



**REFORM  
RECOVERY  
RECONSTRUCTION  
FRAMEWORK**

**PROGRESS REPORT**

**1 JANUARY 2021 – 30 JUNE 2022**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December 2020, the European Union (EU), United Nations (UN) and World Bank (WB) Group partnered and jointly developed, in cooperation with civil society, Lebanon's government, and the donors and development partners, the Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) in response to the port of Beirut explosion. The 3RF was originally devised to focus on a period of 18 months, pursuing a people-centered recovery track and reform and reconstruction track in parallel. While there have been notable achievements especially regarding recovery, progress on reforms and policy actions has been slow or delayed in multiple sectors. 18 months on since the launch of the 3RF, the situation in the country has deteriorated sharply, both in terms of the socioeconomic effects of the crises and in terms of governance. In this context of emerging priorities, it is important to take stock of what has been achieved through the 3RF between January 2021 and June 2022.

The 3RF has enabled a new organizing principle in the country to contribute to recovery efforts and engagement with the government and civil society on much-needed reforms. The 3RF core principle of inclusion has been operationalized at all levels of its governance structure, whereby there is representation of government, civil society, international organizations, and donors both at the strategic level in the Consultative Group (CG) as well as at the technical level in the 14-sector coordination Working Groups. Drawing on the expertise of a group of over 300 CSOs and independent experts, civil society formulated recommendations for each of the 3RF sectors. The four CG meetings that have been convened thus far, served to agree on 3RF priority commitments – such as the independence of the judiciary and a comprehensive social protection system – and to reiterate calls for a transparent investigation into the causes of the Beirut Port explosion, for macro-economic reforms, and for fair and free elections.

The Independent Oversight Board (IOB) is a unique mechanism for representatives from civil society to provide broad oversight on 3RF implementation and hold 3RF stakeholders accountable for overall 3RF progress. IOB members have provided input at CG meetings, as well as issued three communiqués to voice their opinion. In this regard, it should be noted that the 3RF has fallen short on communication and civic engagement, which should be addressed going forward. The Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) was established in December 2020 following the launch of the 3RF as a 5-year multi-donor trust fund administered by the WB. The LFF pools grant resources and strengthens the coherence and coordination of financing in support of the immediate socioeconomic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses impacted by the explosion. Eight grants for projects, advisory services, and analytics have been approved to provide support for selected 3RF priorities.

In reviewing the progress made to date on 3RF commitments across 17 sectors under the four strategic pillars of the 3RF, it is clear that a lot has been done under the people-centered recovery track. Progress has been especially evident in sectors such as, Social Assistance, with 80,000 people benefitting from Blast Emergency cash support; Education, with the reparation of 270 education institutes; Health, with the rebuilding of the Karantina Hospital and Central Drug Warehouse; Housing, with the sheltering, propping, and rehabilitation of heritage houses; Municipal Services, with the establishment of the Regional Technical Office in Bourj Hammoud and Municipal Social Cell in Beirut; Justice, with the provision of comprehensive legal aid services to 9,000 victims affected by the blast; and Business Recovery, with 1,000 micro and small enterprises receiving grants. Regarding the reform and reconstruction track, there are a concerning number of commitments that are either on-hold or delayed, with almost none achieved. The challenges contributing to this include political obstacles, the erosion of public administration, and insufficiently inclusive reform processes. However, some of the sector highlights include significant milestones such as, the approval of the Public Procurement Law; the appointment of members to the independent National Anti-Corruption Commission, a five-year water sector plan to deal with impact of financial crisis, and advancing the social protection agenda by focusing on the approval of the National Social Protection Strategy. Looking ahead, much-needed reforms must be prioritized, as progress on these is the only way to help Lebanon return to the path of sustainable development.

## INTRODUCTION

In December 2020, the European Union (EU), United Nations (UN) and World Bank (WB) Group partnered and jointly developed, in cooperation with civil society, Lebanon's government, and the donors and development partners, the Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) in response to the port of Beirut explosion.

The 3RF pursues two tracks in parallel:

- A **people-centered recovery track** (Track 1), focusing on essential actions, such as policy measures, investments, and institutional strengthening, to address urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations and small businesses affected by the explosion. This people-centered support will largely rely on receiving adequate international grant financing, and on clear progress on immediate policy action to facilitate recovery, such as the adoption of appropriate actions plans and institutional measures.
- A **reform and reconstruction track** (Track 2), focusing on critical reforms to address governance and recovery challenges in Lebanon as well as investments that focus on the reconstruction of critical assets, services, and infrastructure. Progress on governance and socioeconomic reforms are prerequisites for mobilizing international support for reconstruction beyond the recovery track, and for unlocking new sources of public and private finance.

The 3RF was originally devised to focus on a period of 18 months that would bridge the immediate humanitarian response and the medium-term recovery and reconstruction efforts to put Lebanon on a path of sustainable development. The operationalization of the 3RF, bringing all stakeholders together, took longer than anticipated. While there have been notable achievements especially regarding recovery, progress on reforms and policy actions has been slow or delayed in multiple sectors, which is also evident from the [3RF Monitoring Framework](#) and the [tracker of action points from 3RF Consultative Group meetings](#), which were made publicly available in conjunction with the fourth 3RF Consultative Group meeting on 4 April 2022. The fact that all 3RF partners have now been included in the 14-sector coordination Working Groups, should speed up implementation in the months to come.

18 months on since the launch of the 3RF, the situation in the country has deteriorated sharply, both in terms of the socioeconomic effects of the crises and in terms of governance. Losses in economic activity and fiscal revenues, coupled with high inflation and poverty rates, are exacerbating a range of political, social and environmental issues. Prolonged periods of caretaker mode for government have also posed challenges in progressing on much-needed reforms. The socio-economic meltdown in Lebanon has been further exacerbated by the impact of the war on Ukraine, which presents additional significant challenges for food imports and prices, as well as food security. Various estimates on poverty all point to the direction of increasing poverty rates among the population with more and more households facing challenges in accessing food, healthcare, and other basic services.<sup>1</sup>

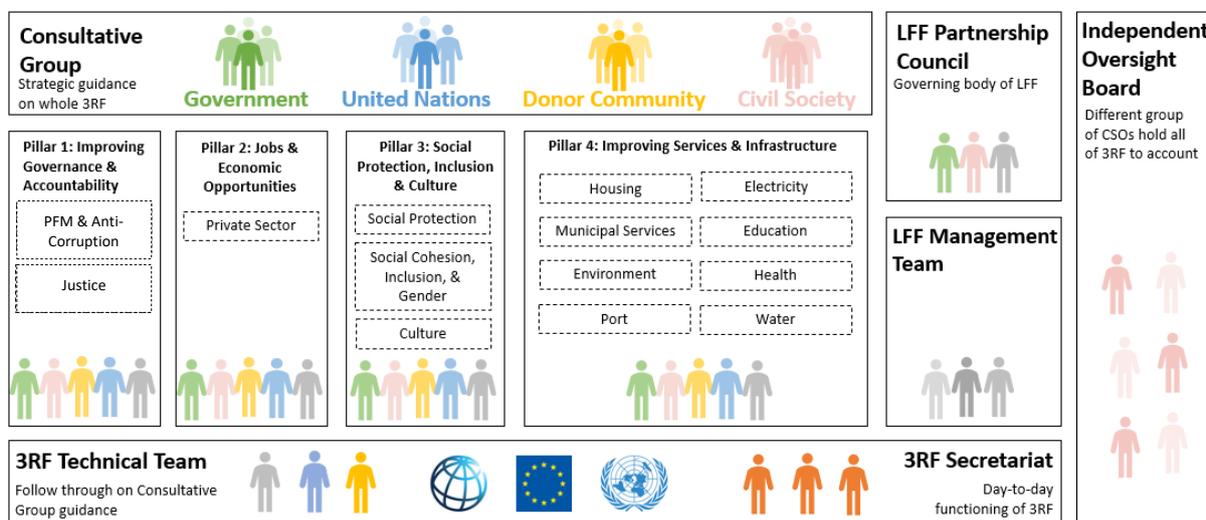
In this context of emerging priorities, it is important to take stock of what has been achieved through the 3RF to date. This progress report first provides an overview of the 3RF's inclusive governance structure, as establishing and operationalizing it entailed substantial efforts. This is followed by an update on 3RF commitments under selected sectors of the four strategic pillars, each of which includes a limited set of priorities across both the recovery track and the reform and reconstruction track.

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<sup>1</sup> UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework – Common Country Analysis Report, April 2022

## 3RF GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The 3RF has provided a platform for a new, different way of working. It was designed as an inclusive, collaborative process that is based on the participation of the government, civil society, the private sector as well as donors and development partners. This is reflected in the governance structure and its mechanisms as outlined below.



### Consultative Group

The 3RF Consultative Group (CG) was set up to provide strategic guidance and monitor the implementation of the 3RF. As a tripartite forum, it should serve inclusive policy dialogue and coordination across government, civil society and the private sector, and development partners and donors. The CG is co-chaired by the Prime Minister, the UN Resident Coordinator, a donor representative (currently the EU Ambassador) and a civil society organization (CSO) representative chosen by the CSOs within the CG. Please see the selection criteria and process to join the CG as a CSO as well as the CG CSOs' detailed terms of reference as included in the call for expression of interest published in [February 2021](#). The CG members are responsible for representing the views of broader constituencies and providing them with feedback from CG discussions. The CG has convened four times, in March, July, November 2021 and April 2022. The CG meetings thus far have served to confirm commitment to- and further strengthen the new partnership model of the 3RF, reiterate calls for a transparent investigation into the causes of the Beirut Port explosion, and prioritize essential reforms that require action from the government with input from civil society and funding or technical assistance from the international community. The 3RF has enabled a new organizing principle in the country to contribute to early recovery and good engagement with the government and civil society on reform. At a strategic level, in the CG, stakeholders have agreed on priorities as 3RF commitments. Please see the summary CG co-chair statements in the Annex.

Representation of the Government (9 seats)	
1. President Office representative	6. Ministry of Social Affairs
2. Prime Minister or his designate (Co-Chair)	7. Governor of Beirut
3. Deputy Prime Minister	8. Chairman of Justice and Administration Committee
4. Ministry of Finance	9. Chairman of Budget and Finance Committee
5. Ministry of Economy and Trade	
Representation of the International Community	
UN Resident Coordinator (Co-Chair)	Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America
World Bank Group and IMF	

European Union (Co-Chair)	European Investment Bank
Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
<b>Representation of Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector (9 seats)</b>	
<b>Rotation 1</b>	<b>Rotation 2</b>
1. Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB) (CG Co-Chair)	1. Live Love Lebanon (CG Co-Chair rotating)
2. Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights (ALDIC)	2. Arcenciel
3. Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGOS Forum (LHDF)	3. LHDF
4. Association of Lebanese Industrialists	4. LLWB
5. Société De St Vincent De Paul	5. Order of Engineers
6. Beirut Urban Lab – American University of Beirut	6. Khaddit Beirut
7. Lebanese Union of Persons with Physical Disabilities (LUPD)	7. Beirut Heritage Initiative (BHI)
8. Green Mind	8. ALEF
9. KAFA	9. KAFA

## Sector Coordination

The 3RF document covers 17 sectors affected by the Beirut Port explosion, each sector anchored in one of the four strategic pillars. In August 2021, the WB, EU and UN proposed that these would be translated into 14 sector coordination Working Groups (WGs) to facilitate timely, coherent, and efficient implementation of 3RF sector commitments. This proposal was confirmed at the CG meeting in November 2021. The establishment of these WGs followed a mapping of other existing coordination structures with a view to streamlining coordination. Therefore, where possible, existing coordination mechanisms were merged, or 3RF WGs were folded into existing coordination mechanisms. The 3RF WGs were to be inclusive of 3RF stakeholders (government, civil society, donors) at the technical level, with a lead and co-lead from among the UN, EU, or WB.<sup>2</sup> Notwithstanding the inclusive nature of the WGs, the aim was to have a core group of committed and active entities in each sector, to ensure WGs would remain efficient. The activation of all the WGs took approximately six months because ensuring representation and participation from the different 3RF stakeholder groups took longer than anticipated.

The pre-selection of the CSO members of the WGs was done through the first rotation of the CG CSO co-chair. 300 CSOs took part in substantive discussions on each sector. This yielded a list of civil society recommendations and volunteers for the different sector WGs. Furthermore, WG leads and co-leads also made suggestions based on their technical knowledge of the most active civil society actors in their respective sectors. The nomination of government representatives to participate in the WGs went through the Central Management Unit (CMU). The CMU was reactivated following a discussion between the Prime Minister and CSOs in the 3RF CG, through Decision (2/2022) by the Prime Minister's Office in January 2022 to facilitate government coordination on the 3RF. The CMU is chaired by Rubina Abu Zeinab from the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and consists of 15 ministries' representatives as well as the Governorate and Municipality of Beirut. As these government representatives are mostly advisors and consultants, the CMU requested them to ask their ministers to nominate technical civil servants for each WG, to ensure continuity and expertise. Donors nominated their representatives in March 2022 based on the sectors they are most active in.

<sup>2</sup> The Education WG has been the exception from the start, with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education as the lead and UNICEF as the co-lead. The Water WG recently followed suit, with the Ministry of Energy and Water taking over the lead from the EU.

Thus, most WGs convened for the first time with full membership between April and June 2022, a notable exception being the Social Protection WG, which has been active with inclusive membership since late 2021. In May 2022, the leads and co-leads contributed to an analysis of their WGs’ strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. From this analysis it became apparent that the WGs’ inclusivity is regarded as a key strength. Furthermore, the WGs are seen to have potential to become a platform for substantive exchange, to structure sectoral development efforts, and to respond effectively to the evolving situation in the country. The weaknesses flagged regarded the lack of clarity on the exact role of the WGs and their members, the sometimes-limiting scope of the 3RF commitments, some perceived overlap between sectors, and the irregular participation of some stakeholders. Addressing some of these weaknesses requires improved internal communication and guidance, as well as opportunities for cross-sectoral exchange. The WGs may need more time and combined efforts to contribute to the achievement of 3RF commitments, or may eventually require more flexibility to address sector priorities beyond the original 3RF commitments. Inclusion of civil society at both the strategic and implementation level has proven to be a cornerstone for the success of the 3RF. As development is traditionally under the purview of the government, the leadership of the Government of Lebanon is critical in each working group for the realization of recovery, reforms, and reconstruction under the 3RF.

Overview of the 3RF Sector Working Groups							
Sector	Lead	Co-Lead	Government	Civil Society / Private Sector	Donors	International Organizations	No. of Meetings <sup>3</sup>
PFM & Anti-Corruption (1.1 and 1.2)	WB	UNDP, EU	National Anti-Corruption Commission, MoJ, MoIM, MoFA, OMSAR, Gov. of Bey, PMO, MoF	Gherbal, NDU Integrity Club, DRI	Germany, France, Denmark, USA, Norway	IMF, OHCHR	1
Justice (1.3)	UNDP	EU	MoJ, MoIM, MoL	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, Legal Agenda	Switzerland, France, USA, Spain, GIZ, AICS, Netherlands	OHCHR, UNODC, IOM, UNICEF, UN Women	2
Private Sector (2.1, 2.2. and 2.3.)	WB	UNDP	MoFA, MoET, Mol, PMO, MoF	Oxfam, RDCL, AUB, LLWB, Berytech, LHDF	Germany, EIB, Sweden, Denmark, Italy, EBRD, EU	UNIDO, IOM,	1
Social Protection (3.1)	EU	WB, ILO, UNICEF	MoSA, MoJ, MoL, PCM,	Oxfam, Save the Children, LUPD, LHIF	Netherlands, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, UK	UNHCR, UNWOMEN, UNDP, ESCWA, WFP	2
Social, Cohesion Inclusion & Gender (3.2)	UN Women	EU	MoSA, NCLW,	IRC, Search for Common Ground, Adyan, LLWB	GIZ, AICS, FCDO, Canada, Norway, Spain	UNHCR, UNDP	2
Culture (3.3)	UNESCO	WB	MoC – DGA, MoFA,	BHI, AUB/Beirut Urban Lab, ACAN	EU, GIZ, AICS,	UN Habitat	3

<sup>3</sup> WGs have continued to convene following the reporting period, e.g. the Environment WG convened in July.

Housing (4.1)	WB	UN Habitat	Gov. of Bey, Mun. of Bey, PCM, MoF,	LLL, BHI, AUB/Beirut Urban Lab Beitna Beitak, OEA, Beit el-Baraka	EU, KfW	UNESCO,	4
Municipal Services (4.3)	UN Habitat	WB	MoIM, Gov. of Bey, Mun. of Bey, DGLAC	LRC, LRI, Universite Libanaise	EBRD, KfW	UNOPS, UNICEF	3
Port (4.2)	WB	ESCWA	MoPT, Gov. of Bey		EU, EIB, EBRD, Germany, France, and Italy		0
Environment (4.3)	UNDP	WB	MoEnv	AUB, Issam Fares, LEF, LEM, Waste Management Coalition	EU, EBRD, KfW, AICS		0
Electricity (4.3)	WB	ESCWA	MoEW, MoF, EDL, PCM	Issam Fares, Lebanese Foundation Renewable Energy, AUB	EU, KfW, Japan, France, EBRD, EIB, Italy, UK		2
Education (4.4)	MEHE	UNICEF		Universite Libanaise, MMKN, AUB, LAU, Qitabi,	EU, KfW	ESCWA, WB	1
Health (4.4)	EU	WHO	MoPH,	Under review	KfW, EIB, France, Italy		0
Water (4.4)	MoEW	EU		LEWAP, expert Faraj el-Awar	KfW, EIB, AICS, FCDO, EBRD	UNICEF, ESCWA	2

## Independent Oversight Board

The Independent Oversight Board (IOB) serves as an independent mechanism for representatives from civil society to provide broad oversight on 3RF implementation and hold 3RF stakeholders – government, civil society, development partners, and implementing organizations – accountable for overall 3RF progress. The IOB consists of six members representing a diversity of expertise related to the 3RF pillars, core sectors, and the functions of the IOB. IOB representation is at the individual level with the approval and endorsement of the organization the individual is associated with. Please see the selection criteria and process as well as the IOB’s detailed terms of reference as included in the calls for expression of interest published in [April 2021](#) and in January 2022 and in the announcement of the IOB CSOs’ selection published in [June 2021](#). The IOB issued a communique on [29 July 2021](#), followed by one on [7 September 2021](#), and another one [27 October 2021](#). The IOB also made interventions at the third CG meeting in [November 2021](#) as well as the fourth CG meeting. Furthermore, to ensure a smooth handover for future cohorts of IOB members, the current six members, in consultation with the 3RF Secretariat and Technical Team, drafted a governance charter to clarify the scope of their role.

IOB Member	Civil Society Organization
Diana Menhem	Kulluna Irada
Julien Courson	Lebanese Transparency Association
Roula Mikhael	Maharat Foundation
Grace Eid	Nusaned
Fadel Fakh	Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH)
Carine Tohme	Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights (ALDIC)

### Technical Team and Secretariat

The 3RF Technical Team composed of senior technical staff from the UN, EU, and WB follow through on CG guidance and provide technical guidance to the 3RF Secretariat in line with the vision of the 3RF Principals (UN Resident Coordinator, WB Regional Director of the Mashreq Department, and EU Ambassador). The Secretariat supports the day-to-day functioning of the 3RF, notably through support to the CG, coordination with 3RF stakeholders across the sectors, and monitoring 3RF implementation progress. Due to administrative delays, the Secretariat has only been fully staffed since February 2022; it consists of three full-time technical experts made available by the EU, UN, and WB.

### Lebanon Financing Facility Partnership Council and Management Team

The Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) is a 5-year multi-donor trust fund that was established in December 2020 following the launch of the 3RF. The LFF serves to pool grant resources and strengthen the coherence and coordination of financing in support of the immediate socioeconomic recovery of vulnerable people and businesses impacted by the Port of Beirut explosion. The LFF, administered by the WB, provides support to selected priorities of the 3RF.

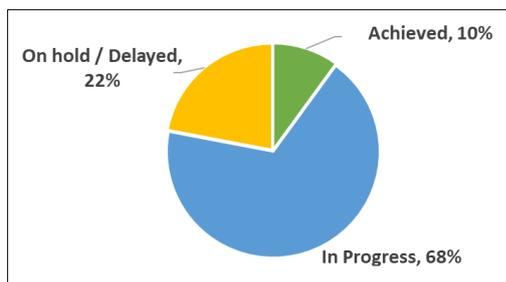
LFF at a Glance: Focus Areas and Objectives	
<b>Focus Area 1: Socioeconomic and Business Recover</b>	<b>Supporting Beirut’s Immediate Social Recovery Services:</b> To support the immediate social recovery needs of vulnerable groups following the Port of Beirut (PoB) explosion.
	<b>Environmental recovery, restoration and waste management:</b> To support emergency environment control measures in Beirut City from impacts of the August 2020 explosion and support planning for longer-term environmental restoration efforts.
	<b>Beirut housing rehabilitation and cultural heritage and creative industries recovery:</b> To support rehabilitation of prioritized historical housing for the most vulnerable people and to provide emergency support to creative practitioners and entities in the cultural sector in the PoB explosion areas.
	<b>Building Beirut Businesses Back Better (B5):</b> To support the recovery of targeted micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and ensure the sustainability of eligible microfinance institutions (MFI)s.
<b>Focus Area 2: Supporting Reform and Preparing for Reconstruction</b>	<b>Reconstruction with Integrity and Transparency:</b> To begin to establish a transparent, accountable, and inclusive policy and institutional framework for Lebanon’s reconstruction and recovery.
	<b>Reforming Lebanon’s Port Sector:</b> To support port sector reform in Lebanon and pave the way to rebuild a better, modern, and digital PoB.
<b>Focus Area 3: Coordination, Monitoring, Accountability, Oversight</b>	<b>Strengthening capacity and institutional arrangements for 3RF oversight, citizen engagement, and monitoring/communications:</b> To support the operationalization of the institutional, monitoring, and accountability arrangements related to the 3RF.
	<b>COVID 19 Vaccination Third-Party Monitoring:</b> To conduct independent third-party monitoring of the rollout of WB-financed vaccines in Lebanon to ensure safe, effective and equitable vaccine deployment.

