



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024

*A Year of Transformation and Impact*



# FOREWORD: A YEAR OF PROGRESS



As we close the chapter of 2024, it is impossible to ignore the weight of the year gone by. It was a challenging one for Lebanon and for our communities in the North. The escalation of conflict and the resultant emergencies tested our resilience and resolve like never before. Yet, amidst the turmoil, UTOPIA stood firm and rose to meet the moment. Our teams, alongside our volunteers, worked tirelessly to provide emergency response, ensuring that the most vulnerable were not left behind, and proving once again that solidarity and action can shine even in the darkest times.

2024 was also a year of transformation for UTOPIA. It wasn't just about weathering the storm but about evolving to better serve our mission.

We embraced change, revisiting our vision and strategy to align with the evolving needs of our communities. We proudly introduced a new logo that symbolizes our renewed energy and vision. We revisited our Theory of Change, refining our approach and adding new pillars that reflect our continued dedication to social justice, sustainable development and climate change. These changes aren't just symbolic, they embody a deep, forward-thinking shift that will guide our work in the years to come.

Amid the immense challenges of 2024, we recognized the need to adapt and expand our efforts to meet the growing needs of our communities.

Extending our interventions into Akkar was a significant milestone, strengthening UTOPIA's presence and impact across North Lebanon. This expansion reflects the trust and partnerships we've nurtured over the years and positions us to provide even greater support to those who need it most.

As we step into 2025, I am immensely proud of the UTOPIA family, our soldiers of staff and volunteers, who embody the

spirit of solidarity and hope. I cherish the unity and strength demonstrated by the community and our volunteers during the hardest times. Together, we overcame these turbulent times, and I am grateful for the trust and support of our donors and partners who supported our mission.

The challenges of this year have shaped us, and now we look ahead to 2025 with renewed hope and determination. Together, we will continue our journey towards a more just and inclusive society, driven by our shared commitment to creating lasting change. Thank you for your precious support and trust in UTOPIA, it inspires us to keep making a difference every day.

Warm regards,

**Shafik Abdulrahman**  
Executive Director - UTOPIA

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR: NUMBERS SPEAK

As we reflect on another year of impactful work, we are proud to share the measurable outcomes of our efforts. The following highlights demonstrate the tangible difference UTOPIA has made in the lives of individuals and communities, reinforcing our commitment to creating positive change and empowering vulnerable populations



**74,928**  
Individuals Reached



**50,643**  
Beneficiaries



**113**  
Dedicated  
Volunteers



**3,688**  
Individuals Visited  
ABJAD Center



**9,836**  
Emergency Response  
Beneficiaries



**226,560**  
Hot Meals Prepared in  
our Community Kitchen



**3,600**  
Individuals Used our  
Service Map Platform



**959**  
Hygiene Kits  
Distributed



**27,610**  
Individuals Benefited  
from Solar-Powered  
Water Access Projects



**1,640**  
Households Received  
Certificates Proving their Rights  
to Housing, Land, and Property



**21**  
Small Businesses  
Received Technical and  
Financial Support

# WHO ARE WE?

UTOPIA Association is a non-governmental, non-profit organization dedicated to abolishing all types of social discrepancies in the Lebanese society. Through specialized projects and programs that embrace volunteerism and innovation, we strive to create empowered communities and achieve social justice for all, regardless of political or religious beliefs.

Our interventions encompass developmental, humanitarian, and empowering initiatives aimed at driving meaningful change and enhancing the quality of life for all citizens. UTOPIA Association relies on fundraising to cover operational and program implementation expenses. We secure funding from international grant institutions, local donations from the private sector, and various fundraising activities. We continuously seek partnerships with entities that share our strategic values of justice, equality, citizenship, volunteerism, and accountability.



## OUR MISSION



Our mission is to foster holistic wellbeing, promote inclusion and protection, and address climate change in Lebanese society. Through community-based approaches and specialized programs, we strive for equity and civil awareness. By embracing volunteerism and innovation, we aim to drive meaningful change and improve the quality of life for all.

## OUR VISION

Empowered communities. Achieved social justice; in Lebanon



## OUR APPROACH

- Human-Centered
- Community-Based
- Holistic



## OUR INTERVENTION

- Relief
- Development
- Empowerment.



## OUR VALUES



Justice



Equality



Volunteerism



Citizenship



Accountability

# OUR REBRANDING JOURNEY: A NEW LOOK, SAME SPIRIT

## THE FOUNDATION OF OUR PILLARS

At UTOPIA, we've always focused on empowering communities and promoting social justice. As we continue to grow and evolve, we recognized the need for a more structured approach to address the diverse needs of vulnerable populations. This led us to create four newly defined program pillars to tackle the complex challenges our communities face. These pillars form the backbone of our work, reflecting our strategic shift and ensuring our interventions are dynamic, responsive, and impactful in addressing today's challenges with clarity and purpose.



Ensuring access to essential services, economic opportunities, and food security, this pillar enhances resilience, enabling individuals and communities to thrive.



Emphasizing unity, this pillar focuses on building strong partnerships, sharing resources, and creating cooperative efforts that amplify our work's impact.



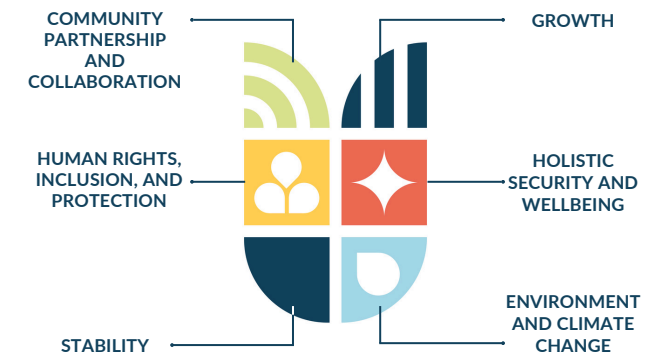
This pillar highlights our commitment to equality and protection by advocating for the rights of all, raising awareness, and ensuring inclusive programs for the most vulnerable.



