

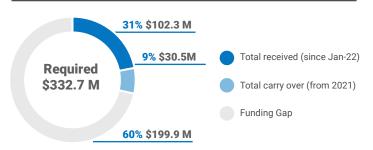


The end of year dashboard summarizes the progress made by partners involved in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan and highlights trends affecting people in need. The Livelihoods Sector in Lebanon is working to: OUTCOME 1) Stimulate local economic growth and market systems to foster income-generating opportunities and decent and safe employment; OUTCOME 2) Improve workforce employability; OUTCOME 3): Strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation.

\$

2022 Sector funding status

As of 31 December



1 2022 Population reached



30%

73,454* reached

242,755 targeted



100%

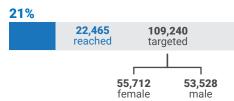
8,991 * reached 8,600 MSMEs targeted

2022 Population figures by cohort

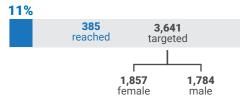


39,996 targeted
61,903 59,457 female male

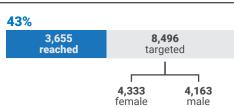












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Progress against targets

Key achievements

of MSMEs/Cooperatives supported through cash & in-kind grants

8,991 / 4,500

of new Lebanese MSMEs established

1 / 1,100

of individuals employed through public infrasturcture, environmental and productive assets

26,486/40,000

USD value invested in infrastructure rehabilitation, environmental and productive assets

3.96m / 168.75m

of individuals benefitting from market-based skills training

13,363/ 15,000

of individuals benefitting from internships, on-the-job training or apprenticeship programmes

6,971 / 9,000

of individuals supported to access employment through career guidance, coaching, or individual folllow-up services

12,389 / 15,000

of targeted job seekers supported to start their own business

401 / 2,000

of decent work regulations amended and/or proposed approved by the government

0/3

of awareness-raising/advocacy material on labour regulations and decent work developed

27 / 4

Outcomes	LCRP 2016 Baseline	Jan - Dec 2022 Reached		202 Targe	et	
OUTCOME 1: Total number of jobs created/maintained	494	9,364	SYR LEB PRS PRL 16,000			
OUTCOME 2: # of job seekers placed into jobs	l N/A	726	900	1000	30	70
# of targeted vulnerable persons engaged in ho based income generati	me- N/A	766	900	1000	30	70
OUTCOME 3: Ranking of doing business**	Rank 126	N/A	N/A			

[★] Target was increased from 4,500 to 8,000 after the mid-year review

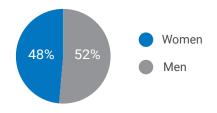
^{**}Source: World Bank has stopped issuing this report



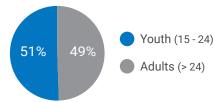


Breakdown by age and gender

73,454 Number of individuals reached by Sector partners by gender (Jan - Dec 2022)

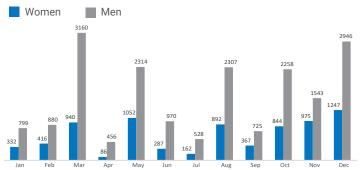


8,377 Entrepreneurs benefitted from business management training by age (Jan Sep 2022)



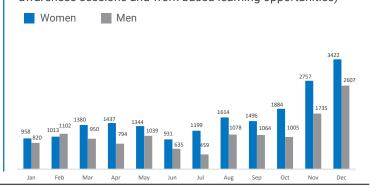
26,486

Individuals employed through public infrastructure, environmental assets and productive assets by gender per month (2022)



32,723

Number of beneficiaries receiving technical and soft skills training (market-based skills trainings, career guidance, awareness sessions and work-based learning opportunities)



