

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Building Empowered Communities.



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Introduction

The Popular Aid for Relief and Development (**PARD**) is an independent grassroots organization working on gender justice and women's empowerment, youth empowerment, environmental health, and relief for people in distress among Palestinian and Lebanese communities and refugees from Syria. It was founded in 1985 under the name of “The Relief Agency” by a group of volunteers. It received official recognition under the name of Popular Aid for Relief and Development through notification number 44/AD in 23/4/1990.

PARD believes that in addition to providing relief and support to the Palestinian refugees at times of disaster, there is a great need to provide environmental, health and social services to the marginalized and vulnerable groups in the Palestinian camps and gatherings in Lebanon at times of stability as well. These services are extremely crucial to the refugees’ wellbeing and substantially contribute to building their resilience and ability to participate meaningfully in their communities.

PARD adopted a participatory approach to develop its strategy for 2022-2024

PARD adheres itself to the Millennium Development Goals which include the following:

- Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger by supporting small local projects
- Achieving universal primary education: by providing remedial lessons to students, combat illiteracy and vocational trainings
- Promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women: through the formation of women's committees; awareness-raising and income-generating projects
- Improvement of maternal health: through the mother and child health program
- Combatting HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: through health education for prevention
- Environmental sustainability: by providing environmental health programs
- Developing a global partnership for development: through networking with local and international NGOs and UN agencies.

PARD also adheres to the SPEHERE principles through 10 core principles:

- The humanitarian imperative comes first.
- Aid is given regardless of the race, creed or nationality of the recipients and without adverse distinction of any kind. Aid priorities are calculated on the basis of need alone.
- Aid will not be used to further a particular political or religious standpoint.
- We shall endeavor not to act as instruments of government foreign policy.
- We shall respect culture and custom.
- We shall attempt to build disaster response on local capacities.
- Ways shall be found to involve program beneficiaries in the management of relief aid.
- Relief aid must strive to reduce future vulnerabilities to disaster as well as meeting basic needs.
- We hold ourselves accountable to both those we seek to assist and those from whom we accept resources.
- In our information, publicity and advertising activities, we shall recognize disaster victims as dignified human beings, not hopeless objects.

Mission and Vision

Mission

The Popular Aid for Relief and Development is a nonprofit, grass-roots, rights based NGO that aims to promote gender justice and the right of marginalized and vulnerable groups, especially in the Palestinian gatherings, to access social, health and environmental services. PARD does so by providing access to healthcare, environmental health and education services, and by empowering women, youth, and children to practice their rights and participate effectively within their communities. PARD also provides support and relief to people affected by disasters.

Vision

Refugees in Lebanon enjoy civil and social rights and gender justice, and are empowered to participate meaningfully in life-determining decisions. Palestinian women have the right to participate effectively and equally within the community. The Palestinian gatherings are environmentally clean, healthy and safe. PARD's programs are rights-based, need-responsive, participatory, well designed, implemented and monitored by a committed, highly skilled, efficient and motivated team.

Principles and Values

Human Rights & Social Justice: PARD believes all human beings have the same universal rights. These rights should guarantee freedom, justice, and equality to everybody. All individuals should have an equal opportunity to exercise the privileges of citizenship, freedom of speech, press, religion and to participate fully in civil life, regardless of race, religion, sex, or other characteristics irrelevant to the true value of each individual.

Gender: PARD believes that women should enjoy equal political, civil and social rights under equal circumstances that would lead to equal opportunities and capabilities. We believe that all society members and women in particular should be empowered to participate in the decision-making and implementation of issues that affect their lives.

Participation: PARD believes that all individuals and groups have the right to participate in the processes that define their lives. All individuals should have the chance to participate meaningfully in the making of decisions that influence their lives and the lives of their families. PARD believes that the organizations' stakeholders and constituencies are integral and full partners of the planning, action and learning processes that PARD takes on.

Accountability and Transparency: PARD perceives transparency as a reflection for openness and clarity on crucial issues such as decision-making mechanisms, operations, finance and relations. We think of accountability as an expectation to the responsibility and commitment towards PARD's mission, values and promised quality performance.

Value of International Agreements: PARD is committed to all relevant international agreements and conventions on human rights, such as CEDAW, CRC, Beijing declaration and the Alma-Ata Declaration as well. PARD also believes in its role as an active participant that aims to contribute to the accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals.

Beneficiaries

The Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon (PRL) are descendants of those who were forcibly displaced to Lebanon following the 1948 Nakba in Palestine. This displacement happened as a result of the ethnic cleansing occurring due to the Israeli occupation of Palestine. According to UNRWA, there are 475,000 registered PRL in the organization records. This number, however, is not indicative of the actual number of resident PRL as there is not one approved census that clearly specifies this figure. A most recent UNRWA and Government of Lebanon (GoL) update¹ estimates that there are around 180,000 PRL present in Lebanon. This discrepancy between the numbers is due to multiple factors including that many might have left the country.

The Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon (PRL) face all kinds of discrimination despite their long presence in Lebanon and the fact that a big percentage of them was born in Lebanon. This discrimination is mainly represented with the fact that they are not granted the civil and legal rights enjoyed by the Lebanese citizens. Two of those denied rights that majorly affect PRL in Lebanon are the right to ownership and the right to work. Since 2001, refugees are not allowed to own property assets in Lebanon and are obliged to bequeath them to religious authorities (Waqef) if purchased prior to the passage of the Law 296/2001.

On the labor level, refugees, particularly PRL, face difficulties accessing the labor market in Lebanon due to social discrimination and isolation and due to the legal denial of their right to work in various professions. PRL are banned from 39 professions per the Lebanese labor law. These professions are distributed among the following sectors and include:

- **Healthcare**: 22 professions, including medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, psychology
- **Engineering**: 3 professions, including agricultural engineering and typography
- **Public Sector and Law**: 2 professions, including law and public service
- **Transport and Fishing**: 5 professions, including teaching car driving and coastal navigation and fishing
- **Services and Day-Care**: 3 professions, including opening or managing a nursery
- **Other Fields**: 4 professions, including public accountant and tourist guide²

There are different locations to where PRL reside in Lebanon. Initially, PRL reside in what is referred to as Palestinian camps. There are 12 officially recognized Palestinian camps in Lebanon that are under the mandate of UNRWA. However, it is estimated that around 45% reside in the camps³ which counts for approximately 81,000 individuals assuming a total of 180,000 resident PRL. That mentioned, around 99,000 PRL reside in areas outside the camps, mainly in areas such as the Palestinian gatherings, PARD's target areas.

For the definition of the gatherings, there is a lack of consensus on how they are defined which therefore affects their count. In a recent report¹, gatherings were defined by “geographic area, outside the official

¹ Lebanese Palestinian Dialogue Committee, Central Administration of statistics, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2019). The Population and Housing Census in Palestinian Camps and Gatherings - 2017, Detailed Analytical Report, Beirut, Lebanon

² Assessing Vulnerabilities in Palestinian Gatherings in Lebanon – Results of UNDP 2017 Household Survey

³ Protection brief: Palestine refugees living in Lebanon- Updated in September 2020

camps, which is home to a minimum 15 Palestinian Households”. With this definition, the number of recognized gatherings across Lebanon was 154 gatherings categorized into Adjacent Gatherings – to camps- and Other Gatherings. However, the term gathering was first recognized and defined by FAFO (2003) to describe locations that accommodate groups of Palestinian refugees. According to FAFO (2003) definition, a gathering:

- has a population of Palestinian refugees, including Palestinian refugees who are registered with UNRWA and/or the Lebanese government or are not registered;
- has no official UNRWA camp status or any other legal authority identified with responsibility for camp management; Is expected to have clearly defined humanitarian and protection needs, or have a minimum of 25 Households;
- has a population with a sense of being a distinct group living in a geographically identifiable area.

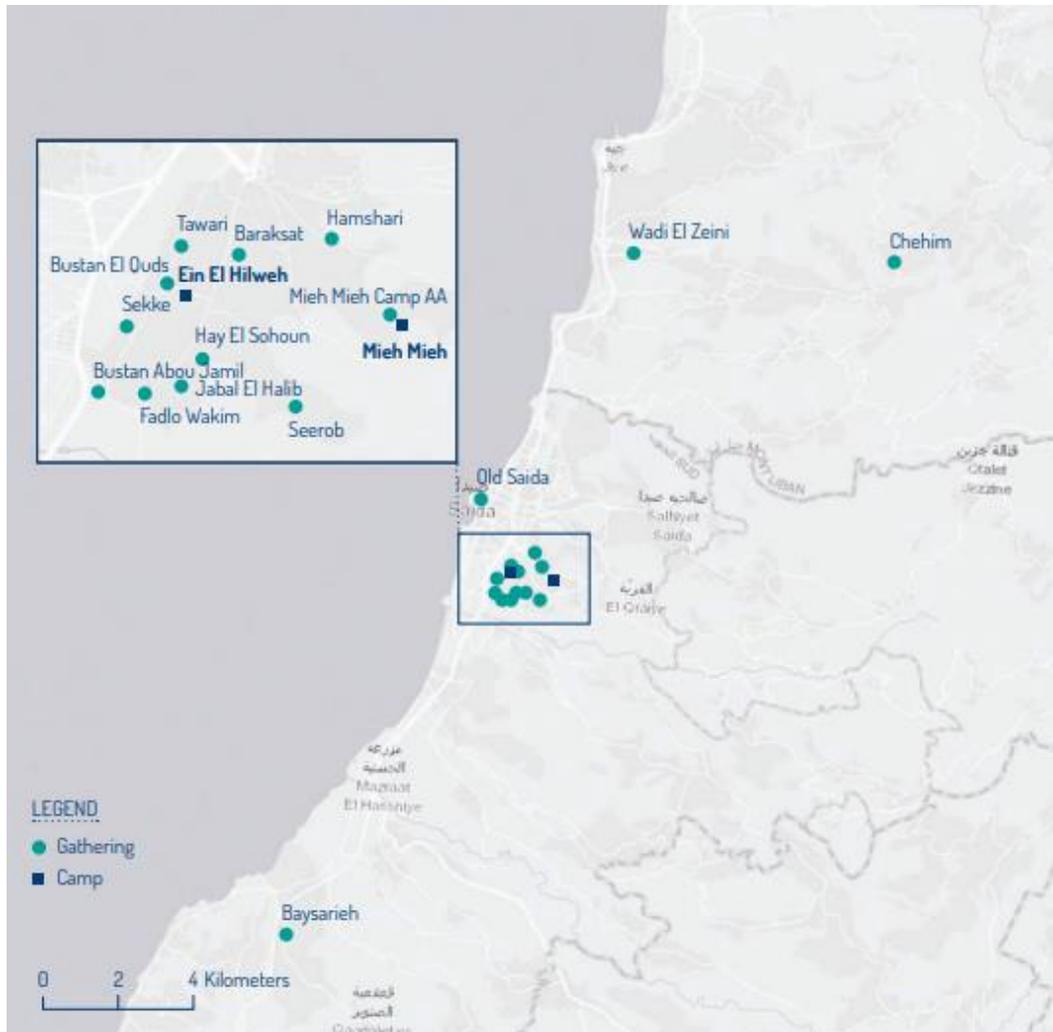
This definition counts for 42 Palestinian gatherings in Lebanon. For the sake of its work, PARD adopts FAFO’s definition of gatherings and operates in those of Tyre, Saida, and Beirut.



Map 1 Palestinian gatherings in Beirut ²

Being majorly but not exclusively of the Palestinian nationality, gatherings do not only include PRL. They include Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL), Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) in Lebanon, Syrian, and Lebanese residents.

The residents of the Palestinian gatherings suffer multiple precarious conditions compared to those living in camps or other Lebanese areas. As UNRWA offers all services to Palestinian refugees regardless of their area of residence, if accessible, PRL in the gatherings can benefit from health and educational services at UNRWA's centers outside gatherings. However, the main concern lies in that UNRWA does not cover the rehabilitation of the infrastructure of the gatherings with excuses related to the lack of sufficient budgets. This duty is not always held by municipalities of relevant areas as multiple gatherings are constructed illegally on the municipality's lands or on lands owned by private landowners.



Map 2 Palestinian Gatherings in Saida 2

The state and conditions of the housing and population in the gatherings are also a major concern to the quality of life there. As the gatherings are not legally and officially recognized, many are at constant risk of evacuation and insecurity with high levels in Jal el Bahr. In addition, according to the most recent official figures in 2017², the households in the gatherings are marked by a state of 35% more overcrowding compared to the general population in Lebanon. This difference is attributed to the fact that around 30% of the population of the gatherings lives in shared or stand-alone single houses increasing the number of individuals per room. This is also exacerbated by the fact that around 35% of the houses are affected by humidity and 22% are affected by darkness. These figures are expected to have increased in recent years.

On the health level, PRL in the gatherings have limited access to health care and health care facilities. Although this service is covered by UNRWA, there are multiple factors that determine access to health care treatment². These determinants include

- Family income and employment status
- Health coverage
- Distance to a health care center

- Gatherings adjacent to camps: living in one of those gatherings increases the chances of obtaining health treatment by 6%, given that UNRWA health services are primarily centered in and around Palestinian camps.



Map 2 Palestinian Gatherings in South Lebanon ²

Given that the first determinant is family income, it contributes to the affordability of healthcare treatment. The lack of affordability is one major reason that keeps 11% of 57% of the PRL household in the gatherings that reported need for health treatment, untreated.

On the educational level, the level of education differs depending on the age group in the PRL communities². The general level of school enrollment in the primary school age (6-12) is considerably high with 89%. For the preparatory school age (13 to 15), this number decreases to 77% with a more significant decrease in males than females.

Like in accessing health-care, the main reported reason to drop out is the lack of affordability along with other factors. For the primary school age, the 11% not enrolled in schools in this age attribute that to the mentioned lack of affordability. However, the drop recorded in the preparatory school age is resulted by another factor which is the need to work. The numbers of enrollment have probably dropped further

following 2017 due to the multiple financial, economic, and health crises that affected the life of people and further lowered their ability to afford schooling and increased their need to have members of the family in labor. The average Palestinian family would pay an average of 236\$ per year on education in a range of 40\$ to 609\$ depending on the area of the location of the gathering². That mentioned, the crises have drastically affected the ability of any family to spend the average number leaving them in a more drastic state of lack of affordability of education. This drop is attributed to the coping strategies some families had to follow which included putting children in labor where UNRWA figures³ estimate that around 4,500 Palestinian children engage in some form of child labor.

On another level, PRL suffer from unemployment and the unavailability of job opportunities. As they are discriminated against by the labor law that forbids them from practicing different jobs, PRL are left with very few job opportunities that don't yield enough income. These opportunities are focused in three main labor sectors: retail sales, with 30% of the employed population working in it, construction- 22%, and manufacturing- 13%. In addition, around 24% of the households in Palestinian gatherings have no employed family member therefore securing no income. These are, in addition to the risks that face PRL in labor, making their job insecure such as arbitrary dismissals and absence of end-of-service indemnities. These factors have led many families to live under the poverty line as UNRWA figures show that in 2016, 65 per cent of PRL lived under the poverty line, as did 87 per cent of PRS in March 2020.³

This situation was exacerbated by the influx of refugees from Syria into the gatherings. Since the beginning of the conflict in Syria in March 2011, gatherings and camps have housed a large number of Palestinian and Syrian refugees from Syria. An estimated 52,400 Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS) were registered in UNRWA by beginning of 2014. Virtually all these refugees have flocked to camps and gatherings. It is estimated that more than two-thirds of the PRS are renting premises while the rest are hosted by other Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL).

Since March 2011, camps and gatherings throughout Lebanon have been hosting an increasing number of Palestinian and Syrian refugees fleeing the conflict in Syria. The vast majority of refugee families arriving to camps and gatherings are Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) who have arrived into gatherings and camps typically following family and social relations. PRS in Lebanon also suffer from employability challenges leaving 49% of them jobless in 2020.³

PARD's response to the beneficiaries' needs:

In response to the needs and vulnerabilities of the Palestinians in the gatherings, PARD responded over the years in different areas. PARD established a polyclinic in Sabra. Established in 1985, the center deals with the following activities:

- Curative medicine for adults and children
- Vaccination of babies and children
- Family planning
- Giving lectures and instructions to child and women including home visits
- Minor surgeries
- Handing out milk and baby clothing
- Laboratory tests
- Pap smear and circumcision

The clinic was established in response to the needs of the Palestinian displaced families of the destroyed Shatila camp during the war of camps 1985-1987, and a dental clinic was established in 2012. PARD also

established a dispensary in Saida in 1994 and was closed in 2010 due to the opening of other dispensaries. PARD had operating clinics in multiple areas like Dbaye, Wasta, and Jim Jim. Also, PARD started a mobile clinic in 1987 whose was to visit displacement centers, unregistered camps and far away places deprived of health facilities. It used to visit Burghuliye, Jwar al nakhel – Kfar badda and Naame. It is still running visiting the gatherings of Jal Al Bahr, Maashouk, Qasmiyeh, Shabriha, Jim Jeem, Wasta, Aitaniyeh, and Sikkeh. PARD has also responded to those needs through health trainings, establishing youth and women committees, and supporting small community projects.

Multiple other programs were started by PARD in response to the PRL's needs in Lebanon. These programs included **health education** which started in 1987 in the Palestinian gatherings. This tackled multiple subjects including reproductive health, environmental health and social issues such as early marriage, GBV and drug abuse. This activity also included a peer-to-peer approach to health education through training of trainers (ToT) which is also part of PARD's women and youth empowerment. Another program is the **empowerment of women and youth program** that started in 2000 and included training on empowerment, follow-up on formed women and youth committees, and support to small income generating projects for women or small community projects implemented by the women. In addition, it involved vocational trainings, combating illiteracy, and awareness raising on human rights, health and social issues and gender justice. Among that is also the first aid project for youth which took place from 1998 till 2020.

