applied during the academic year 2020-2021.



The National Rehabilitation and Development Center Project

NRDC 2019 - 2021

For the academic year 2019-2020 Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with the National Rehabilitation and Development Center (NRDC). We work to reduce ignorance and prejudice faced by individuals with special needs through increasing awareness and understanding. The National Rehabilitation & Development Center (NRDC) is a social development non-profit organization, which aims for social benefit for adults and children with disabilities.

NRDC is one of the Leading Rehabilitation Centers in Lebanon, and it is the only one in Western Mount Lebanon, providing direct and indirect services to more than 350 mentally and /or physically disabled persons, from all over Lebanon. Druze children and adults with disabilities are struggling to maintain their independence and basic daily living activities. Unfortunately, most of the heavy burden of disability, falls on the shoulder of the private sector in Lebanon (NGOs). The symbolic governmental support does not cover 25% of the real cost of operation. Moreover, most persons with disabilities come from poor families who can barely afford to support themselves, let alone carry the extra burden for special care. For the past 26 years NRDC, has been shouldering that responsibility and seeking funds from private donors like you. If every Druze Man and Woman would donate just five dollars it would make a difference in the life of many who are struggling with daily living activities.

In this project with Makhzoumi Foundation, children benefited from a comprehensive set of specialized and rehabilitation services including educational and vocational training, therapeutic treatments and leisure, sports and artistic activities. The NRDC project targeted 20 beneficiaries in Chouf and Aley districts. Educational Plans (IEP) were set for the new students.

With the strike of COVID-19 pandemic and the lockdown that started by the end of February 2020, the plans were amended to cope with the new situation. A week after the lockdown, an action plan was put in place to start distance learning. Educational and therapeutic sessions were done remotely. Many COVID-19 messages were sent to parents through videos and pictures; in addition to close follow-up through phone calls or WhatsApp groups. Around 20 awareness episodes were broadcasted on the Facebook page of the center about different topics.

Training on Beekeeping Skills and Environmental Arts and Crafts LWR 2019 - 2020

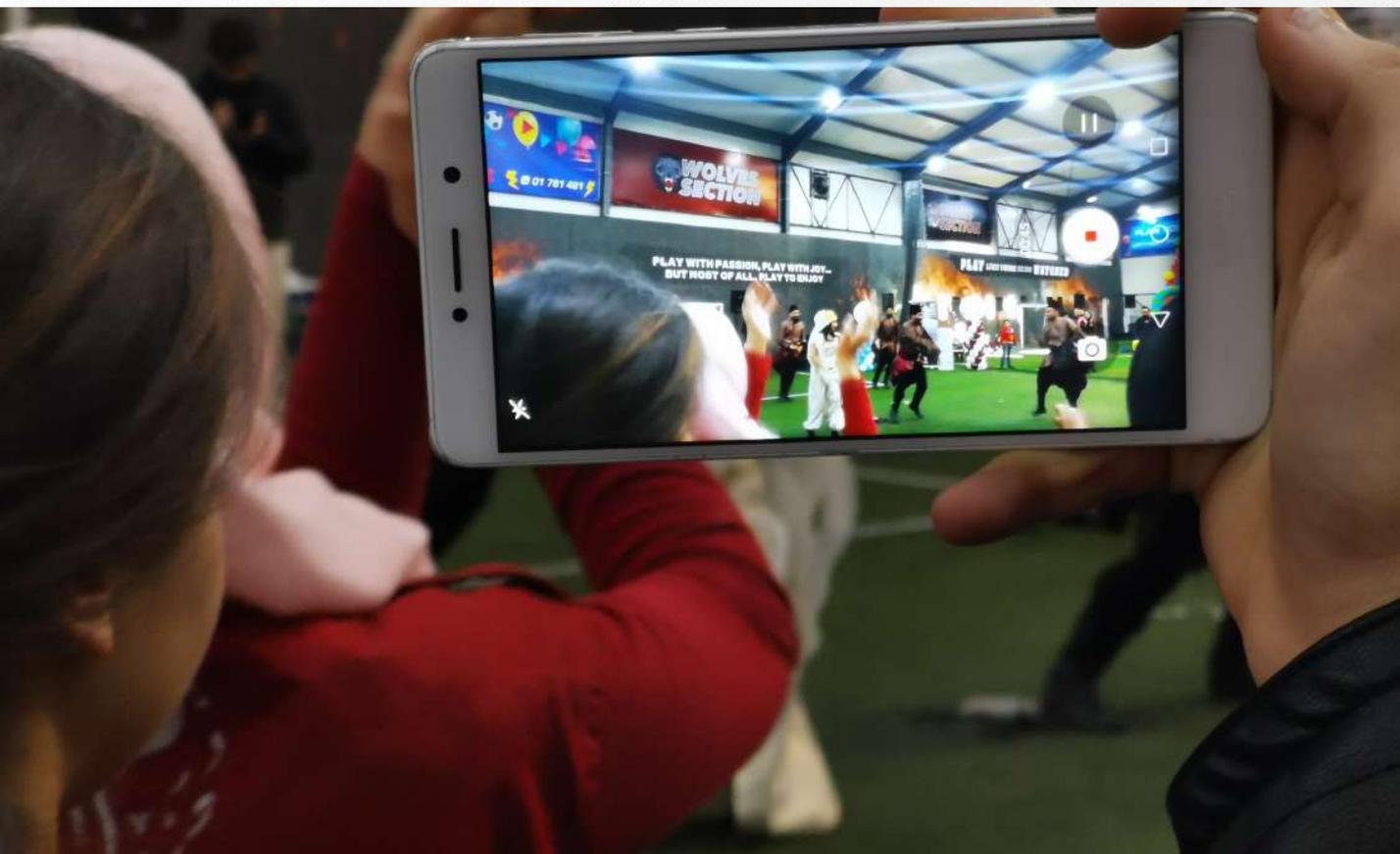
The project entitled Training on Beekeeping Skills and Environmental Arts and Crafts in the Bekaa and Greater Beirut was implemented in 2019 and 2020. It's funded by the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation aiming at empowering Iraqi, Syrian and Lebanese women and youth in Greater Beirut and the Bekaa regions through providing them with income-generating and business skills. The Action takes into consideration the implications of the Syrian and Iraqi refugee crisis, addressing the improvement of their economic situation in order to increase opportunities and well-being for both the Lebanese population and refugees. The Action is inspired by a holistic approach that aims at enhancing social cohesion and inclusive growth. It directs special attention to women and youth, who are most in need of increasing their role and participation to the community development.

Four training workshops on beekeeping skills were organized in the Bekaa region including theoretical and practical sessions, addressing a total of 60 Syrian and Lebanese women and youth. The participants received certificates of attendance upon graduation and two beehives and initial tools to start their beekeeping activity. Three environmental craft workshop were organized in Beirut addressing 36 Iraqi women and youth on loom weaving, patchwork and clothes repair, and chocolate molding, making marzipan and basket decoration. The participants received certificates of attendance upon graduation and starter kits to practice the acquired skills and start their production. All trainees received training on entrepreneurial skills to develop their own business around the activities that they attended. An exhibition was planned in Beirut to provide all the trainees with an opportunity to display their production and familiarize with the rules that apply to marketing, advertising and sales, thus helping them to find out their possible market and customers. This activity was cancelled as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and replaced with a virtual closing ceremony in which a documentary was showcased highlighting the project's milestones.



The Child-friendly Space Center UNHCR 2019 - 2020

Makhzoumi Foundation Street and Working Children (SAWC) team established the Child Friendly Space Center (CFS) at UNHCR Beirut and Mount Lebanon (BML) reception center in September 2019. It welcomed children approaching UNHCR's reception center with their families and offered fun activities, (such as games, and puppet making), informal learning opportunities (such as basic hygiene and life lessons), awareness sessions, arts and crafts. The total number of attendees received during 2019 was 12,986 children and in 2020 it was 6,872. During 2020, Makhzoumi Foundation SAWC team continued to run the child friendly space (CFS) at UNHCR reception centre in Jnah. The team, consisting of two social workers and 4 animators, was responsible of organizing the space, receiving children and conducting recreational activities, games, informal education, awareness sessions etc. This was the modality until COVID-19 lockdown. The CFS was closed during the lockdown. Makhzoumi Foundation SAWC team plan was to resume the activities outdoor at the CFS in coordination with UNHCR. However, the COVID-19 pandemic lasted longer than expected therefore the center was closed permanently.



Empowerment Through Integration

ETI 2018 - 2021

Since 2018, Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with ETI to empower people with disabilities through facilitating their access to different activities and services. The ETI life-skills training program was a personalized program characterized by one-on-one life-skills training for blind and visually impaired beneficiaries (6-27YO) and their families.

The ETI's life skills trainer contributed in supporting and empowering participants with disabilities and their families in their process of acquiring and practicing the necessary basic skills to be independent active individuals through continuous weekly trainings and close monitoring. Many skills were developed such as orientation and mobility skills, hand trailing technique, sound tracking etc. Most participants advanced their communication skills, the expression of their feelings, and their physical position while communicating (face, body, voice tone ...) The program helped them better prepare for educational and employment opportunities, and enabled them to impact the lives of those around them. The project targeted 15 beneficiaries each year.

At the beginning of the 2020, ETI was conducting one-to-one training sessions. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing requirements by the Lebanese government, all training sessions conducted between February and June were implemented via phone training. During this time, all participants were called on a weekly basis to be provided with all the needed information, while videos were also sent in support of their virtual training. In addition to virtual and phone training, the life skills trainer also complemented each session with a voice note that included a summary of each session at the end of each call.