Sectoral Situation Update

2022 marked the third year into the devastating economic and financial crises. The poor and the middle class were disproportionately affected by the inflation rate that reached 890 per cent in June 2022 and more than half of the population fell under the poverty line¹. Businesses continued to shut down completely or to minimize the number of employees to be able to continue their work. The impact was evident across all the population groups, whether in the form of increasing unemployment rates (reaching 29.6 per cent for Lebanese²) or decreasing labour force participation rates (standing at 45 per cent for displaced Syrians³). Even the households that had a working member reported not being able to meet their basic needs⁴. Across the different population groups,

women and youth were the most impacted. In fact, women labour force participation rates⁵ stood at only 22.2 per cent and 19 per cent for Lebanese and displaced Syrian women respectively. Unemployment among youth, who are challenged not only by the scarcity of employment opportunities, but also by their lack of the skills needed in the labour market, recorded 47.8 per cent, which is twice that of adults (25.6 per cent). With these increasing challenges and needs, the Livelihoods sector partners focused their efforts on the creation of job opportunities through supporting businesses and increasing the vulnerable populations' skills to match the market needs and become more employable.

¹ World Bank (2022). Lebanon Economic Update, April 2022.

 $^{^2} ILO \ Follow-up\ Labour\ Force\ Survey-January\ 2022\ https://www.ilo.org/beirut/publications/WCMS_844837/lang-en/index.htm$

³ VaSYR 2022 preliminary findings

 ^{4 62} per cent of Lebanese households reported facing challenges adoring basic needs as a result of lost or reduced employment (MSNA 2021). Similarly, Syrian households were only making 21 per cent of the monthly SMEB from employment (VaSYR 2022 preliminary findings)
 5 Labour force is defined as the sum of the number of persons employed or unemployed but actively looking for a job. The Labour force participation rate is the percentage of the labour force from the working-age population.



1. Analysis and acheivements of the sector at the output level

Output 1.1: The objective of supporting businesses is two-fold: on one hand, it secures business continuity and increases its resilience to shocks, and on the other it facilitates the creation/ maintaining of job opportunities. The Livelihoods Sector partners supported 8,9916 businesses (70 per cent were nano-business, micro 11 per cent and SMEs 8 per cent; 26 per cent owned by females, 20 per cent owned by males⁷). The main type of support provided was cash grants followed by in-kind grants (66 per cent and 25 per cent respectively). Though a shy 106 interventions provided support with green energy, it represents a new direction of the assistance which predominantly revolved around cash and in-kind grants. Most partners reported that the provision of business and financial management training became a prerequisite for the provision of tangible support (cash and in-kind). A total of 8,377 individuals were reported to have received business management training (58 per cent females and 42 per cent males 8). Among the reasons behind this approach are the benefits of providing holistic and comprehensive support which would ensure the best and most sustainable use of the supplied resources. Another key element to the achievements was helping local businesses in becoming more competitive through quality control, competitive pricing, and effective business development. Throughout 2022, partners reported several challenges such as low appetite for training among business owners as opposed to cash and in-kind support. This was resolved through creating a conditional relation between the soft and hard components of the project. Another challenge was the digital illiteracy which limited the possibilities of reaching wider markets. Among approaches adopted to overcome this were some partners opted to create online businesses hubs or directories, while other partners included digital literacy components in their projects to allow businesses to create and manage their own platforms.

Output 1.2: By the end of 2022, partners implemented 98 interventions supporting components of value chains mostly in the agriculture and agro-industry sectors. Partners worked on resolving the challenges and gaps within value chains such as the increasing cost of labour through implementing cash for work activities. Partners also worked on supporting local production of inputs (such as fertilizers and compost) to facilitate the access to inputs which are mostly imported and priced in USD.

Output 1.3: With the continuing deterioration of the economic crisis, labour intensive programs are still viewed as an important source of temporary income for the most vulnerable. During the year, 26,486 individuals (71 per cent males and 29 per cent females, from the target 40,000) took part in labour intensive activities covering public infrastructure (50 per cent), environmental assets (48 per cent) and productive assets (2 per cent). In addition to the main objective of providing temporary employment for the most vulnerable, these projects contributed to the delivery of basic services which municipalities are no longer able to provide, given the current financial situation (e.g., cleaning storm water canals, rehabilitating retaining walls and conducting solid waste management campaigns). The composition of the beneficiaries remained consistent throughout the year with 57 per cent being Lebanese (72 per cent males and 28 per cent females) and 42 per cent displaced Syrians (71 per cent males, 29 per cent females). Among the 26,486 beneficiaries, 1,288 were reported as care givers of children engaged in child labour.