And since serving children is an integral part of PARD's work, **psychosocial activities for children** aged between 7 – 12 years started in PARD with the establishment of the center in Sabra in 1998, and continued till the present date in Beirut and South Lebanon (Shabriha, Maashouk, Jim Jeem and Wadi El Zeineh).

On another hand, PARD responded to many emergencies as part of its relief activities. Among those are a response after the Israeli attacks on Lebanon in 1996 and 2006. In 1996, PARD's response included distribution of cleaning and personal hygiene kits, baby kits, and anti-lice shampoo, water control, garbage removal, provision of hot water for bathing, provision of medical care, and health education in Saida as well as provision of medical services and distribution of cleaning materials and tools in Beirut. In 2006, PARD provided relief activities directly after the Israeli aggression which included:

- Provision of medical services and medications
- Provision of first aid services
- Health awareness raising
- Securing shelter
- Water and sanitation
- Distribution of relief kits (food and hygiene kits)
- Children activities
- Participation in vaccination campaign against measles

PARD also responded in the recovery phase which included:

- Distribution of school kits
- Distribution of full fat and low-fat milk
- Distribution of Olive oil
- Distribution of blankets, diapers, children clothing, personal and family hygiene kits
- Children activities
- Water and sanitation
- Repairing damaged houses

Another project that was established as a response to a war context was the **environmental health project**. This project started in 1985 among the displaced refugees after the “war of camps”. It has been ongoing ever since and includes the following activities:

- Solid waste collection and sorting
- Water testing
- Rehabilitation of water and sewage infrastructure
- Rehabilitation of water reservoirs and wells
- Combating insects and rodent infestations
- Raising community awareness on the protection of the environment
- Training courses (local health educators, water care takers)

Grand projects with budgets exceeding half a million dollars:

- 1- In 2003, PARD in partnership with **World Vision International**, implemented a project supported by **ECHO** to rehabilitate the water and sewage infrastructure in the Beirut displacement centers (Gaza buildings) and the unofficial gatherings of the South (Kfarbadda, Aitaniyeh, Wasta, Qasmiyeh, Burghuliyeh and Shabriha). Works included construction of sewage systems, digging of new wells, construction of water systems, rehabilitation of water reservoirs and improvement of solid waste collection project.
- 2- In 2003-2004, PARD, in partnership with **CESVI**, implemented a project supported by ECHO to rehabilitate water and sewage infrastructure in Nahr El Bared camp. Moreover, PARD implemented an awareness campaign on water-borne diseases and their prevention benefiting 955 women and 1145 children.
- 3- PARD, in partnership with **HumanServe International**, implemented a project to place a water network and dig a well in Sikkeh gathering in 2006. This project additionally provided a generator to work the pump of the well providing water.
- 4- PARD, in partnership with **CISP**, implemented a project sponsored by ECHO to rehabilitate sanitation and drinking water infrastructure of the Tyre Palestinian gatherings. PARD collaborated in engineering, raising health awareness and water testing.
- 5- PARD, in partnership with **Premiere Urgence (PU)**, implemented a project to replace the old sewage network with a new one in 2008. Moreover, PARD implemented a health awareness campaign related to water and sewage. PARD was also in charge of the design, organization and implementation of the solid waste disposal project in Sikkeh.
- 6- In 2009, PARD implemented with **NRC** and the Popular Committee a project to improve the water well and water network in the gathering of Daouk-Beirut. PARD also partnered NRC in the maintenance of the improved infrastructure in Gaza buildings.
- 7- In 2013, in partnership with **UNDP** and **UNHABITAT**, PARD implemented a WATSAN project related to rehabilitation of sewage network, water system, and road networks in the gatherings of Saida and Tyre.
- 8- In 2013, in partnership with **SIDA** (Canadian government) and **MCC**, PARD implemented a project for the improvement of Shelters for Syrian refugees in the South gatherings.
- 9- In 2013, in partnership with **UNHABITAT**, PARD implemented a project to construct 18 rooms in Sikkeh (Adjacent area of Ain El Helwe camp)
- 10- In 2014, in partnership with **OCHA** and **OXFAM**, PARD implemented a WATSAN project including the provision of water storage tanks, water quality monitoring and testing, rehabilitation of water wells, lowering pumps and installation of underground monitoring systems in boreholes in Ein El Helweh camp (Asohoun, Safsaf, Murshed and Hittin).

- 11- In 2014, in partnership with **OCHA** and **Welfare association**, PARD implemented a WATSAN project in the South gatherings.
- 12- In 2015, in partnership with **UNDP** and **SIF** (Secours Islamique France), PARD implemented a WATSAN project including rehabilitation of water and sewage networks, awareness campaigns, in the gatherings of Tyre and Beirut. In addition to rehabilitation of households.
- 13- In 2016, in partnership with **OXFAM**, PARD implemented a WATSAN project in the South gatherings including water control, solid waste collection, suction of septic tanks, health and hygiene awareness.

Situation Report

I. The Economic Situation:

The economic and financial situation in Lebanon has deteriorated dramatically during the year 2021. As the consequences of the financial crisis were evident and of great impact on people lives in 2020, the situation continued to worsen even more. Given that no reformatory actions were taken by the successive governments to efficiently decrease the intensity of the crisis, and given that no reformatory policies are in sight in order to uproot the problem and handle it in a solution-based approach on the long run, all residents in Lebanon continue to suffer dire consequences.

One of the most evident forms of the crisis is the fluctuating US Dollar (USD) rate of conversion to Lebanese Lira (LBP). As the latter was 1500 LBP for 1USD until late 2019, it started increasing in 2020 reaching 6,000LBP for 1USD. In 2021, the rate has increased to cross 25,000LBP for 1USD in the black market, leaving the people in a troubled financial situation. This increase in conversion rate is due to the central bank's (Banque Du Liban- BDL) depleted reserve of foreign exchange. As BDL failed in putting in use financial policies that would protect people's reserves, it, until today, continues to act by masked haircuts on reserves in foreign currencies. Although not announced as haircuts, the central bank is resorting to what is referred to as "lirafication" of the reserves, allowing withdrawal of reserves of foreign currencies in Lebanese Lira only based on a rate incomparable to that of the black market. This consequently implies a big financial loss for the people as they lose the worth of their savings in USD. In addition, BDL continues with policies of lifting subsidies, placing more financial pressure on the people as prices increase.

With the continuous depreciation of the Lira rate, the fall of the GDP per capita by around 37% since 2018 (a year before the crisis started) according to figures of the World Bank, and the increased inflation rate averaged to be 132% according to the same source, market prices have mounted up over the past year. The increase of prices of goods have fluctuated differently per item but have generally increased by over 200%. This has been the case for all materials including basics as bread, fuel, and medicine. With the absence of assistance from the government, poverty has increased among people as the value of the minimum wage dropped from 450\$ to 25\$. According to UNESCWA figures, multidimensional poverty rates have doubled since 2019 to become 82% in 2021. With rising percentages of unemployment, a big percentage of the people in Lebanon are left unable to meet their basic needs of food and medicine.

The crisis has also led to a significant demographic problem of migration of educated youth and a "brain drain" where Lebanon's most qualified and educated youth are leaving the country. With no hope or solution in sight, educated youth are choosing to leave Lebanon for better job opportunities, environments, and salaries.

As this situation is inclusive of all residents in Lebanon, people in Palestinian gatherings are no exception. In fact, the crisis has exacerbated their situation. With an already present lack of proper access to resources, lack of employment opportunities, and high poverty rates, the vulnerability of refugees has increased given the situation.

Having low-income yielding jobs prior to the crisis, Palestinian refugees continued to lose their jobs and opportunities of employment due to business closures as a result of the economic crisis. This situation is also similar for Syrian refugees whose main source of income continued to be majorly based on assistance⁴.

⁴ Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon- 2021

This decreased livelihood and lack of affordability have in turn impacted the education of the refugee children as well as the food security of the refugee families, both Palestinian and Syrian.

In a UNRWA survey, a large percentage of the Palestinian refugees interviewed reported that their food consumption was reduced in the last 30 days with either eating less expensive food, skipping meals, or remaining without eating for a whole day and night. As for the Syrian refugees, in 2021, around half of them were categorized as food insecure- 46% moderately food insecure and 3% severely food insecure. In addition, 40% of the households had a notable difficulty accessing food represented by the coping strategies they have followed.⁵

According to an assessment held by PARD in the Palestinian gatherings in Beirut and South Lebanon in 2021 for 1430 families, only 8% of those had an acceptable food consumption.

The remaining 91% were mainly poor on food consumption (76%) or borderline (16%). As for the coping strategies used, nearly half of those (49%) has a high rCSI (reduced Coping Strategy Index), 44% were medium, and only 8% were low. Some of these coping strategies include relying on less preferred less expensive food, borrowing food or relying on help from friends or relatives, reducing the number of meals eaten per day, reducing portion size of meals, and reducing quantities consumed by adults so children can eat more. This reflects a serious state of food insecurity among the Palestinian gatherings, specifically where PARD works.

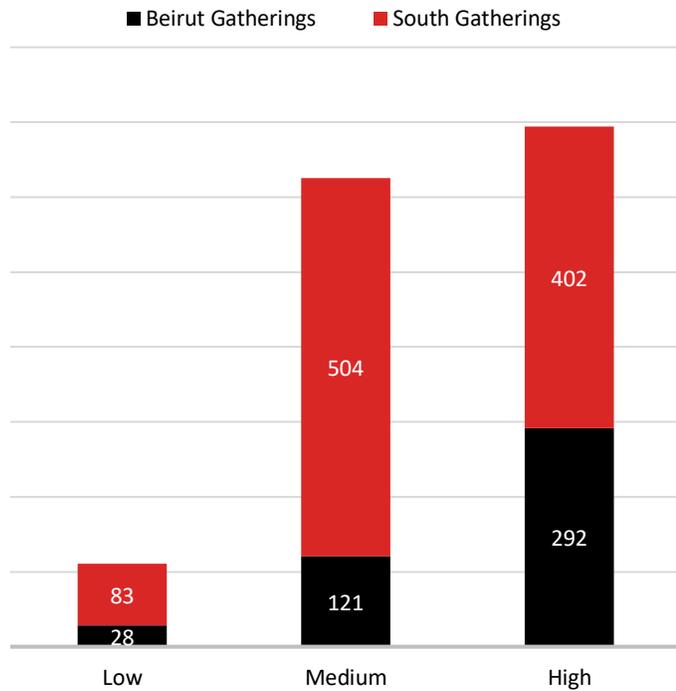


Figure 1 Categories of the food consumption status of 1430 families in the Palestinian gatherings in Beirut and South Lebanon assessed by PARD

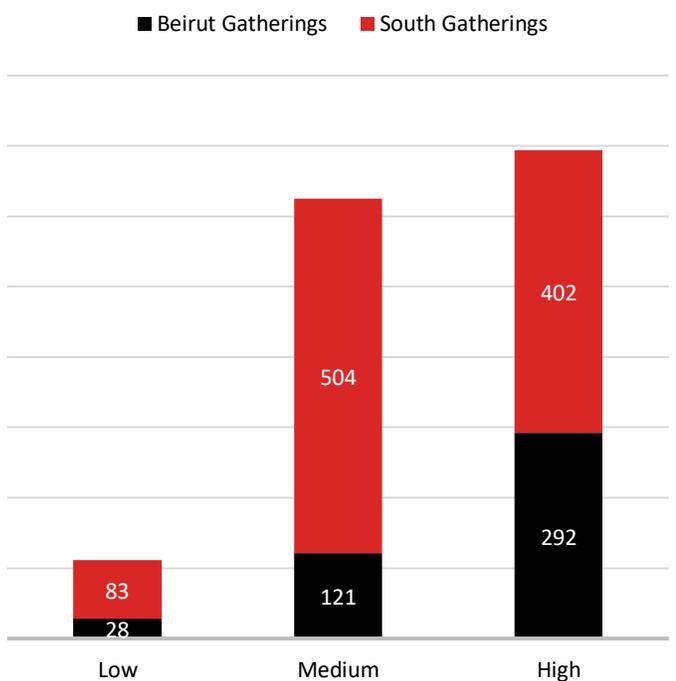


Figure 2 Categories of the rCSI of 1430 families in the Palestinian gatherings in Beirut and South Lebanon assessed by PARD

⁵ Palestine Refugees in Lebanon: Struggling to Survive, UNRWA, 2022

The effect of the economic crisis on the affordability of basic services of refugees in Lebanon was also exhibited through the education of the children. UNRWA estimates that 1,275 Palestinian children have dropped out of school in the scholastic year 2020-2021⁵. For Syrian refugees, there was a 53% drop in attendance for children during the same scholastic year. The age group at most risk of not attending is that between 3 and 5 years where only 11% of those who are Syrian refugees attend early childhood education. Lack of affordability and inability to afford transportation fees due to fuel price increase were two main reasons behind children dropping out of school.

II. The Healthcare Situation

The health situation of the country is inevitably affected by the economic situation. The sub-sector that was most affected by the economic situation was the pharmaceutical one as there was a main shortage in many medicines for a long period throughout 2021. As most pharmaceutical products are imported and few are locally produced, the responsible importing companies were not able to meet all the market's demand as BDL was unable to cover the cost of subsidized medicines. Given the shortage, pharmacies occasionally went on strikes and would provide medicines in small quantities exclusively upon previously set lists of demand.

On another level, as news of possible lift of subsidy of medicines, monopolization of medicines started to appear. Multiple local providers would not distribute sufficient amounts of medicine to pharmacies in hopes of making higher profits in the future. This situation continued until subsidy was lifted off all medicines. With the lift of subsidy, the prices of the medicines were subject to the increasing black market USD rate. Given this situation, people have a very restricted access to medicine, especially those for chronic illnesses as diabetes and hypertension, either because of their unavailability or due to the fact that they cannot afford it.

On another level, the economic situation has led to a health-care crisis as hospitals were no longer affordable for people. To elaborate, hospitals have changed the exchange rate of their expenses which is now incompatible with that of the guarantors in Lebanon whether public or private. As for the Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA, the agency's hospitalization policy, as those of the Lebanese government for the private and public sector, covers a small part of the hospitalization fees. Therefore, the patient has to cover the rest of the fees required by the hospital. In the case of refugees residing in the camps who are mostly not covered by neither the Lebanese official guarantors or by UNRWA, those are obliged to pay the full fee for the hospitals calculated in a USD value. Therefore, many are being left unable to get hospitalization when needed therefore threatening the mortality rate of many.

This present has exacerbated the situation of the refugees in Lebanon, particularly the Palestinian refugees as many previous reports prior to the crisis mentioned the lack of affordability they were facing when it comes to basic health care needs. The increase in the prices of medicine and the fees of hospitalization have only worsened their status increasing their vulnerability and increasing the alarming numbers related to their under-attended health care.

COVID-19 Situation

The health situation of the country was also affected by the evolving state of COVID-19. The COVID-19 situation of the country was changing during this year as lockdowns were imposed and vaccination campaigns spread. At the beginning of the year, particularly during January 2021, positive COVID-19 cases were in rapid increase reaching up to 5000 cases per day. In that light, and given that back then vaccination campaigns were not launched, and that COVID-19 departments of the hospitals were at a full capacity, there was a need to impose yet another full lockdown. Therefore, the government announced a full

lockdown with a 24/7 curfew that lasted from January 7th, 2021 till February 8th, 2021. During this period, very limited sectors were allowed to operate with a previous reported request. After February 8th, and as the COVID-19 positive cases decreased, operation was then allowed gradually depending on the sector. The health sector was always allowed to operate.

Later in February 14th, the vaccination campaigns started in Lebanon for previously registered individuals. As the process started, it was announced that Lebanon will adopt an inclusive approach for inoculation of all residents of Lebanon regardless of their nationality or their residency status. The criteria followed was based on the necessity of the vaccine for the individual depending on morbidity, age, and occupation – as workers of the health sectors were prioritized. Therefore, all residents in Lebanon were encouraged to register in order to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

In that light, this process was not reported to be feasible for multiple parts of the population including those who are most vulnerable and the refugees. The challenges faced were mostly concerning the documents required to acquire the vaccine and the method of registration. As for the latter, the registration had to occur electronically through a platform where residents would register required data and consequently receive an invitation to receive the vaccine based on their placement in the prioritization criteria. This was a challenge to many due to the fact that electronic and computer illiteracy is common among those in the more vulnerable areas as well as not having the proper devices to use. On another hand, many hesitated to receive the vaccine due to the fact that they require official documentation which they feared would subject them to discrimination, harassment, or detention depending on their status. Also, another common reason to why many people, including refugees, refrained from receiving the vaccine is the lack of knowledge about it. Reported by the World Bank, according to surveys held by International Medical Corps (IMC) and the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) in Lebanon in June, 2021, around 37% of non-Lebanese participants, a sample that includes refugees, didn't think the vaccine was safe enough, 31% reported not having enough knowledge or information about it, and only 23% reported willingness to receive it. That being said, and according to the same source, by mid June 2021, only 38,957 Palestinians and 45,195 Syrians had registered to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. As attempts from international and local organizations to enhance awareness on the vaccine and encourage people to receive it, data from UNRWA shows that by the end of 2021, more than 118,684 Palestinian refugees received at least the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

On another hand, the relatively low rate of vaccination for refugees in Lebanon cannot be attributed solely to the population, it is, in fact, also affected by the country's corrupt policies. As the country's favoritism policies towards upper-middle class sections of the society and discrimination against residents of non-Lebanese nationality- particularly refugees- continue, this highlights a high risk that many relatively vulnerable Lebanese, Palestinians, and Syrians will not receive inoculation fairly in the coming phases of the process. As for that part, the MoPH continues to hold vaccination marathons to encourage as much people as possible to receive their COVID-19 vaccines. These attempts have led to improved inoculation status of the country on terms of the general number where by the end of 2021, around 2.3 million residents have received at least their first dose of the vaccine according to the MoPH.

