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Istanbul, Türkiye, 8 February 2023

Agenda Item 3: Progress on Marine Litter MED II Project Implementation

Report on the organization of capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator CI24 in Lebanon

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The Mediterranean
Biodiversity
Centre

Report on the organization of capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAF Candidate Indicator CI24



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**Report on the organization of capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of
IMAP Candidate Indicator CI24**

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1- Introduction

After establishing the Lebanon National strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2021a), it is important to share the monitoring methods/ protocols with the national stakeholders, especially the local communities, and integrate them into the monitoring program.

In this context, this report presents the organization of capacity-building activities for Lebanese national teams involved in monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator (CI 24) for sea turtles.

It is important to mention that the Marine Protected Area of Tyre Coast Nature Reserve (TCNR) is the main center for the good application of the national strategy for the implementation of CI24 and the organization of capacity-building activities.

2- How to proceed?

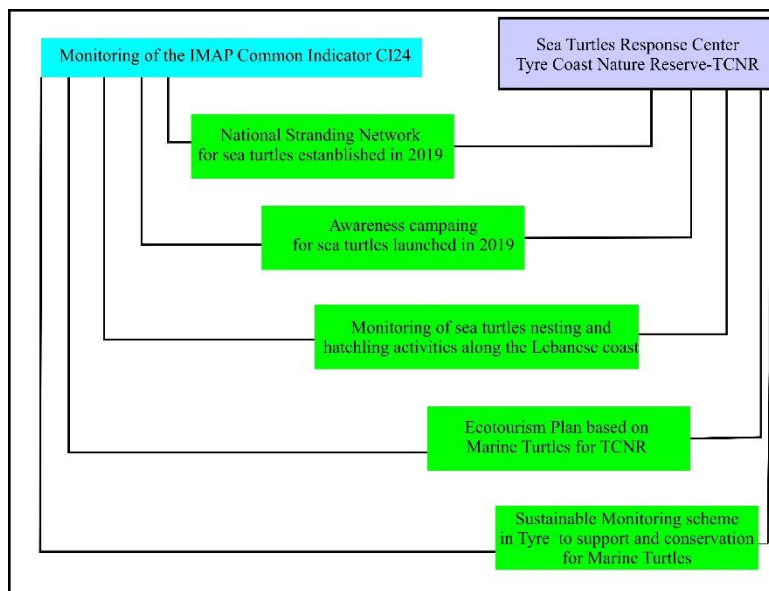


Figure 1. Connection between the Monitoring of the IMAP Common Indicator CI24 and other Marine Turtles activities along the Lebanese coast under the control of the operation center (Tyre Coast Nature Reserve)

It has been worked to integrate the monitoring of CI 24 on sea turtles with other activities dealing with marine turtles along the Lebanese coast (Figure 1). This step will guarantee a sustainable monitoring program of CI24 and allow the participation of all the sea turtles stranding networks parts (NGOs, GOs, Volunteers, Students, MPA team, Marine Researchers) in the monitoring program. Furthermore, this step will help to develop a well-trained team that can help the monitoring of the CI24 along the Lebanese coast.

The organization of capacity building activities for Lebanese national teams has been guaranteed by the integration of the Methods and Protocols proposed in the Lebanon National strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 into:

- The National stranding networks for sea turtles established in 2019 (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020a, 2021b).
- The awareness campaign targets the Lebanese Communities for the sensibilization in the protection and conservation of the Marine Turtles along the Lebanese coast (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020b, 2021c).
- The monitoring of sea turtles' activities (nesting and hatching) (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020b, 2021c).
- The ecotourism plan based on sea turtles for TCNR (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2021d).
- The Sustainable monitoring schemes in Tyre to support monitoring and conservation post-2022 (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2021e).

