

Offrejoie فرح العطاء



Impact Report



December 2020

offrejoie.org

Offrejoie
فرح العطاء
محبة • تسامح • احترام



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Welcome to Offrejoie First Edition Impact Report. This report is a collection of our achievements following the blast that hit Beirut on August 4, 2020. It describes the many ways we make an enduring impact that matters to our beneficiaries, donors, partners, volunteers and our society at large.

Working to restore people's dignity

Our achievements represent Offrejoie responsibility to take the lead in supporting Beirut relief efforts and inspire people in Lebanon and across the world to work for a better Lebanon, where people's dignity comes first. Our foremost objective is not only to reconstruct over 50 buildings and 500 apartments, but to restore over 350 families' dignity in the Karantina and Mar Mikhael neighborhoods, representing the most damaged areas following the blast, alongside with the rehabilitation of Beirut's fire brigade department.

Delivering transparency to our stakeholders

I am particularly proud and grateful of our efforts with the Lebanese Diaspora and local businesses played in securing funds and in-kind donations for our mission to rebuild Beirut. I can't thank our donors enough for entrusting us to make the best use of their money. I also thank our Board of Directors for their support and guidance, and our volunteers, who work hard every day. Your focus and determination ensure our ongoing success.

Purpose-driven approach to helping our society

From August 5, 2020 to date, with over a total of 4,500 compassionate volunteers and 250 daily dedicated volunteers, Offrejoie is dedicated to continue investing in the youth of Lebanon. Focusing on the spirit of mutual esteem among each other to grow a sense of solidarity and a new understanding of citizenship, this report reflects our learning culture and showcases our latest achievements that make a positive impact on our society.

Forward thinking has always kept us one step ahead, and we relentlessly aim to deliver on our purpose for our society.

Join our cause. Invest in Lebanon's future. Support our vital and life-saving work.

Together, we can make an impact for a better Lebanon.



Marc Torbey-Helou
President

How we came to be

Offrejoie was born in 1985, in the midst of a raging war in Lebanon.

A group of young peacemakers, paramedics and friends worked together to promote peace and build bridges between Lebanese communities. They started with children's camps during the conflict, bringing groups of children from differing social classes and backgrounds together to accept each members' differences. Those camps have continued their healing work since 1985, and when those children grew up, they carried the values they had learned and became a movement of young citizens from all the different communities and regions of Lebanon.

Over the years, Offrejoie developed different approaches to tackle the continuing challenges of Lebanon. At its core are the consistent practice of the values of **Love, Respect, and Forgiveness** and voluntary service.

What began as a group of enthusiastic volunteers in 1985 has developed into a voluntary movement across the country of Lebanon with a footprint in France in 1986 and a sister group in Iraq established in 2012 to share and promote its vision and experience.



Our Values



Love

Offrejoie understands the necessity of a fair and appeased society where human relationships transcend communitarian barriers and where a social solidarity based on the shared values of generosity, trust, forgiveness, honesty and ethic is upheld, where individuals would do unto others only what they want done to them, in a spirit of mutual respect and deep belief in a reconciliation and a better tomorrow for all.



Respect

Offrejoie promotes supporting the most vulnerable, and opposes all forms of ignorance, contempt and isolationism. Through a genuine open mindedness, Offrejoie appreciates the richness of human differences and learns from them.



Forgiveness

Offrejoie recognizes each person's suffering and encourages individuals to recognize the Other's suffering as equal to theirs. Offrejoie analyzes the past objectively, paving the way for forgiveness and mutual trust to be at the core of a society that never compromises on fundamental human rights.

Our Mission

The mission of Offrejoie is to gather the entire family of Lebanon as a treasure for humanity by serving with and for the "Other." Offrejoie believes that fragmented societies can heal through the creation of human relationships born of shared opportunities to serve the community. By serving together a spirit of mutual regard and esteem grows fostering a sense of solidarity and a new understanding of citizenship.

Our Vision

Offrejoie envisions a society whose citizens are united in diversity and committed to honoring the dignity and fundamental human rights of all.

Our Members

Offrejoie's members are overwhelmingly volunteers. They believe in the values of the organization and lead by example, living a life of openness and acceptance. They also are committed to establish a network of solidarity, both nationally and internationally.

Our Funding

Offrejoie relies on two financial sources to resource its mission:

1

Cash Financing

- Membership fees
- Donations by local and international Offrejoie members and friends
- Donations through Offrejoie subsidiaries around the world
- Fundraising and sponsorship activities

2

In-kind financing

- In-kind donations from public and private organizations and individuals

Our Programs

Offrejoie believes that the accomplishment of our mission will occur at the intersection of four key elements:

1. Inspiring and inclusive vision
2. Consistent practice of our values
3. Volunteer service
4. Personal engagement free from all stereotypical boundaries (gender, religious, and socio-economic)

Therefore, our activities include these elements.

Our programs are divided into four main categories:

1. National unity activities
2. Summer Camps
3. Social relief
4. Construction and overhauling enterprises



Awards

2013 – National Order of the Cedar, by the Lebanese President

2014 – Peace Award for Lebanon, by the Ghazal Foundation and the Fondation de France

2018 – Elias Hraoui Award, by the Elias Hraoui Commemoration Committee



80% completion of Phase 1

Introduction

Since the first days that followed the Beirut Port's blast of August 4, 2020, Offrejoie has been leading rehabilitation efforts in three key neighborhoods of Beirut which have been heavily affected: hundreds of dead and injured persons, thousands of apartments obliterated etc. Our intervention focuses on building rehabilitation, psychosocial support to children and elderly in addition to food and non-food items' distributions. Offrejoie also continues to distribute food parcels across Lebanon during a worsening economic crisis and Covid-19 lockdowns.

