



مؤسسة مخزومي  
Makhzoumi Foundation

# 1997-2025 PROJECTS REPORT

Reflecting on our past,  
driving towards our future:  
Our projects in review.

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

\*All photos in this report are obtained from the Makhzoumi Foundation archive. Photos have been provided by their respective projects.

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Beirut, Lebanon

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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 adopts both program-based and project-based approaches to deliver its interventions across multiple sectors. This report presents a comprehensive overview of the Foundation's programmatic activities through key figures and results, while also documenting the full portfolio of projects implemented since its establishment in 1997. The report provides a view of both ongoing and completed projects, reflecting the Foundation's long-standing commitment to sustainable development and community impact. Since the implementation of its first initiative in 1997, Environment Friendly Pest Control, developed in partnership with the Faculty of Agricultural and Food

Sciences at the American University of Beirut, the Foundation has continuously expanded its scope of work through strategic collaboration. In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), Makhzoumi Foundation prioritizes multi-stakeholder partnerships as a core pillar of its approach. These include collaborations with local, regional, and international NGOs, municipalities, ministries, embassies, universities, research centers, and private sector entities. Through these partnerships, the Foundation leverages shared expertise, resources, and networks to maximize impact, strengthen implementation, and advance inclusive and sustainable development outcomes.



## PROJECTS ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

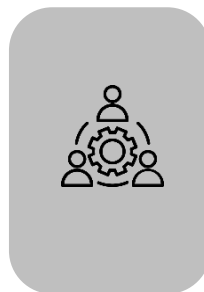
Makhzoumi Foundation's projects are implemented through close collaboration between its internal teams and local and international partners, working together to promote sustainable community development.



More than  
**300**  
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, 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 performance during the war of 2006.
- 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.
- Best Primary Healthcare Center in Lebanon by the Ministry of Public Health.
- Micro-entrepreneurship awards from SANABEL, 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.

## Economic Livelihoods Program

### *ANERA 2025*

In 2025, Makhzoumi Foundation continued the implementation of the Economic Livelihoods Program (ELP) in partnership with ANERA, focusing on enhancing employability and promoting sustainable income generation among vulnerable populations. The program was designed to equip beneficiaries with practical, market-driven skills aligned with labor market needs, enabling them to access employment opportunities or initiate their own income-generating activities. A key component of the program was the cash-for-work modality, which provided participants with immediate financial relief while simultaneously strengthening their technical competencies and work discipline. This approach not only

addressed urgent economic needs but also supported long-term employability by combining income support with skills development. One of the program's most impactful initiatives was the Homemade Food (Mouneh) Production Program, which created a dual benefit. It empowered trainees—particularly women—by enabling them to produce and sell traditional food products, thereby generating income through self-employment. At the same time, part of the production was distributed to vulnerable households, reinforcing community solidarity and food security. Through this integrated model, the ELP contributed to economic resilience, social cohesion, and sustainable livelihoods.



## Beauty Academy and Livelihood Empowerment Initiative *Basma Foundation and IEngineer Group 2025*

Through the Beauty Academy and Livelihood Empowerment Initiative, Makhzoumi Foundation provided specialized vocational training in the beauty sector, targeting youth and women seeking to enter the labor market. In 2025, more than 40 students successfully completed the program, acquiring both technical expertise and professional readiness required for employment. The initiative was strengthened through collaboration with Basma Foundation and IEngineer Group, whose contributions included

scholarships and mentorship opportunities. These elements played a critical role in enhancing participants' confidence, supporting their professional development, and facilitating their transition into employment or self-employment. By combining technical training with career guidance and mentorship, the program contributed to empowering beneficiaries to achieve financial independence and sustainable livelihoods, particularly in a sector with strong market demand.



## CSO Capacity Building and Innovative Financing Initiative *Regional Network for Social Responsibility 2025*

In collaboration with the Regional Network for Social Responsibility, Makhzoumi Foundation implemented a comprehensive capacity-building initiative aimed at strengthening civil society organizations (CSOs). The program focused on enhancing the financial sustainability and operational effectiveness of CSOs operating in a challenging funding environment. Workshops were delivered on innovative financing mechanisms, equipping participants with knowledge of sustainable funding models, donor

diversification strategies, and financial governance practices. Through practical tools and real-life case studies, organizations improved their ability to secure long-term funding and manage resources transparently. In parallel, the initiative provided hands-on training in program design, monitoring, and evaluation, enabling CSOs to develop impactful community initiatives. This dual focus on financial sustainability and programmatic quality contributed to strengthening the nonprofit sector's resilience and long-term effectiveness.



## Yalla Nefroz project *CEDAR 2016 - 2025*

Makhzoumi Foundation launched the environmental initiative “Let’s Sort... Let’s Start the First Step Together” in Beirut on March 11, 2016, in partnership with CEDAR-Environmental, aiming to promote household waste sorting and recycling practices. The initiative was preceded by community awareness sessions and stakeholder engagement to encourage behavioral change. Sorting bins were installed at the Foundation’s centers, and awareness materials were distributed to support implementation. The program expanded over time to include schools and additional partners, notably Ouzville Association, and now operates through more than 35 drop-off points across Beirut, including schools,

NGOs, pharmacies, and residential areas. Waste is collected weekly and transported for recycling through a dedicated system. Following the Beirut Port explosion, the initiative mobilized volunteers to collect and recycle glass waste from affected areas, demonstrating strong responsiveness to emergencies. In 2025, Yalla Nefroz continued as a flagship environmental program, combining infrastructure, regular waste collection, and ongoing awareness campaigns to promote sustainable practices. The initiative continues to contribute to environmental protection, community engagement, and improved urban waste management.



## Dar El Fatwa Healthcare Access Program

### *Dar El Fatwa 2024-2025*

Through its ongoing partnership with Dar Al Fatwa, Makhzoumi Foundation continued to provide comprehensive and accessible healthcare services to members of religious communities and their families across 2024 and 2025. In 2024, beneficiaries accessed a total of 718 health services through a dedicated support fund, including primary care consultations, diagnostic procedures, and hospitalization coverage. Building on this foundation, the program expanded its reach and impact in 2025, delivering 783 medical services to 180 patients, encompassing consultations, diagnostic

testing, and follow-up care. The initiative extended beyond primary healthcare to include secondary care and hospitalization support, with 33 hospital-based services provided during the year. This integrated and patient-centered approach ensured continuity of care, addressed financial barriers to treatment, and enabled timely medical interventions. Overall, the program significantly contributed to improving access to quality healthcare, enhancing health outcomes, and promoting the well-being and dignity of vulnerable beneficiaries.



## Smoking Cessation Project (PHOENICS Study) *AUB and the Ministry of Public Health 2025*

Smoking remains one of the leading preventable causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide, contributing significantly to the burden of non-communicable diseases. In Lebanon, the high prevalence of tobacco use, including cigarettes and waterpipe smoking, poses a major public health challenge, underscoring the urgent need for effective prevention and cessation interventions. In this context, Makhzoumi Foundation, through its Primary Healthcare Center, actively participated in the PHOENICS smoking cessation study implemented in collaboration with the American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Ministry of Public Health. The project aimed to strengthen healthcare providers' capacity to deliver structured smoking cessation support while improving patient outcomes through evidence-based interventions. The program focused on a multidisciplinary

approach, where nurses conducted targeted awareness sessions to educate patients on the risks of smoking and the benefits of quitting, while general practitioners provided personalized medical counseling and reinforced cessation strategies. This integrated model ensured that patients received both behavioral and clinical support throughout their quitting journey. In 2025, a total of 64 patients engaged in the program and were referred for further follow-up with the AUB team, where they received specialized support, including nicotine replacement therapy such as nicotine gum. Through these combined efforts, the initiative contributed to reducing smoking prevalence among participants, enhancing patient awareness and motivation, and strengthening preventive healthcare practices.



AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT  
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES



REPUBLIC OF LEBANON  
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
PRIMARY HEALTHCARE DEPARTMENT

شكرا على دعمكم!

بفضل مساعدتكم، تمكنا من اشراك 488 مريض حتى الآن\* في برنامجنا للإقلاع عن

## Healthcare Subsidization and Home Care Project PU-AMI 2025

In partnership with PU-AMI, Makhzoumi Foundation implemented a healthcare subsidization program aimed at improving access to essential services for vulnerable populations. The project provided subsidized consultations, laboratory tests, and imaging services, making healthcare more affordable and accessible. A key innovation of the program was the home care component, through which 207 home visits were

conducted for elderly individuals and patients with special needs. These visits included medical consultations, chronic disease monitoring, medication management, and referrals to healthcare facilities when necessary. By reducing barriers to access and ensuring continuity of care, the project significantly improved health outcomes and enhanced the quality of life for vulnerable beneficiaries.



## School Health Project UNICEF & Ministry of Public Health 2025

School health programs play a role in promoting the physical, mental, and social well-being of children, while also supporting their academic performance and long-term development. By providing early screening, preventive care, and health education within the school environment, such programs contribute to reducing health risks, detecting conditions at an early stage, and fostering healthy behaviors from a young age. Funded by UNICEF and implemented in close coordination with the Ministry of Public Health, the School Health Project was designed to strengthen access to essential healthcare services for school-aged children in Beirut. In 2025, the program covered five schools and reached over 1,200 students. A multidisciplinary team composed of a

physician and a nurse delivered a comprehensive package of interventions directly within schools. These included routine health screenings, vaccination follow-ups in line with the national immunization schedule, nutrition monitoring, hygiene promotion, and targeted awareness sessions addressing key health topics. These interventions supported the early identification of health issues and encouraged the adoption of preventive practices among students. The Primary Healthcare Center (PHCC) of Makhzoumi Foundation played a role in ensuring continuity of care. Students identified with specific health needs during school visits were referred to the PHCC for further assessment, diagnostic testing, and treatment.



# PU-AMI SIDA Protection, MHPSS and Adolescent Health Project

## Swedish Embassy & PU-AMI 2025

Launched in 2025 with funding from the Swedish Embassy and in partnership with PU-AMI, this project addressed critical needs in protection, mental health, and adolescent health. The program delivered awareness sessions on gender-based violence, healthy relationships, stress management, and personal hygiene. Psychological support was provided through group sessions for vulnerable women, including grieving mothers, with

referrals for individualized care. Additionally, GBV case management services supported ongoing cases through counseling and coordination with medical and legal actors. School-based interventions further expanded outreach, ensuring adolescents received screening, awareness, and referral services. The project contributed to improved protection, mental health resilience, and access to care.



