



NETWORKING FOR THE FUTURE

SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF GENDER ISSUES IN LEBANON



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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
ARM	Anti-Racism Movement
CAV	Capacities and Vulnerabilities Analysis
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women
CPS	Code of Personal Status
CRTD-A	Collective for Research and Training on Development-Action
EDL	Electricity of Lebanon (-Electricité du Liban)
ELS	Environmental Livelihood Security
FPEC	Future Pioneers for Empowering Communities
GAD	Gender and Development
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GIZ	German Development Agency
HAF	Harvard Analytical Framework
HDI	Human Development Index
IFES	International Foundation for Electoral Systems
IUCN ROWA	International Union for Conservation of Nature\Regional Office of West Asia
IWPR	Institute of Women's Policy Research
KAP	Knowledge, Attitude and Practices
LECORVAW	Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women
MEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MINARET	MENA Region Initiative As a Model of NEXUS Approach and Renewable Energy Technologies.
NCLW	National Commission for Lebanese Women
NERC	National Energy Research Center
NGO	Non –Governmental Organization
OECD	The mission of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OMSWA	Office of the Minister of State for Women Affairs
RSS	The Royal Scientific Society
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation
SIGI	Social Institutions and Gender Index
SWMENA	Status of Women in The Middle East and North Africa Project
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Analysis
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene sector

Definition of Key Terms ^[1]

Key Term	Definition
Gender	Refers to the social attributes and opportunities associated with being male and female and the relationships between women and men and girls and boys, as well as the relations between women and those between men. These attributes, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization processes.
Gender Awareness	Recognition that women and men perform different roles in society and therefore have different needs which must be recognized.
Gender Discrimination	A difference in treatment of people based entirely on their being male or female. This difference contributes to structural inequality in society.
Gender Inequality	Refers to the unequal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys in all sectors- political, social, legal and economic.
Gender Equity	Recognizing that different approaches may be needed to produce equitable outcomes by taking account of and addressing the differences between and amongst the lives of women and men, boys and girls and the diversity of different groups of women/girls and men/boys.
Gender Mainstreaming	The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in any area and at all levels. It is a strategy for making the concerns and experiences of women as well as of men an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres, so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal of mainstreaming is to achieve gender equality.
Gender and Development	Is an approach to development policy and practice focuses on the socially constructed basis of differences between men and women and emphasizes the need to challenge existing gender roles and relations.
Sex	This refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that categorize someone as either female or male.
Practical Gender Needs	Practical Gender Needs are those needs that have been identified by women within their socially defined roles as a response to an immediate perceived necessity (e.g., inadequacies in living conditions such as water provision, healthcare, and employment). They do not challenge gender divisions of labor and women's subordinate position in society.
Strategic Gender Needs	Strategic Gender Needs vary by context and are identified by women as a result of their subordinate social status. They tend to challenge gender divisions of labor, power and control, as well as traditionally defined norms and roles (e.g., legal rights, domestic violence, equal wages, and women's control over their bodies).
Social Exclusion	The process through which individuals or groups are wholly or partially excluded from full participation in the society in which they live resulting in these individuals and groups being prevented from accessing resources, participating in society and asserting their rights.
Women Empowerment	A process through which women and girls acquire knowledge, skills and willingness to critically analyze their situation and take appropriate action to change the status quo of women and other marginalized groups in society.
Human Development Index (HDI)	A composite index measuring average achievement in three basic dimensions of human development—a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living.

Executive Summary

The MENA Region Initiative as a model of the NEXUS Approach to Renewable Energy Technologies (MINARET) project was initiated to overcome the increasing challenges over resources, through adopting an approach that strengthen synergies between renewable energy technology and efficiency, water management and food security and ensure a long- term sustainability. The MINARET project was developed based on a success story achieved in Sahab Municipality at Jordan, that has strengthen the awareness and knowledge to the importance of using renewable energy and energy efficiency technology. The project was achievable after a generous support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), through the Swedish development cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. It is led by the Royal Scientific Society/National Energy Research Centre (RSS/NERC) in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature\ Regional Office of West Asia (IUCN ROWA) and Future Pioneers for Empowering Communities (FPEC).

The project will be implemented in four municipalities located in three countries, which are Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia. Therefore, a detailed gender assessment was developed and designed to understand community's perceptions and needs toward the use of sustainable resources such as energy and water, and their implications on food security issues. A set of methods were conducted and applied equally within the four municipalities. Methods included a detailed desktop review for the existing information about each municipality. In addition, a structured questionnaire targeting community members (women, men, boys, girls, elderly and marginalized groups) and focus group discussions, in addition to direct interviews with relevant stakeholders, beneficiaries and institutions which are located within the boundaries of each municipality.

The lack of official and updated data makes an analysis of the Lebanese gender situation difficult. No national census has been conducted since 1932 due to political sensitivity over the size of religious communities, which is the basis of the political system.

In Lebanon, as in most Arab countries, gender stereotypes persist. Men are seen as the main providers and breadwinners for their families, while women are inherently better suited for caregiving and social roles. This leads to the belief that men are in greater need of a job and are entitled to higher salaries than are women. Similarly, in politics, men are often perceived as natural leaders and women are perceived (and perceive themselves as) "unsuitable" for politics and hence are not interested in running for office.

High levels of rural/urban mobility or longer-term migration outside of Lebanon means that many men and women work for much of the year away from their homes. Labor migration has distinct gender-specific patterns and impacts on men, women, and families. For example, female partners of male migrants often stay behind to care for the family, acting as head of the household in the husband's absence.

The typical enterprises women in Jdeidet El Chouf invest in are food-processing, soap production and traditional crafts with little diversification across loan beneficiaries. As a result, competition is stiff, particularly since most of the entrepreneurs lack access to external markets.

A holistic approach needs to be adopted in supporting income-generating projects for women, and the provision of credit for poor women, and take into consideration not to increase the workload of already overburdened women, reducing their personal well-being and their ability to care for their children.

Results showed that within Jdeidet El Chouf municipality in Lebanon, continuous power cuts affect the lives of the community members. Electricity from the grid interrupts twice daily with total interruption of around 12 hours/day, back-up informal private generation has emerged. The rising cost of electricity bills on private generators is putting a strain on household budgets and increase tension between family members. This chronic situation has pushed the women to pay extra effort and time to organize and finish the household activities.

The participants revealed that Jdeidet El Chouf suffer from poor water services and quality in particular irregular water supply that persists despite the availability of relatively abundant water resources and poor water quality were up to 70% of natural water sources in Lebanon are bacterially contaminated and those who can afford it, resort to expensive bottled and tanker water.

Role models are considered to play a vital role in encouraging young people to take specific career paths. Therefore, providing community with positive images of women professionals in the energy and water sectors could be a simple but effective way of encouraging young girls to study appropriate subjects for a career in energy and water. In additions, networking and advocacy by women's groups represent important ways of promoting the acceptance of women as energy and water experts.

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

Countries in the (MENA) region are faced with the challenges of a growing population, high unemployment, surging demand for electricity, and limited investments in new generation capacity, and in certain countries limited or no supply of indigenous hydrocarbon resources. In particular, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia currently face a serious energy challenge because they lack domestic energy resources or have little resources and exhibit an ever greater demand for energy to fuel their social and economic development. The issues in these three countries have been exacerbated by the influx of significant numbers of refugees, resulting from the continuing Syrian crisis (Jordan and Lebanon), as well as political and economic instability in various African countries (Tunisia).

To face these challenges, this four-year project, "The MENA Region Initiative as a model of the NEXUS Approach to Renewable Energy Technologies" (MINARET), is designed to address the unique sustainability challenges and opportunities of the MENA region by increasing local and regional sustainability capacities using the synergies between renewable energy technology and efficiency, water management and food security.

A gendered perspective in energy and water management is necessary to ensure both women's and men's participation for improved resource management practices. Involving both women and men enhances the results of project pilot actions and initiatives and improves the likelihood of their sustainability with an eye on environmental conservation. It also contributes to ensuring that no unintended negative effects on men or women occur.

Gender equality cannot be reached without the support and participation of men. Men involvement in the mainstreaming process must be encouraged so that men become allies to women in their quest and not an opposing front that delays positive outcomes, and so it is more recognized now that male inclusion is an important part of the gender mainstreaming process.

Energy poor individuals suffer in various ways; loss of time, lack of income, physical exhaustion, and lack in access to education and information. Women and men, despite many commonalities, also exhibit systematic differences in the ways they experience energy poverty, differences that if overlooked can end up propagating existing injustices. These differences are derived from socially determined gender roles and norms that in turn drive patterns of energy usage in the region. Women and men require modern energy as the means to accomplish distinct sets of tasks within their spheres of activity, whether domestic, agricultural, community-based, or commercial. Evidence shows that gender is one of many considerations (including geography, income, culture, etc.) influencing preferences for energy products, fuels, and services.

When implementing the water–energy–food nexus care should be taken to integrate sustainable livelihoods aspects, which have been repeatedly overlooked, but represent an important part to obtaining sustainable development.

NEXUS theory outlines that water, energy and food security can be achieved through a nexus approach that integrates management and governance across sectors scales. Relevant SDGs for the MINARET project are presented in Figure 1 below.

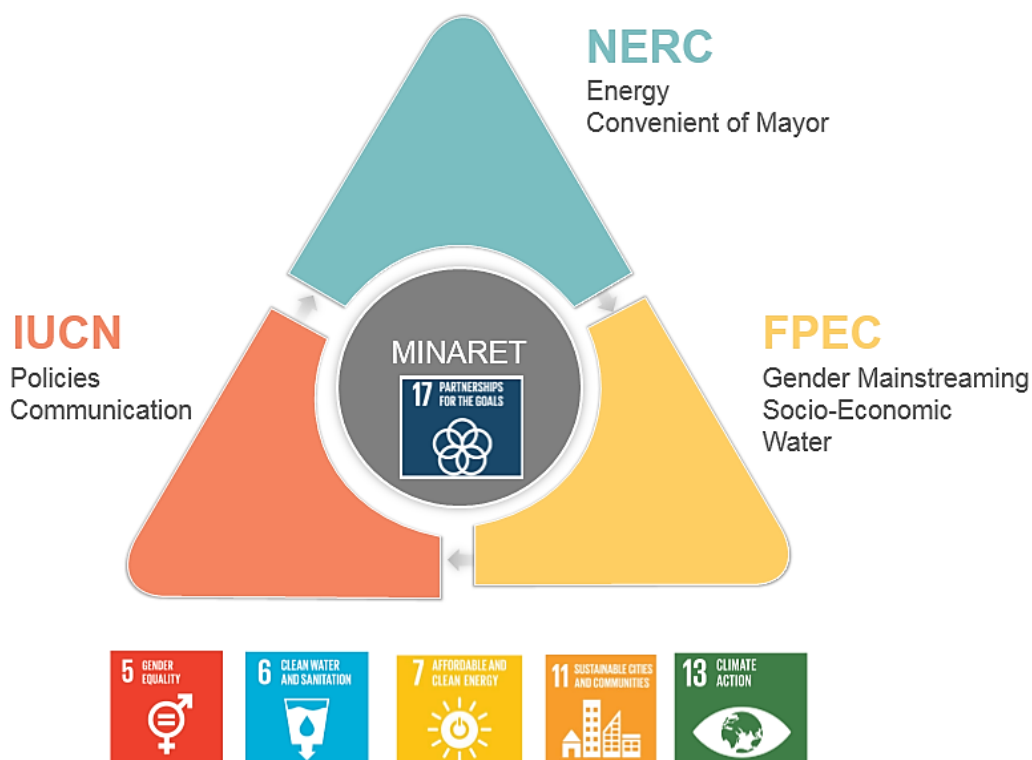


FIGURE 1: : RELEVANT SDGs FOR THE MINARET PROJECT

1.2 The Assessment

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) defines a gender analysis as a starting point for gender mainstreaming. Before cooperation processes begin, any decisions are made and plans are outlined, the gender equality situation in a given context must be analysed and expected results identified.

This assessment was carried out to analyse gender dynamics, understand the current gaps and barriers in gender mainstreaming and develop a roadmap of actions and solutions to improve the gender integration in the MINARET project.

The 2030 Agenda, the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development agreed on many key points; they signalled the links among goals relating to environment, natural resources, climate change and economic and social objectives, and called for increased cooperation across the region given the cross-border nature of water, energy, agriculture and food security challenges. They also stressed that human rights, including the development right, and gender equality and women's empowerment, are the foundation of the agenda, and align with ESCWA's proposed water-energy-food security nexus.

The Gender analysis highlights the differences between and among women, men, girls and boys in terms of their relative distribution of resources, opportunities, constraints and power in a given context. It also helps us develop more appropriate actions in addressing gender-based inequalities that cover the needs of different population groups.

1.3 Natural Resources and Gender

Over the past 50 years, ecosystems have changed in a rate faster than any comparable period of time in the human history, largely because of the need to meet rapidly growing demands for food, water, timber, fiber, and fuel. ^[2] Rapid population growth and urbanization impact consumption of energy and water resources. Understanding communities' structures including roles and responsibilities in natural resources management from gender dimensions is a starting point for reversing environmental degradation.

Improving natural resource management practices and protecting the environment require reducing poverty and achieving livelihood and food security. Understanding and changing natural resource management and governance as well as unequal patterns of access to and control over natural resources lie at the heart of reversing natural resource degradation. These issues are crucial to address the gender dimension of natural resources.

Gender differences exist in rights and access to natural resources. Women and men have different roles, responsibilities, and knowledge in managing natural resources. Women are typically associated with managing natural resources daily in their roles as farmers and household providers. They are responsible for cleaning, washing, cooking, or bathing and associated with energy consumption to meet basic needs in the household for cooking and heating. Despite their reliance on natural resources, women have less access to and control over new technologies, information, and training related to natural resource management, as most of the related initiatives target men.