Over the course of the past 4 months, Offrejoie engaged in the following high impact projects and activities, with the aim of contributing to the livelihood of our greater community:

1. Karantina Rehabilitation : 60% Complete
2. Mar Mikhael Rehabilitation: 80% Complete
3. Khandak Ghamik and Basta Glass repairs: 100% Complete
4. Beirut Fire Brigade Department: 30% Complete
5. Food distributions across Lebanon: 600 food parcels

August-November 2020 Highlights



52

Rehabilitating 52 buildings and houses in Karantina and Mar Mikhael through full external and internal repair works



39

Restoring 39 shops and small businesses in Karantina and Mar Mikhael



600

Distributing more than 600 food parcels across Lebanon



40

Repairing glass windows in more than 30 buildings in Khandak Ghamik and Basta



300

Distributing more than 300 hygiene kits at our project sites



350

Assisting more than 350 families of various socio-economic and religious backgrounds

“We are all here to see people smile, when we are happy and see people happy, it’s the greatest achievement.”

Karim, volunteer



Overall Impact

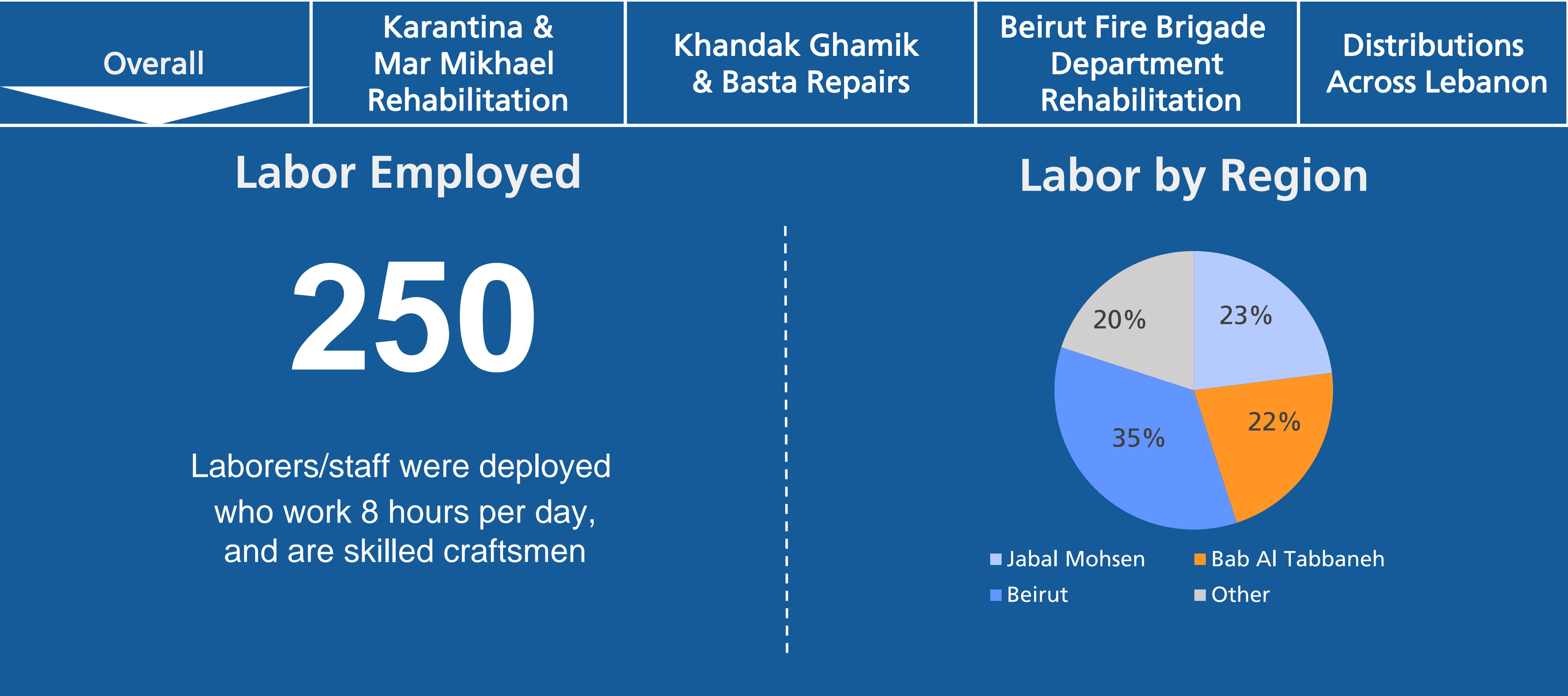
Our Projects

Overall	Karantina & Mar Mikhael Rehabilitation	Khandak Ghamik & Basta Repairs	Beirut Fire Brigade Department Rehabilitation	Distributions Across Lebanon
<p>Since August 5, 2020, Offrejoie has been leading two volunteer-based rehabilitation sites in the heavily damaged Karantina and Mar Mikhael neighborhoods. These rehabilitation efforts are coupled with psycho-social activities for the community, food and NFI distributions and health awareness activities. In addition, Offrejoie has provided window repairs in Khandak Ghamik and Basta. Offrejoie took the responsibility of rehabilitating the damaged Beirut Fire Brigade Department while it also continues to distribute food parcels and international in-kind donations received across Lebanon.</p>			<p>350+</p> <p>Families have received our support across our different projects</p> <hr/> <p>4,500+</p> <p>Volunteers have been deployed and dispatched on the ground</p>	