# The Mustafa and Aisha Makhzoumi Charity Fund

## MAMCF 2025

In 2025, Makhzoumi Foundation Community Fund (MAMCF) provided comprehensive support to 1,655 vulnerable individuals, facilitating access to both education and healthcare services. In the education sector, the fund covered tuition fees for 916 students enrolled in schools, universities, and vocational training centers, enabling them to continue their studies without financial constraints. In parallel, 736 individuals benefited from healthcare assistance, which included access to primary healthcare services, essential medications, medical supplies, diagnostic testing such as laboratory work and imaging, physical therapy, and hospitalization when required. This integrated approach significantly

contributed to improving beneficiaries' well-being and expanding their future opportunities. Complementing these efforts, the Recruitment Office continued to play a vital role in supporting employment pathways by connecting jobseekers with job opportunities and facilitating placements throughout the year. Despite a challenging economic context marked by rising transportation costs and other access barriers, the office strengthened its outreach, career counseling, and job-matching services, ensuring that candidates remained supported and engaged throughout the employment process, ultimately contributing to greater financial stability and workforce integration.



# Improving Employability of Vulnerable communities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon Project

## *GIZ 2024*

In partnership with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Makhzoumi Foundation launched a project to improve employment opportunities for vulnerable individuals, including youth, women, and individuals with disabilities, in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Targeting those aged between 17 and 35, the initiative used an accelerated vocational training program, blending occupational, entrepreneurial, and soft skills. By the end of the project, 350 youth, 50% women and 10% individuals with disabilities, had completed a comprehensive competency-based

training program, including career guidance. 105 secured fixed-term employment within 6 months of completing the training.

The initiative organized 18 training classes for 350 beneficiaries, ensuring they received career guidance and a thorough orientation. A graduation ceremony was held at the UNESCO Palace Theatre in Beirut to celebrate the achievements, with representatives from the private sector. Extensive outreach to companies in Beirut and Mount Lebanon provided on-the-job training for 250 participants, leading to the employment of 145 youth, with 5 placements following continued efforts.



## QUEST II Financial Inclusion and Social Cohesion Project *Lutheran World Relief 2024*

In 2025, Makhzoumi Foundation continued the implementation of the QUEST II Project in partnership with AEP and Lutheran World Relief (LWR), aiming to strengthen financial inclusion and support the development of micro and small enterprises across key sectors including agriculture, industry, and services. The project focused on financing productive income-generating activities that contribute to improving economic conditions and enhancing community resilience. In parallel, the program delivered structured capacity-building sessions, offering 5–6-hour trainings covering financial education, social cohesion, safe and supportive work environments, strategic planning,

and business registration. These trainings were designed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills required to establish, manage, and expand their businesses effectively. During the reporting period, multiple training sessions were conducted across North Lebanon (Tripoli), Beirut and Mount Lebanon (Beirut), and the Bekaa region (Zahle), reaching a diverse group of beneficiaries. By combining financial support with targeted capacity building, the QUEST II Project contributed to the growth of funded enterprises and the creation of new employment opportunities, reinforcing sustainable economic development at the community level.



# War in Lebanon Emergency Response Project

## *UNHCR 2024*

During the intense conflict in Lebanon in October and November 2024, Makhzoumi Foundation worked tirelessly to support vulnerable populations. The logistics team distributed essential supplies, including 70,759 blankets, 24,340 mattresses, 711 solar lamps, 47,882 sleeping mattresses, 270 hygiene kits, and 676 dignity kits, along with other necessities like face masks and bread. The Psychosocial Support team assisted 12,442 individuals in shelters, offering psychological aid to

help them cope with trauma. The Case Management team provided 4,600 emergency protection assistance disbursements, offering crucial financial support to displaced families. This assistance enabled families to meet immediate needs and begin rebuilding their lives. Makhzoumi Foundation's rapid and coordinated efforts were vital in providing material support, emotional relief, and a lifeline to those impacted by the conflict, helping them survive and recover from overwhelming adversity.



# Queen Rania Teacher Academy Project

## *QRTA 2024-2025*

In 2024, Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with the Queen Rania Teacher Academy (QRTA) to support educators in Lebanon by addressing their professional and emotional needs during the ongoing crisis. The Queen Rania Teacher Academy is a non-profit organization based in Jordan, established by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, and dedicated to empowering teachers and raising the quality of education across the Arab world. QRTA provides evidence-based professional development programs designed to build the capacity of educators and improve student learning outcomes. As part of this collaboration, two virtual

workshops were held and attended by over 600 Lebanese educators from various regions. The first workshop, titled “Psychological First Aid,” focused on equipping participants with practical tools for emotional support and mental health awareness, particularly relevant in times of crisis. The second workshop, “Effective Strategies in Distance Learning,” aimed to help teachers navigate the challenges of remote education by introducing innovative techniques and enhancing digital teaching skills. Together, these workshops contributed to strengthening Lebanon’s educational resilience in a time of uncertainty.



# Vocational Training for Youth Project

## *ANERA 2024*

In 2024, the ongoing collaboration between ANERA (American Near East Refugee Aid) and Makhzoumi Foundation's Zahle Center continued to deliver impactful vocational training programs aimed at empowering youth and enhancing employment opportunities. Training courses in Chef Assistant, Waiter, and Carpentry were conducted, with 20 participants enrolled in each. Building on this success, upcoming initiatives include Cash for Work (CFW) programs in Electro-Mechanical and Quality Control in partnership with Mediane Company, as well as new vocational courses in Electrical Work, Welding, and Chef Assistant at Shams Restaurant and Khonaysser Company. This partnership placed strong emphasis on monitoring, quality assurance, and stakeholder engagement. Visits by representatives from ANERA's Youth and Family Services (YFS) and UNICEF provided opportunities to observe the training sessions and interact with both trainers and participants. Outreach efforts extended to the private sector, engaging

companies such as Chamsine Bakery and Hotel Kadri to explore future collaborations and employment pathways for trainees. ANERA's communication team documented the progress of the Electrical CFW course through on-site photography and interviews, showcasing the program's impact. In parallel, capacity-building for staff was prioritized through a two-day virtual training on Psychological First Aid, helping staff better support vulnerable participants. Strategic meetings were also held with ANERA's Beirut team to expand vocational training and CFW programming in the construction and food and beverage sectors across Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Preparatory discussions were initiated to design new technical training and employment initiatives targeting youth in these areas. Overall, these efforts reflect a shared commitment to skill development, economic empowerment, and collaborative action to support Lebanon's most vulnerable communities.



## **NCDs Project**

### ***WDF & AUB 2024***

Launched in January 2024, this project focuses on improving the health outcomes of patients suffering from uncontrolled non-communicable diseases (NCDs), particularly hypertension and diabetes. Implemented through a partnership between the World Diabetes Foundation (WDF) and the American University of Beirut (AUB), the project aims to strengthen the capacity of healthcare

providers at Makhzoumi Foundation's Primary Healthcare Center (PHCC) by introducing specialized clinical protocols and interventions. The project includes regular medical follow-ups, access to diagnostic testing, lifestyle counseling, and tailored treatment plans, all designed to enhance disease management and reduce complications among high-risk patients.

## **Malnutrition Treatment and Support Project**

### ***IOCC 2024***

This project addresses the urgent needs of malnourished children and vulnerable women through comprehensive treatment and support services provided at Makhzoumi Foundation's PHC. In partnership with IOCC, the initiative ensures access to essential healthcare by covering transportation and consultation costs for affected families. This financial

support has played a critical role in encouraging patients to remain committed to their treatment regimens. The program emphasizes caregiver education, nutritional support, and regular follow-ups to improve the health and well-being of malnourished individuals, particularly in underserved communities.



## Healthcare Access for Sohati Group Project

### *Dar Al Fatwa 2024*

Through a dedicated special fund, members of the Dar Al Fatwa Sohati Group benefited from enhanced access to a wide range of health services offered by Makhzoumi Foundation. In 2024, a total of 718 health services were delivered to beneficiaries, encompassing primary care, diagnostic tests, and hospitalization support. This project

ensured that individuals within the community, many of whom face financial barriers, could obtain timely and necessary medical care. The initiative reflects a strong commitment to equity in healthcare and the promotion of community well-being through collaborative efforts.

## Clinical Management of Rape Project

### *PU-AMI 2024*

This program addresses the urgent needs of malnourished children and vulnerable women through comprehensive treatment and support services provided at Makhzoumi Foundation's PHC. In partnership with IOCC, the initiative ensures access to essential healthcare by covering transportation and consultation costs for affected families. This financial

support has played a critical role in encouraging patients to remain committed to their treatment regimens. The program emphasizes caregiver education, nutritional support, and regular follow-ups to improve the health and well-being of malnourished individuals, particularly in underserved communities.

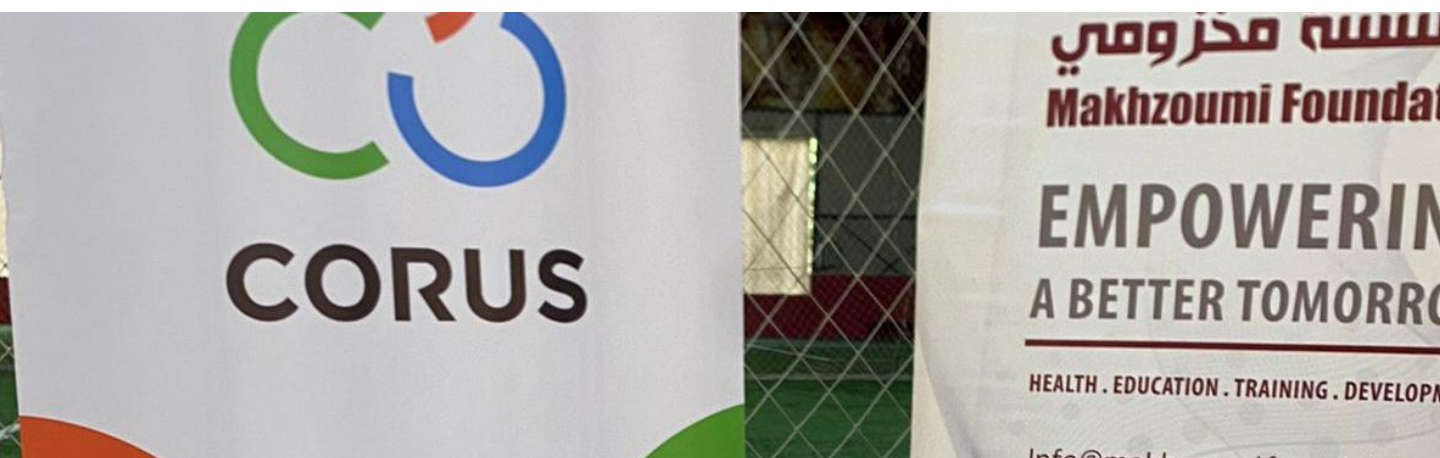


## Emergency Support for Displaced Beneficiaries Amid Conflict

### *Corus & LWR 2024*

In response to the ongoing conflict and its devastating effects on vulnerable communities across Lebanon, Makhzoumi Foundation's Microcredit Program launched a targeted emergency relief initiative in partnership with Corus International. The project focused on addressing the urgent basic needs of displaced families, with a particular emphasis on women and children. Through this coordinated response, the program provided essential aid to 552 individuals, including 218 women and 129 children under the age of 15, with Baabda and Beirut emerging as the most affected areas—reporting 272 and 213 displaced individuals, respectively. A total of 51 families were identified as requiring immediate assistance and were prioritized for support. The relief package included the distribution of 150 shelter blankets and pillows to improve

living conditions and ensure warmth and comfort in unstable housing environments. To address food insecurity, 160 food coupons valued at \$25 each were distributed, allowing families to purchase essential groceries based on their specific needs. Hygiene and personal care were also a priority, with 150 hygiene kits and 100 packs of women's sanitary pads distributed to support health and dignity. Recognizing the challenges posed by winter conditions, 25 households received fuel coupons worth \$20 each to help maintain safe indoor temperatures and prevent further hardship. This project reflects Makhzoumi Foundation's continued commitment to responding to emergencies with speed and compassion, working alongside partners to deliver effective, targeted support to those most impacted by conflict and displacement.



