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# INTRODUCTION

The devastating explosion on August 4, 2020 caused invaluable damage to Beirut's urban heritage. With the death toll exceeding 200, over 6500 people injured, and more than 60,000 units of offices and households destroyed, the explosion forced the displacement of over 100,000 people. As a result, the economic and cultural damages have been estimated at \$8 billion, for which \$2 billion would be needed for the cost of reconstruction.

Following the August 4 Beirut explosion, our city with over 5,000 years of history was left in a state of utter chaos and destruction and within mere seconds more material damage was created than a decade of civil war had seen. Large areas of Beirut were destroyed. They either became unrecognizable, or were on their way to destruction if immediate intervention did not occur. Approximately 1,000 historical buildings were damaged by the blast. These buildings included houses, apartment buildings, palaces from the 19th-century Ottoman period, and buildings from the modern period of the 1930's and beyond.



Damage Map by NASA, Google Earth

The neighbourhoods that were the most affected by the explosion are located towards the southern and eastern ends of the harbour's third basin. The areas hardest hit by the explosion, such as Gemmayzeh, Mar Mikhael and Ashrafieh, also had the highest concentration of historic structures in Beirut. These neighbourhoods are composed of cultural, educational, touristic, creative spaces, and small trades that perpetuate the city's valuable and intangible heritage. Moreover, buildings and homes of this area are occupied by inhabitants of different backgrounds and income levels.

Throughout the capital's worst episodes in history, these neighbourhoods remained inhabited and are living witnesses to Beirut's past and present. Thus, rescuing our endangered heritage is also part of preserving the city's historical and cultural identity.

## WHO IS BHI

Beirut Heritage Initiative (BHI) was launched as an independent and inclusive collective, in favour of restoring the built and cultural heritage of Beirut, while bridging a vital gap of funding and coordination that exists between the owners and residents of heritage structures stricken by the August 4 explosion, and the public departments essential to facilitate legal permits for reconstruction works; namely the Directorate General of Antiquities and the Office of Governor of Beirut.

To complete this colossal project, *BHI*'s contractual & financial management is handled by the *National Heritage Foundation (NHF)* as follows: budgetary control, disbursements, and audited financial reports that are intended for donors and partners. The *NHF* is a non-governmental and non-profit organization, established in 1996. The foundation is overseen by a Board of Trustees and an Executive Committee, and it is committed, according to its constitutive status, to promote and mobilize all means of action to safeguard the Lebanese heritage.

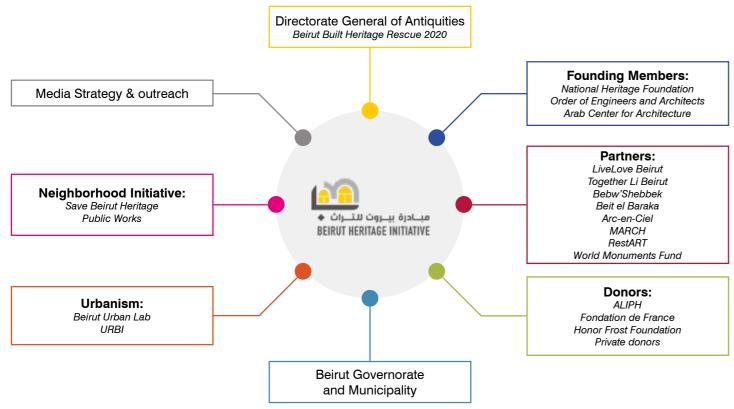
BHI is organized around a team of experts and professionals and is in continuous communication between with multiple stakeholders, such as the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut (OEA), Beirut Built Heritage Rescue 2020 (BBHR20), the Arab Center for Architecture (ACA), UN Blue Shield, Live Love Beirut (LLB), Together Li Beirut and World Monuments Fund, among many others.

In December 2020, *BHI* was among 7 local NGOs to be part of the **International Donors Conference** convened by Emmanuel Macron, President of France, and Antionio Guterres, UN Secretary-General. *BHI* is also one of the **Civil Society Organizations member in the** *3RF* **Consultative Group.** 

An assessment made by architects from BBHR20 shows that\*:

The assessment dates to Aug. 2020, and includes heritage built between 1860 and 1925.