Dedicated to addressing environmental challenges, this pillar focuses on climate action and sustainable solutions to create a resilient future for generations to come.

## OUR NEW LOGO: A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF OUR EVOLUTION

As part of our rebranding journey, we sought to visually represent UTOPIA's evolving impact and aspirations. Unveiled in 2024, our new logo highlights our four newly created pillars, alongside the enduring themes of stability and growth. It symbolizes our progress, with growth reflecting advancement and development, while stability remains integral to our mission.







## BUILDING PATHWAYS TO ESSENTIAL SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

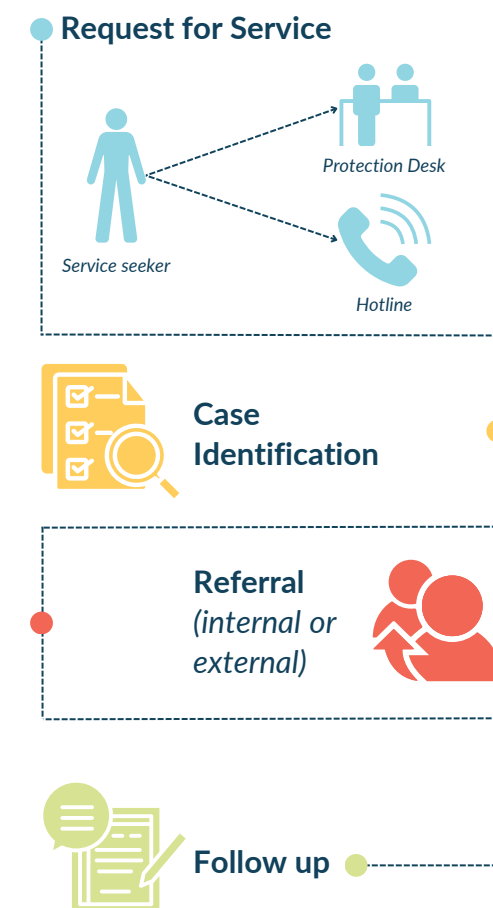
Nowadays, many individuals face significant challenges in accessing essential medical and social services, particularly those at high risk. Long distances to healthcare facilities and community centers, coupled with rising transportation costs and lack of information about the available services often expose vulnerable groups - such as women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and individuals with chronic illnesses - to many protection threats and put them into unsafe situations just to find help.

Recognizing these challenges, UTOPIA and Oxfam are dedicated to improving access to vital services in Tripoli and its surroundings.

Through our protection intervention, we are addressing these challenges through three main activities: referrals, which connect individuals with necessary support services; Bousseh, our service map website that connects community members with essential resources; and Support for Referral, which provides financial assistance for transportation to vital services.

### 1. REFERRALS

#### *UTOPIA'S Referral Mechanism*



In 2024, UTOPIA's Referral Service continued to play a critical role in improving access to essential services for vulnerable individuals across Tripoli and its surrounding areas.

Operating through our protection desk and hotlines, this service ensures that individuals in need are connected to the right support, overcoming barriers such as protection threats, financial constraints, and limited awareness of available services.

Our referral mechanism ensures that service seekers receive tailored support through a systematic process. After assessing their needs, trained staff at the protection desk either refer individuals internally to UTOPIA's programs or externally to trusted partners, such as NGOs, UNHCR or medical facilities. Regular follow-ups are conducted to ensure that individuals' needs are fully met and any service gaps are addressed.

In 2024, the referral service facilitated **594** cases, with **417** cases referred internally and **177** cases referred externally.

# IMPROVING ACCESS TO SERVICES IN TRIPOLI AND SURROUNDINGS





## 2. BOUSSLEH: OUR SERVICE MAP WEBSITE

**Boussleh** is a community-driven website designed to connect individuals in Tripoli, Dannah, and nearby areas with essential medical and social services. Launched by young volunteers with UTOPIA and Oxfam, and with the financial support of the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), the platform provides a user-friendly map detailing medical and social services, services for persons with disabilities and elderlies, in addition to hotlines across North Lebanon and Akkar. It includes information on locations, working hours, and service costs (when available).



This streamlines access to resources and aligns with our protection outcomes. By empowering individuals to navigate available services more effectively, we ensure their safety and well-being during these challenging times.

Since its launch in 2022, **3,600** individuals have visited the website, highlighting its growing impact in connecting individuals with essential services. This increased traffic reflects the platform's effectiveness in helping community members access vital resources across Tripoli, Dannah, and surrounding areas.

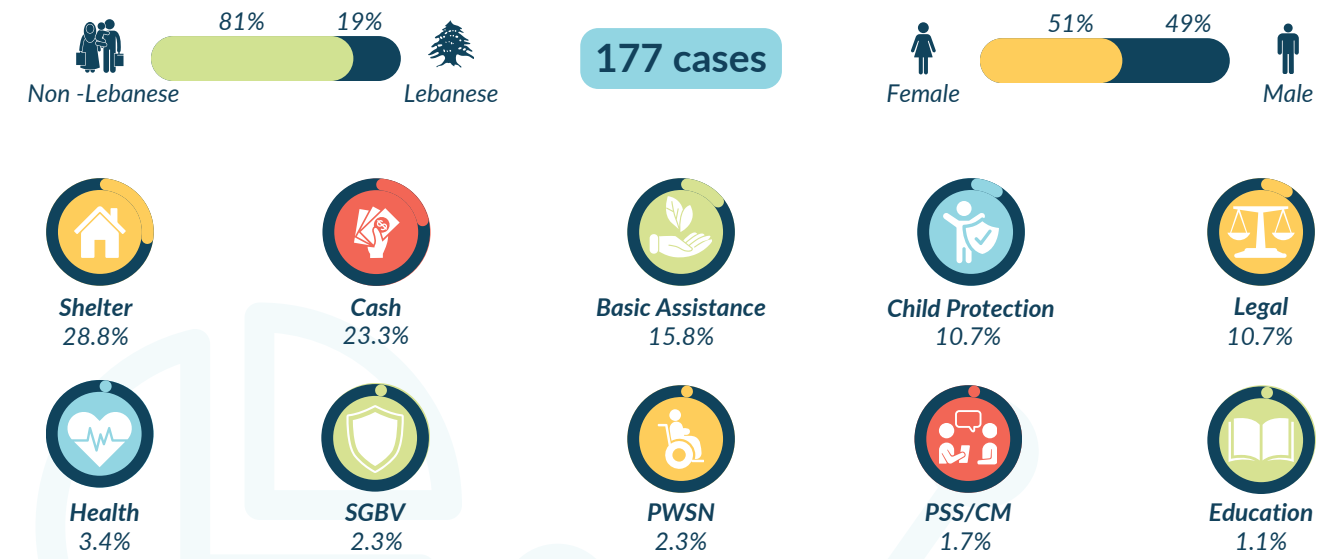
The information on this website was updated in October 2024 with the financial support of Belgium, Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.