## ***Friends of Disabled Project FDA 2019 - 2024***

Since 2019, the Friends of the Disabled Association (FDA) project has contributed to an educational approach that builds capacity for students with learning and intellectual disabilities. The project initially targeted 30 children in Beirut and Baabda. A daily educational program was designed to meet each child's needs and strengthen weak points, considering academic background, personality, behavior, adaptability, and time management. Students improved across educational domains during the 2019–2020 academic year. For example, some students couldn't count from 1 to 10 or write them at first and struggled to identify body parts or recognize colors. The Individualized Educational Plan also aimed to support parents and integrate them into the team. Awareness workshops and educational lectures included academic and vocational techniques. In March 2020, due to

COVID-19, the FDA closed its center and transitioned to e-learning. Weekly educational videos and simple worksheets with general parental instructions were sent home. A positive outcome was that parents adapted and worked hard with their children. A mixed learning modality combining face-to-face and remote activities was implemented in 2020–2021. In the 2021–2022 and 2022–2023 academic years, students attended in-person three days a week from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. In 2024, Makhzoumi Foundation collaborated with FDA to support 206 children with disabilities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, covering academic and transportation fees. Children aged 6–14 attended specialized sessions at the FDA Center in Meshref, showing significant developmental improvement through personalized support that enhanced their skills and abilities.



# Reducing Ignorance and Prejudice Faced by Individuals With Special Needs

## *SCALE & NRDC 2019 - 2024*

Since 2019, Makhzoumi Foundation has partnered with the National Rehabilitation and Development Center (NRDC) to reduce ignorance and prejudice faced by individuals with special needs through increased awareness and inclusive services. NRDC, a nonprofit social development organization, is one of the leading rehabilitation centers in Lebanon and the only one serving Western Mount Lebanon. It provides direct and indirect services to over 350 individuals with mental and/or physical disabilities across the country. The burden of disability care largely falls on NGOs, as government support covers less than 25% of actual operational costs, and most beneficiaries come from low-income households. Throughout the partnership with Makhzoumi Foundation, 20 children in Chouf and Aley districts benefited from comprehensive services including educational and vocational training, therapeutic care, and sports, leisure, and artistic activities. Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs) were developed

to support each child's needs. When the COVID-19 pandemic led to lockdowns in early 2020, the program swiftly adapted by implementing distance learning. Around 20 awareness episodes were also broadcast on NRDC's Facebook page covering various relevant topics. During the academic years 2021–2022 and 2022–2023, Lebanese and refugee children continued to benefit from the center's holistic services. In a parallel collaboration with SCALE (Specialized Centre for Accessible Learning and Education), Makhzoumi Foundation extended rehabilitation support to three additional children in the Chouf area. One child showed significant progress and became eligible for integration into a regular school, reflecting the broader impact of the project on promoting inclusion and educational development for children with disabilities. The partnership between Makhzoumi Foundation and NRDC has remained a vital initiative addressing a critical gap in services for vulnerable populations through 2024.



## Supporting Older People Project

### *Active Aging House & Irshad and Islah 2018 - 2024*

Since 2018, Makhzoumi Foundation has partnered with the Active Aging House to support elderly refugees from various nationalities through structured and meaningful engagement. The center hosted activities three times per week, offering participants a variety of sessions such as cooking, embroidery, knitting, drawing, pottery, literacy, essay writing, awareness lectures, training, physiotherapy, and sports. These activities aimed to enhance cognitive functions, improve memory, and uncover hidden talents in arts and crafts through coloring and creative expression. Recreational games like bingo and “Who’s the Millionaire?” were introduced to boost attention and mental stimulation. Physiotherapy sessions contributed to emotional well-being and stress relief, while the overall program worked to empower elderly participants as active members of their communities. The project targeted 120 elderly individuals annually, fostering inclusion, peer interaction, and

enhanced social cohesion between refugees and host communities. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, in-person activities were suspended, and 154 food parcels were distributed by Active Aging House to ensure continued support. Beginning in 2021, Makhzoumi Foundation extended its partnership to Irshad and Islah to continue the same objectives. The initiative hosted 120 elderly participants annually, divided quarterly into groups of 30, including refugees and vulnerable members of the host community. Beneficiaries took part in similar activities focused on skill-building, emotional wellness, and social engagement. Events such as Mother’s Day celebrations and Ramadan Iftars further strengthened community ties and preserved cultural identity. Between 2021 and 2024, the project supported a total of 160 elderly individuals, promoting dignity, connection, and active aging within a safe and inclusive environment.



# Improving Employability of Vulnerable Communities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon

***BMZ 2023***

The "Improving Employability of Vulnerable Communities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon" project addresses employment challenges faced by young Lebanese adults aged 17 to 35, with a focus on women and individuals with disabilities. This initiative provides accelerated vocational training programs blending occupational, entrepreneurial, and soft skills tailored to local labor market needs. By equipping youth with diverse skills, it aims to boost employability and workforce integration. Since its launch in December 2022 with GIZ, the project has made significant progress through 2023. A total of 210 beneficiaries

completed competency-based training with pre- and post-assessments to ensure proficiency. The curriculum covers Line Cook, Bakery & Pastry, Graphic Design, Nail Care, Men's Barber, Hairdressing, and Solar Energy Technician. Additionally, 133 beneficiaries received on-the-job training through private sector partners, reinforcing their skills and employment prospects. As a result, at least 60 beneficiaries have transitioned into gainful employment, demonstrating the project's tangible impact on vulnerable communities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon.



# Provision of Medical Services for Women and Children in Existing Shelters

**IRC 2023**

The project titled “Assisting with the Provision of Medical Services for Women and Children in Existing Shelters” was launched to enhance access to healthcare and provide targeted support to survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). With a focus on promoting health equity and protection, the project aimed to serve vulnerable women and children of all nationalities—Syrian, Lebanese, and migrant—residing in shelters operated by four key GBV actors: ABAAD, KAFA, Tabitha, and Nusroto. These shelters are located across Beirut, Mount Lebanon, and the Beqaa region. Running from mid-June to the end of October 2023, the project delivered comprehensive health services through Makhzoumi Foundation’s Primary Healthcare Center (PHCC) and its Mobile Medical Unit (MMU). Healthcare support included full coverage of primary care services, such as general and specialized consultations, mental health support, and diagnostic testing

(labs, radiology, and dental). In total, over 254 medical services were provided, including 142 consultations, 42 laboratory tests, 40 radiology services, 27 dental procedures, and three clinical interventions. Additionally, hygiene kits tailored to the needs of women and adolescent boys were distributed. The MMU was deployed to the Nusroto shelter in the Beqaa, delivering 59 medical examinations to residents who otherwise lacked access to regular healthcare. Makhzoumi Foundation partnered with Al Makassed Hospital in Beirut and Dar Al Ajaza Hospital to provide specialized psychiatric and medical support to GBV survivors. Furthermore, the project contributed to the development of operational guidance to support similar interventions in the field, helping to strengthen the overall response framework for GBV survivors in shelter settings.



## Health Subsidization Project

*IOM 2023*

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) partnered with Makhzoumi Foundation's primary healthcare center (PHCC) to implement a successful project following MoPH's long primary healthcare subsidization protocol (LPSP). The project extended from mid-November till the end of December, with a scope that covered all nationalities and ages. LPSP protocol offered a total of 9 health packages and sub-packages, each targeting a specific age group, sex, and health status. The non-communicable diseases (NCD) package offered subsidization over consultations laboratory and radiology services relative to diabetes, hypertension, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and coronary artery disease (CAD) conditions. A special package under LPSP covered the medical follow-up for pregnant women, including antenatal and postnatal care services.

The wellness package was categorized into subgroups, offering specific services to males, females, children, adults, and older people. The numbers reflect the achievement of the project, with a total of 2,969 services offered under the project and more than 1,300 unique patients benefiting from the subsidization. The segregation of the services is as follows: 1,449 consultations, 787 laboratories, 345 radiology, and 388 ECG. During the project, capacity development of the healthcare program staff took place through a 5-day training that introduced the protocol to the different packages and fostered communication skills. The LPSP training also encompassed quality control, accreditation indicators, and technical education about relevant health topics.



## Public Policy Expert Project *European Union 2023*

Makhzoumi Foundation Micro-Credit Administrative Manager, a Policy Expert, is tasked with crafting a comprehensive Policy Knowledge Package in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders. This package includes a manifesto containing technical insights and policy guidelines intended for dissemination among public authorities engaged in pioneering initiatives to foster new business ventures and facilitate access to finance. Commencing in December 2023, the project culminated in the delivery of the final paper by September 2023. The Micro-Credit

Administrative Manager meticulously assessed the regulatory landscape and current conditions, formulating pertinent policy recommendations. Subsequently, engaging with the Lebanese Micro Finance Association (LMFA) members, challenges and suggestions were gathered. These insights were then synthesized into the paper, which was presented during a project information session panel in Saida and during the conclusive presentations of policy papers held in Rome, spanning all participating member countries of the project.



# Vaccination 3a Salemeh Project

## UNICEF 2023

UNICEF and the MoPH launched a national immunization project, entitled “3a Salemeh”, to increase parents' awareness about vaccination and strengthen adherence to the national vaccine calendar. The main objective is to achieve complete vaccination for children between 0 and 5 years of age. The project started in 2023 and extends till 2024. Through this project, the vaccinator nurses attended a launching meeting with UNICEF and national actors like

MoPH, which spotted the importance of extending immunization practices to the whole community. 3a Salemeh project aimed at increasing awareness among parents and mobilizing the vaccination service to overcome accessibility challenges. Through this project, the Makhzoumi Foundation healthcare program team visited public spaces to educate caregivers and organized outdoor vaccination activities through weekend medical mobile unit (MMU) visits.



