

RDFL Emergency Response and Stabilization Plan (ERSP)

RDFL
التجمع النسائي الديمقراطي اللبناني

 Implementation Period: March – August
2026 (6 Months)

Budget Ceiling: USD 400,000

Total Direct Reach

~8000

Women and Girls

Total Indirect Reach

~27000

Individuals



GBV Hotline 71 500 808



Executive Summary

The RDFL ERSP provides a six-month operational framework to deliver life-saving protection and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) services in Lebanon's ongoing conflict and displacement crisis. The plan ensures a rapid emergency response while progressively supporting stabilization, continuity of services, and community resilience.

RDFL operates in Beirut, Mount Lebanon (Zouk Mikael), Tripoli, Saida, Bekaa (Jeb Janine), and Baalbek, including collective shelters and displacement sites, coordinating closely with national authorities, municipalities, sector platforms, and humanitarian partners.

Pillar 1 (Months 1-6)

Focuses on strengthening community protection and GBV response, starting with frontline capacity building in GBV, case management, and Psychological First Aid (PFA). This is followed by community outreach and awareness sessions targeting women, girls, men, and boys, led by trained volunteers. The pillar also includes protection monitoring, reinforcement of referral pathways, and community engagement to support GBV prevention and early stabilization.

The plan is structured around three pillars:

Pillar3 (Months 4-6)

Transitions to routine programming, focusing on follow-up of all active cases, continuity of services, monitoring service quality across centers, documentation, and reinforcement of referral pathways for sustainable survivor-centered support.

Pillar2 (Months 1-3)

Delivers life-saving services, including GBV case management, psychosocial support, emergency assistance, recurrent protection cash, legal counseling, shelter referrals, dignity kits, and adaptive programming based on ongoing monitoring.

RDFL ensures accountability to affected populations through feedback mechanisms, confidential reporting channels, and community consultations. Robust MEAL systems track service delivery, protection outcomes, capacity-building efforts, and community feedback. Visibility and reporting are maintained via staff identification, sector-approved materials, weekly coordination, and centralized documentation.

This ERSP enables RDFL to respond rapidly to urgent protection needs while strengthening community protection mechanisms, ensuring continuous, high-quality, and accountable GBV services over the six-month period.



1. Purpose and Scope



1.1 Purpose

The RDFL ERSP provides a clear six-month operational framework guiding RDFL’s protection and GBV interventions in response to the ongoing conflict and displacement crisis in Lebanon. The plan aims to ensure the rapid delivery of life-saving protection services during the emergency phase while gradually supporting the stabilization of protection systems and strengthening community resilience during the recovery phase.

To achieve this, RDFL will conduct rapid needs assessments, implement protection monitoring, and engage in coordinated sectoral response to identify and address emerging risks. Through community-based interventions and outreach, the plan prioritizes the protection of women, girls, and other vulnerable groups from GBV and related protection threats.

The ERSP combines immediate emergency actions with early stabilization measures, including restoring and strengthening referral pathways, reinforcing community protection mechanisms, supporting frontline responders, and ensuring the continuity of essential protection services.

All interventions will be implemented in line with humanitarian principles—humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence—and will follow a survivor-centered, rights-based approach.

1. Purpose and Scope



1.2 SCOPE

This plan covers RDFL operations in:

Beirut
Mount Lebanon (Zouk Mikael)
Tripoli
Saida
Bekaa (Jeb Janine)
Baalbeck



It also includes RDFL interventions in collective shelters and displacement sites hosting internally displaced populations.

Current operational status:

- **Operational centers: Beirut, Tripoli, Saida, Jeb Janine**
- **Closed pending security clearance: Baalbek (Douris Centers)**

The ERSP integrates daily operational updates, staff safety protocols, and coordination with national authorities, municipalities, humanitarian partners, and sector platforms to ensure an effective and safe emergency response.

2. Context and Risk Analysis



2.1 Operating Environment

The escalation of hostilities between Lebanon and Israel has significantly increased insecurity across the country, resulting in civilian casualties and damage to critical infrastructure, including health facilities, schools, and essential public services.

These developments have triggered new waves of internal displacement across several regions, placing additional pressure on communities already struggling with Lebanon's prolonged economic crisis. Displaced families are facing growing barriers to accessing basic services and protection, including safe shelter, healthcare, psychosocial support, and specialized protection services.

Within this context, women and girls are particularly exposed to heightened protection risks. Reports indicate increased incidents of GBV, including domestic violence, sexual exploitation, early and forced marriage, as well as rising levels of psychosocial distress. Overcrowded shelters, the disruption of social and family support networks, and worsening financial hardships further exacerbate these risks while limiting access to available services and support systems.

2.2 Operational Risks

RDFL's emergency operations may face several operational challenges due to the volatile context. These include potential security escalations that could restrict access to affected communities, funding limitations that may constrain the scale-up of response activities, and logistical disruptions affecting transportation and supply chains. In addition, communication interruptions during security incidents and rapidly evolving humanitarian needs may further complicate response efforts.