A Project for the elderly Active Aging House & Irshad and Islah 2018 - 2020

Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with the Active Aging House. Active Aging House is a support center whereby refugee elderly persons from different nationalities participated in activities three times per week. Elderly benefited from various activities (cooking, embroidery, knitting, drawing, pottery, lectures, literacy sessions, essay writing sessions, awareness sessions, physiotherapy, training sessions, and sports). The goal of the activities held during that period was to develop the skills of the elderlies and help them discover their hidden talents like arts and crafts and coloring exercises. Other activities aimed at increasing their level of attention and strengthen their memory (bingo, who's the millionaire). The participants also received physiotherapy sessions. They indicated that the sessions contributed to their emotional well-being and helped them relieve stress.

Additionally, the project empowered the elderlies as active members of their community, built their skills and capacities, provided them with a safe space of interaction with their peers, improved their support network and enhanced the social cohesion among refugees and host community. The project targeted 120 elderlies each year. However, due to COVID-19, the scope changed. Activities stopped and 154 food parcels were prepared and distributed by Active Aging House instead.

During 2021, Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with Irshad and Islah for the same above purposes. The project targeted 120 elderlies each year in addition to distributing food parcels whenever the activities were stopped due to the pandemic.



Educational, Economic, and social development

RDFL 2018 - 2020

The educational, economic, and social development for Syrian and Lebanese youth in Lebanon built the capacity of 481 youth aged 18-29 to design and sustain micro and small enterprises over the duration of the project from June 2018 till December 2019. It supported 5 startup projects from the graduated with grants up to \$2500 to Start and 5 existing startups with grants up to \$2500 to grow, with technical support and coaching. From June 2018 till December 2019 481 youth trained, 50% host and 50% displaced community members, with around 70% being female.

A competition was set in March 2019 to select 2 Projects from graduates of training and 5 existing startups. Another one was planned to be done in October 2019, but was cancelled due to the Security issues and the economic situation. 1 Startup from the graduated was awarded a grant of \$2500. The other startup's funder was detained in Syria after receiving his first part of the grant. 4 existing startups were awarded grants of \$2500. Grants were disbursed in several payments till October 2020. 100% of the training target was met. 1 over 2 of the Startups of the graduated persons is implemented. 80% of the Existing Startup to be granted was met. The security issue in Lebanon has stopped the activities and economic problems, mainly changing the USD vs LBP value.



Improving the health and wellness of LGBTIQ MOSAIC 2018

In 2018, Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with MOSAIC. MOSAIC is the MENA organization for services, advocacy, integration and capacity building, committed to improve the health and wellness of LGBTIQ persons in Lebanon and beyond. The partnership aimed at achieving the coexistence of people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities (SOGI) in LGBTIQ-friendly communities and national systems. Therefore, MOSAIC provided comprehensive services for LGBTIQ persons, researched and advocated for policy reform, built knowledge and capacities on SOGI issues, and engaged heterosexuals and LGBTIQ persons in the fight against homophobia.

The team bonding events were fun and motivational. They focused on improving the communication, planning, problem solving and conflict resolution. They contributed to an improvement in the group dynamics and relationships among the group members, by encouraging collaboration and teamwork. They improved solidarity, communication and team spirit.

MOSAIC also conducted trainings for LGBTI cases such as English level 1, level 2, make-up and fashion design. These training helped develop the beneficiaries' skills needed for empowerment and job opportunities.

The project targeted 132 beneficiaries from all nationalities.



Artisan project

Waste Studio, Tight Knit Syria & Rim N' Roll 2018

In 2018, Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with Waste Studio, Tight Knit Syria (TKS) and Rim N' Roll. The purpose of the partnership was to train refugee artisans and develop a collection of products and Christmas ornaments made by refugees to be showcased and sold in events at the Sage Parlor, Sursock Museum, In Action events, Maison & Objet Paris, Geneva UNHCR Offices, UNHCR local Offices, etc.

The trained refugees perfected many skills such as tailoring, sewing, crocheting, knitting, and embroidery, etc. Their resilience, resourcefulness and creativity also improved. Due to the skills acquired during the project, the beneficiaries were able to earn an additional income to support themselves and their families.

Waste Studio, TKS and Rim N' Roll facilitated the connection with many buyers, retailers and designers around the world who loved handmade unique items.

Around 39 refugees were professionally trained. More than 400 Christmas ornaments were produced, in addition to a vast collection of products including wallets, clothing, jewelry, and decorative art.



The Green Demonstration Room

CERD & LGBC 2017 - 2021

The Green Demonstration Room is the product of a collaboration between Makhzoumi Foundation, the Educational Center for Research and Development (CERD), and the Lebanon Green Building Council (LGBC). It was launched under the patronage of the Minister of Education and Higher Education, Mr. Marwan Hamadeh in 2017. The Green Demonstration Room is located at the premises of the CERD in Jounieh area. Its main goal is to raise public awareness on the importance of energy efficiency, water conservation and pollution reduction through introducing the concept of Green Buildings. Students from public and private schools from all regions of the country can visit the demonstration room and get acquainted with those principles. Makhzoumi Foundation and several private institutions contributed to the funding of the project, financially and in-kind. CERD offered the location. From 2017-2019, the Green Demonstration Room welcomed 55 schools, 2800 students and 100 trainees. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, its work was frozen until further notice.

The objectives of the project are to:

- Demonstrate the concept and principles of Green Buildings.
- Assist as many learners as possible of all ages and backgrounds in developing awareness on the importance of the principles of energy efficiency, water conservation and other environmental issues.
- Encourage the use of renewable energy technologies.
- Train trainers of the center and science teachers .
- Support the integration of Energy Efficiency in the official school curricula.



Emergency Cash Assistance

UNHCR 2017 - 2021

Makhzoumi Foundation team provided emergency cash assistance to beneficiaries to address protection concerns related to their physical safety, psychological wellbeing, liberty, dignity and other fundamental human rights. When possible beneficiaries were referred to services providers for services in line with their needs, however when these were not available or barriers existed, cash assistance was important and needed to be provided, to ensure that their protection needs were met.

Nevertheless, many factors contributed to the high demand in the ECAs numbers in the past few years. The Lebanese government decision in 2019, banning refugees from working unless they held legal residency documentations and valid work permits increased the unemployment rate among refugees. Beneficiaries were struggling to provide for their families. Therefore, the risk of eviction was rising. In addition, the increasing bad socio-economic situation, the protests, the inflation, the LBP vs USD currency exchange crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic, all led individuals to the risk of immediate harm, eviction, risk of sexual and gender-based violence, and to the worst forms of child labor. The numbers of ECAs always exceeded the target by at least 50%, since the needs were always increasing and the situation of the beneficiaries was always challenging. The beneficiaries were always barely able to meet their basic needs, hence, they were in constant need of emergency cash assistance.



Psycho-Social Support Activities

UNHCR 2017 - 2021

Makhzoumi Foundation team provided psychosocial support activities (PSS) for beneficiaries in all targeted areas. The provided sessions aimed to heal the psychological wounds, lift the refugees' spirits, rebuild their self-esteem, boost their self-confidence, encourage them to embrace themselves, and re-establish their social networks for its positive impact on their well-being. It also helped them change into active survivors rather than passive victims. In the afternoon of 4 August 2020, two explosions occurred at the port of the city of Beirut causing least 220 deaths, 7,000 injuries, US\$10–15 billion in property damage, and leaving an estimated 300,000 people homeless. The explosion was considered to be one of the most powerful non-nuclear explosions in history.

The massive explosion had severe emotional and psychological effects on the population. Therefore, Makhzoumi Foundation aimed throughout these PSS activities to provide support to the population affected by the blast and helped them get through this very tough phase that affected them both psychologically and emotionally. Many sessions were provided on the field, and during home assessment visits. However, the number of people provided with psychosocial support by Makhzoumi Foundation during 2020 dropped due to the lockdown. For several months, face to face sessions could no longer be provided for safety reasons. Once the sessions resumed, new precaution measures that respect social distancing were set. During 2021, the numbers of attendees returned to their normal rate.



Awareness Sessions

UNHCR 2017 - 2021

Makhzoumi Foundation provided awareness sessions covering a multitude of topics and goals focusing on social cohesion hygiene, gender issues, abuse and communication. These topics fostered parent-child relationships and limited gender-based violence. The participants in these sessions were extremely indulgent and cooperative. They commented on the benefits they received from this kind of sessions on their perspectives toward life. In 2020, the COVID-19 lockdown period had a huge impact on the team activities. The team visits to the camps and the refugees visits to the center were cancelled. Nevertheless, the team found methods to communicate with beneficiaries such as: live interaction through Zoom meetings, pre-recorded videos, groups on WhatsApp, in addition to the regular phone calls.

These methods have secured a pathway for information to flow. Not only a two-ends pathway but also a multiple ends pathway. Some of the participants have taken the initiative to dispense the information they gather in sessions through groups, they made on WhatsApp and Facebook. The awareness sessions were about early marriage, stress, domestic violence, sexual harassment prevention, and the importance of good communication skills. In 2021, a mixed modality was applied. Face to face and remote sessions were provided while taking all precautionary measures.



The Fun Bus

UNHCR 2017 - 2021

Street and working children (SaWC) of all nationalities in Beirut were reached through a specific programming: “The Fun Bus” that reached out to street connected children and involved them in interactive, participatory, educational and PSS activities. The Fun Bus was launched on the 20th of December 2018. The launching event of the fun bus was attended by officials such as: EU’s ambassador, UNHCR representative in Lebanon, local and international NGOs, ISF, a representative from MOSA a representative of the Ministry of Interior and municipalities. The ceremony included an introduction about the fun bus followed by a video that represented the kind of activities conducted such as PSS, handcrafts, basic literacy and numeracy, storytelling and awareness sessions. The fun bus allowed the children to be familiar with the team and delivered variable psycho-social support and educational activities. The team conveyed messages to the children through artistic activities like painting, drawing, handicraft, etc. The team celebrated throughout the year, with the children, several International Days. They also raised awareness about health topics through awareness activities. The children were taught how to seek help if they were subject to abuse and how to inform the concerned authorities without exposing themselves to danger.