The Partnership Council is the governing body for the LFF and is comprised of representatives from the Government of Lebanon, the WB, LFF donors (Canada, Denmark, EU, France, Germany, and Norway), as well as civil society (LLWB, LHDF, Association of Lebanese Industrialists); the UN has observer status within the Partnership Council since UN agencies are eligible to implement LFF-funded projects. The LFF Partnership Council has met three times, on 29 April 2021, 29 July 2021, and 5 April 2022 following- and in alignment with 3RF CG meetings. Trust fund operations and management are supported by a Program Management Team in Beirut. Please refer to the [LFF Annual Progress Report](#) (1 January – 31 December 2021), which focuses on the Fund’s operationalization and initial results, for further details.

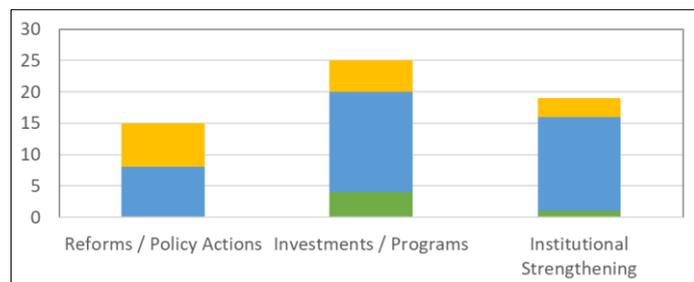
## PROGRESS ON 3RF COMMITMENTS

The 3RF differs from other response plans in that it was not set up with a full-fledged results-based monitoring system. Rather, the 3RF monitoring framework was devised to have a traffic-light system, to show whether the achievement of commitments is on ‘on hold / delayed’, ‘in progress’, or ‘achieved’, with reporting on progress aimed to be at a ‘meta-level’. This has proven to work relatively well for reform updates and to some extent for institutional strengthening. However, it has proven to be challenging regarding investments and programmes, because these are inevitably at an activity level, which the framework is not able to capture adequately, notwithstanding the fact that WGs’ members have not been able to capture all the main sector interventions, in particular those of the multitude of CSOs active at the grassroots level or interventions through diaspora support. Ensuring monitoring of the 3RF progress is fit for purpose will be among the tasks of the 3RF Technical Team and Secretariat in the coming months.

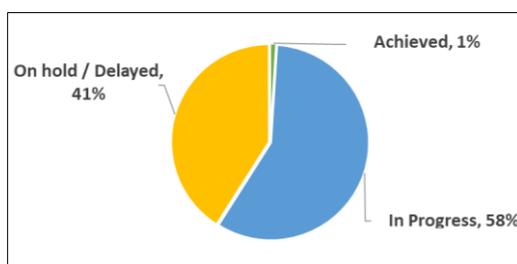
A snapshot of the general progress on 3RF commitments can be derived from the graphs below, which provide a breakdown per track and commitment type. Regarding the People-Centered Recovery Track, while there is progress on a considerable number of commitments, it is clear that only a small fraction is considered to be fully achieved. If we look at the break-down of the type of commitments, we can see that achievements are mainly at the programs and institutional strengthening level, although there are milestones that feed into reform and policy commitments which have been encouraging. When reviewing the Reform and Reconstruction Track, there are a concerning number of commitments that are either on-hold or delayed, with almost none achieved. However, there has been progress on milestones that feed into the commitments, which are highlighted in the detailed progress updates below.



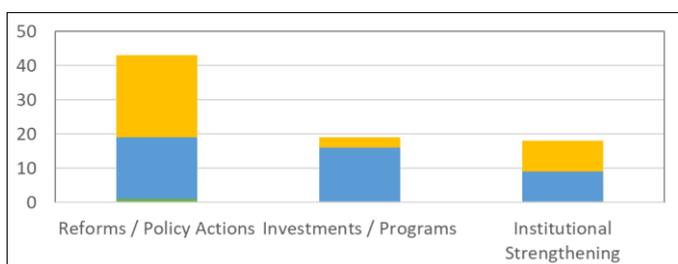
Progress: Recovery Commitments



Progress: Recovery Commitments by Type



Progress: Reform & Reconstruction Commitments



Progress: Reform & Reconstruction Commitments by Type

The sections that follow, provide an overview of the progress made to date on 3RF commitments across 17 sectors under the four strategic pillars of the 3RF. The progress updates refer to the commitments in general, and where relevant, also touch upon ‘milestones’ that the 3RF sector Working Groups agreed upon, as captured in the 3RF monitoring framework. The input for the progress was collected largely through the 3RF sector WG members and validated through the WG leads and co-leads.

## PILLAR 1 – IMPROVING GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### Public Financial Management (PFM) and Public Procurement

<b>Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening</b>
<b>Commitment 1.1.1:</b> Put in place enhanced fiduciary arrangements and oversight mechanisms for assistance funds to improve the transparency and accountability of the immediate recovery program. Ensure the inclusion of civil society and NGOs in the consultation and monitoring process.
<b>Progress:</b> The LFF oversight mechanisms are almost complete. Citizen engagement mechanisms are being developed. In addition, within each project’s financing, additional accountability measures are designed to meet specific sectoral risks.
<b>Commitment 1.1.2:</b> Publish a procurement plan, procurement notices, and future contract awards through an existing portal or new platform to improve transparency.
<b>Progress:</b> Central Tender Board portal is publishing notices of the activities that are under its mandate, as well as complying with the procurement plans.
<b>Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Action</b>
<b>Commitment 1.1.3:</b> Adopt the new Public Procurement Law based on an inclusive revision process. In a second step, implement regulations and secondary legislation, including the mandatory use of revised Standard Bidding Documents; help ensure that these are ratified quickly.
<b>Sector Highlight Progress:</b> Public Procurement Law (PPL) approved by Parliament and went into force end of July 2021. Implementation decrees remain to be issued. A ministerial Committee was formed to follow on the drafting of these decrees.
<b>Commitment 1.1.4:</b> Formalize the Public Investment Management (PIM) legal and regulatory framework, including guidelines and methodology, to improve efficiency in the use of reform and reconstruction funding.
<b>Progress:</b> The PIM work has been endorsed by the LFF partnership council as part of the governance pillar. The activities planned will be kicked off once the Request for Grant funding within the World Bank is approved and funding is released.
<b>Commitment 1.1.5:</b> Ratify the revised draft Court of Accounts Law to strengthen Lebanon’s existing oversight function and develop standards and manuals for performance and forensic audits.
<b>Progress:</b> The Cabinet of Ministers is in a caretaker status, and Parliament only convened in plenary session six times in 2021 and three times 2022. Thus, ratification of laws is delayed. Nevertheless, CoA is ready and has mobilized its team to start on building its capacity for forensic audits; awaiting LFF funding to kick off activities. Technical assistance for the Central Inspection (CI) is also included in the WB’s LFF-funded governance activities. Focus of Technical Assistance will be on strengthening CI’s capacity in financial investigation.
<b>Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening</b>
<b>Commitment 1.1.6:</b> Establish and operationalize a procurement regulatory body and a complaint handling unit to implement the new Procurement Law.
<b>Progress:</b> The draft PPL stipulates the creation of the Public Procurement Authority and the Procurement Review Board. In alignment with the draft PPL, TOR for both units are drafted as well as corresponding decrees under ongoing WB-funded activities.
<b>Commitment 1.1.7:</b> Undertake an inclusive process to develop and adopt a national public procurement strategy, including through professionalization of the workforce and advances in e-procurement.
The Public Procurement Strategy is developed and under final revision. Consultations will follow. In parallel, professionalization and e-procurement strategies are under development. All activities are under ongoing WB projects.
<b>Commitment 1.1.8:</b> Establish a PFM Steering Committee that includes the Ministry of Finance, BDL, line ministries, and key oversight entities to improve transparency, accountability, and civil society participation in the public finance consultation process.

**Progress:** PFM reforms necessitate a strong commitment from Governmental stakeholders. Unfortunately, within a caretaker status, very limited engagement is observed by counterparts on the reforms front.

## Anti-Corruption, Integrity, and Transparency

*“The 3RF Anti-Corruption WG can serve as a forum for civil society to express their anti-corruption concerns. The WG provides a structured setting for discussing issues and concerns that civil society organizations are likely to learn about well before donors and international organizations. WG discussions can serve as an anti-corruption “early warning” signal for the government and international community.”* Testimonial from Anti-Corruption WG (co-)leads

### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 1.2.1:** Fully implement the Access to Information Law and related Action Plan as part of the effective and coordinated implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

**Sector Highlight Progress:** Adoption of the National Action Plan to Implement the Right to Access to Information Law. Access to information law campaign designed and currently being executed by the Ministry of Information. Development of a [Citizen Guide: Access to Information Law](#) completed and deployment initiated. Ministries and public entities appointed focal points. At CG4, the IOB highlighted that the implementation of the Access to Information Law to reforms is crucial to enable more CSO involvement in the drafting of laws.

### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 1.2.2:** Design, integrate, and begin implementing corruption risk management programs that include an identification and assessment of key corruption risks, along with proposed risk management actions that will help prevent corruption during project implementation.

**Progress:** UNDP Corruption Risk Management tool is being applied in the Ministry of Social Affairs. UNDP and WB are exploring how to integrate risk management into the rehabilitation of the Beirut Port.

### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 1.2.3:** Guarantee an effective enabling environment for independent nongovernmental organizations by facilitating civil society’s access to information, officials, and Parliament; identify legal and regulatory obstacles that hinder civil society activities. Civil society should be empowered and invited to collaborate on monitoring and auditing of recovery and reconstruction activities.

**Progress:** EU and German funded programs designed to build capacity of civil society organizations for implementing and monitoring 3RF activities are underway. First [progress report](#) on the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2020-2025) developed, published, and discussed with civil society (UNDP).

### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 1.2.4:** Facilitate an inclusive process for comprehensive electoral reform to enhance women’s representation and participation.

**Progress:** At CG3, the CG called for free and fair elections, according to the electoral calendar provided by law and ensuring full representation and participation of women in the democratic process and in government. Parliamentary elections took place on 15 May 2022, according to the electoral calendar provided by law. There were 118 women candidates (16.4%), a 2% increase compared to previous elections. After the public inspection period, the final number of included 50.97% female voters, representing a 5.89% increase compared to 2018. The 2022 electoral legal framework remains largely unchanged from that of the previous elections.

**Commitment 1.2.5:** Increase transparency and efficiency, including through creation of an independent electoral management body.

**Progress:** At CG4, the CG underlined the importance of Lebanese decision-makers taking all measures and making available all necessary resources, including for the Supervisory Commission

for Elections, to ensure fair, free, and transparent elections. In response to an invitation by the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, the EU deployed an EU Election Observation Mission to observe the parliamentary election on 15 May 2022 and presented its [report](#) that includes 23 recommendations to improve the electoral process in Lebanon. The Parliament approved the proposed draft law sent by the Government to postpone Municipal Elections until May 2023.

**Commitment 1.2.6:** Select National Anti-Corruption Institution’s commissioners and staff; develop their capacities and fully fund the Institution to accelerate implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

**Progress:** The Judiciary elected 2 judges as its nominees for commissioners on June 9, 2021. The Cabinet of Ministers had to select 4 additional Commissioners from Lawyers Association, Auditors, Bank Oversight and OMSAR nominees. These members were appointed by the Council of Ministers on 24 January 2022. The first version of the Institution’s internal and financial regulations is drafted in the framework. At CG4, the CG called for the urgent mobilization of adequate resources for the National Anti-Corruption Commission to perform its duties.

**Commitment: 1.2.7:** Implement the Whistleblower Protection Law through adoption of decrees and standard operating procedures; conduct public awareness campaigns.

**Progress:** At CG3, civil society called on the government to enforce Law No. 83 on the Protection of Whistleblowers. Standard Operating Procedures for the whistle-blower reception office (hosted by the Ministry of Justice) completed and adopted by the attorney general.

### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 1.2.8:** Strengthen the independence and capacity of the Central Inspection and Court of Accounts by reviewing their legislative authorities and fully staffing these accountability institutions.

**Progress:** Legislative reforms to strengthen the Central Inspection and Court of Accounts remain stalled in the Parliament. The LFF Partnership Council has approved limited initial funding for WB technical assistance to help strengthen the capacity of the CoA (forensic audit) and the CI (financial inspections). Activities have been discussed and agreed with the CoA and CI. LFF funding made available in early November 2021. Expertise France is implementing a 3-year EU-funded: [Anti-Corruption and Transparency Project](#) (Act). Its three pillars are: 1) Supporting national effort on transparency and anticorruption; 2) Strengthening control bodies’ capacities to prevent and fight corruption; 3) Increasing public awareness on corruption and access to information.

## Justice and Human Rights

*“The Justice WG fills a wide gap in the current cooperation structure. It is slowly becoming the sole coordination structure for justice sector activities. With resources stretched, needs growing, and the situation becoming more critical by the day, the group has the opportunity to ensure alignment over one vision for the sector, one that can be informed by stakeholders’ knowledge and the current functional review being conducted by the EU.”* Testimonial from the Justice WG (co-)leads

### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 1.3.1:** Support the National Human Rights Commission with adequate resources to carry out its mandate to independently monitor the post-blast interventions of stakeholders, safeguard the rights of blast survivors, and identify systemic or widespread issues leading to human rights violations.

**Progress:** With support of UNDP/OHCHR, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been monitoring the human rights situation post-blast and the Commission published a report with its findings in July 2021. UNDP is supporting the development of the NHRC's website, to strengthen its human rights promotion capacity. The EU, UNDP and OHCHR have initiated additional support to NHRC to increase capacity for both promotion and protection of human rights outside the scope of post-blast monitoring. The budget has been prepared by NHRC and is included in the draft 2022 budgetary law. Until it is voted, NHRC has no funds. In addition to the vote of the budget, NHRC needs its internal regulations and financial regulations (by-laws) to be ratified by the Council of

Ministers. Without such ratification, it will be incapable of accessing resources in the budget even if voted. Additional needs and opportunities for capacity building are currently being identified, considering the current operational and financial constraints. In this regard, a coordination structure has been established (UNDP, OHCHR, EU) and meets regularly. More generally, the NHRC still lacks a budget, an office and dedicated staff. Despite several attempts by NHRC leadership, government has yet to provide the institution with adequate premises.

**Commitment 1.3.2:** Establish a program to provide comprehensive legal aid services to vulnerable individuals and groups, including women and children, in reconstruction areas. Assistance should include legal awareness and information sessions, legal advice, and representation, as well as alternative dispute resolution services.

**Sector Highlight Progress:** Programs/activities supported by UNDP/BBA/USJ, EU, UNHCR, UN Women, IOM, and UNESCO/UNODC/UNFPA have allowed for over 9,000 individuals to be provided with free and comprehensive legal aid services. With the needs shifting from immediate response to the PoB blast to institutionalization of legal aid in Lebanon, more focus will be put on the efforts spearheaded under the Access to Justice Working Group, led by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), and including both Bar Associations, UNDP and UNHCR. The Access to Justice WG is developing and piloting a national strategy for legal aid. Three Helpdesks have been established for the moment, with an expansion in the works.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 1.3.3:** Adopt the draft legislation that would strengthen the judiciary’s independence, through a transparent process inclusive of civil society.

**Progress:** The draft Law on the Independence of Judicial Courts has been finalized by parliamentary sub-Committee and transferred to Parliament plenary. In February 2022 Parliamentary session, the draft Law was to be put to a vote without stakeholders having the chance to review it. A one-month delay was granted to allow for comments.

Following a request by the MoJ, the Venice Commission conducted a visit to Lebanon on 26-27 April and adopted a public [opinion](#) during its 17-18 June 2022 plenary session. According to the Commission, the draft Law goes in the right direction and may potentially reinforce judicial independence in Lebanon in line with European standards and best practices. However, it notes several areas where the text needs to be reinforced. The Commission encourages the legislature to ensure meaningful dialogue amongst different political forces and to involve in this dialogue the civil society and the main stakeholders (judges, prosecutors, and lawyers).

UNDP is continuing to advocate with stakeholders to create a space for an inclusive and participatory discussion around judiciary independence legislation. While stakeholders have been provided with opportunity to provide comments on a previous version of the draft Law, the opacity of the process remains cause for concern, and the draft continues to be questioned. At CG2, CG3, and CG4, the CG reiterated its call for inclusive exchange of views between stakeholders before the adoption of the Law, with principles safeguarding the separation of powers.

Draft law on the independence of administrative courts: the law has been transferred to the Justice and Administration Commission of Parliament for examination. As was the case for the judiciary draft, a sub-commission has been established to develop the text. This can be cause for concern, as previous experience has demonstrated a lack of inclusiveness and transparency. It is at this stage unclear if the support of the Venice Commission will also be requested by the MoJ on this text.

**Commitment 1.3.4:** Amend relevant provisions of the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Law on Judicial Organization to empower the judiciary to carry out its mission and shield it from political interference and undue influence

**Progress:** Clarity on the content of the draft legislation mentioned above (Commitment 1.3.3) to inform the extent of necessary amendments.

#### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 1.3.5:** Strengthen bodies overseeing the justice system through objective and merit-based processes for selecting and evaluating judges, as well as enhanced management and oversight tools; provide them with sufficient resources to implement their mandate to safeguard the independence and effectiveness of the judiciary.

**Progress:** UNDP is supporting the High Judicial Council (HJC) on the development of a transparent and efficient evaluation procedure for judges. A first draft has been completed by the dedicated working group and is to be presented to the HJC leadership. UNDP is also supporting the development of a management database tool for the HJC. With regards to the inspection authority, UNDP has initiated preliminary work on revising the inspection methodology. This process is delayed by the lack of availability of the Inspection Authority leadership. The WB has produced a series of Issue Notes to generate debate and discussions on improving access, efficiency, and quality of Lebanon’s justice system. EU has a forthcoming program on justice sector support aiming to respond to 3RF priorities. UNDP is expanding its support to the sector.

## PILLAR 2 – JOBS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

*“Having this variety in the composition of the working group is an opportunity to have more substantive discussions and to align implementation with government priorities, to communicate clear and unified message, and to better position the pillar in terms of priority vis-à-vis other pillars.”*  
 Testimonial from Private Sector WG (co-)leads

### Restore Business Activities and Preserve Jobs

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 2.1.1:** Launch short-term employment programs for provision of (i) cash support through cash-for-work, to support labor-intensive reconstruction activities, and (ii) intensive and quick trainings, to develop skills in relevant areas and professions. Special attention should be given to vulnerable groups, including women, youth, migrant workers, who have been hit hard during the crisis and are the most likely to face unemployment.

**Sector Highlight Progress:** 83 shops rehabilitated and equipped in Karantina. 102 short-term jobs generated through the rehabilitation of the shops. 231 beneficiaries, of which 16 percent women, reached through the interventions in Karantina (16% women). 64 businesses received cash assistance support (through Al Majmoua) (UNDP). Generated to date 7,684 workdays benefitting 287 Lebanese and Syrian Workers on rehabilitation of a Police Station in Karantina (ILO).

**Commitment 2.1.2:** Provide businesses affected by the explosion with (a) grants to cover immediate reconstruction needs and (b) technical assistance to help them build back better, through the integration of environmental sustainability and technology transfer, the promotion of a better working environment, intangible needs including legal aid, and business development support services.

**Progress:** The LFF-funded Building Beirut Business Back & Better (B5) supports the recovery of MSMEs and sustains the operations of eligible MFIs through the provision of grant support. The fund activities are also expected to preserve private sector jobs. The current target size of the B5 Fund is US\$25 million, with the objective of supporting around 8,500 damaged MSMEs. As a first phase, the B5 Fund will prioritize support to micro- and small enterprises (around 4,000 MSE) and MFIs. Based on available funds at LFF, the fund will expand. The 3RF estimated the needs for MSMEs grants and TA at \$59,000. UNIDO project is under preparation to provide support for SMEs and start-ups mainly in the agro-food business, through technology improvement, innovation, technical skills and adoption of circular economy principles within the 3RF. One SME in the construction value chain (wood works) affected by the blast was supported as “anchor” to facilitate construction skills transfer to a number of other SMEs affected by the seaport explosion and beyond (completed). Technology transfer and capacity building development. Support aims at sustaining productive jobs and improving the manufacturing capacity of small industries affected by Beirut blast (UN). Berytech was contracted to implement an initiative that will help MSMEs affected by the Beirut explosion in the hospitality, design and crafts, food production and retail sectors. The project targets 40/50 SMEs in Karantina, Rmeil, Medawar and Geitawi.