To protect their natural resources, women and men must be empowered to participate in decisions that affect their needs and vulnerabilities and have equal access to knowledge and information. Addressing the gender dimensions of natural resources management will help policy makers formulate more effective interventions for their conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

1.4 Gender Dimension of the Energy-Water-Food Nexus

Gender is one of the major cross-cutting issues regarding the water-energy-food nexus and there is significant need to develop and apply gendered approaches. Available, affordable and accessible energy and water offers significant contributions to economic well-being and contributes to achieving gender justice. Improved access to energy and water for both the urban and rural poor creates livelihood opportunities and better health conditions that may break the cycle of poverty, see Figure 2.

Improved access to energy and water services can alter women's social, economic and political status — reducing the time and effort involved in household activities, providing better health and educational conditions, enhancing income-generating opportunities, and facilitating their participation in public affairs. The integration of gender issues is thus vital for energy projects in developing countries.^[3]

With view to the Water-Energy-Food Nexus, the role gender plays is rather complex, as it concerns the role of gender in agriculture/agricultural value chains (especially in the processing stages due to the high energy needs), the role of gender in energy poverty, as well as the role of gender in energy and water projects.

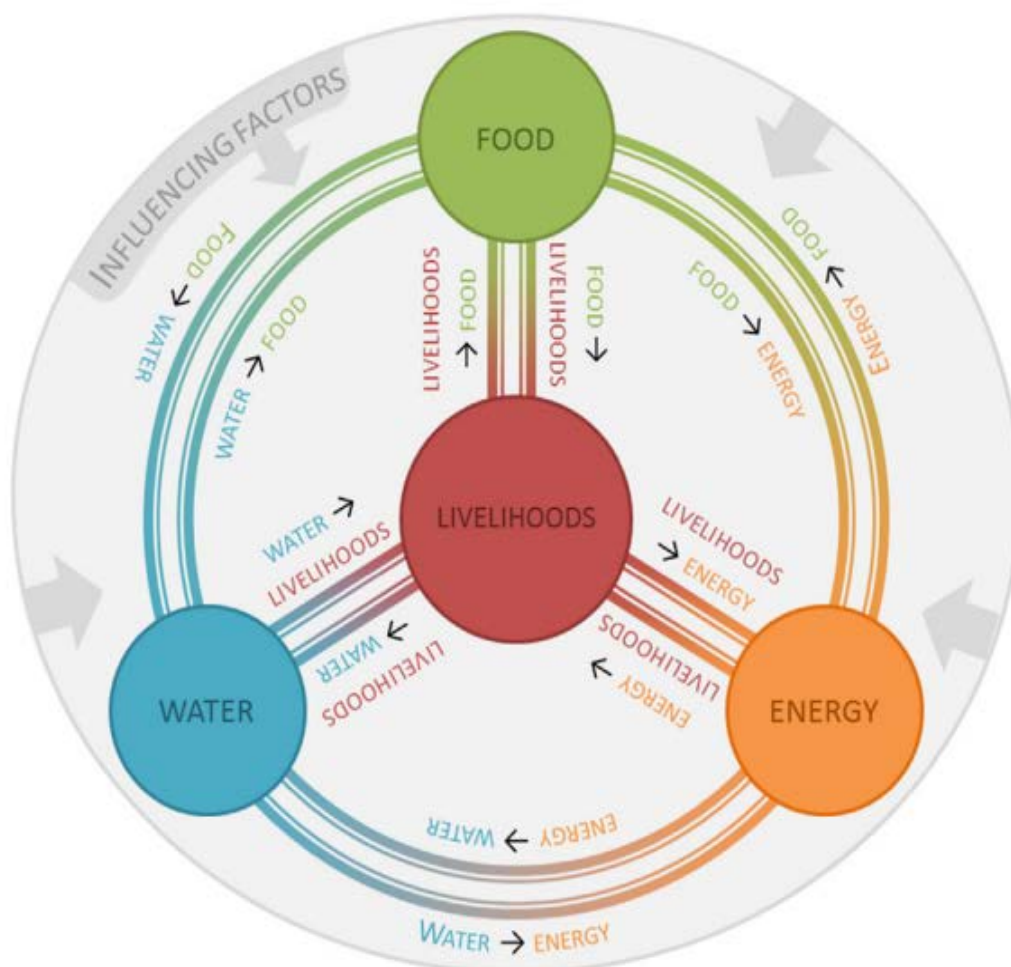


FIGURE 2: THE NOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LIVELIHOOD SECURITY (ELS) CONCEPTUALIZES THE LINKS BETWEEN WATER, ENERGY, FOOD AND LIVELIHOODS WHICH NEED BALANCE TO ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE SYSTEM. EXTERNAL INFLUENCING FACTORS SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE, POPULATION GROWTH, AND GOVERNANCE CAN ALL IMPACT UPON ATTAINING ELS. ^[4]

Expanded energy sources are necessary to provide: mechanical power for agriculture, food processing, water pumping and irrigation; modern fuels for cooking and heating; electricity for lighting, refrigeration, communications, commercial enterprises and community services in rural areas. Without access to efficient and affordable energy sources, rural communities will have very limited opportunities for economic and social development. Access to Modern Energy is however problematic in most developing countries. According to the estimates of the International Energy Agency (IEA), 2.6 billion people around the world currently rely on traditional uses of energy to cover their basic energy needs. This figure is expected to rise to 2.7 billion by 2030.

This lack of access to energy is experienced in different ways by men and women in developing countries. The energy sector continues to be dominated by men, especially at decision making levels. Households headed by women are particularly disadvantaged, which constrains women's energy access as well. Poor women in rural areas generally have a more difficult time compared to men, due to their traditional socio-cultural roles. The lack of modern energy services negatively affects their chances of education and income generation which makes it harder for women in particular to overcome poverty.

In poor settings in particular, women often experience excess vulnerability to conditions of energy poverty above and beyond that experienced by men. Vulnerability tends to manifest itself as: “hands and feet” carrying of goods, water, children, fuel, market goods, and household supplies; manual labor to do household tasks, farm work, and raw materials/agro-processing; exposure to physical hazards such as pollution, burns, assault, and poorly lit childbearing experiences. But the overall effects of energy poverty are largely consistent for both women and men and include: Low standards of living, health conditions, reduced productivity, and missed opportunities.

Women face particular obstacles in accessing renewable energy technologies due to their relatively higher poverty levels, lower access to credit and less access to information. According to the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy (WISIONS), it has been demonstrated that integrating gender issues i.e. women’s needs as a key variable in energy projects makes it more likely that energy will have a substantial impact on household and community poverty and on gender equality. Thus where energy interventions address women’s equal participation, the potential for benefits is much higher for all.

Access to energy and water are inextricably linked, and the lack of access to clean water in the world is just as daunting as energy access. Access to clean, secure, and sufficient quantities of water is vital to achieve adequate standards of food and goods production, sanitation, as well as health, and these all have direct links to energy. As the population in the MENA region rises and the development pressures increase, access to water will have to be handled in parallel to access to energy.

Pumped water and irrigation are important for improving agricultural production and food security. Energy for transport is essential for water distribution. Energy is also necessary to purify water (boiling and disinfection), and this has dramatic impacts on health, sanitation, and food security. Just as energy is important for water production, water can be critical for energy production. Hydropower is an important component of many energy mixes and water is required for cooling.

Agriculture plays a large role for economic development in developing countries, yet agriculture is also very energy intensive. Up to 70 % of the labor force in developing countries works in agriculture, and women make up the majority of agricultural laborers. Gender inequalities are, however, widespread, especially with view to land distribution, access to credits and access to agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilizer, and reduce agricultural productivity and efficiency. Women also rank lower in agricultural technologies adoption level, although, according to the International Center for Research on Women, enhancing women’s access to vital agricultural inputs that require intensive use of energy, such as irrigation technologies can substantially boost their agricultural productivity and incomes.

Furthermore, women operate and own the majority of informal sector enterprises in developing countries, and make up the largest proportion of the work force. Their enterprises tend to be concentrated in a relatively narrow range of activities, are often very energy intensive, yet rely on biomass fuels and have disproportionately low rates of return compared to the activities undertaken by men. Also men dominate those income activities that are more value adding and require more advanced equipment, such as energy technologies.^[5]

Modern energy services can transform the agriculture sector at multiple points including food production (e.g. ploughing, irrigation, cultivation); processing (e.g., grinding, milling and drying); and business (e.g., cold chain, access to market, pricing knowledge, and higher-value products). Reducing of labor number in farming while seeing increased production from access to mechanized power, could particularly be relevant for the many small farmers in the MENA region.

1.5 Socio-economic Synergies

The MINARET projects' socio-economic assessment has been designed with conscious of mainstreaming gender and diversity considerations throughout the survey's planning, design, volunteers training, implementation and analysis stages. This was very critical as men, women, girls and boys are often dealt differently in using energy, water and their implications in food production, and may therefore hold distinct knowledge, experiences, and perspectives and may also have specific and varying needs and priorities. This will generate different solutions on how to promote the use of sustainable natural resources.

This participatory assessment will highlight the nature of livelihood strategies in different classes of households (social differentiation), their livelihood security level, and the principle constraints and opportunities to address through programs. This information is also disaggregated by gender and generation.

By drawing attention to the diversity of assets that people use in their livelihoods, the socio-economic analysis produces a more holistic view on what resources, or combination of resources, are important to the community members, especially the poor, including not only physical and natural resources, but also their social and human capital to provide more realistic view about how the project interventions and small initiatives will benefit and impact men, women, boys and girls and to implement tailor-made projects according to their specific needs.

Two levels of empowerment are distinguished: 1) Personal empowerment, which refers to enhancing people's confidence and skills to overcome constraints. This may include the formation of mutual interest and support groups to initiate activities, to improve existing income-generating activities, or to identify and start-up new more profitable activities. Addressing gender relations within both the household and community may be an essential part of the strategy. 2) Social empowerment, which refers to the establishment and/or strengthening of existing, representative, community-based organizations to build up the capacity for community members to plan and implement priority development activities which emerge from participatory needs assessments.^[6]

Collecting gender disaggregated data while conducting assessments at the community level is very important; therefore particular attention to 'vulnerable groups' was given, including women, when conducting regular socio-economic analysis, which was then supplemented with specific Gender Analysis.

Ensuring that gender is being addressed in principle is one thing. However, to make it possible for women to express their genuine perceptions, interests, and needs in relation to specific livelihood issues in practice, is the real challenge.

Renewable energy, water supply, sanitation, food security are closely interlinked (water-energy-food nexus) in community development. This means that any intervention must take into account the interrelations and synergies in these sectors with a close eye to gender equality. The application of gender mainstreaming in nexus approach on the strategy, programme and activities levels, enables sustainable solutions and leads to better results in terms of the SDGs.

1.6 Objective of the Assessment

The overall objective of the gender assessment for the four selected municipalities in Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia is to provide an understanding of the project's main stakeholders and beneficiaries commitment and capacity to work on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) issues. The aim of this study is to get a grasp on gender inequalities; its causes, how it intersects with other

inequalities, how it impacts the MINARET project, benefits produced by development efforts and whether gender inequalities persist in the country.

The specific objectives of this assessment are:

1. Identify the main gaps and problems in gender mainstreaming on national and municipal levels, on a larger scale, and on community level, on a smaller scale.
2. Review current needs and expectations in the three thematic areas (energy, water and food).
3. Identify key gender issues that need to be addressed and evaluate the current situation and how it was evolved from the past to see if there is a progress or drawback.
4. Identify entry points and relevant actions planned and taken by key actors to address gender gaps across different sectors.
5. Provide basis for understanding the constraints and opportunities, and setting realistic priorities and decisions on actions to enable strategies and programmes to work toward meeting the needs of both women and men.
6. Improve the design and the planning of the MINARET project, in order to prevent a negative impact on gender equality and to strengthen gender equality through better-designed, transformative plans and activities.

2. Methods

This chapter outlines the details the methods that were applied through the assessment. Two main methods were used in the assessment; literature review and direct interviews. Both are outlined below.

2.1 Literature Review

A comprehensive literature review was carried out aiming to get a synopsis on the existing studies and reports, relevant legislation, policy papers, action plans, research papers, publications, data, official statistics in the three countries regarding gender equality and gender situation understanding. The literature review was carried out in parallel for the three countries since they shared similar literature and it was more efficient to carry out the literature review in this manner.

2.2 Direct Interviews

The methodology of preparing the Gender Analysis was based on the participatory approach of all relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries, state and non-state actors, according to their mandates and commitments to gender equality and women empowerment. The analysis has been carried out in a multidisciplinary manner and covered relevant cross-cutting issues. The main principles of the assessment are to ensure tailoring the content of the intervention to the need of the beneficiary, focusing on the specific needs of women and vulnerable groups, active participation and consultation of the beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Direct interviews and meetings with state officials and other key informants to learn about their personal experiences, effects of measures, gaps and achievements, inhibiting and stimulating factors, to get a better picture on the practical needs and gaps that exist regarding gender integration and gender responsiveness in projects and policies at different levels:

- National level: through informant interviews with key ministries, governmental institutions staff whom are knowledgeable about gender issues and situation.
- Community level: through interviews, meetings and focus group discussions with civil society organizations (CBOs), national non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as cooperatives and community members that have social component in their projects.

Qualitative research methods were conducted; Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIs) with the main stakeholders related to gender and women's empowerment. The selection of the representative stakeholders and beneficiaries for the Focus Groups Discussions (FGDs) and the direct interviews was determined after reviewing the three Stakeholder Analysis Reports conducted by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature IUCN – MINAREET project partner. The FGDs and meetings with the local community representatives aimed in particular to collect information regarding the gender norms, roles, and needs in three main sectors: Energy, water, and food, which embody a holistic approach to manage the main three environmental resources; water, food and energy using the NEXUS approach. The criteria used for selecting the representative stakeholders and beneficiaries are the following:

- Advocates and opponents to the project: officials, municipality employees, representatives from relevant ministries.
- Variety of social function: balanced representation including civil society organizations, public administrators, private sector, scientific experts and community members.
- Variety of social profiles: age, gender and geographic and social origins.