## Water Sanitation and Conservation Project *CEEDD, USJ, & USAID 2023*

Participation in the comprehensive course, spanning from June to October 2023, offered a transformative opportunity orchestrated by the Foundation for Continuing Education and Development (CEEDD) in collaboration with the Université Saint-Joseph (USJ). The central objective of the program was to arm participants with the requisite knowledge and skills to safeguard and preserve Lebanon's invaluable water resources, a mission critical for the nation's sustainable development and environmental stewardship. The curriculum explored multifaceted aspects of water management, ranging from the intricate dynamics of wastewater treatment and sanitation to innovative irrigation

practices aimed at maximizing resource efficiency. Moreover, participants were equipped with essential competencies in fundraising, proposal writing, and the indispensable art of monitoring and evaluation, pivotal for the successful execution of impactful projects in the realm of water conservation. Amidst the learning journey, a meeting was held on August 30th, convened by Makhzoumi Foundation team in collaboration with the Municipality of Qab Elias. This confluence of diverse stakeholders, including esteemed representatives from government agencies, local communities, and the municipality's leadership, served as a crucible for constructive dialogue and collective problem-solving.

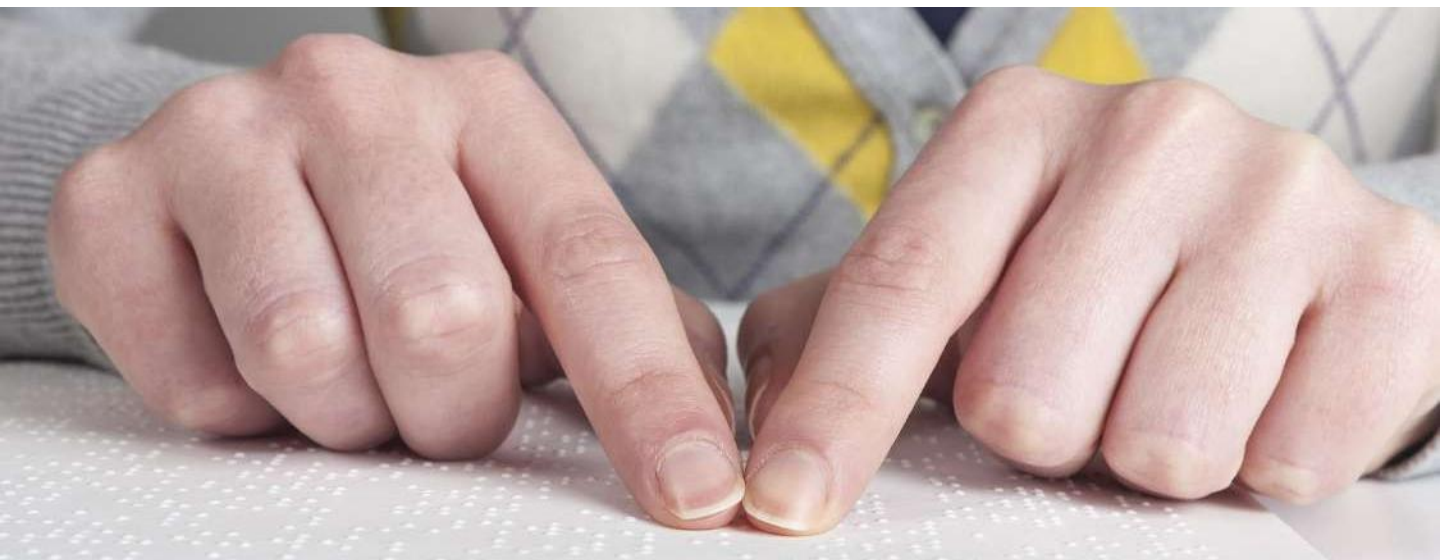


## Youth Association of the Blind Project

**2022-2023**

The Youth Association for the Blind (YAB) trained 14 Refugees, and host community, youth, children with visual impairment and their families in Beirut and Mount Lebanon area with life skills, including orientation and mobility, social literacy, and activities of daily living. These Life skills sessions were integral to building confidence and setting the foundations of independence and active participation in mainstream society. They were also essential to providing access to independence and future employment for the people of concerns with visual impairment: It played an active role in including them in educational and employment opportunities and provide them with the chance of a dignified life and a better future. The main topics of the

training sessions to be concept development, pre-braille concepts and skills, sense development, orientation and mobility, communication skills including using smart phones, personal care, eating etiquette, clothing management, money counting and management, time management, leisure and entertainment including using adaptive games. In addition, the program included one-hour session each month for each child on psychosocial therapy to support the learning process and consequently their participation in family life, school environment or in local community. The topics were adapted individually for each child according to his age group. These skills and competences prepared the children for inclusion at school, family life or labor market.



# The Child-Friendly Space Center Project

## *UNHCR 2019 - 2024*

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 center 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. During 2022, the center re-opened and resumed its activities. Children with their families were welcomed again and Makhzoumi Foundation SaWC team were providing informal learning activities, awareness sessions, arts, and crafts. The total number of attendees reached was 18952. During 2023 and 2024, the center covered a wide range of awareness raising activities covering up to 20,000 beneficiaries.



# Empowerment Through Integration Project

## *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 to 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 will 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.



## Emergency Cash Assistance Project

### *UNHCR 2017 - 2024*

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. 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. In 2024, Makhzoumi Foundation provided ECA to 1,415 beneficiaries, including 267 in the GBV sector, 371 in the CP sector, and 777 in the PWSN sector. Delivered within 72 hours, ECA addressed urgent needs like eviction, homelessness, and family separation, offering relief for food, shelter, and medical care. It temporarily stabilized vulnerable families, helping GBV survivors leave abusive environments and secure safe housing. However, while ECA provided critical short-term relief, it was insufficient for addressing long-term needs, leaving many beneficiaries without lasting solutions for their escalating challenges.



## Psycho-Social Support Project

### *UNHCR 2017 - 2024*

The Makhzoumi Foundation team delivered psychosocial support (PSS) activities to beneficiaries across all targeted areas. The sessions aimed to heal psychological wounds, uplift spirits, rebuild self-esteem, boost self-confidence, promote self-acceptance, and re-establish social networks to enhance overall well-being. The support also encouraged transformation from passive victims to active survivors. On 4 August 2020, two massive explosions struck the port of Beirut, resulting in over 220 deaths, 7,000 injuries, US\$10–15 billion in damages, and leaving around 300,000 people homeless. One of the most powerful non-nuclear explosions in history, it had devastating psychological effects. In response, Makhzoumi Foundation intensified its PSS activities to support those impacted emotionally and mentally. Sessions were conducted in the field and during home assessments. Although outreach

decreased in 2020 due to lockdown measures, 2021 saw a return to normal attendance. In 2022, precautionary measures and distancing were maintained during in-person sessions. In 2023, transportation challenges prompted facilitators to resume outreach efforts, offering sessions at homes and camp centers. In 2024, amid Lebanon's deepening crisis, 715 individuals received PSS services. The GBV PSS team supported 65 survivors using the Girl Shine curriculum, fostering emotional healing, self-awareness, and confidence. The CP PSS team worked with 558 children to build trust, express emotions, and boost self-esteem, resulting in positive behavioral shifts. Additionally, 62 individuals in the PWSN sector received sessions on stress and anger management. These services provided much-needed emotional relief and strengthened resilience in a time of crisis.



## Awareness Sessions Project *UNHCR 2017 - 2024*

Makhzoumi Foundation has conducted a comprehensive series of awareness sessions addressing critical societal issues such as social cohesion, hygiene, gender dynamics, abuse, and effective communication. These sessions have served as vital platforms for strengthening parent-child relationships and combating gender-based violence within communities. Despite challenges during the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020, the foundation adapted swiftly by using digital tools like Zoom, WhatsApp groups, and pre-recorded videos to maintain communication with beneficiaries. Active participation was evident, with discussions and shared experiences increasing awareness of early marriage and domestic violence. In 2021, a hybrid approach combining in-person and remote sessions emphasized child rights and positive parenting, reaching 1,253 beneficiaries and fostering community engagement. By 2022, face-to-face sessions resumed,

further amplifying the foundation's impact. Gender equality activities in safe spaces engaged 1,676 individuals, promoting empowerment and awareness on consent and women's rights. In 2023, the foundation reached 4,331 beneficiaries through remote and live sessions. In 2024, awareness sessions reached 11,445 beneficiaries. The GBV sector engaged 1,527 participants, educating on child marriage and related topics, empowering parents to protect their children. In the CP sector, 8,624 beneficiaries attended sessions on bullying, child abuse, gender equality, hygiene, and mental health, fostering positive behavior and life skills. Additionally, the PSS team supported 94 individuals with a focus on mental health, emotional resilience, and coping. Overall, Makhzoumi Foundation's initiatives enhanced understanding of rights and responsibilities, supporting protective decisions and well-being.



## The Fun Bus project

### *UNHCR 2017-2024*

Since its launch in 2018, the Fun Bus project has reached street and working children of all nationalities across Beirut through specialized programming. The project, implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation, provided street-connected children with interactive, participatory, educational, and psychosocial support (PSS) activities in a mobile, child-friendly space. The launch ceremony was attended by key stakeholders including the EU Ambassador, UNHCR representatives in Lebanon, members of local and international NGOs, representatives from the Internal Security Forces, and officials from the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities. The event included an overview of the project and showcased activities such as handcrafts, basic literacy and numeracy, storytelling, and awareness sessions. The Fun Bus allowed children to engage with a professional team through arts-based activities such as painting, drawing, and handcrafts,

while also delivering vital PSS and educational messages. International Days were celebrated throughout the year with themed activities to build connection and emotional resilience. However, between 2019 and 2021, the project's outreach was significantly disrupted due to nationwide protests, blocked roads, and extended lockdowns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In adherence to safety protocols, all Fun Bus activities were suspended during periods of heightened risk. Despite these challenges, the project remained committed. In 2022 and 2023, the team conducted workshops at the Hamra Center. These events, aligned with the global advocacy calendar of the Consortium for Street Children, featured educational, creative, and supportive activities. The initiative continued through 2024, reaffirming its role in promoting protection, inclusion, and psychosocial well-being for children living and working on the streets of Beirut.



# Malnutrition Management Project

## *IOCC 2014 - 2023*

In 2014, Makhzoumi Foundation started cooperating with the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC). They worked together to manage malnutrition by screening all children aged five years and below, providing food supplements to cases diagnosed with malnutrition, and raising continuous awareness of the importance of breastfeeding. The Ministry of Public Health continued to support the program from 2016 to 2021. An agreement with IOCC was made in May 2021. The project aimed to help the PHCC's malnutrition screening program by providing transportation fees for children and pregnant/lactating women who need the malnutrition screening service. Each patient is accommodated for 12,000 LBP per visit for up to 6 visits. The project continued till the end of December 2021. A representative from IOCC was present at the PHCC

during the malnutrition consultations, whose role is to provide technical support for the health caregiver. The representative monitors the practitioner's performance and provides guidance and feedback when needed. The IOCC agreement also aimed to provide logistic support to the PHCC by supplying it with the necessary tools for screening, such as the MUAC tape and malnutrition follow-up cards. The weight scales were also monitored and checked in terms of quality by IOCC. Lastly, technical support was provided by the IOCC team through close follow-up with the managed malnutrition patients to monitor the quality of the education supplied, ensuring that the health practitioners are disseminating the correct information at the PHCC. In 2023, the screening for acute wasting took place daily following the updated guidelines.



