



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**20  
22** KEY  
ACHIEVEMENTS

# ANNUAL REPORT LEBANON



THE GLOBAL GOALS

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In 2022, Lebanon continued facing a severe socio-economic crisis and political deadlock. The presidential vacuum since 31 October 2022 and the change of status of the current government to a caretaker government since May 2022 have resulted in stalled institutions, exacerbating the country's ongoing crises at all levels.

The economic downturn, characterized by an uncontrolled inflation and shortage of electricity and fuel, has impacted operations and the budget of the private and public sectors including the banking security and justice sectors. Salaries plummeted too, and employees have been operating few days per week at minimum staff capacity. In response to these crises, several strikes, such as the strike in the judicial system that started in July 2022, compromised access to services and national capacities to meet basic human needs. Furthermore, Lebanon, which is known as country of emigration, has been witnessing increasing irregular migration departing from its borders.

UNODC has been enjoying a longstanding partnership with the Lebanese authorities for over 23 years. A UNODC Programme Office was established in Beirut as early as 1999 and has been providing continuous support in the areas of drug control, crime prevention, and criminal justice reform, while working with a wide variety of stakeholders, including Lebanese authorities, and national and international CSOs.

UNODC appreciates the trust that all partners have been placing in its work, including all its national partners as well as its development partners, notably Australia, Canada, the European Union, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, and USA/INL, which have stood by the people living in Lebanon and continued to support institutional capacities despite the abovementioned difficulties and institutional challenges.

Under the umbrella of the Regional Framework for the Arab States (2023-2028) and in line with Lebanon's needs and priorities, UNODC is committed to continue working for a better, prosperous, healthy, and safe future for all the people in Lebanon, ensuring that 'no one is left behind'.





**Strengthening institutional capacities to maintain access to justice and conduct rule of law-based investigations:**

**Improved access to justice** through the installation of e-hearing systems and the provision of training for the judiciary and law enforcement.

**Advanced certified trainings for law enforcement officers on digital investigations and digital evidence using specialized forensic tools**, including a component on gender-sensitive rule of law-based investigations, and provision of equipment to two security agencies.



**THE TRAINING WAS IMPORTANT... IT WILL HELP ME TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE GENDER DIMENSION WHEN CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS.**

QUOTE FROM L. N., LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER



**Infrastructure enhanced** in 5 law enforcement facilities in addition to the installation of 4 electrical solar systems units in response to the current electricity and fuel shortage.

## Mutual legal assistance

**Desk review on MLA and international cooperation completed**, including the mapping of relevant legislative provisions and involved institutions, and the drafting of findings and recommendations for future improvement.



# Key figures



17

Remote e-hearing systems installed in detention facilities to maintain access to justice in a fair and humane way.



200

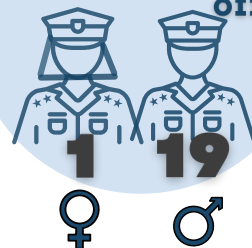
prisoners benefitted from e-hearing sessions.



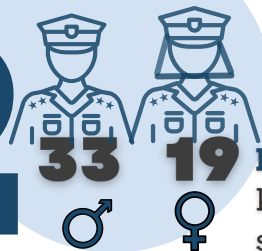
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specialized forensic tools procured to analyze and extract digital evidence and advanced training delivered to

20 law enforcement officers

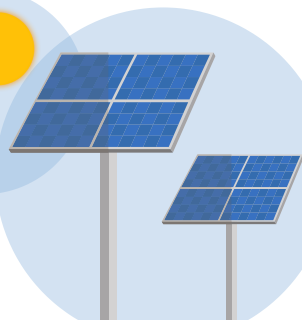


52



law enforcement officers enhanced their knowledge and technical capacity on gender-sensitive rule of law-based investigations.

4



electrical solar system units installed in 2 law enforcement agencies.