<p><b>Commitment 2.1.3:</b> Provide liquidity to microfinance institutions to (i) channel funds to affected microenterprises; (ii) provide liquidity to MFIs (Micro-Finance Institutions) to disburse new loans to existing or new clients, and to reschedule the existing.</p>
<p><b>Progress:</b> The B5 will provide self-sustainability grants to MFIs to help them sustain their activities by covering part of their operational expenses over 6 to 12 months. The B5 has allocated \$7.5 M to support MFIs. The estimated needs in 3RF for the MFIs amount to \$20M, however these also include liquidity to MFIs to refinance portfolio of loans and extend new loans.</p>
<p><b>Commitment 2.1.4:</b> Support key value chains at firm and industry levels. This will include undertaking value chain assessments, which will identify the technical interventions required to strengthen affected sectors (e.g., construction value chains to meet reconstruction needs, cultural and tourism value chains to reposition the area as an attractive destination for visitors and tourists).</p>
<p><b>Progress:</b> No progress to report.</p>
<p><b>Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions</b></p>
<p><b>Commitment 2.1.5:</b> Develop a National Employment Policy for recovery to address employment and labor market challenges. It will include policy actions that address the repercussions of the multiple crises, in addition to addressing long-standing structural employment challenges.</p>
<p><b>Progress:</b> An employment diagnostic analysis study is being implemented. However, the actual policy development and adoption is likely to be delayed in a context of a prolonged caretaker government. As soon as the diagnostic draft is ready (expected next month), related capacity building activities will be initiated and consultations with the social partners will be launched once circumstances become enabling to implement these activities. Also, the WB is developing a comprehensive analysis on the macro, supply (individual level) and demand (firm level) sides of jobs. The analytical report is expected to be finalized by December 2021. Based on this analysis, an evidence-based Jobs Strategy is planned to be developed. This proposed work will provide the Government of Lebanon with an analytical framework for identifying policies and programs that aim to build a resilient economy while ensuring Lebanon’s economic recovery. This work is funded by the PROSPECT partnership and is conducted in collaboration with the ILO.</p>
<p><b>Track 2 – Investments / Programmes</b></p>
<p><b>Commitment 2.1.6:</b> Provide businesses affected by the explosion with concessional loans to support rehabilitation and restoring business activities. The financial support will cover both hard and soft costs (works, equipment, and working capital).</p>
<p><b>Progress:</b> IFC is in the process of setting up a financing facility that will provide blended concessional finance through various instruments including first loss risk sharing facilities and co-financing (debt or equity) instruments that support private sector investments.</p>

## PILLAR 3 – SOCIAL PROTECTION, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND CULTURE

### Social Protection

<p><b>Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions</b></p>
<p><b>Commitment 3.1.1:</b> Prepare the 2021 budget and incorporate a strong program for social protection and inclusion; establish a unified registry of social assistance programs and put in place grievance redress, verification, and monitoring and evaluation systems.</p>
<p><b>Progress:</b> The 2022 draft Budget has been prepared and will be an emergency budget. From preliminary analysis, the budget does not contain needed reforms in social protection and inclusion. It includes a large program of cash transfers of one-month base salary for 12 months to all public sector employees (civil, military, security personnel and retirees) - equivalent to 1% of GDP. The budget includes a small allocation for the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP) as in previous years (social workers salary), and \$350 m for National Social Security Fund (NSSF) arrears. Regarding unified registry, good progress has been made including commitment from GoL. A first-time online Intake and Registration Platform (IRP) was developed and launched in December 2021 representing major step towards a unified social registry. The IRP is being used to identify potential beneficiaries</p>

for Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) and Broad Coverage Cash Transfer (BCCT) (Ration Card) with a view of becoming the single gateway for all SSN programs in Lebanon. A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for NPTP was developed in MoSA and is in the process of becoming operational. Verification processes have also been established in MoSA and PCM. M&E systems have still not been developed.

**Commitment 3.1.2:** Identify fiscal space in the annual budgets for social protection, particularly for increasing expenditure allocations for social assistance programs; and plan to ensure the short-term financial viability of existing social security institutions.

**Progress:** On social protection resources foreseen in the 2022 emergency budget: the budget was drafted by MoF and is currently discussed by the parliament. Expenditure review of social protection sector is completed by the UN (ILO and UNICEF) with *Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan*. Regarding a social protection strategy being put in place, the WB is finalizing the Public Finance Review exercise and results will be made public soon. It provides concrete short, medium, and long-term recommendations for social protection programs. The 2023 'regular' budget should have similar provisions.

**Commitment 3.1.3:** Provide a new strategic direction for the reform of price subsidies (including electricity, fuel, pharmaceutical products, and subsidized housing loans); analyze the impact of removing subsidies on prices and well-being; design an effective transition for reform that promotes progressive fiscal resource use while implementing mitigation measures to protect the poor, the vulnerable, and the middle class.

**Progress:** Subsidies were largely removed by Q3 2021. A reform plan was prepared by the Diab government and Parliament passed the Ration Card Law 230 in July 2021. The removal of subsidies without a broader financial and economic plan as well as social protection measures led to increased vulnerabilities. Some analysis on impacts was completed (lack of micro data however hampers solid impact analysis). Registration for the Ration Card (BCCT) started in December 2021 and closed on 31 January 2022 with more than 580,000 households registered (for both ESSN and BCCT). GoL has officially requested financing from the WB for the ration card.

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 3.1.4:** Scale up social assistance interventions and their systems to alleviate the impact of the explosion in affected areas through cash transfer programs, with a focus on economically vulnerable individuals (particularly older persons, persons with disabilities, women, and children); accelerate the expansion of the National Poverty Targeting Program (NPTP).

**Sector Highlight Progress:** Blast Emergency Cash Transfer was completed by Q1 2021 and reached its target of 80,000 individuals in vulnerable groups. The design of the Social Grants programme is underway, with the Disability Allowance due for launch early 2022. UNICEF's child grant known as *Haddi* also began registration in May and was launched in June 2021. The programme is now reaching 115,000 vulnerable individuals with monthly cash transfer in US\$. Expansion of NPTP with funding from EU, Germany, Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, and Norway, and via WFP implementation, is continuing and has so far reached 36,000 families, with the aim of reaching 75,000 families. Regarding social grants based on lifecycle vulnerabilities, consultations on the design of the National Social Pension scheme underway.

**Commitment 1.1.5:** Extend an injury/death compensation scheme for those affected by the blast and not covered by insurance.

**Progress:** On hold due to no resource allocated for technical assistance in this area.

**Commitment 1.1.6:** Establish a multi-stakeholder platform to promote coordination, cohesion, and collaboration across various actors in the social protection sector.

**Progress:** The SSN Partners Forum has been expanded to cover the entire sector of Social Protection, in line with the 3RF Pillar III. The forum met three times, in November 2021, Jan 2022 and June 2022, and will meet regularly to ensure coordination among the Government, donors, UN, WB, and NGO actors. The Forum will be the place to discuss implementation of the Social Protection strategy put forward by the government. For social protection, two existing platforms for civil society have finalized position papers.

**Commitment 3.1.7:** Support government to prioritize investments to develop social assistance systems, including grievance and redress systems, and verification; put in place anti-corruption measures to ensure that the governance of any social protection program is transparent, participatory, evidence-based, and sustainable; invest in data systems, registries, and development of a unified registry for all social protection programs.

**Progress:** Under the ESN, the development of robust social assistance systems is supported and under implementation. Achieving these commitments is also the objective of the EU's support to the NPTP and the roll out of the social grants programme. The DAEM Intake and Registration Platform - on the IMPACT Platform - under the supervision of the Central Inspection - was developed with technical assistance from the WB as a unified entry point for citizens for social assistance. Development was financed from the ESN as building this system represent an entry point towards building the unified social registry. However, a unified registry is needed ultimately overall for linking all programmes, not only for the anti-poverty programmes

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 3.1.8:** Finalize and approve the National Social Protection Strategy, adopting a rights-based, comprehensive, and inclusive approach – including linkages to the social assistance system that is in place for refugees; address the need for universal access through a combination of contributory and non-contributory mechanisms, encompassing the five social protection components listed above.

**Progress:** The National Social Protection Strategy has been drafted and submitted to Prime Minister upon which a technical committee involving key line ministries discussed and approved the Strategy Document. The ways in which the strategy should be implemented are still being developed in the ministries. Work to support implementation of the Social Protection Strategy (once finalized and adopted) will take place in the aforementioned Social Protection Coordination Forum (SPCF).

**Commitment 3.1.9:** Finalize reforms of public sector pensions to reduce inequities across social insurance schemes and enhance long-term sustainability.

**Progress:** A reform plan was developed a year ago by WB and MoF. It is currently being updated with new data and macro indicators.

**Commitment 3.1.10:** Expand the adequacy and comprehensiveness of social insurance benefits of the National Social Security Fund (end-of-service reform and introduction of unemployment insurance)

**Progress:** A draft law for unemployment insurance has been produced by MoL and NSSF and debate in the relevant parliamentary committee started in Jan 2022. The draft law for end-of-service indemnity (EOSI) is now complete (pending institutional chapter, which is now being considered by the parliamentary committee). A mechanism for transitional arrangements for short-term fixes to the EOSI scheme under discussion.

**Commitment 3.1.11:** Develop a plan to ensure financial sustainability of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and extend contributory benefits, following an external audit; reform NSSF governance.

**Progress:** A financial assessment of the NSSF has been completed and will produce an analysis of asset-liability match and financial outlook for the next 5 years. Recommendations of the financial assessment are being discussed in the SPCF.

**Commitment 3.1.12:** Establish the foundations of a social assistance system by (i) providing cash transfers at scale to extremely poor households through the ongoing scale-up of the National Poverty Targeting Program and forthcoming Emergency Social Safety Net; (ii) introducing social grants to address life-cycle vulnerabilities (old age, disability, and child-related vulnerability, with progressive implementation); (iii) linking social assistance to other services, as well as to social assistance for refugees, which needs to be expanded to meet increased needs; and (iv) expanding financial access to health and education.

**Progress:** (i) The NPTP is being scaled up from the current 36,000 households to an expected 75,000 households by the beginning of 2022. ESN has been approved by Parliament and registration took place between 1 December 2021 and 31 January 2022. Payments for first batch of ESN beneficiaries expected to start early March and to reach all 150,000 extreme poor households by June 2022. (ii)

The Social Grants programme is about to start with the Disability Allowance due for launch early 2022 as design work is being finalized. The programme integrates a component of linkages to other complementary services. (iii) the Haddi child grant was launched in June 2021 and now reaches over 115,000 vulnerable individuals. Provision of protection services by UNHCR in the affected blast area through regular partners, regardless of whether the beneficiaries have been personally affected by the blast. (iv) Consultations on design of national Social Pension scheme underway. (v) Financial access to health and education is still limited

**Commitment 3.1.13:** Review and expand spending on social welfare services; rationalize and reallocate in line with the assessed, unmet needs of individuals and households for preventive and specialized care as well as case management.

**Progress:** Expenditure review of social protection sector is completed by the UN (ILO and UNICEF) with *Institut des Finances Basil Fuleihan*.

#### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 3.1.14:** Recommence institutional coordination at the policy level; within the purview of the Government Inter- ministerial Committee on Social Policy, oversee completion and implementation of the national social protection strategy and financing plan, as well as policy and program monitoring.

**Progress:** Inter-ministerial meetings have been held regularly to review the National Social Protection Strategy.

## Social Cohesion, Inclusion, and Gender

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 3.2.1:** Support the immediate provision of, and access to, protection and social welfare services for vulnerable groups affected by the blast. This includes case management, protection, prevention, response, and psychosocial support; sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response services; child and older person care services; and access to safe spaces. Interventions will address barriers that affect marginalized groups' equal access to assistance, such as strengthening outreach.

**Progress:** There are many CSOs providing services throughout the country which should be mapped and captured through the WG. There remains limited governmental/public support for these critical protection and social services, and these services continue to be the leading responsibilities of Lebanese and international organizations. In 2021, the KfW-funded UNDP initiative '[The Living of Al-Karantina](#)' supported over 547 people through playback theater performances, 254 youth through the drama performance sessions, and 71 children through expressive arts sessions in Karantina. The LFF project [Support for Social Recovery Needs of Vulnerable Groups in Beirut](#) was launched in February 2022, implemented by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to support survivors of SGBV, people suffering from deteriorated psycho-social wellbeing, persons with disabilities and older persons. Emergency support services are being provided by UN Women to families and individuals including women, girls, LGBTQIA+ community members, people with disabilities and migrant workers. With EU-funding, in addition to the GBV prevention services, psycho-social support and child protection prevention activities given through Social Development (SDCs) to refugees and hosting communities in vulnerable areas. Oxfam conducted a [research study](#) aiming to understand the impact of the series of crises on the livelihoods and wellbeing of queer individuals in Lebanon, mapping available and needed services and resources, and generating recommendations to guide and support future efforts targeting the LGBTQI community in Lebanon.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 3.2.2:** Establish a multi-stakeholder platform to promote coordination, cohesion, and collaboration across various actors in the social protection sector.

**Progress:** The Social Cohesion, Inclusion and Gender (SCIG) Working Group convened for the first time on 05.11.2021 and has since convened again on 20.01.2022, 10.05.2022, and 04.07.2022. It continues to circulate information relevant to the 3RF priorities between the WG members. Priority of the WG for 2022 is to coordinate with other relevant WGs, especially the 3RF Social Protection

WG and other Gender WGs, and convene thematic WG meetings with additional invitees where relevant (e.g., from NCLW, government ministries, donors, and the international community) dedicated to each commitment outlined here.

## Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 3.2.3:** Pass legislative and policy reforms to reduce the structural barriers that prevent marginalized groups from equally accessing services, assistance, and human rights. Pursue urgent reforms to enable a political and social environment that is socially inclusive, cohesive, and gender equitable, such as passage of the anti-sexual harassment law; repeal Article 534 of the penal code to tackle homophobic and gender-based discrimination; reform the Kafala system and implement the standard unified contract by the Ministry of Labor.

**Sector Highlight: Progress:** In December 2020, the Lebanese Parliament passed a landmark law against sexual harassment (Law #205). The WB supported the passing of this law by working through its Mashreq Gender Facility with the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) and other stakeholders. The law criminalizes sexual harassment and creates a special fund at the Ministry of Social Affairs for the rehabilitation of the victims. NCLW has organized round tables and workshops with judges and public prosecutors across Lebanon to raise awareness about the law and proper ways of implementing it. The Center for Inclusive Business and Leadership (CIBL) for Women along with its partner network including UN Women, the Government of Canada, UNDP, the Government of Sweden, The Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB), ABAAD and Seeds for Legal Initiatives have been working to raise awareness on what constitutes sexual harassment and gender-based violence, interpret the law for the general public. They have also been actively working with Lebanese employers to support them in applying the law through supporting the drafting of internal policies and ultimately to its the implementation and enforcement in the workplace. Following the adoption of the anti-sexual harassment law by the parliament, work might need to focus on adopting a holistic approach to properly combat sexual harassment including social and educational angle.

In CG3, the CG called upon Parliament to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In April 2022, the Parliament adopted a law authorizing the Government to start the ratification of the CPRD – no further progress to report on.

The [Feminist Civil Society Platform](#) issued a charter of demands calling for a gendered blast response plan as well as a list of legislative and policy reforms for a fair and equitable space for women in public life. With EU funding, a [legal study](#) that analyzes the jurisprudence under Law 293/2014 on domestic violence and of various Lebanese religious courts pertaining to family law matters with elements of domestic violence was conducted and published.

**Commitment 3.2.4:** Adopt an inclusive fee waiver for obtaining and renewing temporary legal residency permits for refugees, to enable their access to services and civil documentation.

**Progress:** Based on a government decision, GSO issued a circular stating that Syrians in Lebanon who are holders of a valid UNHCR certificate may be granted temporary residency, free of charge and renewable several times, and not subject to late fees, provided they meet certain conditions - i) UNHCR certificate prior to 1/1/2015 ii) have not previously obtained residency based on pledge of responsibility (work or personal) or through title deed or rental contract. Way forward, all Syrians registered with UNHCR should be allowed to obtain a free legal residency regardless of whether they previously renewed their residency based on sponsorship.

**Commitment 3.2.5:** Develop reforms initiatives that institutionalize the right to know, right to justice, and right to reparations: these must be developed to help deal with consequences of the explosion.

**Progress:** Reforms still not adopted. Though the National Commission for Missing and Disappeared has been established to follow up on the implementation of Law 105. While this is for the missing during the Lebanese civil war and gives the right to know to victims' families, but it does prepare the ground for the spread of the culture of transitional justice in the country. The WG needs to agree on milestones linked to this commitment.

## Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 3.2.6:** Promote the sustainability of service provision by reinforcing the role of the Ministry of Social Affairs and its Social Development Centers (SDCs) in providing social welfare and protection services; invest in capacity- building for local government and civil society organizations and systematize linkages between SDCs and CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) for more efficient delivery of services.

**Progress:** MoSA and its SDCs have been severely impacted by the multiple crises in Lebanon. The pandemic, fuel crisis, devaluation of salaries contributes to a lack of staff presence in the SDCs. The lack of electricity impacts the functioning of the SDCs and the maintenance of equipment. With EU-funding, the Italian Cooperation are working on the development of the SDCs' e-networking system, which entails the digitalization of all SDCs' data, the aim is to link all SDCs with MoSA's department of SDCs. To support this, it is exploring setting up a mechanism to help the SDCs generate electricity with solar panels. GIZ has a project supporting 10 selected SDCs in becoming more capable to respond to the needs of GBV survivors, including through safe spaces. Given the impact of the crisis on MOSA and SDC staff, large investment in service delivery strengthening for the SDCs is on-hold. Thorough mapping and assessment are a need, to understand the best way forward for this intervention. Projects and efforts are on-going. Multiple NGOs, INGOs and other international institutions are continuing to support MoSA to provide essential service delivery and build the capacities of public officials to respond to the crisis through staffing, capacity building, and equipment. Supporting service provision and capacity interventions through MoSA has decreased with the wage reduction of public servants, closure of SDCs due to strikes and COVID measures. Additionally, a decision was issued by the Minister of Social Affairs to reduce the number of SDC to from 228 to 140 in line with demographic changes – provided that the decision is put into effect on 1/1/2023. As a result, it seems that more and more NGOs are providing services in their own centers, with less coordination with SDCs. This also means that in many cases the role of NGOs is being conflated with that of SDCs and there is a need to support MoSA in defining the role of SDCs versus the role of CSOs, as there may sometimes be an overlap in terms of services.

#### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 3.2.7:** Build the capacity of institutions and civil society to restore community-state relations, reduce community tensions, support victims' rights and reparations, and protect vulnerable groups; support existing dialogue platforms that work to foster social stability and cohesion at the national and local levels.

**Progress:** Work on social cohesion continued both at local and national level through locally lead initiatives as well as through media and education. In July 2021, UNDP published a [research study](#) analyzing the impact of the Beirut Port explosions and the immediate response on intra-Lebanese and inter-communal tension dynamics. UN Women and 6 CSOs engaged 1,559 community members residing in blast-affected areas through [dialogue platforms and community groups](#) that advocate for the protection and inclusion of vulnerable groups and resolve disputes. The EU has launched a call (6 mil. Euro) with the aim to reduce social and political tension and foster social cohesion within and among Lebanese communities at community level. It aims to support and enhance the 3RF process through the promotion of social cohesion by and amongst citizens and groups in Lebanon.

## Culture

*"The Culture WG can help build capacity of municipalities and other GoL partners through its commitments on data collection and sharing, organizing exchanges on good practices on topical issues, including external expertise."* Testimonial from Culture WG (co-)leads

#### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 3.3.1:** Develop a strategy and detailed assessment on urgent measures for conservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings and conservation guidelines.

**Progress:** A preliminary strategy on interventions of urgent protection and inventory for tangible cultural assets were completed with UNESCO, DGA, BBHR20 and BHI. UNESCO-DGA 3D georeferenced urban and built heritage modelling was launched and is being fed with regular

updates (the modelling includes technical surveys, including those conducted on specific buildings). UNESCO is currently training DGA staff to process the data collected and operate the related platform and equipment through the implementation of a dedicated capacity-building programme. The LFF-financed “[Beirut Housing Rehabilitation and Culture and Creative Industries \(CCI\) Recovery](#)” Project was signed by WB and PM Mikati on 25.02.2022. The project includes rehabilitation of residential heritage buildings and cultural and creative industries in Beirut. It is currently conducting an assessment to prioritize the most damaged residential buildings with heritage value that will be rehabilitated. This assessment is conducted through visual inspection and does not consider DGA classified cultural heritage building. The project is since underway and as part of it will develop a greater urban recovery strategy involving a holistic, long-term multi-sectoral approach integrating heritage conservation and sensitivity with a historic urban landscape lens. A ToR is being defined for the setting up of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) made up of the Government institutions, academia, CSO, OEA, etc., led by the 3RF Housing WG.

### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 3.3.2:** Implement shoring up, sheltering and urgent protection measures to prevent collapse of heritage buildings, as well as immediate conservation and safeguarding to avoid loss of tangible and intangible assets; involve all stakeholders, including civil society organizations.

