Foundation Snapshot + Future Goals
Introduction: Current Operations

- RMF has been operating for the past 26 years, and has implemented countless developmental projects across Lebanon. This includes projects in: health, education, economic development, agricultural development, and women’s and youth empowerment.

- Presently, RMF is implementing several projects, funded primarily by USAID and the European Union.

- These projects are focused on local development and sustainability, agricultural development, and women’s empowerment.
BALADI (Building Alliance for Local Advancement, Development and Investment)

- Promotes local development through municipalities and civil society across Lebanon. Important for the decentralization of development!
- Municipalities submit projects with both economic and social benefits
- One of our largest and most important projects
- Project Implementation runs from 2012-2017
- 17 Successfully implemented Municipality projects thus far...
- 22 New Municipal projects inaugurated for 2016-2017

“Green Shell” Ecological Adventure park- Bentael Nature Reserve- Part of BALADI’s projects
Agricultural Development

- RMF believes that developing agriculture is key to keeping people living in rural areas and decreasing farmers migration to cities where they end up living in poor conditions.

- Our Agricultural center in the North provides cold storage facilities for apple farmers, and a dairy processing center for dairy farmers.

- EU Dairy Project being implemented currently focuses on improving the production and quality of milk and dairy products, providing a better income stream for farmers in the North.
Educational Activities

- Education is one of the Foundation’s priorities
- 2 Educational centers
  - Bab el Tebbaneh-Tripoli: Our Center for Working Children helps around 140 working children and their families each year. Helps prevent children from dropping out of school, provides life skills and psychosocial support
  - Rene Moawad Technical Institute-Mejdlaya: Joint venture with the Ministry of Education. Provides a range of technical specialties and varying degree certifications to help young people find jobs. There are about 360 students per year
    - Specializations include: Assistant Accounting, Sales & Trade Relations, Heating & Cooling, Systems & Networks, Banking, Management & Marketing, Food Industry, Medical Equipment Maintenance, Pastry Chef, Printing Arts and Techniques etc...
Women’s Empowerment

- The EU-funded “Improved Livelihoods for Underprivileged Women in North Lebanon” is presently one of our major women’s empowerment projects.
- Implementation is from 2013-2016
- Project has been a great success in working with Women’s cooperatives, and helping inform women of their economic rights, as well as providing new economic opportunities for Women

Women’s Co-op display at a food exposition
Other Major Activities

- **Habitat for Humanity**
  - RMF has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to help rehabilitate houses in the Zgharta area in the North. The inhabitants of these houses are from low-income families, many of whom have members with disabilities, so their ability to provide income is reduced. Habitat has agreed to pay up to 70% of the costs of the rehabilitation, and RMF helps the residents come up with a payment plan for the rest of the 30%,
  - also contributes various furniture and furnishings for the houses.

- **Mobile Clinics**
  - RMF has 3 mobile clinics which go to rural villages to provide basic healthcare for communities who would normally have to travel very far to reach it. These clinics provide free healthcare to both Lebanese and Syrian communities they reach.
Why are these projects important?

- They are important because they contribute to the overall development of Lebanon.
- BALADI helps municipalities grow in capacity and responsibility, strengthening them in providing services for their communities.
- Educational programs help the new generation ensure job skills, and employment to boost the economy, and keep them away from radicalization.
- Agricultural projects help fight rural poverty and encourage families to continue living in their villages, rather than migrating to cities. This also boosts the economy of Lebanon as a whole.
- Women’s empowerment is vital to the growth of a country in general, and also has major impact at a family level. When a mother is educated, and employed, her children will benefit educationally and economically.
Looking Forward...

- Priorities for the next 3-5 years
  - Education
  - Continued focus on decentralization projects (Municipality and local government development)
  - Humanitarian aid - Assistance to Syrian Refugees and Lebanese host communities affected by the crisis
Education: A Priority!!

Education is one of the most important things that RMF can work on in Lebanon at this crucial point in time.

RMF have both the Center for Working Children in Bab-Al Tabbaneh, and the Rene Moawad Technical Institute in Zgharta. There is constant need for funding for these institutions, especially the Center for Working Children. The Center for Working Children requires about $80,000 annually for operational expenses. When there are no grants available to support the center, this becomes a serious issue.

The Gala Dinners contribute to the funding of these two important projects, however, year-round funding is needed.
Mobile Clinic and Habitat for Humanity

- These two programs are extremely important for RMF, they provide desperately needed services for the Lebanese and Syrian Refugees in the North.
- However, funding sources are not constant for these projects, therefore we are continually seeking new sources of support to keep them alive.
- Please support these lifesaving projects by donating to RMF.