# Prison System Rehabilitation Programme *Balanced approach*

04

Building on the impactful results of the activities piloted in 2021 which supported the prison system while engaging prisoners in rehabilitation activities in the Roumieh prison, UNODC provided continued support throughout 2022, despite the difficult socio-economic context in Lebanon. By adopting a balanced approach between crime prevention and criminal justice, UNODC supported:

- **The vocational training on vehicle maintenance**, allowing prison authorities to maintain the escort of prisoners to Court with Internal Security Forces (ISF) vehicles.
- **The bread oven vocational training**, allowing to meet food needs in prison through fresh bread production by the prisoners.

## CHILDREN

**The rehabilitation and reintegration process of children in conflict with the law** through the implementation of vocational training workshops, crime prevention and recreational activities, psychosocial interventions, in addition to the provision of basic needs, including health kits.

**The construction work of the new facility for boys in Warwar was completed.** Refurbishment, equipment, and furniture is expected to be completed in 2023.



**THESE WORKSHOPS MAKE ME FEEL THAT I AM OUTSIDE PRISON. I'M LEARNING NEW SKILLS, WITH THE HOPE TO FIND A JOB WHEN I GET RELEASED.**

QUOTE FROM J.M., JUVENILE AT ROUMIEH PRISON

## WOMEN

**The vocational sewing training workshop, including income-generating activities** at the Beirut prison, which provided for the needs of prisoners in terms of bed linen towels and health kits.

**The refurbishment of 2 outdoor areas and provision of kitchen utensils** in 3 prisons for the vocational culinary course that benefitted to 50% women in detention, and the provision of health kits.



## MEN

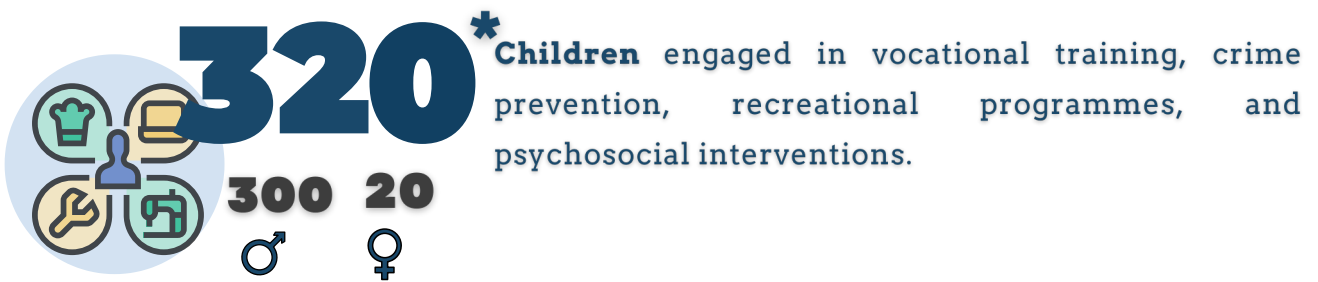
**The first-ever recreational and sports activities** for adult prisoners with charges related to violent extremism and terrorism.

**Vocational training workshops, income-generating and crime prevention activities**, in addition to the provision of health kits to prisoners.