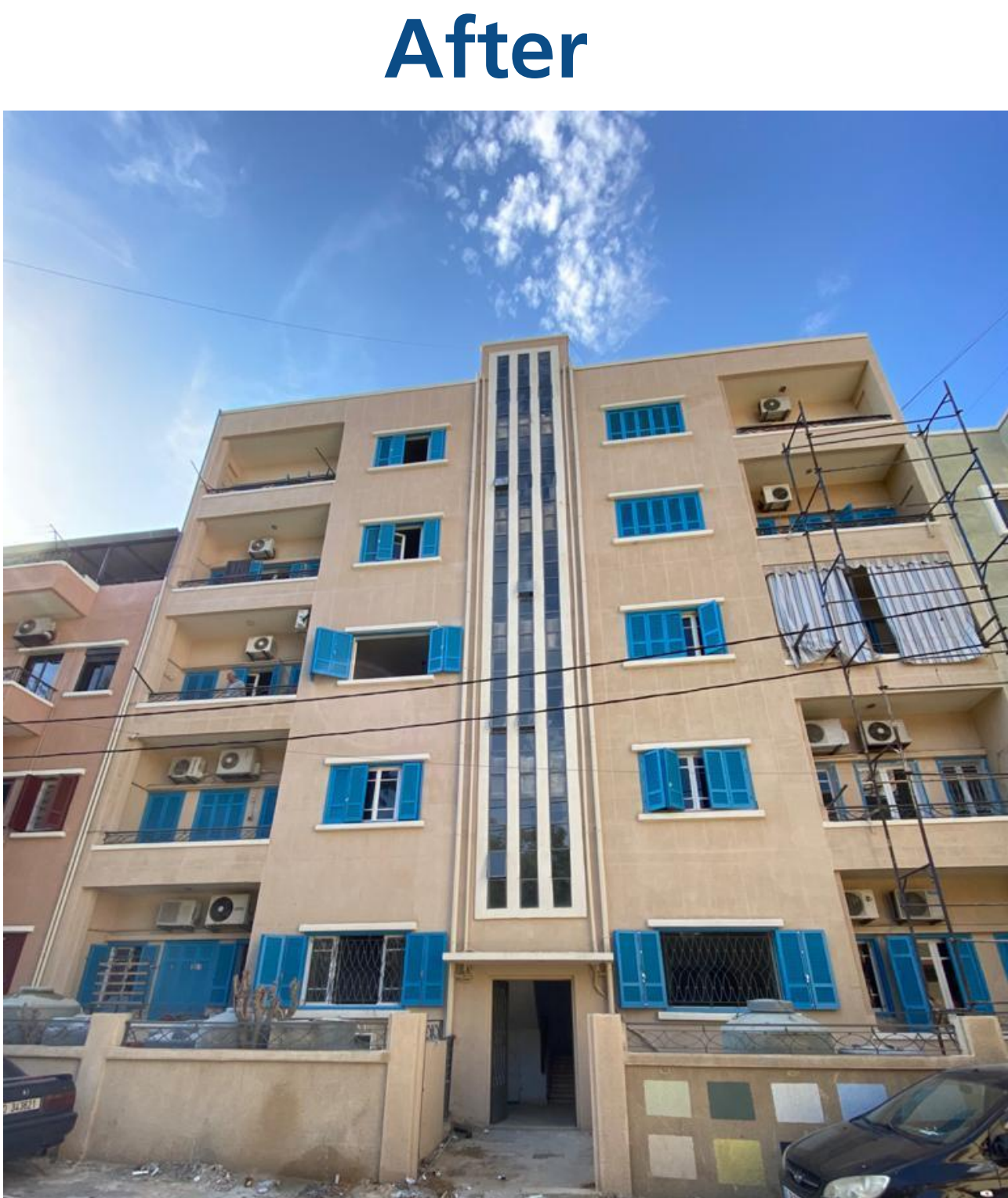
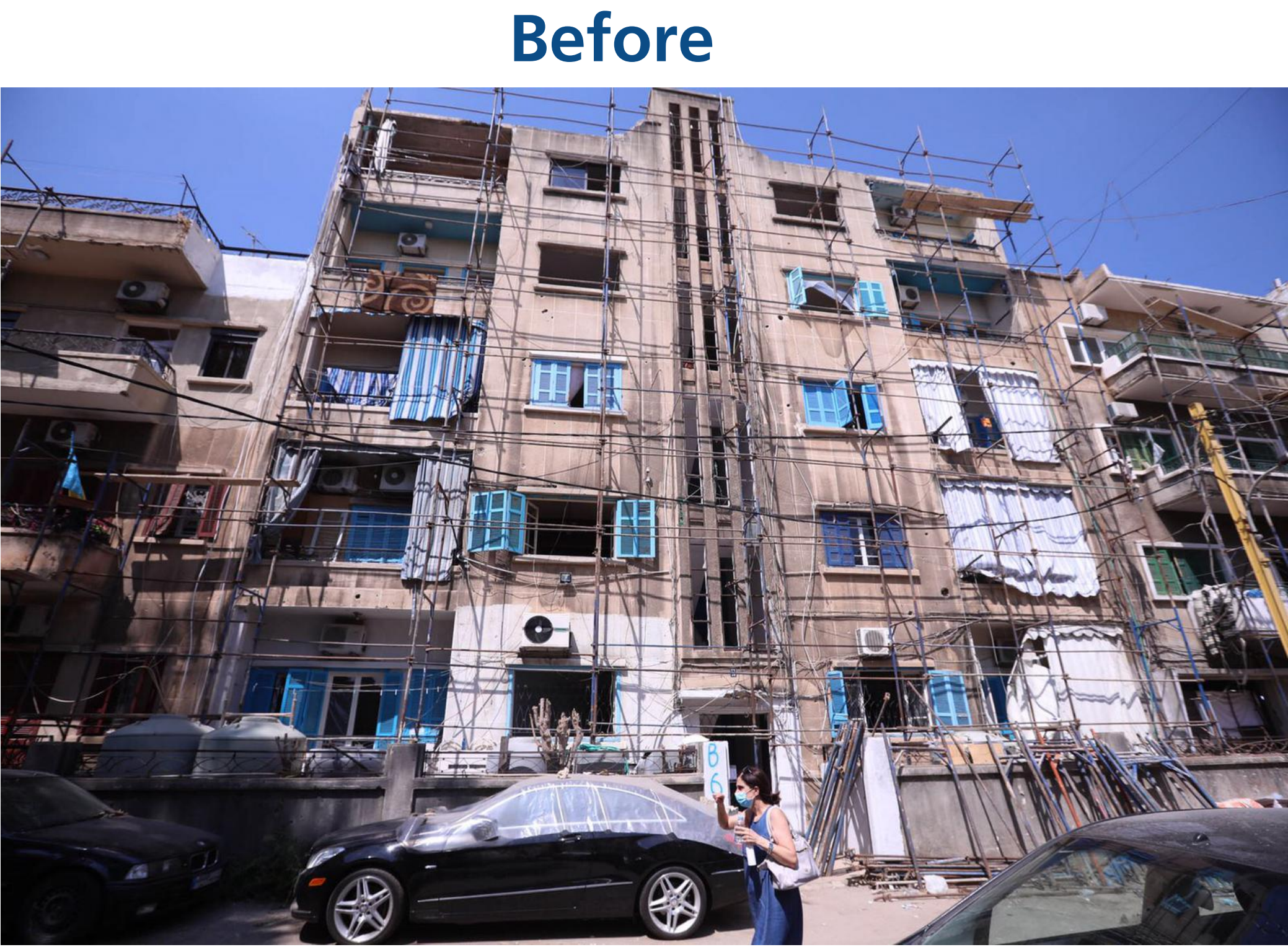
Our Impact on Neighborhoods