However, the SAWC activities conducted on the bus were severely affected by the protests, blocked roads and COVID-19 lockdown. Children could no longer be reached by the team. To maintain the safety of the team and the children, the Fun Bus activities completely stopped during risky days and during the lockdown.



Vocational training program for youth in Lebanon

AVSI & CESVI 2017 - 2020

The project aims to provide increased numbers of refugees and other affected populations with access to income generation opportunities and non-formal vocational training. The activities target Syrian refugees as well as vulnerable host communities where appropriate, with a focus on the needs of at risk women and/or people living with disabilities. The activities build on existing and scalable programs where possible. The target is 400 beneficiaries "on-job training" and 75 beneficiaries to receive life skills provided by Makhzoumi Foundation in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, Tripoli and Beqaa.

This project also contributed in providing youth with access to vocational education in marginal areas. It helped them in fulfilling their potentials and empower themselves in becoming 'positive-change agents'. In this project, Makhzoumi Foundation in partnership with AVSI/CESVI, planned on transferring to vulnerable Syrian and Lebanese youth, life skills, BLN (basic language and numeracy), and technical vocational skills in addition to entrepreneurship training to a selected group to develop their abilities, build their knowledge and improve their living conditions. The activities were carried out in different areas (Beirut, Aramoun and surrounding area), Zahle and surrounding area, Tripoli and Nabatiyeh with beneficiaries aged 14 to 25 years old and targeted 510 beneficiaries for the BLN training, 510 beneficiaries for the TVET training, and 40 internships.



Embracing Digital Technology

USAID, Palladium & Haceb 2017 - 2019

Makhzoumi Foundation team took the decision to mitigate for the multiple challenges in the existing software infrastructure. In collaboration with the USAID and LIFE Project implemented by Palladium, and the Software development company, Haceb, a project to implement a solution-based on Microsoft new Technologies was started in 2019. The project is composed of different sections including Dynamics 365, which covers the Micro-Credit program operations including Borrower Data Management, Credit Committee, Loan Officer Activity, Loan Disbursement, Repayment, Loan Closure, Loan evaluation, and Loan Officer Evaluation. Other section include the Business Central (NAV) that covers the accounting, finance, procurement, project management, in addition to a section that covers the staff payroll.

Similarly to all software development projects, this one faced 2 main challenges, the user resistance to change and the delay of implementation related to updated requests or tasks that were misunderstood by the developer. In addition, a mentality and task distribution change is needed when migrating to an ERP solution, as all the systems of the entity are linked to the accounting, hence a more rigid intolerance of error. COVID-19 and lockdowns have also reduced the efficiency of the meetings that Makhzoumi Foundation team had to do with Haceb to transfer the business rules to them.



She's Entrepreneur BDD, LLWB & NCLW 2017 - 2019

Makhzoumi Foundation, in collaboration with Berytech in the first version and BDD, LLWB and NCLW in the second version, implemented 2 versions of the She's Entrepreneur project. The women empowering project aims to stimulate young women to think about the possibilities of becoming entrepreneurs, as they are less represented in the business world. This way, the initiative gives them the confidence to think about new paths in their lives. The sessions had a warm and supportive atmosphere, where the young women were free to share their thoughts. The days had a warm and supportive atmosphere, where the young women felt free to share their thoughts. The project is implemented by interns and volunteers, and mentored by Makhzoumi Foundation Micro-credit program staff with 14 participants in the first version and 40 in the second.



Yalla Nefroz

CEDAR 2016 - 2021

Makhzoumi Foundation launched an environmental initiative in Beirut entitled “Let’s Sort...Let’s Start the First Step Together”, in collaboration with CEDAR-Environmental, on March 11, 2016, aiming at motivating the neighborhoods of its centers to begin sorting non-organic solid household wastes. Makhzoumi Foundation had paved the way for this initiative through a series of gatherings held with residents and stakeholders about the importance of sorting and recycling of wastes. The Foundation placed sorting bins in front of its centers, to gather and transfer the collected wastes for recycling. Flyers regarding the campaign were distributed as well to residents of the neighborhood. It is worth mentioning that Makhzoumi Foundation, since its establishment, has been spreading environmental awareness, especially among children in schools.

In 2018, bins for paper wastes were added to all drop-off points and eight schools joined the project whereby bins were placed at their premises. Makhzoumi Foundation also made an agreement with Ouzville Association to collect waste from Ouzaii Region. The number of drop-off points is always increasing reaching 35 to date, including schools, pharmacies, supermarkets, NGOs, buildings, sport clubs in addition to the centers of the Foundation. Waste is collected weekly, from the drop-off points by the truck of this initiative and is then transported for recycling. After the Beirut Blast, glass wastes were collected by the volunteers of the Foundation from affected regions and transported by YALLA NEFROZ truck to Karantina.



The Health and Nutrition community-based project UNICEF 2016 - 2021

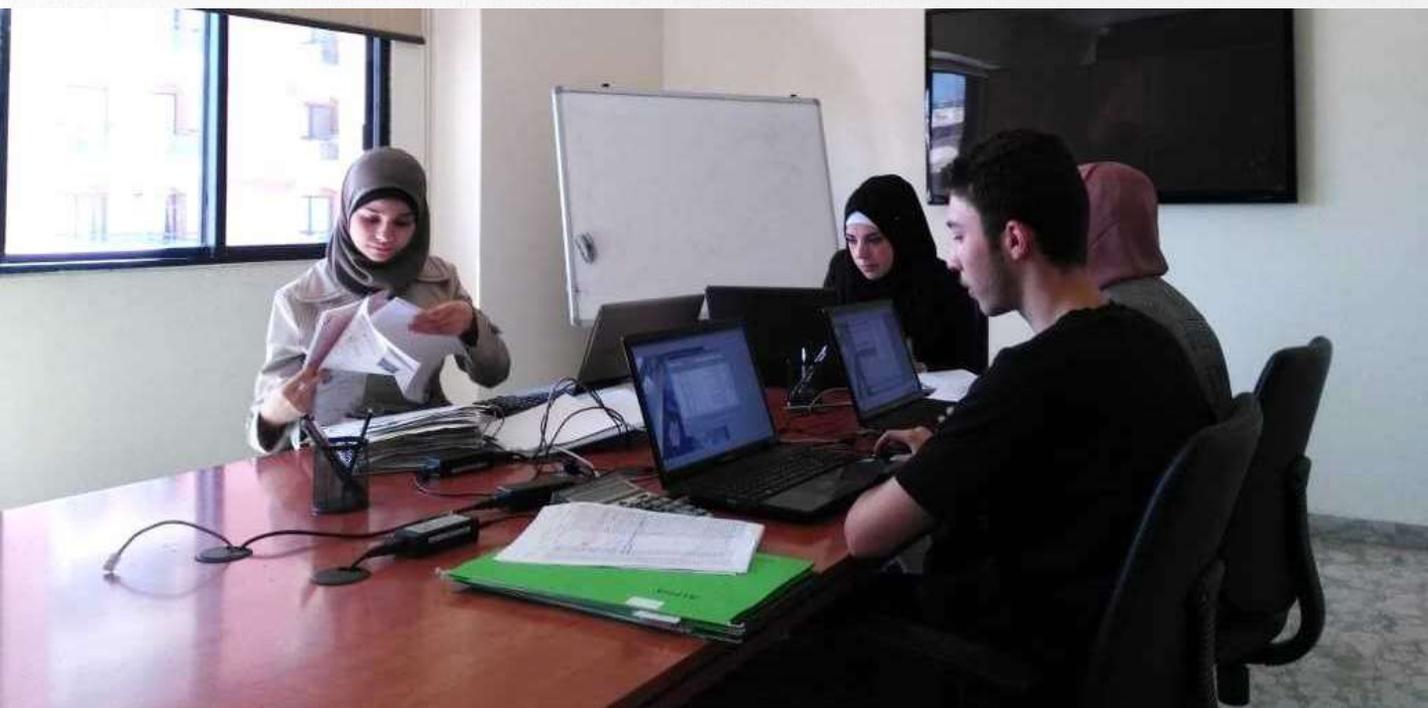
The increasing rates of the determinants of poor health require durable solutions that increase resilience and humanitarian programs that meet immediate needs of vulnerable populations. The nutritional status of the Lebanese population is characterized by a nutrition transition with the persistence of micronutrient deficiencies and acute malnutrition in young children. Scarce economic resources, and lack of knowledge on how babies should be fed are all together causing malnutrition. The objectives of this program are to: detect malnutrition resulting from acute reduced intake of nutrients, determine the degree of malnutrition, whether moderate or severe, providing the required malnutrition treatment through therapeutic food, follow-up with the malnourished patients, and provide proper education on healthy eating depending on the case and age of the patient. The education that accompanies the malnutrition screening includes topics such as exclusive breastfeeding for children under 6 months, complementary feeding for children under 3 years, proper diet and supplementation during pregnancy and adequate nutrition for mothers during lactation.

The malnutrition program provided screening for 76 children under five years and 32 pregnant mothers from the beginning of 2021 till May 2021. 39 screened children were found to have MAM (moderate acute malnutrition) and 10 were diagnosed with SAM (severe acute malnutrition), and they were all followed up with, with the treatment. 5 children left the malnutrition program. As for pregnant women, all 32 screened women were found to have MAM and were also provided with the nutrition therapy.



