



Lebanese
Food Bank

Communication on Engagement to the
UN Global Compact

(COE)

2019 – 2021



COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 1/2/2019 To: 31/12/2021

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Lebanese Food Bank reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours.

We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Kamal Sinno", written over a horizontal line.

Kamal Sinno

Lebanese Food Bank President



WHO ARE WE

In 2011, a group of Lebanese entrepreneurs recognized the need to fight hunger and limit food waste in Lebanon: they came together to create a non-governmental organization The Lebanese Food Bank (LFB).

The main focus of LFB is to feed those in need in Lebanon, without discrimination on the basis of religion, political affiliation, geographic location, sexual orientation, race, or nationality, as well as raising awareness about food waste and ways of better managing food resources. LFB is a member of the Food Banking Regional Network in Dubai; which is part of the Global Food Banking Network and are audited by Deloitte Touche since 2016.

Through an extensive network of NGOs across Lebanon, LFB distributes food to needy families and individuals in all Lebanese regions. This is done mainly through collecting surplus food from partner restaurants, hotels, caterers, supermarkets, and different kinds of events.

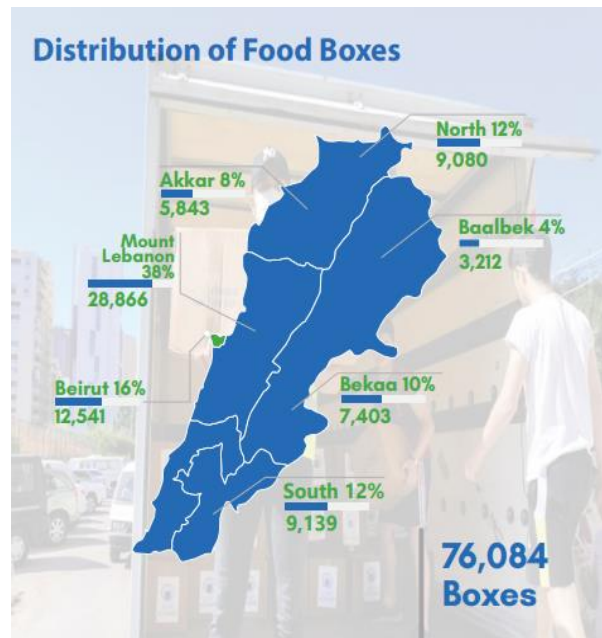
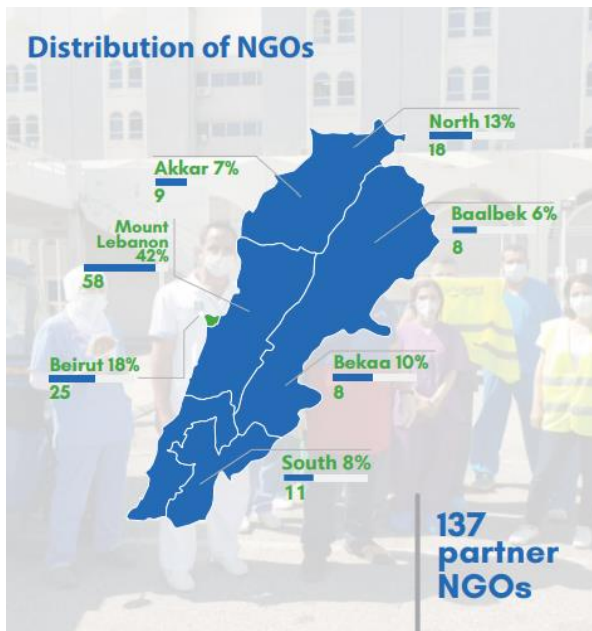
LFB collects non-hazardous food products from reputable donor partners in accordance with the international standards of safety and hygiene. Our food handling team holds certifications issued by Boecker, accredited by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH, UK).

Background and Overview

LFB started small then enormously grew through the years, especially after the economic collapse that has pushed countless Lebanese citizens into poverty.