## 3. SUPPORT FOR REFERRAL

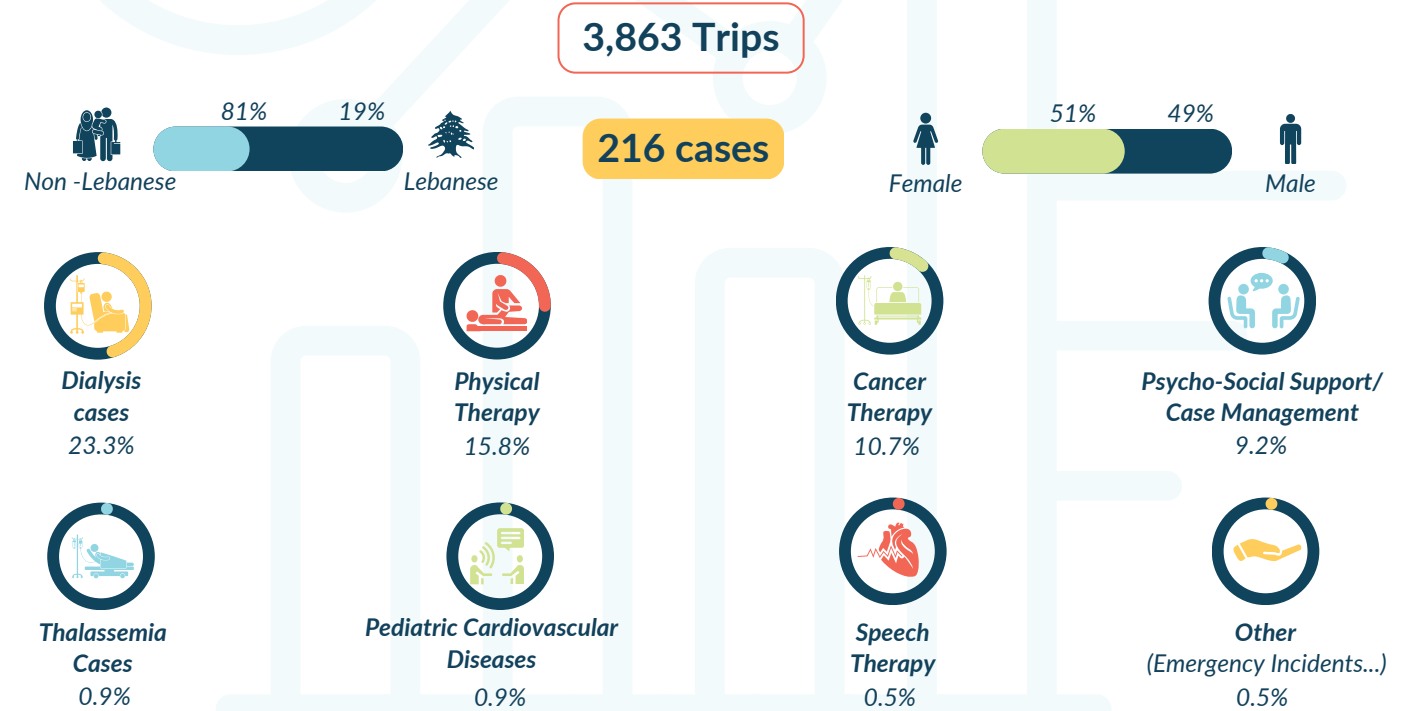


The Support for Referral initiative assists vulnerable individuals in Tripoli and surrounding areas by covering transportation fees for those needing access to critical medical and social services. This service effectively helps bridge gaps caused by financial, mobility, or protection barriers, significantly reducing risks tied to unsafe travel or inaccessible services. Assistance is provided for cancer patients needing treatment sessions, individuals requiring physiotherapy or speech therapy, thalassemia patients, children with disabilities participating in activities, case management, legal services through NGOs, accident trauma such as burns or fractures, and pediatric cardiovascular diseases. Through this initiative, UTOPIA and Oxfam, with the financial support of Belgium, Directorate-General Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD), the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), help community members access the support they need safely and efficiently, thereby enhancing their protection and security.

### External Referrals in numbers



### Support for Referral in Numbers



### "Boussleh" in numbers







# UTOPIA'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE DURING THE 2024 WAR ON LEBANON

## Standing Strong for Displaced Communities

During the devastating Israeli war on Lebanon, countless families were forced to flee their homes, seeking safety in Tripoli and the surrounding areas of North Lebanon. UTOPIA swiftly mobilized to support these internally displaced persons (IDPs), leveraging our community kitchen, volunteer network, and targeted interventions to address urgent needs.

## IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH COMMUNITY KITCHENS

At the heart of our emergency response was El Matbakh, our community kitchen. Initially located in Qalamoun, the kitchen was relocated to Tripoli to be closer to those in need.