**Progress:** Stakeholders’ mobilization, including pro-bono operating private sector, NGOs, and youth volunteering-led initiatives enabled to almost complete the emergency phase of urgent propping, sheltering and emergency consolidations of heritage buildings at risk of collapse (65 buildings), with several minor repair conducted at heritage buildings. In total, [BHI](#) completed 22 interventions on 18 buildings with the support of [ALIPH](#), and with BBHR20 as the consultants. ALIPH sheltered 12 historical houses. These mainstreamed efforts of various operating partners on the ground have been conducted in coordination with the DGA and local authorities. UNESCO-DGA have dealt particularly with 13 heavily structurally affected buildings. 25 heritage buildings are renovated by different private initiatives and NGOs. 2,000 heritage housing units are renovated in coordination with DGA and local authorities in Medawar, Rmeil, and Achrafieh. Remaining rehabilitation priorities should be identified and addressed with the support of the LFF financed project in coordination with CSOs and DGA. The LFF WB project, “Beirut Housing Rehabilitation and Culture and Creative Industries (CCI) Recovery” implemented by UN Habitat including a UN-to-UN agreement with UNESCO is underway to finance the rehabilitation of approximately the 30 most damaged residential buildings with heritage value that may have hosted vulnerable people and 65 cultural and creative industry entities and 85 practitioners for emergency support. The project will rehabilitate buildings of cultural value (non-official cultural classifications conducted by UN Habitat, NGO and CSOs) that are not included in the Cultural Heritage classification of UNESCO and DGA. The project includes the setup of a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for both project components including multiple stakeholders such as civil society organizations participation.

**Commitment 3.3.3:** Carry out emergency management measures, inventories of tangible and intangible heritage assets, and immediate conservation measures to avoid loss.

**Progress:** A quick damage assessment on intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the damaged areas has been conducted with urgent needs identified, and activities devised for their rehabilitation. BHI developed published, and presented online with architects, restorers and engineers [two manuals](#) on restoration and conservation methods of traditional and modern heritage respectively. ICH still requires a systematic assessment to inform/strengthen community-led mechanisms and initiatives. As mentioned above, the Housing and CCI recovery project will include a visual assessment to identify the most damaged residential buildings with heritage value (unclassified) that will be rehabilitated.

**Commitment 3.3.4:** Assist artists, cultural producers, and community-led initiatives to restart cultural activities and production in public and cultural spaces that serve affected communities (through grants and priority rehabilitation and refurbishment of galleries, workshops, theaters, and other spaces); help cultural activities and CCI businesses resume operation, in temporary venues as needed, particularly to protect their high share of skilled youth employment.

**Progress:** The 3-day Terdad Festival of public cultural activities in Mar Mikhael, Gemmayze, Karantina, and Sursock has taken place supporting 15 cultural NGOs, 200 artists, technicians, & cultural agents and followed by 3,200+ participants. Through the festival, UNESCO provided urgent financial assistance to 5 local cultural organizations involved in different sectors of Culture, who in their turn supported local artists and other organizations through a coproduction program. The festival included 16 artistic shows and 11 training workshops. Some activities continued after the festival, with six additional artistic performances & assistance to artists and students in artistic fields to produce their work.

Only little support for CCIs has so far been possible (i.e., UNESCO, Goethe Institute, Prince Claus Foundation) due to limited funding, compared to the needs identified to revitalize the sector. GIZ and the Goethe Institut have combined efforts in response to the PoB explosion under the global project "Cultural and Creative Industries" by establishing a *Lebanese Design Fund*. Among other things, affected designers received financial support to implement their discontinued design initiatives and projects or for their contribution to the reconstruction in Beirut. Together with a local partner, an incubator programme for design start-ups is also being developed and implemented. This enables participating creatives to strengthen their business ideas and at the same time supports them with a scholarship.

The LFF Housing and CCI project includes a dedicated component on emergency support for CCI recovery that will provide grants to eligible CCI practitioners and entities affected by the Port of Beirut explosion. WB has worked with UN Habitat in conducting a preliminary survey of CCI practitioners and entities in the 5 km affected by the Port of Beirut explosion while UNESCO has completed and published a detailed mapping of all CCI actors including the private section within the 1 km perimeter of the blast. Approx. 1,300 CCI actors affected by the Beirut Port Explosion will be supported through the LFF Project.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 3.3.5:** Deliver capacity building and technical assistance to enforce adequate legal measures to prevent demolition and to enable municipal staff to inspect and enforce guidelines; establish a municipality One-Stop-Shop with sub-windows (e.g., building permits, incentives).

**Progress:** The urban heritage attributes of Beirut's damaged areas have been identified in order to map all heritage assets in preparation for the action plan as per the extended transitional Law 194 – Article 7 entrusting MoC/DGA to elaborate the protection and rehabilitation plan of the damaged area. The Ministry of Culture and DGA is provided adequate technical assistance in order to devise the action plan as per law 194. Under the LFF WB project the one-stop-shop initiative is being considered to be implemented as part of the overall urban recovery strategy. The WB LFF project aims to strengthen the administrative capacity of the affected municipalities with various activities including:

- Facilitate and fast-track permit requests (expropriation, historic buildings, etc.) made to the PCU through a pathway to be determined, ensuring speed, transparency and efficiency;
- Establish an up-to-date georeferenced database of ongoing projects, pipeline projects and identify needs for future projects;
- Create and upkeep a data repository (collected by the Forward Emergency Room (FER), the UNESCO 3D model, UNOPS, UNICEF, AUB/BUL, Beirut City Profile, Neighborhood profile and others) to be used for project implementation, through an official request made to the Unit.
- Consolidate with the Beirut Built Environment GIS Database of the Beirut Urban Lab with additional data collected from CSOs and public agencies;
- Monitoring and compliance and update database, comply working on specifications of materials, development of methodology of implementation and;
- Build the capacity of the administration, including cadastral maps upgrading and the digitization of administrative procedures.

**Commitment 3.3.6:** Put in place mechanisms and develop local initiatives to promote and support community engagement for coordination, advocacy, and communication.

**Progress:** The 3D georeferenced documentation on the damaged areas and the mapping data produced by the AUB Beirut Urban Lab were submitted by UNESCO to the DGA as the main beneficiary. These data are available upon request from DGA, the large file size prohibits publication online. Under the LFF project: an extensive outreach and communication campaign (Stakeholder Engagement Plan - SEP), will be conducted to reach out to cultural entities and practitioners operating in Beirut and the rehabilitation of housing program, its features and grievance and redress mechanism and to raise awareness about the Beirut Housing and CCI Project. The campaign will be rolled out by a local organization for communications and awareness raising. The Beirut Urban Observatory launched a [website](#) in March 2022 that maps repairs carried out by various actors (I/NGOs, international orgs. etc.) has been developed by. It continues to be populated with data and used to coordinate on remaining needs for (heritage) housing repairs.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 3.3.7:** Approve the new heritage law, which remains pending approval – targeting building owners, tenants, and investors; strengthen the enabling environment to engage with the owners of heritage buildings; structure a regulatory framework that outlines adequate technical assistance; provide incentives and subsidies for rehabilitation. Ensure that the heritage law’s measures are reflected in urban regulations and master plans.

**Progress:** The Built Heritage Law (2016-2017) is still pending approval. Negotiations for cultural enabling environment are ongoing. This Commitment 3.3.5 feeds into this commitment 3.3.7 (focus on the implementation of the transitional Law 194.)

**Commitment 3.3.8:** Carry out a baseline study on the parameters of the creative economy and its legal and regulatory framework to support broad reform that recognizes CCI as an emerging sector, eases regulatory burdens, promotes competition, and supports public and private sector investment. Ensure adequate institutional set-up to promote implementation of decisions and laws.

**Progress:** The ratification of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) is still pending.

#### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 3.3.9:** Rehabilitate and repair assets to restore functions as soon as possible, ensuring provision of a minimum wage to cultural creators and technicians, who are often freelancers without any formal job status.

**Progress:** Works through volunteers and substantial private sector contribution have been provided for emergency interventions. The Sursock Museum is currently being rehabilitated so that it can function again (foreseen completion by February 2023). Component 1 (building rehabilitation) of Housing Rehabilitation and CCI Recovery project will additionally prioritize multi-storied apartment buildings containing activities of intangible cultural heritage as well as housing of vulnerable communities and aims for rehabilitation to allow for the restoring of those functions. The exercise of rehabilitation of residential buildings with heritage value will aim to hire and enable local craftsmen and technicians for the necessary features.

## PILLAR 4 – IMPROVING SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

### Housing

#### Track 1 – Reform / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.1.1:** Develop a detailed housing recovery strategy and action plan, linking housing to wider urban recovery while remaining sensitive to heritage and the environment.

**Progress:** At CG3, the CG called for a coordination planning unit for urban recovery in the office of the Governor of Beirut together with the Mayor of Beirut. This unit will coordinate with the Army Forward Emergency Room, civil society and the international community to develop an urban recovery strategy, including the housing sector. Efforts to set up this Planning and Coordination Unit are underway under the Housing WG in coordination with the Municipal Services WG. EU-funded programmes are supporting the retrofitting of public buildings with green technology – ensuring

that buildings are renewable energy ready, and solar energy may be installed whenever possible. A full database has been compiled to breakdown the problems and possible solutions with involvement of different stakeholders. UN Habitat published a policy guide to inform a national housing policy/ strategy, titled "[Mainstreaming Housing in Lebanon's National Urban Policy](#)"

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.1.2:** Repair all minimally or partially damaged housing units of economically and socially vulnerable households

**Progress:** International efforts include the Japan funded UN Habitat Project- Rehabilitation of 100 apartments in structurally damaged residential buildings in Nabaa – Bourj Hammoud and public spaces in the blast-affected areas. Rehabilitation part of the Beirut Port Explosion efforts. Canada funded IMC project- GAC 3871-, Australia funded Oxfam Project-Beirut Emergency Response and Netherlands funded Tabitha project- LIR-. Live Love has fully rehabilitated over 450 Level 2 damaged units affected by the blast with budgets amounting to \$4000 to \$7000 per unit with the aim of building back better. Live Love was awarded the Japan Funded project as implementing partner with UN Habitat, Project for the rehabilitation of 10 heritage buildings and common open spaces. Collaboration made with Italian experts to upgrade structural integrity of the heritage buildings. Mapping of efforts by Forward Emergency Room (Lebanese Army) – the yet-to-be-established Planning and Coordination Unit would serve as a data repository making FER data available to CSOs who require it for implementation.

**Commitment 4.1.3:** Stabilize heritage housing.

**Progress:** The LFF-financed Beirut Housing Rehabilitation and Culture and Creative Industries (CCI) Recovery Project mentioned under the Culture sector commitment 3.3.1. not only covers stabilization but the full rehabilitation of around 30 of the most affected housing building with heritage value that hosted vulnerable people.

Live Love has worked with BHI to stabilize, cover, and protect over 20 Heritage Buildings in the blast affected area through a project funded by ALIPH Foundation. Live Love has fully renovated four Heritage Buildings with 11 buildings in progress right now.

**Commitment 4.1.4:** Launch a rental subsidies program for the most vulnerable among the displaced.

**Progress:** Live Love worked on the mapping of existing housing issues and challenges in buildings located in the blast impacted area.

UN Habitat's "[Mainstreaming Housing in Lebanon's National Urban Policy](#)" includes the reinvigoration of the rental sector as a target outcome for the diversification of the channels of housing delivery (identified as a policy priority), with recommendations for the short, mid and long terms to advance this policy outcome on the rental sector.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.1.5:** Establish a city-wide, multi-stakeholder platform to develop a housing and urban recovery strategy; define organization and implementation measures.

**Progress:** Discussions are being held within the 3RF Housing WG to set up a Planning and Coordination Unit inside the municipality. ToR for this Unit is being drafted by WG.

At municipal level, UN Habitat signed an MoU with the Municipality of Beirut. The Housing WG is working on the definition of an action plan for strengthening the capacity of the affected municipalities.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.1.6:** Adopt policy interventions to lower housing costs and incentivize investment in affordable housing solutions as part of reconstruction.

**Progress:** No progress to report.

UN Habitat's "[Mainstreaming Housing in Lebanon's National Urban Policy](#)" includes policy interventions to lower housing costs and incentivize investment in affordable housing, titled

**Commitment 4.1.7:** Develop a national housing policy with an emphasis on affordable housing markets and urban regeneration; make it part of an integrated approach for neighborhood upgrading

**Progress:** Identification and building of relationships with government counterparts is ongoing. OEA President can set a meeting with the Mohafez to discuss this possibility. The housing sector is being supported through the projects that are part of a complex international institutional effort to support the recovery from the PoB explosion. There are limited government programs in the urban construction sector.

UN Habitat’s “[Mainstreaming Housing in Lebanon’s National Urban Policy](#)” identifies the regeneration of the existing housing stock in formal and informal markets as a policy priority with proposed roadmap for action.

**Track 2 – Investments / Programmes**

**Commitment 4.1.8:** Incentivize and assist with repairs and conservation of historic residential buildings by the end of 2021; support both owner-driven and community-led approaches for historic neighborhoods

**Progress:** Live Love has worked with over 20 different heritage cases in negotiation with building owners and local residents. Live Love was one of the first local organizations to adopt the cluster community-led approach in reconstruction.

**Commitment 4.1.9:** Reconstruct housing units for the most economically and socially vulnerable; provide strategic guidance, technical and financial support, and capacity building for tenants and homeowners.

**Progress:** The solutions and processes adopted in the Japan-funded project with UN Habitat are being used as a reference for lessons learned for the advancement on this commitment.

The LFF-financed Beirut Housing Rehabilitation and Culture and Creative Industries (CCI) Recovery Project mentioned above will finance the rehabilitation of around 30 of the most severely damaged housing building with heritage value that hosted the most vulnerable households affected by the blast, based on a socio-economic field survey. The vulnerability criteria will consider social (i.e., presence of the elderly, female headed households, people with disabilities, refugees, and building located in an area of higher social vulnerability) and economic vulnerability (i.e., household receiving rental support, presence of CCI, level of income).

In addition, this project will finance a Technical Assistance for Rental Support, which aims at providing technical assistance towards: (a) increasing stability and sustainability of tenants’ rental arrangements with their landlords affected by the Port explosion; (b) carrying out capacity development, training and outreach and awareness campaigns to make vulnerable households aware of housing and property rights, and enhance government and non-governmental actors’ understanding and engagement in housing and property rights issues; (c) documenting the learning process to inform the development of the housing recovery strategy and other affordable housing initiatives.

**Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening**

**Commitment 4.1.10:** Establish a monitoring system for the housing supply chain (construction materials and price levels) and the rental market, including market indicators such as vacancies and individual evictions (targeting the poor, refugees, and migrant workers).

**Progress:** The yet-to-be-established Planning and Coordination Unit would take this up. In the meantime: empowerment and promotion of local industries especially in construction materials is being promoted: e.g., first locally made lime plaster and mortar was tested and used by Live Love in the Rmeil Cluster (project in partnership with UN Habitat)

**Port**

**Track 1 – Reform / Policy Actions**

**Commitment 4.2.1:** Establish a vision and reform principles for the port sector, to inform the reconstruction strategy.

**Sector Highlight Progress:** In terms of the reform aspect, the WB published a policy note in January 2021 titled “[Reforming and Rebuilding Lebanon’s Port Sector: Lessons from Global Best Practices](#)” as well as a position paper titled “Governance Framework for the Port Sector of Lebanon” with the Port of Rotterdam and the group of experts. The papers were followed by a first webinar jointly

organized with the Netherlands on February 12, 2021, to discuss the need for a port sector law and governance reforms and engage with local stakeholders. The WB team also prepared a comprehensive review of the legal environment within which the port has been operating and identified the critical issues that the new sector law will have to address, in particular related to public private partnerships and terminal concessions.

**Commitment 4.2.2:** Adopt a vision statement that lays out the principles for port sector reform and a reconstruction strategy, including for customs.

**Progress:** A vision statement is being drafted.

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.2.3:** Conduct detailed assessments of contamination at the explosion site and address immediate needs, including site clearance, silo dismantling, rubble removal, dredging, removal of damaged vessels, and safe management of waste (including grains and hazardous waste).

**Progress:** No progress to report.

**Commitment 4.2.4:** Facilitate general cargo processing at the Beirut container terminal, the Port of Tripoli, and/or the Port of Saida; set up temporary storage and warehousing solutions to ensure the continuity of supply chains and reduce food security risks.

**Progress:** An Inception report to support the development of a master-plan and financing options was finalized in May 2022.

**Commitment 4.2.5:** Address the immediate needs of clearance processes and storage to restore capacity, resume inspections, and minimize delays and disruptions to supply chains.

**Progress:** In the aftermath of the tragedy, the EU funded a Construction and Demolition Waste Management Plan for the Port that was published in October 2020. Combilift, a specialized private company also partly self-funded, handled, and shipped 52 containers of hazardous waste from PoB to Germany, in compliance with EU and German regulations. A consortium of French companies, Recygroup, has also been conducting studies, since January 2021, on the different types of waste and rubble at the port; the studies are financed by the French Treasury and will propose different waste treatment solutions.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.2.6:** Establish clear institutional arrangements to manage hazardous materials and waste from construction and demolition.

**Progress:** No progress to report.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.2.7:** Enact a new port sector law addressing the port authority's operations as well as customs. The law would define the respective roles of the government, the port authorities, and commercial operators, as well as their relationships in terms of duties, rights, and responsibilities. It would be based on the landlord port principles, opening up commercial operations and reconstruction to the private sector under a clear regulatory framework to safeguard the public interest and ensure full transparency in financial management and operations.

**Progress:** With regards to Lebanese Customs and border management processes, the WB and AFD are finalizing a paper on Port and Maritime Trade Digital Policies. AFD and the French Treasury have also financed experts to conduct a stakeholder mapping and diagnostic of existing procedures as a preliminary step before reengineering and computerization. Italian Customs have been providing technical assistance to Lebanese Customs and have provided 2 scanners to respond to their needs. UNODC is implementing its Container Control Program (CCP) to assist Customs and other law enforcement agencies in identifying, profiling and inspecting high-risk containers on Lebanese sea, air and land borders. The EU ICMPD IBM Project is delivering trade facilitation and customs procedures/processes/controls assistance to the Lebanese Customs Administration (LCA) through a joint LCA – ICMPD – UNODC Risk Management Working Group and a Trade Facilitation Working Group. The EU ICMPD IBM Project also started a project on the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures on customs procedures and processes. A draft vision and master plan for the port were presented at the Serail in February 2022 by the Minister of Transport.

**Commitment 4.2.8:** Develop a national strategy for economic corridors and ports/maritime clusters, revisiting the siting and sizing of the port; rebalance roles and investments in the Tripoli port and other logistics infrastructure such as dry ports and the rail network; use an economic corridor approach to better position Lebanon to play an important role as a regional hub for maritime transport.

**Progress:** An Inception Report to support the development of a master-plan and financing options was finalized in May 2022

**Commitment 4.2.9:** Review the Port of Beirut master plan in light of guidelines and principles set in the national strategy to optimize the number, size, and location of facilities; address urban congestion around the port; enhance logistics efficiency and the handling of hazardous goods.

**Progress:** PoB chose to amend Khatib & Alami's ongoing contract to modify the masterplan but has not taken any action in this regard yet. As for the master-planning, and at the request of the PoB Management and Operating Committee, UN-ESCWA completed a study in December 2020 on the main guidelines for the adjustment and update of the 2018 master plan, and the final report was presented to PoB. A strategic study was also conducted by HPC/Roland Berger/Colliers early April 2021 on the development of the PoB and adjacent land (urban development).

#### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.2.10:** Reconstruct the enabling infrastructure at the port and identify potential public-private partnerships (PPPs) to leverage private investment and support the recovery and reconstruction program. This would include redefining the principles for the container terminal concession, regularizing existing contracts, and preparing reconstruction contracts in line with the new port sector law, procurement reform, and the law on PPPs.

**Progress:** Progress on this commitment is subject to governance reforms, a vision and strategy for the port sector, as well as a revised masterplan.

#### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.2.11:** Establish a new port authority and nominate a board in a transparent manner based on professional qualifications, with responsibilities and accountabilities clearly spelled out. Encourage women's involvement in leadership and management positions, including the board.

**Progress:** Progress on this commitment is subject to the new Port Sector Law

**Commitment 4.2.12:** Recognize and define the mandate and role of port communities in management of the sector and monitoring of its performance. In addition to the port authority, local port communities would have an official role under the new port sector law, to establish from the outset a clear pattern of trust among all port stakeholders. Both in Beirut and Tripoli, organize these communities by identifying local champions who have the trust of their peers and the clout to bring together all port stakeholders.

**Progress:** Progress on this commitment is subject to governance reforms, a vision and strategy for the port sector, as well as a revised masterplan.

**Commitment 4.2.13:** Build capacity at the ministerial and port levels through peer secondment and trainings to ensure that both levels are fully aware of the laws, decrees, decisions, and institutional and regulatory frameworks; that they have the expertise required to carry out their duties; and that women are encouraged and trained for leadership positions.

**Progress:** Training and secondment proposal offered, but no response from PoB.

## Electricity

*"No other such forum exists for the electricity sector. It gives a chance to get feedback from a wider range of stakeholders on government and donors plans. Provocative interventions by civil society have been addressed constructively by the government. Rather than a threat, this has been an opportunity."* Testimonial from Electricity WG (co-)leads

#### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.3.1:** Establish a vision that lays out sector reform needs and actions.