The questionnaires and the lists of questions discussed during the focus group discussions and the key informant interviews at national, municipal and community levels. The leading research questions included the following:

- How do gender norms reinforce gender relations?
- Is legislation/policy gender neutral, gender-blind or gender-aware?
- Do particular laws/policies reinforce and sustain subordinate or discriminated gender roles?
- Where do biases and gender stereotypes reinforce gender roles? Are contributions to family care, particularly those of women, understood as contributing to the economy?
- Are international commitments to gender equality reflected in the goals, targets, and strategies of national and sectoral policies?
- How do current policies and legislation impact women and men differently?
- How are women represented in the political system and at the decision making in economy, education, and environmental sectors? In which sectors are women and men most represented?
- How do gender inequalities intersect with other inequalities (on the basis of age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, rural/urban disparities, marital and family status, etc.)?

Variety of Gender Assessment Tools and Techniques were used during the direct interview, including: Inter-sectionality Wheel, Harvard Analytical Framework (HAF), Moser Framework, SWOT Analysis, Barriers Analysis, Capacities and Vulnerabilities CAV Analysis Framework, Women's Empowerment (Longwe) Framework, Masculinities. The main questions in the gender analysis were: Who does what? Who has what? Who decides? Who gains? Who loses? Table 1 below includes a description of tools used. Detailed tools and forms used are illustrated in the Annexes.

TABLE 1: APPLIED GENDER ASSESSMENT TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

Tool	Tool Description	Outcome
Inter-sectionality Wheel	Helping in analysis, advocacy and policy development that address multiple discriminations and helps us understand how different sets of identities impact access to rights and opportunities.	Identities impact on access to rights and opportunities.
Harvard Analytical Framework (HAF)	Collecting data at the micro-level to gain information about: Activity, Access and Control, Influencing Factors, Project Cycle Analysis.	Gender Roles
Moser Framework	Help understand the division of labor within the household and community by asking "who does what?" Moser introduces the idea of women's 'triple role' in production, reproduction and community affairs.	Understand the division of labor "Who does what?"
SWOT Analysis	Assess and identify the gender strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT).	Gender strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT).
Barriers Analysis	Qualitative evidence for gender-related differences in barriers and delays that limit access to resources and services.	Gender Equality Barriers

Tool	Tool Description	Outcome
Capacities and Vulnerabilities Analysis Framework CAV	Identifying and addressing emerging problems and social issues in a particular community or area that affect their specific needs, such as difficulty accessing natural resources.	Emerging problems and social issues
Women's Empowerment (Longwe) Framework	Addressing the roots of inequalities and identifying women's empowerment and equality means in practice, and assess critically to what extent a development intervention is supporting this empowerment.	Roots of inequalities
Masculinities	Male inclusion in gender mainstreaming: Men must be reached and included so that interventions for women and girls are not derailed by male resistance.	Male Roles and Male Involvement in the Promotion of Gender Equality

Field-based Observations were also collected, investigating gender relations, group dynamics and interaction observed during field visits, and highlight any gender equality issues to provide recommendations for how the process can be developed and improved.

Finally, all collected data was analysed and segregated to understand the gaps and needs according to gender and the best approaches to integrate gender themes into projects, interventions, work plans and policies of the municipality.

Based on the findings and results of the gender research presented, lessons learned and recommendations are outlined. Also, an action plan for future steps and a performance monitoring plan is also included.

2.2 Limitations of the Assessment

Although this report was carefully prepared and has reached its aims by bringing valuable insights, it is important to note that there were some unavoidable limitations, given the nature of the issues and the scope of the study, these limitations include the following:

- Limited existing resources and reports on gender assessment.
- Gender analysis and gender mainstreaming are still new and not familiar concepts for most of the public administration staff and communities in the MENA region.
- Lack of experts specialized in gender analysis, gender integration and social inclusion to provide clear feedback on the gender analysis and its current situation.
- Lack of resources, interest and prioritization of gender issues by the senior management teams at the targeted ministries / organizations, therefore, lack of assessments, surveys or studies done in this field.
- Some of the data obtained are old and go back to 2010, 2012 and 2013.
- Gender stereotyping remains entrenched in society in terms of both social behaviors and biological determinism.

3. Results

3.1 Literature Review

Article 8 of the Lebanese Constitution asserts the equality of rights and duties of all citizens, regardless of gender.^[6] Lebanon ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1997 with reservations to Article 9(2), regarding nationality; several subparagraphs of Article 16(1), related to personal status laws; and Article 29(1), on the settlement of disputes.^[7] Lebanon has published CEDAW in the official Gazette, giving it primacy over national laws, one of the few Arab countries to do so. The country has not yet ratified the Optional Protocol.^[8]

3.1.1 Discriminatory Family Code

The Lebanese legal system is based primarily on the French and Egyptian legal codes. Personal status laws govern matters such as marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance and vary according to religious community.^[9] More specifically, Sharia courts have jurisdiction over personal status issues for the Muslim community (separated into Sunni and Shiite hearings), while the different Christian denominations use ecclesiastical courts. There are 18 legally recognized religious groups in Lebanon, the largest are the Sunni Muslims, the Shiite Muslims, and Maronite Christians. Out of those, 15 have separate personal status codes all of which contain discriminatory measures against women.^[10] While there have been efforts on the part of lawmakers to introduce a unified civil status (the most recent of which in 2010), this has so far not met with success.^[11] Civil marriages are recognized in Lebanon if they were contracted outside of the country (Article 25 of decree No. 60/1936), but continue to be governed by the civil law of that country should any legal issues arise.

Legal age of marriage varies across the different personal status codes, but all religious groups allow girls under the age of 18 to marry.^[12] For men, the marriageable age is 18 among most religious groups, although with approval marriages at younger ages are granted as well.^[13] In terms of early marriage it is, however, no longer regular that young girls marry, and the UN reports that in 2007, only 3.4% of women age 15-19 were married, divorced, or widowed.^[14]

In 2013, the United Nations reported an adolescent birth rate of 18 per 1,000 women age 15-19, using data from a 2004 Lebanese Survey.^[15] Women and men are generally free to choose their own marriage partners, but the family usually expects to play a role.^[16] Although some personal status codes assign rights and duties equally to both spouses during married life (e.g. the Catholic and the Greek Orthodox personal codes), the Muslim personal codes designate the husband as the head of the family and assign parental authority to fathers.^[17] In addition, upon birth, children are assigned to the religious sect of their father.^[18] Among most religious groups, women are granted custody of the children upon divorce, although in Muslim communities, fathers retain legal authority and decision-making power, even if the mother has physical custody.^[19] In some cases, custody is transferred back to the father when children reach a certain age: for Evangelical Christian sects and Catholics, this is 12 for boys and girls, and for Sunni Muslims, 13 for boys and 15 for girls although courts often grant on-going physical custody to the mother beyond this, if they feel that this is in the child's best interests.^[20] Most Christian denominations and Islamic Shia consider that divorced mothers who wish to remarry forfeit their custody rights.^[21]

Inheritance laws differ between Muslims and non-Muslims. Islamic law provides for detailed and complex calculations of inheritance shares. Muslim women may inherit from their fathers, mothers,

husbands or children and, under, certain conditions, from other family members.^[22] However, their share is generally smaller than a man's entitlement: daughters, for example, typically inherit half as much as sons.^[23] In addition, Muslims cannot leave property to non-Muslims, meaning that non-Muslim women married to Muslim men cannot inherit from their husbands if they die first unless they convert.^[24] While women are legally entitled to inherit land, many women abandon this land to their male relatives, in order to ensure that land is retained in the male line.^[25] It should be noted that the Shia approach to inheritance is more egalitarian as regards female heirs, which leads some Sunni fathers to convert to Shi'ism when they near death so that their daughters do not have to share their inheritance with their uncles if the parents have no sons. The Civil Law of Inheritance (1959) for non-Muslims establishes that men and women shall be treated equally and receive the same shares of inheritance.^[26] Like Muslim law, Catholic personal status law prohibits individuals from bequeathing possessions or property to family members of different faiths.^[27]

Polygamy is permissible only among Sunni and Shiite Muslims, following provisions in Sharia law.^[28] Muslim men from these sects are allowed to take up to four wives, provided they can support all wives financially and treat them all fairly and equally.^[29] Under the Muslim personal status codes, it is much easier for men than women to obtain a divorce, although all divorces must be registered with the court in order to be legally recognized.^[30] Men have the right to repudiate (divorce unilaterally) their wives, whereas women can only apply for a divorce under a certain set of conditions (e.g. the husband's desertion, or illness).^[31] Catholic sects prohibit divorce, but marriages can be annulled for a wide range of reasons, including domestic violence.^[32]

A 2011 collaborative project on the Status of Women in the Middle East and North Africa (SWMENA) shows that most women surveyed (89%) felt completely free in deciding how their earnings are used.^[33] When it comes to decision-making over daily household needs, the project reports that younger couples are more likely to share decisions, although generally, as age increases, women take on a more independent role in this realm. More specifically, 61% of married women age 55 and older have the final say over daily household purchases, compared to 51% of married women age 35-54 and 38% of women age 18-34.^[34] The frequency of married women making sole decisions concerning large household purchases similarly increases with age, with 33% of married women 55 or older making such decisions compared to 10% of married women age 18-34 and 20% of women age 35-54.^[35]

3.1.2 Physical Integrity

The Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World at the Lebanese American University has asserted that gender-based violence is the most "obvious manifestation of gender inequality in Lebanon". Lebanon's Parliament passed the Law on Protection of Women and Family Members from Domestic Violence on April 1, 2014, which defines sexual harassment as 'an act, act of omission, or threat of an act committed by any family member against one or more family members (...) related to one of the crimes stipulated in this law, and that results in killing, harming, or physical, psychological, sexual, or economic harm'.^[36] Before that, there was no legislation in place protecting women from domestic violence. In July 2013, shortly after a highly publicized incident in which a 33-year old woman was beaten to death by her husband, a Lebanese parliamentary panel approved a first draft law protecting women from domestic violence. The law criminalizes domestic abuse and calls for the establishment of a special police force tasked with responding to family violence. Most controversially, the law recognizes marital rape, although it does not classify the latter as a crime, but as an offence. Under reporting remains high, as many women are afraid to speak out about violence they experience at home, for fear of being blamed for the abuse, or of bringing shame on the family.^[37] In addition, social and family pressure, as well as lack of financial independence, compels many women to remain in abusive relationships, and they are sometimes instructed to return to abusive husbands by religious

courts.^[38] Police are also reluctant to intervene in what is considered a taboo issue, unless a woman has formally pressed charges.^[39] Some limited support is however provided by NGOs, including hotlines and refuges, working in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice.^[40]

Rape is a criminal offence in Lebanon, with a minimum sentence of five years and on August 16th 2017 the Parliament abolished Article 522 allowing for rapists to escape prosecution after a long demand of Women's rights activists and support by the Minister for Women's Affairs, Jean Oghassabian. The current law does not recognize spousal rape.^[41] Data on conviction rates and prevalence are not available.

There is no law dealing specifically with sexual harassment, nor is sexual harassment addressed in other legislation.^[42] According to the UN Population Fund, while the labour law does not specifically prohibit sexual harassment in the workplace, male and female employees do have the right to resign without prior notice in the event that an indecent offense is committed toward the former or a family member by the employer or his/her representative.^[43] Although sexual harassment is reportedly widespread, data on prevalence is not available. However, a recent collaborative project on the Status of Women in the Middle East and North Africa (SWMENA) indicates that 35% of women report men making unwanted or harassing noises or gestures towards them most or every time they venture into public spaces ^[44] and 22% of women have been touched or pinched against their will in public spaces.^[45]

Women are free to make independent decisions about their reproductive health, and to access contraception without consulting their husbands, although lack of access to affordable health insurance compromises the capacity of some women to access all forms of healthcare.^[46] Reproductive healthcare services are provided through primary healthcare clinics.^[47] According to UNFPA, 34% of sexually active women age 15-49 reported using a modern form of contraception while 12% of married women age 15-49 have an unmet need for family planning.^[48] Abortion is only legal in cases where the pregnant woman's life is in danger.^[49]

So-called "honor crimes" – or acts of violence or homicide against a woman to avenge a family's honor in the event the woman commits adultery or engages in pre-marital sexual relations – do take place in Lebanon, although they are rarely prosecuted and are often reported as suicides, meaning it is very difficult to ascertain how many women die this way each year.^[50] Previously, under the Penal Code, perpetrators could receive a reduced sentence if they demonstrated that they had committed the crime after having discovered that the victim was engaged in socially unacceptable sexual relations. However, the Lebanese parliament voted in 2011 to strike Article 562 from the Penal Code, which had allowed mitigated punishment for honor crimes.^[51] There are also different provisions for women and men in the penal code relating to adultery (which is a criminal offence): for men, the act is only considered adulterous if it has taken place in the marital home or if the adulterous relationship is made public, while a woman can be convicted of adultery wherever the relationship has taken place.^[52] In addition, minimum sentencing options for women are higher than those for men in cases of adultery.^[53]

3.1.3 Resources and Assets

According to the Lebanese Constitution (Art. 7), women (married and unmarried) have the same rights as men to conclude contracts and own and administer property, including land and non-land assets.^[54] Within marriage, regardless of religious affiliation, each spouse has the right to own and administer property separately and independently (the default marital property regime is separation of property).^[55]

In practice, husbands and male family members often heavily influence women with regard to the administration of property, as well as income and other financial assets.^[56] Limitations also arise from the fact that many women remain unaware of their economic and legal rights. This is particularly true in rural areas. Control over financial assets seems to be closely linked to education and employment status: according to a survey carried out by the SWMENA Project, 28% of women who worked owned land or an apartment or house, compared to 19% of women who didn't work, and as did 39% of women with a university education, compared to 26% who had secondary education.^[57]

With regards to access to financial services, women are legally entitled to open a bank account, access to bank loans and can enter into financial contracts, but experience some limitations in practice.^[58] According to the SWMENA Project, 46% of married working women felt that they would be able to obtain a loan on their own, without help from a spouse or parent; but levels varied considerably according to how much the woman earned, and her level of education.^[59] According to the International Finance Corporation (IFC), only 3% of bank loans go to female entrepreneurs.^[60] According to the 2006 Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) report, among an estimated 30 institutions lending to small-scale rural projects, only nine provide men and women with equal conditions.^[61] Moreover, women's share of the loans from these nine credit institutions ranges between 10 and 20%.^[62]