### Immediate Response:

As displacement began, UTOPIA volunteers recognized the urgency of assisting the families seeking refuge in Tripoli and its surrounding areas. Without hesitation, our team launched a community-driven donation campaign to collect raw food supplies for El Matbakh, our community kitchen.

Through the contributions of the community and the efforts of our volunteers, **300 hot meals** were prepared and distributed in a single day to displaced families. While this rapid response was essential, it underscored the need for a more sustainable approach to address the ongoing challenges faced by internally displaced persons.



### Sustainable Solutions:



To provide consistent and reliable support, UTOPIA launched the "Improving Food Security for Internally Displaced Persons in Akkar" project under the Shabake 2 project. This effort focused on addressing food insecurity for families living in collective shelters. For two months, the project provided **200 hot meals daily** to displaced families across 3 collective shelters in Akkar, reaching **1000 individuals**. These meals were specifically designed to meet essential nutritional needs, ensuring that vulnerable groups like children, pregnant women, and the elderly received adequate nourishment during this challenging time.

PROVIDING  
RELIEF AND  
SUPPORT





**Equipping for the Future:**

Beyond immediate relief, UTOPIA recognized the importance of preparing for future emergencies. Under the Shabake 2 project, UTOPIA worked to enhance food security infrastructure and improve emergency response capacity in North Lebanon by assessing four community kitchens in Akkar.

These kitchens, located in Bebnine, Berkayel, Halba (technical schools), and Burj Al Arab (municipality), were evaluated for their potential to function effectively during crises. Following these assessments, UTOPIA equipped the kitchens with essential tools and appliances, enabling them to operate efficiently and meet the needs of the community. By empowering local communities to manage their own food security, this initiative contributed to a more resilient and self-reliant system for crisis response in Akkar.



**WATER DISTRIBUTION: ADDRESSING IMMEDIATE NEEDS**

Access to clean water was a critical priority during the early days of displacement. In collaboration with Oxfam, UTOPIA distributed 470 boxes of water to five collective shelters in Tripoli. This effort ensured displaced individuals, who were facing challenging conditions and limited resources, had reliable access to safe drinking water, addressing urgent hydration needs and reducing health risks in a time of crisis.



**HYGIENE AND MENSTRUAL HEALTH SUPPORT**



To preserve dignity and health during the crisis, UTOPIA focused on hygiene and menstrual health. In partnership with Oxfam, UTOPIA distributed hygiene and MHM kits to 126 families in collective shelters in Tripoli during the initial response.

Under the Shabake 2 project, 833 hygiene kits were distributed to IDPs across 17 collective shelters in Akkar and Minieh-Dannieh, and lately to remaining IDPs in Tripoli post-crisis.

**AWARENESS AND EDUCATION: PROMOTING HEALTH AMID CRISIS**

To support the well-being of displaced families, UTOPIA conducted awareness sessions on:

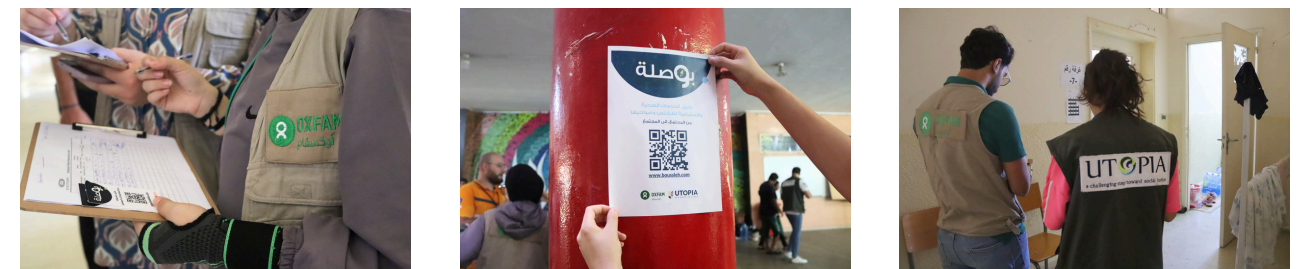
- Menstrual hygiene management
- Breastfeeding best practices
- Nutrition during crises
- Food safety essentials



**TAILORED CASH ASSISTANCE FOR IDPS**

UTOPIA recognizes the multifaceted needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and strives to offer comprehensive financial support to help address their immediate challenges, in partnership with Oxfam under the "supporting IDPs in Lebanon with access to life-saving protection, shelter, food and basic assistance, we supported through:

- Cash for food, shelter, and Emergency multi-purpose cash assistance.
- Emergency Protection Cash Assistance

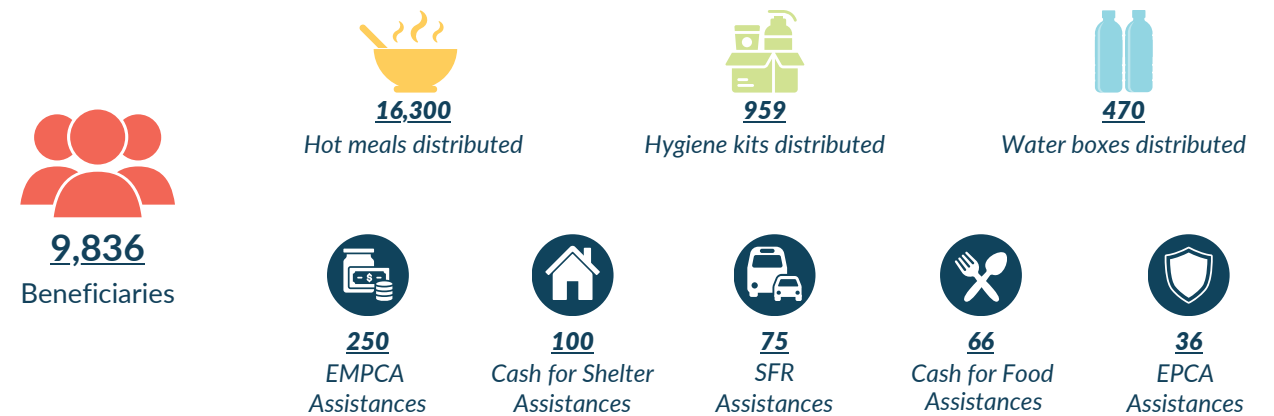


**IMPROVING IDPS' ACCESS TO SERVICES**

UTOPIA, in partnership with Oxfam, worked on improving access to vital services through:

- Referrals (internal and external), reaching 96 individuals.
- Support for referral (SFR) to cover transportation fees to service centers.
- Awareness of the Bousseleh service map for 1300 individuals, supported by distributing QR-code cards to help IDPs locate affordable and nearby services efficiently.

