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## NEW BEGINNINGS: HOLISTIC PROTECTION AND LIVELIHOODS SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE CHILD LABOUR IN NORTH LEBANON



FACT SHEET FOR THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN RELIEF INTERNATIONAL LEBANON AND RDPP

**Duration:** 2020 - 2022

**Budget:** 2,574,467 EUR

**Geographical area:** North Lebanon - Tripoli and Akkar

**RDPP thematic area:** Protection, Livelihoods

**Implementing partner:** Himaya

**Direct Beneficiaries:**

- 1,220 children (80% refugees, 20% host community)
- 100 households
- 25 municipal police
- 40 employers
- 2 CBOs

### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In partnership with Himaya, Relief International aims to reduce child labour through a holistic integrated approach that addresses both the supply and the demand sides of the child labour market in order to comprehensively address the multiple root causes of working children. This project aims to address economic vulnerability and protection concerns of working children and their households, while engaging government structures and enforcement bodies to help change the enabling environment that supports child labour, through two objectives:

#### **I. Reduce the socio-economic vulnerability of households with working children by providing their caregivers with safe livelihoods opportunities**

In close coordination with targeted municipalities, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the North, the Research Center for Agriculture in Akkar, and the private sector, partners will develop local

market-based assessments and value chain studies that inform potential job creation areas and. The project will then support each municipality to develop a Job Creation Plan and train relevant municipal staff to engage private sector employers and affected communities to participate in the planning process. In parallel, caregivers of identified working children who remove their children from labour and participate in livelihood trainings will be provided with short-term emergency cash transfers to meet household basic needs until sustainable income is achieved. As such, the project will place these beneficiaries in relevant technical and vocational trainings and provide them with soft skills and tools needed for home-based businesses. Upon training completion, project staff will work closely with each beneficiary to place them in jobs that fit their skills, prioritizing those created through municipalities' Job Creation Plans. Job placement outside of these plans will be done in coordination with large scale job creation actors active in the North like the ILO and UNDP.

#### **II. Increase social and legal protection for working children by enhancing capacity of local actors and enabling access to protection services.**

Himaya will provide case management services and focused psychosocial support to working children, train employers on child labour harms, consequences and laws, and raise caregivers' awareness on child development and parent-child communication. Partners will also directly build CBO capacities to conduct awareness sessions through recreational activities for children to protect themselves and detect/refer cases in their communities. The project further engages municipalities to organize roundtables on child labour for community leaders and members in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs' Social Development Centers.