3.1.4 Civil Liberties

There are no legal restrictions on freedom of movement and access to public space for Lebanese women, and the law allows married women to apply for passports without the permission of their husbands.^[63] In practice, however, the extent to which individual women can move freely outside the household or travel abroad often depends on their husbands and other family members^[64], as well as their sectarian affiliation and area of residence. In a survey conducted in 2009, 58% of men and 39% of women stated that a wife should obey her husband, even if she disagrees with him.^[65] In rural areas, families may restrict women's freedom of movement while in urban areas some women have considerable freedom of movement (including going out at night without a male chaperon) and are able to live on their own.^[66] A 2009 survey from the SWMENA project reports that the large majority of women (94%) felt completely or somewhat free in moving about in public areas.^[67]

The law provides for freedom of assembly, although organizers are required to obtain a permit prior to any demonstration and such permits are not always granted to groups opposing government positions.^[68] In addition, security forces occasionally intervene to break up demonstrations and media coverage of some protests has been forbidden.^[69] The law also provides for freedom of association, and although no prior authorization is required to form an association, the Ministry of Interior must be notified and upon verification of the association's respect of public order, morals and state security, issues a receipt. Such receipts have at times been withheld and delayed. In addition, the cabinet must license all political parties.^[70] There are no specific reports on discrimination against women's associations and freedom for collective action; Lebanon has long had a vocal and active women's movement.^[71] In addition, a survey from the SWMENA project reports that 87% of women feel entirely free in the choice of people with whom they associate and most women feel that they can freely express their opinions on critical issues to family members, friends, and neighbors.^[72] Women's rights activists have lobbied and demonstrated in support of changes to the nationality law and the penal code, for the removal of other discriminatory legal provisions, for the introduction of legislation to protect women from domestic violence, and for improvements to women's economic opportunities.^[73]

Since 1952, women and men in Lebanon have had the same right to vote and stand for election in Lebanon, and yet women remain under-represented in political life in Lebanon.^[74] As of 2013, there were only four women in the Lebanese national assembly (out of 128 – 3.1%), see Figure 3, and no women were in ministerial positions in the government formed in 2011.^[75] While attempts have been made to introduce a 30% gender quotas part of the electoral law, this has yet to be implemented in parliamentary elections.

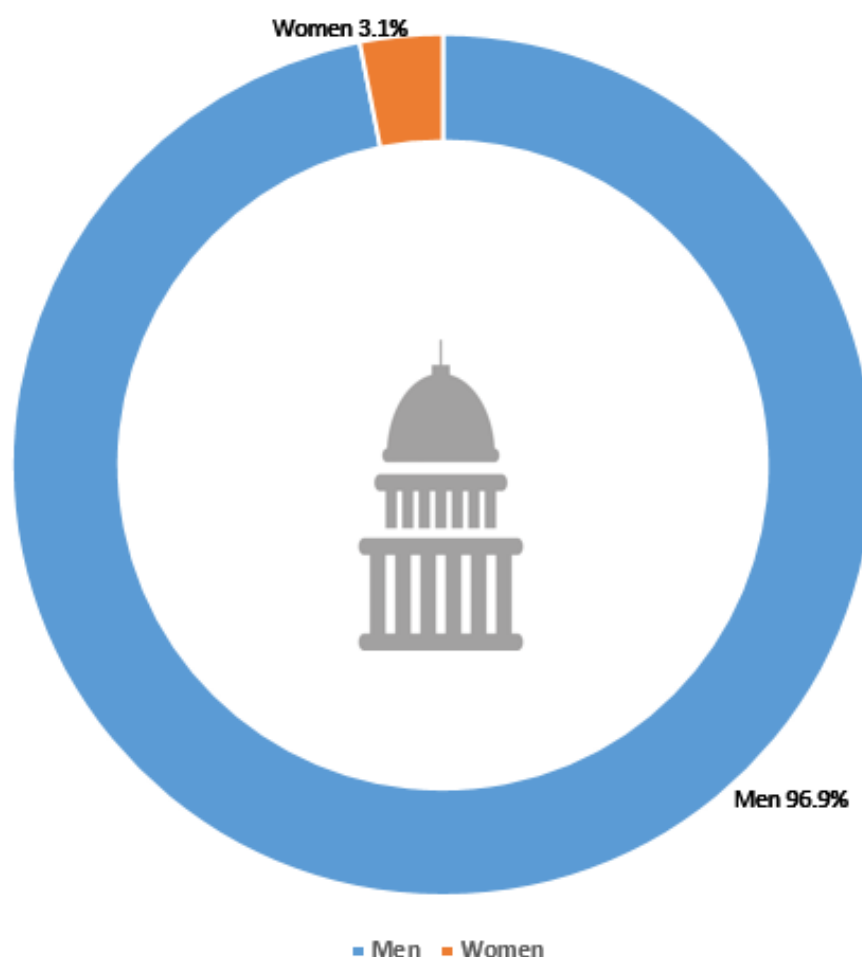


FIGURE 3: PARLIAMENT SEATS IN LEBANON

According to a 2009 survey carried out by IFES / IWPR, most women (67%) and men (65%) were in favor of the introduction of a gender quota in the national assembly. Of those against, the most common reason cited (50%) was that quotas are unfair and against the principle of equal opportunity, although 18% believed that ‘women have no place in politics’.^[76] In addition, the majority of respondents, male and female, supported the idea of women standing for political office, and felt that women were perfectly capable of making their own decisions about who to vote for in elections.^[77] That said, overall, most men and women believed men made better political and business leaders than women.^[78]

Pregnant women are entitled to seven weeks’ paid maternity leave, financed by the employer.^[79] While there are no laws mandating non-discrimination based on gender in hiring, in 2000 the Labour Code was amended to ensure equal pay for women.^[80] Despite this change, there appears to be a significant wage gap between men and women, more pronounced in the private sector.^[81]

Despite high female literacy rates and net school enrolment ratios, Lebanese women's economic participation is low. The labour force participation rate for women age is 22% compared to 72% for men.^[82]

Freedom of expression is respected in Lebanon, and there is a vibrant media scene.^[83] While there are some prominent female journalists in Lebanon, women for the most part remain under-represented in media structures, and representations of women in the media most typically portray women in gender-stereotypical ways.^[84]

Finally it is worth mentioning that Lebanese women married to foreign spouses cannot, however, pass their nationality to their children or spouse.^[85]

3.1.5 Gender Development Index (GDI)

Gender Development Index, measures disparities on the Human Development Index (HDI) by gender. Table 2 contains HDI values estimated separately for women and men; the ratio of which is the GDI value. The closer the ratio is to 1, the smaller the gap between women and men. Values for the three HDI components— longevity, education (with two indicators) and income—are also presented by gender. The GDI includes five ranks by absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI values.

Countries are divided into five groups by absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI values. Group 1 comprises countries with high equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of less than 2.5 percent), group 2 comprises countries with medium to high equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 2.5– 5 percent), group 3 comprises countries with medium equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 5–7.5 percent), group 4 comprises countries with medium to low equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation of 7.5–10 percent) and group 5 comprises countries with low equality in HDI achievements between women and men (absolute deviation from gender parity of more than 10 percent).

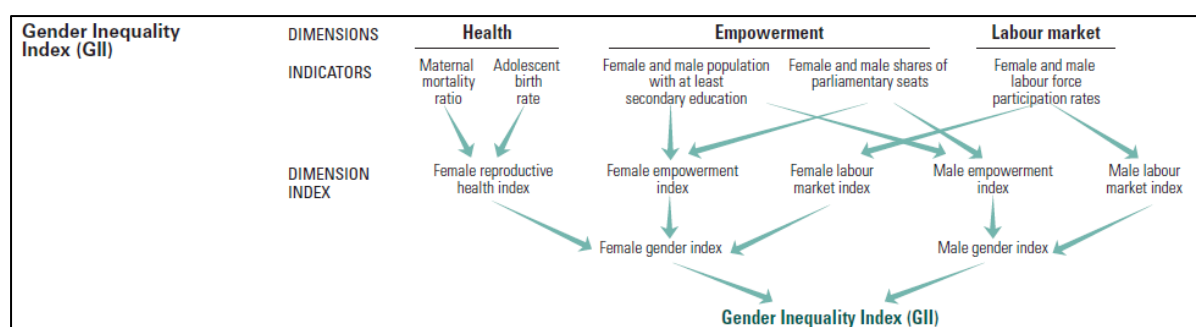
The female (HDI) value for Lebanon is 0.709 in contrast with 0.793 for males, resulting in a GDI value of 0.893, which places the country into Group 5. In comparison, GDI values for Jordan and Tunisia are 0.864 and 0.904 respectively, see Table 2.

TABLE 2: JORDAN'S, LEBANON'S AND TUNISIA'S GDI FOR 2015

Country	Life Expectancy at Birth		Expected Years of Schooling		Mean years of Schooling		GNI per capita		HDI Value		F-M Ration
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	GDI Value
Jordan	75.9	72.6	13.4	12.9	9.7	10.7	3.203	16.69	0.670	0.776	0.864
Lebanon	81.5	77.9	13.0	13.6	8.3	8.7	5.844	20.712	0.709	0.793	0.893
Tunisia	77.4	72.7	15.1	14.2	6.7	7.8	4,662	15,967	0.680	0.752	0.904

3.1.6 Gender Inequality Index (GII)

Gender Inequality Index, presents a composite measure of gender inequality using three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market, see Figure 4. Reproductive health is measured by two indicators: the maternal mortality ratio and the adolescent birth rate. Empowerment is measured by the share of parliamentary seats held by women and the shares of population with at least some secondary education by gender. And labour market is measured by participation in the labour force by gender. A low GII value indicates low inequality between women and men, and vice-versa.

FIGURE 4: GII-THREE DIMENSIONS AND FIVE INDICATORS^[90]

Lebanon has a GII value of 0.381, ranking it 83 out of 159 countries in the 2015 index. In Lebanon, 3.1 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 53.0 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 55.4 percent of their male counterparts. For every 100,000 live births, 15 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 12.4 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. Female participation in the labour market is 23.5 percent compared to 70.3 for men, see Table 3.

TABLE 3: JORDAN'S, LEBANON'S AND TUNISIA'S GII FOR 2015

Country	GII value	GII Rank	Maternal mortality ratio	Adolescent birth rate	Female seats in parliament (%)	Population with at least some secondary education (%)		Labour force participation rate (%)	
						Female	Male	Female	Male
Jordan	0.478	111	58	23.2	11.6	78.5	82.7	14.2	64.4
Lebanon	0.381	83	15	12.4	3.1	53.0	55.4	23.5	70.3
Tunisia	0.289	58	62	6.8	31.3	37.5	49.9	25.1	71.3

Maternal mortality ratio is expressed in number of deaths per 100,000 live births and adolescent birth rate is expressed in number of births per 1,000 women ages 15-19.

3.1.7 Social Institutions and Gender Index

Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) is a cross-country measure of discrimination against women in social institutions (formal and informal laws, social norms, and practices) across 160 countries. The SIGI provides a strong evidence base to more effectively address the discriminatory social institutions that hold back progress on gender equality and women's empowerment. As a composite index, the SIGI scores countries on 14 indicators. As shown in Figure 5, the indicators are grouped into five sub-indices that measure one dimension of social institutions related to gender inequality.

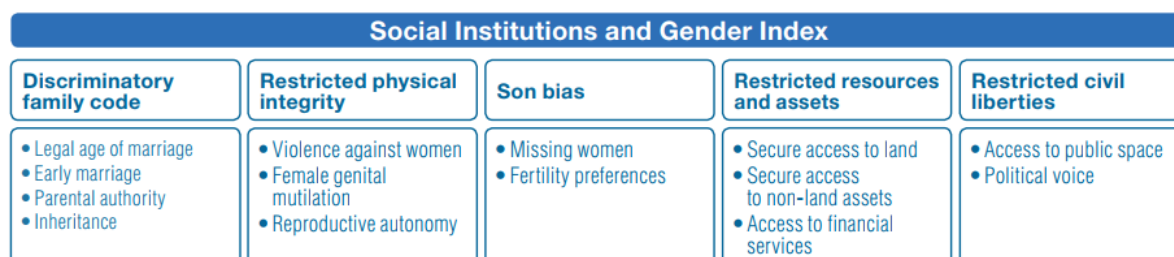


FIGURE 5: THE INDICATORS OF SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GENDER INDEX (SIGI)

The SIGI is an un-weighted average (of a nonlinear function) of the following five sub-indices: discriminatory family code, restricted physical integrity, son bias, restricted resources and assets, and restricted civil liberties. The SIGI and its sub-indicator values are between 0 and 1, with 0 indicating no inequality and 1 indicating complete inequality.

Countries having very low levels of gender discrimination in social institutions ($SIGI < 0.04$), countries having low levels of gender discrimination in social institutions ($0.04 < SIGI < 0.12$), countries having medium levels of gender discrimination in social institutions ($0.12 < SIGI < 0.22$), countries having high levels of gender discrimination in social institutions ($0.22 < SIGI < 0.35$), countries having very high levels of gender discrimination in social institutions ($SIGI > 0.35$).

The level of discrimination in Lebanon varies depending on the indicator. Still none of the indicators have shown low level of discrimination. All indicators had medium levels or higher. For instance, the level of discrimination is considered medium for Restricted Physical Integrity indicator and Son Bias while it is considered high for Restricted Resources Bias and very high for both Discriminatory Family code and Restricted Civil Liberties indicators, see Table 4.