**IMPACT IN NUMBERS**





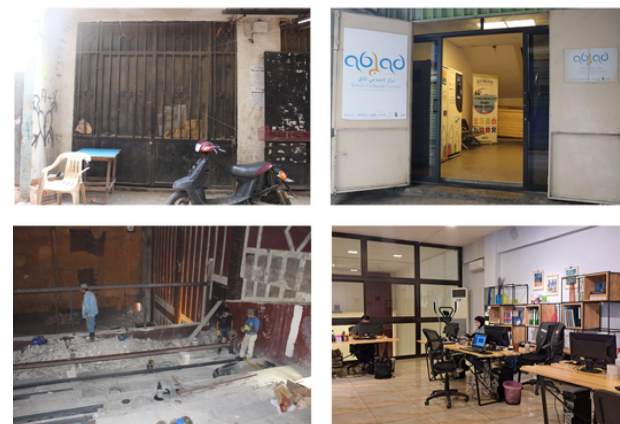
# ABJAD CENTER: A PILLAR OF COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN TABBANEH

Abjad Center, located in the heart of Tabbaneh and positioned on the demarcation line between Tabbaneh and Jabal Mohsen, was established in 2018 with a vision to serve as a safe space for all residents. Its mission is centered on empowering women, youth, and children through life skills, vocational training, and engaging activities that promote cultural and prevention programs rooted in human security principles.

As the first communal center in Tabbaneh, Abjad offers a wide range of activities, including educational capacity building, soft skills, life skills, vocational trainings, psycho-social support, theater, cinema, sports, awareness sessions, information dissemination, community events, community service, counseling, and protection-related services. These activities are designed for all community members, regardless of nationality, age, or gender, providing a safe and inclusive space for everyone.



The foundation of Abjad Center was a collaborative effort between UTOPIA Association, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UN Women, and the Municipality of Tripoli. The center's launch on August 1st, 2018, marked the beginning of a transformative space for the community.



In 2020, UTOPIA expanded Abjad with the launch of **Abjad Shabab**, a dedicated space for educational and recreational activities tailored for children and youth. This expansion included the rehabilitation of the center's basement to ensure ample room for the growing needs of the community.

 **3,688** Visitors in 2024



# RENOVATION OF ABJAD SHABAB UNDER "PATHWAYS TO PEACE" PROJECT

In 2024, Abjad Shabab underwent renovations as part of the Pathways to Peace project, Implemented by UTOPIA Association in partnership with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and the Civil Peace Service, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

This renovation was designed to transform the space into a more inclusive and dynamic environment, fostering peace-building activities and providing enhanced facilities for community members. With a focus on empowerment and social cohesion, the project supports 80 children, 40 women, and 15 youth through engaging initiatives such as a Reading Club for Kids, Physical Activities for Kids, Self-Defense for Women, and Content Creation for Youth.

The renovation included a variety of key upgrades to ensure a safe and modern space for education and recreational activities. Notable improvements include:

- Wall Painting and PVC Wall Installations for a fresh and vibrant environment
- New Ventilation Systems and Electricity Maintenance for better air quality and power reliability
- WC and Water Maintenance to ensure hygiene and comfort
- Upgrades to Aluminum Doors and Locks for enhanced security
- Furnishing with tables, chairs, and educational boards
- Provision of Learning and Sports Equipment, including stationary, educational games, and sports tools



The renovations have transformed Abjad Shabab into a fully equipped space that now hosts:

- Three classrooms for educational and recreational activities
- A conference room complete with an LCD projector and board
- A Physical Education Room designed for children and women
- A Children's Section dedicated to games, stories, and books
- Technical Tools including a printer and internet connection



These improvements have empowered Abjad Shabab to offer a wider range of activities that promote peace, social cohesion, and collaboration. The upgraded facilities now serve as an ideal space for both educational and physical activities, helping to cultivate a strong sense of community and personal development.



# COMMUNITY-LED PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION: A PATH TO EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Community-Led Protection (CLP) and Community-Based Protection (CBP) are complementary approaches that place communities at the heart of protection efforts. These strategies empower individuals and groups to identify and address the risks they face, fostering resilience and sustainability. CBP focuses on collaboration between communities, local authorities, and protection actors, while CLP takes it a step further by enabling communities to lead their protection efforts, recognizing their expertise and strengthening local capacities. Both approaches emphasize inclusivity, participatory processes, and the belief that protection is most effective when it reflects the unique realities and aspirations of the communities themselves.

## UTOPIA'S ROLE IN ADVANCING CBP AND CLP APPROACHES

As part of the "Frontline Community Protection Capacity" project, implemented in partnership with Oxfam and funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), UTOPIA plays a vital role in advancing Community-Led Protection (CLP) and Community-Based Protection (CBP) approaches.



This project aims to empower frontline responders with a comprehensive understanding of these approaches, fostering a cohesive and coordinated strategy for community-led protection programs. UTOPIA's efforts include conducting focus group discussions and key informant interviews to gather insights, organizing training sessions to build capacity, and hosting roundtables to promote collaboration among local and international actors. Through these initiatives, UTOPIA reinforces the importance of community ownership and strengthens the partnerships needed for effective and sustainable protection solutions.