- Substantial reduction in rehabilitation costs
- Increase in home value
- Improvement of public realm and landscaping
- Implementation of sustainable design solutions

Our Socio-economic Impact



Offrejoie contributed to the micro-economies and social cohesion of at risk or vulnerable neighborhoods and regions across Lebanon by employing members of these communities to engage in rehabilitation projects (Beirut: 35% Tripoli 45% Other 20%).



Examples of Renovation Work Karantina, Medawar



Renovation Work

While reconstructing two of the buildings, the focus was on preserving its heritage to consequently deliver an exact version of what it was like prior to the explosion. Special construction materials and techniques are used to deal with the sand/lime nature of its structure.

During these months, several milestones were reached, some of which are:

- A tilted sandstone wall was dismantled and rebuilt piece by piece
- A complete slab was poured
- A new brick roof was installed, and internal and external paint was applied



Photos

Before



After



Examples of Renovation Work Fire Brigade, Karantina



Renovation Work

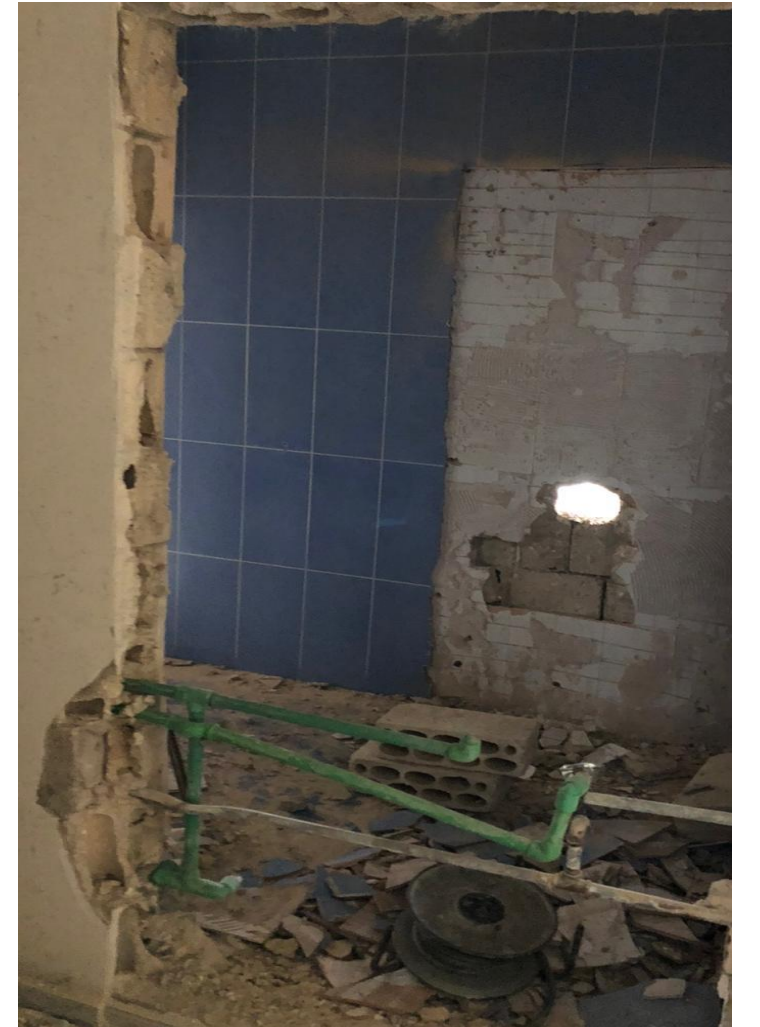
Offrejoie started the rehabilitation works on November 10, 2020 with an assessment of the building:

- Interior works were needed as more than 20 walls required demolishing
- 4 columns needed jacketing due to structural failure
- Mechanical Electrical Plumbing (MEP) works are scheduled for refitting
- All aluminum windows and interior wooden doors must be refabricated.