## Provision of Screening Tests for Breast Cancer *LOIG 2023*

The Lebanese Oncology Interest Group (LOIG) aligns its objectives closely with those of Makhzoumi Foundation, aiming to advance public health initiatives and mitigate the adverse effects of diseases on individuals' well-being. Consequently, LOIG has actively supported the provision of screening tests for breast cancer at primary healthcare centers, seeking to foster a culture of regular screening among women. Through our collaborative

efforts, numerous women have been referred by LOIG to Makhzoumi Foundation primary healthcare center in Beirut for comprehensive breast ultrasound and/or mammography examinations. This proactive approach is indispensable for the timely detection of malignant conditions, facilitating prompt interventions to mitigate the potential complications associated with such ailments.



## Thalassemia Medications Project *ANERA 2023*

ANERA and Makhzoumi Foundation have a history of collaborations, extending from the CARAMAH project for chronic medications in 2022 to the Thalassemia project in 2023. Aiming to address people's financial dignity, CARAMAH's project allowed the susceptible communities to access essential medicines to focus on putting food on the table or spending their retirement in relative comfort. This is an ongoing project that has provided

patients with chronic diseases with the needed essential medications monthly. In 2023, Makhzoumi Foundation's primary healthcare center was assigned as the first PHCC in Lebanon to supply patients of Thalassemia with the Deferasirox medication under the joint project with ANERA and MoPH. Ninety-eight patients from different nationalities chronically suffering from iron overload benefitted from the project in 2023.



## Communal Tension Project

### *AUB 2023*

A collaborative effort was initiated between researchers from the American University of Beirut (AUB) and the Makhzoumi Foundation to work on the dynamics of communal tensions in Lebanon. The aim was to examine the country's geographical hotspots of tension and insecurity while simultaneously evaluating the factors and mechanisms that mitigate or exacerbate communal conflicts. This multifaceted project sought to show why specific communities exhibit resilience to tension, contrasting with others that succumb to it. The project's core objective was to unravel the intricate web of communal tensions, delineating the nuanced interplay of socio-cultural, economic, and political factors contributing to its proliferation or attenuation. Through a meticulous examination of various communities, the research aimed to identify the underlying determinants that render some populations more resistant to tension while elucidating the vulnerabilities that render others

susceptible. In collaboration with the Makhzoumi Foundation, the team facilitated two pivotal focus groups to gain firsthand insights from diverse stakeholders. One focus group convened Lebanese lay individuals from the Foundation's beneficiaries, offering a grassroots perspective on the prevailing tensions. Concurrently, another focus group assembled employees of the Foundation, providing a unique organizational vantage point. These sessions were crucibles for candid discussions, elucidating underlying tensions between disparate cultural cohorts. The Makhzoumi Foundation's support for such initiatives underscores its commitment to fostering societal cohesion and resilience. Recognizing the indispensable role of research in shaping evidence-based policies and interventions, the Foundation remains dedicated to its advocacy for initiatives that foster understanding, reconciliation, and positive social transformation at the community level.



## QUEST Recovering Business Project

### *LWR 2022-2023*

Since November 2022, Makhzoumi Foundation has implemented the QUEST: Recovering Businesses Project in collaboration with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and with funding from Kerk in Actie. The project promotes social cohesion and gender equality in Lebanon by supporting women's economic empowerment, raising awareness on gender-based violence (GBV), and advocating for fair and safe working conditions. QUEST enables women entrepreneurs to expand micro- and small enterprises, contributing to job creation and sustainable development. Targeting 200 women-led businesses, the project offered blended financial services in the form of grants and loans. A specialized financial product, Raedat, was launched to facilitate women's access to funding. Following tailored training sessions, participating businesses experienced accelerated growth through financial

support, access to further training, and community-based activities designed to foster long-term resilience and social cohesion. The QUEST program also complemented the USAID-funded Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) initiative, titled Expanding Women's Labor Force in Lebanon and Beyond. The W-GDP initiative aimed to strengthen business development services, improve the enabling environment for female entrepreneurship, and build the resilience and operational capacity of women-led enterprises in the face of Lebanon's ongoing economic crisis. Through continued implementation into 2024, the QUEST project has played a vital role in empowering women, enhancing business stability, and promoting inclusive economic recovery across Lebanon.



## Prospects Lebanon Project: Financial Education *ILO 2022-2023*

Under the Prospects Lebanon Project, two staff members from the Microfinance team successfully completed the Financial Education Training process facilitated by the International Labor Organization (ILO), achieving accreditation as local Financial Education Trainers. The initiative began in October 2022 with a Training of Trainers (TOT) session, followed by three collaborative training workshops conducted in partnership with Al Majmoua between June and September 2023. The final phase of the project took place in Chtoura, Bekaa,

where trainers delivered sessions and underwent formal evaluation. All participants applied for accreditation, with both representatives from the project attaining certified trainer status. Despite the project's initial completion target of May 2023, logistical and budgetary constraints resulted in a six-month delay. The project continued into 2024, contributing to enhanced local training capacity in financial education and supporting broader financial inclusion goals through the development of skilled, accredited trainers.



## Multidimensional Package Program Project

### *ANERA 2022*

The project, entitled the Multidimensional Package Program to Support Youth Employment in Lebanon, is implemented by the Vocational Training Program (VTP) of Makhzoumi Foundation in collaboration with ANERA, an organization active since 1968 in supporting refugees and conflict-affected communities in Palestine, Lebanon, and Jordan. In January 2022, two vocational training classes were launched: a carpentry class and a pastry class, each enrolling 20 trainees. From each class, 11 students

were selected to participate in On-the-Job Training (OJT), and by the end of the training cycle, all 11 students in each class secured employment. In addition to the technical training, ANERA's Youth and Future Skills (YFS) trainees also participated in a workshop titled Career Guidance, organized at the Massabki Hotel in the Bekaa region. The project contributed to practical skills development, career orientation, and employment integration for young people, supporting long-term livelihood opportunities in Lebanon.



## Cash for Work Project

### *UN Women & Mouvement Social 2022*

Women empowerment was translated in a collaborated project with Mouvement Social and UN Women in 2022 that equipped vulnerable women with critical technical skills and granted them the chance to work in a suitable environment. The partners enrolled hundreds of women in several education programs, such as nursing aid and computer skills. Then the women were matched with relevant host organizations, where they would work for cash. The project allowed women from different backgrounds, communities, and nationalities to pursue careers that generate

independent income. Makhzoumi Foundation welcomed five women (including youth and middle-aged individuals and Lebanese and refugees). The women worked as nurse aids at the primary health care center. They could practice what they've learned, observe and learn from the registered nurses at the PHC, and perform selected nursing duties under the supervision of the primary health care center management. Makhzoumi Foundation was represented in the project's closing ceremony, reflecting the life-changing impact of such empowering collaborations.



## Access to Primary Healthcare Project

### *UNHCR 2022*

Access to healthcare has become a significant challenge for vulnerable groups, especially refugees and the economically unprivileged. In support of the refugee community and the most susceptible Lebanese groups, UNHCR provided health coverage in Makhzoumi Foundation primary health care center, subsidizing services that include medical consultations, mental health counseling, ANC and PNC follow-up, laboratory tests, as well as diagnostic radiology services. 2300 medical consultations were provided, including 200 non-communicable disease (NCD) consultations. Mental

health, in specific, was an area of interest, with Makhzoumi Foundation advocating for it for years with the support of UNHCR. Mental health consultations with psychotherapists and psychiatrists and the prescribed medications were offered for free, along with transportation fees, to overcome the commuting challenges faced by the vulnerable groups. Supporting the transportation increased the patients' ability to commit to mental health therapy. During 2022, approximately 1,400 mental health consultations were provided free of charge.



## CARAMEH Project

### *ANERA 2022*

During the year 2022, ANERA collaborated with Makhzoumi Foundation to address a critical need in the community by providing a comprehensive range of chronic medications. This partnership aimed to ensure that individuals in the community who required ongoing medication for chronic conditions could access them conveniently and reliably. ANERA and Makhzoumi Foundation worked together to create a collaborative project that focused on meeting the needs of individuals with chronic health conditions. This project

aimed to overcome barriers such as cost, availability, and access to medications. By partnering with Makhzoumi Foundation, ANERA leveraged their medical expertise, resources, and network to ensure the widest range of chronic medications was available to the community. ANERA also supported the capacity building of the MF staff by offering training opportunities on PSEA, child protection, medication dispensing and management, and safe GBV identification among other useful trainings.



# Youth Functional Literacy and Numeracy Project

## *AVSI 2022*

Makhzoumi Foundation Vocational Training Program has cooperated with AVSI, the Italian NGO that supports Syrians who took refuge in Lebanon and the poorest segment of the Lebanese population. The project resulted in developing and implementing a Computer Literacy Course to support the Youth Functional Literacy and Numeracy training (YFS). This comprehensive training program encompasses Financial literacy, IT (Information Technology), and English language skills. The Computer Literacy Course was designed to equip young individuals with essential knowledge and skills in these areas, enabling them to enhance their overall functional literacy and numeracy abilities. By focusing on financial literacy, youth gained

valuable insights into managing their finances, understanding budgeting, and making informed financial decisions. The IT component of the course provided essential training in computer skills, including basic computer operations, internet usage, and digital communication. This equipped the youth with the increasingly necessary practical skills in today's technologically-driven society. The English language component of the training focused on improving participants' proficiency in English, which is essential for effective communication in various settings. By enhancing their English language skills, Makhzoumi Foundation and AVSI helped participants expand their opportunities for further education, employment, and personal growth.



## Vocational Training Project

### *NRC 2022*

Makhzoumi Foundation implemented a vocational training project that involved a successful collaboration and partnership with NRC (Norwegian Refugee Council). The project focused on providing vocational training in Beirut. In this initiative, the project team established a Beirut branch where various classes were offered, including Line cook, Carpentry, English, and Computer classes. The VTP team worked closely with the NRC to ensure the smooth operation of the project. One of the key components of the project was the English class, for which the Makhzoumi Foundation Vocational Training Program provided outreach activities. These activities aimed to raise awareness among potential students about the class and its curriculum. The team also offered insights into the class curriculum, helping prospective students understand the content and benefits of enrolling in the English class. In addition to the English class, the

project also included Line cook, Carpentry, and Computer classes. These courses were designed to provide practical skills and knowledge in their respective fields. The Line cook class focused on teaching students the fundamentals of cooking, culinary techniques, and food preparation, preparing them for potential employment opportunities in the food industry. The Carpentry class aimed to develop students' skills in woodworking, carpentry tools and techniques, and construction principles. This course provided a foundation for individuals interested in pursuing careers in carpentry or related fields. The computer class focused on building participants' computer literacy skills, covering topics such as basic computer operations, software applications, internet usage, and digital communication. This training aimed to enhance the participants' technological skills and expand their opportunities for future employment.