2.1. The IMAP Candidate Indicator CI 24 and the National Stranding Network for Sea Turtles in Lebanon

Since establishing the national stranding network for sea turtles in Lebanon in 2019 (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020a, 2021b), it has been well defined a quickly respond to any stranded or injured sea turtles along the Lebanese coast. In this context, all the parts included in the national stranding networks for sea turtles have been notified of the impact of marine litter on sea turtles. Furthermore, Marine Protected Area (MPA) team, as a member of the national stranding sea turtles, has been trained to study the impact of marine litter on any stranded sea turtles under the national strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24. In addition, synergy with other national projects dealing with the impact of marine litter along the Lebanese coast and other organisms has been established to guarantee a well-established National Strategy for monitoring CI24 on sea turtles.

In addition, fishers were integrated into the CI24 monitoring program by:

- Training them to deal with any floated/ stranded marine turtles
- Training them to deal with any accidentally caught marine turtles

While, volunteers, student, and Marine Protected Area team were trained on the whole protocol for monitoring CI24 (Figure 2). Concerning this point, easy and simple methods and techniques have been used to train all the stakeholders.



Figure 2. Training volunteers and local communities on the monitoring of CI24 along the Lebanese coast in TCNR

2.2. The IMAP Candidate Indicator CI 24 and the awareness campaign for the protection and conservation of Marine Turtles along the Lebanese coast

Citizen sciences and communication are among the most important and influential tools for sharing the importance of monitoring CI 24 on sea turtles along the Lebanese coast.



Figure 3. An example of brochures to train on the Monitoring of IMAP CI24

In this context, and to guarantee a well sharing of the monitoring of CI24 (allowing to integrate of more local communities into the monitoring program), it has been worked to:

- Develop and prepare some cards and environmental games (Figure 5), and simple brochures (Figure 3), and handmade (Figure 4) focusing on the impact of Marine Litter on sea Turtles
- Develop and Prepare a Guide to Monitor CI24
- Sharing info and data on many Lebanese © FacebookPage related with marine biodiversity
- Prepare and organize a seminar/ training presenting the CI24 and the importance to monitor CI24



Figure 4. Tools (handmade) from recycle plastics distributed during seminars/ trainings.



Figure 5. Cards and Environmental games distributed during seminar/ training events

تمثل النفايات والبلاستيك خطراً كبيراً على البيئة و المحيط حيث تتسبب في نفوق عدد كبير من الحيوانات والأسماك .



النفايات وخاصة البلاستيك يقتل السلاحف البحرية , وهي من الكائنات المهددة بالإنقراض .

لذلك يجب علينا أن نجد حلول لإعادة تدوير النفايات وتقليل من إستعمال البلاستيك يمكن تعويض الأكياس البلاستيكية بأكياس قماشية



فرز النفايات وإعادة تدويرها



Kids Card

The present work has been prepared in the framework of Marine Litter MED project financed by the European Union executed by SPA/RAC in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment in Lebanon



أنا أحب كوكبنا الأرض

أساهم في حماية البيئة والمحافظة عليها

أشارك في حملات النظافة

أحافظ على نظافة الشاطئ

لا أرمي الاوساخ إلا في الأماكن المخصصة

أنا أساهم في حماية المحيط

Kids Card

The present work has been prepared in the framework of Marine Litter MED project financed by the European Union executed by SPA/RAC in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment in Lebanon



2.3. The IMAP Candidate Indicator CI 24 and the monitoring of the marine turtles activities along the Lebanese coast

Since 2018, the monitoring of the nesting/ hatching activities of the Marine Turtles along the Lebanese coast is ongoing (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020b, 2021c). In this context, and during the marine turtles nesting season 2022, volunteers/ students/ MPA team working on the monitoring of marine turtles activities along the Lebanese coast have been trained on the monitoring of CI24.

Finally, it has been worked on integration the National strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 on all other activities (e.g. Ecotourism plan based on sea turtles, Sustainable Monitoring Schemes for Monitoring sea turtles) dealing with marine turtles along the Lebanese coast. This step will allow to have more trained team working on the monitoring of CI 24 along the Lebanese coast (Figure 6).