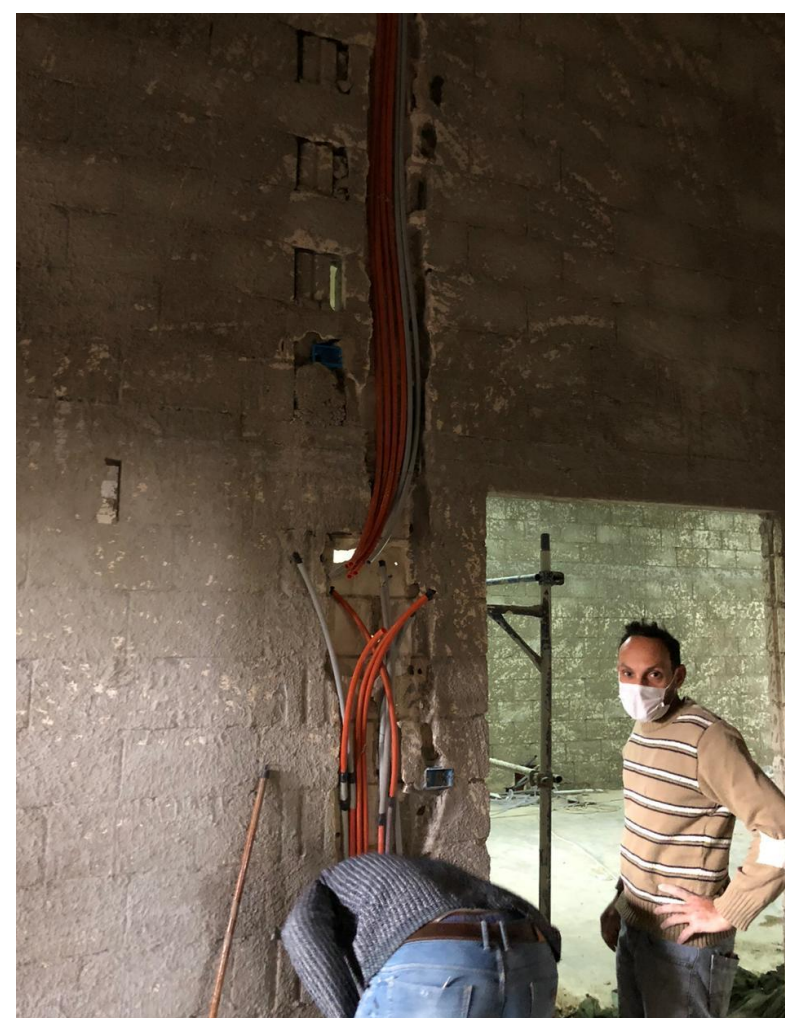


Photos

Before



After

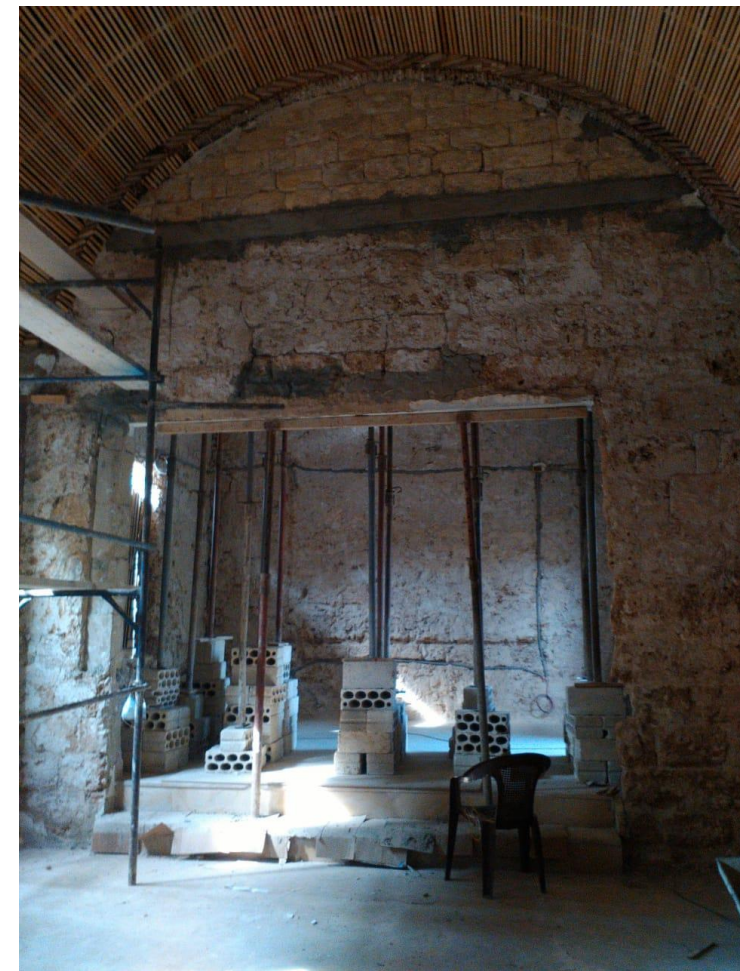


Examples of Renovation Work

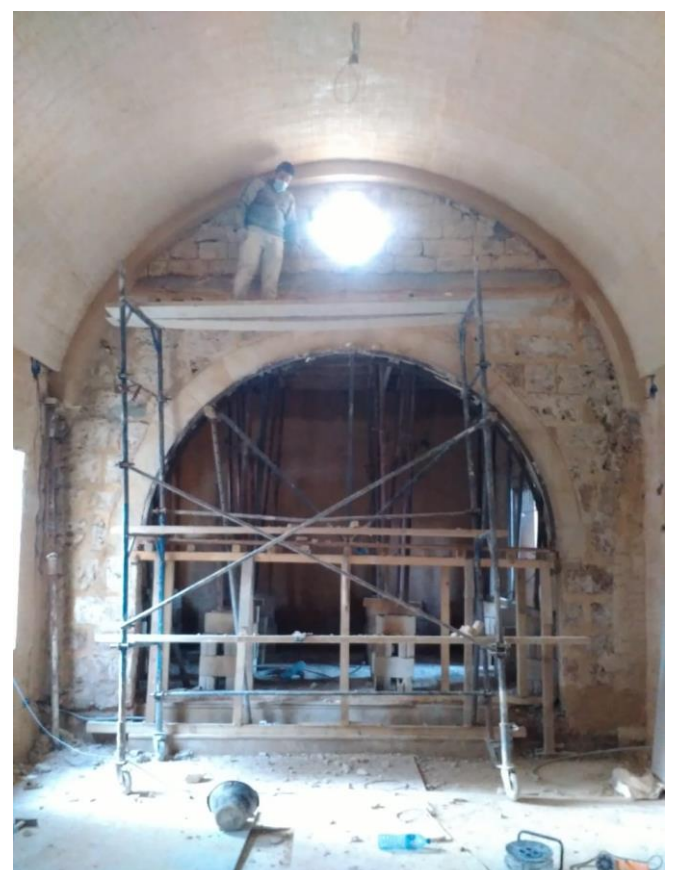


Saydet el Naja Church, Karantina, Mdawar Street

Before



After

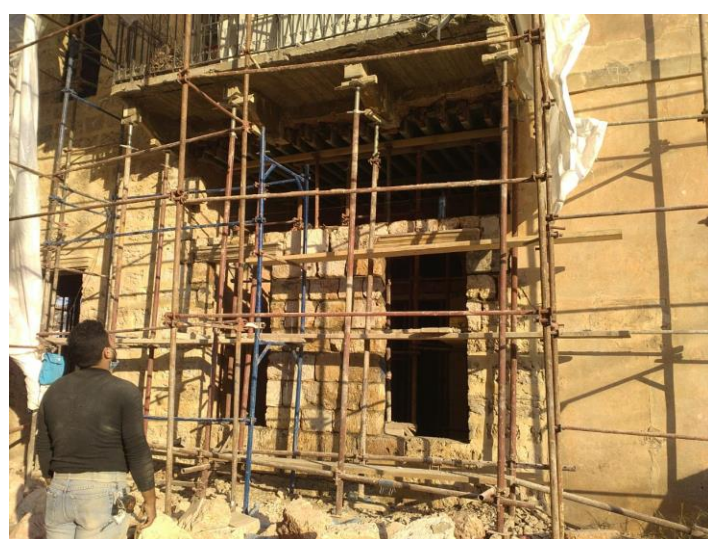


Building A12, Karantina, Mdawar Street A

Before



After



“Thanks to this experience, I can stand by the casualties of August 4 to bring them back a semblance of normal life.”

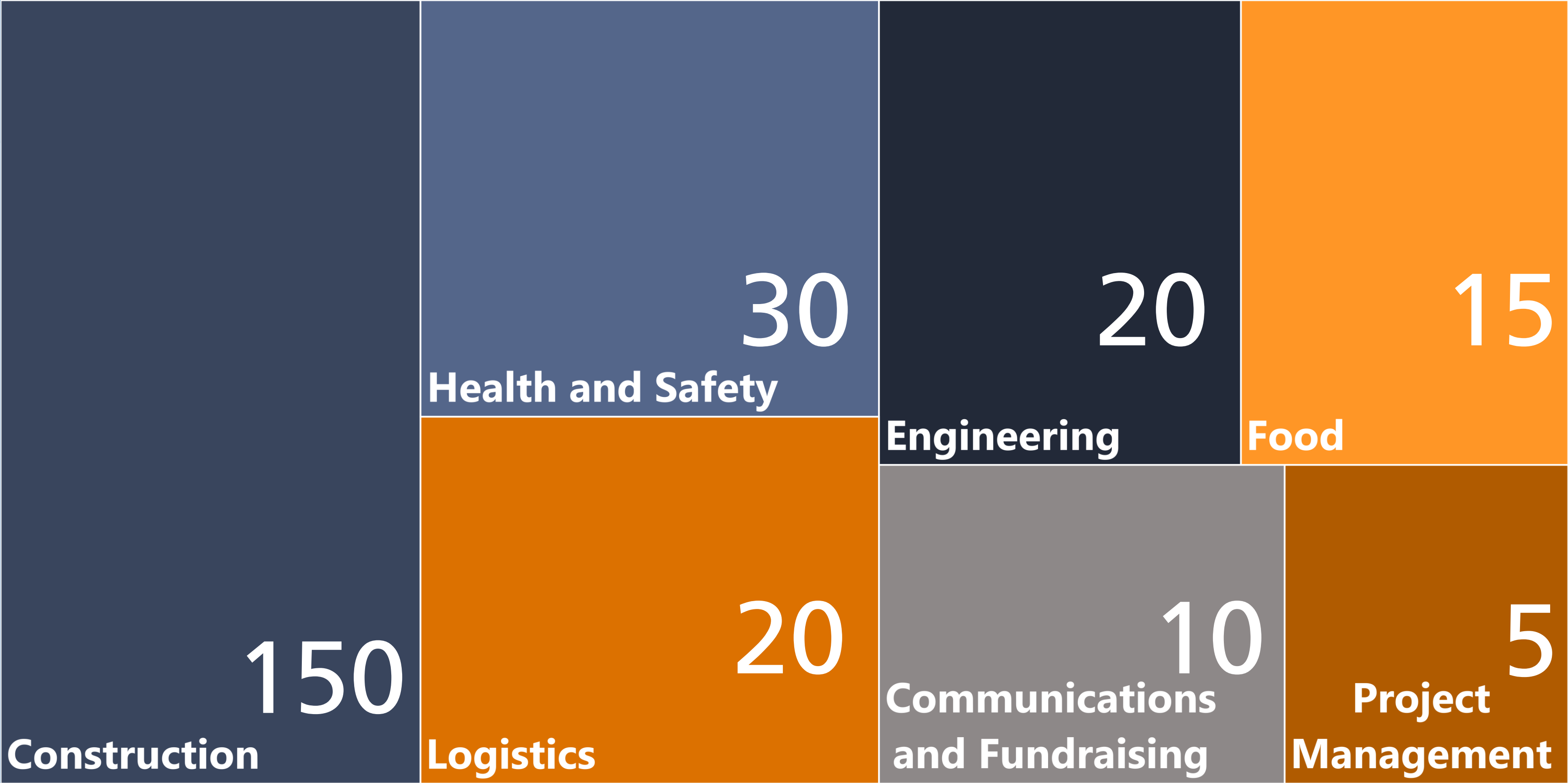
Catherine, volunteer



Volunteer Overview

4500+
VOLUNTEERS

250
PERMANENT
VOLUNTEERS



“The Beirut Emergency Fund is grateful and delighted to support Offrejoie’s August 4th Beirut explosion aftermath relief efforts. Offrejoie's model of work, and values and the dedication, unselfish caring and patience of its volunteers are inspirational and a true reflection of Lebanese compassion. Thank you for making a big difference in the lives of the Karantina and Mar Mikhael communities”.

The Beirut Emergency Fund

Volunteer-Based Rehabilitation Efforts

Challenges & Lessons Learned



Lesson 1: Clear roles and responsibilities

Each volunteer should be assigned clear roles and responsibilities in the various interventions that we are leading. We currently have a specialized team of engineer and architect volunteers leading the rehabilitation works. On the other hand, we have also set up a community team which handles everything from food/NFI distributions to psycho-social activities with kids.



Lesson 2: Balancing our interventions

Offrejoie is working hard to assist diverse neighborhoods with significant damage resulting from the blast. Our organization does not differentiate between Lebanese, refugees or migrant workers. We are learning to tailor our response to the specific needs of individuals and communities from various socio-economic or religious background.