## KEY ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PROJECT:

### Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs):

To build a strong foundation for the project, UTOPIA conducted FGDs with community volunteers and KIIs with protection actors and representatives. These consultations provided valuable insights into the challenges, opportunities, and perspectives of those directly engaged in protection efforts.



### Training on CBP and CLP Approaches:

UTOPIA organized a two-day training session designed to equip 25 frontline responders with a deep understanding of the CBP and CLP approaches. The training emphasized the importance of community ownership, risk management, and participatory strategies, ensuring that responders can effectively support and empower local communities.



### Roundtable Discussions:

From March 4th to 6th, UTOPIA hosted a roundtable event, engaging 13 focal points and 12 representatives from local and international NGOs. This platform facilitated rich discussions on the perceptions, opportunities, and challenges of CBP and CLP approaches. Insights from the FGDs and KIIs further enriched the dialogue, strengthening collaboration and shared understanding among stakeholders.



### Highlighting Grassroots Efforts:

As part of our commitment to promoting community-driven initiatives, UTOPIA filmed and shared a video showcasing "Project Red", a grassroots initiative addressing period poverty through awareness sessions. While we did not directly support the project, its alignment with CBP and CLP principles highlights the power of community-driven solutions. By sharing the video on social media and presenting it during our roundtable, we emphasized the importance of supporting sustainable change through local action, we've also reinforced the need for continued community involvement in tackling pressing protection issues.

## A FUTURE OF COMMUNITY-LED PROTECTION

Through the "Frontline Community Protection Capacity" project, UTOPIA championed the CBP and CLP approaches, ensuring that communities were not just beneficiaries but active agents of their protection. By promoting collaboration, building capacity, and amplifying grassroots initiatives, the project successfully established a sustainable and inclusive model of protection that leaves no one behind.



# “BAYNETNA: DIALOGUE AND MORE” PROJECT

## *Building Bridges through Youth Empowerment and Dialogue*

In an era of growing disconnection and misunderstanding, the "Baynetna: Dialogue and More" project, implemented by UTOPIA Association in partnership with Deutsche Welle Akademie Middle East/North Africa and funded by the German Cooperation, serves as a vital platform for unity and mutual respect. It aims to empower citizen journalists in marginalized areas of North Lebanon, Akkar, and Bekaa by providing comprehensive training and support to create diverse dialogue formats tailored to the unique contexts of these regions. By creating open dialogue spaces and equipping youth to amplify their voices, the project transforms communities and bridges divides in Lebanon.



## EMPOWERING CITIZEN JOURNALISTS

The journey began with training sessions designed to inspire confidence and build essential skills. Participants learned how to craft compelling stories, facilitate meaningful dialogues, and create innovative dialogue formats. These sessions went beyond theory, providing participants with practical tools to address real-world challenges and become dialogue facilitators within their communities. Topics covered included media literacy, mobile journalism, shooting and editing, interview techniques, the ethics of journalism and research, dialogue in conflict, non-violent communication, community dialogue facilitation, and dialogue tent design workshops. Additional training sessions focused on municipality and advocacy sessions, international humanitarian law.

## DIALOGUE FORMATS: CREATIVITY IN CONNECTION

The project aims to create dynamic dialogue formats. To date, citizen journalists have created two standout formats: the podcast and the dialogue tent. The podcast provides a platform to discuss critical topics; for example, a podcast on cyberbullying has already been produced. The dialogue tent, on the other hand, is designed to be a welcoming and safe space for community members to talk, share ideas, and discuss their concerns. With its cozy design—decorated with dialogue-related words and equipped with poufs for seating—the tent sparks a friendly and inclusive environment that encourages open and honest conversations.



## DIALOGUE SESSIONS: BUILDING BRIDGES, SHARING IDEAS

The dialogue sessions addressed critical issues that resonate deeply within local communities, taking place in Tripoli, Akkar, and Koura. Each session was designed to encourage learning, listening, and connecting, empowering participants to lead impactful dialogues that matter. Topics discussed included new aspects of job opportunities, cyberbullying, violations in Tripoli, and humanitarian work.



## STORIES OF TRANSFORMATION



Ahmad Mawas - Citizen journalist

The impact of Baynetna is best reflected in the stories of the participants. For Ahmad, a journalism graduate, Baynetna bridged the gap between academic knowledge and real-world experience. *“The project taught me how to craft stories that inspire action and connect with my audience on a deeper level. It helped me connect with the community in a more meaningful way and has given me the confidence to pursue a meaningful career in journalism”.*

Amal, a political science student, never imagined stepping into the world of journalism. But Baynetna opened a new chapter for her. *“I’ve learned how to engage with my community in ways I never thought possible. The communication and storytelling skills I’ve gained are invaluable; I used to be shy, but now I have the courage to speak up—not just as a journalist, but as a community advocate.”*



Amal Rachid - Citizen journalist

## A LASTING LEGACY

"Baynetna: Dialogue and More" has demonstrated that dialogue is a powerful tool for breaking barriers and strengthening communities. Through its trainings, dialogue sessions, and creative initiatives, the project has left a lasting impact on both its participants and the communities they serve. As this project continues, the stories, skills, and connections forged through Baynetna continue to inspire. It's more than just a project—it's a testament to the power of dialogue to bridge divides, foster understanding, and transform lives.



# UTOPIA'S COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: SOLAR-POWERED WATER SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

In 2024, UTOPIA reinforced its commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development through the continued integration of solar energy into water supply systems across Tripoli and its surrounding areas. Building on the success of past initiatives, UTOPIA expanded its impact, ensuring reliable access to water while reducing reliance on fossil fuels and minimizing environmental damage. These efforts reflect UTOPIA's dedication to creating sustainable, community-driven solutions that address water access challenges while promoting environmental stewardship.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024:

### GREEN WASH PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OXFAM AND FUNDED BY DANIDA

In 2024, UTOPIA, in collaboration with Oxfam and with funding from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), implemented three impactful projects:

#### Installation of Solar PV System for the Water Pump in Ayrounieh, Tripoli, Lebanon

In Ayrounieh, a water pump of the North Water Establishment Department, serving 2,400 households, has faced operational challenges due to insufficient power. By installing a solar PV system, UTOPIA aims to provide a sustainable and reliable energy solution, ensuring a consistent water supply for the community, reducing operational costs, and alleviating strain on the North Water Establishment Department.