III. Women's Situation

Women in Lebanon face multiple difficulties given the above mentioned economic and health situation. It is worth mentioning that almost all difficulties faced by women mainly stem from the societal restriction of their roles and responsibilities to family, home, and children upbringing and education, especially among the refugee population that seems to be more conservative of this idea. Thereby, this increases their vulnerability in their communities as they are subject to all forms of gender based violence (GBV) including intimate partner violence (IPV) in a community that provides them with almost negligible protection.

Many risk factors contribute to the increased susceptibility of being subjected to GBV and IPV in general. Reports from UNWOMEN reveal much about risk factors that, although studied in different areas, relate to the situation of the refugees in Lebanon. Among those, and most prominently, are COVID-19 lockdowns and lowered socio-economic statuses (SES) relevant to the occupation of male. With imposed lockdowns, it is more likely for the whole family to be present in the household which places more pressure on the women given the responsibilities they are already expected to meet. As for the SES of the family, it has been reported that more GBV incidences are likely to happen in families where the partner has no or less earnings implying unemployment, an issue currently problematic among Palestinians. As those risk factors are highly abundant among the Palestinian communities, women are at a high risk of violence especially that around 30% of the people who reached out for the local NGO KAFA (Enough Violence and Exploitation) by September 2021 are Palestinian and Syrian refugees.

In addition, Palestinian women refugees lack access to rights and to equitable development, assets and sources of income even within their own community. Female Palestinian refugees face double discrimination; externally for their refugee status and internally for their position as women.

Palestinian women face further obstacles in the workforce, such as discriminatory conditions favoring men who lack familial responsibility. The inequality between the genders has also been worsened by the re-interpretation of religious duties to excuse the marginalization and abuse of women. Moreover, the rise of fundamentalism in the camps and gatherings has led to more disempowerment of women, who have been stripped of decision-making power and positions.

Not only barred from participating in Lebanon's politics, refugee women also find themselves excluded from participating effectively and democratically in the Palestinian Popular Committees, the internal decision-making bodies responsible for the overall running of the Palestinian camps and gatherings.

IV. Blast of the Port of Beirut

Occurring in August 2020, the blast of the port of Beirut left behind over 200 deaths, 7500 injuries, 15 billion USD in property damage, and an estimated 300,000 people homeless. The repercussions of the blast of Beirut continued until 2021 as the residents of the areas affected by the blast did not fully recover on all levels.

With many houses left in need for rehabilitation, and with the shortage and improper implementation of the rehabilitation services, many families didn't return to their houses months into 2021. In addition, affected by the increasing crises of the country, the economic and financial situation further increased the vulnerability of the people directly affected by the blast. In addition to the massive WASH needs they had, people there were affected by the price increase due to the crisis that threatened their food security. In addition, there was a need for psychological support for people in those areas as the consequences of the explosion were not fully healed. This required a continued emergency response to meet the needs of the affected population.

Core Strategies

To accomplish its mission, PARD has chosen to take up the following four core strategies. While the first three strategies are programmatic and operational, the fourth strategy addresses PARD's organizational development directly and supports the achievement of the first three. The focus areas below represent the areas and themes of interest that will be addressed by PARD's programs when using proper identification, formulation and implementation approaches.

Strategy One: Gender Justice and Women, Youth, and Children Empowerment

Gender justice implies a society in which women and men enjoy the same opportunities, outcomes, rights and obligations in all spheres of life. **The overall and main goal of this strategy is to promote gender justice between men and women and empower Palestinian women, youth, and children to participate and have access to, control over and benefit from different resources.** Its main objectives are to:

- Improve youth, women and children access to political, cultural, social and economic resources.
- Educate women and children and increase literacy rates among women.
- Increase youth and women's labor force participation.
- Increase Palestinian youth and women's access to political rights and participation in decision-making positions within the Palestinian communities.
- Provide information, services and conditions to help women protect their reproductive health.
- Improve psychosocial, health and educational conditions for children.
- Promote vocational and other capabilities of youth.

This strategy emerges from PARD's beliefs that long-term, sustainable development will only be possible when women and men enjoy equal opportunity to rise to their potential.

In line with this strategy, PARD will adopt an operational framework for addressing gender equality and women empowerment that has four main dimensions:

- **Capacities and education** that refer to basic human abilities as measured by education, health, and nutrition. These capabilities are fundamental to individual well-being and are the means through which women would access other forms of well-being.
- **Access to resources and opportunities** which refers primarily to equality in the opportunity to use or apply basic capabilities through access to economic assets and resources, as well as political opportunity. Without access to resources and opportunities, both political and economic, women will be unable to employ their capabilities for their well-being and that of their families, communities, and societies.
- **Security** which refers to reduced vulnerability to violence and conflict. Violence and conflict result in physical and psychological harm and lessen the ability of individuals, households, and communities to fulfill their potential. Violence directed specifically at women and girls often aims at keeping them in "their place" through fear.
- **Maternal and child health** which refers to the equitable provision of affordable and accessible primary healthcare is central to human development, critical to meeting the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and a basic human right.

Strategy Two: Environmental Health Services

The main goal of this strategy is to ensure that the targeted groups have the right to access environmental health services. Its main objectives are to:

- Improve the informed choices of the Palestinian communities and individuals towards health issues.
- Enhance life quality, reduce disease and promote better health conditions and practices among Palestinian refugees.
- Increase the life expectancy, reduce infant and child mortality and decrease communicable diseases within the Palestinian refugee gatherings.
- Reduce the environmental health hazards in the Palestinian refugee gatherings.

To achieve those objectives, PARD wishes to focus, through its programs, on two main core areas:

- **Environmental Health:** The rights to life and to health are included in several covenants. The ‘*International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*’ guarantees the right to safe and healthy working conditions and the right of children and young persons to be free from work harmful to their health. The Covenant expressly calls on state parties to take steps for the improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene and the prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational, and other diseases. Through **improving and monitoring the water quality and supply, solid waste management and vector control**, PARD aims at improving the right of the Palestinian refugees and their access to more healthy environments that have reduced risk factors that might negatively influence the wellbeing of the Palestinian communities in the gatherings.

Strategy Three: Relief for People in Distress

The Humanitarian Charter of the Sphere Project expresses the conviction of humanitarian agencies that all people affected by disaster or conflict have a right to receive protection and assistance to ensure the basic conditions for life with dignity. The principles described in the Sphere Humanitarian Charter are not only universal, but apply to all those affected by disaster or conflict wherever they may be, and to all those who seek to assist them or provide for their security. These principles are reflected in international law, but derive their force ultimately from the fundamental moral principle of humanity: that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Based on this principle, there is an affirmation on the primacy of the humanitarian imperative: that action should be taken to prevent or alleviate human suffering arising out of disaster or conflict, and that nothing should override this principle. **Based on that, the main goal of this strategy is to ensure that affected population during disasters have the right to live with dignity while alleviating their suffering.** The relevant objectives are therefore to:

- Provide relief and restore a self-supporting livelihood to people who have been stricken with hardship due to conflicts and natural disasters.
- Mobilize all of PARD’s local human and material resources in collaboration with its local and international partners in the service of the affected population and communities.
- Ensure protection and assistance as necessary.
- Maintain a healthy environment and alleviate the spread of diseases.
- Maximize the possibility of affected population speedily returning to their normal lifestyles.

At times of disasters, PARD intends to implement its Emergency Plan, provide humanitarian aid to affected population and ensure that the rights of people affected by conflicts and disasters are upheld. To do so, PARD intervenes in the following five areas when possible:

- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)
- Food Security and Livelihoods
- Public health
- Protection
- Disaster Risk Reduction

Strategy Four: Organizational Development for PARD

Nowadays nonprofit organizations working amidst the Palestinian communities are involved in providing relief, fundamental services, advocating for rights and policies, empowering local communities and encouraging participation. But as a result of the continuously growing needs of the targeted communities, these organizations are faced with significant emerging challenges. Among these are: the ability to respond to the dynamic changes; how to make better use of the limited resources they have access to; how to increase the capacity and accountability of their organizations; how to preserve the mission course and how to ultimately achieve the organization's goals and objectives. **Therefore, the main goal of this strategy is to increase PARD's organizational effectiveness, performance and service quality.** Its relevant objectives are to:

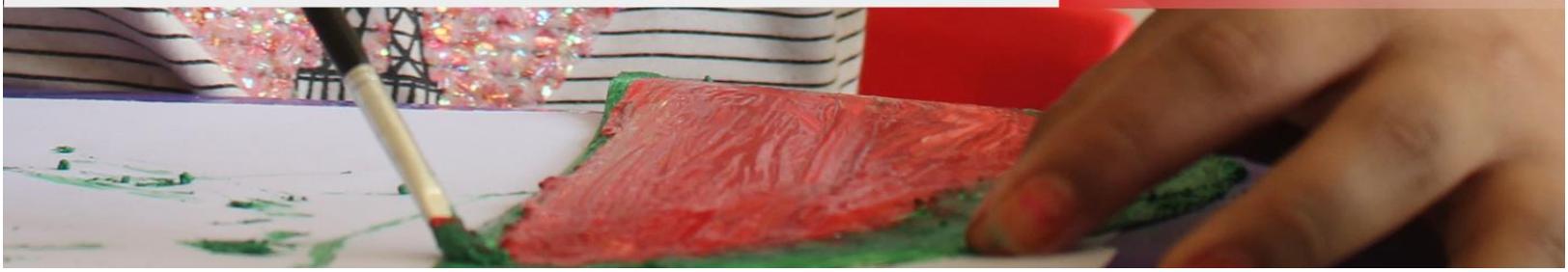
- Improve administrative management and internal delegation.
- Implement the developed statutes, bylaws and policies.
- Improve the organizational structures and procedures.
- Increase the organizational performance and effectiveness.
- Empower, delegate and motivate staff members.
- Improve emergency response effectiveness.

PARD embraces three specific values when choosing to develop its human resources and helping them achieve satisfaction. These are:

- Humanistic values that relate to openness, honesty and integrity
- Democratic values that relate to social justice, freedom of choice, and involvement
- Developmental values that relate to authenticity, growth and self-realization



**Gender Justice
and Women, Youth,
and Children
Empowerment**



➤ Empowerment of Women Trainings

Women Committees

PARD has provided health education groups in the Palestinian gatherings for years. In 2001, PARD began training on empowerment for the benefit of women graduates from the health education sessions. Since then, PARD has trained every year on empowerment in the targeted gatherings, 10 in the south and 3 in Beirut.

PARD places a special emphasis on empowering and supporting local women and working to redress power imbalances by providing women with more autonomy; accordingly, an integral component of PARD’s work in addressing gender inequality is our work with Women’s Committees (WCs). From among these women, PARD staff assesses which women are already active participants and well-respected in their communities and suggest that they join the committee in their community.

In that light, PARD offers multiple trainings for the WCs in order to be able to actively participate in their communities and have an efficient and tangible effect. The training curriculum included sessions on gender equality and respectful relationships, gender-based violence, conflict resolution, communication types and styles, strengthening women’s role in the community, developing self-confidence and self-image, effective decision making, and women and human rights.

For the year 2021, PARD supported 28 committees in 13 different gatherings or surrounding areas that are: Shabriha, Jal El Bahr, Al Samer near Jal Al Bahar, Maashouk, Qasmiyeh, Kfar Badda, Jim Jeem, Wasta, Aitaniyeh, Sikkeh, Burguliyeh, Wadi El Zeineh and Said Ghawash (Beirut). These committees actively involved 434 women of different national backgrounds, but mainly PRL, in active participation in their communities.

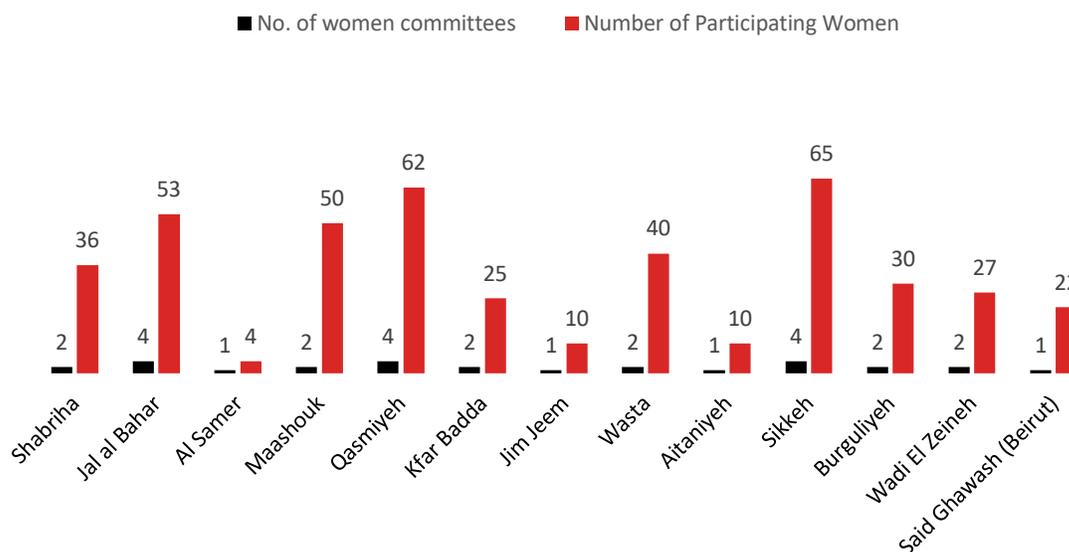


Figure 3: Location and number of women committees and participating women in the women committees established by PARD in 2021

Most women’s committees formed their own action plans, code of conduct, and division of responsibilities. The division of work includes tasks related to: public relations, health education, social issues, and note taking. Each committee also has an elected “head of committee”. The set plans of action were revised to

monitor progress, together between the women committees and PARD's community health workers (CHW). Also, for proper internal communication and coordination, each women committee met monthly to follow up on their plans of action and their external relationships and coordination with the popular committees, NGOs, UN agencies, and other committees in their community.

Activities and Achievements

After the basic training on empowerment, the women committees developed their own project ideas for community development – based on community mapping and starting from the concrete situation in each community. They discussed them with the relevant stakeholders (PARD, the Popular Committees, and Municipalities and others) and implemented them through community mobilization, local existing resources and fundraising resources of contacted organizations.

Each women committee had its own agenda, interests, needs and projects. One common characteristic among them in the past and the present is the willingness to participate in PARD's activities.

The women and youth tried to fulfill their own local agendas, such as caring for the elderly, organizing dinners for the needy during the fasting month of Ramadan, supporting hardship cases, supporting people with chronic diseases, and supporting people with special needs.

Common Activities of Women Committees

- The women committees in the South and Beirut worked with PARD to deliver health education sessions.
- Participating in campaigns (promoting health issues in the community, cleaning whole areas in the gatherings, organizing spraying of insecticides, raising awareness on social and health issues such as drug addiction or AIDS and others).
- Alerting PARD if a certain contagious disease shows up (chicken pox, Hepatitis A, diarrhea, scabies, head lice and others caused by overpopulation due to the arrival of refugees from Syria or other reasons).
- Data collection
- Celebrating International Mothers' Day & Women's Day with members of their communities.
- Supporting first aid teams in their gatherings.
- Coordinating with PARD in water caretaking.
- Supporting and implementing health education for the community and teaching literacy groups.
- Distributing support materials, including bread to needy families.
- Supporting the refugees from Syria (data collection, relief services).
- All the women and youth committees participated with many people from their communities in sit-ins to lobby for better services offered by UNRWA

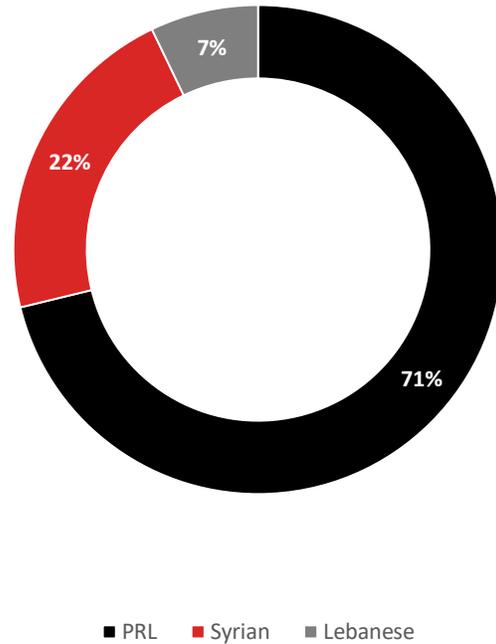
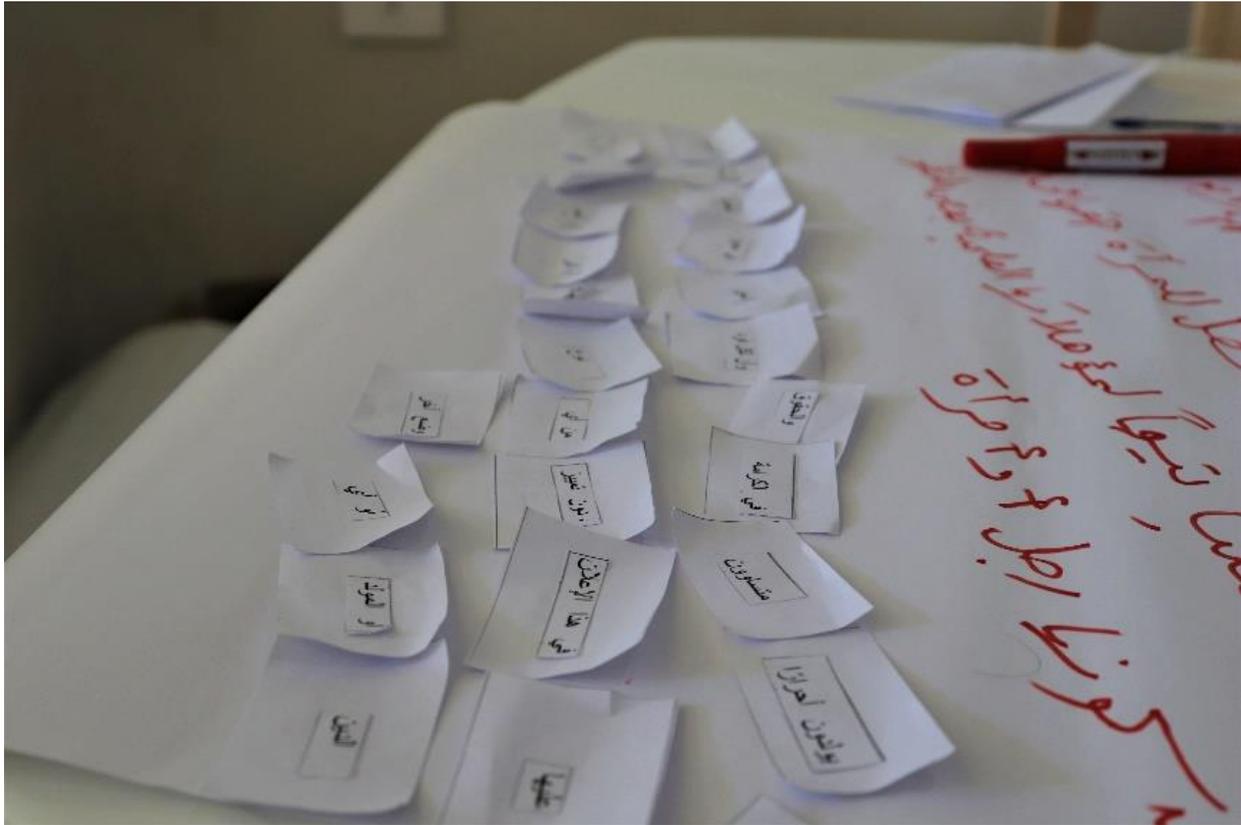


Figure 4: Nationality distribution of the women participating in women committees

- Conducting social visits to patients, newly married couples, families bereaved through death, etc.
- Coordination meetings among the women's committees, in addition to individual visits and joint actions.