To mitigate these risks, RDFL will adopt flexible operational planning, maintain continuous protection monitoring to adapt interventions as needs evolve, and strengthen coordination with local partners, municipalities, and relevant humanitarian sectors to ensure an effective and timely response

2. Context and Risk Analysis



2.3 Organizational Capacities

RDFL has strong institutional capacity to deliver protection-focused emergency interventions. The organization relies on experienced staff specialized in GBV case management, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and protection advocacy. These capacities are supported by established referral pathways with health, legal, and protection actors, ensuring coordinated and survivor-centered service delivery.

RDFL also benefits from a network of trained community workers who support outreach and awareness activities, as well as partnerships with national and international humanitarian actors that strengthen coordination and response capacity. Operational coordination is further facilitated through digital platforms, including WhatsApp groups and OneDrive-based systems.

Lessons learned from RDFL's 2024 emergency response emphasized the importance of focusing on the organization's core expertise in protection and GBV services, rather than expanding into large-scale relief distributions that exceed operational capacity.

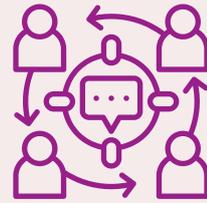
3. Strategic Objectives (6-Month Period)



The ERSP aims to:

1. Protect women, girls, and vulnerable populations from GBV and protection risks during the emergency.
2. Ensure continuity of life-saving protection services for displaced populations.
3. Conduct rapid protection assessments and ongoing monitoring to guide adaptive programming.
4. Strengthen coordination with national authorities, municipalities, and humanitarian sectors.
5. Support stabilization of community protection systems during the recovery phase.
6. Ensure accountability to affected populations, partners, and donors.

4. Governance and Coordination



4.1 National Coordination

RDFL will establish a Community Engagement Committee to coordinate emergency response activities with affected communities, local authorities, and national institutions. The committee will serve as the primary coordination mechanism to ensure that response activities align with local priorities and national emergency frameworks.

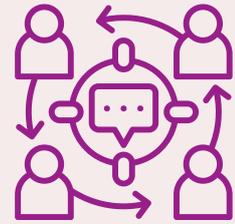
The committee will work in close coordination with key national stakeholders, including the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), the National Disaster Risk Management Unit, and relevant municipal authorities, to facilitate information sharing, referral coordination, and community-level response planning.

To formalize this engagement, RDFL will send official letters to the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the National Disaster Risk Management Unit confirming the organization's readiness to support the national emergency response and contribute to coordinated protection efforts.

4.2 Sector Coordination

RDFL technical teams will actively participate in relevant humanitarian coordination platforms, including the GBV and Protection sectors, as well as intersectoral coordination mechanisms. Coordination with the Shelter, Health, and WASH sectors will also be maintained to ensure an integrated response. This engagement will support alignment with humanitarian standards, strengthen information sharing, and ensure that RDFL interventions contribute effectively to national and sectoral response strategies.

4. Governance and Coordination



4.3 Partner Coordination

RDFL will actively coordinate with humanitarian partners, including Diakonia, CARE, Oxfam, Trócaire, NRC, UN Women, ActionAid, Medair, and other potential collaborators. This coordination will facilitate strategic information sharing, joint planning, and resource mobilization, helping to identify funding opportunities and strengthen proposals for emergency interventions. By leveraging partner expertise and networks, RDFL can enhance the effectiveness and reach of its response, ensure complementarity of activities, and avoid duplication, ultimately maximizing the impact of limited resources.



5. Protection Monitoring and Rapid Assessment

Phase 1 - Rapid Situation Analysis (Month 1)

RDFL will conduct key informant interviews (KIIs) with shelter managers, community leaders, and other stakeholders to quickly map the emergency context.

This initial assessment will identify:

- Immediate protection risks
- Priority humanitarian needs
- Vulnerable populations
- Operational constraints affecting response

Phase 2 - Continuous Emergency Monitoring (Months 1-6)

RDFL will maintain ongoing monitoring to track emerging risks and ensure timely, targeted interventions.

Activities include:

- Participation in GBV sector Rapid Needs Assessments
- Protection surveys in shelters and displacement sites
- Continuous case monitoring and documentation

Core Monitoring Actions:

- Rapid GBV risk assessments in shelters and communities.

- Safety audits of displacement sites.

- Tracking access to essential services for women and girls.

- Documentation, referral, and follow-up of urgent protection cases

This structured, two-phase approach ensures that RDFL's interventions are evidence-based, responsive, and adaptive, enabling effective protection and GBV support throughout the emergency period.



6. RD.F.L. Emergency Response and Stabilization Interventions

Pillar 1 - GBV Prevention and Protection Monitoring (Months 1-6)

Frontline responders will be trained on GBV in emergencies, case management, Psychological First Aid (PFA), safe referrals, and PSEA to ensure effective identification and response to protection cases.

Concurrently, protection monitoring will be conducted through rapid GBV risk assessments, safety audits in shelters, and tracking access to services for women, girls, and other vulnerable groups, with urgent cases documented and referred.