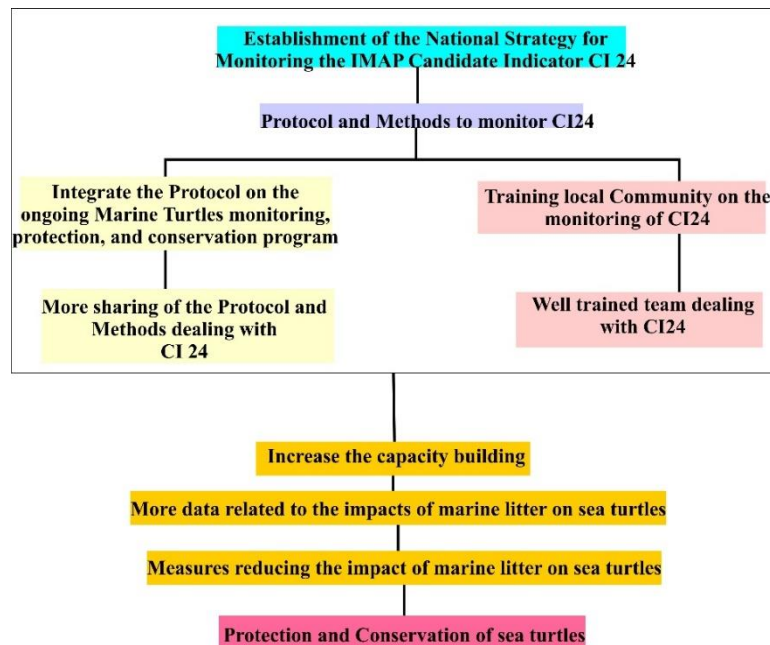


Figure 6. the organization of capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator

3- Capacity building activities for Lebanese National teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator (CI 24) for sea turtles

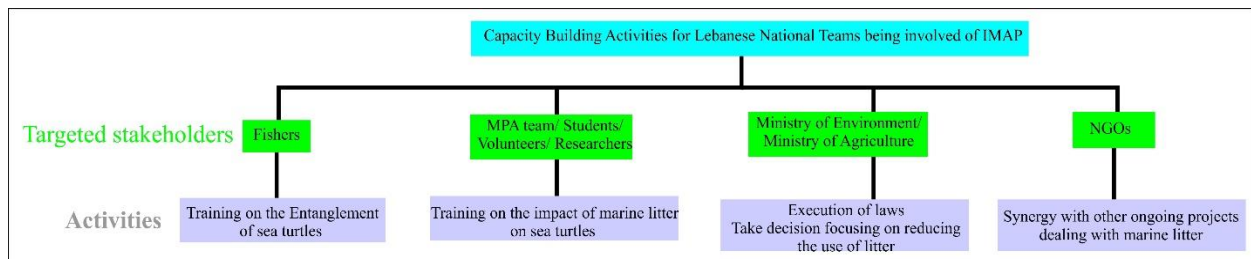



Figure 7. Schema showing the targeted stakeholders and the corresponding activities for each stakeholder for a good capacity building

Table 1

Activities related with each national targeted stakeholders and the responsible of the organization

Activities	Targeted Stakeholders	Responsible
Training on the monitoring of IMAP CI24	Lebanese National Civil Defense/ Fishers/ Volunteers/ Student/ MPA team/ Squads	National Marine expert Tyre Coast Nature Reserve
Workshop and Seminars presenting the National strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24	NGOs/ GOs/ MoE/MoA/ Municipalities/ Tyre Local people	National Marine expert Tyre Coast Nature Reserve

The organization of capacity building activities for Lebanese national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator (CI 24) for sea turtles has been based (Figure 7 and Table 1) on:

 Work with the Lebanese fishers and train them on dealing with accidentally caught/ or entangled marine turtles. Concerning this point, many Mediterranean standard protocols and methodologies have been used (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020a).

Fishers are the main stakeholders for a sustainable monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator (Figure 8). They are also a good source of data, allowing researchers to find solution for marine treats (especially marine litter).