Picture 1: An activity during women committee meetings

Achievements of women committees

Women committees in different areas have multiple achievements, among which are:

- Members of the women committees work as animators for children's activities with PARD and other organizations and as local health educators.
- One member acts as a practical nurse at PARD Women's Health Clinic in Kfar Badda.
- Some members work with PARD in the implementation of its relief projects. One works as the local water caretaker (Wasta), another collects local subscriptions from the beneficiary families for garbage collection.
- All women committees participate in local cleaning campaigns, insecticide spraying campaigns.
- Some women joined membership in local governance (popular committees) in their gatherings.

Coordination with Popular Committees

The WCs in these gatherings differ from the Popular Committees (PCs) for several reasons. Firstly, the PCs are composed of almost entirely men, with very few exceptions, and even when there are women on the PCs they are not incorporated or integrated successfully, nor taken seriously. Moreover, the members of the PCs are appointed by political parties. These communities, and the PCs themselves, were not originally very open to the idea of WC's and even still the relationships between the PCs and the WCs vary and the levels of coordination and cooperation depends on the gathering. In fact, in some gatherings there is heavy

competition over governing authority; because while the PCs are the technical governing body in these communities, practically the WCs have more influence in some places. Nevertheless, whether or not the PCs accept the WCs and are willing to work together the WCs tend to be the operating group that works most closely with PARD and other organizations to deliver services and provide resources for the communities. Previously PARD used the number of women they could get onto the PCs as an indicator of success for gender equality, but they realized that this was not actually a measurement of equality or success. “We are not helping to build them up to be decorative flowers, we are empowering them to have a voice”. This situation led PARD to measure and indicate success of gender equality in other ways. For instance, one of the largest indicators is the fact that when most NGOs enter the Palestinian gatherings they work with the WCs and only coordinate with the PCs.

While PARD encourages the WCs to act independently and to partner with other NGOs working in their communities as well, PARD maintains a close partnership with them. PARD staff meet with each WC at least once a month, and are available to meet more frequently should the need arise. As the women serving on the committees are themselves members of these communities they already have the knowledge and insight into the issues and needs present. Therefore, the WCs significantly influence and shape the projects and work that PARD undertake. Another way that PARD partners and empowers the women in these communities is by providing Training of Trainers program to help the women become social workers and undertake fieldwork themselves regarding needs assessments, community mapping, action plans, advocacy, etc. Thus the WCs play a significant role in the development and design of projects as well as the follow up and monitoring of projects.

Soap-making trainings for livelihood



Picture 2: The soap sale event



Picture 3: The soap training in Maashouk community center

As a part of PARD’s belief in the necessity to give women the opportunity to livelihood in order to achieve gender justice, and as part of its women empowerment program, PARD conducted a training that would benefit women in that sense. Soap-making trainings were held in order to provide women with sustainable skills needed to produce soap at home in aim of selling them to produce an income.

Seventy women and heads of households from four different nationalities were therefore trained on handmade soap making. The participants reside in six different gatherings – Qasmiye, Shabriha, Maashouk, Jal El Bahr, Jim Jim, and Kfarbadda. As for nationalities, they came from diverse nationalities, 44 of which were PRL, 11 were PRS, 9 were Syrian and 6 were Lebanese.

The workshops were held at the Maashouk and the Shabriha community centers ran by PARD. The training courses were given over three days for 4 hours each. Therefore, each participant attended a 12-hour course. The sessions included trainings on the production and recycling of soap through

learning-by-doing methodology. The women were also trained on basic concepts of home economics, production and sale in order to be able to manage their future home-based production. It was decided to produce liquid soap instead of tablets because of its easy production, its lower economic cost, and its environmentally sustainable approach. This product was used both for personal use and sale. Each participant received 8 blocks of soap in order to produce liquid soap at home after the training.

In September, PARD organized a sale for the handmade liquid soap produced by the trained women. The event took place at the Maashouk community center when about 200 people visited to buy the displayed products. About 280 bottles exhibited for sale were sold for 3000 L.L. each. The sale brought income to the women, and was an opportunity for them to advertise their work. They also used their acquired skills to produce home-made liquid soap of the sale event.

Training of Trainers

As part of the empowerment program, PARD provides training for women to become community health trainers on health topics. In 2021, 20 female trainers have been trained on sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence, and child marriage. The training took place over a period of 5 days, for 8 hours a day. Among these 20 trained trainers, 10 women were selected to be part of the subsequent sensitization processes in the communities and to act as assistants to the trainers in those awareness sessions. Those females were from various nationalities, but mainly PRL, and their ages ranged between 15 and 60 years.

International Women's day

Commemorating International Women's Day took place in May in the community centers run by PARD, in the informal settlements of Maashouk, Jal Al Baher, Qasimeyeh, and Jim Jeem, Kfar Badda and Shabriha. The 70 women who took part in the soap making course participated in the event in addition to 29 other women which amounts up to a total of 99 attendees.

The event focused on an analysis considering different approaches to the rights of refugee women, promoting a critical analysis of the causes of the different conflicts affecting Lebanon. The causes of the Palestinian and Syrian conflicts and their direct effect on the population in southern Lebanon were analyzed, under criteria of action without harm and through a participatory dynamic avoiding re-victimization with special attention to refugee women, Palestinian women in Lebanon (PRL), Palestinian women residing in Lebanon from Syria (PRS) and Lebanese women.

In addition, the different experiences of the above-mentioned groups were shared, highlighting the similarities as refugees and women in particular. This event encouraged the analysis of the structural causes of conflicts on one hand and promoted the creation of a culture of peace and the rapprochement between the different cultures present in informal settlements on another.

PARD's local folklore dancing "Dabke" team of girls who performed Palestinian Folkdance as a celebratory part during the event while taking all COVID-19 measures into consideration.

International Refugee Day

Commemorating International Refugee day took place during April in the community centers run by PARD, in the informal settlements of Maashouk, Jal Al Baher, Qasmeyeh, Jim Jeem, Kfar Badda and Shabriha. The 70 women who took part in the soap making course participated in addition to 32 other women which amounted to a total of 102 women.

The event focused on International Refugee law and the rights of refugees in Lebanon, with special emphasis on the differences and peculiarities between PRL, PRS, Syrians and Lebanese women.

After this analysis, the similarities between the different groups were discussed through the presentations and testimonies of refugee women from different groups with the aim of promoting intercultural coexistence between the four groups of nationalities participating in the workshop.

Empowerment of Youth Trainings

Youth empowerment through livelihood

As part of the youth empowerment activities PARD carries, it provides young skilled youth in the Palestinian gatherings with opportunities to livelihood through rehabilitation.

Sixty seven refugees have been selected to carry out the rehabilitation work for 63 selected houses (*see Rehabilitation of Houses in Emergency Relief Strategy*) for the period extending from March till September. Those 67 workers were chosen on the basis of accumulated experience and willingness to work with PARD. Moreover, the majority of the chosen workers were those who suffer from difficult living conditions in the current crisis in the country.

The workers were of different professions and backgrounds, which include plumbing (14 workers), electricity (16 workers), blacksmithing (4 workers), tile setting (2 workers), carpentry (3 workers), and painting (25 workers) in addition to three general workers. According to the needs identified, each was given the opportunity to work for two months, for thirty hours a month.

This activity was very impactful in terms of increasing the income of the youth. It secured a 50-75% increase in the income of around 59.7% of the 67 workers and a 75-100% increase to 34.3% of them. This activity created a significant opportunity to improve the income of skilled individuals in the gatherings as they are usually reimbursed less for the same work they did on this project as reported by some of them. This activity will continue to be renewed in 2022 to provide more livelihood support for the individuals who are in need for it.

Educational Activities for Children

Early Childhood Education- Kindergartens:

PARD has been providing kindergarten (KG) education services for refugee children for over 10 years. This activity is available in three areas in Lebanon: Beirut; Wadi Zaine, Sibline; and Borj El Shemali, Tyr. Two of these locations are Palestinian gatherings- Daouk and Wadi Zaine- where the KG centers are at the heart of the areas. The third location, Borj El Chemali, is near multiple gatherings including Shabriha and Maashouk and Borj El Shemali camp where children from those areas benefit from the KGs. All three KGs are officially certified from the Lebanese Ministry of Education & Higher Education (MEHE) in 2019 and deliver the Community Based- Early Childhood Education (CB-ECE) issued by the same ministry. This curriculum exclusively enables refugee children of PRL, PRS, and Syrian nationality aged between 3 and 5 years to receive an education appropriate to their age. It prepares them to enroll in the Lebanese educational system and proceed into the elementary level. All the services provided in the KG centers are early childhood education services given by professional teachers who meet PARD's criteria of previous education and experience.

PARD ensures that the educational services given in all its centers are unified at their core plans, aims, and methods in order to maintain the same high-quality education in all its centers. In order to achieve that, each of PARD's classes was assigned a teacher and an assistant, to follow up with the students and their progress. Each teacher was assigned to the level she is most capable of handling based on her competencies of previous education, previous work experience, and ability to work with children. Also, each center was assigned a head teacher who acted as a coordinator in order to ensure the most organized flow of activities. Curriculum-wise, the same annual plan of implementation was designed for the three KGs, with different dates of initiation, which encompassed how the material will be given to the children.



Picture 4: Children in Daouk KG celebrating mothers' day

As for the delivery of the material, it was done through in person and online methods. Depending on the health situation of the country, PARD would adapt the method of implementation used. In general, teachers would alternate between in class activities and online activities based on the governmental decisions of lockdowns or MEHE's (Ministry of Education and Higher Education) decisions of closure. PARD, through the previous need to operate distantly due to COVID-19 in 2020, and through the multiple capacity building workshops held for the teachers on that matter, PARD has developed the skills needed to easily operate

distantly through methods convenient primarily for the community. Activities would be given distantly through Zoom or WhatsApp and monitored accordingly.

During the scholastic year 2020- 2021, encompassing months January till September the total number of children benefiting from this activity was 378 across the three areas Beirut, Wadi Zaine, and Tyre. Around half of those children, 193 children, were enrolled in the KG located in Tyre. The two KGs in Wadi Zaine and Beirut held the capacity of 103 and 82 children respectively. As for the scholastic year 2021-2022 which encompasses the months of October till December of 2021, the number of enrolled children in the three KGs is 439. These children were distributed along the three KGs for 222 in Tyre, 98 in Wadi Zaine, and 119 in Sabra, Beirut. In addition to the 119 in Sabra, 135 children started a four month round of the CB-ECE curriculum with PARD in Daouk, and this activity is planned to continue until 2022 with a second round.

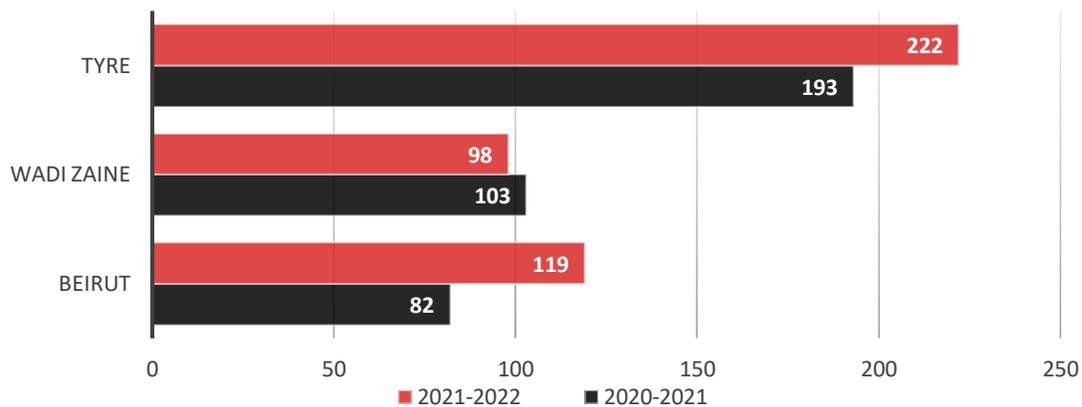


Figure 5: Number of enrolled children in PARD's three KG centers for scholastic year 2020-2021 and 2021-2022

Beirut Kindergartens

PARD has been operating in Beirut since 2012. Since their official registration in 2019, PARD's KGs operate according to the scholastic year determined by MEHE. In the scholastic year 2020-2021, Daouk's Kindergarten center provided education for 82 children of different backgrounds residing in the nearby area. The KG had 5 operating classes for these 82 children where each class had an assigned teacher and assistant. Therefore, the KG also provided a labor opportunity for 11 women in the gatherings: 10 teachers and one cleaning lady for the center. The students in this center were 38 males and 44 females from diverse nationalities distributed over the three levels with 11 in level 1 (i.e. KG1), 30 in level 2 (i.e. KG2), and 41 in level 3 (i.e. KG3). Of these 41 children who were in level 3, all were certified by MEHE to have completed the CB-ECE curriculum and were qualified for entrance of the elementary level in the Lebanese schools.

For the scholastic year 2021-2022, PARD's services moved to a new center in Sabra, a few neighborhoods away from Daouk. In this scholastic year, which encompasses the months September through December of 2021, the KG center in Sabra serves 119 children, 58 males and 61 females, of different nationalities distributed over the three levels with 47 in level 1, 47 in level 2, and 25 in level 3.

Preschool education was also given in the center in Daouk. However, they will be given two rounds of CB-ECE education each extending for four months. The first round started in December 2021 and the activities will proceed until 2022. The first round included 135 children, 73 males and 62 females, mainly from the Syrian nationality and mainly in level 3.

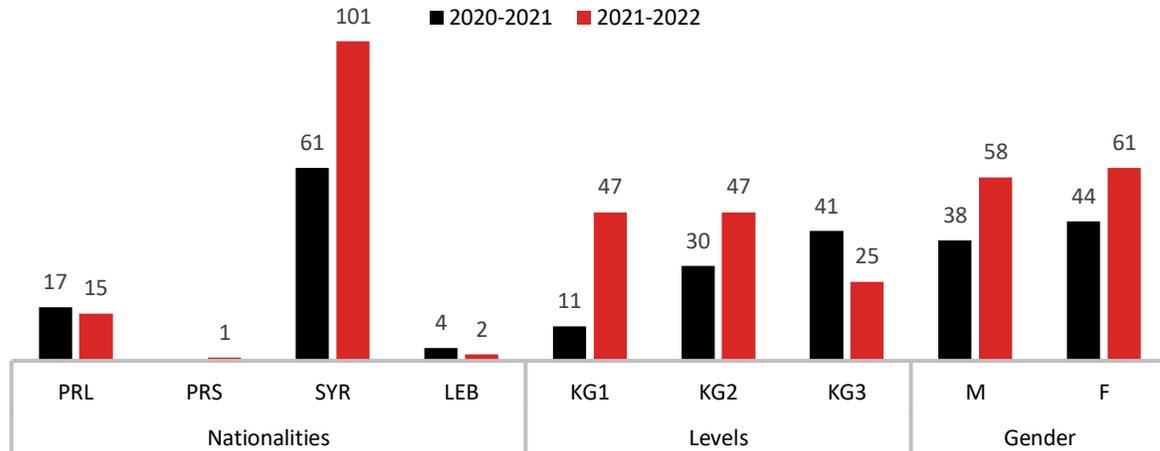


Figure 6: Disaggregation of the children who attended PARD's KG in Beirut- Daouk in 2020-2021 and Sabra in 2021-2022- by nationality, level, and gender

Wadi Zaine Kindergarten

Like in Beirut, PARD has been operating in Wadi Zaine for multiple years. Ever since its launching in 2016, the KG has been providing ECE services to children aged between 3 and 5 years. After the official registration and certification in 2019, it started using the CB-ECE curriculum by MEHE. Like Daouk, it operates according to the official scholastic year. For the scholastic year 2020-2021, the KG held the capacity of 103 children, 40 males and 63 females, from different nationalities but mostly PRL distributed over the three levels with 23 in level 1, 42 in level 2, and 38 in level 3. Among those 38 in level 3, all children were given certificates from MEHE and were successfully able to move to the first elementary level in the Lebanese system.