TABLE 4: JORDAN'S, LEBANON'S AND TUNISIA'S SIGI 2014 RESULTS

Indicator	Sub-indicators	Level of discrimination in Jordan	Level of discrimination in Lebanon	Level of discrimination in Tunisia
Discriminatory family code	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal age of marriage Early marriage Parental authority Inheritance 	HIGH	Very High	HIGH
Restricted physical integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violence against women Reproductive autonomy (unmet need for family planning for women aged 15-49 years old). 	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	LOW
Son bias Prefer sons to daughters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission women Fertility preferences 	VERY HIGH	MEDIUM	VERY HIGH
Restricted resources and assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure access to land Secure access to non-land assets (own, use and control of cash and other properties other than land) Access to financial services (loans, grants) 	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
Restricted civil liberties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to public space (freedom of movement, choose their place of residence and apply for passport). Political representation 	HIGH	VERY HIGH	MEDIUM

Lebanon has a SIGI value of 0.2897, which places the country in the high levels of gender discrimination, see Table 5. Various strategies have been identified as effective means to promote women's collective action and that include encouraging women's leadership and voice within social movements, enhancing the links between women's groups with international development organizations, and combatting gender-based violence and sexual harassment faced by women's rights advocates.

TABLE 5: JORDAN'S, LEBANON'S AND TUNISIA'S SIGI VALUES AND CATEGORIES FOR 2014

Country	Jordan	Lebanon	Tunisia
SIGI Value 2014	0.3119	0.2897	0.1986
SIGI Category 2014	High	High	Medium

3.2 Direct Interviews

Results for the direct interviews are presented in two parts, national level and local level.

3.2.1 National Level – Governmental Response

Lebanon has made limited progress in promoting gender equality, empowering women, and opening the space for women to play their part in achieving sustainable development.

In Lebanon, the emergence of women's movements and organizations were on the rise after the war in Lebanon (1975-1990) and were initiated during major historical changes in the Arab World. Voting, citizenship, and working rights have witnessed developments over the past few decades, contributing to the advancement of women's rights throughout the country. Although gender generally agree that the debate has contributed to a more comprehensive understanding of – and awareness on – women's rights in theory, the broader application of such a discussion has still been limited in Lebanon. Gender discrimination in areas relating to custody rights, social security, nationality recognition, sexual harassment and violence is still widespread.

Whilst women's mobilization movements in Lebanon date back to the 1920s – a decade which saw the establishment of the Women's Union, which was a group focused on cultural and social issues related to women – legal changes and gender equality did not start to be enshrined until 1953. This was the year that Lebanese women were granted political rights, meaning they were given the right to vote and the right to stand for a seat in parliament. ^[90]

In 1997, Lebanon took a significant step forward by signing and ratifying the 1981 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) which was originally adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly. The treaty outlines women's rights in social, civil, and political spheres, emphasizing the right to non-discrimination and equality. This has facilitated developments in women's rights in Lebanon and some large achievements were made in the following decade, although the Lebanese state has made reservations to the CEDAW.

First of all, the Lebanese state has made reservations regarding article 9 (2), which affirms that state parties shall grant women equal rights with men, with respect to the nationality of their children. Second, the Lebanese state objected article 16 (1) (c) (d) (f) and (g) that requires to take appropriate measures in order to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations. The objected clauses concern equal rights and responsibilities during marriage, and as parents/guardians. The last clause to which the Lebanese state has made reservations, describes equal personal rights, including the right to choose a family name, a profession, and an occupation. Lastly, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 29, the Lebanese state – like many other countries that signed the convention – declared to not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 29's paragraph 1, which states that two or more state parties can refer disputes about the interpretation and implementation of CEDAW to arbitration, and if the dispute is not settled, it can be referred to the International Court of Justice. It should be noted that the Government of Denmark and the Committee for the Follow-Up on Women's Issues objected to the said reservations by the Lebanese state, as these raised doubts about the commitment of Lebanon to the object and essence of the

Convention. However, the Committee for the Follow-Up on Women's Issues had to conclude in 2007, in its third official shadow report, that although CEDAW was ratified with many reservations, no amendment of these reservations were made. In addition, no suggestions to lift off Lebanon's reservations of the articles were put forward by the National Commission for Lebanese Women, a national organization under the control of the government, which was created in 1996 to further implement the Beijing Platform for Action. Although a parliamentary commission for women was established, the forms of its actions and scope of work have not been determined. Moreover, the government has shown no national strategy to enhance women, or to eradicate violence against women, nor did it submit any programs to involve the civil society in the relevant decisions.^[91]

In the 1990s, international organizations' efforts "brought the Lebanese government to form a partnership with women's organizations in order to provide social welfare services and design the future of gender relations in the country". For this purpose al-hay'a al-wataniya li-shou'oun al-mar'a al-lubnaniya (National Commission for Lebanese Women, NCLW) was created, in order to outline the role of women in the Lebanese society. In addition, al-lajna al-ahlia limutaba'at qadaya almar'a National Committee for the Follow up of Women's Issues and the Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women (LECORVAW) were established.

Today, the main official instrument representing women's machinery in Lebanon is the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) which traces its origin to the preparations for the 1995 Beijing Conference. Incepted originally by a Ministerial decree in 1994 as a committee to represent Lebanon in the Conference and draft in collaboration with a parallel NGO Committee the official Lebanese Report, the NCLW operates under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister's office and draws on its allocated funds. The structure of NCLW reflects the political dynamics of the country at their highest level, which puts it at the risk of power manoeuvring and therefore, operational paralysis. However, the inclusion of capable and informed members in the General Assembly and the Executive Bureau drawn from across sectors has allowed the Commission to engage actively in many of the issues central to women's well-being and to improved gender relations. It has been noted, however, that some of these members "are not really involved in the Lebanese women's movement" and are not necessarily informed by a feminist discourse. A lack of connection (and therefore communication) with women's NGOs are considered an encumbering factor, which has undermined the outreach of NCLW to the public (Khalaf, 2005; p. 6).

The capacities of NCLW are also limited by its consultative nature having therefore no authority to directly propose legislations or reforms. As such, its agenda of work is focused mostly on activities that do not differ much from those carried out by any other CSOs. Moreover, its national strategy (the latest finalized at the time of writing this report) reflects its comprehensive mandate that seems to be significantly greater than its human and financial resources (the GA and Bureau members of NCLW serve mostly on a volunteer basis). In fact, its dependency on limited funds drawn from the budget of the Council of Ministers makes it in turn reliant on the support of international development agencies, which often pits it against competing (and struggling) NGOs working on the same issues. These restrictive elements do not, however, minimize the value of the work that NCLW has accomplished (as fragmented as it might be) or its strategic position within the system to influence change at the highest executive level. As such, NCLW is potentially a valuable partner for USAID/Lebanon towards the operationalization of its gender policy.

Parallel to the establishment of NCLW, another governmental decree proclaimed the appointment of Gender Focal Points (GFP) in all ministries and public institutions. NCLW and the GFPs represent Lebanon's official mechanisms to address gender, and reflect the (rather timid) attempts the Lebanese State has undertaken towards the institutionalization of gender equality. Similar to NCLW, however,

the abilities of GFPs are limited by the absence of overarching commitment to women's empowerment across sectors and the continuous deficiency of effective policies to prioritize gender equality. But most importantly, the GFPs seem to lack a clear and well supported function within their respective institutions, coupled with the shortage of dedicated funds along with a weak organizational and communication channels to guide them and support their work (Ibid. P. 8). But then yet again (as in the case of NCLW), the presence of GFPs provides an established structure that would allow the infiltration of governmental institutions for effective gender mainstreaming provided that the appropriate commitment, tools, and programs are indeed available.^[92]

On Tuesday February 28, 2017, the Office of the Minister of State for Women Affairs (OMSWA) was officially established and the "Technical Support to the Office of the Minister of State for Women Affairs" project signed to provide technical support to the Lebanese government in addressing priorities pertaining to women affairs.

Establishing OMSWA is the first step towards including women more in the Lebanese society, thus leading for a better nation, with more equality and prosperity.

3.2.2 Civil Society

Women's mobilization in Lebanon dates back to the 1920s, as the Women's Union was established for women in Lebanon and Syria, focusing on cultural and social issues. After Lebanon's independence in 1943, four waves of feminism can be distinguished, all of which differ in demands, actors, political discourses, and temporality, in their common struggle for women's rights.

Between 1940 and 1960, the first generation of feminists mainly consisted of a group of elite men and women, concerned with charitable activism, which partly included educating women to improve their role as mothers. Making education accessible for women led to the emergence of different types of women's organizations in "various forms: religious, national cultural, familial and those who formed as a branch of men associations."

The second feminist wave started in 1967, following the Arab defeat in the Israeli-Egyptian war. The disappointment caused by this, triggered a process of critically considering nationalist ideologies, eventually facilitating the rise of leftist feminism.

In addition, the leftist and elitist League of Lebanese Women's Rights was legally recognized in 1970, although it has been advocating since 1947 for women's rights in (rural places of) Lebanon, mainly focusing on lobbying for women's rights in parliament, promoting women's participation in politics, and enhancing the debate between different social groups.

On June 27, 1990, feminist Laure Moghaizel together with a delegation from the Human Rights Association, initiated the introduction of a clause in the Lebanese constitution, highlighting Lebanon's commitment to the International Declaration of Human Rights that until today is still useful for contemporary activists.

It was only in 1995, after the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing that triggered the emergence of the third wave of feminism. During this wave, legal and perceptual gender mainstreaming were mainly demanded for. New terms, such as "gender based violence", "full citizenship" and "positive discrimination" were introduced, and the inclusion of women's rights into human rights was strongly advocated for. This eventually led to Lebanon signing CEDAW, binding the country to the Conference's directives that were not (yet) recognized by Lebanese laws.

Creating the NCLW in the 1990s encouraged feminist civil society organizations to institutionalize their practices into NGOs. Until then, it was mainly the intellectual bourgeoisie fighting for women's rights.

The NGOs not only affected internal (organizational) structures of women's organizations, but also the content of their claims: to fight for gender equity and fight stereotypes, strengthen women's economic and political empowerment and participation in civil society, and fight gender based violence. An important characteristic of such "globalization" is the continuous dependency on donor funding, and the concurrent shaping of agendas and priorities.

In this vein, feminism had gotten a global and multicultural character. Old, autocratic structures and alliances were falling apart, with the rising of new women's organizations forming a bridge between the third and fourth wave of feminism in Lebanon, such as the Collective for Research and Training on Development-Action (CRTD-A). CRTD-A aims to contribute to social justice and gender equality, primarily in the Maghreb region, focusing on the social and economic development of local communities, gender and citizenship and developing women's capacities and leadership. Another main actor is KAFA (Enough) Violence & Exploitation, seeking to mitigate "causes and effects of violence and exploitation of women and children."

Although these organizations – supported by international organizations, international non-governmental organizations and women's funds – are the main actors in the field of gender issues, both organizations do not consider themselves as women's associations, nor did they join the Lebanese Council of Women. In 2001, headed by the Women's Democratic Gathering, the Lebanese Women's Network was established out of thirteen feminist organizations, promoting complete gender equality.

The fourth wave of feminism can be identified in the early 2000s, this generation advocated for more sexual diversity and women's economic empowerment. In addition, they raised awareness for the legal vulnerability of victims or underrepresented groups, as well as environmental issues, male-centred knowledge and arts. Still, the fourth generation of feminists distinguishes itself by the use of internet – and more notably, social media – as a platform, connecting them internationally to other feminists.

In 2010, Sawt an-Niswa, was created in an attempt to create a feminist platform for knowledge production and theorization. Lastly, in 2011, the Anti-Racism Movement (ARM) was established, a grassroots movement by young activists, focusing on "documenting, investigating, exposing and fighting racism" in Lebanon and notably focusing on the dynamics between gender and racism.

As may become clear, the four waves of Lebanon's feminism reflect that women's rights movements are shaped by Lebanon's history, and vary not only in demands, but also in organizational structures, political and ideological affiliation, main actors and agendas. ^[93]

3.2 Community level – Jdeidet El Chouf

3.2.1 SWOT Analysis

A SWOT Analysis exercise was carried out during a workshop and

Figure 6 below Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats SWOT analysis for Jdeidet El Chouf community unveiled and helped to spot and decide how to provide help regarding the various aspects of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

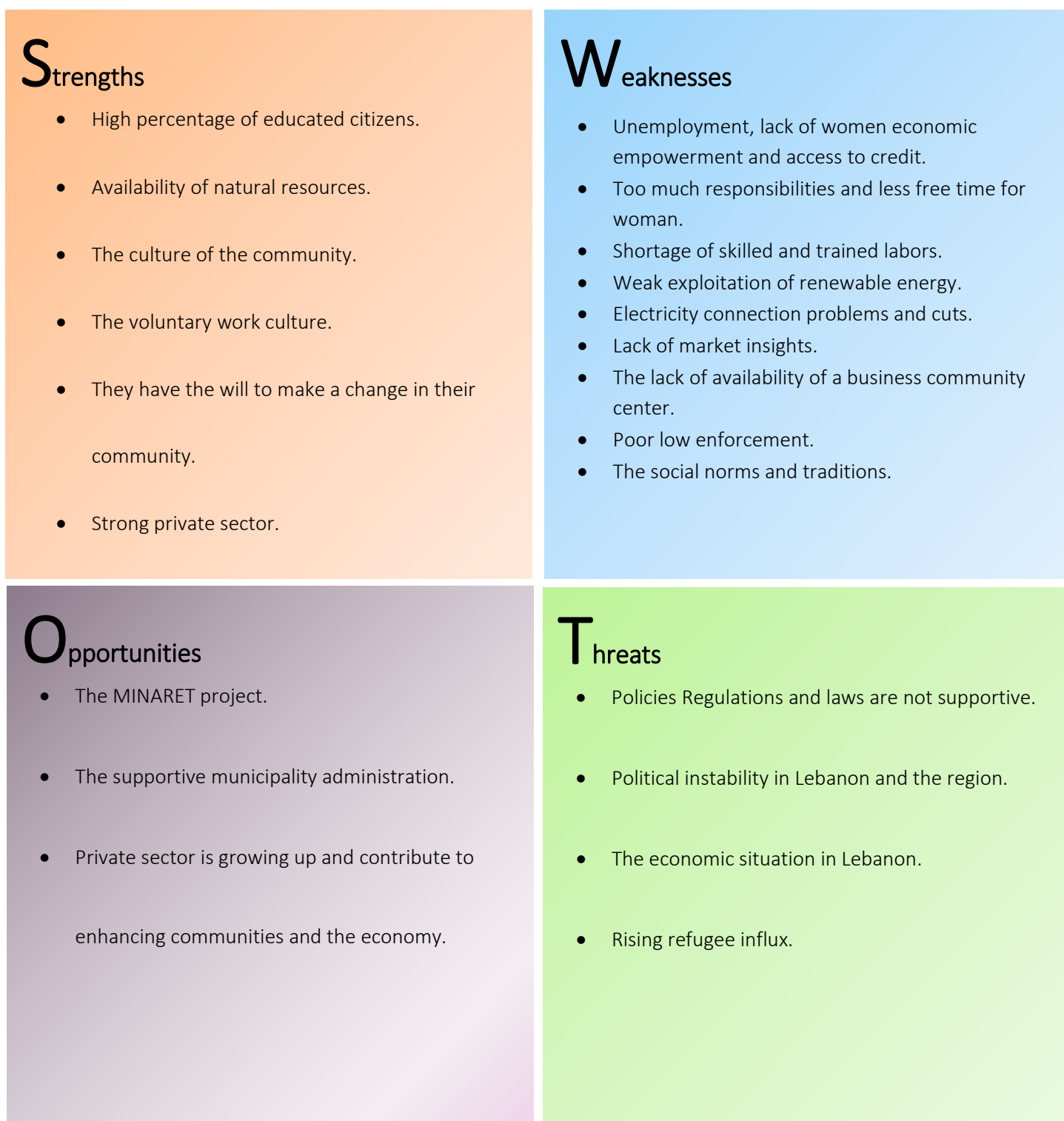


FIGURE 6: SWOT ANALYSIS FOR JDEIDET EL CHOUF COMMUNITY

3.2.2 Key Proposed Actions to Tackle Gender Gaps and Gender Inequality

Despite their seemingly favourable positions, Lebanese women continue to lag behind in many aspects of their social, economic, and political rights. Superficially, they project an image of liberation, accomplishment, and independence. At a deeper level, their lives are marked by much vulnerability