Community awareness sessions on GBV risks, early marriage, exploitation, domestic violence, PSEA, and survivor rights, as well as non-violent communication and family conflict management, will support prevention efforts.

Referral pathways and community protection mechanisms will be reinforced to enable early stabilization.

Pillar 2 - Emergency Response Services (Months 1-3)

RD.F.L. will deliver direct GBV services, including case management (remote and in-person), psychosocial support, Psychological First Aid (PFA), Emergency Case Assistance (ECA), and Recurrent Protection Cash Assistance (RPCA).

Survivors will also receive legal counseling, referrals to specialized services, and temporary safe shelter, along with dignity kits linked to case management.

Service delivery will be guided by ongoing protection monitoring to adapt to emerging needs.

Pillar 3 - Transition to Normal Programming and Case Follow-Up (Months 4-6)

All active GBV cases will continue to receive follow-up support, including case management, psychosocial support, and referrals for new cases.

Coordination with frontline responders and volunteers will ensure service continuity, while monitoring and reporting on service delivery will strengthen data systems. Referral pathways and engagement with local authorities will be reinforced to support a sustainable transition to normal programming.

7. Six-Month Operational Timeline

Pillar	Timeline	Key Activities
Pillar 1 – GBV Prevention & Protection Monitoring	Months 1–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Train frontline responders on GBV in emergencies, case management, PFA, safe referrals, and PSEA- Conduct rapid GBV risk assessments and safety audits in shelters- Monitor access to services for women, girls, and vulnerable groups- Document and refer urgent protection cases- Conduct community awareness sessions on GBV risks, early marriage, exploitation, domestic violence, PSEA, and survivor rights- Train on non-violent communication and family conflict management- Reinforce referral pathways and community protection mechanisms.
Pillar 2 – Emergency Response Services	Months 1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deliver direct GBV case management (remote and in-person)- Provide psychosocial support and Psychological First Aid (PFA)- Offer Emergency Case Assistance (ECA) and Recurrent Protection Cash Assistance (RPCA)- Provide legal counseling and referrals to specialized services- Facilitate access to temporary safe shelters Distribute dignity kits linked to case management- Adapt service delivery based on ongoing protection monitoring.
Pillar 3 – Transition & Case Follow-Up	Months 4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up on all active GBV cases- Continue case management, psychosocial support, and referrals for new cases- Coordinate with frontline responders and volunteers to ensure service continuity- Monitor and report service delivery; consolidate data- Reinforce referral pathways and collaboration with local authorities for sustainable programming.

8. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL)

Monitoring will track service delivery and ensure **adaptive programming**.
Key monitoring tools:

- **Case management database**
- **Protection monitoring tools**
- **Activity reports**
- **Feedback mechanisms**

Key indicators:

Objective	Indicator	Means of Verification
GBV prevention	Number of awareness sessions conducted	Activity reports
Community awareness	Number of individuals reached	Attendance sheets
Survivor support	Number of survivors receiving case management	Case records
Psychosocial support	Number receiving PSS or PFA	Session reports
Emergency assistance	Number receiving ECA	Assistance records
Protection monitoring	Number of rapid assessments conducted	Assessment reports
Capacity strengthening	Number of frontline responders trained	Training reports
Accountability	Number of feedback cases received and addressed	Feedback log



9. Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

RDFL will ensure meaningful community engagement to make programs responsive, inclusive, and accountable. This will include feedback and complaint mechanisms, confidential reporting channels for GBV and PSEA, and community consultations in shelters to involve affected populations in program planning. Communities will be informed about available protection, GBV, and psychosocial support services, and programs will be adapted based on feedback to improve relevance, accessibility, and overall impact, ensuring interventions remain community-centered and survivor-focused.

10. Logistics and Distribution

RDFL will focus strictly on GBV-related interventions and will not conduct large-scale humanitarian distributions beyond sector guidance.

All distributions will adhere to GBV sector standards, be coordinated through centralized mechanisms, and include transparent documentation and tracking to ensure accountability and compliance.

11. Visibility and Reporting

RDFL will ensure smooth and professional operations through visible staff identification using jackets and official ID badges, and by distributing sector-approved awareness and information materials to communities. Coordination will be maintained through weekly meetings to review progress, align activities, and address emerging challenges.

All program data and reports will be managed through centralized documentation systems, including OneDrive, to ensure accurate record-keeping, transparency, and easy access for monitoring and reporting purposes.

12. Risk Management and Mitigation

Risk



**Security
escalation**

**Rapid
displacement**

**Limited
funding**

**Referral
disruption**

Staff burnout

**Community
mistrust**

Impact



**Restricted
access**

**Difficulty targeting
beneficiaries**

**Reduced response
capacity**

**Survivors unable to
access services**

**Reduced staff
capacity**

**Reduced service
access**

Mitigation



**Remote service
delivery**

**Continuous protection
monitoring**

**Diversity
funding sources**

**Strengthen
coordination**

**Staff wellbeing
support**

**Strengthen
outreach**