Output 2.1: By the end of 2022, the total number of beneficiaries of market-based skills training (vocational training) reached 13,363

(60 per cent females, 40 per cent males). The percentage of Lebanese partaking in market-based skills training was 55 per cent, while that of displaced Syrians reached 37 per cent. Partners continued to introduce training topics that have a high potential in allowing self-employment and accessing the emerging markets. Several factors have contributed to not achieving the target of 15,000 beneficiaries, among which are the increasing transportation fees which are not always provided by partners and the preference of the youth to be employed. Even in the cases where partners supported transportation fees, the continuous increase of the fees has rendered the partners' contribution obsolete.

Output 2.2: Throughout the year, partners adopted, to the extent possible, the holistic approach of providing work-based learning and market-based skills training in one package, as this would expose the beneficiaries to the theoretical and the practical learning of the vocation. By the end of 2022, the total number of beneficiaries reached 6,971 (target 9,000). Like in the previous year, the female participation rate exceeded that of males at 59 per cent versus 41 per cent. This, and the similar trend under output 2.1 (market-based skills training), could be attributed to the fact that women have been pushed by the economic crisis to become more economically active in the labour market and to do so, new entrants should acquire the needed skills. Partners also continued to couple these services with career guidance, employment services and sensitization on decent work, minimum standards and labour law and regulations. A total of 12,389 (59 per cent females, 41 per cent males) benefitted from career guidance and counselling support that aimed to increase their capacities in searching for jobs and eventually getting employment.

Output 3.1: During 2022, partners reported the development of 23 advocacy and awareness materials and four awareness raising campaigns, all related to labour standards and regulations which targeted employers and employees. Additionally, several studies and working papers were published relating to the working conditions in different sectors, such as the Women's Voices in Lebanon's Agriculture Sector by UN Women, which covers the working conditions for women in the agricultural sector with a focus on North Lebanon. These serve not only as assessments but also as roadmaps for future interventions as they provide recommendations at the policy, donor, and implementation levels.

Output 3.2: Despite the governmental gridlock, partners were able to support line ministries (such as the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Agriculture) with the development of tools, recommendation documents and assessments. Some aimed to provide direct guidance and support to beneficiaries such as the "Lebanon Export Platform9" launched by the Ministry of Agriculture which aims at equipping businesses with the needed know-how and tools to scale up their operations and increase their readiness to export. Another example is the "Community-based Market Assessment for Skills Development and Economic Empowerment¹⁰" published by ILO in collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry of Labour which can be used by the partners in planning their interventions as it identified factors that impedes employment and identified potential economic opportunities and challenges in 7 regions across Lebanon. Furthermore, several documents and assessments covering the gaps and challenges, and providing recommendations, in the business eco-system were published, such as the "Social and Solidarity Economy Enterprises document" and the "Business Coping Strategies throughout the Lebanese Crises" by the Economic Development Policy Unit.

⁶ Based on the mid-term review, the initial target of 4,500 was increased to 8,000 businesses
⁷ The remaining 54 per cent were not reported by gender disaggregation.

These reflect the disaggregation of 4,932 beneficiaries only while the remaining beneficiaries are reported by UNICEF without gender disaggregation.

https://regulations.agriculture.gov.lb/, implemented by UNIDO and UNDP in partnership with Berytech under the PSDP funded by Government of Canada.

¹⁰ Community-based Market Assessment for Skills Development and Economic Empowerment - Full Report (ilo.org)



2. Key contributions of the sector to LCRP outcome and impacts

The Livelihoods sector contributed to all four LCRP strategic objectives, with some outcomes covering more than one objective as also detailed in the sector strategy.