Promoting inclusive local economic empowerment DRC, OXFAM, Care, Acted & Save the Children 2016 - 2018

The overall objective of the project entitled promoting inclusive local economic empowerment and development to enhance resilience and social stability is to contribute to the economic self-reliance, resilience and social stability of displacement-affected populations in Jordan and Lebanon in preparation for durable solutions. The project is implemented with DRC, OXFAM, Care, Acted, Save the Children. Specific objectives are improved access to sustainable livelihoods opportunities benefitting vulnerable households and individuals, particularly youth and women and improved economic enabling environment and service delivery in communities hosting refugees. The project was implemented in Tripoli, Beirut and Mount Lebanon area with beneficiaries' age 15 to 50 years and targeted 788 beneficiaries receiving vocational training, soft skills and life skills trainings and 200 beneficiaries receiving On the job training. Another part of this project has an objective to contribute to the economic self-reliance and resilience of displacement-affected populations in the Beqaa Governorate in preparation for durable solutions. Specific objective are improved such as strengthening employability and access to salaried work opportunities, particularly for youth, women, established medium and small enterprises (MSEs), and making nascent businesses more viable, sustainable and sensitive to employees' basic rights. Makhzoumi Foundation targeted 200 beneficiaries for vocational training in addition to 40 OJT in the Beqaa area. The targeted beneficiaries are from 15 to 50 years old from both the host communities and Syrian refugees. The project was implemented with DRC, OXFAM, Care, Acted, Save the Children.



Empowering Syrian Refugees and Lebanese hosting Communities

PPI, Indiegogo, PepsiCo & Arman Arton 2016 - 2018

The project is implemented with Positive Planet International (PPI) and funded by Indiegogo, PepsiCo, Arman Arton, Makhzoumi Foundation, Positive Planet Foundation, and after extension Deutch Bank and HSBC. 380 youth beneficiaries were identified and placed in the most suitable training (identified trainings: Hair Dressing for women and men, Makeup and skincare, and food preparation). Entrepreneurship skills training in parallel of the Vocational Training was offered to support the beneficiaries to open their own businesses in their corresponding localities or to empower them to better finance their households.

Two Training of Trainers (TOT) sessions were implemented for Makhzoumi Foundation staff to implement the trainings. Makhzoumi Foundation was following up on the quality of the training. The implementation of the project started on July 2016 and ended by March 2018. The training happened in Makhzoumi Foundation Mazraa, Aramoun, Baalbek, Tripoli, Saida and Zahle Centers. The target beneficiaries were planned to be between 16 and 35 years old, 50 % females 50% males, 50% Lebanese and 50% Syrian. At the end of the project 52% were Lebanese and 48% were Displaced population. The two communities needed to trust each other and to build communications channels. This was one of the indirect objectives of the Project. The 2017 security issues in the Northern Beqaa's borders have helped exaggerate the situation. Furthermore, this presented an Image risk for Makhzoumi Foundation. The situation was closely monitored and all communication was filtered to make sure not to provoke any reaction.



Civil Society in Action for Sustainable Development

OMSAR 2016 - 2018

This Project was managed by the Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR) within AFKAR 3 Program and implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation and its partners, Armadilla, MIO-ECSDE and ALMEE in collaboration with the 3 Unions of Municipalities, East Zahle in Mid-Bekaa, Sahl in West Bekaa, and East Baalbek in North Bekaa, and the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO. The Project included a total of 30 schools and 646 students who participated in sustainability related activities. In 2018, the students were mainly involved in a follow up on the household GHG competition they had participated in. It included these main components:

- The role of Education in achieving sustainable development.
- The relation between sustainable development and consumption patterns.
- The importance of empowering people's capacities and skills.
- The regional and global dimension of sustainable development.

The main activities of the Project were the following:

- Report of the Survey on “Lebanese Youth Response towards Sustainable Development”;
- Seminars for local stakeholders and continuing monitoring and assistance;
- Carbon Footprint (Greenhouse Gas – GHG) reduction competition in the 30 schools (646 students) targeted by the project including workshops and measurement of the carbon footprint;
- Training on Beekeeping skills for 60 beneficiaries and Environmental craft workshops for 240 women, business skills sessions and follow-up;
- Organization of a fair back-to-back with the closing ceremony of the project during which the environmental art crafts produced by the women beneficiaries were exhibited ;
- Production and diffusion on TV and social media of a spot on reduction of single use plastic;
- Production of textile bags to promote reduction of single use plastic and re-using concept, as part of the visibility Actions;
- Installation of renewable energy devices (30 solar thermal heaters at schools, 45 solar poles in 3 unions of Municipalities).



Leaders Consortium MADAD & RDPP 2016

The leaders' consortium contributes to the economic self reliance, resilience and social stability of displacement-affected populations in Lebanon. It encourages local actors and institutions to develop durable and inclusive livelihood solutions and by advocating for an enabling socio-economic environment. Makhzoumi Foundation is one of the LEADERS with ACTED, CARE, DRC, Oxfam, and Save the Children. The aim is to engage community leaders on women and youth participation in the labor force, personal development training for male and female youth, job matching for vocational training graduates and unemployed men and women in line with experience and managing expectations and ethics training for business owners.

EU – MADAD representatives visited Makhzoumi Foundation in Tripoli hosted by ACTED, CARE, DRC, Oxfam, and Makhzoumi Foundation to check the ongoing activities, observe part of an ongoing course and get feedback on the progress. Leaders Consortium was all gathered and a meeting with supported enterprises in business development services. Through vocational training, the enabling program successfully implemented between August 2016 and February 2018 (Phase I) has helped 436 beneficiaries, 80% of which are females and 57% are young adults, to take back control of their destiny.



Promoting Sustainable Development in the Bekaa UNESCO 2016

This project is the Joint Training Workshops on Bee-keeping, Environmental Crafts and Life Skills for Youth in Lebanon; Promoting Sustainable Development in the Bekaa. It was implemented between April and June 2016, and built upon the previous cooperation between Makhzoumi Foundation and UNESCO Regional Bureau-Beirut whereby young Lebanese and Syrian women and men were trained in Beirut, Baalbek and Irkay in South Lebanon on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), civic engagement, work and life skills. It aimed to strengthen that cooperation by equipping more young Lebanese and Syrian adults in the Bekaa with income generating skills and capacities. This initiative included 3 workshops at the community centers of Makhzoumi Foundation in Baalbek and Forzol targeting 42 young men and women with the following objectives:

- Providing young adults with income-generating skills.
- Empowering them to play a productive role in society by providing them with some tools and materials to initiate small businesses.
- Highlighting to them the importance of sustainable development and helping them become active and ecologically responsible citizens, workers and consumers.
- Introducing them to the principles of work and life skills and attitudes needed to enter the world of work.

Bee-keeping is an activity that offers a large potential with minimal investments. In rural communities where access to income is limited, small-scale beekeeping can contribute significantly to livelihood security. On the other hand, there are social and economic benefits of combining art along with respect of the environment. The workshops included an introduction raising awareness on the importance of "3 Rs" Reduce, Reuse and Recycle of the waste hierarchy. The workshops were Beekeeping in Baalbek for 8 Lebanese and 5 Syrians, Paper Art in Forzol for 17 Lebanese and 3 Syrians, and loom weaving in Baalbek for 7 Lebanese and 10 Syrians.



Environmental Improvement in the municipality of Irkay Armadilla 2016

This project was implemented by the Municipality of Irkay in partnership with Makhzoumi Foundation and the Italian NGO, Armadilla. The Action proposed to foster sustainable development and inclusive growth through the environmental improvement with the following three specific objectives:

1. To provide innovative services of renewable energy for environmental protection.
2. To develop a basic disposition of children of care towards nature and to provide them with a green space.
3. To strengthen the role of environmental awareness in achieving sustainable development and empowering people.

The Project included activities such as the installation of 8 solar energy poles in the main places of the Municipality, establishment of a green area for children, a workshop on environmental education and sustainable development addressing teachers of primary and intermediate school, organization of environmental education activities addressed to children including attendance of a play, waste sorting, and composting, organization of a school contest entitled “Youth Understanding and Improving the Environment”, holding informative sessions for farmers, women, and youth on issues related to environmental protection and sustainable consumption, organization of environmental craft workshops for women (Faux Bijoux, Soap Making, Patchwork, Flower arrangement...). Students were also accompanied on visits to Saida’s IBC (municipal solid waste treatment plant) and Soap Museum, the Blown Glass Khalife Freres workshop in Sarafand, the Lebanese Marine and Wildlife Museum, the Chouf Natural Cedars Reserve, and Tyre Coastal Natural Reserve. The accomplishments were as planned targeting 500 students, 170 ladies, 25 farmers, 70 young men, 25 beekeepers and more than 30 stakeholders.



Mental Health and Psycho-social support

UNHCR 2015 - 2021

UNHCR's Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) programming builds the capacity of local health staff and communities and supports the management of mental, neurological and substance use conditions in health facilities. UNHCR integrated the MHPSS in Makhzoumi Foundation PHC services for refugees since 2015 and advocated for the inclusion of refugees into national mental health system.

Through its relief and humanitarian services unit, Makhzoumi Foundation in partnership with UNHCR and under the Dutch fund, provides mental health consultations for 720 beneficiaries. 72 beneficiaries will also be referred for psychiatric consultations. Makhzoumi Foundation strengthened non-specialized community based psychosocial support systems through capacity building of 15 mobilized outreach volunteers, to provide a wider layer of psychosocial support in their own communities.