In 2021, 82% of Lebanese citizens are trapped in multidimensional poverty and are struggling for bare necessities. As for extreme poverty, it registered an increase to 34% in 2021 (ESCWA Statistics).

In the aftermath of the terrible events of August 2020, LFB partnered with more than 145 selected institutions and organizations nationwide to channel the donations raised for that cause. As part of its response, LFB planned and executed several projects divided by sectors of intervention (i.e. Rehabilitation, Food Security and Refurbishment).



Our NGO Network

Our NGO Network is continuously growing, reaching today 145 reputable NGOs covering all districts across Lebanon.



Our Partners & Donors

Our partners and donors, without whose unwavering support the LFB would not be able to operationalize its vision of a Hunger Free Lebanon by 2030.





Our Vision

A Hunger Free Lebanon by 2030 where no one will sleep hungry, without discrimination on the basis of religion, political affiliation, geographic location, sexual orientation, race, or nationality.

Our Mission Statement

To alleviate hunger and help the environment throughout Lebanon by collecting wasted food of good quality and impartially distributing it to charities and people in need as a means to social progress.

Our Values and Principles

Accountability

We are accountable towards our society, partners, board of directors, and team members to achieve our main mission.

Collaboration

We collaborate with, and support more than 150 NGOs all over the country.

Transparency

We embrace transparency and open data in all dealings with our partners and donors in both the public and private sectors, and we believe clarity is key. The financial statements of Lebanese Food Bank are audited by Deloitte and Touche since 2016.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Lebanese Food Banks strategy revolves around four overall goals that are the core of all our programs.

Goal 1 – Hunger Eradication - A community that doesn't suffer from hunger, has achieved food security and reduced food waste will positively impact its citizen's health, education and, social development.

Goal 2 – Malnutrition Reduction – To prevent malnutrition the individual's balanced diet should conclude a variety of food from the main food groups while ensuring the consumption of at least two meals per day.

Goal 3 – Sustainable Environment – By avoiding the depletion of natural resources, we would be improving the quality of our lives, protecting our ecosystem, and preserving natural resources for future generations.

Goal 4 – Livelihood Improvement – The effective participation and encouragement of women and youths into agriculture through COOPS help rural communities manage their own social, economic and environmental objectives, and most importantly securing means of living for the involved families.

Lebanese Food Bank & the SDGs

Lebanese Food Bank has found innovative solutions to improve the quality of living for all Lebanese citizens without any discrimination through projects and initiatives that target social, economic, and environmental matters.



#1 NO POVERTY

We are targeting the most vulnerable communities all over Lebanon and aiding them with basic humanitarian essentials.

#2 ZERO HUNGER

We are focused on feeding those in need with a hope to have a hunger-free Lebanon by 2030, by providing these families with Food Boxes, Mouneh Boxes (Lebanese food products), and daily cooked meals throughout the year.

#3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

We are addressing several health issues that have emerged due to the economic crisis, by providing Lebanese families with hygiene kits and women with basic menstrual kits, in addition to health and sanitation awareness discussions.

#5 GENDER EQUALITY

We are working on progressing gender equality through training women with the skills needed for today's workforce, improving their social and economic status, and giving them the tools to become producing members of society.



#8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

We are continuously providing Lebanese men and women with work opportunities in our projects for them to maintain financial stability.

