



LEBANON

Southern Neighbourhood



Key milestones

APRIL 2006

The EU-Lebanon **Association Agreement** entered into force

NOVEMBER 2016

Adoption of the EU-Lebanon **Partnership Priorities** for 2016-2020 and **Compact** to address the consequences of the Syrian crisis

DECEMBER 2020

Adoption of the **Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF)** together with UN and World Bank



EU-Lebanon Partnership priorities



Security and Counter-terrorism



Governance and Rule of Law



Migration and Mobility



Fostering Growth and Job opportunities

in force until the new framework for the period until 2027 is adopted



Trade & investment

- The EU is Lebanon's first trading partner. In 2021, EU-Lebanon two-way trade in goods amounted to **€3.62 billion**, which represents a considerable decrease since the beginning of the crisis in 2019 in which EU-LB trade balance amounted €5.34 billion.



Mobility

Around **2,948** Lebanese students, professors and university staff travelled to Europe and **1,636** European counterparts travelled to Lebanon between 2015 and 2020.



EU funding

- Since 2021, the EU provides support to Lebanon mainly through the **Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI)** with **€136 million allocated in 2021** and **€229 planned for 2022**.
- Considering the multi-faceted crisis in the country, EU assistance aims at i) enhancing good governance and supporting key reforms, (ii) strengthening an inclusive and resilient economy and (iii) promoting a green and sustainable recovery.
- In response to the Syrian crisis, the EU has provided **€2.3 billion** in **humanitarian and non-humanitarian assistance** to Lebanon since 2011. This includes the **EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis** for an amount of **€1 billion** since its creation in 2015 to support refugees and vulnerable Lebanese mainly in the sectors of social protection, education, health, livelihood, water and sanitation. ECHO contributed with around **€760 million** during this period.
- Other EU programmes and instruments are also contributing: the **Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace** and the **European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights** for a total of **€27.2 million** since 2015.
- Regarding Palestine refugees, the EU contributes to the central budget of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and support projects in Lebanon.



EU response to the multiple crises

EU assistance has been adapted to the deteriorating context in Lebanon:

- In response to the **COVID 19 crisis**, the EU reacted fast to the urgent needs with tailor-made response to support health-related services and socio-economic recovery. The EU responded with specific interventions on health, water and sanitation, as well as additional assistance to Palestine refugees through UNRWA. Lebanon also received funding for the purchase of vaccines through the COVAX Facility.
- After the **4 August 2020 Beirut Port Blast**, the EU has developed with the UN and World Bank, the **Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF)** that bridges the immediate humanitarian assistance with medium-term recovery and reconstruction and is contributing to its implementation.
- To address the **impact of Russia's war against Ukraine**, the EU allocated €25 million to Lebanon via the **Food and Resilience Facility** to reduce socio-economic insecurity of the most vulnerable segment of the population and to increase the local production of key crops contributing to food security and import substitution.