#### Qobbeh Water Pump Solar PV System Enhancement

After addressing the underperformance of the existing solar system, UTOPIA successfully installed additional panels and inverters, ensuring a reliable water supply for 2,000 households. This upgrade decreased dependence on diesel generators, providing a more sustainable solution for the community.



#### Wadi Jalloul Water Pump Solar PV System

To mitigate the ongoing water shortages caused by unreliable electricity and high generator costs, UTOPIA installed a new solar-powered system for the Wadi Jalloul water pump. The system now ensures uninterrupted water availability for approximately 720 residents, further demonstrating UTOPIA's expertise in renewable energy solutions.



#### Beddawi Borehole Solar PV System

UTOPIA addressed water access challenges in Beddawi's Faytrouni compound by replacing the diesel generator with a solar-powered system. This installation serves 120 residents, reducing fuel costs and improving access to water in the community.



### SHABAKE 2: SUSTAINABLE WATER ACCESS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN BAB AL TABBANEH AND WADI NAHLE

The ongoing project, "Sustainable Water Access and Community Empowerment in Bab Al Tabbaneh and Wadi Nahle," under the Shabake 2, builds on UTOPIA's proven expertise in solar-powered solutions. The project tackles water and sanitation challenges in two vulnerable Tripoli neighborhoods by installing solar power systems to supply electricity to 13 water boreholes. The project aims to provide sustainable water access to approximately 954 households while promoting environmental sustainability and social cohesion in these socio-economically challenged areas.

The Shabake 2 project is supported by AFD - Agence Française de Développement - and the Centre de Crise et De Soutien and implemented by the French public agency for international technical cooperation, Expertise France.



**244**  
Solar Panels Installed



**27,610**  
Beneficiaries





# CHILDHOOD RESCUE PROGRAM: A HOLISTIC FRAGILE CONTEXT PROGRAM APPROACH

UTOPIA Association, in partnership with World Vision in Lebanon, successfully implemented the "Childhood Rescue Programme" in Tripoli. Guided by the "Fragile Context Program Approach", the program addressed critical educational and livelihood needs for children and adults in the community.

## EDUCATION: BRIDGING THE GAP

The program's educational component bridged learning gaps through weekly literacy sessions, empowering 150 children with a love for reading and storytelling. The "Catch-up" program supported 50 children, helping them bridge learning gaps. On May 24th, children showcased their literacy skills at Abjad Center and received certificates. The second phase focused on numeracy skills.

Ali, a 10-year-old beneficiary, shared his experience: *"I used to feel shy because I couldn't read like other kids in my class. Now, I can read stories on my own, and I feel so proud of myself. I want to keep learning more!"*