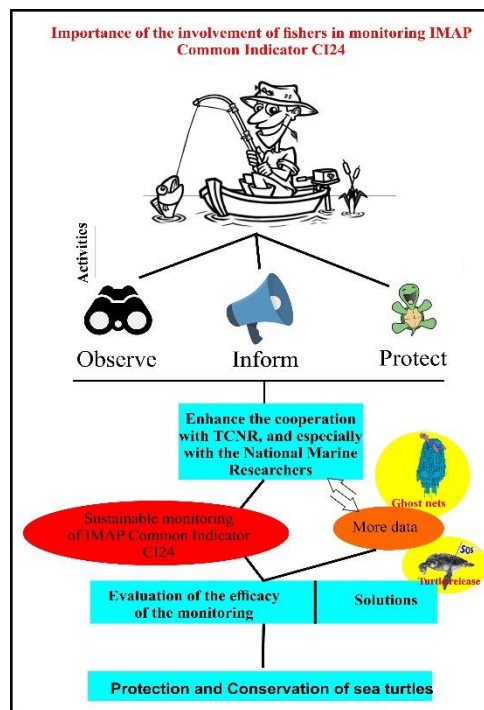


Figure 8. Illustration showing the importance of the involvement of fishers in the monitoring of CI24

In this context, a training (Figure 9) with the presence of 37 fishers from Tyre was made on the 15th of September 2022 at the port of Tyre (syndicate of fishers) (see Annex 1 for list of participants). The seminar focus on the importance of marine life (especially flag species) and the priority of protecting them. In addition, fishers were trained on techniques in case of accidentally catching some flag species (especially sea turtles, as Tyre waters are known to be a feeding area for both sea turtles, the loggerhead, and the greens turtles). It has also been focused on the following:


- The significant impact of marine litter (especially ghost nets) on marine life (especially sea turtles).
- The importance of monitoring CI24 as an effective tool for reducing the impact of marine litter on sea turtles.

However, based on the training, some actions have been recommended:

- To work more on the involvement of fishers in the monitoring activities.
- The importance of declaring the loose of nets by the fishers
- Help the fishers by training them and involving them in ongoing projects.
- The importance of contacting Tyre Coast Nature Reserve and especially the national expert in case of accidentally catching a flag species.



Figure 9. Photos of the fishers seminar and training in Tyre


 Work with the Lebanese MPA team (Tyre Coast Nature Reserve-Abbasiyeh Coast Nature Reserve), students, and volunteers and train them to study the impact of marine litter on stranded sea turtles.

Concerning this point, the national Protocol for Monitoring the Interaction between Marine Litter and Marine Turtles in Lebanon were used (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2020a; SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2021b). A link with the established national stranding networks for sea turtles along the Lebanese coast has been considered. In this context, training focusing on the importance of sea turtles and the impact of plastics (including the monitoring of CI24), especially on sea turtles, was made on the 7th of September 2022 for volunteers (especially kids) (Figure 10) (see Annex 2 for list of participants). In addition, brochures and gifts made with plastics were distributed. Subsequently, technical training

(under the framework of the project) for university students is ongoing for permanent volunteers at the reserve (this step is essential for the future of the reserve).



Figure 10. Photos of the training on the monitoring of CI24 and awareness to reduce the use of marine litter in TCNR

 Work with Governmental Organizations and Lebanese Ministries (especially the Lebanese Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Non-Governmental Organizations, Municipalities, local stakeholders (fishers/ divers/ beach lovers) by sharing with them the data collected and focusing more on the enforcement on the execution of laws already taken for the protection of sea turtles along the Lebanese coast. In addition, to focus on the integration of the monitoring of CI 24 based on the Lebanon National strategy for monitoring IMAP Candidate Indicator 24 (SPA/RAC-UNEP/MAP, 2021a).

In this context, a local workshop was done on the 17 of September 2022 at Tyre Resort (Rest House Hotel) (Figure 11) with the presence of Ministry of Environment, local stakeholders (divers, fishers), students, Municipalities and MPAs (see Annex 3 for list of participants). In addition, the impact of marine litter, and especially on marine life (including sea turtles) were presented to the participants. In addition, the best policies and recommendations were also discussed.