Under Outcome 1, the trainings provided to 8,991 businesses included sessions on decent work conditions and labour law regulations. Additionally, 3,390 individuals (59 per cent Lebanese, 25 per cent displaced Syrians and 16 per cent Palestine refugees from Lebanon; 64 per cent females and 36 per cent males) benefitted from similar sessions. The sensitization on work rights and obligations aimed to protect individuals from exploitation at the workplace, thus contributing to the LCRP strategic objective one (Ensure Protection of vulnerable populations). Furthermore, 9,364 jobs were reported as maintained/created thanks to the support to businesses activities (target 16,000) which implies that employees who were at risk of losing their employment were instead able to maintain their jobs. The underachievement of this target is attributed to the size of the targeted businesses which were "nano" in their majority, and as such would mostly be able to maintain existing jobs rather than creating new opportunities. This sector outcome also contributed to the second LCRP strategic objective (Provide immediate assistance to vulnerable populations), where the labour-intensive programs provided the vulnerable population with immediate assistance. The number of beneficiaries reached was 26,486 (57 per cent were Lebanese and 42 per cent displaced Syrians). The income received by the beneficiaries through participating in the cash for work activities supported them in meeting their basic needs. In parallel, the labour-intensive programs also contributed to the LCRP strategic objective three (Support service provision through national systems) as they supported municipalities in providing basic infrastructure services such as rehabilitation of retaining walls and sidewalks, and environmental services such as cleaning campaigns covering solid waste and storm water canals. Finally, the fourth LCRP strategic objective (Reinforce Lebanon's economic, social, and environmental stability) was

served through supporting 8,991 businesses with the aim of stimulating local economic growth and market systems fostering income-generating opportunities and decent and safe employment. The total number of businesses reporting increased revenues and new commercial linkages was 9,141.

The second Livelihoods sector Outcome contributed to the LCRP strategic objective one, as it contributed with improving the employability of the most vulnerable through market-based skills training (13,363 beneficiaries, 60 per cent females and 40 per cent males) and work-based learning (6,971 beneficiaries; 59 per cent females, 41 per cent males). With this, the target group would have higher chances of being employed thus protecting them from falling into deeper poverty. Additionally, 726 job seekers (56 per cent females and 44 per cent males) were successfully placed into jobs and another 766 (65 per cent females and 35 per cent males) were supported to start their own home-based income generation activities.

The third sector Outcome which seeks to strengthen policy development and enabling environment for job creation aligns with the LCRP strategic objectives three and four through its work with the government in drafting and proposing policies, regulations and strategies that would support the business eco-system. The outcome also includes supporting the line ministries with surveys and studies which can guide policies as well as hardware and software products to facilitate their work. To this end, partners reported provision of support to 27 institutions, and developing 23 advocacy and awareness raising material. Several surveys and working papers have also been developed, however, the reporting platform does not capture their number. This issue will be addressed in 2023 to ensure that all partners activities are captured.

3. Challenges, risks and mitigation measures

At the operational level, partners continued to be challenged by the collapsing infrastructure, the economic and political uncertainty and the currency devaluation and inflation. The rapid changes in the context were not matched with a similarly rapid adaption of the programs and activities, as these would require long procedures between the organizations and the donors. The increasing needs added pressure on the partners especially with the decreasing funds. Short term funding also continued to be a challenge especially in the context of supporting businesses which require longer term support to ensure the achievement of sustainable results. The needs of the latter also changed due to the poor almost non-existent infrastructure. The priorities were shifting from the need of capacity building to the need to secure energy sources. The currency devaluation changed the priorities towards accessing raw material that is usually imported and priced in USD. This necessitated that partners prioritize their interventions and focus on those with a higher potential of impact. Among these were the preference to work with existing businesses that have the potential of growth and e-commerce support. Activities related to trainings were not less challenging. Partners were not able to keep pace with the currency devaluation, and the support they provided whether in cash for work activities or in covering incentives and transportation fees was found insignificant. Advocating the impor-

tance of these opportunities in increasing the employability of the target groups, and linking the training components with the support to businesses component (where trainees have a higher potential to be employed while the business gets supported through the labour hand) were crucial in achieving the sector results.