In the scholastic year 2021-2022, which encompasses the months September through December of 2021 and continues till 2022, the KG center in Wadi Zaine serves 98 children, 44 males and 54 females, of different nationalities distributed over the three levels with 44 in level 1, 24 in level 2, and 30 in level 3.

For both scholastic years, the children were distributed over 5 classes where each was assigned a teacher and an assistant. Therefore, like in Daouk, the KG was able to provide job opportunities for 11 females from the community of Wadi Zaine- 10 teachers and assistants and one cleaning lady for the center.

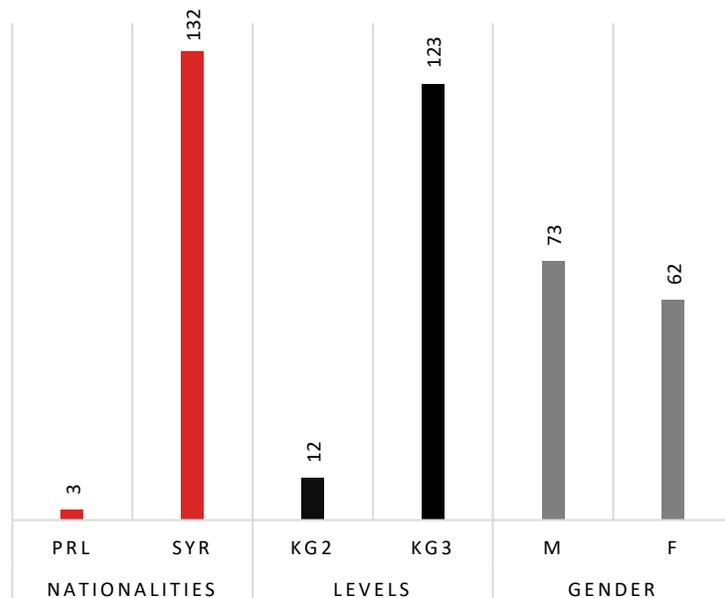


Figure 7: Nationalities, levels, and genders of the children attending PARD's 4-month ECE cycle

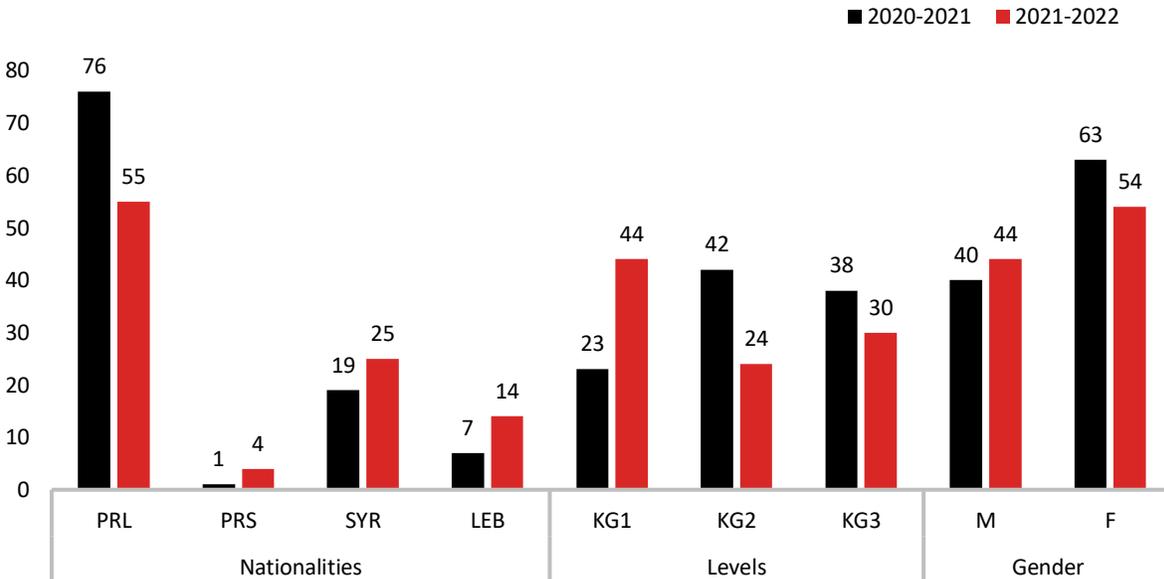


Figure 8: Disaggregation of the children who attended PARD's KG in Wadi Zaine in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022- by nationality, level, and gender

Tyre Kindergarten:

PARD's KG in Tyre has been operating since 2016, and like the other KGs, it got registered in MEHE in 2019 and ever since has been using the CB-ECE curriculum. This KG center is significant because it has the capacity of both Beirut and Wadi Zaine together. In 2020-2021, the KG provided ECE activities for 193 children, 89 males and 104 females, from different nationalities distributed over the three levels. As for this distribution, 67 were in level 1, 63 in level 2, and 63 in level 3. Of the 63 in level 3, 46 children got certificates from MEHE to proceed into the elementary level. Also, these students were distributed over 10 classes where each was assigned a teacher and a coordinator. Therefore, this KG provided job opportunities for 21 females from the community: 20 teachers and assistants and one cleaning lady for the center.



Picture 5: A student during the first day of 2021-2022 scholastic year in Wadi Zaine KG

In 2021-2022, which encompasses the months September through December of 2021 and continues till 2022, the KG center in Tyre serves 222 children, 109 males and 112 females, of different nationalities distributed over the three levels with 62 in level 1, 88 in level 2, and 72 in level 3.

Parent Community Meetings:

PARD believes that the work done with the children is only complete when there is proper communication with the parents. Therefore, monthly meetings are usually held in all three KGs with the parents of the children in order to get an insight into their satisfaction and the convenience of the project to them. Multiple topics are usually discussed with the parents including social topics, but there is always a main emphasis on the progress of the children and their presence at the center. PARD believes that these meetings also play an important role in bringing members of the community of different backgrounds, including national backgrounds, together.



Picture 6: A parent community meeting held in Tyre

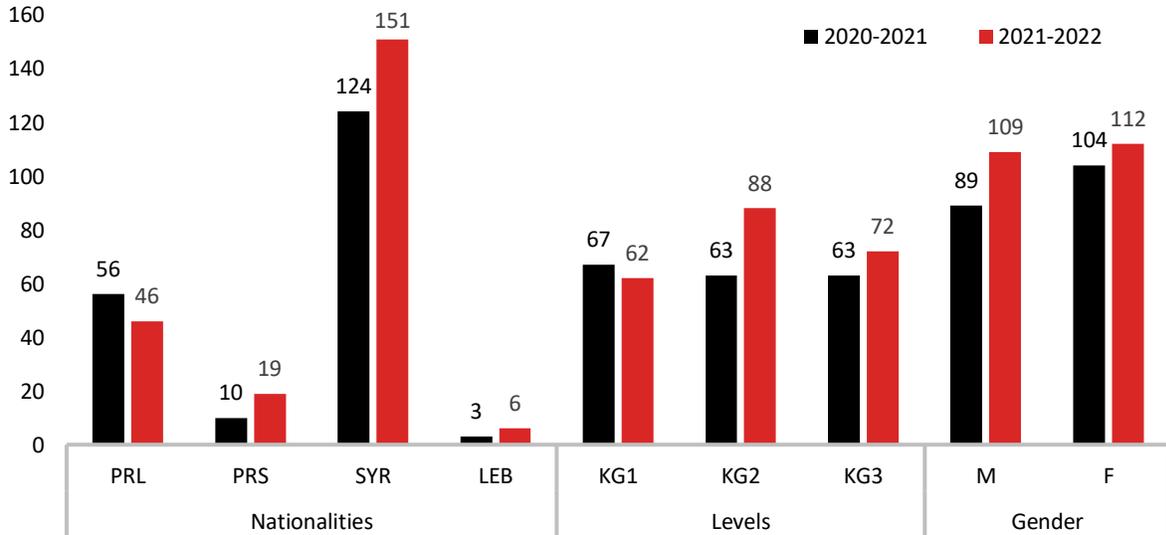


Figure 9: Disaggregation of the children who attended PARD's KG in Tyre in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022- by nationality, level, and gender

Educational Support:

In addition to early childhood education, PARD provided educational support services for children aged between 6 and 12. Educational support activities mainly focus on helping children with their education

and homework after school hours. The main aim of this activity is to provide educational, academic, and psychological support for children aged between 6 and 12.

For each group of children, there was an assigned teacher who was also an animator who would provide both educational support and psychosocial activities for the children. Each of the children would receive a follow-up on the school material they need help with. The teachers would make time for the children, individually or in groups, to explain the subjects and topics they need help with. The approach of whether to have the session in group or individually was decided weekly upon the similarity of need of certain topics. The extent to which the explained information is attained would be assessed by the teacher through short questions and quizzes. However, the major progress of the children was to be noticed and assessed through their achieved grades at school.

The project included the following activities:

- Academic educational support lessons: these activities included helping the children after school. Educational support is given to them in multiple subjects and areas by the assigned teachers from PARD, each where necessary.
- Working with children to cope with their grief, fear, and psychological pressure. This activity is usually held to help the children with the recurring problems in their communities and surroundings which places an unwanted pressure on them.
- Providing psychological first aid to the children and helping them adapt to their new environment which, as the previous activity, aims at improving the psychological wellbeing of the children given their surrounding context.
- Engaging the children in recreational activities like singing, painting, drawing, theater, sports, and outdoor visits. These activities provide leisure for the children which they do not commonly have the opportunity to experience at their houses or in their neighborhoods.
- Providing the children with life skills empowerment such as communication skills, conflict resolution skills, and creative leadership which enabled them to form friendships and communicate with one another.

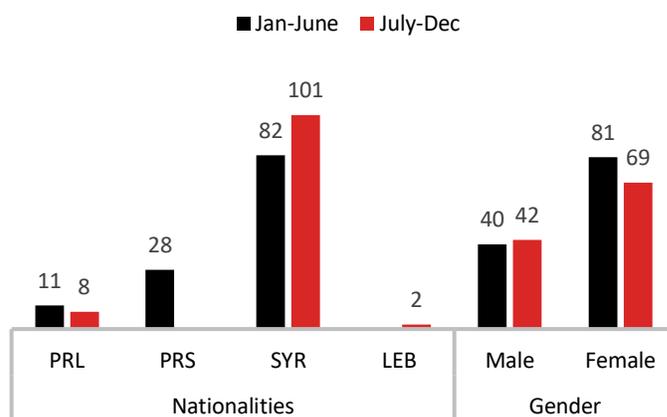


Figure 10: Disaggregation of children attending educational support activities in 2021

During the period extending between the months of January till June, these activities were provided for 121 children, 40 males and 81 females of different nationalities aged between 6 and 12 years and residing in the nearby areas. As the phase of these activities ends in June, new child registrations were held for the phase that starts in July. For the second phase in 2021 that encompasses months of July through December from the same year and extends till 2022, with 111 children, 42 males and 69 females of different nationalities aged between 6 and 12 years and residing in the nearby areas. Activities are usually provided for

children in groups and in different shifts to ensure maximum organization. This activity is provided by 10 teachers who are also animators, so it secures job opportunities for 10 females from the community.

► Psycho-social support activities

PARD provides psychosocial support activities for children aged between 7 and 12 years. As the children residing in the gatherings bear the social pressure of the country's multiple crises both directly and indirectly, there is an obligation to support them through this circumstance. This support is necessary especially to help them get through the global pandemic that obliged the children to spend some important developmental stages at their houses with few opportunities for interaction. In response to that, the psychosocial activities given by PARD provide the children with space and time dedicated for their psychological and social well-being allowing their interaction with one another. In addition, the activities aim at not only enhancing their relationships with one another; but also their relationship with their families and their environment.



Picture 7: PARD's community center in Shabriha, South Lebanon

For that aim, PARD uses a psycho-social support curriculum which is reviewed systematically to ensure maximum compatibility with the needs and convenience of the children. The curriculum is planned to target multiple psychosocial aims that contribute to the improvement of the emotional and social well-being of the children. The targeted aims planned in the curriculum are: emotion identification, expression, and control, creativity, communication, friendship, bullying, teamwork, resilience, self-confidence and self-esteem, trust, and problem-solving. These were given in a play-based approach that ensures an easy way for the children to grasp the concepts.

These activities are provided for children coming from four geographical areas, particularly in South Lebanon in the gatherings of Maashouk, Jim Jim, Kfarbadda, Shabriha and Wadi Zaine (North of Saida).

The activities happen in three community centers based in Maashouk, Shabriha, and Jim Jim as well as PARD’s KG center in Wadi Zaine.

As the enrollment of children for these activities happens in July, for the year 2021, there were different children through two different phases, from January till June, and from July till December. For the period extending from January till June, there were a total of 201 children, 94 males and 107 females, with 34 in Shabriha, 30 in Maashouk, 37 in Jim Jim and Kfarbadda, and 100 in Wadi Zaine. All those were aged between 6 and 12 years.

For the period extending from July till December, there were a total of 209 children, 110 males and 99 females, with 55 in Shabriha, 32 in Maashouk, 26 in Jim Jim and Kfarbadda, and 96 in Wadi Zaine. All those were aged between 6 and 12 years.

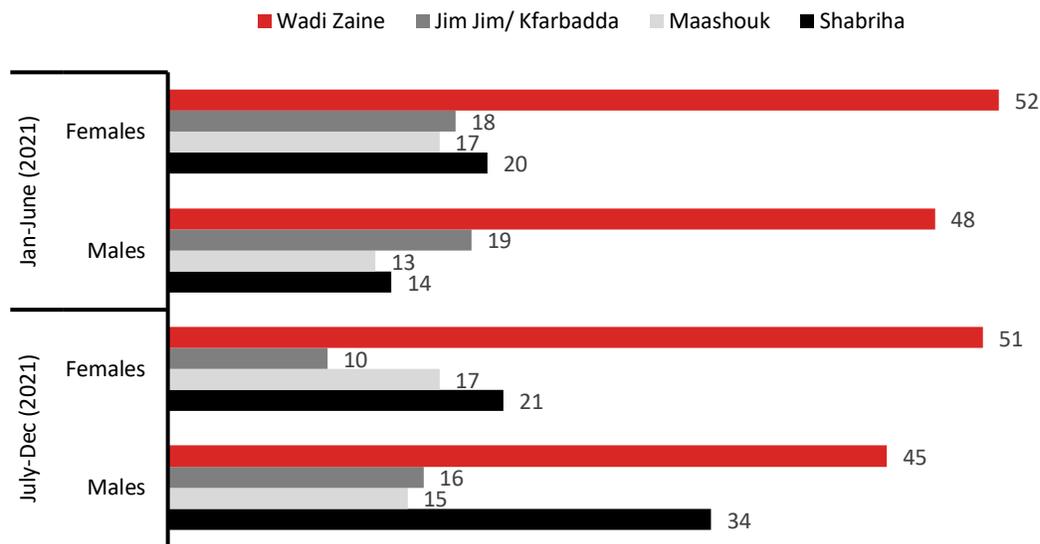


Figure 11: Disaggregation of children who attend PSS activities in Shabbriha, Maashouk, Jim Jim, Kfarbadda, and Wadi Zaine by gender

For the period of imposed lockdown during which PARD was unable to operate in the centers to provide psychosocial activities, the activities were adapted to be delivered distantly. Communication was kept between the animators and the children through WhatsApp. This provided some engagement with the children even at a distance for them to be able to get back to in-person activities smoothly.

Other activities in the community centers

In addition to the PSS activities held in the community center in Maashouk, Shabriha, and Jim Jim, PARD holds activities for children aged between 6 and 14. For this year, these activities included creating a football team, a cultural dancing i.e. Dabke team, and computer literacy sessions.

Computer literacy sessions were held twice in each of the months of March, April, May, and June and attended by 16 individuals; 3 males and 13 females. These sessions were attended by the same individuals as the capacity building occurred through a series of sessions that extended across the months. Skills being built were those that have to do with basic computer literacy such as turning on a computer and understanding its icons and bars. They also included an introduction to how to use Microsoft Office.

The folkloric Dabke classes were held bi-weekly basis during the same three months. The sessions were attended by 14 participants; 13 females and 1 male. By the end of the sessions, the participants were a fully equipped Dabke team.



Picture 8: PARD's folkloric dance, "dabke", team

The football trainings resumed on a bi-weekly basis. In December, recruitment of the members of the team occurred. A total of 24 children aged between 12 and 15 participated; 12 of those were males and 12 were females. From March through June, the trainings of the participating individuals continued to be held by a coach. They were provided with material and equipment to help them with the training like shoes, clothes, balls, and bags. By the end of the sessions, they had the potential to be a football team that represents its area.

➤ Health Services for Women

In compliance with its strategy for woman empowerment, PARD provides various health services, mainly female reproductive health services. These services are given primarily through PARD's mobile and fixed clinics in the gatherings in South Lebanon and the clinic located Sabra, Beirut. That is in addition to other health services that occur in laboratories and contracted with PARD.