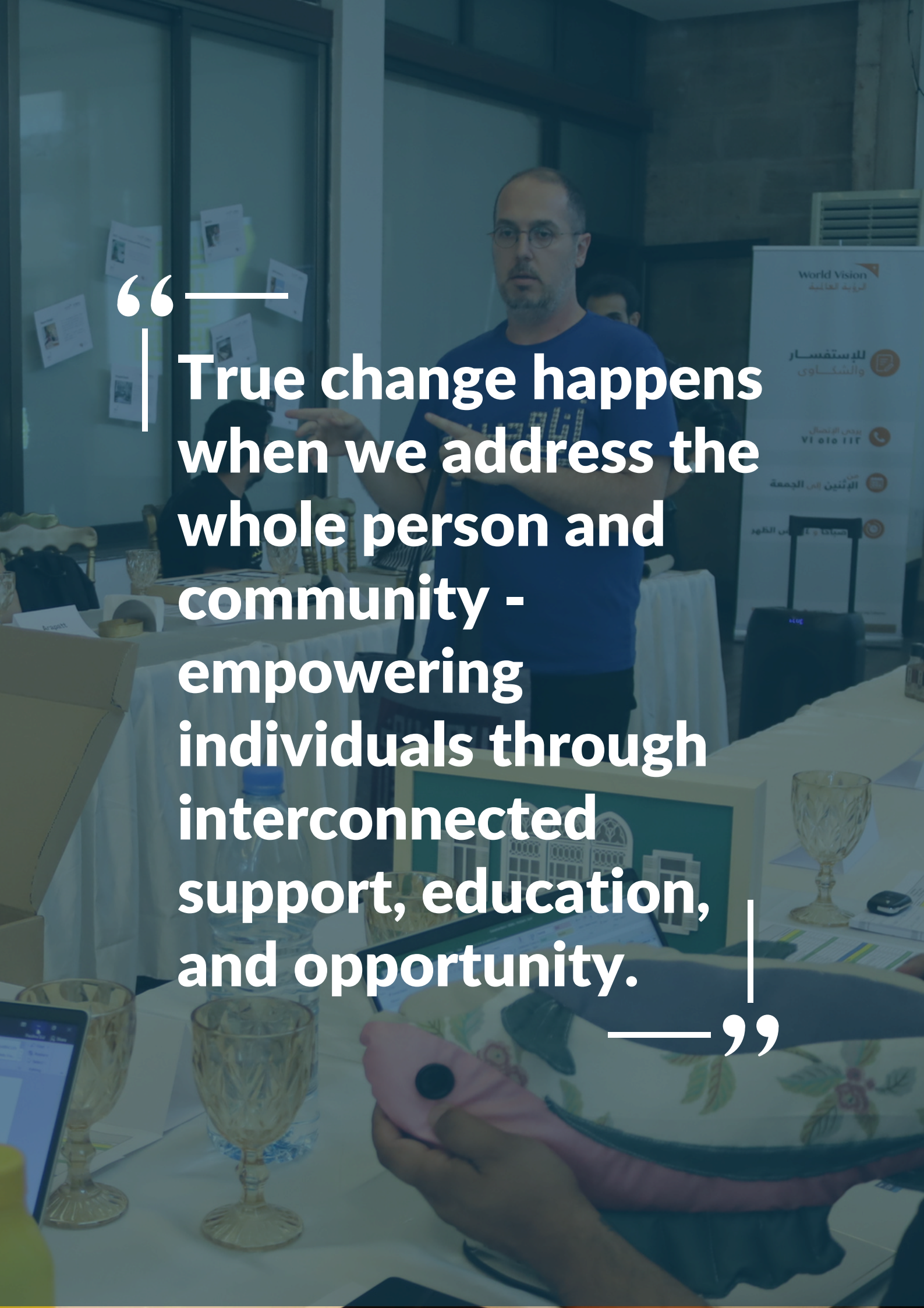
## GROWTH MAKERS: LIVELIHOOD INITIATIVE

The "Growth Makers" initiative complemented the program by equipping adults with skills to develop sustainable businesses. Participants underwent intensive training in product development, marketing, SWOT analysis, risk management, and pitch deck preparation. Aspiring business owners presented their ideas, and 21 businesses received grants to launch or expand their projects.

*"Growth Makers was a life-changing opportunity for me. I learned how to improve my business, manage risks, and present my ideas confidently. The grant I received helped me grow my business and create jobs in my community."* - Michel, small business owner

By the end of the Childhood Rescue Programme, UTOPIA had successfully supported vulnerable children and adults, providing them with the tools and resources they needed to overcome challenges, build brighter futures, and contribute to the resilience of their communities.

“ — True change happens when we address the whole person and community - empowering individuals through interconnected support, education, and opportunity. — ”







# AWARENESS SESSIONS: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

At UTOPIA, we are committed to enhancing the well-being of communities by providing accessible, vital information through awareness sessions. These sessions cover a wide range of topics that address the specific needs of vulnerable populations, equipping individuals with the tools and knowledge they need to improve their lives, whether it's related to health, protection, or overall well-being.

## Improving Health and Protection Access for Vulnerable Communities

Under the “Refugees and Lebanese Communities Have Improved Access to Protection and WASH Services in Baalbeck, Lebanon”, implemented in partnership with Oxfam in Lebanon and funded by the Danish International Development Agency, 31 men and boys, along with 126 women and girls, participated in sessions on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Menstrual Health Management (MHM). These sessions aimed to promote understanding and access to essential health information, empowering participants with the knowledge to make informed decisions regarding their health and well-being.



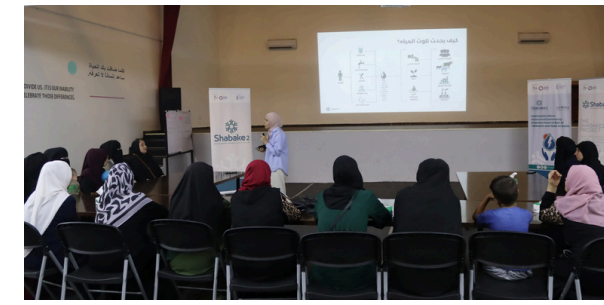
## Empowering Women and Girls with Essential Health Knowledge

As part of our commitment to supporting women and girls, 214 individuals attended awareness sessions on breastfeeding, nutrition, food safety, and the Bousseh service map. These sessions were designed to empower women and girls with the knowledge to improve their health and the health of their families, especially through better nutrition practices and access to essential services. This initiative is implemented in partnership with CARE International Lebanon and funded by Luxembourg Development Cooperation.



## Empowering Communities Through Health Education

Through the Shabake 2 project, UTOPIA's community health workers, who are part of our cash-for-work initiative, have been tirelessly engaging with underserved communities. They conducted awareness sessions that on critical topics such as breastfeeding, nutrition, and food safety, reaching a total of 300 individuals from less fortunate areas. The goal of these sessions is not only to equip participants with the knowledge needed to adopt healthier lifestyles but also to provide them with practical, low-cost tips that can make a significant difference in their daily lives.



## Health Awareness in Bab Al Tabbaneh and Wadi Al-Nahle

As part of the “Sustainable Water Access and Community Empowerment in Bab Al Tabbaneh and Wadi Al-Nahle” project under the Shabake 2 project, our trained community workers have conducted impactful awareness sessions on waterborne diseases, safe water practices, and personal hygiene, targeting 400 individuals across Bab al Tabbaneh and Wadi Al-Nahle. These sessions aim to empower community members with essential knowledge to prevent waterborne illnesses, improve hygiene practices and ensure safe water access.

## Emergency Response: Supporting IDPs with Health and Safety Awareness

During the emergency response to the Lebanese war, UTOPIA conducted awareness sessions for 138 internally displaced persons at the Abjad Center, covering Menstrual Health Management, breastfeeding, food safety, and nutrition during crises. In addition, our protection team carried out door-to-door awareness campaigns on the Bousseh service map, Psychological First Aid, and Gender-Based Violence support, reaching 493 individuals. These activities were under “Supporting IDPs in Lebanon with access to life-saving protection, shelter, food and basic assistance” project, implemented in partnership with Oxfam in Lebanon and funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).







# Together, We Make It Happen



*Our sincere gratitude goes out to our incredible team, volunteers, dedicated partners, and generous donors. Your constant support fuels our mission and strengthens our impact. Every effort, every contribution, and every act of kindness helps us create meaningful change in the communities we serve.*

***Thank you for being part of this journey!***

🌐 [www.utopialebanon.org](http://www.utopialebanon.org)

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📘 UTOPIA for Social Justice

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