Lesson 3: Finding learning opportunities everywhere

Offrejoie always strives to find learning opportunities for its volunteers so that they can thrive and grow into their chosen fields of intervention. Offrejoie also involves the community into the decision-making process by listening to feedback and tailoring our response accordingly.

Volunteer-led, diverse and community-based interventions

Since day one, Offrejoie has adopted a quick and efficient approach, intervening in the most damaged areas of Beirut, while balancing assistance towards the various communities of different socio-economic, religious and cultural backgrounds. Offrejoie has also provided its volunteers with numerous learning opportunities while always taking into consideration the community's perspectives and feedback. Even though challenges arise daily, we continue to learn and grow as our intervention expands.

“Our dedicated team of volunteers has proven time and time again that Lebanon's young generations of skilled men and women can take on any challenge with open minds and hearts”

Evita Mouawad, Former
Emergency Operations
Coordinator

Donations Received

Offrejoie managed to raise funds after the Beirut Blast thanks to the help of generous individuals and corporations in Lebanon and across the world with the support of the Lebanese diaspora to answer the pressing needs of families in Karantina and Mar Mikhael.

Our donations as at November 30, 2020 can be broken down into 3 main categories



Total cash donations

- 1,128,926 Local USD
- 2,573,077 Fresh USD
- 2,140,087,411 LBP
- 353,511 EUR
- 2,000 AED
- 6,593 AUD
- 7,621 CAD
- 190,970 JPY
- 2,131 SEK
- 18,910 CHF
- 25,347 GBP



Total in-kind donations

- 400 tons of Cement
- 20 tons of Aluminum
- 20 boxes of Glass
- 300 barrels of Paint
- 4 HGVs
- Various construction tools
- Food donations for volunteers and beneficiaries
- Educational equipment
- Medical and sanitary items
- Clothes and toys