Beirut Clinic

PARD's clinic in Sabra, Beirut has been active for over 10 years. In 2021, it provided multiple affordable medical services to refugees and impoverished Lebanese residing in this area with an emphasis on women health services. The services included affordable consultations in multiple medical professionals in the areas of general health, pediatrics, nutrition, psychology, dermatology, ear-nose-throat (ENT), obstetrics and gynecology. A big emphasis was placed on the provision of medical services for women, as evidenced by the fact that over one third of all medical services provided were obstetrics and gynecology. These services benefited 999 women who are of diverse nationalities, but mainly, Lebanese and PRL, and reside in Sabra itself or the nearby areas.

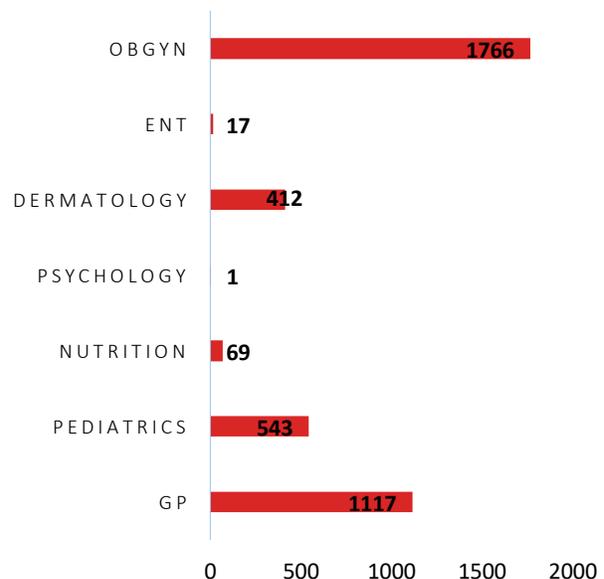


Figure 12: Numbers of benefiting women for each of the services of PARD's clinic in Beirut



Picture 9: PARD's female health mobile clinic

Clinics in South Lebanon

The mobile clinic ran by PARD in South Lebanon and the two fixed clinics located in Shabriha and Kfarbadda provided 5626 female medical services for the year 2021 in 10 Palestinian gatherings that are Shabriha, Sikkeh, Maashouk, Jal El Bahr, Wasta, Aiteneyye, Kfarbadda, Jim Jim, Qasmiyeh, and Burghlieh. These services were provided for 2509 women residing in the gatherings and from various nationalities including Lebanese, Syrian, PRL, and PRS. Of these women, 875 were PRL, 68 were PRS, 1409 were Syrian, and 156 were Lebanese. It is important to note that, despite the current situation in Lebanon, the medicine storage of the clinics was constantly maintained, in order to cover the needs of the beneficiaries.

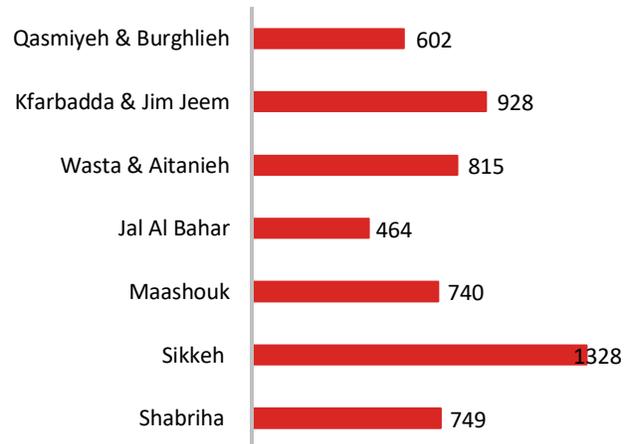


Figure 13: Number of medical services provided in each of the 10 targeted gatherings

Reproductive Health

Pap smear and mammography campaigns are one of PARD's major activities in reproductive health for prevention and awareness on breast and cervical cancers. PARD provides these services, in collaboration with a dispensary, for refugee women residing in the 10 Palestinian gatherings in South Lebanon that are Wasta, Shabriha, Sikkeh, Kfarbadda, Jal El Bahar, Aitaniyeh, Qasmiyeh, Maashouk, Jim Jim, and Burghuliyeh. These activities are preceded by awareness sessions on the matter in order to familiarize the women with both types of cancers, importance of early detection, and the processes done for detection and diagnosis.

In 2021, a total of 628 women benefited from 500 mammogram and 488 Pap smear services. These women were 220 PRL, 19 PRS, 257 Syrian, and 132 Lebanese. In addition to the mammography and the Pap smear services, PARD provides follow-up on the cases where necessary to ensure proper diagnosis and benefit. Therefore, there were an additional 39 ultrasounds performed to follow-up on the health of the benefiting women, and ensure early detection and proper diagnosis.

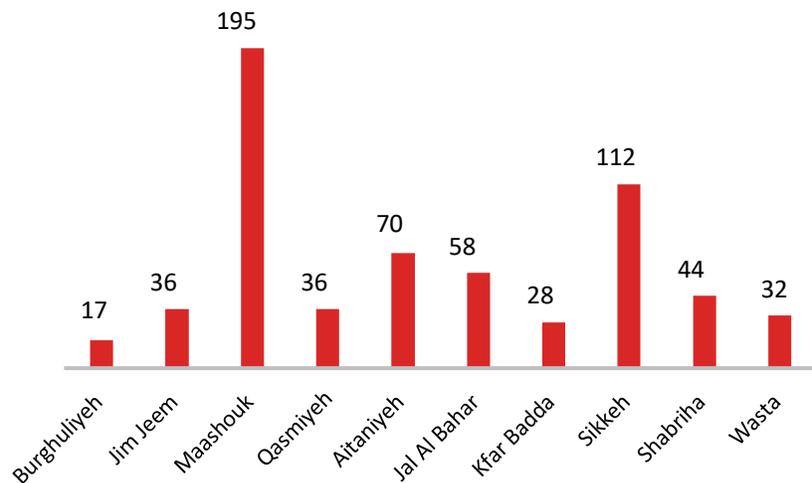


Figure 14: Distribution of the 628 women benefiting from Pap smear and mammogram services in each of the 10 targeted gatherings



Picture 10: Echography service in PARD's mobile clinic

Psychological Support

PARD provides diverse forms of psychological support for refugee women victims of violence in the gatherings. These activities are held by a psychologist experienced in handling gender based violence (GBV) cases recruited exclusively for this purpose.

Group Therapy Sessions

Throughout 2021, 364 women benefited from 28 group therapy sessions on GBV with a special focus on child marriage. Through these group counselling sessions they have been made aware and trained on how to identify and recognize cases of GBV and where to seek help. The content of these sessions was easier to sensitize with the involvement of the women committees and PARD's field staff.

These 28 sessions took place in the same 10 gatherings where PARD operates in South Lebanon, which are Kfarbadda, Maashouk, Jal El Bahr, Shabriha, Sikkeh, Burghlieh, Qasmiyeh, Jim Jim, Aitanieh, and Wasta. These sessions were attended by women from different nationalities and different age groups. Through these sessions, 115 cases were identified to be in need of individual psychological support.

Individual Psychological Support Sessions

In 2021, 136 cases of individual psychological support mainly for women who have been subjected to GBV were handled by PARD's psychologist. A total of 115 cases were identified during the group therapy sessions held in the gatherings. The other 21 reached out for PARD through its existing GBV helpline. The 115 in person sessions took place in a safe place for the women that would maintain their utmost confidentiality. The ages of these females varied between 10 and over 46 years.

Location	# of sessions	# of participants
Kfarbadda	1	7
Maashouk	3	51
Jal El Bahr	5	65
Shabriha	8	93
Sikkeh	3	47
Burghlieh	1	14
Qasmiyeh	1	12
Jim Jim	2	26
Aitanieh	1	9
Wasta	3	40

Table 1: Number of psychological group therapy sessions and the respective participants in each of the 10 targeted gatherings



Picture 11: A psychological group therapy session in Jim Jeem, South Lebanon

Awareness Sessions

As part of its health activities, PARD holds awareness sessions on multiple health related topics. For 2021, during the period from January till the end of December, 242 sensitization sessions were held in the 10 gatherings and attended by 4141 individuals, most of which are females. The topics covered in these sensitization sessions were breast and cervical cancer, safe motherhood, early marriage, GBV.

Awareness Session Topic	Participants	Sessions	Females	Males
Early marriage	1221	79	1190	31
Breast and cervical cancers awareness	608	40	608	-
Safe Motherhood	1136	46	1136	-
GBV	1176	77	1176	-
Total	4141	242	4110	31

Table 2 Number of awareness sessions held for each topic and the respective number of participants

Breast and cervical cancer

The content of these sessions included information on the following topics:

- What are breast and cervical cancers?
- Causes and symptoms
- Breast Cancer Self-Screening
- Mammography
- Pap smear
- Cures

This topic was discussed in 40 sessions for 608 participants, all of whom were females. They were held to encourage women to undergo mammography of their breasts and Pap smear testing.

Safe motherhood (1136 women)

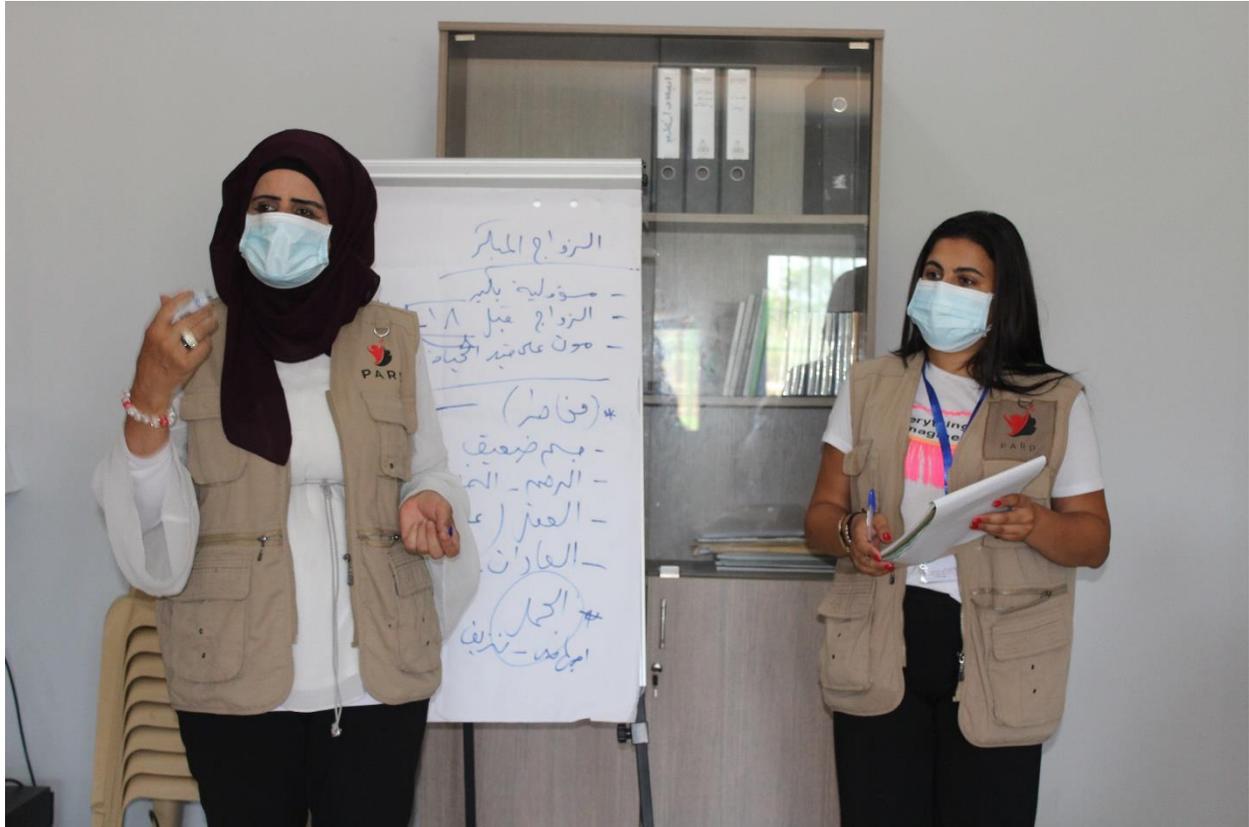
The content of these sessions included information on the following topics:

- What are the cases of critical and high-risk pregnancy?
- What to avoid to ensure a healthy pregnancy
- When to see a gynecologist immediately
- Common pregnancy-related problems
- Prenatal Care
- Family Planning

This topic was discussed in 46 sessions for 1136 participants, all of whom were females.



Picture 12: Midwife during an awareness session about Pap smear and mammogram



Picture 13: An awareness session on early marriage in Maashouk, South Lebanon

Early marriage

The content of these sessions included information on the following topics:

- Definition of early marriage
- Associated risks and complications
- Social and Psychological Impact of Early Marriage

This topic was discussed in 79 sessions for 1221 participant, distributed as: 1190 females and 31 males.

Gender-based violence

The content of these sessions included information on the following topics:

- Definition of GBV
- Violence within a married couple
- Violence against young women or girls
- Discrimination between men and women
- Types of violence: physical – verbal – psychological
- Relation between violence and gender

This topic was discussed in 77 sessions for 1176 female participants.

Postnatal services

In addition to the prenatal services offered by PARD's clinics, PARD also provides postnatal services. In the year 2021, 112 children were circumcised by PARD's gynecologist in the mobile and fixed clinics. In addition, the midwife and community health workers made 115 home visits to women who had just given birth, instructing them on how to protect their baby's and their own health. In addition, 161 boxes of diapers were distributed to women with newborns during clinic services and home visits.

The projects/activities in this strategy were supported by:

- **Basque Agency for Development Cooperation**
- **Bizkaia (The Provincial Council of Biscay)**
- **Galdakao Town Hall (Ayuntamiento de Galdakao)**
- **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)**
- **Solidaridad Internacional (NAZIOARTEKO ELKARATASUNA – SOLIDARIDAD)**
- **UNDP - Lebanon**



**Access to Healthcare
and Environmental
Health Services**

Solid Waste Collection and Disposal

The Objective of the activity is to decrease the hazards of accumulated household garbage through regular collection of garbage in six Palestinian gatherings in the South of Lebanon. It includes regular solid waste collection at the household level, in addition to cleaning public zones in the southern gatherings. PARD has been operating this project since 1994.

Garbage, in most gatherings, is disposed in open containers located in central areas of the gathering. The open containers are an insect breeding ground, and hence a potential source of health risks. If the containers are not emptied frequently enough, garbage is thrown next to them, potentially attracting animals.

Solid waste management activities

- Regular solid waste collection at the household level in 6 gatherings, which entails maintenance, provision of salaries of workers and fuel for the garbage collection truck.
- Collect sorted garbage in 6 of the gatherings and deliver to local municipalities through a special truck or to dumping sites
- Spraying of insecticides and provision of rodenticides to combat harmful insects and rodent infestations.
- Distribution of anti-lice shampoos and anti-scabies lotion when needed.
- Conduct annual general cleaning campaigns of the public zones in the 6 gatherings in Southern Lebanon
- Coordination with the Lebanese municipalities of Tyre, Abbasiyi, Burj Rahhal, and Kharayeb on solid waste management

Two thousand two hundred sixty eight (2268) tons of solid wastes were collected through 1134 shifts (2 tons/shift) in 6 locations in Tyre gatherings in the South to the main dumping place. As for the number of beneficiaries, 4,627 PRL, PRS, Syrian refugees and poor Lebanese benefited from this project in the south, of those 2,545 were females and 2082 were males.

Since 2019 PARD has been working closely with partner NGOs and local Lebanese municipalities to reduce the garbage collected through sorting. So far together with UNDP and the partners mentioned, PARD has implemented successful garbage sorting projects.

The sorting of solid waste continued throughout the year 2021:

- Jim Jeem, Kfar Badda, Aitaniyeh and Wasta in coordination with Kharayeb municipality
- Baisariyeh in coordination with Baisariyeh municipality
- Wadi El Zeineh in coordination with Sibliin municipality
- Qasmiyeh in coordination with Burj Rahal municipality
- Jal al Bahar in coordination with Abbasiyeh municipality
- Hay al Zaitoun near Miyeh Miyeh camp in Saida in coordination with Miyeh Miyeh Municipality

Spraying of insecticides

Rodents and insects constituted a major source of nuisance to the residents of the gatherings, especially during summer when the number of insects increases tremendously. To control the problem, PARD implemented spraying campaigns in the 7 gatherings in the South and 1 gathering in Beirut.

The announcement for spraying insecticides takes place through popular committees, women committees and mosques. People usually keep their children and chickens indoor during the spraying process. Volunteers usually help in alerting the people and spraying of the insecticides, especially in the narrow alleys of the gatherings.

PARD sprayed 13,000 liters of insecticides (200 ml of insecticides for every 20 liters of water). Or 130 liters of undissolved solution.

About 9,903 people benefited from this project, 5,446 females and 4,457 males



Picture 14: Spraying insecticides

► Cleaning Septic Tanks

PARD operates a special truck for suctioning septic tanks in the Southern gatherings. Some gatherings are not linked to major wastewater pipelines and therefore discharge their household wastewater into primitive ground septic tanks. These usually overflow and contaminate the land and water sources around them.

A new truck for suction of waste water was purchased and 147 cesspits were emptied from the Southern gatherings and camps.

The beneficiaries usually call the driver of the truck to empty their septic tanks in exchange for a menial amount in Lebanese pounds.

In addition to the regular septic tanks, PARD emptied the biological sewage treatment tank in Qasmiyeh through 30 shifts.

➤ **Cleaning Campaigns of General Premises**

At least once a year, before implementing spraying of insecticides, each gathering organizes a cleaning campaign whereby a team of workers and volunteers clean up their gatherings.