rooted in persistent regressive laws and regulations, deeply patriarchal cultural values, and inadequate public policies and political systems. The interviews and focus groups discussions was designed to bring to light any gaps between official policy and actual barriers to women in Lebanon. Analysis of focus groups discussions identified three main areas that emerged as barriers to gender equality at the national level: political participation and decision making processes, access to resources and economic participation. Analysis and discussion of each point is presented in Annex and summarized below.

- 1- Political participation and decision making processes: More than any other public field, politics in Lebanon has traditionally been a male preserve and has largely excluded women regardless of their qualifications or contributions and the participation of women in the Parliament is minimal. The women parliamentarians arguably owed their election success to their family relations. The absence of women from decision making positions in Lebanon has often been attributed to the deeply patriarchal character of the Lebanese society governed by customary rather than codified laws. This is enforced by “the traditional rules governing the functioning of the [Lebanese] political system” (NCLW, 2012), which by definition consider politics as a male preserve and dismiss women's views in political matters as irrelevant. In addition, the prevailing sectarian tribal system of compromise and power-sharing draws on the representational base of the various sects and religious communities, which are typically dominated by male members of leading families, and in the process undermine the possibility of women's participation. Sectarian competition has in effect restricted the abilities of women's groups to unite and push for female political representation, with women often putting the political interests of their sects and families ahead of their own interests as women, and their commitment to gender equality.
- 2- Access to resources and economic participation: Women in Lebanon often lack access to the financial resources and this considered as an obstacle to participate in public, political, economic or social life. In addition, they considered social and household responsibilities difficult to reconcile with their careers. Despite high literacy rates among women, their economic participation remains low. To date, governmental policies in Lebanon continue to lack any specific vision for socioeconomic development or equitable growth and the new imposed taxation laws, and preferential provision of investment, accentuated the gap between the rich and the poor, and created a high concentration of wealth in an increasingly smaller group of the population. Unemployment rates are highest among the poor, constituting as many as one third among women in the South and Mount Lebanon (Laithy et al., 2008; p. 13). In addition, most public services suffer from inefficiency with the public administration system lacking the capacity to introduce core reforms that would lead to good governance. Within these unproductive dynamics, gender issues have naturally received little attention. The majority of civil society programs that do target women directly rely on micro finance services, based on a belief that linking informal entrepreneurs to formal banks necessarily leads to the formalization of their businesses. A complicated regulatory system, unnecessary administrative compliance requirements, and draconian discretionary bureaucratic powers adversely affect the competitiveness of SMEs¹⁷ and inhibit women from expanding their micro enterprises.

To make real progress on empowering women and girls, the following areas need to be worked on:

1. Focus on groups, not only individuals: Women need political skills to be influential, and these are often built through associational or professional life. Long-term, well-targeted capacity-building or mentoring programmes can help, particularly when they create networks between women and explicitly seek to tackle barriers to their leadership.
2. Work with families and communities, not only women: Gender norms that assign particular and unchanging roles to men and women are the principal barrier to women's empowerment and to gender equality. Changes in gender norms and practices do not come from changes in individual attitudes but from changes in shared expectations.
3. Invest in women's economic power: Women are concentrated in the informal economy, and reforms that help them to move to formal employment are a priority: place of work, regular wages and benefits all matter for women's decision-making power. Informal work and livelihood/economic programmes can raise the level of household income and assets, but they will increase women's decision-making power only if they are explicitly designed to do so.
4. Invest in women's higher education and capacity development: Higher education and professional expertise increases the credibility and confidence of women leaders and is mandatory for many high-level jobs. Expanding the pool of such women should be a priority but rarely features in women's empowerment and leadership programmes, or in education programmes.

3.2.3 Gender Sensitive Needs

For the purpose of identifying the gender sensitive needs of Jdiedet El Chouf's local community regarding energy, water and food sectors and have a greater impact on women's empowerment; a "gender lens" approach was adopted by conducting various gender analysis tools, extensive interviews with women and girls, Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with representatives from key projects stakeholders, local community (men, women, youth, and marginalized groups) and civil society, see Figure 7.



FIGURE 7: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS

In all interviews and focus group discussions, participants either expressed confusion over the meaning of Gender and Development GAD, or charged that it has been misinterpreted by institutions as a means of side-stepping the more radical emancipatory implications of responding to women-specific dis-privilege. This confusion reflects awareness of the fact that ideologies surrounding gender roles and identities create obstacles to women's equal economic, social, and political participation.

Men and masculinity needs were studied in order to have a clear idea about power relations between the women and men and during the meetings and sessions it was argued that removing the prevalent inequalities and injustice within the family, can actually strengthen rather than weaken it.

There are obvious differences in women and men focus group discussions: the level of personal sharing is much greater in an all-women workshop. Women are more open to talk about their personal experiences while men are much more guarded. It was found that men are quite happy to deal with abstract and impersonal theory, but they have little experience of talking about themselves and their emotions. They seem to suffer from the 'brave boy', 'strong man' syndrome. Men can quite easily talk about the subordination of poor women, but are often unwilling to look at their own families. It was realized that for women, talking about themselves is easy and also a release, because they feel oppressed and seldom find a supportive atmosphere to talk about their experience.

In contrast, women's workshops are very intense and emotional. Men resist making a shift from the mind to the emotions, from the public to the personal. Another difference is the subtle resistance by men to look at women's subordination as a system. Women, on the other hand find it liberating to look at their subordination in this way. Naming the system, and assessing it dispassionately, is the first step towards dismantling it. It is in the interest of women to name and change the patriarchal system, but it is not so for men and hence there is resistance and defensiveness among men regarding patriarchy, especially to discussing it in their own personal context.

In all meetings and focus group discussions, see Figure 8, it was found that the participants were well aware of, and quite articulate on: women's double burden of work; the active participation of working class women in production, and their contribution to household incomes; the lack of participation by men in child-rearing and household activities; the lack of participation of women in major decisions within the community.

Men expressed that the way they are is not due to mere ill-will, or a masculine conspiracy to overshadow women in society. There are social structures and institutions which reproduce unequal, hierarchical, authoritarian relationships between the sexes. It is a culture based on intolerance. However, in these same relationships, it is also possible to find new 'signs of the times' which show ways of overcoming the negative aspects of these relationships. Inequality between women and men in the Jdeidet El Chouf society is mainly caused by the weak participation in public, political, economic or social life; as they established extreme differences in the roles of women and men.

The roles and responsibilities with regards to water, sanitation and hygiene practices are gender-divided. In Jdeidet El Chouf men are responsible for dealing with repair and maintenance of WASH facilities. Whereas within the household the women are responsible for managing the water consumption and assigning amounts of water for different uses.

The participants revealed that Jdeidet El Chouf suffer from poor service quality in particular irregular water supply that persists despite the availability of relatively abundant water resources and poor water quality were up to 70% of natural water sources in Lebanon are bacterially contaminated^[94] and those who can afford it, resort to expensive bottled and tanker water.

Electricity from the grid interrupts twice daily with total interruption of around 12 hours/day and due to the failure of EDL in providing a continuous electricity service, back-up informal private generation has emerged. Beside the official EDL bill (13 US cents /KWH), households and shops pay another bill to private generators at a largely higher cost of 26 US cents per KWH in addition the subscribers pays an average of 25 USD as subscription fees per month whether they use the generator or not. The rising

cost of electricity bills on private generators is putting a strain on household budgets and increase tension between family members.

The current economic situation in Lebanon, however, is pushing more women into the workforce and into entrepreneurial roles. As a result of the struggling economy, women are starting businesses to support their families. This has added an income generation responsibility on women in addition to their family responsibilities, as stated by Ms. Muna Abdul Samad the Director for Social Affairs.

It is worth mentioning that most of the Syrian refugees who attended one of the focus group discussions highlighted that they often face exploitation and abuse, including underpayment or delayed payment of salaries; physical, verbal abuse; long working hours; not covered by the labour law and the pay social security taxes, but are ineligible for any benefits.

According to FPEC experience, female youth were more likely to participate in efforts to alleviate pollution and promote ways for others to be involved and they are also more likely than male youth to suggest action that could be taken by individuals and to implement methods they themselves proposed. Young men, despite demonstrating more overall understanding of environmental issues, expressed less willingness to act and change individual behaviour.



FIGURE 8: FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION WITH MEN AND WOMEN TO DISCUSS THEIR CAPACITIES AND VULNERABILITIES

3.2.4 Water and Food Resource Management and Gender

Lack of adequate water resources management and public awareness, unsustainable use, expansion of irrigated agricultural land and escalating uncontrolled tapping into groundwater, all contribute to relatively water shortages in Lebanon.

The efficient management of water resources is crucial if the water imbalance in Lebanon is to be addressed and all challenges can be overcome by suitable planning and policy implementation and also the enforcement of regulations is crucial to the success of any water policy.

In Lebanon, as elsewhere, household responsibility for water consumption is still considered to be the responsibility of the female head of house. Women cook, clean, bathe children, do the washing, and determine how much water to use on each task. Water shortages and resultant poor water quality lead to many problems as stated by the community: water borne illness, especially diarrhea in children and skin diseases, decrease crops production. The care of those who have fallen sick as a result of poor water quality is also the woman's responsibility. Despite their overall household management of water, women do not absolutely control water resources but both women and men responded in roughly equal proportions that they both can participate in information about making decision in household water management. In light of this, educational campaigns targeting the users (men, women, boys and girls) and disseminating scientific information about scarcity of water and the necessity for conservation are deficient and should be established.

In other hand; men control the land in agriculture and decision-making power over the sale, rent and exchange of land and the means of production, including large livestock but workers are mostly women. Decisions on development planning, large-scale projects and the introduction of technologies and infrastructure are made by male planners without input from rural women or taking into consideration their specific needs.

Recently, however, women have increasingly been making decisions about buying extra water, ordering the waste disposal truck to pick up household waste, and lodging complaints with the water utility. Women, particularly who are heads of their household, have been reported to have difficulties with access to water and dealing with water utilities.

Main Challenges

Based on the assessment, main challenges for water and food resource management can be summarised in the following:

1. Challenges for Water Resource Management
 - Lack of adequate water resources management
 - Low quality of water.
 - Unsustainable use.
 - Lack of public awareness.
 - Drilling random wells.
 - Lack of rain water drainage and harvesting systems.
2. Challenges for Food Resource Management
 - Decrease in crops productivity.
 - Women's work in agriculture is mainly unpaid family labor.
 - Expansion of irrigated agricultural land.
 - Lack of government support and incentive.
 - Availability and reliability of water supplies.

3.2.5 Energy Management and Gender

Lebanon depends almost on imported fossil fuels to fulfil its energy needs in addition to some renewable sources that do not cover more than 2% of the entire energy consumption. Despite all the positive geographical and climatic positive conditions such as the number of sunshine hours and the solar flow, Lebanon does not benefit from the renewable energy sources even if has a great shortage in its production and that is mainly due to the absence of clear policies from the government to

promote the use of these energy sources, the overall mentality and culture of the people, and the high cost of establishing these sources in comparison to the low price of the electricity.^[95]

The use of solar thermal heaters is an economic alternative for water heating in Lebanon. The acceptance of this type of energy is mainly due to direct saving and simplicity of use.^[96]

The participants revealed that at Jdeidet El Chouf, women and men have equal access to energy resources and participation in making decision in household energy management but women has less power to control as most energy practitioners and engineers are men so they have more access to energy sources on a national or community level and access to job opportunities is very limited as energy companies are dominant by men.

Women are most closely linked to management of gas and wood since they use it for cooking and heating. By virtue of being at home more than men, women are more likely to use and manage electricity and kerosene for home heating and lighting.

Some observations on gender and energy were made based on the Longwe - Women's Empowerment Framework. Women and men have almost the same perceptions about the benefits of energy and saving methods and technologies. This sufficient level of awareness accumulated from the complicated energy situation in Lebanon and the challenging access to a reliable and continuous supply of electricity.

Due to the large difference between private generator fees and EDL tariffs represents an additional constraint to personal consumption and under the current circumstances the women in particular is obliged to do their chores that consume energy the highest such as ironing, during a particular time of the day which is the time of energy supply by the EDL. This task adds a burden to the already heavy workload women have to perform every day.