**Progress:** A policy document with medium-term needs to reach a sustainable state has been drafted by MoEW with the support of WB and approved by the Council of Ministers on 25 February 2022. There has been limited progress however on the medium-term goals, such as Floating Storage and Regasification Unit(s) (FSRU) and additional power at Zahrani and Deir Ammar power plant, Solar PV IPPs with storage, and Wind Farms. This is being discussed in the 3RF Electricity working group. A short-term action plan to reduce losses and increase the generation of electricity was discussed at the 4 February 2022 meeting of the Council of Ministers. This short-term action plan, missed key elements such as securing electricity from Jordan and gas from Egypt.

**Track 1 – Investments / Programmes**

**Commitment 4.3.2:** Complete measures on the distribution network to temporarily restore electricity service in the explosion area

**Progress:** Part of the short-term action plan mentioned in Commitment 4.3.1

**Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening**

**Commitment 4.3.3:** Prepare an action plan for restoring EDL’s essential functions in line with the vision of the utility’s future role as a transmission operator in Lebanon’s electricity sector.

**Progress:** Part of the medium and short-term action plan mentioned in Commitment 4.3.1. As mentioned at CG2 as well, EDL’s procurement should be conducted within the frame of the public procurement law. However, this is pending the implementation of the law.

**Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions**

**Commitment 4.3.4:** Recruit members of the Electricity Regulatory Authority and operationalize ERA.

**Progress:** This is linked to the implementation of Law 462 without amendments to establish and staff the Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA). MoEW developed an action plan that was approved by the CoM in full on 16 March 2022. Emphasis is on short-term solutions from Iraq, Egypt and Jordan. The medium-term strategy, including necessary reforms, is still under discussion; WB insists on reforms before funding short-term measures.

**Commitment 4.3.5:** Establish private sector concessions for the distribution network before the expiration of the distribution service provider contracts.

**Progress:** Studies into this are part of the medium and short-term action plan mentioned in Commitment 4.3.1.

The contract expired for all Distribution Service Providers (DSPs) on 21-12-2021 and was extended on the basis of Law 160 (extension of deadlines) to all DSPs for a period of almost 18 months. All DSPs accepted the extension except the company operating lot 2 (Beirut and Bekaa) which considered the extension using the same contract terms to be not viable for the project. Other DSPs committed to a certain amount of reductions in losses conditional on required responsiveness of ministries and directorates in the Lebanese government.

The absence of funds is leading to numerous challenges in the distribution sector such as: shortage of material, halting investment projects, delaying the roll out of smart meters, and delaying DSPs payments.

EDL is facing internal pressure from employees who are opposing any transfer of their authorities to the private sector and against any change or reduction in their roles so current practices are not disrupted and EDL employees do not become redundant. This will be a major obstacle in the establishment of private sector concessions.

The bill collection mechanism is old, obsolete, ineffective and needs revision. For example, in Beirut, DSPs are currently collecting months 7, 8, and 9-2020 for low-voltage customers and the early months of 2021 for medium-voltage customers. In addition, EDL management approved the collection of 2021 bills on a quarterly basis meaning bills will be issued for 3-4 months together. The removal of non-technical losses is crucial; however, the DSPs were not able to reduce them due to the lack of authority within their contract and the security concerns of several regions.

**Commitment 4.3.6:** Revise building codes and facilitate concessional financing to incentivize energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades (initially for reconstruction of damaged or destroyed buildings in Greater Beirut, then expanded to other parts of the country).

**Progress:** The decrees related to the Distributed Renewable Energy Generation Draft Law were issued by the Council of Ministers on 12 May 2022 and referred to Parliament to issue the Law. Since then and following the parliamentary elections which took place on 15 May 2022, the Parliament is yet to discuss the draft Law. The Law aims at enabling ‘distributed renewable energy generation’ (only) to benefit from various net metering arrangements, namely: (1) ‘Single owner net metering’, (2) ‘Basic meter aggregation’, (3) ‘Tenant meter aggregation’, (4) ‘Multi-site aggregation’, and; (5) ‘Virtual’ or ‘community’ net metering. The Law also aims at enabling ‘distributed renewable energy generation (only) to benefit from direct (corporate) on-site and off-site power purchase agreements (PPAs), and renewable energy equipment leasing.

#### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.3.7:** Repair the Achrafieh electricity substation, clearing rubble and rebuilding EDL’s administrative office, data center, and the National Control Center (along with its backup center).

**Progress:** EBRD appointed a consultant (EDF) who finalized the assessment for the damages of the Achrafieh electricity substation and developed the tender documents related to the repair works according to the WB’s procurement rules and regulations. EBRD is currently trying to secure \$5 million from internal resources for implementing the rehabilitation works, but approval of this funding is still not assured. Regarding the National Control Center (NCC), EBRD appointed a consultant (EDF) to initiate the assessment study for the establishment of an interim national control center. Work related to the NCC is split in two parts: the intermittent/“light” solution and the permanent solution. For the interim solution, the assessment has been completed and a tender launched. The interim location of the NCC will be either on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor (old location) or at the ED level. Regarding the permanent solution, the detailed assessment is premature. Instead, EBRD probed EDL regarding the structural integrity and safety of the building for it be able to host the NCC long term. As a result, EDL prepared a building structural assessment tender and sent it to the MoEW and the Ministry of Finance for their approval before launching it.

#### Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.3.8:** Establish an interim public consultation mechanism to ensure public support for sector plans and the development and recovery of EDL pending the operationalization of ERA; include public consultation for regulatory rulemaking and approval of sector plans and investments.

**Progress:** The government is aware that the consultations on the plans are needed, especially given potential tariff increases.

## Environment

#### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.3.1:** Develop a strategy and action plan for greening reconstruction and urban design for the city of Beirut.

**Progress:** The LFF-funded "[Beirut Critical Environment Recovery, Restoration and Waste Management Program](#)" was launched on 18.05.2022. The program’s sub-component 2.1 will support the development of strategic and sustainable activities aiming at greening the reconstruction agenda of Beirut city to respond to Port of Beirut explosion and which will be based on specific action plans to respond to priority issues covering (i) mitigation of Environment, Health and Safety risks; (ii) Solid Waste Management action plan for Beirut city, (iii) integrating climate considerations in the reconstruction agenda, and (iv) engagement plans to adequately address barriers to the participation of women and men and identify actions in greening the reconstruction agenda meeting gender-differentiated needs and interests. UNDP’s post-blast area-based recovery efforts in Karantina included mainstreamed renewable energy measures. WB has developed a Discussion Paper on the Solid Waste Management Roadmap for establishing a consultative dialogue for the Beirut and Matn areas.

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.3.2:** Conduct detailed assessments of the waste streams outside the Port of Beirut, implementing priority waste management interventions (such as rubble), and rehabilitating

damaged waste management infrastructure (e.g., sorting facility at Karantina, composting facility at Coral, health care waste facilities).

**Progress:** [Assessments](#) were conducted for the collection and safe storage of more than 150,000 tons of mixed debris generated by the PoB explosion. UN Habitat conducted a testing campaign and developed management plans for the management of the construction and demolition waste temporarily stored at Bakalian site. Plans for the environmental waste management of construction and demolition waste outside the Port will be developed under the LFF program's sub-component 1.2 & 1.3. Building on the Assessment and Plan for Waste Management in the PoB, which was conducted by the EU immediately after the explosion, France has financed an in-depth assessment of waste and a plan through Recygroup. In-depth due diligence of the activities in Bakalian site have been conducted. Alternatives for asbestos contaminates rubble is being identified. The Dutch government has carried out assessments needed for dredging of Basin 4, including needed environmental assessments. Initial and preliminary sorting and trials for crushing of the construction and demolition waste in Bakalian site in piles has been completed however the locations of asbestos contaminated rubble in other parts of Beirut remains unclear.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.3.3:** Establish a collaborative platform for stakeholder engagement in greening the reconstruction agenda; a pilot activity will also be developed to respond to Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) needs in the affected areas by the explosion

**Progress:** Under the LFF Program, Component 2 will support a collaborative platform for stakeholders' engagement and implementing priority actions for greening Beirut's reconstruction agenda. Continuous consultations with NGOs are underway for establishing the collaborative platform and identification of activities to be implemented under the pilot ISWM project.

**Commitment 4.3.4:** Strengthen environmental monitoring and enforcement of environmental, health and safety measures in Beirut, including the port.

**Progress:** Under the LFF Program, Component 2 will support environmental monitoring and enforcement activities for critical hazardous materials in other ports and locations in Lebanon.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.3.5:** Develop the legal framework for storage and handling of chemicals

**Progress:** The "Towards a Decentralised Waste Management Integrated Response ([TaDWIR](#)) in Lebanon" initiative is funded by the EU and will be implemented by UNDP, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and other relevant national stakeholders including NGOs, local communities and the private sector. TaDWIR specifically targets some of the most dangerous types of waste in the country, such as medical waste. Another project contributing to this commitment is the WB project: "[Reduction of Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants \(UPOPs\) Through Waste Management in a Circular Economy](#)", which will support the institutional and legal framework for the management of chemicals listed under the Stockholm convention, including UPOPs. Expertise France is also supporting Ministry of industry in this field.

**Commitment 4.3.6:** Identify complete needed regulations/ standards related to the Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) Law

**Progress:** Various initiatives funded by UNDP and WB will support priority regulatory framework for ISWM. Identification and support for needed regulations is underway through various on-going initiatives. Technical support is being provided to the Ministry of Environment to develop a roadmap on municipal solid waste management at national level, taking into consideration existing facilities and identifying remaining gaps.

**Commitment 4.3.7:** Adopt the national ISWM Strategy and develop a participatory solid waste management plan for Beirut.

**Progress:** The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment of the draft ISWM Strategy has been initiated under the WB [Lake Qaraoun Pollution Prevention Project](#) and will allow technical review and consultative process to support the adoption of the strategy. The 1<sup>st</sup> deliverable, the scoping report is expected to be delivered in about 4 months' time, the 2<sup>nd</sup> on the updated ISWM Strategy is expected to be delivered in about 6 months, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> on the Strategic Environmental and Social

Assessment report is expected to be delivered in about 10.5 months. Regular consultations will be conducted by the consultant while finalizing the ISWM strategy

#### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.3.8:** Implement management plans for various waste streams (including hazardous material, electronic waste, and scrapped vehicles) and for restoring affected natural ecosystems (marine and green cover).

**Sector Highlight Progress:** With GoL funding and Combilift, Combilift safely packaged 59 containers at the PoB containing hazardous material and shipped these to Germany for treatment in May 2021. With funding from France, Recygroup has signed a contract with Ministry of Economy for the management of grains in the silos. Recygroup also signed a contract with PoB to develop management plans for the clean-up of the waste generated by the explosion in PoB. A baseline study on electronic and electric waste was conducted by UNDP with the support of the UN University.

**Commitment 4.3.9:** Conduct an inventory and audit of chemical stockpiles and hazardous materials in Beirut.

**Progress:** A project by Expertise France has been initiated to qualitatively assess industries using hazardous chemicals in their facilities and those being stored in public facilities, to assess their current storage conditions and raise recommendations for the industries to properly store their hazardous chemicals. The government (through the PMO) collected data and information from public facilities related to hazardous chemicals stored. Training activities for Ministry of Industry are currently underway.

## Municipal Services

*“The Municipal Services WG can help build capacity of municipalities and other GoL partners through its commitments on data collection and sharing, organizing exchanges on good practices on topical issues, including external expertise.”* Testimonial from Municipal Services WG (co-)leads

#### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.3.1:** Develop a framework that consolidates the process for obtaining repair, rehabilitation, and reconstruction permits and is coherent with the housing recovery action plan and strategy.

**Progress:** This commitment is linked to the Housing sector and the LFF Housing and CCI project that envisions the establishment of a "Planning and Coordination Unit" (PCU) in Beirut. On 2 June 2022, UN Habitat signed a MoU with the Municipality of Beirut which will allow them to work strategically on planning, coordinating resources, and developing a common expertise through shared experiences, to construct a sustainable urban future for the city of Beirut. The MoU further focuses on streamlining ongoing recovery and development plans following the Beirut Port explosion and later extend it to other areas within the boundaries of the city of Beirut. To support these efforts a customized GIS tracking platform will be established to monitor and register the workflow of ongoing interventions by multiple actors and stakeholders across Beirut.

#### Track 1 – Investment / Programmes

**Commitment 4.3.1:** Rehabilitate damaged roads and mobility infrastructure, storm water drainage, public spaces, buildings owned by municipalities, and social housing.

**Progress:** Six public spaces in [Karantina, Mar Mikhail and Geitawi](#) have been rehabilitated, increasing accessibility and promoting safe and secure urban spaces for all, [including children](#). Additionally, an [HIV/TB center](#) and MoPH warehouse that was severely damaged by the blast have been rehabilitated and equipped with medical equipment. Moreover, 10 Hand Washing stations were installed in schools, Beirut Fire brigade, Nusaned Hub, Hopital des Soeurs du Rosaire and others in order to reduce the COVID19 pandemic. 11 heritage residential buildings and key public facilities were also rehabilitated in Rmeil.

An integrated digital data system (e-governance) in Beirut municipality is being developed. Engineering dept. at the municipality of Beirut has been capacitated to digitize data (using

Geographic Information System - GIS) of municipal assets. The German-funded [UNOPS project](#) to help rebuild vital infrastructure damaged by the PoB explosion in Beirut and Bourj Hammoud was launched in March 2022. UNOPS is currently conducting an assessment to map all municipal infrastructure in the blast affected areas and survey selected key infrastructure and assets based on a set of technical and social considerations. The consultant started consultations with Beirut and Bourj Hammoud municipalities.

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.3.3:** Establish a one-stop shop in the Beirut and Bourj Hammoud municipalities for the following key functions: to obtain repair, rehabilitation, and reconstruction permits for damaged municipal services, residential and commercial properties, and cultural heritage building, among other facilities; to coordinate and share responsibilities among service providers, line ministries, and municipalities; and to communicate and disclose information, budgets, and expenditure for citizens.

**Progress:** A [Regional Technical Office](#) (RTO) was established under the municipality of Bourj Hammoud. A [Municipal Social Cell](#) was established under the municipality of Beirut to map and assess challenges related to migrants and propose mitigation measures through interventions. This commitment is closely coordinated with the Housing and Culture WGs and with the LFF Housing and CCIs project that consists of developing an 'Urban Recovery Strategy' and envisions the establishment of a "Planning & Coordination Unit" (PCU/one-stop shop) in Beirut. The WB is currently working on a study of the Independent Municipal Fund (IMF).

#### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.3.4:** Upgrade the industrial and commercial area in Bourj Hammoud, with urban regeneration and upgrading of affected and vulnerable neighborhoods.

**Progress:** A Child-Friendly City Roadmap is being developed and to inform the urban regeneration of affected neighborhoods – UNICEF will be submitting this to the Governor and Municipal Council for endorsement. This commitment concerns Bourj Hammoud mainly and targets the enhancement of participation in decision making and project selection. Under the LFF Housing and CCI project, cultural productions (entities and individuals) will be supported to revive their businesses (see Culture WG's milestones). UN Habitat is currently discussing the strategic plan of Bourj Hammoud with 4 main identified priorities: 1) The production of renewable energy 2) Renaturation and water management 3) Rehabilitation of Historic Center 4) Sustainable water management.

**Commitment 4.3.5:** Establish public consultation mechanisms for reconstruction plans to ensure that citizens' needs are integrated into these plans; include traditional channels, municipal website, and one-stop shop as well as social media.

**Progress:** UN Habitat is establishing multiple channels (website, email, WhatsApp, complaint boxes, in person GRM, flyers) for stakeholders to address the GRM to ensure feedback and engagement and accessibility. This commitment (4.3.5) is linked to the Housing sector WG's commitment to establish a city-wide, multi-stakeholder platform to develop a housing and urban recovery strategy and shall be coordinated accordingly.

## Health

*"Given the full integration within the National Health Sector Coordination Working Group (NHSWG) for the operationalization of response plans, the taskforce is able to focus on the higher level strategic and policy level commitments and discussions and not duplicate on operationalization of response plans."* Testimonial from Health WG (co-)leads

#### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.4.1:** Align the mechanism to identify the most vulnerable with those used by other sectors (e.g., social protection); expand it as needed to reach the vulnerable with subsidized essential health services.

**Progress:** In line with the National Social Protection Strategy, which is being developed in the Social Protection sector, a health chapter is being developed to ensure to integrate individuals' health financing needs in this wider national strategy. The strategy is still in developing and drafting stages

and much wider discussions need to take place specifically on the mechanism for identification of the most vulnerable and how the social protection and health sectors can support each other in this. In addition, the health sector is conducting Multisector Needs Assessment survey after harmonizing the questions and indicators related to health to match the VASYR, in addition the definition of persons in need was updated in consultation with all stakeholders. In the UN Data and Statistics WG, current discussion is ongoing to update the tool used for identifying poor households to include catastrophic spending on health as one item to be considered.

Furthermore, the National Health Sector Strategy (NHSS) development process has passed through a number of stakeholder consultations. Within the strategy are key interventions in the short and long term that aim to offer financial risk protection to vulnerable persons and bolstering coverage. The NHSS is anticipated to be finalized by September 2022 with an implementation plan to be developed and launched following the formation of a new government. Further details about the NHSS are contained under commitment 4.4.4.

#### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.4.2:** Support implementation of a subsidized package of primary health care services through a network of 21 Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs) in the explosion-affected area in line with the Ministry of Public Health’s Immediate Response Model.

**Progress:** In total IMC, PUI and Amel support 10 PHCCs out of 21 PHCCs affected by PoB blast through donor funds including EU Madad, OCHA, private funding, AFD. These include Horj and Msaytbeh (Makassed PHCCs), Hariri PHCC – Beirut and Khatam Anbiaa, Bolgordgian and Zarif PHCCs. 26,907 beneficiaries received subsidized PHC services in three PHCCs, and 6,300 mental health consultations delivered in 3 PHCCs and 1 specialized center (UNHCR, UNIFEF).

#### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.4.3:** Establish a 3RF multi-stakeholder health coordination platform with balanced representation of civil society and other relevant stakeholders to ensure the transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency of the health response; reinforce the referral system, through stronger intra-ministerial cooperation and coordination; convene regular (e.g., biannual) multi-stakeholder health forums.

**Progress:** A Task Force for Health Recovery and Reform has been formed and fully integrated within the National Health Working Group structure. TORs have been developed for this group with GoL review and endorsement and GoL attendance has been granted through a designated representative. Currently, CSO membership and participation to the Task Force is being finalized through an open call for nominations and voting by health sector partners. The process is expected to be finalized by the end of August 2022. A kickoff for the Task Force is expected in September 2022. The Task Force will focus on progressing on Reform and Recovery commitments under the 3RF and taking field and implementation experiences from the National Health Sector Working Group (NHSWG) to discuss wider policy issues and overcome bottlenecks in implementation of programmes related to the 3RF commitments.

#### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.4.4:** Develop a phased universal health coverage strategy to progressively expand beyond primary health care access for the most vulnerable in the blast-affected areas; ensure coverage of (i) additional services at secondary and tertiary levels of care and (ii) people in the rest of the country.

**Progress:** A draft NHSS has been developed focusing on the following 4 areas:

- Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- Health promotion and prevention
- Health security/emergency preparedness and response
- Service delivery

The strategy is expected to be endorsed before end of 2022 and will be supported by 7 to 10 years plan of action describing 2 phases:

- Phase 1: immediate recovery focusing on humanitarian and filling gaps in health and selected seed activities for a more sector-wide reform. This phase is 3 to 5 years

- Phase 2: health sector reform and development expected to be spread over 7 to 5 years MoPH is reimbursing the COVID hospitalized for 2022 by multiplying the original tariffication by 3.5 for COVID cases with the support of the WB via a loan.

In parallel, WHO has initiated the contracting a Third-Party Administrator to pilot reimbursement of life saving and limb saving cases for around 450 cases via the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

**Commitment 4.4.5:** Update the COVID-19 response strategy to include revised mitigation measures, including reimbursement schemes for hospitals and development of COVID-19 vaccination deployment and operational plan.

**Progress:** The WB has supported the procurement of Pfizer doses by MoPH through funding an agreement with Pfizer. The international community (DK, US, EU, DE, WB, FR, IT) has also supported COVID vaccines through providing funding and in-kind donations (vaccinations and/or medical consumables needed to administer vaccines). This has allowed close to 50% of the eligible population to be vaccinated with 2 doses. Despite progress, the National Deployment Vaccination Plan has not yet been updated and discussions with the National COVID Committee continue on this despite little progress.

WHO is providing support to 32 in-hospital vaccination sites by providing operational support of 2\$/dose financed from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development via the German development bank KfW. Until the end of 2022 WHO will also support vaccination of patients in confined areas (prison, elderly homes, orphanages) through the Lebanese Red Cross.

The national pandemic response plan is also being updated in view of COVID pandemic development and potential for emerging new outbreaks (vaccine preventable such as measles, influenza like illnesses and others). So far, On 18 July 2022, the total number of administered vaccine doses is 5,467,586 (1st dose 2,566,894; 2nd dose 2,259,741; 3rd dose 616,064 and 4th dose 24,887).