Through Makhzoumi Foundation PHC in Beirut, UNHCR fully covered the fees of the mental health services for the Syrian refugees, and refugees or residents from other nationalities. The mental health services include consultations of psychologist and psychiatrist. In addition, the mental health medications are provided free of charge for the patients, as supplied by Ministry of Public Health. This part of the project aims to increase the access of the susceptible community to the mental health services, therefore, it facilitates access through bearing the cost of transportation of the patients to and from the PHCC.



لا تكتمل الصحة
بدون الصحة لنفسية

Reproductive Health

UNFPA 2015 - 2021

Makhzoumi Foundation cooperates with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) since 2015 in the distribution of reproductive health kits and medications to refugees to raise awareness about family planning and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

The UNFPA Reproductive Health project in collaboration with Ministry of Public Health, aims to support the reproductive health of the community through the efforts of a midwife. The project started in September 2020. Makhzoumi Foundation PHC's legal midwife provides women with medical service and awareness lectures on the importance of family planning and reproductive health, follow-up during pregnancy, and preparation for childbirth and postpartum follow-up. The project supports antenatal and postnatal health of the mothers through regular checkups as well as informative awareness sessions.

Through the project, the midwife assists in the insertion of contraceptives devices such as the Intra-uterine device (IUD). Breastfeeding awareness is also an important pillar of the education of women of child bearing ages. Condoms and birth control pills are also provided for free as part of the project. Since the start of the project till May 2021, the Ante-Natal Care consultations accounted for 226, Post-Natal Care Consultations accounted for 76, family planning services reached 367, and included: 150 women benefiting from oral contraceptives, 18 IUDs and 199 condoms. 211 early detection of RH cancers services (including mammography and PAP smear) were done since the start of the project.



Malnutrition

IOCC 2014 - 2021

In 2014, Makhzoumi Foundation started its cooperation with the **International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)**. They work together to manage malnutrition through screening all children aged 5 years and below and providing food supplements to cases diagnosed with malnutrition, in addition to continuous awareness raising on the importance of breastfeeding. The program continued to be supported by the **Ministry of Public Health from 2016 to 2021**. An agreement with IOCC was made in **May 2021**. The project aims to support the PHCC's malnutrition screening program, by **providing transportation fees for the children and pregnant/lactating women** who are in need of the malnutrition screening service. IOCC agreement helps ameliorate a financial challenge that susceptible individuals and families face, that keeps them from getting access to the service. Each patient is accommodated for **12,000 LBP per visit, for up to 6 visits**.

The project will continue till the end of **December 2021**. A representative from IOCC is present at the PHCC during the malnutrition consultations, whose role is to provide technical support for the health caregiver. The representative also monitors the practitioner's performance, and provides guidance and feedback when needed. The IOCC agreement also aims to provide logistic support to the primary health care center, by supplying the PHCC with the required tools needed for the screening, such as the MUAC tape and the malnutrition follow-up cards. The weight scales are also monitored and checked in terms of quality by IOCC. Lastly, technical support is provided by IOCC team, through close follow-up with the managed malnutrition patients to monitor the quality of the education supplied, ensuring that the correct information is being disseminated by the health practitioners at the PHCC.



Promotion of Maternal and Childhood Health

Armadilla & Italian Cooperation Office 2014 - 2015

This project is funded by the **Italian Waldensian Church** and implemented in cooperation with the Italian association **Armadilla S.c.s. Onlus** and the **Italian Cooperation Office in Lebanon**. Its purpose is to promote health conditions of vulnerable communities mainly women and children through the following:

- Increasing awareness on child feeding, hygiene practices, on family planning and reproductive health;
- Enhancing the emotional well-being of people through psychosocial support activities;
- Capacity building through medical missions from Italy lead by Professor Aldo Morrone;
- Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) campaigns in collective shelters and informal tented settlements in Beirut and Mount Lebanon;
- Seminars addressing healthcare providers to improve their knowledge and skills on specific health issues.

The project aiming to establish a close cooperation between Italian and Lebanese healthcare providers, through exchange of knowledge and experience, thus improving the local capacities in dealing with the health consequences of the Syrian crisis. The most important result of this cooperation was the elaboration of the first **Atlas in Lebanon on dermatological diseases** that was presented in Beirut in October 2015.



Lebanese Youth as messengers of Sustainability

OMSAR, EU, Armadilla, ALMEE & MIO-ECSDE 2013 - 2015

A project within **AFKAR 3** program managed by **OMSAR** and funded by **EU**, in partnership with **Armadilla** (Italian NGO), **ALMEE** (Lebanese NGO) and **MIO-ECSDE** (Greek NGO / Mediterranean network). The overall objective of the action was to foster a culture of sustainability among the Lebanese children and youth, their families and the local communities, to enhance a sustainable development in the country and sustainable relationships in the Mediterranean. It included the following activities:

- Holding three workshops in Beirut, Tripoli and Chtaura addressing teachers on the methodologies and teaching methods of ESD
- Development and dissemination of a toolkit for educators to enhance their capacity about ESD that was distributed to all public and private intermediate level schools in Lebanon and to NGOs as well.
- Organizing a contest on preparation of sketches on sustainable consumption and protection
- Holding three seminars in the targeted areas addressing competent authorities, local associations and other private stakeholders to enhance common approaches towards sustainable development;
- Organization of three public activities/ Environmental Days in the target areas on sustainable consumption and environmental protection, involving the families and the whole communities;
- Production and dissemination of a documentary on the winning sketches that was broadcasted on national TV and radio and disseminated at Mediterranean level through social media;
- Establishment of working groups on different matters related to sustainable development and environmental protection for the exchange of experiences
- Sharing of materials and experiences in Lebanon, Italy and Greece thru the MEDIES e-network.



DIVE-IN Project

MIO-ECSDE 2019

Mutual skills' building in DIVERsity, INclusive pedagogies of trainers. Lessons from Lebanon: SDGs as a Tool to Enhance Deprived Mothers is a project that was implemented by NGOs from 4 partner countries: Greece, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine and was funded by the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE). Makhzoumi Foundation was the Lebanese partner. The action aimed at creating more inclusive, more respectful communities to one another. The kick-off meeting that took place in Greece during May 2019 and aimed at supporting educators, animators and trainers from both the formal and the non-formal system in designing and applying inclusive education practices for diverse groups, with emphasis on disadvantaged learners (refugees, poor, marginalized, excluded, etc.). Each partner country thus prepared a workshop to share information and practices that could benefit others. Accordingly, Makhzoumi Foundation contributed to the seminar with a 1.5-hour workshop offered to 25 people in which the diversity in Lebanon in terms of religions, ethnicities, refugees, and migrant workers and its impact on society was discussed. The workshop targeted the challenges and feelings of exclusion faced by different members of the community on one hand, and the positive initiatives, mainly by active members of the civil society, taken towards inclusion on the other.

In Lebanon, the idea was to identify needs of refugees and host communities, and implement national activities that help fill that need (namely poor economic condition). The following activities were implemented:

- Two trainings targeting 24 women on environmental crafts were held in Beirut (Decoupage and Loom Weaving). Kits were distributed at the end of each workshop.
- Creation of a card memory game illustrating SDGs and a puzzle focusing on Goal number 10.
- Distribution of the games, an educational activity book, and a key holder/booklet on child's rights to children of participating women.



Training Project on Beekeeping skills

LWR 2013 - 2015

The Project funded by the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation aims at empowering Iraqi, Syrian and Lebanese women and youth in Greater Beirut and the Bekaa regions through providing them with income-generating and business skills. The Action takes into consideration the implications of the Syrian and Iraqi refugee crisis, addressing the improvement of their economic situation in order to increase opportunities and well-being for both the Lebanese population and refugees. The Action is inspired by a holistic approach that aims at enhancing social cohesion and inclusive growth. It directs special attention to women and youth, who are most in need of increasing their role and participation to the community development. Four training workshops on beekeeping skills were organized in the Bekaa region including theoretical and practical sessions, addressing a total of 60 Syrian and Lebanese women and youth. The participants received certificates of attendance upon graduation and two beehives and initial tools to start their beekeeping activity.

Three environmental craft workshop were organized in Beirut addressing 36 Iraqi women and youth on the following topics: a. loom weaving b. patchwork and clothes repair c. chocolate molding, making marzipan and basket decoration. The participants received certificates of attendance upon graduation and starter kits to practice the acquired skills and start their production.

All trainees received training on entrepreneurial skills to develop their own business around the activities that they attended. A fair/exhibition had been organized in Beirut to provide all the trainees with an opportunity to display their production and familiarize with the rules that apply to marketing, advertising and sales, thus helping them to find out their possible market and customers. This activity was cancelled as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and replaced with a virtual closing ceremony in which a documentary was showcased highlighting the project's milestones.



Leave no one behind

MF 2013 - 2014

Within the call to Action announced by the UN under the following title:

«**Together for Equality: Leave No One Behind**»

citizens from all corners of the world joined together to demand the change that the world urgently needs **to eradicate poverty**.

Makhzoumi Foundation selected the **Human Rights are for All** issue from the call whereby a 10 minute film/documentary about **the Rights of Children** was produced and uploaded on the Makhzoumi Foundation YouTube Channel on the following link:

http://youtu.be/DR192w_hFts

It was divided into 12 sections comprising all the articles of the Convention with emphasis on section 9 that includes Articles 2 and 30 dealing with discrimination issues. Contacts were then made with intermediate level schools in Greater Beirut, so they could download the film on USB or CD and use it for their activities of civic education and they were invited to participate at a drawing contest held by the Foundation. The contest was related to articles 2 and 30 of the Rights of Children that deal with protection from discrimination. Students could choose any anti-discrimination topic they wished for their drawings. **850 drawings** from **42 schools** were presented and the Jury selected the **3 winners** of each age category 8 to 10 and 11. The prize distribution ceremony was held on May 5th, 2014 at UNESCO Palace along with an exhibition of the drawings.