It has been recommended:

- Protection and conservation of sea turtles should be a priority
- More connection with Tyre Coast Nature Reserve- and- the sea turtles first aid rescue center
- Focus on the awareness to fight plastic
- Importance of recycling
- Importance of working with kids (new generations)
- Priority to enhance the link between Ministries and Municipalities and Reserves to reduce the use of plastic
- Involvement and Work more with divers and fishers to clean the sea.
- Synergy between all the projects dealing with plastics to a better management



Figure 11. Photos of the seminar in Tyre resort

4- Summary of actions done for the capacity building activities being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator

Table 2 presents the actions and activities to guarantee a well-established strategy for capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator

Table 2

Activities related with the capacity building and the progress for each activity respectively

Activities	Progress
Organization of a national training for Monitoring IMAP CI24	Done-This step has been done with the Lebanese fishers and students and volunteers. This step will continue, as a main activity of TCNR

Organization of a seminar focusing on the importance of monitoring IMAP CI24	Done
Preparation of brochures and posters related to monitoring IMAP CI24	Done and all this have been shared during the training
Handmade using recycle plastics	Done. This step will continue as an activity of TCNR

It is important to mention that the organization of capacity building activities for national teams being involved in monitoring of IMAP Candidate Indicator cannot be isolated from others Marine Turtles Activities ongoing along the Lebanese coast. In this context, the monitoring of IMAP CI24 is going in parallel with other Marine Turtles activities along the Lebanese coast.

5. References

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Annex 1. List of fishers in the training made in Tyre

Name	Gender	Age	Organization	Phone number	Email address	Signature
Ali BADREDDINE	Male	33	TCNR	+961 70621889	Ali.badreddine@hotmail.com	x
Majed Bawab	Male	80% between 40-50	Fisher-Syndicate of Tyre fishers	+961 70 382 142	-	x
Sami Rizek	Male			+961 3 160478	-	
Adel Aydi	Male	20% between 30-40	Fisher-Syndicate of Tyre fishers	-	-	x
Wissam AlSamra	Male			-	-	x
Elias AlJouni	Male			+961 76686460	-	x
Antoun AlJouni	Male			+961 76686460	-	x
Issam AlSamra	Female			-	-	x
Simon Assaf	Male			-	-	x
Elias Assaf	Male			-	-	X
Rami Assaf	Male			-	-	x
Mohamad Samahi	Male			-	-	x
Khodor Awad	Male			-	-	x
Jaafar Skaiki	Female			+961 70 382 142	-	x
Mikhael Barbour	Female			-	-	x
Georges Atieh	Male			-	-	x
Simon AlKhouri	Male			-	-	x
Mikhael AlJouni	Female			-	-	x
Imad Chahine	Female			+961 70 382 142	-	x
Ammar AlZouro	Female			-	-	x
Mohamad Amin	Female			-	-	x
Bechara AlJouni	Male			-	-	x
Metri AlJouni	Male			+961 3 160478	-	x
Rida Bawab	Male			-	-	x
Chekri Awad	Female			-	-	x
Fadel Awad	Male			+961 3 160478	-	x
Elias Attal	Male			-	-	x
Sami Rizk	Female			-	-	x
Bilal Istambouli	Male			+961 70 382 142	-	x
Bassam Audi	Male			-	-	x
Mohamad Soltani	Male			-	-	x
Ali Soltani	Male			-	-	x
Georges AlSafadi	Male			-	-	x
Touma Katra	Male			-	-	x
Nicolas AlKhouri	Male			+961 3 160478	-	x
Ali Serhan	Male			-	-	x
Ahmad Taha	Male			-	-	x
Ali Darmasis	Male			+961 70 382 142	-	x
				-	-	

Annex 2. List of volunteers/ students/ kids participating in the training made at TCNR