The GoL is planning to make available one million doses of vaccines for the coming period, progressively arriving between now and first quarter of 2023, through the WB loan financed Pfizer agreement.

## Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.4.6:** Reconstruct heavily damaged facilities (with priority to those in the public sector) in line with green energy solutions and ensuring accessibility and inclusion for people living with disability.

**Progress:** Various donors have supported the reconstruction of Karantina hospital and the Central Drug Warehouse in Beirut which were heavily damaged by the Blast. The Central Drug Warehouse, reconstructed by WHO was inaugurated in March 2022 in the presence of Japan, EU, Australia and UNICEF. The reconstruction and re-equipping of the hospital continues and despite delays the inauguration is expected in September 2022. A MoPH-led Task Force has been formed and meets every two weeks to discuss the progress and blockages in the reconstruction of the hospital in an attempt to streamline and finalize the hospital reconstruction. The Task Force is attended by GoL, hospital management, UNICEF, WHO, ESA, EU and AFD. Switzerland rehabilitated, and inaugurated in April 2021, a section of the Karantina hospital which is currently serving as the pediatric department.

**Commitment 4.4.7:** Develop mechanisms for retaining health personnel and for procuring essential medicines and medical supplies

**Progress:** Detailed human resources for health profiling was completed in January 2020. However, a massive exodus of healthcare workers has been observed. Accordingly, WHO is currently conducting the following studies: Medical and nursing demographic study; and Human resources for health salary scale assessment. These two studies will directly feed into the current discussion pertaining to human resources retention at national level.

**Commitment 4.4.8:** Strengthen supply chain management.

**Progress:** A Logistic and Management Software (LMS) was developed by WHO via EU fund for the management of the medications procured at MoPH from reception of medications till distribution to dispensing centers and patients. The LMS is in its early stage of use at central warehouses and

central dispensing units. The LMS will be also installed in the decentralized warehouses at Mohafaza level and expected to be operational by first quarter of 2023.

A 2D bar code is also under development by WHO via EU fund for the tracing of all the medications at national level from procurement by the agent to dispensing to patients. Roll-out of the 2D bar code at pharmacy level will be initiated in Aug 2022 and progressively expanded to be completed by first quarter of 2023.

**Commitment 4.4.9:** Support implementation of a subsidized package of primary health care services through a network of PHCCs at the national level.

**Progress:** MoPH Primary Health Care department successfully developed the [long-term primary healthcare subsidization protocol \(LPSP\)](#) model. A full-fledged LPSP model is being implemented in around 70 PHCCs in the network of MoPH. Roll out of trainings is being coordinated with support of the National Health Sector Working Group in an effort to leverage resources as well as provide support to small NGOs planning to implement the LPSP model. Ongoing discussions continue in the LPSP Task Force set up by MoPH, donors and the leading implementing agencies in PHCCs in Lebanon to review the costing models of the subsidization packages in light of the financial situation, devaluation of the LBP and increase in consumables prices in order to adapt the model to provide the most effective financial value to support PHCCs running costs as well as continue to ensure access to health services to the most vulnerable. WHO supported a technical mission to assist MoPH in costing the MH services integrated at PHC level.

## Education

### Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.4.1:** Implement the policy for remote/hybrid learning and localization of back-to-school plans to ensure that quality learning is delivered and that, when possible, schools are safe to reopen; integrate psychosocial well-being into formal and non-formal education programs.

**Progress:** MEHE is finalizing the National Remote Learning Plan (covering two academic years 2021 and 2022), which supports and guides the continuation of learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, while adhering to the international and national guidance prevention measures. The plan sets out different scenarios that would be adopted by MEHE depending on the state of the pandemic (physical learning; blended learning; distance learning) and elaborates the main components of the remote learning plans including 1) Devices for learners; 2) Infrastructure and school equipment; 3) Educational content and learning management system; 4) Teacher readiness; and 5) Support to and from parents. The draft plan was shared with donors relevant UN agencies in March 2021 and is currently being reviewed by MEHE based on the compiled inputs. School reopening in hybrid teaching mode relaunched in April 21 for Grade 12, May 5 for Grade 9 and pre-primary, and May 17 for all remaining grades. Health reopening protocol “Health guide for educational institutions on preventive measures to prevent the transmission and spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes Covid-19 infection” was finalized before the Beirut blasts and reported under the COVID response. The protocol for reopening Non-Formal Education centers is also finalized and being translated to Arabic reported under the COVID response. Psycho-social support interventions for the most vulnerable are reported under the LCRP and COVID Response.

In 2021, Switzerland supported children affected by the blast to continue accessing remote learning opportunities and provided psycho-social support services.

### Track 1 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.4.2:** Provide multiple learning pathways, including hybrid and/or remote learning using both high and low technology, with a focus on the most vulnerable children and youth during school closure.

**Progress:** Commitment to provide 60,000 devices/ tablets for students and 1,050 devices for teachers (to deliver online classes) to support distance learning. Development and operationalization of the MEHE/CERD Pilot Summer School Programme (UNESCO / UNICEF). Capacity building program for teachers and trainers on distance learning will be delivered to MEHE and (Educational Center for Research and Development) CRDP by technical partners.

### Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening

**Commitment 4.4.3:** Ensuring close consultation on education reform and the recovery and reconstruction agenda with key stakeholders, including relevant ministries, international partners, parliamentary committees, CSOs, the private sector, teachers' unions, and communities.

**Progress:** Consultations on the National Remote Learning Action Plan were limited to sharing the draft plan with key UN and donor agencies for comments and inputs. Consultation on the Five-Year Sector plan were completed. The draft plan was shared in March for feedback from key UN and donor agencies. Consultation and coordination on the rehabilitation of education institutes is taking place regularly with all partners and stakeholders including relevant ministries (Education and Culture), international partners, parliamentary committees, CSOs, and the private sector.

### Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions

**Commitment 4.4.4:** Prepare a new 5-year Strategic Education Sector Plan using recent evidence and engage in broad public consultations. The plan should focus on immediate, medium, and long-term needs for better learning at all levels, including early childhood education, building on the school quality assurance framework.

**Progress:** MEHE launched the 5-Year General Education Plan in late 2021 which sets out key pillars of Lebanon's vision for General Education with a focus on access, quality and governance. The MEHE 5-Year Plan for Education aims to ensure that the most vulnerable children have access to inclusive and quality learning, to build the skills they need for a life full of potential. The Five-Year Plan is the first of two plans that will contribute to Lebanon's 2030 Strategy to achieve SDG 4, 'Quality Education for All'. It presents MEHE's comprehensive vision for the education sector post-RACE (National Strategy reaching all Children with education) with the identification of a set of 6 priorities. It includes TVET and Higher Education and General Education (ECE to Grade 12). The 5-Year Plan is the Overarching Framework to incorporate the spectrum of education related initiatives which can range from Emergency Access Back to School as part of the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP), to targeted programs like the Multi-Year Resilience Plan, and bilateral programmes with donors and direct funding activities with partner governments, and I/NGOs. Catch up/Accelerated learning programs (which include the development of assessment tools, materials, teacher training and delivery (pilots) and initiatives targeting dropouts and support to higher education sector strategy have been implemented. Communication strategies to support school enrollment and retention, including establishment of a referral mechanism are being implemented.

### Track 2 – Investments / Programmes

**Commitment 4.4.5:** Begin immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction, including refurbishing of damaged furniture and equipment, based on the final technical assessments of damage to education facilities.

**Sector Highlight Progress:** Progress of rehab works in schools is as below and it ranges between minor and major reconstruction work depending on the level of damages (light, moderate, severe) identified in the assessments:

- 19 public schools handed over to MEHE
- 55 public schools completed and in the process of handover to MEHE
- 20 public schools, including 5 severely damaged, are ongoing.
- 58 private schools carried out/ completed their own works and 74 are being rehabilitated by different partners (32 completed; 22 unreported; the rest ongoing)
- Provision of equipment and furniture for damaged public schools is currently in the procurement phase for all schools (except for 3 schools who already received their items). Distribution of items to schools will be launched in June.
- Rehabilitation of education institutions is being supported by different partners:
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation ([SDC](#)): 19 public schools
- [UNESCO](#): 280 educational institutions damaged by the blasts (March 2022)
- [UNICEF](#): 4 public schools and 9 private
- Other partners include the French Government (22 private schools) and other NGOs and private foundations for the rehab of private schools

## Water

<b>Track 1 – Reforms / Policy Actions</b>
<b>Commitment 4.4.1:</b> Ratify the updated National Water Sector Strategy.
<b>Progress:</b> A complementary short term (5-year) plan for the sector to deal with the financial crisis was prepared by MoEW discussed with donors and presented to, GoL.
<b>Track 1 – Institutional Strengthening</b>
<b>Commitment 4.4.2:</b> Provide technical assistance to the water utility most impacted by the blast, the Beirut Mount Lebanon Water Establishment (BMLWE), especially on operations and maintenance costs of the main infrastructure.
<b>Progress:</b> Technical Assistance is ongoing until 2025 through EU-AFD: Reinforcement of Water Establishment technical capacities. Through the EU Trust Fund Madad, and with the support of Switzerland (SDC) <a href="#">UNICEF</a> is supporting all <a href="#">four water establishments</a> in Lebanon to repair and operate existing infrastructure and to install new one.
<b>Commitment 4.4.3:</b> Establish the Water Executive Committee to pilot transparent implementation of the updated water sector strategy and strengthen the role of municipalities within its framework.
<b>Progress:</b> Various coordination meetings are being held on a quarterly basis. Expected the formalization of a quarterly coordination group under the umbrella of the MoEW (supported by the Technical Assistance: EU-AFD) to follow-up on the reform process and follow-up also on implementation of 3RF plan. The table will put together MoEW, WEs, CDR (from Government side), International Donors and Civil society representatives.
<b>Track 2 – Reforms / Policy Actions</b>
<b>Commitment 4.4.4:</b> Ratify the revised Water Code, which was approved in 2018, and its related decrees
<b>Progress:</b> The revised water code was ratified in December 2020. The preparation of decrees is underway, with feedback being collected from civil society.
<b>Commitment 4.4.5:</b> Restructure the water tariff.
<b>Progress:</b> A study under the EU-AFD project about the revision of the tariff is underway. A plan for adapting the tariff to the inflation has been drafted and included in the Sector Recovery Plan prepared by the MoEW. A first revision of the tariff has already been adopted by the 4 WEs at the beginning of 2022. In 2021, EU-funded OXFAM <a href="#">study</a> on social acceptability of revision of Consumption Based Water-Wastewater Tariffs in Lebanon.
<b>Track 2 – Investment / Programmes</b>
<b>Commitment 4.4.6:</b> Undertake in-depth damage assessments of water and wastewater assets.
<b>Progress:</b> Complete. An initial assessment was completed by UNICEF in the weeks after the blast. Follow-up with Beirut and Mount Lebanon Water Establishment (BMLWE) in the months after do not show additional damages not previously registered.
<b>Commitment 4.4.7:</b> Rehabilitate and strengthen damaged facilities, applying modern standards for operation and climate proofing considerations.
<b>Progress:</b> Funds mobilized for rehabilitation of part of the key infrastructures considered as a priority for Beirut supply during first assessment and in collaboration with BMLWE (EU MADAD and Japan project implemented by UNICEF). Using French thematic funds, UNICEF demolished and reconstructed the ferric chloride water treatment facility in Dbaye and using Japanese funds, upgraded damaged wastewater conveyors.
<b>Track 2 – Institutional Strengthening</b>
<b>Commitment 4.4.8:</b> Upgrade the customer database at BMLWE and incentivize households to register their connections officially.
<b>Progress:</b> A campaign for subscription was launched in May 2021 (EU MADAD project implemented by UNICEF). The customer database at BMLWE was upgraded and incentivize households to register their connections officially. This included a national public campaign to encourage the public to subscribe and pay their water bills.

**Commitment 4.4.9:** Rebuild customer-centric communication and dialogue between the BMLWE and civil society organizations.

**Progress:** Civil society has been included on 3RF Water sector WG and national water sector coordination. UNICEF has started a program for reinforcing communication department of BMLWE. A campaign for promoting branding of BMLWE and subscription (see point above) was launched in May 2021 for BMLWE together with all the other Water Establishments (EU MADAD project)

## 3RF GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN PRACTICE

The 3RF process is based on a set of core guiding principles. These principles guided the development of the sector recovery planning, prioritization, implementation, program management, monitoring of results, and risk management. Based on universal principles as well as international good practices and lessons learned from similar country contexts, the 3RF strives to apply the principles listed below consistently throughout Beirut’s recovery and reconstruction process.

3RF Principles	Reflection on the 3RF Principle in Practice
Integrated and participatory approach	Since the second CG meeting, regular engagement with CSOs and the new government has yielded a Consultative Group with active, constructive, and substantive participation from all stakeholders. At the sectoral level, this participation has taken shape too.
Inclusion and leaving no one behind	Explicit attention has been given to people with disabilities. However, the 3RF depends too much on organizations that can afford to dedicate time and on individuals who are fluent and vocal in English. This excludes a very large part of Lebanese. Overdue implementation of both communication and civic engagement strategies should focus on bettering this.
Gender equality and women’s empowerment	Women have played an equal role in 3RF decision making: half the CG co-chairs and half the WG leads and co-leads are women. Programming is gender sensitive. Discussions in the 3RF however, are rarely explicitly gender-sensitive, which should improve going forward.
Conflict sensitivity and “do no harm”	While reminding the government of the importance of free and fair elections and an independent investigation into the port blast, the 3RF has made the conscious choice to focus on technical reform and implementation. This is to avoid harming relations at working level and to improve conditions for the people with a view to enhancing social cohesion.
Transparency and accountability, including anti-corruption	The lack of 3RF-related communications has hampered transparency and accountability to the public, but within the group of active 3RF participants, the workings of the 3RF have been transparent with free access to resources and (draft) documents for both civil society and the government. Open communication channels and regular group discussions have kept the 3RF alert to potential concerns. The IOB has become fully operational and have taken their oversight role to heart.
Sustainable livelihoods	This mainly applies to the level of programmes, for example the B5 project.
Build back better, greener, and smarter	The set-up of the 3RF WGs is an example of improving on what was there before. In terms of activities, however, the 3RF has been too focused still on charting what is out there, to build on those initiatives in a better, greener, smarter way.
Maximize subsidiarity	Working under a government caretaker mode has proved challenging and limited engagement with most ministries. With the reactivation of the CMU, this has improved. Some WGs have also strengthened collaboration with other state institutions, including at municipal and governorate level.
Coherence and coordination	The WGs have proven to be a good platform to improve mutual understanding amongst- and between international organizations and civil society, as well as focusing on agreed

	priorities for each sector. The way of working is not coherent between WGs, but this is understandable given very different starting points per sector. Opportunities for cross-sector coordination going forward should support coherence.
<b>Two-way communication and grassroots outreach</b>	3RF communication has been a priority since a dedicated strategy was approved summer 2021. Civic engagement too has been a priority. But a lack of implementation of both has become a risk to the 3RF, as signaled by both CSOs and government. Aside from a few newspaper articles, there is almost no visibility of the 3RF for the general public. The website finally going live and hiring a new expert to generate stories, should remedy this in the coming months.

## AID TRACKING

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) tracks aid to Lebanon on a quarterly basis. The data collection process entails outreach to donors for information on their disbursements and outreach to implementing partners (IPs) for information on the funding they have received. Both donors and IPs are asked to indicate which framework the funding contributes to (Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) and/or 3RF), what percentage goes to which framework, and if to the 3RF, to which pillar/sector of the 3RF it contributes to. The table below reflects funding received by implementing partners in support of 3RF objectives (including bilateral contributions and pooled funding such as donor's contributions to the LFF), compared to the total priority costs estimated for the People-Centered Recovery Track 1 for the 18 months of the reporting period (please refer to the 3RF document, Annex B – 3RF Priority Costs Overview).

<b>Contributions to the 3RF reported to the UNRCO by implementing partners as received (in USD)</b>			
<b>3RF Pillar &amp; Sector</b>	<b>Funding received in 2021 Q1 – Q4</b>	<b>Funding received in 2022 Q1 – Q2</b>	<b>Track 1 Costs: Q1 2021 – Q2 2022</b>
<b>Improving Governance and Accountability</b>	<b>8,465,183.62</b>	<b>1,839,920.29</b>	<b>4,750,000</b>
PFM and Public Procurement	2,610,355.84	1,710,398.20	250,000
Anti-Corruption, Integrity, and Transparency	3,086,664.66	36,000	2,350,000
Justice and Human Rights	2,768,163.12	93,522.09	2,150,000
<b>Jobs and Economic Opportunities</b>	<b>36,277,094.18</b>	<b>881,662.18</b>	<b>97,750,000</b>
Restore business activities and preserve jobs	30,152,144.00	761,662.18	96,000,000
Strengthen the insurance sector and digital financial services	6,062,479.59	120,000	1,200,000
Expedite urgent business environment reforms	62,470.59	-	550,000
<b>Social Protection, Inclusion and Culture</b>	<b>24,338,445.60</b>	<b>1,170,349.79</b>	<b>174,800,000</b>
Social Protection	13,544,422.88	332.82	70,700,000
Social Cohesion, Inclusion, and Gender	4,097,905.10	1,110,363.08	27,100,000
Culture	6,696,117.62	59,653.89	77,000,000
<b>Improving Services and Infrastructure</b>	<b>38,630,494.29</b>	<b>25,439,936.29</b>	<b>306,870,000</b>
Housing	14,477,495.58	1,283,877.00	209,650,000
Port	909,251.14	-	33,750,000
<b>Urban Services</b>	<b>10,765,144.01</b>	<b>24,096,405.4</b>	<b>46,820,000</b>
Electricity	62,470.59	-	-
Municipal Services	640,202.83	24,096,405.40	-

Environment	10,062,470.59	-	-
<b>Public Services</b>	<b>12,478,603.55</b>	<b>59,653.89</b>	<b>16,650,000</b>
Health	7,236,550.25	-	-
Education	4,891,048.17	59,653.89	-
Water	351,005.14	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>107,711,217.69</b>	<b>29,331,868.54</b>	<b>584,170,000</b>

A challenge observed in the UNRCO's aid tracking process is that not all donors and IPs report disbursements and funding received under the 3RF, even if the funds have in fact supported projects feeding into 3RF commitments. This may be because they are not familiar with the 3RF commitments or, if the funding contributes to both LCRP and 3RF, they may not know the percentual breakdown for each, and so prefer to report just under the LCRP for the sake of simplicity. It should also be noted that some donors do not report on its disbursements for 3RF-related measures, and others only started to report on the 3RF in Q1 2022. As some of these are among the top donors, it is likely that the funding feeding into the 3RF is much higher than the figures published indicate it to be.

For the aid tracking exercise of Q4 2021, the 3RF Secretariat tried to address the above-outlined challenges and undertook a parallel exercise to supplement the UNRCO data. This was done by adding information that had been collected during a stock-take exercise conducted by the 3RF Secretariat and Technical Team in summer 2021 on 3RF-related projects, as well as reaching out to the top 10 donors and to the 3RF sector WGs to validate the data collected by the UNRCO, and to request further information on any other projects that contribute to 3RF objectives. In response to the 3RF Secretariat's follow-up, donors and WGs provided information on projects, which in many cases did not align with the base data that had initially been reported to the UNRCO e.g., multiple projects that were initially reported to the UNRCO as contributing to the LCRP were then reported as contributing to the 3RF during the follow-up. This points to the risk of double-counting. Some IPs reported by the WGs did not feature on the UNRCO's list at all. The 3RF Secretariat did not follow-up further to clarify discrepancies as multiple rounds of follow-up also bear the risk of reporting fatigue among donors and IPs.

However, this is how the 3RF Secretariat arrived at the figure of 204,541,845 USD received by IPs in 2021, which was presented at the fourth Consultative Group meeting in April 2022. Given that the discrepancy between the UNRCO's and the 3RF Secretariat's figures for funding received by IPs in 2021 is almost 100 mil. USD, it is likely that funding to the 3RF is somewhere in the middle and there is a need to conduct an in-depth data cleaning exercise to remove duplicates and better understand the discrepancies between the two datasets. Furthermore, it is apparent that more efforts need to be invested in clarifying the scope of the 3RF and aid reporting responsibilities to both donors and IPs to improve 3RF aid tracking going forward.