Child and Youth Finance International Injaz Lebanon , Al Majmoo3a & VITAS 2013

An activity including the NGOs **Injaz Lebanon** , **Al Majmoo3a**, **VITAS** and others and led by the **Higher Council of the Child** was held with workshops and a contest and the winner student was invited to attend the CYFI summit of 2013 in Istanbul on May 8th and 9th.

The theme of the contest focused on financial management by children and it targeted students of the first secondary level.

Several workshops on the topic preceded the contest and were held by the participating NGOs. The winner and results of the contest were decided in cooperation with the Higher Council of the Child on April 24th 2013 On June 15th, Makhzoumi Foundation held an honoring ceremony at Holiday Inn Dunes Hotel under the patronage of the Minister of Social Affairs and in presence of the Director of the Higher Council of the Child Mrs. Rita Karam. The ceremony targeted all the schools that participated at the contest and were trained by Makhzoumi Foundation.



Let's act for a Mediterranean citizenship

EU 2013

This project was funded by the **European Union** and managed by the **Ministry of Youth and Sports** in Lebanon with the implementation of Makhzoumi Foundation in partnership with **Armadilla** and the **Municipality of Chiah** as an associate.

Its duration was 6 months and its specific objectives were:

- Enhancing mutual knowledge and intercultural dialogue between Italian and Lebanese young.
- Fostering youth active citizenship as an engine for sustainable relations among Italy and Lebanon.

The main activities of the project included the following:

- Holding three preparatory meetings in each of Beirut and Rome targeting the young participants to introduce project issues and involve them in the building of the exchange activity.
- A two-day meeting in Beirut between Italian and Lebanese promoters, to share and plan in detail the youth exchange activity.
- Holding a six 6-day exchange activity whereby twelve Italian young men and ladies met with sixteen Lebanese counterparts in Lebanon; their ages ranged between 18 and 25 and all were university students majoring in International Cooperation Law or Political Sciences. This project initiated a cultural dialogue among the youth where they exchanged views on democracy, citizenship and civic engagement during awareness sessions and also during informative sessions on the scope of cross-border cooperation and intercultural workshops on traditional music, songs and dances. These students met with Italian and Lebanese specialists at Chiyah Municipality Forum, visited the Italian Embassy and had touristic trips through Lebanon, from North to South.

At the end of the project, a closing ceremony was organized under the patronage and presence of the Minister of Youth and Sports as well as the Ambassador of Italy in Lebanon, Eng. Fouad Makhzoumi, the Founder of Makhzoumi Foundation, and the President of the Foundation Mrs. May Makhzoumi.



Promoting Civic Engagement

EU 2012 - 2014

This project was funded by EU and implemented in partnership with the Municipality of Izza/South Lebanon, the Italian NGO, Armadilla S.c.s. Onlus and Makhzoumi Foundation. It targeted the entire community of the Municipality of Izza and its neighboring villages.

Its duration was 24 months and its specific objectives were:

- Strengthening social community integration and relationships between Izza and its neighboring villages through the creation of a community center;
- Enhancing the sense of citizenship within the local community, particularly among the youth;
- Increasing the commitment of the Municipality and its community towards the environment through the promotion of renewable energy

The main activities of the project included the following:

- Establishing a community center, a green area and a playground for children in Izza;
- Organization of recreational, cultural and sport activities;
- Holding two awareness sessions on civic education and citizenship and two workshops on climate change, renewable energy and desertification that addressed 50 local administrators, municipality council members, social activists and civil society representatives;
- Organizing a contest on civic initiatives targeting youth;
- Installing solar energy poles in the community center and the main places of Izza.



Deir El Qamar Olive Press

State of Italy 2012

Within the context of economical development villages and towns across Lebanon, Makhzoumi Foundation contributed to the establishment of an olive press in the town of Deir al-Qamar in Chouf. The aim is enhancing the quality and quantity of the olive oil produced in the region.

The State of Italy contributed to the funding of this project, and the Former Minister Naji al Bustani contributed as well, by donating the land where olive oil to be produced.

A ceremony was organized, on November 29, 2012, to celebrate the launching of the olive press during which a commemorative plaque was unveiled announcing officially the work in this olive press.

The municipality of Deir Al-Qamar offered an appreciation trophy to Makhzoumi Foundation, in name of Engineer Mr. Fouad Makhzoumi, the Founder of the Foundation.



Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

MIO-ECSDE 2012

MIO-ECSDE included, as usual in the framework of its annual activities the project entitled the Mediterranean Action Day. It is a joint, small/medium-scale action conducted in many Mediterranean countries during a three-month period each year. For the year 2012, the Mediterranean Action Day was dedicated to the following theme: «Marine Litter in the Mediterranean» ideally entailing activities of data collection and monitoring.

Makhzoumi Foundation submitted a project that includes holding a shore cleansing event whereby a group of 15 young adult volunteers collected the marine debris on the shore of Antelias, then were sorted them and measured them. The event was preceded by an awareness lecture on the topic and its importance; the project was held in partnership with Mer Terre Liban , a Lebanese NGO concerned with environmental issues.



Hydria Project

MIO-ECSDE 2011 - 2013

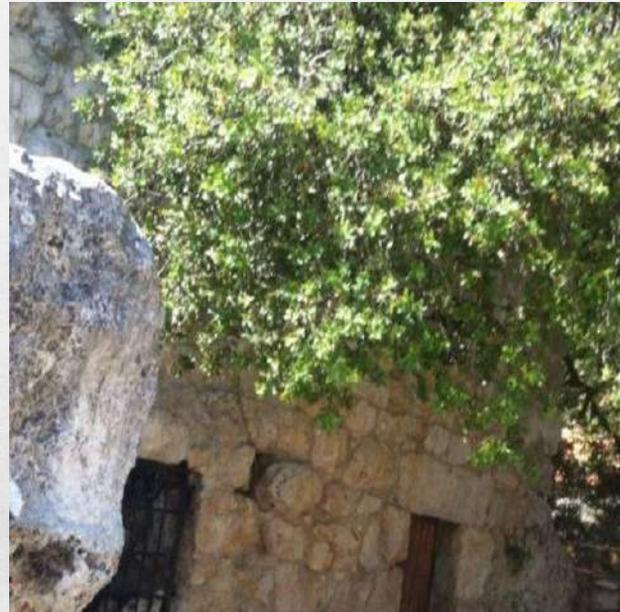
The Hydria project that was submitted by MIO-ECSDE and funded by the Anna Lindt Foundation was carried out in partnership with 18 NGOs in the Mediterranean including Makhzoumi Foundation as the Lebanese partner.

It included the compilation of 18 case studies, one case study per country about a water work of the ancient or recent past.

A detailed description of this water work exhibits some type of wisdom or originality or genius in the way water was managed in the dry Mediterranean region.

The actual size/space of a case study ranged from a “clever” water device used in the past to large scale works for a whole settlement or city. The water availability of a region determined the way societies evolved in a given period.

The case study of The Hydria project that was prepared by Makhzoumi Foundation included St. John Maroun spring in the village of Gouma in the Caza of Batroun and was chosen due to its distinctive natural and historical criteria; it is an all year round never-ending water spring located within a common land for the inhabitants of the village of Gouma. It was adopted by the villagers through their history to secure drinking water for themselves and their livestock especially during periods of water scarcity. It was also a haven for the first Maronite patriarch Saint John Maroun where he resorted for prayer and meditation.



Youth in sustainable production and consumption

MIO-ECSDE 2011

The project Youth... The Ultimate Player in Sustainable production and consumption was implemented in cooperation with MIO-ECSDE within the framework of the Mediterranean Action Day 2011, an initiative of MIO-ECSDE for its member organizations. The activity was a follow-up of the Youth X Change (YXC) in the Mediterranean initiative that addresses the youth community all over the world and that was launched in Lebanon in November 2010, jointly organized by MIO-ECSDE and Makhzoumi Foundation as the Lebanese partner. It aimed at providing a teaching material that would support the dissemination of the content of the YXC kit.

The activity included the following:

- A survey targeting 406 young adults in different regions of the country reflecting their consumption behaviors;
- A documentary prepared including the results of the above survey as an introduction and portraying in photos and video films the conclusions and recommendations of each chapter of the YXC kit;
- A hundred copies of this documentary were produced and distributed to all the participants.

A discussion session targeting several stakeholders from ministries, schools, universities, scouts and clubs was held on December 19th whereby the results of the survey and the documentary were presented. Brainstorming on the different uses of the video documentary was done and recommendations were provided.



Youth education on sustainable development

UNESCO 2011

This project was organized by the UNESCO Regional Bureau-Beirut, The Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO, MIO-ESCDE, and Makhzoumi Foundation. It included a workshop whereby the opening was attended by the Minister of Education, Dr. Hassan Mneimneh who gave a speech followed by a plenary session where Dr. Sulieman elaborated on the ESD package.

33 participants mostly school teachers and directors as well as NGO members attended the workshop. The participants were divided into 3 groups based on 3 dimensions: social, economic and environmental. On the second day, the sessions focused on the YXC kit and participants were divided into two rotating groups, From my habits to my values ... and back and Breaking the Barriers.

The workshop aimed at:

- Introducing the UNESCO package Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future which includes training modules on the economical, social and environmental dimensions of education for sustainable development and applications in the educational systems (formal and informal);
- Introducing the Package The Youth...Together towards Sustainable development, which focuses on consumer behavioral patterns that limit the environmental degradation in the society;
- Involving students and youngsters in a number of activities associated with the development goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014), such as tree planting.