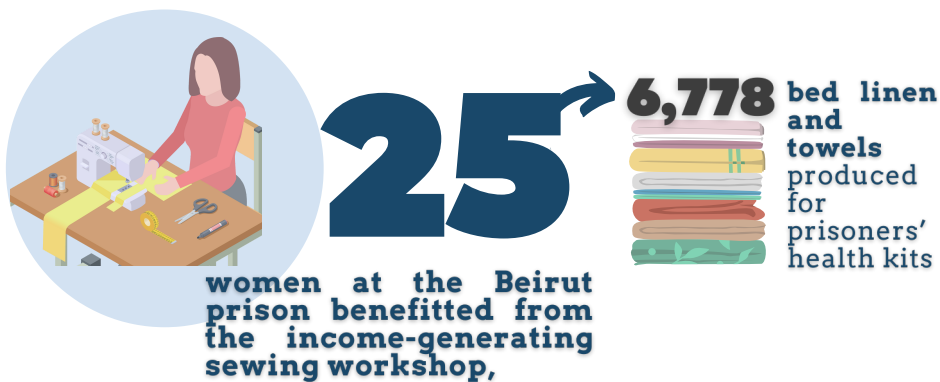
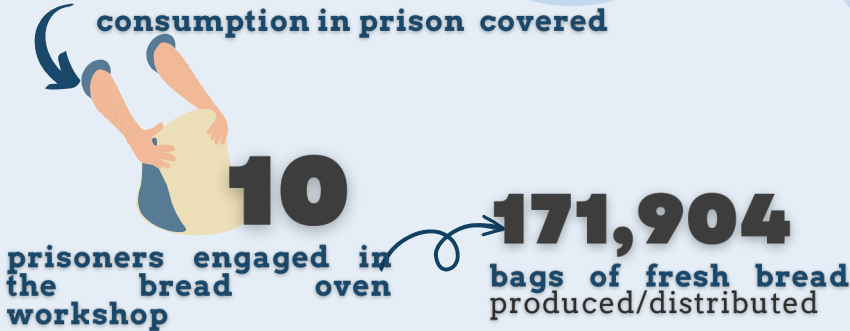
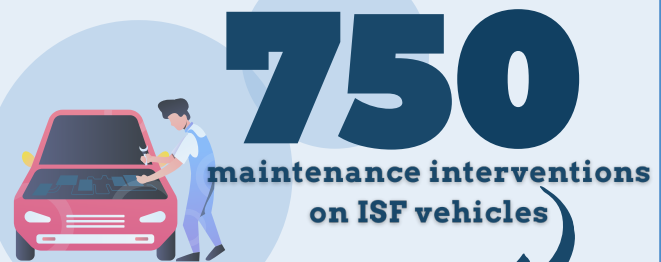




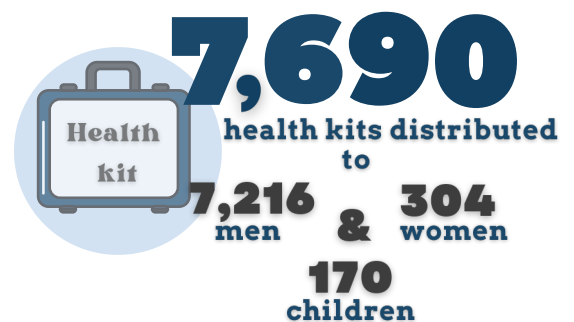
# Key figures



## BALANCED APPROACH: Institutional Support / Rehabilitation of prisoners in Roumieh Prison



'FAITH IN LIFE' success story highlighting documentary reintegration challenges faced by children and young adults with offences related to violent extremism, which will guide future awareness-raising activities and trainings.



\*Representing the total number of admission of children (girls & boys) in detention during 2022.





# Crime Prevention - 'Youth 4 Impact'

06

Strengthening resilience among youth against crime, violence and drugs.

Activities for youth in communities and in detention under the 'Line Up Live Up' crime prevention through sports programme.



Activities under the 'Strong Families' (SF) family skills programme to improve parenting practices and children' and their families' mental health

Engaging with the private sector in an awareness-raising initiative on drug prevention on the *International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking*.



A joint photography contest, in partnership with UNFPA, aiming to provide youth an opportunity to raise their voices on social issues, to mark the International Youth Day.

**"I'M NOT ASHAMED OF THIS PICTURE...WE WOULD RATHER COLLECT PLASTIC FOR A LIVING THAN COMMIT THEFT OR ANY OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITY, ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MULTIFACETED CRISIS THAT LEBANON IS GOING THROUGH.**

QUOTE FROM M.H., WINNER OF THE YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST.



Activities to address integrity, corruption, and personal accountability in partnership with UNDP under the Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) and workshops to promote the rule of law in schools, in coordination with the Lebanese National Commission for UNESCO.







# Key figures

# 435

♂ 267 | ♀ 168



youth from different communities and in detention benefited from LULU crime prevention activities.



# 123

families completed the SF family skills programme.



# 8089

youth were reached through drug awareness and crime prevention activities.

# 149

youth participated in the photography contest

♂ 33 | ♀ 166



# 368

youth actively participated in workshops addressing anti-corruption.