## ANNEX 1: ACRONYMS

<b>3RF</b>	Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction
<b>AFD</b>	French Development Agency
<b>AICS</b>	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>ALDIC</b>	The Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights
<b>AUB</b>	American University of Beirut
<b>B5</b>	Building Beirut Businesses Back & Better
<b>BBA</b>	Beirut Bar Association
<b>BHI</b>	Beirut Heritage Initiative
<b>BMLWE</b>	Beirut Mount Lebanon Water Establishment
<b>CCI</b>	Cultural and Creative Industry
<b>CLDH</b>	Centre Libanais des Droits Humains
<b>CG</b>	Consultative Group
<b>CoM</b>	Council of Ministers
<b>COVID-19</b>	Corona Virus Disease
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organisations
<b>CMU</b>	Central Management Unit
<b>DGA</b>	Directorate General of Antiquities
<b>DFS</b>	Digital Finance Service
<b>DRI</b>	Democracy Reporting International
<b>EBRD</b>	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
<b>EDL</b>	Electricité Du Liban
<b>EIB</b>	European Investment Bank
<b>ERA</b>	Electricity Regulatory Authority
<b>ESSN</b>	Emergency Social Safety Net
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>GBV</b>	Gender Based Violence
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GoL</b>	Government of Lebanon
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
<b>IFIs</b>	International Financial Institutions
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IMC</b>	International Medial Corps
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>INGOs</b>	International Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>IOB</b>	Independent Oversight Board
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>IRC</b>	International Rescue Committee
<b>ISWM</b>	Integrated Solid Waste Management
<b>KAFA</b>	(Enough) Violence and Exploitation
<b>KfW</b>	KfW Entwicklungsbank GmbH
<b>LCPS</b>	Lebanese Center for Policy Studies
<b>LEF</b>	Lebanon Environment Forum
<b>LEM</b>	Lebanon Eco Movement
<b>LEWAP</b>	Lebanese Water Actros' Platform
<b>LFF</b>	Lebanon Financing Facility
<b>LHDF</b>	Lebanon Humanitarian and Development
<b>LHIF</b>	Lebanon Humanitarian INGO Forum
<b>LLL</b>	Live Love Lebanon
<b>LLWB</b>	Lebanese League for Women in Business
<b>LRC</b>	Lebanese Red Cross
<b>LRI</b>	Lebanese Reforestation Initiative

<b>MEHE</b>	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
<b>MFI</b> s	Micro-Finance Institutions
<b>MoEnv</b>	Ministry of Environment
<b>MoET</b>	Ministry of Economy and Trade
<b>MoEW</b>	Ministry of Energy and Water
<b>MoFA</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>MoI</b>	Ministry of Industry
<b>MoIM</b>	Ministry of Interior and Municipalities
<b>MoJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MoL</b>	Ministry of Labor
<b>MoPH</b>	Ministry of Public Health
<b>MoPW</b>	Ministry of Public Works
<b>MoSA</b>	Ministry of Social Affairs
<b>MSMEs</b>	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
<b>NCLW</b>	National Commission for Lebanese Women
<b>NGOs</b>	Non-Governmental Organizations
<b>NHSS</b>	National Health Sector Strategy
<b>NPTP</b>	National Poverty Targeting Program
<b>NSSF</b>	National Social Security Fund
<b>OEA</b>	Order of Engineers and Architects
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>OMSAR</b>	Office of the Minister of State for Administration Reform
<b>PC</b>	(LFF) Partnership Council
<b>PCM</b>	Presidency of the Council of Ministers
<b>PFM</b>	Public Financial Management
<b>PHCCs</b>	Primary Health Care Centers
<b>PMO</b>	Prime Minister's Office
<b>PoB</b>	Port of Beirut
<b>PPL</b>	Public Procurement Law
<b>RDCL</b>	Rassemblement des Dirigeants et Chefs d'entreprise Libanais
<b>RDNA</b>	Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment
<b>SCI</b>	Save the Children International
<b>SDCs</b>	Social Development Centers
<b>SOEs</b>	State-Owned Enterprises
<b>TT</b>	(3RF) Technical Team
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>UNESCWA</b>	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
<b>UN Habitat</b>	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
<b>UNIDO</b>	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>UNRCO</b>	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>UNOPS</b>	United Nations Office for Project Services
<b>WBG</b>	World Bank Group
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>WG</b>	Working Group
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

## ANNEX 2: PRESS RELEASES

### EU, UN and WBG launch an 18-month Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework in response to Beirut Port Explosion<sup>4</sup>

Beirut, December 4, 2020— Four months after the tragic August 4 explosion that rocked the Port of Beirut, the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank Group (WBG) launched today, in a virtual press conference, a landmark ‘people-centered’ response plan to help Lebanon address the urgent needs of the affected population as well as tackle the related governance, recovery and reconstruction challenges.

The 18-month Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) addresses the urgent needs of the population affected by the explosion that killed over 200 people, injured more than 6,500 and destroyed thousands of homes and properties in the capital city. This comprehensive response to the explosion bridges the immediate humanitarian assistance with medium-term recovery and reconstruction efforts, in order to put Lebanon on a path of sustainable development. It is also guided by the overarching principles of transparency, accountability, and inclusion.

The 3RF aims to achieve three central goals: (1) a people-centered recovery that addresses people’s basic needs, restores their livelihoods, improves social justice for all and ensures participatory decision-making; (2) the reconstruction of critical assets, services, and infrastructure that provides equal access to quality basic services for all and enables sustainable economic recovery; and (3) the implementation of reforms as an essential requirement to restore trust, support reconstruction and improve governance.

Speaking at the conference held at the UN House in Beirut were the Ambassador of the European Union to Lebanon, Ralph Tarraf, the UN Deputy Special Coordinator, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon, Najat Rochdi, and the Regional Director of the Middle East Department of the World Bank, Saroj Kumar Jha.

Rochdi said that “the 3RF is fundamentally for the people, it is about meeting their critical needs, safeguarding their basic rights, giving them a voice and a place in policy making”. That’s why it adopted a participatory and inclusive approach that involved all key stakeholder groups, including civil society, from planning through implementation, she added. “The 3RF provides a vision for ‘Building Back Better’, a plan to prevent a full-scale humanitarian catastrophe.”

Tarraf underscored that re-gaining the trust of the Lebanese people in state institutions is imperative for a successful recovery and reconstruction. To that end, the government needs to assume responsibility and urgently adopt credible structural reforms, he said. “Lebanon needs a new governance model that ensures that state institutions serve people’s needs and addresses the multiple crises the country faces,” he added.

The 3RF pursues two parallel tracks: (1) A socio-economic recovery track (“track 1”), that addresses the urgent needs of the most vulnerable populations and small businesses affected by the explosion; and (2) A reform and reconstruction track (“track 2”), focusing on critical reforms to address

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<sup>4</sup><https://lebanon.un.org/en/111308-eu-un-and-wbg-launch-18-month-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework-response-beirut>; [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/eu-un-and-wbg-launch-18-month-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/eu-un-and-wbg-launch-18-month-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework_en); <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/12/04/eu-un-and-wbg-launch-an-18-month-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework-in-response-to-beirut-port-explosion>

governance and recovery challenges in Lebanon, which are prerequisites for mobilizing international support for reconstruction beyond the recovery track.

“Channeling support directly to Lebanese people and businesses that have been impacted by the explosion is of utmost importance. To that effect, a Lebanon Financing Facility (LFF) will be set up to receive grant financing from donors for the implementation of the 3RF,” said Saroj Kumar Jha. “The LFF will focus on immediate recovery needs of poor and vulnerable households, support business recovery programs, promote inclusive ways of working with civil society and prepare the ground for reform and reconstruction. It will adopt flexible, non-governmental implementation modalities combined with strong fiduciary monitoring and independent oversight over the use of LFF funds,” he added.

With people at the heart of this response plan, the framework is structured around four strategic pillars: i) improving governance and accountability, ii) jobs and economic opportunities, iii) social protection, inclusion and culture, and iv) improving services and infrastructure. Each pillar identifies strategic objectives and priority areas across both the recovery and the reform and reconstruction tracks.

Going forward, the European Union, the United Nations and the World Bank Group remain committed to stand by the Lebanese people at all times and help them build back a better Lebanon.

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## First Consultative Group Meeting on the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework<sup>5</sup>

Beirut, March 31, 2021 – The Government of Lebanon, jointly with Civil Society, the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN), co-chaired today the first meeting of the Consultative Group for the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) to address the needs of the poor and most vulnerable households in response to the tragic Beirut port explosion.

Building on the 3RF launched by the EU, UN and the World Bank Group in December 2020, the meeting brought together around 60 representatives of the Government of Lebanon, Civil Society Organizations, international donors and financing institutions, to assess the needs and priorities for recovery interventions needed under the 3RF implementation. The meeting also took stock of the humanitarian assistance provided to date within the context of a deepening political and economic crisis, increased poverty and worsening food security, all exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting reviewed the reform priorities included in the 3RF and reiterated the urgency of adopting and implementing key credible reforms, which are essential to build back better and put Lebanon on the path of sustained recovery.

The 3RF Consultative Group fosters a new and innovative partnership model that brings all key actors together in a participatory and inclusive manner. Civil Society representatives play a key role in the process by bringing the voice of the people to the table, putting forward suggestions to address the underlying challenges and monitoring the implementation of the 3RF.

The following is the co-chairs’ summary of the first 3RF Consultative Group meeting:

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<sup>5</sup> <https://lebanon.un.org/en/123673-first-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>; [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/first-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/first-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework_en); <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/03/31/first-consultative-group-meeting-on-the-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>

1. The first Consultative Group (CG) meeting of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) took place on 31 March 2021 in virtual format. In accordance with the institutional arrangements of the 3RF, the meeting was co-chaired by the Government of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, European Union (EU) and United Nations (UN).
2. Building on the 3RF, developed by the EU, UN and World Bank Group in December 2020 in consultation with the Government, civil society and the private sector, the members of the Consultative Group discussed the urgent needs of the population affected by the Port of Beirut explosion within the context of a deepening political and economic crisis, increased poverty and worsening food security, all exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. Beyond the loss of life and many injuries, as well as the widespread physical damage and the loss of income, the members of the Consultative Group recognized the fact that the Beirut port explosion has deepened the crisis.
4. Members of the Consultative Group emphasized the need and urgency to assume responsibility to promote and support recovery and reconstruction in response to the Port of Beirut explosion, and to ensure effective coordination between different levels of government and the range of other stakeholders.
5. The Consultative Group underlined the importance of the 3RF guiding principles of inclusion and leaving no one behind; gender equality and women's empowerment; transparency and accountability, including anti-corruption and justice; sustainable livelihoods for the impacted communities, and a green recovery.
6. The members of the Consultative Group hoped that a government could be formed at the earliest opportunity. Several members expressed concern on the deteriorating situation and the need to take urgent action on overdue reforms.
7. To move recovery and reconstruction forward, the Government of Lebanon confirmed its commitment to help operationalize the 3RF governance structures, jointly with civil society and international partners. The Government also took note of the reform actions included in the 3RF and committed to their implementation within their legal capacity of caretaker government, particularly to:
  - a. Conduct within a reasonable timeframe a transparent investigation on the causes of the Beirut Port explosion.
  - b. Deliver on foundational macroeconomic reform, including progress with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on macroeconomic stabilization and restructuring of debt and the financial sector. Efforts also include the forensic audit of the central bank, banking sector reform, capital control, exchange rate unification, and a credible path to fiscal sustainability.
  - c. Prepare and approve the 2021 budget, incorporating a strong inclusive social protection programme; establish a unified registry for social assistance programmes; and, put in place a grievance and redress mechanism, and verification and monitoring and evaluation systems.
  - d. Adopt a vision statement that lays out the principles and strategy for port sector reform and reconstruction, including customs. Establish clear institutional arrangements to manage hazardous materials and waste from damage, destruction and demolition.
  - e. Strengthen the independence and effectiveness of the judiciary; implement the anti-corruption strategy, adopt the new Public Procurement Law and implement associated regulations.

8. The Government committed to present the state of play of these policy actions and reforms in the next CG meeting.
9. Members of the Consultative Group emphasized the needs and priorities of vulnerable groups, in particular women, youth and people with disabilities; and the importance of adopting an area-based approach engaging and involving communities at neighbourhood level in building back greener and smarter while preserving cultural identity.
10. The Consultative Group strongly welcomed its three-partite structure and considered that the successful implementation of the 3RF relies on a new partnership model and vision that brings all stakeholders together. To this end, the civil society representatives committed to ensure inclusive cooperation; to carry the voice and concerns of the people; to put forward constructive suggestions to address the underlying challenges and, to actively share information with civil society parties not represented in the Consultative Group.
11. Members highlighted the important role that civil society representatives and the Independent Oversight Body should play in monitoring the implementation of the 3RF and hold all stakeholders accountable.
12. The members of the Consultative Group took stock of the humanitarian interventions that were delivered for a total amount of 314M USD (to date) in response to the Beirut port explosion. They discussed lessons learned and took note of the recommendations to inform the 3RF recovery phase.
13. The members of the Consultative Group reviewed the 3RF strategic orientations and current financing needs, priorities and gaps based on the current financing prospects from donors. Furthermore, the World Bank updated the Consultative Group on the strategic priorities of the Lebanon Financing Facility and called on government to ensure swift endorsement of LFF.
14. International Donors and Financing Institutions agreed on the need to widen the resource base for 3RF people-centred recovery and to ensure predictability, coherence and effectiveness of aid. They will exert efforts to channel funds to the 3RF, including through the Lebanon Financing Facility.
15. The Consultative Group tasked the Technical Team to present in the next CG meeting an operational plan for the implementation of the agreed priorities of the four 3RF pillars, notably Improving Governance and Accountability; Jobs and Economic Opportunities; Social Protection, Inclusion and Culture, and Improving Services and Infrastructures.
16. The Terms of Reference of the Consultative group were adopted, and the members took note of the wider institutional arrangements, including the LFF Partnership Council, 3RF Secretariat and Independent Oversight Board (IOB). Access to information is essential to enable the IOB to fulfil its objectives in ensuring transparency and accountability. The Technical Team was tasked to facilitate the establishment of the CSO-led Independent Oversight Board by the next CG meeting.

## **Attendees**

### **Co-Chairs:**

Lebanon Prime Minister, Hassan Diab; Civil Society Representative, Lebanese League for Women in Business, Asma Zein; EU Ambassador, Ralph Tarraf; UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Lebanon, Najat Rochdi

### **Representatives of the Lebanese Republic**

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Trade, Minister of Social Affairs, Director General of the Presidency of the Republic, Member of Parliament, Advisor to President for International Cooperation, Advisor to Prime Minister

#### **Representatives of the International Community and International Organizations**

Canada, Denmark, EIB, EBRD, EU, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, OCHA, Spain, Switzerland, UN, United States, United Kingdom, World Bank

#### **Civil Society Organizations**

ALDIC - The Lebanese Association of Taxpayers' Rights, Association of Industrialists, Beirut Urban Lab, Green Mind, KAFA, Lebanese Physical Handicapped Union, Lebanon Humanitarian and Development NGOs Forum, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

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## Second Consultative Group Meeting on the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework<sup>6</sup>

Beirut, July 28, 2021 – The Consultative Group of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) held its second meeting yesterday.

The 3RF Consultative Group consists of the Government of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, the European Union, United Nations, the World Bank and international donors. Together they monitor progress and give strategic direction to the reforms and activities under the 3RF.

Given the context of rapidly worsening socio-economic situation in Lebanon, Consultative Group members focused on next steps. Below is the co-chairs' statement of the second 3RF Consultative Group meeting, which outlines the discussion and list of attendees.

The 3RF report and the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the 3RF can be found [here](#).

The Co-Chairs' Statement: Second Consultative Group Meeting of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework

1. The second Consultative Group (CG) meeting of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) was held 27 July 2021 in hybrid format, co-chaired by the Government of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, European Union (EU) and United Nations (UN).
2. The CG commemorated the 207 victims and thousands of injured in the explosion of 4 August last year. Many more lives were devastated as homes and businesses were destroyed. Testimony from a victim underlined the human tragedy.
3. The situation in Lebanon is worsening by the day through deepening political, economic, financial and social crises. More than half the population now lives below the national poverty line, unemployment is on the rise and an increasing share of households has difficulty accessing basic services like food and healthcare. A government should be formed without delay to implement the necessary reforms. Only then can the assistance offered by the international community, including

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<sup>6</sup> <https://lebanon.un.org/en/137667-second-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>; [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/second-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/second-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework_en); <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/07/28/lebanon-second-consultative-group-meeting-on-the-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>

under the 3RF, make a difference for people. Not taking this responsibility would deepen the crises and would have serious social and security implications.

4. Progress on reforms under the 3RF has been slow. The international community felt a lack of political responsibility to break the deadlock, especially considering the state of emergency Lebanon is in. CSOs called for a public debate and inclusive policy dialogue with the Government and committed to present concrete proposals to ministers at the 3RF table.
5. As committed to at the first CG, the 3RF Technical Team presented the state of implementation of the agreed priorities of the four 3RF pillars, namely Improving Governance and Accountability; Jobs and Economic Opportunities; Social Protection, Inclusion and Culture, and Improving Services and Infrastructures. Emergency Cash Transfers were made to 80,000 vulnerable people. Refurbished health facilities and emergency medical equipment benefitted some 200,000. A total of 94 public and 41 private schools were rehabilitated. Around 3,500 victims of the blast received legal assistance. But delays on some key activities under the 3RF, underline the need for more Government and Parliament responsiveness, especially on the exchange rate for development programmes, the Emergency Social Safety Net, implementation of the Lebanon Financing Facility priority programmes, port site clearance and reform, and addressing the collapse of service delivery starting with the electricity sector. Time is of the essence.
6. The CG was also updated on the formation of the Independent Oversight Body, which has been operational since June 2021, and which its members were present at the CG with observer status. The CG praised Lebanese civil society for their work on the ground and for their engagement with the 3RF, now representing 100 CSOs and businesses. CSOs emphasized that coordination structures and data collection is often too complex for CSOs to constructively take part.
7. The CG members agreed this meeting to be a call for action. A meeting will be held end of August to further discuss the following action points before the next CG to be held in October.
  - a) These essential reforms that require action on the part of the Government with input from CSOs and funding and technical assistance from the international community:
    - i. The international community repeated their call for justice and accountability through a transparent investigation into the causes of the explosion;
    - ii. Macroeconomic-fiscal reform was considered the most fundamental reform required to lessen the crises. With essential elements: exchange rate unification; an orderly exit from subsidy schemes; a Capital Controls law that ensures equal depositor treatment; forensic audit of the Central Bank; and Banking Sector reform.
    - iii. Maximising the potential benefits of the IMF Special Drawing Rights due in September through a proper mix of consumptive, systemic and investing measures, decided after an inclusive public debate on the use of the SDR.
    - iv. A budget should be passed for 2021, and more importantly a budget should be prepared for 2022, including a strong programme on social protection, implementing the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme and the National Poverty Targeting Programme (NPTP);
    - v. Independence of the Judiciary law should be passed with principles safeguarding independence reinstated, without further clauses to the contrary;
    - vi. The National Anti-Corruption Institution should be staffed and funded;
    - vii. The Public Procurement law secondary legislation should be passed and EDL's procurement be conducted within the frame of the Public Procurement law;

- viii. Installing, staffing and funding a Supervisory Commission for Elections to oversee compliance with campaign spending limits and equal access to media.
- b) CSOs will engage with Government and international partners on the eight reforms mentioned above, as well as on an urban strategy for reconstruction and support for the disabled and elderly, in addition to their other activities under the 3RF. 3RF Secretariat will facilitate this contact. CSOs also requested more frequent updates from the Technical Team. CSOs will present their experience of inclusivity in the 3RF at the next CG.
- c) The donor base should be widened, also for the LFF, especially to include Arab partners.
- d) To facilitate implementation of critical site clearance and waste management inside and outside the port, three critical actions should be taken: operationalize interministerial committee for overseeing the management of waste resulting from the explosion; facilitate access to the Port for site assessments and resulting interventions; and allocate a suitable site for the disposal of non-recyclable rubble and other mixed waste.
- e) Aid coordination should be strengthened, ensuring clear monitoring and transparent tracking of aid bearing the humanitarian-development nexus in mind. CSOs requested inclusion in implementation at sector level.
- f) CG praised the Army for gathering data from the affected area. And CG encourages further coordination with CSOs to update data and avoid duplication. CSOs requested to work with the 3RF Technical Team and Central Inspection to transform IMPACT as a platform to be more inclusive for citizens and CSOs with oversight by international partners, also to protect beneficiary data.