#11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

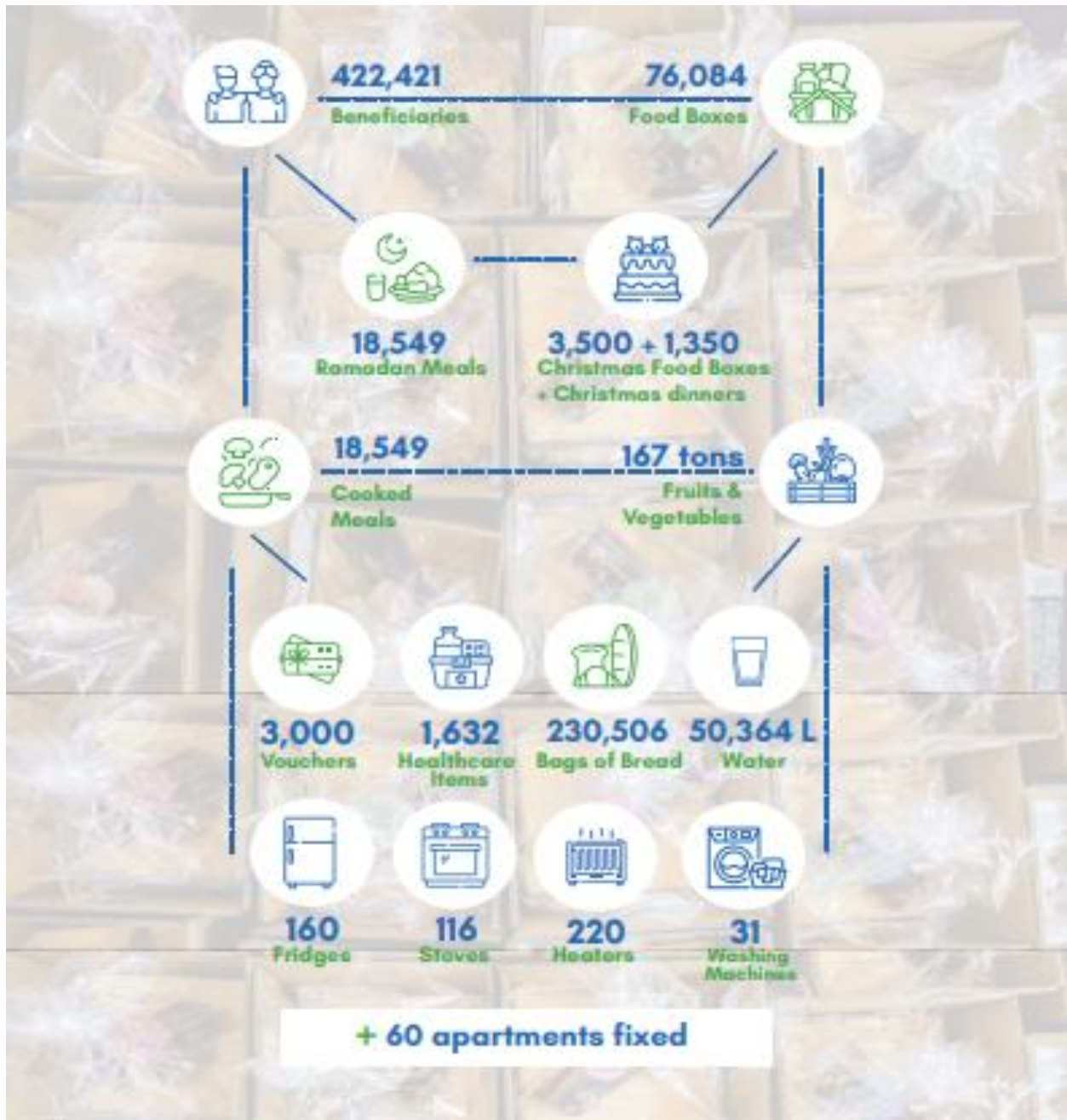
As a crisis response after the August 4 Beirut Blast, LFB in cooperation with EHL and SEAL project focused on food box distribution, house renovation, and providing appliances to the families that have been drastically affected.

#15 LIFE ON LAND

We are providing plants to small and medium-scale farmers who in turn provide a portion of their yields to the underprivileged through the Lebanese Food Bank.

Facts & Figures

Over the years of 2019 and 2020, we were committed to keeping the spirit high and pursuing our mission despite the challenges that we faced, we were keen on supporting our community and that wouldn't have happened without the support of our change-making donors.