Main Challenges

Based on the assessment, main challenges for energy resource management can be summarised in the following:

1. Electricity cuts.
2. High cost of electricity.
3. Lack of institutional or regulatory frame to manage renewable energy sector.
4. Lack of an existing financing system that supports the renewable energy technologies.
5. Unstable governments and political situation planning.

Coping Mechanisms Adopted by Local Community Members in Monastir

With regard to respond to the challenges and pressing needs in the sectors of energy, water and food, these were the measures taken by community side:

1. Digging of wells and water harvesting (collection of rainwater during winter).
2. Using artesian wells and rainwater harvesting wells as a major source for irrigation purposes.
3. Using drip irrigation to conserve water.
4. Purchase of water when having water cuts.
5. Installation of solar water heaters to use them in water heating to reduce electricity bills.
6. Water and Energy saving practices on household level.
7. Undertake maintenance for the water pipes to minimize water leakages.
8. Use of water saving devices to reduce water over consumption.

3.2.6 Community-Based Projects and Initiatives

The interviewed stakeholders and beneficiaries have expressed and suggested the following community based projects and initiatives to help addressing the encountered challenges and contextually meet the needs of the people in the areas of food, water and energy. Those projects ideas and community based initiatives are outlined in Table 6 below.

TABLE 6: SUGGESTED COMMUNITY BASED PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

Energy	Water	Food
Engage women's NGOs to brainstorm about how best to disseminate information on energy saving and roles that women and women's groups may play in further promoting renewable technologies, such as solar energy.	Engage women's NGOs to brainstorm about how best to disseminate information to women about the current status of water resources and how individual actions counts.	Conduct training workshops for women and girls on the value and techniques of home-made products and also usage of fruits / vegetables waste to make paste and dried fruits.
Awareness campaigns at community level on the benefits when using energy-efficient light bulbs and units and the concepts of energy efficiency and usage of renewable energy resources.	Awareness campaigns at schools about the importance of saving water for future generations.	Organize group sessions at schools and also at community level targeting women, men, boys and girls on the ingredients of balanced and healthy food as well as health risks / diseases associated with poor nutrition and eating habits.
Organize workshops and sessions targeting boys and girls at schools and training centres to raise awareness of energy conservation and foster opportunities for boys and girls to learn together.	Training of female and male community members on the basics of plumbing to enable them fixing the water leakages from the water pipelines.	Home based gardening and use of drip – irrigation technique.
Radio awareness spots on energy efficiency and energy saving and promotion of solar energy usage as a form or renewable energy. (Activation the role of media in this theme).	Identify potential water saving devices that may be provided at low cost and that women may easily install and maintain in their homes. Provide this information through media outlets and television broadcasting that would reach women.	Provide grants / loans to women affiliated at NGOs / CBOs / Cooperatives to help these women in its small businesses in farming, bee keeping and grapes farms frameworks.
Establish an exchange forum and local network among NGOs and CBOs to regularly share information, experiences, lessons learned among them in all sectors, with particular focus on energy sector as the level of knowledge remains still very limited among the civil society on it.	Distribute promotional tools and posters on water conservation at public facilities such as parks, municipal buildings, and community and health centres.	Organize exhibitions and showrooms to help marketing the food products and agricultural crops being produced by women and men in their farms and or / houses. (Marketing and outreach to large markets and wholesalers).
Specific vocational training programs for marginalized groups.	Target conservation messages to women as managers of household utility usage.	Organize training sessions on how to make waffles / crepes at homes to sell them to universities and other institutions.
Solar farm to distribute the generated electricity to consumers as a substitute to the generator.	Carry out a campaign among farmers to promote usage of more efficient irrigation methods to reduce water consumption such as drip irrigation.	Develop tourism activities that combine nature conservation with food and energy and link it to the livelihoods of the local communities.

4. Conclusion

The lack of official and updated data makes an analysis of the Lebanese gender situation difficult. No national census has been conducted since 1932 due to political sensitivity over the size of religious communities, which is the basis of the political system.^[97]

In most CSOs (and the Lebanese society at large), there is a lack of awareness of the connection between gender inequality on the one hand and issues such as poverty, human rights, and sustainable development on the other. As a result, women's empowerment and gender relations are often neglected and treated as secondary (rather than as an essential element) to such issues deemed priorities by many organizations.

In Lebanon, as in most Arab countries, gender stereotypes persist. Men are seen as the main providers and breadwinners for their families, while women are inherently better suited for caregiving and social roles. This leads to the belief that men are in greater need of a job and are entitled to higher salaries than are women. Similarly, in politics, men are often perceived as natural leaders and women are perceived (and perceive themselves as) "unsuitable" for politics and hence are not interested in running for office.

In Lebanon, women continue to take on the major responsibilities for childcare, even though they also work outside the home.

High levels of rural/urban mobility or longer-term migration outside of Lebanon means that many men and women work for much of the year away from their homes. Labor migration has distinct gender-specific patterns and impacts on men, women, and families. For example, female partners of male migrants often stay behind to care for the family, acting as head of the household in the husband's absence.

Despite the fact that women are major consumers of energy, especially at the household level, they are generally underrepresented in the energy sector in Lebanon, both in terms of employment in the sector as well as in leadership roles, such as ministerial positions. Male domination within the energy and water sector means that women's priorities for development may not be taken into consideration.

This gender analysis study had unveiled that gender mainstreaming needs serious and tangible efforts and actions to strengthen it at municipality and community levels. Jdeidet El Chouf Municipality was selected by the project to conduct this study in order to understand the gender dynamics, factors that affect the project stakeholders, and beneficiaries and the project integration in Lebanon, both at municipality and community levels.

At many levels, the inconsistent conditions of women in Lebanon are a reflection of their own country's contradictory political and social features. The weakness of the country is especially felt in the areas of civil affairs and personal status (especially in their relevance to women's civic rights, family matters and gender relations). Women by definition have been a primary victim to such volatile and problematic national dynamics.

In reaching men, the MINARET project may face a different sort of challenge. Although men's awareness of environmental issues and conservation methods is higher than women's, they do not name individual actions that they themselves could take as being important to conservation of resources. Men and young men in particular, may not appreciate the importance of their own actions in overcoming a collective problem when compared with women. Men, who feel responsible for their

families' financial wellbeing, may also view the capital required for investing in conservation technologies as an obstacle, preferring to use this money to pay for daily expenses or to save it for emergencies. This may be particularly true for men who face economic hardships or those who do not own their homes. The challenge, then, would be to motivate men to use and implement their knowledge of conservation methods in their homes and daily lives.

Current MINARET project efforts to promote green jobs often overlook the potential, in the context of creating a green economy, of providing decent work and sustainable livelihoods for women.

Energy and water users faced with energy cuts, water shortages, intermittent water supply and poor water quality are forced to engage in a number of coping strategies that may add cost, time, labor, reduce energy and water efficiency, affect water quality, as well as, decrease food security and safety and are exposed to health risks which in turn have negative consequences on productivity and livelihood options.

Working with local NGOs, create opportunities for women and men to act collectively in their communities disseminating information about promoting conservation technologies. Engage women and create a platform for them to work with the community on conservation issues.

Explore learning opportunities with the Lana association, Jdeideh women association and the municipality whereby women and mothers may learn about environmental issues alongside youth and children. This may be a place where women and their younger children can come to learn about natural resources and conservation methods together. By improving females' understanding of and rationale for conservation, the MINARET project has an opportunity to tap a group with potential of positive behaviour change around resource use.

Focal point for gender will help to institutionalize gender within MINARET project and take advantage of opportunities for gender integration that will improve project performance. Gender focal points may be resource people as well as advocates for how to integrate gender within the activities. Local and civil society organizations is the best positioned to understand and affect behavior surrounding resource use in their communities. A green small initiatives program may be a good vehicle to reach local women's, youth and marginalized groups and encourage mobilization efforts from within the community.

The typical enterprises women in Jdeidet El Chouf invest in are food-processing, soap production and traditional crafts with little diversification across loan beneficiaries in a given area as stated by Mrs. Rania Fatayri the executive director of Jdeideh women association. As a result, competition is stiff, particularly since most of the entrepreneurs lack access to external markets. Increasing access for credits to women to purchase renewable energy technologies for domestic use and micro-enterprises is being advocated by the project partners and the municipality. Overall, in most cases access to credit for energy has not particularly improved women's poverty status in any significant way. The micro-credit and green jobs perspective seems to be improving access to credit by small-scale and women entrepreneurs as a strategy for promoting women. While the idea of extending credit to women is commendable, this should be done in an integrated approach.

Role models are considered to play a vital role in encouraging young people to take specific career paths. Therefore, providing community with positive images of women professionals in the energy and water sectors could be a simple but effective way of encouraging young girls to study appropriate subjects for a career in energy and water. In additions, networking and advocacy by women's groups represent important ways of promoting the acceptance of women as energy and water experts.

A holistic approach needs to be adopted in supporting income-generating projects for women, and the provision of credit for poor women, and take into consideration not to increase the workload of already overburdened women, reducing their personal well-being and their ability to care for their children.

5. Recommendations and Lessons Learned

5.1 Lessons Learned

Based on the observations and results collected throughout the assessments, several lessons learned were compiled, which if taken into consideration could ensure proper implementation of all assessments and activities. Below is a list of these lessons learned:

1. Lack of sharing information or experiences exchange among the various institutions in Jdeidet El Chouf; is leading to loss of resources being invested into projects of same scopes with the different institutions throughout Lebanon.
2. Documentation of previous experiences and projects being implemented by the local NGOs and CBOs in Jdeidet El Chouf, challenges faced and lessons learned will help them make better choices when designing and choosing new community based initiatives.
3. Renewable energy, water supply, sanitation, food security for community development are closely interlinked (water-energy-food nexus). This means that any intervention approaches must take into account the interrelations, synergies in these sectors.
4. Women can play a particularly central role in advancing sustainable development and building the green economy, but only if they are educated about their options, encouraged to act and empowered to succeed.
5. Empowering women to become producers of sustainable products also empowers them to become sustainable consumers.
6. Men do play critical roles as providers, supporters and partners and more attention needs to focus on the positive role of men.
7. 'Gender' as an area of research and action should be understood as belonging to men and studies of masculinity, as well as to women and feminist studies.
8. The application of gender mainstreaming through nexus approach on strategy, programme and activities level, enables sustainable solutions and contributes to better results in terms of the SDGs.
9. Gender analysis is challenging, and often viewed as donor-led, rather than a pivotal process in understanding the social context in which projects aim to achieve expected results and sustainable impacts.
10. Understanding the community context in terms of power dynamics, opportunities and challenges of men and women to facilitate the ability to achieve and measure change is rarely explored.
11. Conducting stakeholder analysis facilitates integrating gender analysis concepts because it reflects a consideration of the heterogeneity of the different social groups and the associated benefits and burdens.
12. Having women on project teams does not necessarily mean that gender issues will be applied consistently and sufficiently, but does facilitate the implementation of the approach.
13. Whether or not they are formally educated, it is important that women members are active in their participation in energy and water national and local committees.

5.2 Recommendations

Create opportunities for women to enhance their technical competencies around water and energy management is crucial to the success of the project.

There are several ways the MINARET project could boost women's knowledge of water and energy saving methods. First, learning opportunities for women through television programming or other

media outlets may help reach large numbers of women and help widely disseminate information on conservation methods that may be done at the household and individual levels. Second, link up with vocational training centres and schools could be done in order to provide training programs for girls and women in engineering or sciences related to water and energy conservation. Third, exposure visits of women leaders to different model communities, may help women understand their own potential for creating change in their communities. Develop income-generating opportunities for women and young men to promote energy and water saving.

Our nexus approach will give greater emphasis to decentralized and coordinated decision making as the source of solutions, as well as the source of understanding the challenges faced by Jdeidet El Chouf community members. MINARET project will put efforts to create solutions for agricultural water use which supports food production, implement renewable energy and energy efficiency pilot actions and small initiatives that support the energy, water and socio-economic sectors.

It is recommended that MINARET project include more direct participation of women in the electrification programmes by ensuring both women and men are involved in the design and implementation of projects and that they have access to modern energy technologies and credit facilities.

5.2.1 General Recommendations

From the assessment of gender-specific relationships to natural resources and of gender-differentiated impacts on energy, water and food the following recommendations are suggested in no particular order that can be addressed in the project implementation process to facilitate the development of effective pilot actions:

1. Access to credit for energy has to improve women's poverty status in any significant way. So improving access to credit through small initiatives should be done in an integrated and holistic approach.
2. Provide training to men and women entrepreneurs to build their technical skills on issues that would improve their abilities to access loans and manage them.
3. Work with organizations such as Lana association, Jdeideh women association and the municipality to promote and support income generation opportunities for small, women-owned business promoting water and energy saving technologies and to provide support in marketing the enterprises women products.
4. Create opportunities for women to enhance their technical competencies around energy, water and food management by conducting vocational trainings in partnership with national and local vocational centers (Lycee Technique) including supporting their education in science and social subjects to enable them become energy and water sectors professionals.
5. Awareness session and success stories for men and women to engage more women in energy and water access programmes.
6. Make men aware of the importance of engaging women will support women in the technical fields such as energy, water and food.
7. Identify leaders from the community who may influence men's willingness to conserve energy and water and engage them in reaching out to men.
8. Target men in motivational campaigns that highlight the importance of individual action.
9. Work with media outlets to promote television and other campaigns disseminating information to a female audience on energy and water saving methods.

10. Involving the women in designing projects and educational materials to raise awareness of the benefits of transitioning to this new, more sustainable technology option.
11. Increasing social and economic inclusion by expanding opportunities to all and improving the effectiveness of support for the vulnerable.
12. Support the development of a network of women professionals to exchange experiences about overcoming the barriers they face in their working life in the energy and water sectors.
13. Improving the energy efficiency in water facilities in order to decrease the specific power consumption for water supply, and introducing renewable energy technologies to protect the environment and reduce energy price instabilities in the water sector.
14. Establish mechanisms specifically targeted at women to encourage, promote and facilitate their engagement and participation in WASH activities.
15. Facilitate dialogue and debate about issues of gender in energy, water and food sectors.
16. Assist national institutions to develop gender mainstreaming programs.