## **Attendees**

### **Government of Lebanon**

H.E. Dr Hassan Diab, Prime Minister; H.E. Zeina Akar, Deputy Prime Minister; H.E. Raoul Nehme, Minister of Economy and Trade; H.E. Ramzi Mcharafiyeh, Minister of Tourism and Social Affairs; H.E. Raymond Ghajar, Minister of Energy and Water; Mr Georges Adwan, Member of Parliament, Head of the Administration and Justice Committee; Mr Marwan Abboud, Governor of Beirut; Mr Antoine Choucair, General Director of the Lebanese Presidency; H.E. Gebran Soufan, Ambassador and Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister; Mr Tony al-Hoyek, Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister; Mr Haytham Sayyad, Advisor to the Governor of Beirut;

### **United Nations**

Ms Najat Rochdi, Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator; Ms Natalie Sarafian, Team Leader, Resident Coordinator Office

### **World Bank**

Mr Saroj Kumar Jha, Regional Director of the Mashreq Department; Ms Mouna Couzi, Lebanon Finance Facility Programme Manager

### **Donors**

H.E. Ralph Tarraf, Head of the Delegation of the European Union; H.E. Pierre Duquesne, Ambassador of France; H.E. Andreas Kindl, Ambassador of Germany; H.E. Nicoletta Bombardiere, Ambassador of Italy; H.E. José María Ferré, Ambassador of Spain; H.E. Hans Peter van der Woude, Ambassador of the Netherlands; H.E. Ian Collard, Ambassador of the United Kingdom; H.E. Dorothy Shea, Ambassador of the United States of America; Ms Maja Messmer Mokhtar, Chargée d'Affaires at the Embassy of Switzerland; Ms Mary Eileen Devitt, USAID Lebanon Mission Director; Mr Damien Sorrell, EIB Representative for Lebanon; Ms Gretchen Biery, Head of the Lebanon Office of the EBRD; Mr Khalil

Dinguizli, incoming Head of the Lebanon Office of the EBRD; Mr Jamie Schnurr, Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Canada; Mr Francois de Ricolfis, Head of the Regional Economic Section at the Embassy of France; Ms Alice Thomann, Deputy Head of Cooperation at the Embassy of Switzerland; Ms Roula Abbas, Programme Manager Civil Society at the Delegation of the European Union; Ms Estelle Akiki, Assistant to the Ambassador of Spain

### **Lebanese Civil Society**

Anonymous speaker on behalf of victims of the 4 August explosion; Ms Asma Zain of the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB); Ms Sylvana Lakkis of the Lebanese Union of Persons with Physical Disabilities; Ms Zoya Rouhana of KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation; Ms Ghada Jabbour of KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation; Ms Mona Harb of Beirut Urban Lab; Ms Nada Zaarour of Green Mind; Ms Carine Tohme of the Lebanese Association for Taxpayers' Rights (ALDIC); Ms Alia Farhat of the Lebanon Humanitarian & Development NGOs Forum (LHDF); Mr Soman Moodley, Country Coordinator at the Lebanon Humanitarian INGO Forum (LHIF); Ms Sophie Bloemeke, Research Assistant at Beirut Urban Lab

### **3RF Technical Team**

Mr Christian de Clercq, UN Resident Coordinator's Office; Mr Stephan Massing, World Bank Senior Strategy and Operations Officer; Mr Jose Luis Vinuesa-Santamaria, EU Delegation Head of Section; Mr Khalil Gebara of the 3RF Secretariat; Mr Jaap van Diggele of the 3RF Secretariat

### **3RF Independent Oversight Body (observers)**

Mr Julien Courson of the Lebanese Transparency Association; Ms Diana Menhem of Kulluna Irada; Ms Reem el-Dana of Kulluna Irada; Ms Roula Mikael of the Maharat Foundation

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## **Third Consultative Group Meeting on the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework: Press Release & Co-Chairs Statement<sup>7</sup>**

Beirut, November 16, 2021 –The Consultative Group (CG) of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) held its third meeting earlier today.

The 3RF Consultative Group consists of the Government of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, the European Union, United Nations, the World Bank and international donors. Together they monitor progress and give strategic direction to the reforms and activities under the 3RF.

The 3RF Consultative Group members discussed progress achieved so far and next steps in four main sectors: the anti-corruption sector; the Build Beirut Businesses Back Better (B5) programme; the social protection sector; and the housing sector. Below are the co-chairs' statement of the third 3RF Consultative Group meeting and list of attendees.

### **3RF Third Consultative Group Meeting: Co-Chairs' Statement**

1. The third Consultative Group (CG) meeting of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) was held on 16 November 2021 at the Grand Serail, co-chaired by the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, European Union (EU) and United Nations (UN).

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<sup>7</sup> <https://lebanon.un.org/en/158802-third-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework-press-release>; [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/third-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/third-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework_en); <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/11/16/third-consultative-group-meeting-on-the-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>

2. The economic, financial and social situation of most Lebanese has deteriorated further since last meeting in July. More than half the population live below the national poverty line and an increasing share of households has difficulty accessing basic services. Rebuilding trust in the social contract is essential for people to know there is a future for them in Lebanon, especially for those bereaved after the blast and for women.
3. The CG welcomed the formation of the new government, which took office on 10 September, and the ministerial statement that aligns with 3RF priorities. This commitment needs to be translated into concrete action and the Government and Parliament need to deliver on priority reforms. The CG welcomed the engagement of the Prime Minister, the Parliament, and the Presidency. The CG praised the formation of ministerial committees to further the work of the 3RF, and for being inclusive of civil society.
4. The CG repeated its call for justice and accountability through a transparent, independent and credible investigation into the Beirut port explosion, and for upholding due judicial process.
5. The CG reviewed progress on essential reforms discussed in the previous Consultative Group meeting. CG reiterated the need for macroeconomic and fiscal reforms, in the framework of an IMF programme, as sine qua non for stabilization and recovery of the economy of Lebanon. Potential benefits from the IMF Special Drawing Rights should be maximized. CG also reiterated the call for free and fair elections, to be held according to the electoral calendar provided by law and ensuring full representation and participation of women in the democratic process and in government. As called for at the second CG meeting, civil society is included in implementation of the 3RF at sector level.
6. The CG focused on how Lebanese Government, Lebanese civil society and the international community are working together to deliver the commitments of the 3RF. The CG called for donors to contribute to the 3RF, through the LFF or bilateral programmes that contribute to 3RF commitments. Priority in the present phase is people-centred recovery. The following next steps will all be taken before the fourth Consultative Group early next year.
  - i. In the housing sector (pillar *Improving Services and Infrastructure*), civil society was first to respond after the blast and continues to support those worst affected, though uneven attention is given to poor neighbourhoods. There is a need for a housing recovery strategy and action plan, linking housing to wider urban recovery while remaining sensitive to heritage, cultural life and the environment.
  - ii. The CG calls for a coordination planning unit for urban recovery in the office of the Governor of Beirut together with the Mayor of Beirut. This unit will coordinate with the Army Forward Emergency Room, civil society and the international community. The Governor of Beirut welcomed this proposal and will work with the 3RF housing working group to develop a Terms of Reference. The working group will also develop templates of contracts to protect both tenants and landlords.
  - iii. The CG called on Parliament to extend the hold on evictions introduced by law 194 for an additional year. The CG also called on the Forward Emergency Room to share their data on reconstruction efforts, on the Directorate General of Antiquities and UNESCO to share their data on heritage housing, and on donors to share their data on housing recovery and reconstruction efforts.
  - iv. Social protection (pillar *Social Protection, Inclusion and Culture*) has seen the National Poverty Targeting Plan double to 36 000 extremely poor households; soon set to double again. In-kind assistance was provided to more than 300 000 families nation-wide affected by the economic crisis. Some 20 000 disabled beneficiaries will soon receive social grants. The CG reiterated the call for a transparent 2022 budget with strong funding for social protection.

- v. CG welcomes the Prime Minister' decision to immediately implement the ESSN and form a ministerial committee on Social Protection and a technical committee to work on the national Social Protection strategy. The Minister of Social Affairs in coordination with concerned ministers will lead on reactivation of a structured dialogue on Social Protection, together with the Social Protection Coordination Forum that was set up for the 3RF. The CG called for the government to endorse the Social Protection Strategy. The CG called on Parliament for ratification of the convention of people with disabilities.
  - vi. The B5 was launched on 11 November and will start disbursing to SMEs in December, a major development in support of the pillar *Jobs and Economic Opportunities*.
  - vii. The CG welcomed commitment from Parliament to expedite passing of the Competition, Insolvency and Bankruptcy laws. The Minister of the Economy committed to finalize the implementation decree for the e-transaction law and develop a detailed action plan to deliver on the business environment strategy in coordination with the 3RF working group. The Government will simplify export procedures through ministerial letters. Parliament was requested to extend law 194 also to protect businesses affected by the blast.
  - viii. Anti-corruption (pillar *Improving Governance and Accountability*) progress was noted on formation of an inter-ministerial committee to implement the Public Procurement law. Parliament called on the international community for technical and financial support to draft ten decrees needed for the law to enter into force August 2022.
  - ix. CG welcomed the appointment of the Anti-Corruption Committee headed by Minister Riachi and requests all nominations and an adequate budget to be announced before the next CG. The CG welcomed Government and Parliament commitment to work with the 3RF Rule of Law working group to review drafts of the Independence of the Judiciary law and to request the assistance of the Venice Commission in finalizing the draft law.
7. The CG praised civil society for self-organizing and for their constructive stance, channelling the expertise and energy of more than 150 civil society organizations and experts into the 3RF through concrete recommendations.
  8. The CG praised the Prime Minister's decision to revitalize and expand the scope of the Central Management Unit (CMU) to act as coordination on international cooperation in Lebanon. The CMU will include three CSO and three donors and development partners and be located in the Office of the Prime Minister. Terms of Reference of the new CMU will be developed before the next CG.
  9. The CG saluted civil society and volunteers inside and outside Lebanon. Civil society is included in implementation of the 3RF at sector level. Fourteen sectoral working groups have been activated to bring together implementers and experts from the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union and civil society. The CG welcomed Government commitment to have representation in each of the working groups before the next CG meeting, in addition to representatives from donors. These working groups serve to implement the 3RF commitments including structured reforms required to unlock resources. Only by engaging in an inclusive and constructive policy dialogue, can Lebanon overcome its challenges.

## **Attendees**

### **State Institutions of Lebanon**

H.E. Najib Mikati, Prime Minister; H.E. Saade Chami, Deputy Prime Minister; H.E. Youssef Khalil, Minister of Finance; H.E. Henry Khoury, Minister of Justice; H.E. Najla Riachi, Minister of State for Administrative Reform; H.E. Amin Salam, Minister of Economy and Trade; H.E. Hector Hajjar, Minister of Social Affairs; Mr Marwan Abboud, Governor of Beirut; Mr Jamal Itani, Mayor of Beirut; Mr Georges Adwan MP; Mr Ibrahim Kanaan MP; Mr Yassine Jaber MP; Mr Antoine Choucair, General Director Lebanese Presidency

### **United Nations**

Ms Najat Rochdi, Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator; Mr Arkan al-Siblini, Regional Manager at UNDP Arab States; Mr Rony Gedeon, Resident Coordinator's Office

### **World Bank**

Ms Mouna Couzi, Lebanon Operations Manager and LFF Manager; Ms Karima Ben Bih, Disaster Risk Management and Resilience; Ms Zeina el-Khoury, Private Sector Specialist

### **Donors**

H.E. Ralph Tarraf, Ambassador of the European Union; H.E. Chantal Chastenay, Ambassador of Canada; H.E. Dr Marion Weichelt, Ambassador of Switzerland; H.E. Hans Peter van der Woude, Ambassador of the Netherlands; H.E. José María Ferré, Ambassador of Spain; H.E. Merete Juhl, Ambassador of Denmark; H.E. Nicoletta Bombardiere, Ambassador of Italy; H.E. Pierre Duquesne, Ambassador of France for international support to Lebanon; Mr Damien Sorrell, EIB Representative for Lebanon; Mr Khalil Dinguizli, Head of EBRD office Lebanon; Mr Richard Michaels, Deputy Ambassador of the United States of America; Ms Katharina Lack, Chargée d'Affaires at the Embassy of Germany; Ms Lucy Andrews, Development Director Lebanon at the British Embassy; Ms Maki Yamaguchi, First Secretary at the Embassy of Japan; Ms Najla Farid Nakhle, Economist Head of Office of the IMF; Ms Raluca Răduță, Programme Manager Social Protection at the EU Delegation

### **Lebanese Civil Society**

Ms Asma Zein of the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB); Mr Edward Bitar of Live Love Lebanon; Mr Fadlallah Dagher of Beirut Heritage Initiative; Mr George Antoun of Lutheran World Relief; Mr Maroun Karam of Beitna Beita; Mr Nadim Abdo of Arcenciel; Mr Richard Nader of St Vincent DePaul; Ms Mona Harb of Beirut Urban Lab; Ms Sylvana Lakkis of the Lebanese Union of Persons with Physical Disabilities; Ms Zoya Rouhana of KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation

### **3RF Independent Oversight Body (observers)**

Mr Julien Courson of the Lebanese of Transparency International; Ms Reem el-Dana of Kulluna Irada; Ms Roula Mikael of the Maharat Foundation

### **3RF Technical Team and Secretariat**

Mr Christian de Clercq, UN Resident Coordinator's Office; Mr Rein Nieland, EU Delegation Head of Cooperation; Ms Rana Bou Saada, communications expert; Mr Khalil Gebara of the 3RF Secretariat; Mr Jaap van Diggele of the 3RF Secretariat

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## Fourth Consultative Group Meeting on the Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction Framework<sup>8</sup>

Beirut, April 4, 2022 – The Consultative Group (CG) of the Reform, Recovery, and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) held its fourth meeting earlier today.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://lebanon.un.org/en/176775-fourth-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>; [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/fourth-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework\\_en](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/lebanon/fourth-consultative-group-meeting-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework_en); <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2022/04/04/fourth-consultative-group-meeting-on-the-reform-recovery-and-reconstruction-framework>

The 3RF Consultative Group consists of the Government of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, the European Union, United Nations, the World Bank, and international donors. Together they monitor progress and give strategic direction to the reforms and activities under the 3RF.

The 3RF Consultative Group members took stock of the progress made to date under the 3RF supported programs and reiterated its call to address the protracted crisis. Discussions focused on three strategic issues, namely economic stabilization and recovery, social protection, and justice and accountability. Below are the co-chairs' statement of the fourth 3RF Consultative Group meeting and the list of attendees.

1. The fourth Consultative Group (CG) meeting of the Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) was held on 1 April 2022 at the Grand Serail, co-chaired by the Prime Minister of Lebanon, Lebanese civil society, the European Union and the United Nations.
2. The CG witnesses the increasing despair of the Lebanese population. Delays in decision-making are leading the country towards a protracted and escalating humanitarian crisis. The people need to be put first. Lebanon needs to swiftly embark on a roadmap to exit this unfolding crisis through an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and a comprehensive economic stabilization and recovery programme. A strong and nationally owned social protection programme will help safeguard Lebanon's human and social capital. Justice and accountability are sine qua non for both.
3. In the spirit of the 3RF, these are collective responsibilities. The CG acknowledges the difficult situation for the Lebanese Government, with the civil service not functioning at full capacity, a continuing refugee crisis, and the challenging global security and economic situation. The international community and civil society are committed to continuing to provide support in the interest of the Lebanese people. But the role of the Lebanese Government and Parliament cannot be substituted. Reforms are a necessity for recovery and not a request only from the international community. Lebanese Government and Parliament will have to find the political will to take collective steps beyond party politics; this will be an infusion of trust. The Government together with the Lebanese Civil Society should take ownership of the roadmap that the 3RF and its international partners offer, both at the strategic level in the CG and at a technical level through 3RF Working Groups. Now is the time for all of us to deliver results, better and faster.
4. Eighteen months after the Beirut port explosion, the investigation is stalled again. The victims and their families, and the people of Lebanon have the right to know what caused the explosion and to hold those responsible for this tragedy accountable.
5. Parliamentary elections are planned on 15 May 2022. The CG underlined the importance that Lebanese decision-makers take all measures and make available all necessary resources, including for the Supervisory Commission for Elections, to ensure fair, free, and transparent elections. The CG took note of the Parliament's decision to postpone the municipal elections and emphasized the need to uphold all electoral milestones in line with Lebanon's democratic principles and commitments.
6. The 3RF Secretariat presented a 360-degree stock take. As an innovative and ambitious organizing principle, the 3RF has proved its concept; it should now deliver on results. In 2021, there has been a significant increase in funding under the 3RF, with disbursements reaching USD 204 million, and focused on people-centred recovery. These have spanned several sectors including social protection, education, health, housing, waste management and economic opportunities. The CG called on donors and international organizations to maintain and increase financial and technical support for the 3RF in 2022 and beyond.
7. Coordination between state institutions on the 3RF was strengthened through the Central Management Unit (CMU) set up by the Prime Minister. This engagement should be stepped up, even after the elections, as much progress could be made even under a caretaker government.

Civil society noted that the CMU was not as inclusive as committed to at the third meeting of the CG held on 16 November 2021. The Prime Minister confirmed his intention to invite Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders when the CMU is well established.

8. As implementation of the 3RF moves forward, the CG noted the importance of stepping up communications efforts highlighting the results achieved and their impact on people's lives. Communications and outreach efforts should also address the citizens' needs and challenges through an engagement platform that channels public views and concerns to relevant authorities and addresses queries and complaints promptly and efficiently.
9. Discussion in the CG focused on three strategic issues: economic stabilization and recovery, social protection, and justice and accountability. Lebanon's economic and financial crisis is estimated to rank among the top three most severe economic collapses worldwide since the 1850s. According to Government estimates, real GDP is estimated to have declined by 5 percent in 2021, on the back of a 21.4 percent contraction in 2020, whereas the 2022 real GDP growth rate in Lebanon is predicted to be at -2.5 percent. The CG calls for the urgent adoption and implementation of a credible, comprehensive, equitable reform plan that includes a debt restructuring programme that would achieve short-term fiscal space and medium-term debt sustainability; a comprehensive restructuring of the financial sector in order to regain solvency of the banking sector; a new monetary policy framework that would restore confidence and stability in the exchange rate; a phased, equitable, fiscal adjustment aimed at regaining confidence in fiscal policy; and growth-enhancing reforms. The Minister of Economy and Trade clarified in his intervention that the new Competition Law will open up investment in public services sectors to the private sector.
10. The CG confirmed the central importance of justice, anti-corruption, and accountability. The CG reiterated its call for inclusive exchange of views between stakeholders before the adoption of the Independence of the Judiciary Law, with principles safeguarding the separation of powers. The CG welcomed the fruitful engagement between the Ministry of Justice and the Venice Commission, which has been requested to provide an independent legal opinion on the compliance of the draft Law with international practices. The CG commended the Minister of State for Administrative Reform for the progress made to implement the anti-corruption strategy and the associated Laws and decrees. The CG calls for the urgent mobilization of adequate resources for the National Anti-Corruption Commission to perform its duties. The Prime Minister also confirmed that the internal regulations of the National Human Rights Commission are ready to be adopted by the Council of Ministers once Parliament passes the budget.
11. The CG also discussed Social Protection, commending progress in the establishment of a unified registry covering all social assistance programmes and the upscaling and implementation of the social assistance and services programmes (NPTP, ESSN). The CG called for the adoption of the draft National Social Protection Strategy as a matter of urgency to ensure that social protection goes beyond social assistance and includes social insurance, financial access to basic services, social welfare, and economic inclusion and labour activation. This strategy will be a vehicle for a new social contract between the people and the state, to anchor future international investments, and avoid a protracted humanitarian crisis.
12. The CG praised the contribution of the first rotation of member civil society organizations, in providing strategic guidance, reviewing and monitoring implementation progress and advocating for various initiatives under the 3RF. The CG also wished the second rotation success, as well as the three additional members of the Independent Oversight Board (IOB). The IOB intervened to highlight the implementation of the Access to Information Law to reforms, crucial to enable more CSO involvement in the drafting of laws. The CG welcomed Norway and Sweden to the CG donor group. Donors agreed to continue to be represented by the European Union as co-chair of the CG.

## **Attendees**

### **State Institutions of Lebanon**

H.E. Najib Mikati, Prime Minister; H.E. Saade Chami, Deputy Prime Minister; H.E. Amin Salam, Minister of Economy and Trade; H.E. Hector Hajjar, Minister of Social Affairs; Ms Rubina Abou Zeinab, National Coordinator for the 3RF CMU; Mr Mohammed Itani, Economic Expert at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers

### **United Nations**

Ms Najat Rochdi, Deputy Special Coordinator, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator

### **World Bank**

Mr Saroj Kumar Jha, Regional Director

### **Donors**

H.E. Ralph Tarraf, Ambassador of the European Union; H.E. Andreas Kindl, Ambassador of Germany; H.E. Ann Dismorr, Ambassador of Sweden; H.E. Anne Grillo, Ambassador of France; H.E. Chantal Chastenay, Ambassador of Canada; H.E. Dorothy Shea, Ambassador of the United States of America; H.E. Hans Peter van der Woude, Ambassador of the Netherlands; H.E. Ian Collard, Ambassador of the United Kingdom; H.E. Marion Weichelt, Ambassador of Switzerland; H.E. Merete Juhl, Ambassador of Denmark; H.E. Nicoletta Bombardiere, Ambassador of Italy; H.E. Pierre Duquesne of France, Special Coordinator for International Aid to Lebanon; Mr Damien Sorrell, Representative for Lebanon of the European Investment Bank; Mr Khalil Dinguizli, Head of Lebanon for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; Mr Kiyoshi Mihara, Deputy Ambassador of Japan; Mr Sverre Wroldsen, Chargé d’Affaires of Norway; Mr Victor Hugo Portillo Angulo, Deputy Head of Mission of Spain

### **Lebanese Civil Society**

Ms Asma Zein of the Lebanese League for Women in Business; Ms Alia Farhat of Al-Majmoua; Ms Carine Tohme of ALDIC; Mr Danny Aboud of the Lebanese Industrialists Association; Mr Eddy Bitar of Live Love; Ms Ella Bitar of the Society of St Vincent DePaul; Mr Nadim Abdo of Arcenciel; Ms Fadlo Dagher of BHI

### **3RF Independent Oversight Body (observers)**

Mr Julien Courson of the Lebanese of Transparency International; Ms Reem Al-Dana of Kulluna Irada; Ms Roula Mikhael of Maharat; Ms Grace Eid of Nusaned

### **3RF Technical Team and Secretariat**

Mr Christian de Clercq, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office; Mr Rein Nieland, EU Delegation Head of Cooperation; Ms Mouna Couzi, Lebanon Operations Manager and LFF Manager; Ms Judit Demjén of the 3RF Secretariat; Mr Khalil Gebara of the 3RF Secretariat; Mr Jaap van Diggele of the 3RF Secretariat