In 2021, 20 campaigns took place in the gatherings in the South, and the collected wastes were removed by PARD's 2 garbage trucks and deposited at designated places. Six campaigns were implemented in the Beirut gathering.

➤ **Distribution of Anti-Lice Shampoos and Rodenticides**

The Beirut gatherings are overcrowded habitats with problems in the sewage systems. The Southern gatherings are not over crowded, but individual problems related to the sewer system and household garbage might pose breeding places for rodents like in Beirut. The local health educators and members of local women's committees are the ones who distribute rodenticides to control such pests. Distributions are accompanied by written instructions on proper use and the protection of family users. Unfortunately, due to the lack of funds, PARD could not purchase and distribute rodenticides in the year 2021.

110 anti- lice shampoo bottles were distributed during the year in Sikkeh, Qasmiyeh, Jal al Bahar, Maashouk and Kfar Badda.

➤ **COVID-19 Health Awareness Sessions**

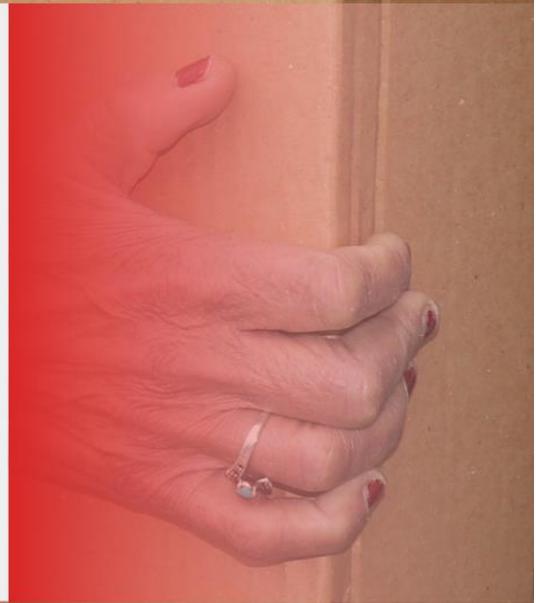
As COVID-19 was an important health topic that needed to be addressed in the communities where PARD works, awareness on the topic as well as the importance of vaccination had to be conducted. For that purpose, in collaboration with another NGO, PARD conducted awareness sessions targeting **570 caregivers** of different national backgrounds in Beirut, Wadi Zaine, and South Lebanon. The sessions were given for two months over **57 sessions** with each attended by **10 caregivers**. There were **25 sessions** held in the South in Maashouk community center, **16** in Wadi Zaine in the KG center, and **16** in Beirut in Daouk's KG center.

These sessions handled an introduction to what the virus is and how it has been affecting people. It also emphasized the importance of vaccination against it as many attendees were afraid of getting vaccinated. Information on these two topics were provided in a one hour session.

This program was supported by UNDP Lebanon and Initiate.



Relief
for People in
Distress



OR EXCHANGE

PARD's main work and mission are directed towards the Palestinian refugees – and other refugees- residing in the gatherings. Gatherings in the South Lebanon and Beirut, like other gatherings in Lebanon, suffer a devastating state of lack of infrastructure, very limited employment opportunities, competition over available resources, and a crowded residential situation due to the overpopulation present there. Co-occurring with the economic crisis that has dire consequences on the financial situation of refugee families in the gatherings, these factors exacerbate the situation and make basic pillars of living inaccessible for many therefore leading to a state of food insecurity.



Picture 15: Distribution of food vouchers in Daouk, Beirut

In response to the basic needs of the people in the gatherings given the state of food insecurity they are in and given the need for basic hygiene resources, and as part of its relief response, PARD provides Food Security (FS) and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in these areas. PARD makes sure that individuals benefiting from those activities are those most in need according to need and vulnerability assessments performed prior to every phase of initiation of activities in addition to validity assessments to existing data bases. The validation assessment used are those endorsed by the food security sector in order to select and enroll beneficiaries. Beneficiary households were selected based on the following criteria with priority given to those households that meet more than one criteria:

- Families with children (children at risk of child labor, children with disabilities, children at risk of malnutrition under 59 months, children with protection risk)
- Single Female Headed households and caregivers for children under 24 months and elderly dependents
- Pregnant and Lactating women
- Household headed by a single elderly with one or more children

- Household with only elderly members
- Household where head/more than one member suffers from a severe chronic illness, or immunodeficiency, or is disabled, and with dependents (elderly and/or children)
- Household with four or more dependents (elderly and/or children)

Each of those activities, FS and WASH, has a modality that PARD has been utilizing since years. For FS activities, there are mainly two modalities usually adopted by PARD, food vouchers and food parcels. For the year 2021, only food vouchers were utilized in FS activities where beneficiaries would redeem vouchers of a specified amount for, strictly, food products.

As for WASH activities, those are usually performed as provision of different types of kits for different purposes or age groups. The ones mainly provided by PARD are hygiene kits, also referred to as relief kits, personal hygiene kits, baby kits- for ages 0 to 24 months, elderly kits- for ages 60 and above, and diapers for elderlies. Each of the kits has a particular set of components which is usually based on universal standards.



Picture 16: Distribution of relief kits in Borj Hammoud, Beirut

Hygiene Kits/ Relief Kits are composed of:

- Soap Bar
- Laundry Washing Powder
- Cleaning Liquid
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste adult

- Toothpaste Children
- Toothbrush Adult
- Toothbrush Children
- Bucket with Lid
- Comb
- Cotton Towel
- Garbage Bag 20L
- Cleaning Clothes (3 per pack)
- HH Dishwashing gloves
- Bleach (1L)
- Torch
- Alcohol Antiseptic 70% Ethanol 500ml
- Spare Batteries (Pack of 2)
- Reusable Mask
- Heavy Duty Gloves
- Sanitary Pad 00 (Pack of 10 Pads)
- Carton Box

Baby kits are composed of:

- Diapers
- Detergent
- Baby Bathing Soap
- Baby Underwear
- Pajamas
- Digital Thermometer -Non Mercury

The diapers in this kit are modified in size from one kit to another according to the age of the baby

Elderly kits are composed of:

- Hand Soap
- Shower Gel
- Underwear
- Pajamas
- Slippers
- Medical Masks
- Sanitizer
- Towel

In addition, PARD provides relief activities of nonfood items and minor rehabilitation of houses. PARD also complied with its strategy of emergency relief through responding to the blast of Beirut in Karantina, Nabaa, and Borj Hammoud for over a year after the explosion.

Area	Gathering/ Area	# of Household Kits (Hygiene kits)	# of Baby Kits	# of Elderly kits	# of Elderly Kits-Diapers	
Beirut	Daouk	561	109	50	10	
	Said Ghawash					
Tyr	Jal al Bahar	3248	542	270	50	
	Wasta					
	Maashouk					
	Jim Jim					
	Kfar Badda					
	Burghuliyeh					
	Aiteneyye					
	Al Eab					
	Shabriha					
	Qasmiyeh					
	Nahr el Samer					
Baisariyeh						
Baraksat/ Taytaba	2,000	425	-			-
Bustan Abo Jamil						
Bustan Al Quds						
Taamir						
Nemrin & Hettin						
Nidaa Insani						
Hay Al Quds						
Abo Salim P/C						
Sikkeh						
Mojamaa						
Safsaf & Ras Al Ahmar						
Tawaree'						
Samireyaa						
Moujamaa Al Bahaa						
Jabal Al Halib						
Safouri						
Hamshari/ Mieh Mieh						
Arab Al Ghweir						
Kenayat						
Abo Jihad al Wazir						
Mount Lebanon	Wadi Zayne, Chhim, Other Iqlim & Naameh	1300	282			
	Total	7109	1358	320	60	

Table 3: Types and numbers of distributed WASH kits in gatherings of Beirut, Tyr, Saida, and Mount Lebanon

➔ Beirut Gatherings

PARD’s response in Beirut gatherings included the two gatherings Said Ghawash and Daouk for both FS and WASH.

Food Security

Monthly food voucher distributions in Beirut in the two gatherings Daouk and Said Ghawash benefited 4272 individuals of different national backgrounds. Those were 2124 males and 2148 females where each gender category includes both adults and children. The beneficiaries of this activity were Lebanese, Syrian, PRS, and PRL.

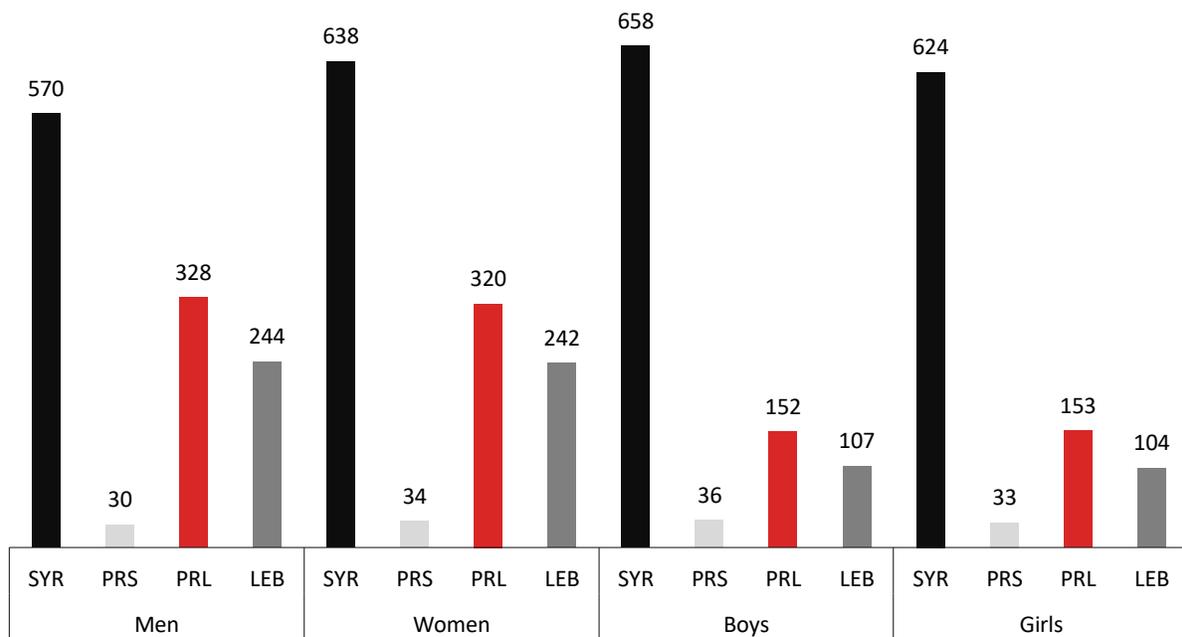


Figure 15: Disaggregation of beneficiaries of food vouchers in Beirut gatherings by gender and nationality

With the worsening financial situation of the country and the volatile and unstable fluctuation of the currency, the value of the vouchers varied across distributions. The provided food vouchers ensured access to nutritionally balanced food assistance by providing a sufficient voucher value through the changing situation. There were two stores as options for the beneficiaries and were in accessible locations to all being located in Sabra. The distributions took place PARD’s KG center in Daouk where the beneficiaries would come to receive their vouchers depending on the number of family members. The value of each monthly food voucher is specified according to the food security sector recommendations for the SMEB (Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket).

WASH

In Beirut, 730 WASH kits of multiple kinds were distributed to families and individuals residing in Daouk and Said Ghawash. Those 730 kits included 561 hygiene kits, 109 baby kits, 50 elderly kits, and 10 elderly kits- diapers. The families benefiting from these kits were Lebanese, Syrian, PRS, and PRL.



Picture 17: WASH kits distribution in Daouk, Beirut

➤ **South Gatherings**

PARD provides its relief activities in South Lebanon for over 32 gatherings located in the surroundings of Tyre and Saida.

Food Security

Monthly food voucher distributions in gatherings in South Lebanon benefited 6299 individuals of different national backgrounds. Those were 3045 males and 3253 females where each gender category includes both adults and children. The beneficiaries of this activity were Lebanese, Syrian, PRS, and PRL.

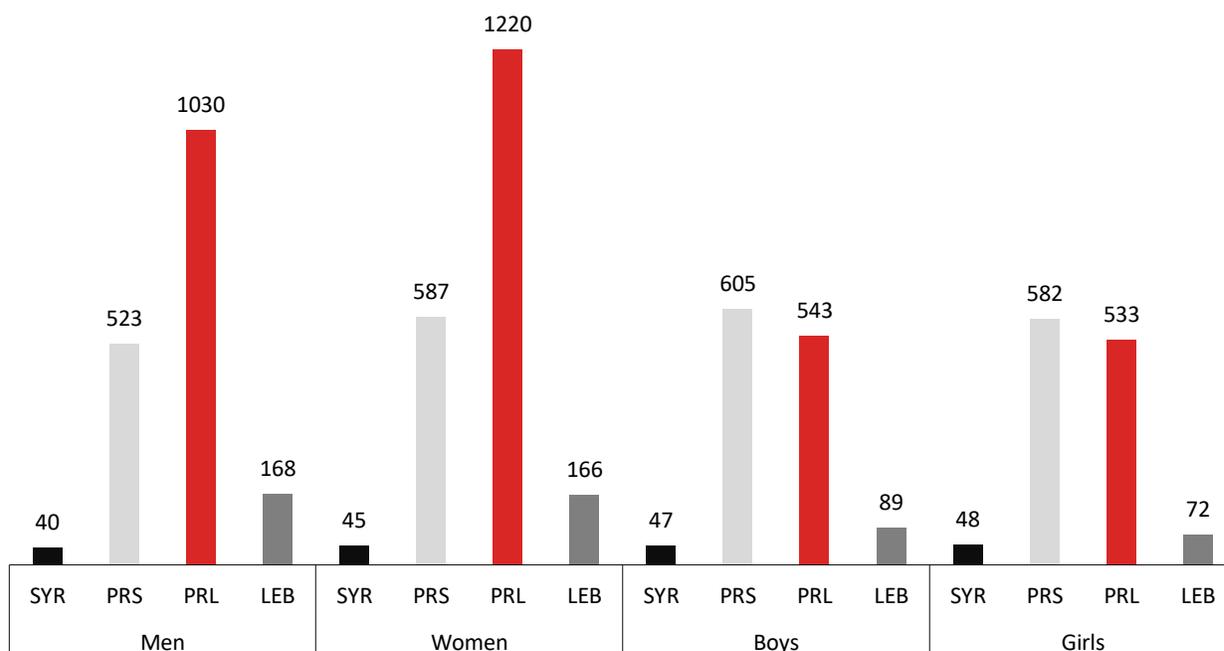


Figure 16: Disaggregation of beneficiaries of food vouchers in South gatherings by gender and nationality

Like in Beirut, the amount of the vouchers varied across distributions. The provided food vouchers ensured access to nutritionally balanced food assistance by providing a sufficient voucher value through the changing situation. There were two stores as options for the beneficiaries and were in an accessible location to all being located in Abbaseye and Masakin. The distributions took place at PARD's KG center in Tyre and the Maashouk Community Center.

WASH

The distribution of WASH kits in gatherings in South Lebanon included around 32 gatherings. These gatherings are in both Tyr and Saida. Twelve gatherings are located in the surroundings of Tyr and 20 were in the surroundings of Saida. There were a total of 4160 kits were distributed in Tyre surroundings and 2425 kits were distributed in Saida surroundings. Like in Beirut, the kits included hygiene kits, baby kits, elderly kits, and elderly kits- diapers. Also, 1582 kits were distributed in the gatherings in Chouf.

Nonfood Items

Nonfood items were distributed to 408 children and their parents in the three Kindergartens operated by PARD in Beirut, in Wadi Al Zeineh and in Tyre. They also included 45 children participants in psychosocial activities in Shabriha center. These items were shoes, men's clothes, children clothes, women clothes, cloth toys, and plastic toys.

Item	Quantity (pieces)
Shoes	240
Men's Clothes	900
Children Clothes	360
Women Clothes	690
Cloth Toys	250
Plastic Toys	90

Table 4: Types and quantities of nonfood items distributed

Minor Rehabilitation of Houses

As part of the relief activities held by PARD, there are minor rehabilitation activities for houses in the gatherings in South Lebanon. These activities are performed by the skilled youth workers from the community who work in specific professions (see youth empowerment section). The houses rehabilitated for the year 2021 are 63 in 7 gatherings: Sikkeh (11 houses), Kfarbadda (5 houses), Aitaniyeh (8 houses), Wasta (10 houses), Qasmiyeh (11 houses), Shabriha (7 houses), and Maashouk (11 houses). The rehabilitation activities covered multiple areas of specialty such as plumbing, carpentry, painting, electricity, tiling, and blacksmithing. The selection of the houses happens according to a set criteria for the family residing in it that includes:

- women heads of household
- disabilities
- situations of poverty and extreme poverty
- number of family members (5 or more children)
- chronic diseases

During the evaluation visits, the following is taken into account

1. **Health.** As a basic necessity for normal life, the house must be in good condition in terms of water and sewage networks so that there are no wastewater leaks or waste in the network.
2. One of the **safety** requirements of any home is that the electrical mains must be properly extended (either concealed in walls or partitions or externally in conduits). The extensions must be properly insulated and kept away from direct contact, either with people or with the contents of the house, so as to avoid electric shocks or contact that could lead to a risk of fire or death.
3. **Privacy.** The right to privacy has been taken into account in identifying the costs of maintaining all windows and doors, or installing new ones when maintenance is not possible or damage is severe.
4. **People with special needs,** have the right to lead a normal life just like anyone else which requires some adjustments done for their convenience.

Beirut Blast Response

The emergency response to the blast of the port of Beirut that PARD carried out focused on action in different life aspects including food security, WASH, women empowerment, and psychosocial support. All activities in response to blast ended by the end of 2021 except psychosocial support activities for children.