Partners continued to report challenges with pressure from municipalities to include more Lebanese than displaced Syrians in the labour-intensive activities and their preference to have more sustainable projects that would help in maintaining service provision especially those related to resources such as solar systems for water wells and solid waste treatment facilities. The requests from the municipalities were also related to consumables such as fuel for garbage trucks. With beneficiaries, on the other hand, the challenge was in the transfer value which was viewed as insignificant compared to the continuous currency devaluation. These would be the main reasons for not achieving the target of 40,000 beneficiaries.

Though referrals were relatively high during the first quarter of the year, they decreased by almost a half in the following two quarters. The sector, in collaboration with the Protection sector, planned and implemented referral training sessions for the sector partners.



Partners by district

The achievements described in this dashboard are the collective work of the following 51 Tripoli organizations: ACTED, UNIDO, Al Maimouaa, ARCS, CARE, Caritas ACTED, UNIDO, AT MAJIROUGA, ARCS, CARE, CARRAS Lebanon, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Ne East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, DRC, LRI, OXFAM ACTED, Al Majmouaa, AVSI, CONCERN, COOPI, DRC, ILO, RC, Leb Relief, LRI, RI, RMF, SAFADI, SCI, UNIDO ACF Spain, ACTED, ADRA, Al Majmouaa, AMEL, ARCS, AVSI, B&Z, Borderless, CARE, Zgharta Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, CONCERN, COOPI, ACTED, UNIDO, AI Majmouaa, ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, ILO, LRI DRC, Farah Social Foundation, IECD, ILO, **El-Hermel** IOM, IRC, ISWA, Jafra Foundation, KAFA, ACTED, UNIDO, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, LEE Leb Relief, LEE Experience, LRI, LUPD, Minieh-Dennie Experience, Plan ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, ACTED, UNIDO, AI Majmouaa, ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, AVSI, COOPI, Mercy Corps, Michel Daher Social Founda-International, RMF WHH-LOST, ACF Spain, Al IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, AVSI, DRQ tion - MDSF, Mouvement Social, Nabad, Majmouaa Nawaya network, Near East Foundation, Nusaned, OXFAM, Plan Internation-DRC, ILO, Leb Relief, OXFAM al, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, ACTED, UNIDO, AI Majmouaa, ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, Salam LADC, SBT, SCI, Tabitha-Dor-**Bcharre** ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, ARCS, cas, UNCIEF, UN-Habitat, UNIDO, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, AVSI URDA, WHH-Jafra, WHH-LOST, WVI LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, RMF, SAFADI, WVI, LRI ILO, LRI, Al Majmouaa, Caritas Lebanor CESVI, IECD, IRC, RMF, Acted, UNIDO **Beirut** ACTED, UNIDO, AI **Baalbek** Majmouaa, AVSI, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, Farah ACTED, UNIDO, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, LEE Experience, Plan International, RMF, WHH-LOST, ACF Spain, ADRA, Al Majmouaa, AVSI, ILO, LRI, Nawaya network, SCI, URDA Social Foundation, KAFA, Near East Foundation. Tabitha-Dorcas, Borderless, ILO, LRI, LUPD, Mercy Corps, Nusaned, OXFAM, SCI, UN-Habitat, WHH-Jafra, WVI Baabda ACTED, UNIDO, AI Maimouaa, AMEL. AVSI, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, IECD, IRC, RMF. Tabitha-Dorcas, Borderless, Mercy Corps, OXFAM, SCI, Al Majmouaa, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, WHH-Jafra Near East Foundation, OXFAM, RMF, ACF Spain, ADRA, AVSI, DRC, ILO, LRI, Michel Daher Social Foundation - MDSF. Nabad. Salam LADC. SCI. Acted. UNIDO ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, AMEL, AVSI, Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, IECD, IRC, RMF, Tabitha-Dorcas, ILO, Mercy Corp. **West Bekaa** Lebanon, CESVI, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East Foundation, OXFAM, RMF, Acted LINIDO Rachaya Al Majmouaa Saida Caritas Lebanon, CESVI, IECD, IOM, ACTED, UNIDO, AI Maimouaa, AMEL. LEE Experience CESVI, IECD, Mercy Mercy Corps, Near ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, AM ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IE Corps, Near East East Foundation, Foundation, Right OXFAM RMF AVSI to Play, RMF, ACF LRI, Acted, UNIDO Spain, ILO, ISWA, to Play, SAFADI, WVI, ACF Jafra Foundat Hasbaya I RI LIRDA Number of reporting partners ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, AMEL, RMF, Sour ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, at district level LEE Experience, Mercy Corps, Near East ACTED, UNIDO, AI Majmouaa, AMEL, CESVI, IECD, Mercy Foundation, RI, Right to Play, SAFADI, WVI, 9 - 13 Corps, Near East Marjaayoun Foundation, Right to Play, RMF, ACF ACTED, UNIDO, Al Majmouaa, AMEL, 14 - 18 Spain, LRI RMF, ARCS, CARE, Caritas Lebanon, IECD, IOM, LEE Experience, Mercy 19 - 22 Corps, Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, SAFADI, WVI, AVSI, LRI 23+ Near East Foundation, RI, Right to Play, SAFADI, WVI,