After the workshop, a tree planting activity was held in Deir Mkhalles where students planted 250 saplings offered by the nursery of Makhzoumi Foundation in Akkar.



Youth X change in the Mediterranean

MIO-ECSDE 2010

The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE) and 6 partners from the Mediterranean, **Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon represented by Makhzoumi Foundation, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia** took the initiative to address youth and introduce the **YOUTH X CHANGE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN** initiative and kit, as part of a global campaign on sustainable consumption. As a partner, Makhzoumi Foundation prepared and provided MIO-ECSDE with four case studies for the kit. The event was launched in Lebanon on **November 2010**, organized by Makhzoumi Foundation and MIO-ECSDE including a press conference and an experiential train-the-trainer seminar for youth associations and teachers.

Press Conference at the Press Syndicate on November 26th, 2010:

This event was the official launching of the YXC in Lebanon; it was addressed, primarily, to the relevant ministries of Education and Environment, local authorities, CSOs, NGOs and the media with 63 participants from those sectors.

Training event Saturday on November 27th, 2010:

This event was addressed to 72 participants involved with education and youth issues in the public and private schools : teachers of primary and secondary level, youth leaders, university students, and NGOs carrying out educational projects.

**The projects “Youth ...The Ultimate Player in Sustainable Production and Consumption” 2011 and “Lebanese Youth as Messengers for Sustainability” 2014 within the AFKAR 3 program managed by OMSAR are based on this project.*



Climate change and biodiversity in Qannoubine

MIO 2010

Celebrating the Mediterranean Action Day 2010, which was dedicated to Climate Change and Biodiversity in the Mediterranean, Makhzoumi Foundation supported by the Mediterranean Information Office (MIO) organized a project entitled Climate Change and Biodiversity in Qannoubine Valley in North Lebanon. The project included a field visit on November 13th 2010 to Qannoubine valley in Northern Lebanon with 45 participants. Qannoubine valley is a natural heritage site that extends over 35 km in length and is rich in biodiversity: Trees, shrubs and flowers. Qannoubine is a word of Greek origin, which means the community life.

The day started by an informative power point presentation by Dr Sattout, Forestry and Biodiversity specialist, at the Union of Bsharri Municipalities whereby she explained about the natural reserves of Lebanon, the native plant and animal species, the importance of biodiversity and the effects of climate change. The presentation was followed by a discussion about the topic then the specialist accompanied the group on a walk in the valley whereby she demonstrated the existing native plants to the participants and explained to them how climate change could affect the ecosystem balance. A manual about Climate Change and Biodiversity was prepared, translated and printed in English and Arabic; it was distributed to all participants during the visit.

Photos and video-tapes of the site and several plants were taken by a photographer and were used along with other educational data for preparing a short documentary video by an expert that was uploaded on the websites of Makhzoumi Foundation and MIO-ECSDE as well as the manual.



Peace lyric song contest UNDP 2009 - 2010

This project was funded by the **UNDP / Peace Building Project** aiming to raise awareness on the issue of peace building among students by holding a lyric-song contest.

The main goals of the project were the following:

- Raise awareness on the issue of peace building among students;
- Develop children`s characters and foster their skills and attitudes needed to enhance peace;
- Provide children with an opportunity to voice their opinions;
- Encourage their ability to use words for peace-building purposes;
- Enhance their creativity and talents;
- Use the power of music for social transformation and enrichment of life.

67 private and public schools participated in the contest and 197 poems were received by the Foundation.

The winning lyric led to the production of a song that was distributed to all schools in Lebanon to spread a culture of peace and bridge confessional divides in the country.

Under the patronage of His Excellency the Minister of Education, Dr. Hassan Mneimneh, Makhzoumi Foundation announced the results of the Project at a special ceremony in the presence of many officials and a wide audience

The winning Peace Song was launched at the ceremony; it was composed by Mr. Elias Rahbani and sung by Carol Aoun with the lyrics of the 1st prize poem. The song was recorded on CDs and was distributed to participating schools and Media outlets.



Training Project on solar energy application

The Royal Netherlands Embassy 2008-2009

The Awareness Training on the Importance of Solar Energy Application project was and was funded by The Embassy of the Netherlands and implemented in 2008-2009 by the Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Education in Lebanon and the Greek NGO, Society for the Environment and Sustainability on Earth (SENSE).

The project aimed at raising awareness on the importance of renewable energy by spreading the principle of solar energy and emphasizing its role as an efficient and renewable source that could easily replace traditional ones.

174 science teachers of the 6th grade from both public and private schools in all the regions of the country were trained on new technical skills of solar energy. A training manual was designed and simple educational kits were developed to be used as teaching material that would support the official science curriculum. Each teacher received an educational kit in addition to a transcript of attendance. During the workshops, a Best Poster contest was announced to all the students of the schools that participated in the project and a prize distribution ceremony was held on June 17th 2009 for the winners.



Let's talk

EU 2007 - 2009

The project **Let's Talk** was awarded a European Community grant in 2007 for implementation under the administration of **OMSAR** within the program **AFKAR II** and with the **Higher Council of the Child** as an Associate.

The project aimed at bringing together groups of Lebanese students of Greater Beirut during a two year project to work together on producing two plays (one per year) and presenting them to an audience at a theatre.

The project developed ways to promote dialogue amongst young people with different beliefs and from different backgrounds, communities and schools. They initially met to acquire skills, with the help of specialists, about the **Convention on the Rights of the Child** whereby they got to know each other and to discuss the various related issues. They were encouraged to learn more about each other's values and experiences and asked to share their ideas on how to create the piece of theatre. The themes of the two plays were decided under the guidance of specialists and were related to **Article 13 of the Convention: the right of the child to freedom of expression**. The children were trained to present the plays at the end of each academic year; they were recorded on DVDs and offered (along with an accompanying activities manual) to teachers, youth workers and activists as an educational resource. The first play of the Project entitled **Sawa Mnoosal** was performed by the **35 students** on July 5th ,6th ,7th ,8th and 9th 2008 at Al Madina theatre to an audience of **1600 persons**. The second play entitled **Ta3a Net7awar** was performed by the **49 students** on May 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th 2009 at Al Madina theatre to an audience of **2400 persons**.



Regreen Lebanon and preserve the climate

MIO 2007

Celebrating the Mediterranean Action Day 2007, dedicated to Climate Change and the Mediterranean and also on the occasion of the National Tree Day in Lebanon, Makhzoumi Foundation supported by the Mediterranean Information Office (MIO) organized on December 9th in Sarafand, South Lebanon a project entitled **Re-green Lebanon and Preserve the Climate of Our Planet**. The event was carried out in cooperation with the Greek NGO, Society for the Environment and Sustainability on Earth (SENSE), the Ministry of Education in Lebanon and the Lebanese NGO in Sarafand, Shoa al Beea.

After the presentation, a tree planting event was held in Sarafand, whereby all the participants cooperated in planting 400 saplings (poplar, mimosa, oleander, leucena and others), which were offered by Makhzoumi Foundation from its nursery in Akkar. Brochures about the importance of trees and the methods of planting them were distributed to all participants to spread awareness.

The day started with a presentation by the Forestry Expert, Dr. Nicholas Efstathiadis, targeting the 70 volunteer students who came from several schools in Beirut and Sarafand.

The presentation included the following:

- A general overview on climate change;
- An emphasis on the importance of trees in reversing the present day worldwide danger of climatic changes.



Public awareness on the concept of democracy

Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon 2005 - 2008

The Project entitled Public Awareness on the Concept of Democracy was funded by the Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon within the framework of the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights Program.

The project aimed through the implementation of its actions to:

- Raise public awareness on the concept of Democracy to its target groups;
- Encourage them to promote those acquired skills to other members of their communities;
- Motivate them to start applying democratic methods and procedures in their lives;
- Encourage them to work on making a difference in the civic life of their societies leading to an eventual improvement and promotion of the quality of life in the country.

The project was unique by including the practical component initiatives/success stories taken by participants and printed in a booklet at the end of the project for distribution in the hope of working to induce the desired goal of change.

The target group of the project were stakeholders selected from a diversity of backgrounds, regions and religions to encourage inter-community dialogues.

The project was terminated in 2008 with a total of 692 participants and 17 workshops on the following topics:

- Definition of Democracy and its elements;
- Importance of its application at home, family, school and society;
- Initiatives taken on matters of public concern.



Basic Bee-keeping skills training for women

Japanese Embassy in Lebanon 2003 - 2005

Two projects entitled Basic Bee-keeping skills training for women were implemented in collaboration with the Japanese Embassy in Lebanon and included the following:

- Training 100 women in 5 villages in Akkar on Bee-keeping skills 2003-2005;
- Training 140 women in 7 villages in South Lebanon and Bekaa similarly 2005-2007.

The main objectives were:

- Providing opportunities for women to generate income;
- Empowering them with self-confidence to play a productive role in their societies.

Training sessions were held in each village/center whereby each session included 12 lessons, theoretical and practical, that were given over a period of 6 weeks, with a total duration of 48 hours. 20 women participated at each session whereby each received a certificate of attendance upon her graduation as well as: two bee- hives + supers and colonies, a suit, a mask, a pair of gloves, a smoker, a lever, a spatula and two kilograms of wax. An extractor, a maturator and strainer were offered to every center where the sessions were held . Beneficiaries coming from the neighborhoods benefit from their services where they can prepare and package their product for selling. Monitoring then took place to follow-up on the impact of the project on the beneficiaries. A group of graduates applied for a loan from the Micro-Credit program of the Foundation to start their enterprise.