Donations received

DRY FOOD

28,997 kg

CANNED FOOD

35,396 cans

MILK BOTTLES

68,964

RICE

23,925 kg

PASTA

20,000 kg

GATEUX & DONUTS

37,824 pcs

YEAST

9,924 kg

POWDER MILK

2,901 boxes

MOUJANET

604 bags

CHOCOLATE & COFFEE

2,746 boxes

KAAK

5,995 bags

MANAKEESH

12,100 pcs

FLOUR

37,500 kg

BAGS OF BREAD

243,533

DIAPER PACKS

7,909

HYGIENE KITS

1,293

CLOTHES

2,100 kg

FOOTWEAR

34,560 pairs

ELECTRICAL HEATERS

100

TOOTHPASTE

1,000

MUGS

1,614 pcs

CEREAL & CRISPS

11,250 pcs

PROCESSED CHEESE

153 boxes

SOUP FOR KIDS

104 boxes

A Well Trained & Accredited Team

As part of our Staff Improvement Program, our team is regularly trained in food safety management, by Boecker, accredited by the Chartered Institute of Environmental health (CIEH, UK)



Education Sector Cooperation & Partnerships

Our certified Internship and Volunteers Program gives school and university students an opportunity to engage in community activities and learn new skills that can benefit the careers they pursue, while also raising awareness regarding food waste and poverty.

These students have shown immense commitment and involvement in these activities that taught them how to care for and aid the less fortunate, while participating in the following activities:

1. Food Box packaging in our warehouse located in Beirut.
2. Food Box distribution all over Lebanon.
3. Participating in holiday activities.
4. Participating in fundraisers.
5. Attending our awareness discussions.
6. Food, clothes, and appliances donations.
7. Lunch preparations and visitations for the elderly and several other activities.



LFB 2020 Crisis Response Plan

Other than the Beirut Blast Lebanon faced in August of 2020, the economic crisis and the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in an increase in multidimensional poverty levels reaching a new peak of 82% in 2021 according to ESCWA.

COVID-19 Action Plan

Despite the challenging pandemic that occurred in 2020, LFB continued the distribution of food boxes in a safe manner.

As a response, LFB in partnership with Beit el Baraka and SEAL embarked on a mission to provide Emergency Food relief to 50'000 Vulnerable Lebanese Families.



Prioritize Health and Safety

We stopped all programs that may put the health of our team and end beneficiaries at risk



Focus on the Essential Action

We re- centered all means & efforts on Food Relief – yet on a (much) larger a national scale



Strengthen our Ecosystem Relationships

of NGOs, volunteers and strengthen our relationships with the Lebanese Diaspora to increase our access to its positive energy & resources as to expand our reach



Scale-Up Essential Resources

We are relocating from a 200 m2 to 1'250 m2 facility; scaling up both our physical backbone and our human resources



Think Beyond the Crisis

We continued spearheading the Lebanese Food Coalition for the Change of Law on "expired" FMCG products , & We will be taking steps to invest in our long-term financial sustainability

August 4th - Beirut Blast Emergency Relief

On August 4, 2020 a catastrophic explosion happened at the port of Beirut killing more than 220 people and leaving 300,000 homeless overnight.

The LFB team and a group of volunteers mobilized immediately and provided food to people in need on the premises through 4 different booths in the Jemmayzeh, Jeitawi, Mar Mkhayel and Saint Georges Hospital areas.

The team was there for two weeks and distributed more than 32,000 hot meals.



- **France & CMA CGM Partnership**

After transporting the much-needed goods and emergency products through a Humanitarian Ship to Lebanon, we took action and delivered the aids equally to needy families all over country.



Due to the unfortunate blast, several collaborations took place to assist the affected families of the blast that has resulted in the damaging of their homes, by providing them food boxes, household appliances, and the renovation of their houses.

- **Life & SEAL Partnership**

For the rehabilitation aspect, a total of 527 household appliances were distributed, divided as follows:

- 88 fridges
- 89 gas cookers
- 113 electric heaters
- 31 washing machines

In addition to that, LFB has also independently distributed a total of 71 fridges, 27 gas cookers, and several other appliances.