Name	Gender	Age	Organization	Phone number	Email address	Signature
Ali BADREDDINE	Male	33	TCNR	+961 70621889	Ali.badreddine@hotmail.com	x
Shafik Trabolsi	Male	45-50	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Ziad Saab	Male	35-40	Local	-	-	x
Bachir Akoub	Male	30-35	Local	-	-	x
Mohammad El Kerdi	Male	25	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Omar Al Omari	Male	33	Local	-	-	x
Omar Al Sabiyi	Male	31	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Anas Berro	Male	40-45	Local	-	-	x
Aya Alawiya	Female	30-35	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Mohammad Zinnedine	Male	31	Local	-	-	x
Marwan Al Jundi	Male	30	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Mohammad Sadek	Male	28	Local	-	-	x
Mohammad Mounni	Male	25	Local	-	Mohammad.sadek1992@gmail.com	x
Nizar Habash	Male	22	Local	-	Nizar_Habash@hotmail.com	x
Salim Abou Haydar	Male	21	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Afif Ghayss	Male	20	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Yehya Kanawete	Male	24	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Jihan Fasad	Female	21	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x
Sanaa Nabolsi	Female	22	Local	-	Sanaa.Nabolsi@hotmail.com	x
Sali Baghdadi	Female	23	Local	-	Sali2000@gmail.com	x
Alaa Nasreldine	Male	21	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaiissdivers@gmail.com	x

Annex 3: List of participants in the local seminar

Name	Gender	Age	Organization	Phone number	Email address	Signature
Ali BADREDDINE	Male	33	TCNR	+961 70621889	Ali.badreddine@hotmail.com	x
Shafik Traboulsi	Male	45-50	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 073093	shaisdivers@gmail.com	x
Kamal Traboulsi	Male	45-50	Shaiis Lebanese Academy	+961 3 767448	Kamaltraboulsi@gmail.com	x
Ali DBOUK	Male	50-55	TYROS Local	+961 3 671364	adsourlb@yahoo.com	x
Dominique Choueiter	Male	40-45	UNDP	+961 70 924176	Dominique.choueiter@undp.org	x
Lara Samaha	Female	50-60	Ministry of Environment	+961 3 717127	l.samaha@moe.gov.lb	x
Majed Bawab	Male	49	Fisherman	+961 70 382 142		x
Alberto Piccini	Male	45	CTM	+3287421988	albertopiccini@ctmlecci.it	X
Malek Ghandour	Male	55-60	Amwaj NGO	+961 3 241451	amwajenut@yahoo.com	x
Hassan DBOUK	Male	-	TCNR/Municipality Tyre	+961 3 334600	hasan_dbouk@hotmail.com	x
Ahmad Faraj	Male	60-65	Municipality Tyre	+961 3 337 616	Afaraj82@gmail.com	x
Fadia Joumaa	Female	-	Green Area Elissar news	+961 70 900871	fadyajoumaa@gmail.com	x
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Tala Younes	Female	-	Farrah Scout	+961 81 937 873	Tala.younes593@gmail.com	x
Rougeen Al Jamal	Female	-	Farrah Scout-Municipality	+961 3 938273	Rougeen01@hotmail.com	x
Kawthar Kteich	Female	-	Tyre Municipality	+961 70 076009	Engineer.kkteich@hotmail.com	x
Aya Saleh	Female	-	TCNR	+961 70 303 113	ayasaleh@gmail.com	x
Sami Rizek	Male	50-55	Fisherman Tyre-Syndicate	+961 3 160478	-	x
Hussein Nouredine	Male	-	Diver – Marine Diving Academy	+961 70 615283	-	x
Hasan Ezzedine	Male	-	Diver- Marine Diving Academy	+961 70 406609	-	x
Hiam Dandash	Female	-	Abbasiyeh Municipality/ Abbasiyeh Coast Nature Reserve	+961 76 395279	hamdanzo@outlook.com	x
Youssef Jundi	Male	-	Lebanon Diving Center	+961 3 877 854	Lebanondivingcenter@yahoo.com	x
Ali Moussa Ezzedine	Male	-	Abbasiyeh Municipality/ Abbasiyeh Coast Nature Reserve	+961 3 750819	A.M.Etravel@hotmail.com	x
Lea Ghanem	Female	26	LMTA	+961 71 70 6630	lea@lebanontrail.com	x
Nizar Haddad	Male	33	LMTA	+961 70 961 697	nizar@lifelausproject.com	x
Abed Al Karim Ammar	Male	-	Squad Municipality	+961 70 749 464	Abedammar_2004@hotmail.com	x
Khalil Rammal	Male	29	TCNR	+961 71 157 658	Khalil.Rammal2@gmail.com	x



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