# Improving Employability of Vulnerable Communities Project

**GIZ 2022**

Makhzoumi Foundation implemented a project in collaboration with GIZ, which is dedicated to shaping a future worth living worldwide and has over 50 years of experience in various areas, including economic development and employment promotion, energy and the environment, and peace and security. The project is entitled "Improving Employability of Vulnerable communities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon". Its objective is to improve the employment situation of young Lebanese adults aged 17 to 35, including women and people with disabilities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, through an accelerated vocational training program blending occupational, entrepreneurial, & Soft, and life skills, targeting youth and matching with the needs of the local

labor market in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Three hundred fifty (350) beneficiaries will complete competency-based training while sitting for pre-evaluation and post-evaluation tests. According to their performance and skills acquisition, 175 beneficiaries will be sent to on-the-job training in private sector companies outreached by our coordinators, leading to their employment of at least 105. In December 2022, the project contract was established and signed with GIZ upon finalizing all necessary documentation. Makhzoumi Foundation had an internal kick-off for the project and prepared their teams through orientations and one-to-one meetings.



## MAD for the Ocean Project

### *MIO-ECSDE 2022*

The virtual contest MAD for the Ocean was implemented as part of MIO-ECSDE's Mediterranean Action Day, in cooperation with the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO. This nationwide initiative aimed to raise awareness about the Seven Principles of Ocean Literacy and emphasize the critical role of oceans in sustaining life on Earth. The contest addressed the harmful impact of human activity on marine ecosystems and encouraged innovative solutions for sustainable interaction with marine resources. Youth aged between 15 and 24 years from across Lebanon were invited to showcase their creativity and artistic expression. A total of 106 participants registered, either independently or through their schools. Educational materials developed by a marine life expert were distributed to all participants, offering foundational

knowledge on ocean literacy principles and marine-related challenges. Submissions were divided into two categories: performance media, which included poetry or lyrics composition, creative writing, and sketch performance; and visual media, which encompassed photography, filmmaking, drawing, painting, and poster design. All entries were evaluated by a panel of professional and scientific jury members. Three winners were selected from each category and awarded eco-friendly prizes. The schools from which the winning students came also received symbolic tokens of appreciation, recognizing their contribution to the success of the program. The initiative effectively fostered environmental awareness, youth engagement, and creative thinking in support of marine conservation efforts across Lebanon.



## 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 because 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 Comcare surveying tool as well as a Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) training.



## Pandemic Precautions and Assistance Project

### *UNHCR 2020 - 2021*

COVID-19 pandemic had a huge impact on Makhzoumi Foundation Relief and Humanitarian Unit processes. First, 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.



## Rapid Response Team Project

### *UNHCR 2020 - 2022*

The Rapid Response Team (RRT) within the UNHCR project was initiated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020. It aims to provide awareness and support for the refugees who suffer from COVID-19 and their families. Three registered nurses mentored and monitored six community health volunteers (CHVs). The project covered Beirut, Keserwan, Mount Lebanon, Byblos, and Metn camps and settlements, with on-site visits and remote follow-up of suspected or infected individuals. They were also trained in using the UNHCR Kobo online survey to fill in the information. In 2021, with the increased need for vaccination against COVID-19, the team started raising awareness of the importance of getting vaccinated and debunking the myths and misconceptions. The team was also

responsible for completing a questionnaire. Individuals willing to take the vaccine were registered on the MoPH COVAX Impact platform. Follow-up took place with 1797 positive cases and 202 suspected cases. The CHVs also assisted in the AstraZeneca Vaccination Day Marathon at Al Sahel General Hospital and Al Naccash Hospital. A new component was activated in July 2021, including community awareness to increase the refugees' acceptance of the COVID-19 vaccination. In 2022, with the rise of acute diarrhea and Cholera infections, the team was also recruited to raise awareness on the disease transmission, precautions, and acute watery diarrhea. The RRT supported municipality Pfizer vaccination campaigns in Kfardebian, Baabdat, Jdeideh, Bourj Hammoud, and others.



# Post-Blast Accessible and Affordable Healthcare Project

## RI 2020 - 2021

In the aftermath of the devastating Beirut Blast, Makhzoumi Foundation and Relief International undertook a project to alleviate the primary healthcare burden on the affected communities. Recognizing the urgent need for accessible and affordable healthcare after the disaster, this project ensured that the community affected by the blast could receive essential medical care without facing significant financial barriers. This project was vital in bridging the gap between healthcare needs and resources, enabling the affected population to access the care they require during a challenging and critical time. In 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. The project ran until the end of April 2022. In 2022, a total of 5,472 medical services were covered under the project, encompassing 4,974 consultations, 436 laboratory tests and 29 radiology services among others. Special attention was paid to mental health under RI project, in support of the vulnerable Lebanese groups. Therefore, psychotherapy and psychiatric sessions were covered.



## Emergency Response to COVID-19 in Beirut Project

### *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.



## IDEA.LS Project

### *Positive Planet International 2020*

Since 2011, Syrian refugees have had a regular influx into Lebanon. The estimated number of Syrian refugees is around 1 million. The estimated unemployment rate for the Lebanese population is 27%. The first phase of this project, entitled Income Development & Entrepreneurship Acceleration for Lebanese & Syrians (IDEA.LS), started in July 2016, and training was 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. Therefore, in alignment with this goal, the Makhzoumi Foundation started Phase II of the project with Positive Planet International (PPI), entitled IDEA.LS. It is a coaching service that the Makhzoumi Foundation has implemented with PPI. The project targets 25 of the first project's graduates or those who received the same entrepreneurship training.



## Beirut Blast Response Project

### *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. Thousands of people have had their homes completely or partially damaged in the explosion. 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. 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 Project

## UNICEF 2019 - 2021

The Maternal Neonatal Child and Adolescent Health (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 regarding 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.



## Training on Beekeeping Skills and Environmental Arts and Crafts Project

### *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. 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.



## Educational, Economic, and social development Project

### *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, TKS & 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 Project

### *CERD & LGBC 2017 - 2021*

The Green Demonstration Room is the result of a collaborative effort between Makhzoumi Foundation, the Educational Center for Research and Development (CERD), and the Lebanon Green Building Council (LGBC). The initiative aims to raise public awareness on key environmental issues, including energy efficiency, water conservation, and pollution reduction, by introducing the concept of Green Buildings. Hosted at a location provided by CERD, the demonstration room is open to students from both public and private schools across Lebanon, offering them the opportunity to engage with and understand these sustainability principles firsthand. Between 2017 and 2019, the Green Demonstration Room

welcomed 55 schools, engaging approximately 2,800 students and 100 trainees. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic led to the suspension of the initiative's activities until further notice. The project seeks to demonstrate the principles and benefits of Green Buildings, promote the use of renewable energy technologies, and raise awareness among learners of all ages and backgrounds about the significance of environmental sustainability. It also aims to train CERD trainers and science teachers, while supporting the integration of energy efficiency concepts into the official school curricula.



## Vocational Training Project 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 to 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 Project

### *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 Project

### *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.



## The Health and Nutrition Community 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.



## Promoting Inclusive Local Economic Empowerment Project

*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, and Save the Children. Specific objectives are improved access to sustainable livelihood 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 aged 15 to 50 years and targeted 788 beneficiaries receiving vocational training, soft skills, and life

skills training and 200 beneficiaries receiving On-the-job training. Another part of this project aims to contribute to the economic self-reliance and resilience of displacement-affected populations in the Beqaa Governorate in preparation for durable solutions. Specific objectives 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' fundamental rights. Makhzoumi Foundation targeted 200 beneficiaries for vocational training and 40 OJT in the Beqaa area. The targeted beneficiaries are from 15 to 50 years old from host communities and Syrian refugees. The project was implemented with DRC, OXFAM, Care, Acted, and Save the Children.



## Empowering Syrian Refugees and Lebanese hosting Communities Project

*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.



# Civil Society in Action for Sustainable Development Project

## *OMSAR 2016 - 2018*

This project was managed by the Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR) under the AFKAR 3 Program and implemented by Makhzoumi Foundation in partnership with Armadilla, MIO-ECSD, and ALMEE, in collaboration with the Unions of Municipalities of East Zahle in Mid-Bekaa, Sahl in West Bekaa, and East Baalbek in North Bekaa, along with the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO. The initiative targeted 30 schools and engaged 646 students in activities related to environmental sustainability and education for sustainable development. In 2018, student involvement focused primarily on a follow-up to a household greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction competition. Key activities included the development and dissemination of a report on Lebanese youth responses

toward sustainable development, seminars for local stakeholders, and ongoing monitoring and support. The GHG reduction competition took place across the participating schools, with workshops and measurement activities allowing students to assess and reduce their environmental impact. In addition, training sessions in beekeeping were provided for 60 beneficiaries, while 240 women participated in environmental craft workshops that were complemented by business skills sessions and follow-up support. The project concluded with a public fair and closing ceremony where the environmental art crafts created by the women beneficiaries were exhibited. To further raise public awareness, a media spot on reducing single-use plastics was produced and broadcasted on television and social media platforms.



## Leaders Consortium Project *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.



# Joint Training Workshops on Bee-keeping, Environmental Crafts and Life Skills for Youth in Lebanon Project

**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.

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 Project

## *Armadilla 2016*

This project was implemented by the Municipality of Irkay in partnership with Makhzoumi Foundation and the Italian NGO Armadilla, aiming to foster sustainable development and inclusive growth through environmental improvement. The action focused on three main objectives: providing innovative renewable energy services for environmental protection, instilling a sense of care for nature in children by offering a dedicated green space, and strengthening environmental awareness as a pathway to sustainable development and community empowerment. Project activities included the installation of eight solar energy poles in key locations within the municipality, the creation of a green area for children, and a workshop on environmental education and

sustainable development for primary and intermediate school teachers. Additional initiatives targeted children through interactive environmental education activities such as attending a play, waste sorting, and composting. A school contest titled “Youth Understanding and Improving the Environment” was organized, along with informative sessions for farmers, women, and youth on environmental protection and sustainable consumption. Environmental craft workshops for women included faux bijoux, soap making, patchwork, and flower arrangement. The project achieved its planned outreach, benefiting 500 students, 170 women, 25 farmers, 70 young men, 25 beekeepers, and over 30 stakeholders.



## Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support Project *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.



## Reproductive Health Project 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. 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 childbearing 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.



# Promotion of Maternal and Childhood Health Project

## *Armadilla & Italian Cooperation Office 2014 - 2015*

This project, funded by the Italian Waldensian Church, was implemented in collaboration with the Italian association Armadilla S.c.s. Onlus and the Italian Cooperation Office in Lebanon. Its primary aim was to improve the health conditions of vulnerable communities, particularly women and children, by addressing both physical and emotional well-being. The project focused on increasing awareness around child nutrition, hygiene practices, family planning, and reproductive health, while also enhancing emotional resilience through psychosocial support activities. Capacity building played a central role in the initiative through medical missions conducted by Italian specialists, led by Professor Aldo Morrone. These missions contributed significantly to knowledge transfer and professional development. In addition, Mobile

Medical Unit (MMU) campaigns were carried out in collective shelters and informal tented settlements in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, delivering healthcare services directly to underserved populations. The project also included seminars targeting healthcare providers, designed to strengthen their understanding and skills related to critical health issues. A key outcome of this Lebanese-Italian cooperation was the elaboration of the first dermatological Atlas in Lebanon, which documented skin diseases observed during the interventions. The Atlas was officially presented in Beirut in October 2015 and represented a milestone in collaborative healthcare efforts, contributing to improved local capacities in managing health impacts linked to the Syrian crisis and broader humanitarian challenges.