- **EHL Project**

As for the renovation aspect of our plan, approximately 20 houses were completely renovated and 40 houses were partially renovated, granting these families a new start.

As well as we have adopted 40 of the affected families and provided them with one monthly food box over the period of six months.



- **Marid Min Ramad Initiative**

The Lebanese Food Bank collaborated with the firefighters of Beirut by contributing to the "مارد من رماد" initiative.

This statue that is located in the heart of the Port of Beirut represents the pain of the Beirut Blast martyrs and the hope of the people.



• The Food Box

The standard food box handled by LFB targets to contribute to the well-being of individuals by providing them with a food box that covers all the nutrition needed for a healthy and wholesome diet over the course of a whole month for a family of four, the distribution for these vulnerable families occurs through our network of NGOs.

Each food parcel included the following dry, non-perishable and canned food items:

- 1 Olive oil bottle (1.6 Liters)
- 1 Burghul bag (900 g)
- 2 Rice bags (900 g)
- 2 Sugar bags (900 g)
- 1 Lentil bag (900 g)
- 2 Vermicelli bags (400 g)
- 2 Cans of hummus (400 g)
- 2 Cans of beans (400 g)
- 1 Tea box (25 bags)
- 2 Tomato sauce (300 g)
- 1 Salt bag (700 g)
- 2 Flour bag (900 g)
- 2 Processed cheese (8 pieces)
- 1 Luncheon (200 g)
- 2 Pasta (500 g)
- 1 Coffee (180 g)
- 2 Biscuits (85 g)



• The LFB Mouneh Program

The Mouneh Box is a multi-dimensional project, where we support local farmers by purchasing their produce, and later on providing them to Lebanese women that cook and reduce them into preserved food, in addition to packing other nutritious items into specific portions in community kitchens that are enough to support a family of four for a month.

This project also helps turn these women into empowered, self-confident individuals that play a productive role in society and are able to financially support their families.

Each food parcel included the following dry, non-perishable food items:

- Chickpeas (2 kg)
- Burghul (2 kg)
- Lentils (2 kg)
- Thyme (250 g)
- Keshek (300 g)
- Wheat (2 kg)
- Vinegar (500 ml)
- Peas (1 kg)
- Tomato Paste (1 kg)
- Freike (500 g)
- Beans (1 kg)
- Flour (2 kg)
- Makdous (1 kg)
- Pickles (1 kg)
- Labneh (1 kg)



Our Other Projects

Other than our main focus which is the Food Box & Mouneh Box, the Lebanese Food Bank has expanded into new operations that have become critical to Lebanese citizens with the increase in poverty due to the overlapping economic crisis that we have been witnessing.

- **The Harvest Box**

We collaborated with Street & The Third voice to create a multi-organizational operation providing plants to small and medium scale farmers (150-200) who in return provide a portion of their yields to the underprivileged through LFB.

- **My Pad Initiative**

In collaboration with Dawrati & Lebanon of Tomorrow, the launch of My Pad Initiative occurred knowing that the menstrual cycle is not a choice but a natural biological phenomenon.

This initiative is focusing on the accessibility to feminine hygiene products nationwide by distributing not less than 10,000 bags of pads that have increased in price 500% due to inflation, while also spreading awareness regarding the importance of this matter.

- **Atfalouna Campaign**

Under the Atfalouna campaign, 3,000 vouchers have been distributed for the value of 200,000 LBP to be used in pharmacies to buy milk and diapers for babies between 0-1 year old.



UAE Embassy

Under the continuous support of the UAE Embassy which we have collaborated with over several diverse projects.

Their generosity and trust in our mission have made it possible to reach numerous families, where the following has been distributed nationwide:

- 2,500 UAE aid food boxes
- 200 diesel heaters
- 2,500 blankets
- 170,000 bread packs
- 50,000 food boxes as part of the 1,000,000 campaign sponsored by the UAE Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.





Since 2012, Fighting a hunger-free, dignity restored Lebanon

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