# Human Trafficking & Migrant Smuggling

UNODC built the capacity and enhanced the knowledge of:

- **Frontliners working with refugees in the Beqaa governorate** on detection, protection, and assistance to potential victims of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants (TiP/SoM).
- **Law enforcement agencies dealing with TiP/SoM cases** by strengthening the cooperation with relevant humanitarian actors.
- **Several agencies and criminal justice practitioners, including lawyers,** on comprehensive legal approaches and practices on TiP/SoM in close collaboration with the Human Rights Institute at the Beirut Bar Association.



**Awareness-raising sessions for migrant workers and Syrian refugees** on the risks associated with TiP/SoM and ways of protection as well as enhanced knowledge on the prevention measures to face the recent cholera outbreak.

**“ I WAS CONSUMED BY GUILT AND REGRET FOR HAVING TO PUT MY FAMILY IN DANGER... LIFE IS PRECIOUS, DON'T RISK IT.**

QUOTE FROM A.K., SYRIAN REFUGEE SURVIVOR OF SMUGGLING BY THE SEA.

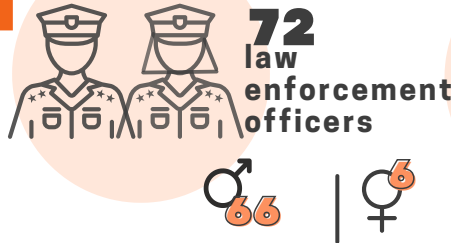
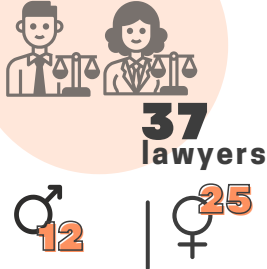
**Improved living conditions in a shelter for victims of trafficking** through the provision of 2 solar electric systems in response to the current shortage of fuel and electricity.





# Key figures

# 144

**frontliners** trained.

# 650

 beneficiaries participated in awareness-raising sessions on the risks of TIP/SOM.

**400** Migrants workers

**250** Syrian refugees

"LIKE THE SEAGULLS"



an awareness-raising short film on smuggling of migrants by the sea.

# 500

**250** Migrant workers

**250** Syrian refugees



beneficiaries received hygiene kits.



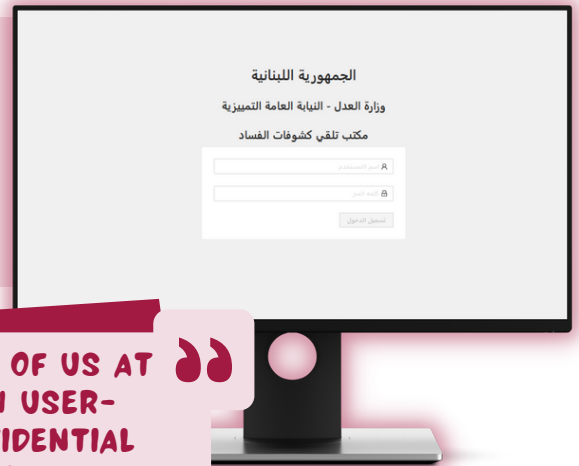


### Asset Recovery:

Refurbishment and equipment of the offices of the Asset Recovery Unit within the National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) and provision of handbooks/practices guides on asset recovery in Arabic to the same unit.

### Whistleblower Office (WBO) digital application:

Supporting the upgrade of an electronic management system to ensure confidentiality of processes with security parameters, consistent tracking of complaints, reports, and statistics in anti-corruption.



**FIGHTING CORRUPTION STARTS WITH EACH ONE OF US AT THE WBO. I AM IMPRESSED TO DISCOVER HOW USER-FRIENDLY THIS TOOL IS WHILE ENSURING CONFIDENTIAL AND TRANSPARENT SOFTWARE APPLICATION.**

QUOTE FROM O. M., MINISTRY OF JUSTICE COURT STAFF.



### Conflict of interest:

Conducted a mapping and legislative review of national legislative and regulatory provisions.

