Second Chance - Value Chain Incubation

Fact Sheet for the Partnership between Leb Relief, Lebanon and RDPP

Duration: 2019 - 2021
Budget: 1,621,370 Euros
Geographical area: across Lebanon
RDPP thematic area: Livelihoods
Implementing partner: Fabric Aid

Direct Beneficiaries:
- 420 beneficiaries (43% host community, 57% refugees - 60% female, 40% male)
- 50 second-hand shop owners
- 50 municipalities

Objectives and Activities

Leb Relief, in partnership with Fabric-aid, aims to strengthen the domestic second-hand clothing sector in Lebanon by creating decent work opportunities and providing affordable clothing for vulnerable communities while contributing to a reduced environmental impact. The project responds to the increased demand of domestic second-hand clothing and shifts towards a proactive, development approach providing vulnerable communities with good quality clothing at micro-prices, allowing them a dignified experience within a sustainable approach. The project focuses on the following outputs:

I. Enhancing donation and collection capacity
The project aims to increase the domestic collection capacity from 150 to 400 tons of clothes by constructing and placing 300 smart donation bins in public spaces through at least 50 partnerships with municipalities, NGOs and private sector organizations. Leb Relief will recruit, train and, together with Fabric-aid, provide mid-term job placements to 220 vulnerable people over a period of two years in order to manage the increased sector capacity, 30 of which will then be recruited as full-time employees.

II. Enhancing redistribution of domestic clothes
Once the clothes are collected, inspected, treated and repackaged, they are redistributed to vulnerable communities through existing second-hand clothing stores. Currently second-hand clothing stores pay 3-5 USD per kilo to clothing importers. However, the enhanced donation and collection facility would develop a domestic supply chain that provides clothes at a very competitive price of 1 USD per kilo only. Leb Relief will support 50 second-hand clothing stores through financial management, decent work, marketing and sales trainings, as well as the renovation and reconstruction of their shops by 50 trained beneficiaries on construction. These beneficiaries will be evaluated by an international third party and receive accreditation in construction/renovation if successful. The enhancement of the domestically sourced clothing sector will enable at least 200,000 vulnerable individuals to purchase needed clothing at very low prices, shifting from charity donated clothing to a more dignified shopping at micro-prices.

III. Decreasing textile waste
The project will partner with an academic institution to understand the composition of textile waste (25% of donated clothes are labelled as waste) in order to inform a national textile recycling strategy to decrease waste. Additionally, what is labelled as waste will be upcycled by 150 beneficiaries trained on developing new products, such as pillows or bean bags, from clothes labelled as waste.