## Lebanese Youth as messengers of Sustainability Project *OMSAR, EU, Armadilla, ALMEE & MIO-ECSDE 2013 - 2015*

This project, implemented under the AFKAR 3 program managed by OMSAR and funded by the European Union, was carried out in partnership with Armadilla (an Italian NGO), ALMEE (a Lebanese NGO), and MIO-ECSDE (a Greek NGO and Mediterranean network). Its overarching objective was to foster a culture of sustainability across Lebanon. To achieve this, several key activities were conducted. Three workshops were organized in Beirut, Tripoli, and Chtaura to train teachers on methodologies and teaching practices related to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). A comprehensive toolkit was developed and distributed to all public and private intermediate-level schools in Lebanon, as well as to NGOs, to strengthen educators' capacity in ESD. The project also included a contest inviting participants to prepare sketches on sustainable consumption and protection.

In parallel, three seminars were held in the targeted areas, engaging local authorities, associations, and private stakeholders to promote unified approaches to sustainable development. Public events, known as Environmental Days, were also organized in the same areas to raise awareness among families and communities about sustainable practices. A documentary featuring the winning sketches was produced and broadcast on national television and radio and later shared at the Mediterranean level via social media platforms. Furthermore, working groups were established to facilitate the exchange of experiences and expertise on issues related to sustainable development and environmental protection. Finally, materials and insights from the project were shared among stakeholders in Lebanon, Italy, and Greece through the MEdIES e-network.



## DIVE-IN Project

### *MIO-ECSDE 2019*

The project Mutual Skills' Building in Diversity: Inclusive Pedagogies of Trainers – Lessons from Lebanon: SDGs as a Tool to Enhance Deprived Mothers was implemented by NGOs from Greece, Lebanon, Jordan, and Palestine, and funded by the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE). Makhzoumi Foundation served as the Lebanese partner. The aim was to promote more inclusive and respectful communities. The project began with a kick-off meeting in Greece in May 2019, bringing together educators and trainers from both formal and non-formal systems to develop inclusive practices for diverse and disadvantaged groups. Each

country organized a workshop to exchange knowledge. Makhzoumi Foundation led a 1.5-hour workshop for 25 participants, discussing Lebanon's diversity and its societal impact, focusing on both challenges and civil society-led inclusion efforts. In Lebanon, national activities addressed the economic needs of refugees and host communities. Two environmental crafts trainings—on decoupage and loom weaving—were held in Beirut for 24 women, with kits distributed at the end. Educational tools were also developed: an SDG-themed memory card game, a puzzle on SDG 10, an activity book, and a key holder/booklet on child rights, all shared with the 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. Three environmental craft workshops 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 Project

### *Makhzoumi Foundation 2013 - 2014*

As part of the global campaign launched by the United Nations under the theme “Together for Equality: Leave No One Behind,” citizens across the world united in a call to action to address urgent global challenges and eradicate poverty. In alignment with this initiative, Makhzoumi Foundation chose to focus on the theme “Human Rights Are for All,” with special attention to the rights of children, particularly in relation to protection from discrimination. To raise awareness and promote civic engagement among young people, the Foundation produced a 10-minute educational documentary highlighting the key articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The documentary was made available on the Makhzoumi Foundation YouTube channel at the following link: [http://youtu.be/DR192w\\_hFts](http://youtu.be/DR192w_hFts). In order

to reach and engage a wider audience, the Foundation coordinated with intermediate-level schools across Greater Beirut, offering them the opportunity to download the documentary on USB or CD for use in their civic education programs. To further encourage student involvement and reflection, the Foundation launched a drawing contest inviting students to create artwork based on the anti-discrimination themes found in Articles 2 and 30. Students were free to choose any topic related to inclusion, equality, or diversity. The contest received an overwhelming response, with 850 drawings submitted by students from 42 schools. Entries were evaluated by a jury, which selected three winners in each of the two age categories: 8 to 10 years old and 11 years and above.



## 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 Project

### *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 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.



# Promoting Civic Engagement Project

***EU 2012 - 2014***

This project, funded by the European Union, was implemented through a partnership between the Municipality of Izza in South Lebanon, the Italian NGO Armadilla S.c.s. Onlus, and Makhzoumi Foundation. It aimed to benefit the entire community of Izza and its surrounding villages over a period of 24 months. The project focused on three key objectives: fostering social cohesion and strengthening relationships between Izza and neighboring villages through the establishment of a community center; promoting a stronger sense of citizenship, particularly among youth; and encouraging greater environmental responsibility within the community through the use and promotion of renewable energy. Among the main achievements of the project was the creation of a multifunctional community center, complemented by

the development of a green space and a playground for children. A variety of recreational, cultural, and sports activities were organized to engage community members and encourage social interaction. To raise awareness on key civic and environmental topics, the project held two sessions on civic education and citizenship, as well as two workshops addressing climate change, renewable energy, and desertification. These sessions brought together 50 participants, including local administrators, municipal council members, social activists, and civil society representatives. Additionally, solar energy poles were installed at the community center and in other key public areas of Izza, marking a concrete step towards environmental sustainability and the use of renewable energy sources within the municipality.



## Deir El Qamar Olive Press Project *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 Project

### *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.

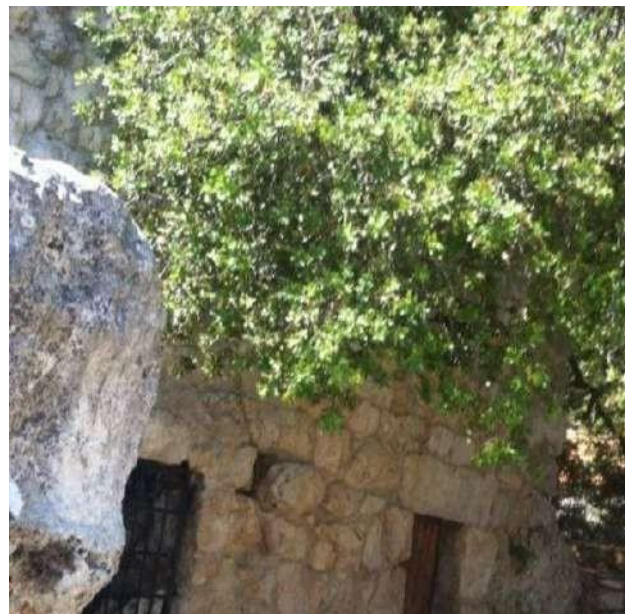


## Hydria Project

### *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 each 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 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 a survey targeting 406 young adults in different

regions of the country reflecting their consumption behaviors, 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, and 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 jointly organized by the UNESCO Regional Bureau in Beirut, the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO, the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), and Makhzoumi Foundation. It featured a workshop that opened with a speech by the Minister of Education, Dr. Hassan Mneimneh, followed by a plenary session where Dr. Suleiman presented the UNESCO Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) package. The workshop was attended by 33 participants, including school directors, teachers, and NGO representatives. Participants were initially divided into three groups, each focusing on one of the core dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic, and environmental. On the second day, attention shifted to the YouthXChange (YXC) kit, with participants rotating between two interactive sessions: *From My Habits to My Values... and Back* and *Breaking the*

*Barriers*. The workshop aimed to introduce the UNESCO training package *Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future*, which includes modules addressing the economic, social, and environmental aspects of ESD, and their integration into formal and informal education systems. It also presented the educational package *Youth...Together Towards Sustainable Development*, which highlights sustainable consumer behavior to reduce environmental degradation. Additionally, the workshop sought to engage students and young people in activities aligned with the goals of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014), such as tree planting. Following the workshop, a tree planting event was held in Deir Mkhalles, where students planted 250 saplings provided by Makhzoumi Foundation's nursery in Akkar, reinforcing the hands-on environmental component of the program.



## Youth X change in the Mediterranean

### *MIO-ECSDE 2010*

The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), in collaboration with six partners from across the Mediterranean region—Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon (represented by Makhzoumi Foundation), Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia—launched the Youth X Change in the Mediterranean initiative as part of a global campaign promoting sustainable consumption among youth. As a key partner, Makhzoumi Foundation contributed four case studies to the educational kit developed for the initiative. The official launch took place in Lebanon in November 2010 and featured two major events. On November 26, a press conference was held at the

Press Syndicate in Beirut, attended by 63 representatives from the Ministries of Education and Environment, local authorities, NGOs, civil society organizations, and the media. This event marked the formal introduction of the initiative in Lebanon. The following day, November 27, an experiential train-the-trainer seminar was conducted for 72 participants, including teachers from primary and secondary schools, youth leaders, university students, and NGO representatives engaged in educational and youth development activities. The seminar aimed to equip participants with the tools and knowledge needed to integrate sustainable consumption practices into their educational work.



## 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.



## Peace lyric song contest *UNDP 2009 - 2010*

The Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), in collaboration with six partners from across the Mediterranean region—Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon (represented by Makhzoumi Foundation), Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia—launched the Youth X Change in the Mediterranean initiative as part of a global campaign promoting sustainable consumption among youth. As a key partner, Makhzoumi Foundation contributed four case studies to the educational kit developed for the initiative. The official launch took place in Lebanon in November 2010 and featured two major events. On November 26, a press conference was held at the Press

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## 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 at the schools that participated in the project and a prize distribution ceremony was held on June 17th, 2009, for the winners.



## Let's talk Project

### *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 Project

*MIO 2007*

In celebration of Mediterranean Action Day 2007—dedicated to Climate Change and the Mediterranean—and in conjunction with Lebanon’s National Tree Day, Makhzoumi Foundation, with the support of the Mediterranean Information Office (MIO), organized a community-based initiative titled Re-Green Lebanon and Preserve the Climate of Our Planet on December 9th in Sarafand, South Lebanon. The event was implemented in collaboration with the Greek NGO Society for the Environment and Sustainability on Earth (SENSE), the Lebanese Ministry of Education, and the local NGO Shoa al Beeaa. The day commenced with an educational presentation delivered by forestry expert Dr. Nicholas Efstathiadis

to 70 student volunteers from schools in Beirut and Sarafand. The session provided a general overview of climate change and highlighted the essential role trees play in mitigating its global impact. Following the presentation, participants engaged in a large-scale tree planting activity, during which 400 saplings—including poplar, mimosa, oleander, and leucena—were planted. These saplings were provided by Makhzoumi Foundation’s nursery in Akkar. Informational brochures detailing the importance of trees and proper planting techniques were distributed to all participants to promote environmental awareness and sustainable practices within their communities.