5.2.2 Checklist of Core Gender Indicators in Sectors - Issues and questions to help integrate gender equality programming into MINARET objectives, outputs and indicators:

The gender assessment points to continuing pressures on water services. In developing the sectoral objectives, outputs and project lists, the partners could consider the roles women traditionally play in water management. Also, the gender assessment points to high energy costs and increased demand for energy. A checklist was prepared, of core gender indicators in the various sectors and questions to help integrate gender equality through the project in the various sectors, see Table 8 **Error! Reference source not found..**

5.2.3 Capacity Building Needs

Technical training programmes can be designed in the following topics: gender equity and equality, climate change, energy and water resources management so that the community will be more sensitive to women's and men's needs, offered at times and locations compatible with women's family roles, and adapted to women's levels of skills and confidence. Locations need to also take into account women's access and specific constraints in reaching to these locations. Trainers can be coached on gender concerns, or selected for their support of women's enterprises and social advancement. Trainers also need to be sensitive to the fact that women often feel more comfortable in women only environments when acquiring new technical skills. It is important also to develop schemes for encouraging and preparing girls early for careers in science and technology.

At the project level, capacity building can mean learning new skills and gaining confidence in defining community problems and designing appropriate solutions. Through implementation activities, it can also involve acquisition of technical skills, such as bookkeeping, marketing, managing a plant, or learning about new energy technologies and how to run them. In terms of policy changes, capacity building may mean promoting and facilitating the involvement of women's organizations in decision-making processes, and expanding the development opportunities for their members, see

Table 7.

TABLE 7: CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS FOR MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN ENERGY AND WATER SECTORS

Target Group	Capacity building needs	Means
National policy makers and municipality	<p>Sensitization towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Openness to try out new methods and tools. • Willingness to make space and strengthen women staff in organization's set up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender sensitive communication and advocacy through media and print messages. • Well-structured sessions and focused interaction with the national policy makers, municipality mayor and staff.
Implementers of energy and water programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization towards gender issues in energy and water sectors. • Practical tools and techniques to incorporate women's role in planning and implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops and field visits in local language. • Exchange visits and interaction with regional and national organizations working on gender issues.
Community	<p>For men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization and assurance that women can meaningfully participate in programmes while respecting their traditionally accepted space and roles. • Willingness to participate in social empowerment process of women <p>For women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and vocational training around climate change, energy, water and food management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops. • Exposure visits. • Focus group discussions. • Role models from men and women. • Social media outlets.
NGOs and CBOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools and techniques to incorporate women's role in planning orientation towards new methodologies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local level workshops. • Interaction with researchers and policy makers.

TABLE 8: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ISSUES IN THE WATER AND ENERGY SECTORS REGARDING GENDER

Sector			
Water		Energy	
Possible Performance Indicators	Issues and questions	Possible Performance Indicators	Issues and questions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of men and women engaged in initiating, implementing and using WASH services. • Performance indicators are disaggregated by sex and age • Number of women, men, girls and boys who have access/make use of services. • Number of women and men involved in decision-making regarding the location, quality, and types of WASH services. • Number of women and men trained in water management and conservation. • Number of women and men employed in WASH. • Number and type of complaints filed/answered by gender/age. • Number of male and female community leaders who 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the roles of women in water conservation and management addressed and supported in the interventions of the sector? • Are current and future assessments designed to disaggregate findings by gender, taking into account different activities and responsibilities and impact of shortages? • Is the link between water and sanitation, women's role in health and water management, and health outcomes specifically considered in relevant projects? • Do projects promoting community participation in water management specifically address how women and men will be integrated as beneficiaries and leaders? • Are efforts to increase job opportunities in the water sector linked to jobs for women and men – with specific strategies and targets to employ both within local communities? • Have gender analysis, support, and functions been integrated into projects providing support to the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance indicators are disaggregated by sex and age. • Energy resources are accessible and convenient to women and girls, taking cultural issues into account. • Providers collect data on women and girls' access to and use of energy resources. • Number of women involved in energy resource allocation and development decision-making. • Number of women trained in energy sector vocational training. • Number of women employed in the energy sector. • Number and type of complaints filed/answered by gender/age. • Number of male and female community leaders sensitized on the vital benefits of switching to clean energy. • Number of households using renewable, sustainable, and efficient household energy sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do plans for developing and promoting sustainable energy sources take into account structured support for poor families, ensuring equitable access to new renewable energy sources? • Will assessments informing allocations for energy use include an analysis of male and female needs concerning continuous access to electricity? • Do assessments address the actions that need to be made to improve access to energy resources at the household level, including female-headed households? • Will efforts to expand access support expansion for domestic use and reach rural areas? • Are there elements that include efforts to recruit both women and men? • Do the project include vocational training for both

Sector			
Water		Energy	
Possible Performance Indicators	Issues and questions	Possible Performance Indicators	Issues and questions
<p>have been sensitized on the best practices of water resources management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of male and female headed houses that use water saving devices. • Number of cubic meters (m³) of water being daily consumed in a school that has an average number of 300 boy students. • Number of cubic meters (m³) of water being daily consumed in a school that has an average number of 300 girl students. • Number of male / female farmers that use water saving irrigation methods. 	<p>development/updating of policies, laws etc. pertaining to water and sanitation?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of women and men in the targeted populations that benefit from using clean energy forms in their local community. • Number of targeted male and female Municipal staff demonstrated good level of understanding of the principles of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. • % of houses using energy saving lighting units. • % reduction in the electricity bill for the targeted female and male headed families using solar energy. • Number of women-centred NGOs and CBOs that developed community initiatives in energy management and efficiency. 	<p>men and women responding to energy sector labour needs?</p>

Annexes

Annex 1: Gender Needs and Roles – Jdeidet El Chouf

Water sector

	Women	Men
Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showering IIII • Housecleaning, dish washing, cooking IIII • Wash clothes • Drinking • Clean water • Menstrual hygiene • Watering plants • Maintenance of water pipes • Fair distribution of water to houses and other establishments • Regular water supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening III • Cleaning, shaving, showering II • Car washing • Drinking • Agricultural purposes • Maintenance of water pipes • Fair distribution of water to houses and other establishments • Regular water supply
Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign amounts of water for each task • Reuse water in case of water shortages/ cuts. Example: water used in washing clothes or vegetables can be used to water plants • Rationalization of water consumption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalization of water consumption • Order water in case of water shortages • Pay water bills

Energy sector

	Women	Men
Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • women control energy usage in the household; Ironing, cooking, hair -dryer, refrigerator, water heater, TV, radio, lighting, electronic devices, computer, internet • Transportation • Manage energy usage at home • Lower electricity bills • Electricity in the city - every household has the right to it • Uninterrupted electricity, to get all household tasks done, and make sure that kids finish their homework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy for water heating (bathing) II • Usage of Lights, internet, TV, computers and all other electronic devices II • Transportation (fuel / energy) II • Smoking Shisha (carbon) • Men attend coffee shops that consume excessive electricity which may have an impact on households • Government to lower electricity bills as men are the ones paying it. • Get devices for power saving at home

- Street lamps

Roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage children to save power • Finish house chores while power is available • Rationalize electricity consumption to make sure that all chores are done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalization of electricity consumption, to prevent power cuts and reduce electricity bill • Seeking extra jobs to be able to afford bills
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Annex 2: SWOT Analysis – Jdeidet El Chouf

Strengths

- High percentage of educated citizens.
- Availability of natural resources.
- The culture of the community.
- The voluntary work culture.
- They have the will to make a change in their community.
- Strong private sector.

Weaknesses

- Unemployment, lack of women economic empowerment and access to credit.
- Poor law enforcement.
- High level of resource monopoly.
- Frequent water cuts, which leads many to buy extra water, which is more expensive.
- Low wages and expensive living conditions.
- Frequent power cuts and high electricity bills.
- Random installations of power lines.
- Lack of proper maintenance to power lines and generators.
- Racial discrimination against Syrian refugees.
- Unequipped infrastructure.
- Too much responsibilities and less free time for women.
- Shortage of skilled and trained labors.
- Weak exploitation of renewable energy.
- Lack of market insights.
- The lack of a business community center.
- The social norms and traditions.

Opportunities

- The MINARET project.
- Youth are motivated to make a change.
- Many are willing to switch to renewable resources.
- The supportive municipality administration.
- Private sector is growing up and contributes in enhancing communities and the economy.

Threats

- Environmental pollution due to accumulation of waste.
- Water pollution due to lack of monitoring.
- Policies, regulations and laws are not supportive.
- Political instability in Lebanon and the region.
- The economic situation in Lebanon.
- Rising refugee influx.

Annex 3: Barriers Analysis 1 - Jdeidet El Chouf

Problem: Low access to resources and economic participation

External manifestation:

- Low participation in public, political, economic or social life.
- Financial dependence on male members of the family.

Immediate causes:

- Male domination (husband - brother - father - grandfather).
- A complicated regulatory system, unnecessary administrative compliance requirements, and draconian discretionary bureaucratic powers adversely affect the competitiveness of SMEs and inhibit women from expanding their micro enterprises.

Underlying causes:

- Major responsibility to support the family falls on the man.
- Men take the blame for any mistakes committed by any of his female family members.
- Religious: restricting women so they cannot work freely.
- Women consider social and household responsibilities difficult to reconcile with their careers.
- Society's misperception of working women.
- Women are harassed by employers and other colleagues.

Strategies to address barriers:

- Educate men on the importance of women's role in improving the economy.
- Engage men and boys in promoting equality.
- Raising women's awareness and educating them on the importance of their role and their ability to produce and achieve their goals.
- Provide employment opportunities suitable for all segments of the society.
- Literate women, give courses.
- Facilitate loans and financial services procedures.

Annex 4: Barriers Analysis 2 – Jdeidet El Chouf

Problem: low political participation and decision-making

External manifestation:

- Men hold 96.9% of parliament seats.
- The managerial positions are mostly held by men.

Immediate causes:

- The deeply patriarchal character of the Lebanese society that is governed by customary rather than codified laws.
- A sectarian tribal system presented by a base of the various sects and religious communities, and since most of these communities are dominated by men of leading families this minimizes women's chances in participation.

Underlying causes:

- Most men and women believe men make better political and business leaders than women.
- Some men believe that women have no place in politics.
- Women consider social and household responsibilities difficult to reconcile with their careers.
- Religious: restricting women so they cannot work freely.

Strategies to address barriers:

- Work with families and communities, not only women: Gender norms that assign particular and unchanging roles to men and women are the principal barrier to women's empowerment and to gender equality.
- Raise women's awareness and educate them on the importance of their role and their ability to produce and achieve their goals.
- Invest in women's higher education and capacity development.
- Build women's political skills through associational or professional life and long-term, well-targeted capacity-building or mentoring programmes.

Annex 5: Gender Vulnerabilities and Capacities – Jdeidet El Chouf

Water sector				
	Vulnerabilities		Capacities	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Physical	<p>Transportation is not always available</p> <p>Poor distribution and management of water (youth)</p> <p>In winter months, it is always harder to find work</p>	<p>Poor distribution and management of water (youth)</p>	<p>Qualified young labour</p>	<p>Control water consumption at home</p>
Social	<p>Suffering from low self-esteem when unable to provide for the family</p>	<p>Mistreated in workplace especially in men dominated fields</p> <p>Racial discrimination against Syrian refugees</p> <p>Many individuals don't trust female power in this field</p>	<p>More trust and reliance on youth</p>	<p>Encouraging others to pay a little extra money to try and improve the situation</p>
Motivational	<p>Lack of opportunities</p> <p>Some political parties monopolize tap water</p>	<p>Low self-esteem results in inactivity</p> <p>Some political parties monopolize tap water</p>	<p>Strong well power and desire to make change</p>	<p>Sees weakness as a motivation to be strong and look for solutions</p> <p>Aware of the importance of making a change</p>
Risks	<p>Water filters are a must</p>	<p>Water filters are a must</p>	<p>Ability to ensure self-sufficiency in water if consumption is rationalized</p>	<p>Reuse water, used in washing for example, to water plants</p>

Energy sector

	Vulnerabilities		Capacities	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Physical	<p>higher risk of getting an electric shock</p> <p>In winter months, it is always harder to find work</p>	<p>Pressured to finish all house chores at a certain amount of time in case the power goes out</p> <p>Street lights are not always available</p>	<p>the presence of a qualified labour willing to train</p>	<p>Control power consumption at home</p>
Social	<p>Suffering from low self-esteem when unable to provide for the family</p>	<p>Mistreated in workplace especially in men dominated fields</p> <p>Racial discrimination against Syrian refugees</p> <p>Many individuals don't trust female power in this field</p>	<p>More trust and reliance on youth</p>	<p>Encouraging others to pay a little extra money to try and improve the situation</p>
Motivational	<p>Lack of incentives</p>	<p>Energy cuts reduce productivity</p>	<p>Strong well power and desire to make change</p> <p>More than willing to suggest solutions that might save the problem</p>	<p>Sees weakness as a motivation to be strong and look for solutions</p> <p>Aware of the importance of making change</p> <p>More than willing to suggest solutions that might save the problem</p>
Risks	<p>The need for extra power generators</p>	<p>The need for extra power generators</p>	<p>Willingness to use RE sources and safe sources</p>	<p>Willingness to use RE sources and safe sources</p>

Annex 6: Longwe: Access, Control and Participation – Jdeidet El Chouf

Water sector

Men's perspective

Level of engagement	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Access		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access is mainly restricted to government (men hold 96.9% of parliament seats) 	
Control			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of control over main resources Women control water usage at home
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to participate in decision-making (depending on financial situation) Water sector is considered a man-dominated field 		

Women's perspective

Level of engagement	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Access			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited access to resources
Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women control water usage at home 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of control over main resources
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to make decisions at family level 		

Energy sector

Men's perspective

Level of engagement	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Access		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access is mainly restricted to government (men hold 96.9% of parliament seats) 	
Control			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of control over main resources Women control energy usage at home.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to participate in decision-making (depending on financial situation) Energy sector is considered a man-dominated field 		

Women's perspective

Level of engagement	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited access to resources
Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women control energy usage at home 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of control over main resources
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to make decisions at family level 		

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