Volunteering hours

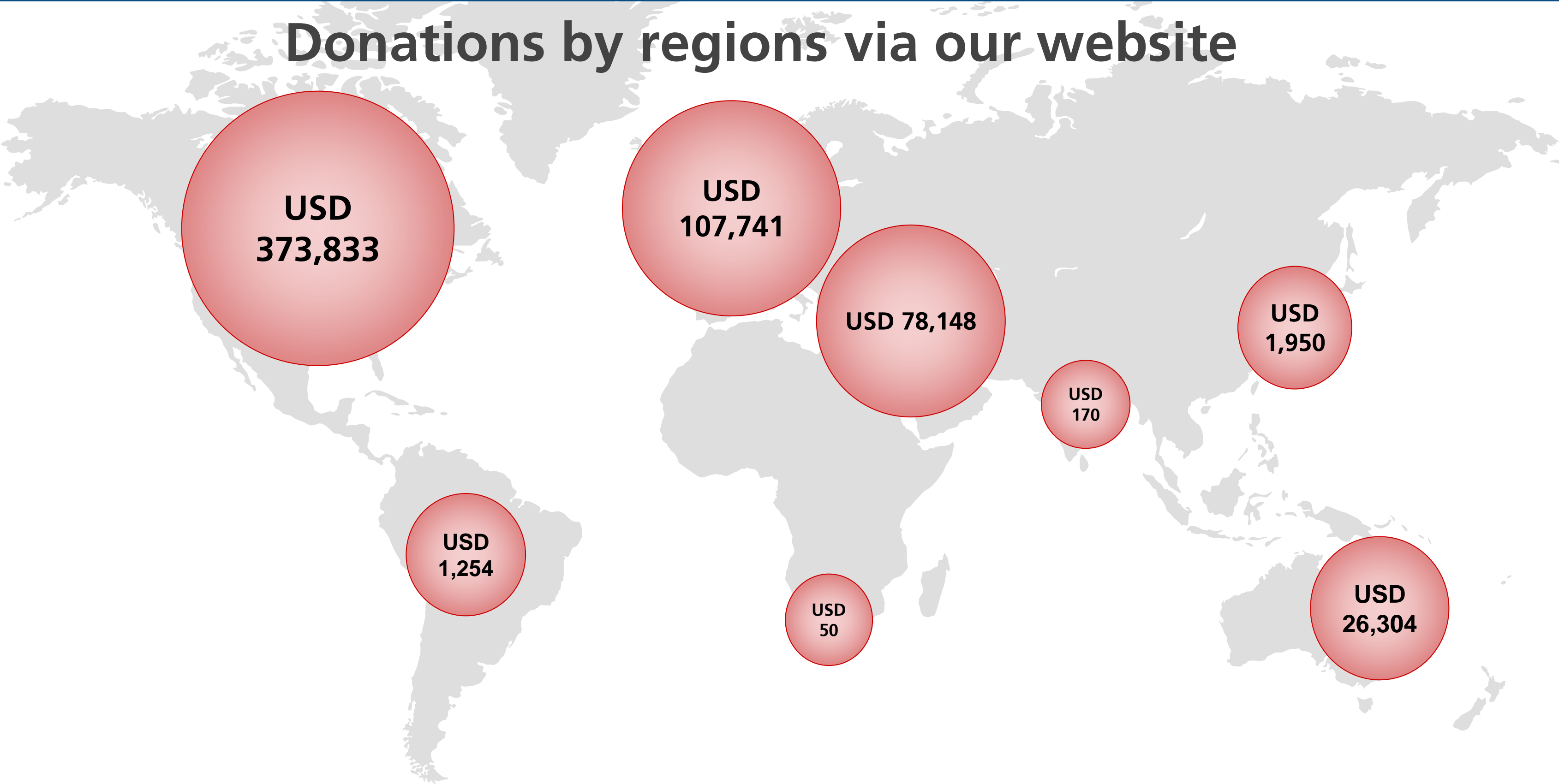
21,600



USD 2,400,000
Labor cost saved

400 volunteers *
120 days * USD 50
wage per day

Donations by regions via our website

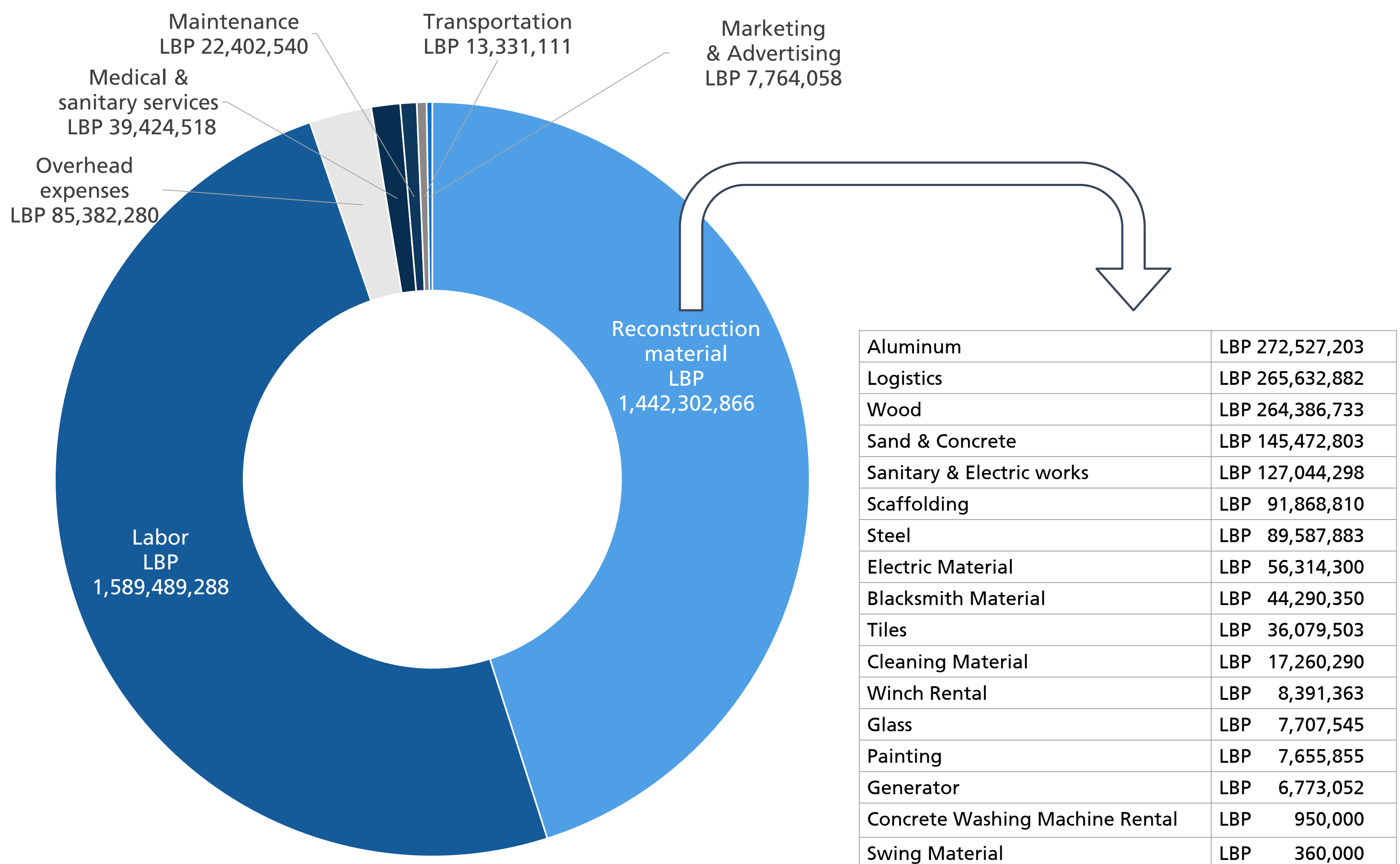


Your global involvement in our fundraising campaign through our website as of November 30, 2020

Our Expenditures

Offrejoie optimizes cut costs by involving volunteers, conducting waste management and encouraging 250 local workers in financial difficulty.

LBP 3,200,096,660*
Cash Expenditures as at November 30, 2020



* All USD expenses adjusted based on the USD/LBP rate used for transaction. Expenditures do not include the value of in-kind donations.
 Note: Figures audited by Majzoub & Partners MoF 2943300 – LACPA 89/2014

Target and Plan

100

Number of Homes that
are on the pipeline for
the next phase

500

Individuals we aim to
impact within the next
phase

Our Focus for the Future

In the coming months, we are hoping to:

- Complete rehabilitations in Mar Mikhael and Karantina.
- Complete rehabilitation in the Beirut Fire Brigade Department.
- Expand our window repairs' reach in Khandak el Ghamik and Basta and optimize our mobile windows' repair unit team in order to be able to reach new areas.
- Speed up repairs of cultural heritage and religious sites.
- Lay out a detailed and effective plan for the re-urbanization of public spaces, gardens and communal areas.
- Assisting with furniture and household appliances' needs when possible.
- Supporting small businesses to get back on track.

“Being part of Offrejoie emergency team to support Beirut relief efforts was the only way to recover from this tragedy. It was and still is my drive to move forward.”

Carla Jreidini, Communications & Fundraising Team Leader



Addressing the Challenges We Have Faced



Fundraising

Offrejoie continues to raise funds solely from independent donors and corporations in order to maintain its flexibility and neutrality on the ground. Beirut relief fundraisers have gained a lot of media attention in the first 2 months of the blast, however fundraising efforts have significantly slowed down since. Offrejoie continues to share its progress transparently on social media and through our reporting for funding to continue.



Recruiting Volunteers

Thousands of volunteers showed interest in the Beirut response within the first couple of months following the blast.

Nevertheless, as schools, universities and workplaces are slowly reopening, the recruitment and availability of volunteers has become more challenging. Our volunteer recruitment and dispatching team continues to work around the clock to recruit new individuals and groups who can contribute to our relief efforts.



Speeding up rehabilitation efforts prior to winter

Offrejoie's rehabilitation teams have been racing against the clock to make sure the more than 350 families we are assisting can return to their homes in safety and dignity prior to the winter season. This has been a huge challenge as construction work requires time and patience. However, together with our volunteers and skilled laborers, we are committed to complete all external repairs prior to the rainy season to make sure our beneficiaries have a safe roof over their heads.



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