Agro-forestry development for degraded lands

INARE, KEDE & TC Dialogue Foundation 2001 - 2021

The Agro-Forestry Development Project of Degraded Lands of Lebanon was initiated in 2001 in partnership with 3 European Non-Governmental Organizations: INARE and KEDE, both from Greece, and TC Dialogue Foundation, from Belgium; it was funded by the Hellenic Aid and co-funded by Makhzoumi Foundation and TC Dialogue Foundation.

The Objectives of the Project include:

- Combating Desertification;
- Introducing New Technologies in Agriculture.

It includes a main nursery in Akkar, North Lebanon, which produces ornamental and fruit trees as well as herbs and roses. Those plants were initially produced with the environment friendly hydrogel Terra Cotte TC, a soil conditioner that stores water and provides the plants with several nutrients. Plants are distributed to schools, universities, local NGOs, municipalities and communities countrywide. The partnership project was terminated in 2004, and due to its success and positive impact, Makhzoumi Foundation decided to proceed on its own and to increase the production of plants as well. To date , more than one million and 200,000 trees have been produced and distributed.



Environment-friendly pest control

AUB 1997 - 1998

This project was implemented in partnership with the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at the American University of Beirut; **140 farmers** from all the Lebanese regions were trained on several methods of **Environment Friendly Pest Control** (Insects, diseases and weeds) by professors from the University. The workshops were held at the Agricultural Research and Education Center of AUB in the Bekaa Valley.

All participants received certificates of attendance upon termination of the project. Seminars on **Integrated Pest Management** in each region of the country were held in the following year, whereby the farmers had the chance to discuss the problems and receive specialized consultations regarding the management and the production of crops in their farms.



Other Projects

A CONTINUING CHANGE



Other Projects

DRC, UNHCR & ICRC 2009 - 2016

Community development center in Tripoli with DRC and UNHCR 2016

Project facilitate community empowerment and self-reliance between refugee and host communities, and provide awareness session for the beneficiaries funded by DRC- UNHCR to improve the psychosocial wellbeing of displaced affected people through social and recreational activities and immediate livelihood opportunities in Tripoli. In this project, 1,286 beneficiaries were provided with Psychosocial activities, 29 awareness sessions were delivered for 224 participants.

Productive Grant for Livelihood with ICRC 2016

The International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) has chosen Makhzoumi Foundation as a partner to implement a development Project for the Lebanese Returnees from Syria. The project aims to give these families new incomes by helping them to implement new projects. The support is a grant up to \$2000 based on a complete workplan. A pilot phase targeted 25 projects with grants was implemented in the fourth quarter of the year 2015. This phase continued through the first quarter of the year 2016. A second phase has begun in the third quarter of the year 2016 with 30 projects in the Baalbek area in the Beqaa. It was closed in the second quarter of the year 2017.



Other Projects

USAID, Intersos & Himaya 2009 - 2016

Lebanon Investment in Micro-Finance (LIM)

In 2011 and in 2015

In May 2009, USAID started a 6-year cooperative agreement with the Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance/International Executive Service Corps (VEGA/IESC) to address the expanding demand for loans from individuals, micro-enterprises and farmers. In July 2011, VEGA/IESC signed a Memorandum of Understanding and provided a sub-grant to Makhzoumi Foundation and 6 other Lebanese Micro-Finance Institutions under the USAID-funded Lebanon Investment in Microfinance (LIM) program. Grants are disbursed as loans and services to micro enterprises within the following value chains: Agriculture, ICT and Tourism, outside the greater Beirut area. Makhzoumi Foundation also receive training and technical assistance during the lifetime of the program about Loan products, quality of application information, policies and procedures and loan monitoring.

Loan officers were also trained on the best practices and risk calculation for loans, technical skills and soft skill including selling techniques, customer care, time management, leadership, Risk Management, Communication skills, and conflict resolutions.

Intersos Livelihood Project

In 2015

This project aimed to protect women from gender-based violence by providing them with skills that foster their self-reliance. Four craft workshop sessions targeting twenty Lebanese and Syrian ladies were held as follows:

- Chocolate molding and Decoration;
- Marzipan making;
- Boxes and Basket Decoration;
- Making cookies (Oriental and Western), Swiss rolls and Macaron;
- Loom Weaving;
- Cake Making and Decoration.

A Project in cooperation with Himaya Lebanon

2012

As Himaya is a protection NGO and admits teenagers who are under the protection of the law, Makhzoumi Foundation trained 24 young persons who were within a stressful environment. They accomplished different trainings in: Computer skills, Beauty Courses, and Language improvement, after which Himaya reassessed and complemented the acquired skills with others from their own curriculum.

Other Projects

UNICEF, Ajialouna, ACTC & WASD 2009 - 2016

Support to Emergency affected women and children in Lebanon In 2015

The project was funded by UNICEF and aims to protect 4833 vulnerable girls, boys, women and caregivers from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect, including gender based violence, through equitable and safe access to quality child protection and gender based violence services in targeted locations of Beirut and Mount Lebanon. 47 violated children and subjected to gender based violence were addressed through case Management and specialized services to ensure that vulnerabilities are reduced and resilience is strengthened. 500 beneficiaries attended awareness-raising on key public health risks and were mobilized to adopt measures to prevent the deteriorations in hygienic conditions.

Training Project in cooperation with Ajialouna 2011 - 2012

Makhzoumi Foundation trained 39 ladies as requested and funded by the NGO Ajialouna whereby they were given the opportunity to be trained in a vocation then to further receive soft skills to be ready for the job market. Makhzoumi Foundation provided different Beauty trainings, namely: Hairdressing, Make up, Nail Care, Skin Care, and Beauty Package.

Capacity Building for Palestinians 2009

Makhzoumi Foundation trained in Akkar Center 140 trainees from Al Najda El Shaabiya Foundation, in cooperation with ACTC and funding from Mercy Corps. This was part of a more elaborate project to capacitate Palestinian Youth to enter the job market with basic required skills. The Training covered Digital Literacy, Advanced Computer Skills, Computer Maintenance and Introduction to Business.

Training Project for Social Development for women 2011

Makhzoumi Foundation trained 37 Lebanese students from the Women's Association for Social Development in Sohmar in West Beqaa. They were divided as follows : 30 trainees for the English language classes during term 2/2011 and 7 trainees for the English language classes during term 4/2011.

Other Projects

USAID & UNESCO 2009 - 2016

Expand Your Horizon (EYH) **2013 - 2015**

USAID entered into a 3-year contract with World Learning to implement the Expand Your Horizon Program. The aim of the USAID-EYH was to build the technical and professional capacity of Lebanese organizations including Makhzoumi foundation and other NGOs and their employees to play a more effective role in their community. A general needs assessment of Makhzoumi Foundation and other organizations was conducted to identify the key areas in which the performance can be improved through training sessions. Based on the assessment, the needs were identified, prioritized, and then put in a plan. Key staff members conducted trainings and had the responsibility to implement the plan and follow it up. EYH conducts follow up activities through the period of the Program to see status of the implementation of the plan.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) **2014 - 2015**

This Project was implemented in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Bureau in Beirut in collaboration with the Italian NGO, Armadilla S.c.s. Onlus. Education for sustainable development and life skills are powerful forces that can help people become active and ecologically responsible citizens, workers and consumers. It involves incorporating key themes such as poverty alleviation, human rights, health and environmental protection, and climate change into the education system. Enhancing life skills of young people contributes to their physical, emotional, intellectual and social development, leading them to a responsible and self-sufficient adulthood. In 2014, the project included 2 workshops in Beirut and in Beqaa with practical sections and exercises. The trainees would become trainers in their own communities transmitting skills and activities. Participants were **23** Lebanese and 17 Syrians. In 2015, 2 workshops were held including civic engagement as well in Irkay, in South Lebanon and Baalbek targeting a total of **71** Lebanese and Syrian.

Other Projects

UNOCHA, CHF & UNICEF 2009 - 2016

Filling the Gap in Child Protection Case Management In 2015

The project was funded by UNOCHA and aimed to fill the identified gap in child protection case management services for Palestine refugee (648) and host community children (162) living in the areas of Burj El Barajneh, Shatila and Mar Elias camps. It worked through awareness sessions to sensitize children and caregivers to key child protection, welfare and development issues. Referrals and support to the community is facilitated through the recruitment and training of Community Outreach Volunteers (COVs) who are involved in the following:

- Identifying and referring child protection cases to the case management team;
- Providing other support for prevention activities;
- Supporting in awareness activities;
- Participating in events and mobilization activities.
- Replicating the training and information received.
- Distributing leaflets and information materials.
- Reporting child protection issues and trends within the community.

Training Project for Employment 2013 - 2014

A project was signed with Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF Lebanon) - MENA YES Program to enroll Makhzoumi Foundation beneficiaries to secretarial, soft skills and entrepreneurship training courses. After a job market survey, specific needs were identified. The secretarial training, as requested by the employment providers, started in 2013 and 15 students graduated. Soft skills and entrepreneurship training courses targeted 100 beneficiaries in 2014, in collaboration with New Horizons as training providers. CHF Lebanon engages the participants into internships with private sector institutions participating in the program, in order to offer the participants the opportunity to apply their acquired skills and receive practical training in their field.

Literacy with crafts for youth in Lebanon 2016

Contributed in providing youth with access to vocational education in marginal areas. It helped them in fulfilling their potentials and empower themselves in becoming 'positive-change agents' funded by UNICEF from the 4th of November 2016 till the 31st of December 2016, AVSI, as consortium leader, and CESVI as implementing partner. Makhzoumi Foundation with other local NGOs trained vulnerable youth on digital literacy skills and English literacy skills in Beirut, Mount Lebanon and Tripoli.

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