### StAR\* initiative

A first 'StAR initiative' scoping mission took place in Beirut in October 2022 to explore the mandate of relevant agencies, discuss the specific type of technical assistance required, assess the potential for StAR assistance to Lebanon's asset recovery efforts, and establish a programme of work that adequately addresses to the country's needs.

The Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR) is a partnership between the World Bank Group and UNODC that supports international efforts to end safe havens for corrupt funds.



## Detection and Interdiction of Illicit Trafficking and High-Risk Passengers at International Airports in the Middle East.

**Supported capacities of law enforcement authorities at Beirut Rafic Hariri international airport** to perform systematic and advance risk assessment of passengers as a mean of primary identification of high-risk passengers to combat transnational threats through:



**Facilitated exchanges between Lebanon and France** on targeting as a means to strengthen air border control against organized crime and terrorism;



**Supported interagency cooperation and exchange of information** among law enforcement officers at the airport for more solidified impact on targeting, profiling, and intercepting high-risk passengers;

**Procured IT equipment** to optimize the functionality and operations of the Lebanese targeting mechanism.





# UNODC/ WCO Container Control Programme - CCP

**2022 was a year of expansion for CCP Lebanon.** In June, an Air Cargo Control Unit (ACCU) was established at Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut – the first CCP Unit to be operational in the country.

**THE OPENING IS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN RESTORING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH A SERIES OF STEPS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING THE CONFIDENCE OF INVESTORS WISHING TO WORK IN AND WITH LEBANON**

QUOTE FROM CARETAKER MINISTER OF FINANCE YOUSSEF EL-KHALIL



**Organized a pioneering workshop in Beirut focused on promoting gender mainstreaming throughout border management agencies in the MENA region, as a continuation of the activities of the CCP MENA gender initiative, 'Customs, Cargo and Women – A talk for her!'. For the first time, a CCP activity was directed at human resources managers and other higher-level representatives, seeking to promote gender-sensitive recruitment and retention policies and ways to increase the number of women in Customs and law enforcement.**

**Took advantage of its partners' expertise, CCP co-organized trainings with expert organizations, such as the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and the CYCLOPS Center in Larnaca, Cyprus. This cooperation has allowed CCP to deliver training to Lebanese officers in specialized areas of interest for the country with global experts from around the world.**





# Global Maritime Crime Programme - GMCP



**Enhanced Maritime Domain Awareness** through a two-week training to navy law enforcement for the uptake of small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), which will enable its VBSS teams to get an advance picture of suspect vessels

**Countered Maritime Terrorism** through arranging a four-day training to navy law enforcement on countering CBRN trafficking in the maritime domain. The training also included modules on decontamination in the wake of a CBRN terrorist attack

**Strengthened Maritime Law Enforcement in the Eastern Mediterranean Region** through holding a TTX for Lebanese and Cypriot maritime law enforcement agencies to discuss smuggling of migrants and other illicit trafficking to develop a regional understanding of the MLE challenges in view of UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC)



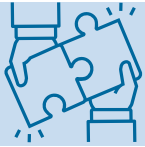
**Provided IT and diving equipment** to enhance Law enforcement Navy's maritime domain awareness and law enforcement capabilities

**“UNODC GMCP SUPPORT COMES AT A CRITICAL TIME WHERE LAF-NAVY THRIVES TO MAINTAIN MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY AND TO CREATE A FAVORABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AS AN ECONOMIC LEVERAGE FOR LEBANON**

QUOTE FROM CAPTAIN COMMODORE HAISSAM DANNAOUI, COMMANDER OF THE LEBANESE ARMED FORCES (LAF) NAVY

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## PARTNERS



**Lebanese Army  
Forces**



**Ministry of Interior  
and Municipalities**



**Ministry of Justice**



**Ministry of Youth  
and Sports**



**Lebanese Customs**



## DONORS



**Australia**



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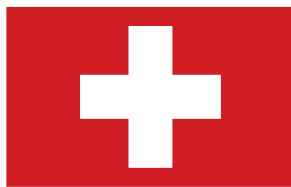
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