## Public awareness on the concept of democracy

### *European Commission in Lebanon 2005 - 2008*

The project Public Awareness on the Concept of Democracy was funded by the Delegation of the European Commission in Lebanon under the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights Program. Its core objective was to raise awareness among diverse segments of the Lebanese population about the principles and practice of democracy, while equipping participants with the knowledge and motivation to apply democratic methods in their daily lives and promote them within their communities. Through a series of actions, the project aimed to inspire individuals to become active contributors to civic life, thereby enhancing democratic participation and improving the overall quality of life in the country. What made the project

particularly impactful was its inclusion of a practical component, where participants were encouraged to take real-life initiatives reflecting democratic values. These success stories were documented and published in a booklet distributed at the end of the project to foster broader social change. The project specifically targeted stakeholders from a wide range of regions, religions, and backgrounds to promote inter-community dialogue and mutual understanding. It concluded in 2008, having reached 692 participants through 17 workshops covering key topics such as the definition and elements of democracy, the importance of democratic practice in the home, school, and society, and real-world initiatives addressing public concerns.



## Basic Bee-keeping skills training for women

### *Japanese Embassy in Lebanon 2003 - 2005*

Two projects titled Basic Beekeeping Skills Training for Women were implemented in collaboration with the Japanese Embassy in Lebanon, with the aim of empowering women through vocational training. The first phase, conducted between 2003 and 2005, trained 100 women across five villages in Akkar. The second phase, held from 2005 to 2007, reached 140 women in seven villages in South Lebanon and the Bekaa region. These initiatives were designed to create income-generating opportunities for women and to foster self-confidence, enabling them to play more active and productive roles within their communities. Each village hosted training sessions consisting of 12 theoretical and practical lessons over a six-week period, totaling 48 hours. Every session accommodated 20

women, each of whom received a certificate of completion and a full beekeeping starter kit. The kit included two beehives with supers and colonies, a protective suit, mask, gloves, a smoker, a lever, a spatula, and two kilograms of wax. In addition, each training center was equipped with an extractor, maturator, and strainer, which remained available for ongoing use by residents for honey preparation and packaging. To ensure long-term sustainability, post-training monitoring was conducted to assess the project's impact on participants. Some graduates went on to apply for loans through the Foundation's Micro-Credit program, enabling them to launch their own beekeeping enterprises and contribute further to their local economies.



## Agro-forestry development for degraded lands

### *INARE, KEDE & TC Dialogue Foundation 2001 - 2021*

The Agro-Forestry Development Project of Degraded Lands of Lebanon was launched in 2001 in partnership with three European non-governmental organizations: INARE and KEDE from Greece, and TC Dialogue Foundation from Belgium. The project was funded by Hellenic Aid and co-funded by Makhzoumi Foundation and TC Dialogue Foundation. Its primary objectives were to combat desertification and to introduce innovative agricultural technologies in Lebanon. A key component of the project was the establishment of a main nursery in Akkar, North Lebanon, dedicated to the production of ornamental and fruit trees, herbs, and roses. These plants were initially cultivated using Terra Cotte TC, an

environmentally friendly soil conditioner that enhances water retention and delivers essential nutrients to the plants. The nursery's output was distributed widely across Lebanon to schools, universities, municipalities, local NGOs, and community groups. Although the partnership officially concluded in 2004, the project's success prompted Makhzoumi Foundation to continue its efforts independently. The Foundation not only sustained but also expanded the nursery's production. To date, over 1.2 million trees have been produced and distributed nationwide, contributing significantly to environmental restoration and sustainable agricultural practices.

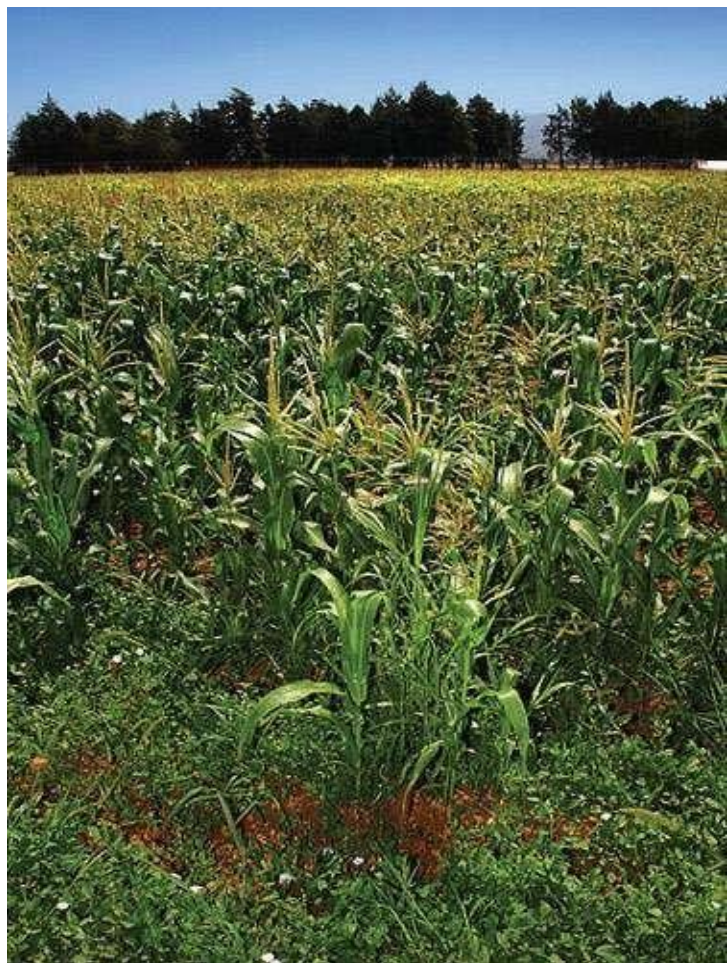


## Environment-Friendly Pest Control Project

***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

### *DRC, UNHCR & ICRC 2009 - 2016*

Community Development Center in Tripoli – DRC and UNHCR (2016) In partnership with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Makhzoumi Foundation implemented a community development project in Tripoli in 2016 aimed at fostering empowerment and self-reliance among both refugee and host communities. Funded by DRC and UNHCR, the project focused on enhancing the psychosocial wellbeing of individuals affected by displacement through a combination of social, recreational, and livelihood-support activities. A total of 1,286 beneficiaries participated in psychosocial activities, while 29 awareness sessions were conducted, reaching 224 participants. These efforts contributed to building stronger social cohesion and providing

immediate support to vulnerable populations. Productive Grants for Livelihood – ICRC (2016) In collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Makhzoumi Foundation launched a livelihood development project targeting Lebanese returnees from Syria. The initiative aimed to support families in generating sustainable income by providing grants of up to \$2,000 for launching small-scale projects, based on comprehensive workplans. The pilot phase, implemented in late 2015 and continuing into early 2016, supported 25 income-generating projects. A second phase followed in the third quarter of 2016, targeting 30 additional projects in the Baalbek region of the Bekaa. This phase concluded in the second quarter of 2017, having successfully provided critical economic support to returnee households.



## Other Projects

### *USAID, Intersos & Himaya 2009 - 2016*

#### **Lebanon Investment in Micro Finance (LIM) 2011 and 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.

#### **Intersos Livelihood Project 2015**

This project aimed to protect women from gender-based violence by equipping them with skills that promote self-reliance and economic empowerment. Four craft workshop sessions were organized for twenty Lebanese and Syrian women, offering hands-on training in a variety of skills including chocolate molding and decoration, marzipan making, box and

basket decoration, cookie baking (both Oriental and Western varieties), Swiss roll and macaron preparation, loom weaving, as well as cake making and decoration. These workshops not only provided practical vocational training but also created a supportive space for social interaction and confidence building.

#### **A Project in cooperation with Himaya 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

### *With UNICEF, Ajjalouna, 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 Ajjalouna 2011 - 2012

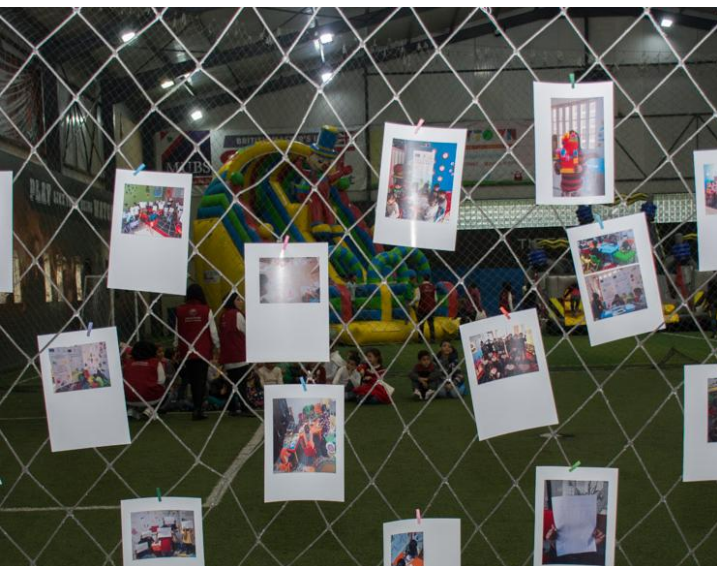
Makhzoumi Foundation trained 39 ladies as requested and funded by the NGO Ajjalouna whereby they were given the opportunity to be trained in a vocation then to further receive soft skills to be ready for the job market. Makhzoumi Foundation provided different Beauty trainings, namely: Hairdressing, Make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

### **Expand Your Horizon 2013 - 2015**

USAID entered 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.

## Other Projects

### *USAID UNOCHA, CHF & UNICEF & UNESCO 2009 - 2016*

#### **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.

#### **Literacy with crafts for youth in Lebanon 2016**

Contributed to 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.



## Other Projects

### ***USAID UNOCHA, CHF & UNICEF & UNESCO 2009 - 2016***

#### **Filling the Gap in Child Protection Case Management In 2015**

This project, funded by UNOCHA, was designed to address the gap in child protection case management services for vulnerable children from both the Palestine refugee population (648 children) and the host community (162 children) residing in Burj El Barajneh, Shatila, and Mar Elias camps. The initiative focused on raising awareness among children and their caregivers about critical issues related to child protection, welfare, and development. To support this effort, the project recruited and trained Community Outreach Volunteers (COVs), who played a central role in community

engagement. These volunteers were responsible for identifying and referring child protection cases to the case management team, assisting in prevention efforts, and actively participating in awareness sessions and community mobilization events. They also replicated the knowledge and training they received by sharing information, distributing leaflets and educational materials, and reporting child protection concerns and emerging trends within their communities. This grassroots approach ensured that child protection efforts were both responsive and community-driven.

#### **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.



# MEMBERSHIP

## for increased Opportunities

Makhzoumi Foundation is proud to be a member of:



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MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Convention to Combat  
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Réseau Arabe pour l'Environnement  
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# PARTNERSHIP

## for increased Opportunities

Makhzoumi Foundation is proud to be a partner with:



\*For more partnership information, please check [www.makhzoumifoundation.org](http://www.makhzoumifoundation.org)

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