Note: This map has been produced by UNDP based on maps and material provided by the Government of Lebanon for Inter Agency operational purposes. It does not constitute an official United Nations map. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



As a result, referrals increased to reach a total of 3,652 referrals during the year (2.1 per cent of the total referrals made in Lebanon). As the number remains low, this is an indication that more training should take place in the coming year.

Donor engagement was limited to their attendance to the different working group meetings and workshops which ensured that they are aware of the needs, challenges, and gaps. However, no dedicated meetings were held to discuss ways forward and possible changing in programming priorities. This will be a priority action point in the sector's work plan for the coming year. With 39.8 per cent of the appealed budget being received, the partners were able to reach 30 per cent of the set targets. This implies that under-funding was another major challenge facing the sector in addition to the operational ones.

4. Case Study

Funded by the Japanese Supplementary Budget (JSB), the "Safe-guarding women's essential dignity, self-respect, and rights through capacity-building and income-generating opportunities in the menstrual hygiene sector" project was implemented by UN Women in partnership with ACTED. The project aimed to create access to income-generating and employment opportunities for vulnerable women by supporting a local manufacturing entity in developing new and affordable production lines for menstrual hygiene products in vulnerable neighbourhoods.

Itab B., 56, is a Lebanese woman and mother of four who could not afford to buy disposable menstrual hygiene products, which affected her two daughters. She began by asking her daughters to keep the sanitary pads in for longer hours before realizing it could lead to infections; then she tried using old cloth – which also came with hygiene risks.

A neighbour told her about the sanitary pads manufacturing project, and she decided to try and join. Based on the vulnerability assessment results, Itab was selected, and during an initial training phase, she was taught how to operate the machines that produced the different parts of the pads, as well as the steps needed to store them safely.

This job provided her with the financial independence she had always aspired for, which not only enhanced her sense of self-worth, but also boosted her self-confidence and restored her psychological wellbeing. The training and the work took her away from the house, where things were tense, and introduced her to new people.

Itab is aware of the stigma around menstruation and women's reproductive health. As she worked on manufacturing the sanitary pads, she became much more mindful of period poverty and how it was affecting many women.

Itab is one of 20 women who received training sessions on the production of sanitary products, while 100 other women were trained in marketing, all of whom are benefiting from the cash-for-work programme. The women manufacturers produced an initial batch of 13,500 packs of menstruation items by March 2022, which were sold through door-to-door sales by women participating in the project, with a portion of the pads distributed for free to vulnerable women residing in the area.