Food Security

The main aim in activities of this sector was to increase the immediate food consumption for 1,291 households directly affected by the Beirut explosion in Karantina, Burj Hammoud, and Nabaa neighborhoods of Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Food assistance was used to provide 50% of food needs over a period of 15 months. The project targeted vulnerable households from all nationalities impacted by the explosion including Syrian refugees, Lebanese citizens, and other refugee and migrant worker households.

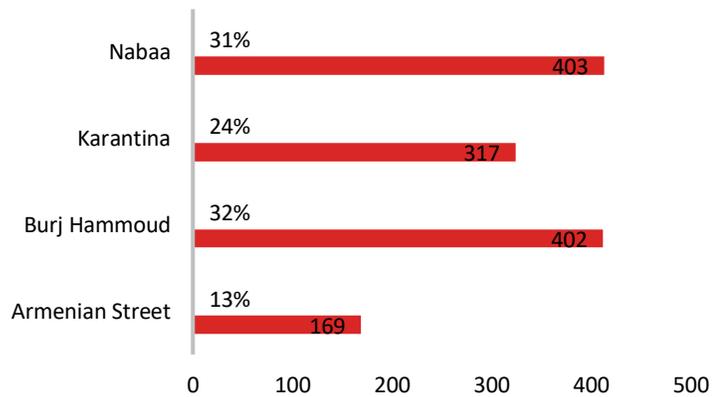


Figure 17: Number of beneficiary households of the Beirut Blast response in each of the targeted areas

During the beginning of the response in 2020, the vulnerability and need of the families were assessed in order to be able to categorize them and select the most vulnerable families. Until the end of 2020, the modality for food distribution was through food parcels where the beneficiaries would receive them at designated distribution centers.



Picture 18: Distribution of food vouchers in Borj Hammoud, Lebanon as part of the Beirut Blast response

The modality for the food assistance distribution during 2021 was modified to food vouchers, in which the selected beneficiaries were invited by a message to receive their vouchers on a specific date and time. The distribution took place in two warehouses, one located in Bourj Hammoud and the other in Karantina. After receiving their vouchers, the beneficiaries were able to go to the supermarket and redeem it. Post distribution, PARD's staff conducted surveys measuring the food consumption scores, coping strategies index, and satisfaction of a sample from the enrolled households. Throughout the whole response period, monitoring was constantly done in order to ensure that all beneficiaries are within the criteria.

Through those activities, a total of 5500 individual were targeted and directly benefited from the vouchers. Among those, 2961 were females and 2539 were males. The beneficiaries were of different nationalities, both Lebanese and non-Lebanese and were all directly affected by the blast. As for the targeted households, those were located in four specific target areas that are Karantina, Borj Hammoud, Nabaa, and the specific Amernian Street in Nabaa.

Area	Beneficiaries					
	Caregivers		Children		Nationality	
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Lebanese	Non-Lebanese
Karantina	363	303	405	356	909	518
Borj Hammoud	395	348	370	307	904	516
Nabaa-Armenian Street	179	165	139	111	396	198
Nabaa	468	402	642	547	636	1423
Total	1,405	1,218	1,556	1,321	2,845	2,655

Table 5: Number of beneficiaries of food security activities per area

WASH

Due to the ramifications of the explosion and the deterioration of the economic situation, many beneficiaries had lost their jobs. In addition, the increase of dollar rate led to a huge increase in the prices of essential hygiene items thus affecting the purchasing ability of most of the beneficiaries. Moreover, the women's pads became unsupported. Due to this PARD recognized the importance of such material resources assistance.

The assistance consisted of distribution of relief kits -also called hygiene kits (1,289 kits), personal hygiene kits (5,500 kits), tubes of toothpaste (5,500 tubes), and comforters (2,297 comforters). The distribution was conducted on August 2021 in a warehouse located at Borj Hammoud.

Nutrition Awareness Sessions

Along with the food assistance, several awareness sessions were conducted with groups of the beneficiaries targeting nutrition topics. One group was created in each area and the sessions were done on monthly basis. The topics discussed were nutrition basics, food safety, healthy shopping, infants and children feeding, and healthy eating habits for pregnant and lactating women. The attendees of these activities were all women and from different nationalities all residing in the areas of Karantina, Nabaa, and Borj Hammoud. The nationalities were both Lebanese and Syrian, around 45% of the attendees were Syrian and 55% were Lebanese.



Picture 19: Nutrition awareness session in Borj Hammoud, Beirut

Women Committees:



Picture 20: Women committee meeting in Karantina, Beirut

Recruitment and formation of women committees for Karantina, Bourj Hammoud and Nabaa areas took place in November with the first monthly meeting held in December, 2020. Of the 66 women recruited to join the committees, 84% were in attendance at the first meeting. Many of the attending women were excited to be part of the committee and welcomed the chance to discuss the issues in their community with others as many do not spend much time socializing outside their houses. Each committee included women from different nationalities including Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian and Ethiopian. At the initial stages of forming the committees, there were a total of 5 committees: two in Karantina, two in Nabaa, and one in Bourj Hammoud. In September 2021, the two committees in Karantina merged into one which consequently made them 4 committees. By October 2021, the four committees had a total of 81 members, 44 Lebanese, 34 Syrian, 2 Palestinian and 1 Egyptian.

The committees were an opportunity for the women in the community to meet and to understand their shared struggles as well as their differences. These committees played a crucial role in improving the social cohesion among the families residing in these areas especially those from different nationalities as there was a significant tension between them after the explosion due to categorized and prioritized assistance.

In June 2021, PARD's women empowerment officer began a series of trainings on a weekly basis with each of the women's committees. The topics covered included the following:

- Gender equality and respectful relationships
- Gender based violence
- Conflict resolution
- Communication types and styles
- Strengthening women's role in the community
- Developing self-confidence and self-image
- Effective decision making
- Women's rights and human rights

The committees showed great commitment and developed good group dynamics and working relationships with each other. There were challenges due to varying levels of knowledge among participants but those were handled with the support of the participants to one another and with the support of PARD's responsible staff.

Psychosocial Support for Children

Based on PARD's baseline collected during the first phase of the project, the children of the targeted community live in an extremely vulnerable state in which violence is prevalent and barely any support is present. This condition was worsened by the blast of the port which left most of the children in distress and a large possibility of post-traumatic stress disorder.

Therefore, part of its immediate response to the blast was psychosocial support response for children in the areas affected by the blast that include Karantina, Borj Hammoud, and Nabaa. The psychosocial activities to the blast included children aged between 7 and 12, and has been ongoing in those areas ever since. For the year 2021, there were two phases of enrollment. During the months January till September, a total of 152 children attended activities in two centers located in Karantina and Nabaa. The center in Nabaa included children from both Nabaa and Borj Hammoud. In Karantina center, there was a total of 65 children, 24 males and 41 females of both the Lebanese and the Syrian nationality. In Nabaa, there a total of 87 children attended the activities, 36 males and 51 females all from the Syrian nationality.

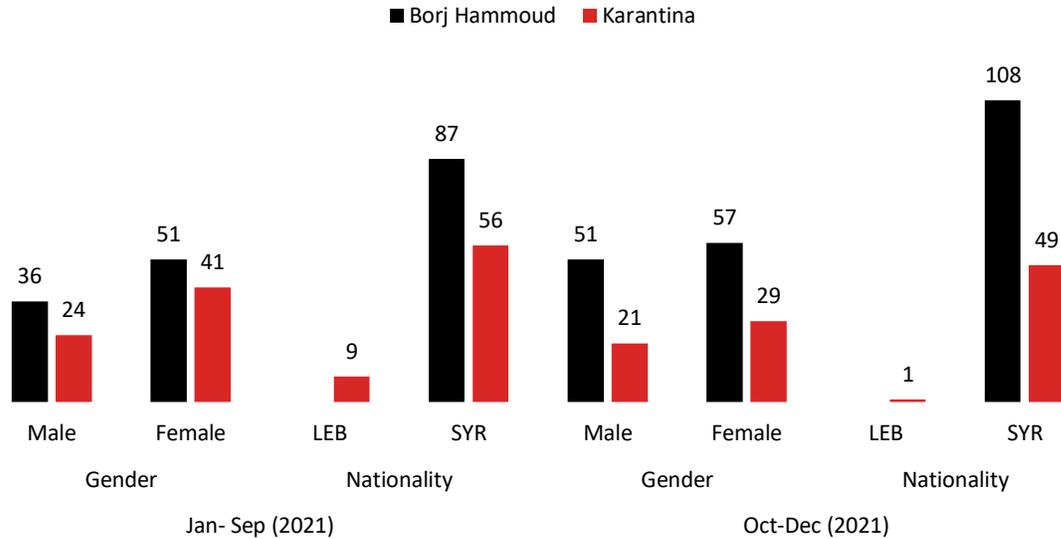


Figure 18: Disaggregated number of children participating in PSS activities in the Beirut Blast response by nationality, gender, and respective area

During the months October till December, a total of 158 children attended activities in two centers located in Karantina and Borj Hammoud. The center in Borj Hammoud included children from both Nabaa and Borj Hammoud. In Karantina center, there was a total of 50 children, 21 males and 29 females of mostly the Syrian nationality. In Nabaa, a total of 108 children attended the activities, 51 males and 57 females all from the Syrian nationality.



Picture 21: PSS activities in Karantina, Beirut

PARD developed a PSS curriculum for the activities given and delivered it at the convenience of the children through an hour and a half to two hour sessions. The curriculum was planned to target multiple psychosocial aims that contribute to the improvement of the emotional and social well-being of the children. The targeted aims planned in the curriculum are: emotion identification, expression, and control, creativity, communication, friendship, bullying, team work, resilience, self-confidence and self-esteem, trust, and problem-solving. These were given in a play-based approach that ensures an easy way for the children to grasp the concepts. Psychosocial support activities remain ongoing through 2022 as the children were assessed to be in continuous need of them.



Picture 22: Children during PSS activities in Karantina center

The projects/activities in this strategy were supported by:

- **Basque Agency for Development Cooperation**
- **Bizkaia (The Provincial Council of Biscay)**
- **Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB)**
- **Galdakao Town Hall (Ayuntamiento de Galdakao)**
- **Lebanon Humanitarian Fund- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (LHF- OCHA)**
- **Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)**
- **Solidaridad Internacional (NAZIOARTEKO ELKARTASUNA – SOLIDARIDAD)**
- **UNDP – Lebanon**
- **UN - Habitat**



Organizational Development of PARD



➤ Strategic Plan Workshop

PARD adopted a participatory approach to revisit its former strategic plan. The process was designed to help PARD identify, discuss and agree on decisions and priorities that respond best to the challenges affecting PARD's work and mission. To obtain proper and relevant feedback, staff were involved in a participatory way.

Administrative Board and Key Staff Perceptions and Feedback

PARD organized a two-day workshop meeting for its key staff in October 2021. For two consecutive days, seventeen participants were asked to discuss the challenges and issues facing PARD both at the moment and in the future; PARD's program and activities were also examined and scrutinized. All issues were brought up and analyzed in depth. The participants who worked avidly for two days were able to come out with practical and relevant recommendations that are quite useful for PARD to adopt.



Picture 23: Strategic planning workshop for 2022-2024

This new plan refines PARD's mission, vision, and values and sets a new path based on a rights approach, an approach that PARD has been following informally but attentively in the last few years. The process of developing the Strategic Plan has also led to the identification of a series of initiatives, strategic goals, strategic directions, and action priorities as the most promising approach for building on current strengths, meeting current and anticipated challenges, and expanding PARD's focus to new areas.

The purpose of this strategic plan is to describe the major policies and initiatives that will direct the activities of PARD for the next three years 2022-2024. With multi-level inputs, the plan addresses the local needs

and priorities of the community, PARD, the staff and partners. The plan is a framework for all activities and programs aimed to produce PARD’s mission efficiently. Moreover, the broad directions of this plan will be the basis of the annual budgets and the use of appropriate funds and all resources and assets of the organization.

Effective implementation of this strategic plan will help PARD provide top-quality services to Palestinian refugees and vulnerable groups in Lebanon. It will also strengthen and increase PARD’s role as a rights-based organization and agent of change within the Palestinian community. PARD is dedicated to pursue its rights based mission and to generate collaborative action and learning to improve and expand community-focused practices mainly for the Palestinian refugees.

Trainings

As part of the capacity building plan of its team and responding to their needs, PARD conducted a series of trainings in multiple aspects of work. These trainings included topics of gender sensitization in field activities and gender inclusivity and sensitivity in administrative work and coordination. The trainings pertaining to field activities were attended mostly by the field staff and were a total of three trainings: Introduction to Gender, GBV Basic Principles, Early Identification of GBV and Safe Referral. An additional training was held on accounting for gender in M&E components mainly for project coordinators titled “Introduction to Gender in Food and Security with Focus on M&E”.

Title of Training	Attendees
Training of Trainers (TOT)	12 staff members- 3 project coordinators, 2 project officers, a program support officer, a procurement officer, a media officer, a PSS animator, a dietitian, center coordinator, and a community worker
GBV Lebanese law updates	2 staff members
Introduction to Gender-Field Staff Sensitization	14 staff members- 5 project associates, 2 project officers, an information management officer, a procurement officer, a media officer, a PSS animator, a head teacher, a center coordinator, and a community worker
Introduction to Gender in food and security with focus on M&E- Coordinators	7 staff members- 4 project coordinators, a dietitian, a psychologist, and the program manager’s assistant
GBV basic principles training for field staff & Early identification of GBV and safe referral training for field staff	17 staff members- 7 project associates, 4 project officers, a procurement officer, a media officer, a PSS animator, a head teacher, a center coordinator, a project coordinator

Table 6: Trainings and their attendees

PSEA policy

In 2021, PARD worked on developing its policies and procedures. As part of that, it developed a Prevention of Sexual and Exploitation and Abuse Policy (PSEA) that protects its staff and beneficiaries from sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in the workplace and on field. This policy applies to all employees,

contractors and any other held procedures and agreements therefore be held accountable for any violations. The purpose of this policy is to define clear PSEA standards to be implemented at PARD in what complies with its values. PARD is committed to protecting its beneficiaries and staff from SEA through adhering to the principles of awareness, prevention, reporting, and responding. The policy was made part of PARD's HR manual.

Project Evaluations

At the end of two of its projects, PARD contracted evaluators to assess the success of the implementation of the projects and their effects on the benefiting communities in addition to financial audits. The evaluations were carried out to obtain information on the achievements of the project results in their different dimensions, progress, weaknesses and strengths in the different stages of the project's design, implementation and monitoring.

The projects targeted in these evaluations were “Medical and Psychosocial Assistance to the Refugee Population in South Lebanon” and “Reconstruction, Livelihoods and Gender Equity in Informal Settlements in Southern Lebanon”.

In addition, in the “Medical and Psychosocial Assistance to the Refugee Population in South Lebanon” project, an expert researcher was consulted to conduct a study on early marriage in the targeted gatherings. Entitled “A Closer Look into Child Marriage”, the study aimed to provide a comprehensive look into child marriage, both quantitatively, in regards to prevalence among the ten targeted refugee gatherings in the south, and qualitatively, via focused group discussions, among 3 different target groups (women, young women and young men).

Other Literature

PARD is part of a number of coordination forums, and national and international coalitions that focus on Palestinian Rights and issues.

Coordination Forums

- 1. The coordination forum of the NGOs working among the Palestinian Community** has been operating since the beginning of 1995. Its aim is to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon in all aspects of their lives, including the political (through lobbying), social, and health, educational and economic. PARD has been a founder of this forum of 16 NGO members. As long as this forum helps its NGO members to reach a better understanding about the problems facing them and facing the communities they work with, and succeeds in complying with its aims, namely to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees, PARD will remain an active member within it. This forum has implemented many joint projects, participated in joint training programs and participated in national and international workshops and conferences.

- 2. The Platform of Social and Health NGOs in Saida Area** was established as a result of the Israeli aggression on the South of Lebanon July 1993. PARD is one of its founders, and it has played an active role in it from the start. There are approximately 100 NGOs who are members of this forum. This forum has implemented many joint projects both for the Lebanese and Palestinians in the areas of health, social issues, education, and relief in the city of Saida and the surrounding area. It gained official recognition from the Lebanese Ministry of the Interior in 2015.
- 3. EPEP Network:** PARD had been cooperating with EPEP for several years in projects related to combating the illiteracy of women in the gatherings. EPEP is now in the process of creating an “academy” for combating illiteracy, and has invited PARD to become a partner in this project, along with other partners from Lebanon and the region. The academy focuses on creating new materials and methods in combating illiteracy, in addition to organizing many training courses for new facilitators working in the same domain.

Coordination / Networking

Name of Association	Activity
AL Jana (ARCPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of PARD animators on activities encouraging reading. - Film projection for women. - Participation in “Janana Week”- puppet making.
Sabil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobile library for children - Puppet theater performance.
Terre Des Hommes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raising awareness of women on proper raising of children. - Income generating workshops.
Women Philanthropy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raising awareness of women on proper raising of children. - Open days with PARD for children activities.
Al Ghad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Psychosocial activities for children
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gathering Working Group to exchange information and coordinate activities.

SPECIAL THANKS

PARD offers special thanks to the following organizations and all volunteers and individuals for their support during the year 2021, in alphabetical order:

- Basque Agency for Development Cooperation
- Canadian Foodgrains Bank- CFGB
- Initiate
- Lebanon Humanitarian Fund- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (LHF- OCHA)
- Mennonite Central Committee- MCC
- Refugee Empowerment International- REI
- Save the Children International- SCI, Lebanon
- Solidaridad Internacional (Nazioarteko Elkartasuna- Solidaridad)
- The Provincial Council of Biscay- Bizkaia
- UNDP Lebanon
- UNHABITAT Lebanon

Annual Report

2021



Beirut
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Saida
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