- 100 buildings were at risk of collapsing
- 200 buildings were heavily damaged (roof structure and façade)
- 100 buildings were moderately damaged (slightly impacted facade)
- 270 buildings were lightly damaged (windows, doors, plaster, finishes)

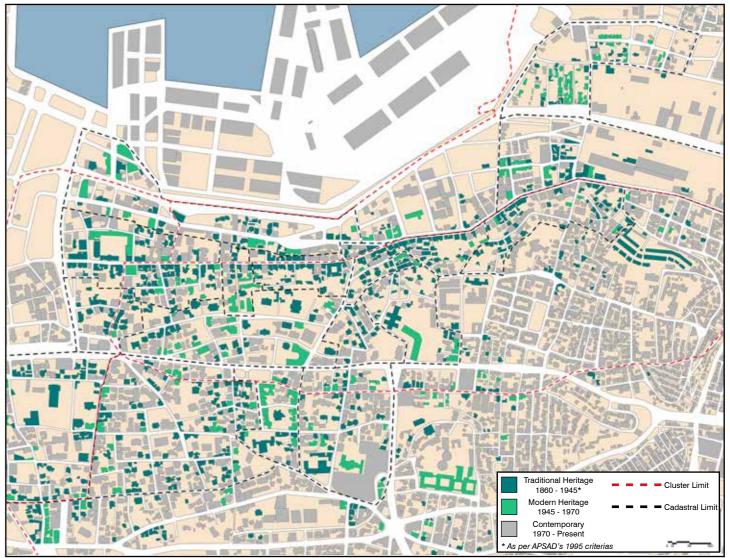


# **MISSION & OBJECTIVES**

Today, the 'Beiruti Houses', those that survived the development pressures and perils of the past, stand as monuments for Beirut's phenomenal rise and a reflection of the multi-layered history of the 19th and 20th century. Instantly altering the face of Beirut, the scale of destruction and the extent of damage from the explosion can be witnessed on numerous heritage buildings that are grouped into heritage clusters.

These heritage clusters offer an **intangible value** that is handed down through generations. Carrying the memories of generations and a unique **historical identity**, these buildings represent Beirut's rich history and culture. They offer the city and its inhabitants a sense of continuity in this fast changing world. Post-blast, the ongoing fight to protect and preserve these clusters gained momentum and amongst the rubble emerged a strengthened collective appreciation and awareness within the community.

BHI's mission to protect heritage focuses on more than buildings and includes the socioeconomic fabric of Beirut. From the outset, BHI set its ultimate goal to be the equitable and sustainable revitalization of devastated neighborhoods, ones that have the highest concentration of heritage clusters. These belong to different eras that include Ottoman stone and red-tile houses, French Mandate walk-ups, and post-Independence early Modernist apartment buildings.

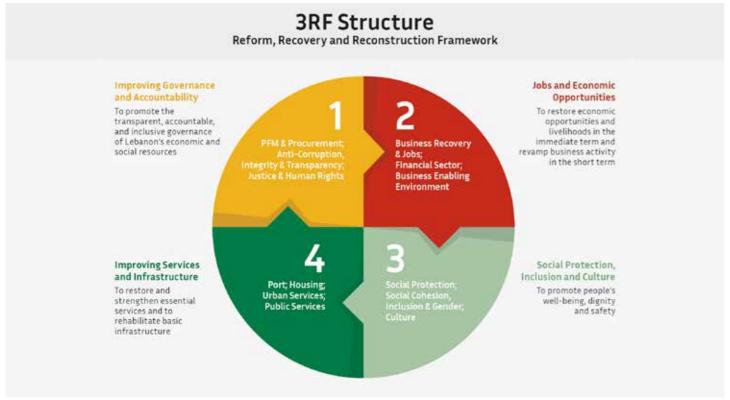


Heritage Map, Beirut Heritage Initiative

# CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION IN THE 3RF CONSULTATIVE GROUP

The Lebanon Reform, Recovery and Reconstruction Framework (3RF) is a **people-centered recovery and reconstruction framework** focusing on a period of 18 months that will bridge the immediate humanitarian response and the medium-term recovery and reconstruction efforts **to put Lebanon on a path of sustainable development.** 

This program was developed by the **World Bank Group**, the **United Nations** and the **European Union**.



3RF Structure, 3RF

The *3RF* is structured around four strategic pillars:

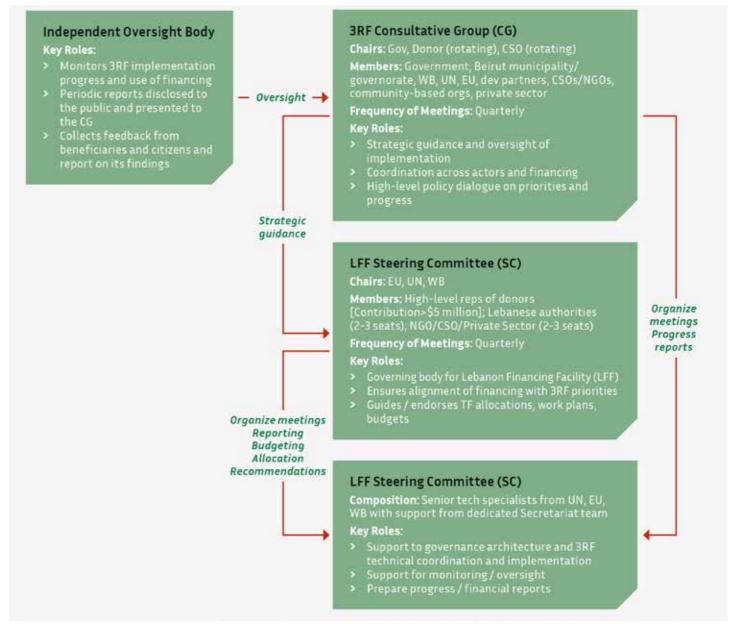
- 1. Improving governance and accountability
- 2. Jobs and opportunities
- 3. Social protection, inclusion, and culture
- 4. Improving services and infrastructure

Each pillar identifies a set of strategic objectives and priority areas across both the recovery track and the reform and reconstruction track.

In early March, Beirut Heritage Initiative was chosen as one of the Civil Society Organization (CSO) in the 3RF consultative group (CG). BHI is a member in the Pillar 3 and Pillar 4.

*BHI*'s input in the *3RF* is to create **awarness on the Beiruti Heritage**, its value, its current status, redirect funding towards its rehabilitation, while creating jobs and **proper trainings**, and make sur it is **protected and preserved** by supporting project laws on heritage preservation that are still not implemented.

BHI is also taking part in the **urban vision of the city**, thanks to the expertise of some committee members, that have worked on urbanism and a heritage masterplan in the years prior.



Institutional Arrangements, 3RF

The development of the *3RF* was undertaken in close consultation with civil society organizations. In addition, **civil society plays an important role in the implementation of the** *3RF* **at several levels:** 

- 1. As party of the Consultative Group entrusted with strategic guidance, policy dialogue and aid coordination
- 2. In the Oversight and Monitoring Body responsible for ensuring strong monitoring, transparency, and mutual accountability
- 3. As implementers of programs

The 3RF envisages a two-phase financing strategy for recovery and reconstruction. In the short-term, international grant financing will be required to **kick-start recovery and support urgent needs while advancing in parallel on necessary reforms**. Once progress has been made on critical reforms and macroeconomic stabilization, concessional loans and private finance can support reconstruction and **help set Lebanon on a path towards stability, growth, and sustainable development**.

To support the recovery track and prepare for reconstruction, a Financing Facility will be set up to pool and align grant financing for the *3RF*. This will strengthen coherence and coordination. The fund will channel support directly to Lebanese people and businesses that have been impacted by the explosion using a variety of flexible, nongovernmental implementation modalities combined with strong fiduciary monitoring and oversight.



Raymond (Rony) Araygi

is a lawyer and a former Minister of Culture (2014-2016). Araygi graduated from Saint Joseph University and has been a member of the Beirut Bar since 1989. He is the founder and Managing Partner of Araygi & Maalouly Law Firm.

In parallel, he served several years as a Senior advisor to the Minister of Public Health (1996-1998 and 2000- 2004), the Minister of Agriculture (1998-2000) and the Minister of Interior and Municipalities (2004-2005).



Joy Kanaan

is an architect living and working in Beirut, as well as a lecturer at the Department of Architecture and Graphic Design at the *American University of Beirut*.

She is a board member of the *Arab Center for Architecture (ACA)*, and is an associate member of the *American Institute of Architects*, in the USA, and a professional member of the *Order of Engineers and Architects* in Lebanon.

She represents the ACA within BHI.



Youmna Ziadé Karam

is an entrepreneur, and has been pursuing a career in the banking sector (SGBL and BLC bank) particularly in Corporate Banking, project management, reengineering and Corporate Social Responsibility since 2003

She is the co-founder of *Kitchenlab* (2013), and serves on the Board of *TAKREEM USA Foundation*.

She represents the *National Heritage* Foundation within BHI.



Abdul-Halim Jabr

is an architect/urban design consultant, who works actively on issues of urban design and governance in Greater Beirut, specifically in relation to the environment, old neighborhoods, and public places. He served as an advisor to the Ministry of Culture (2014-2016) and was part of the team that drafted the new law for the protection of heritage.

In May 2016, he was one of 24 candidates running for municipal council elections on the "Beirut Madinati" list.



Fadlallah Dagher

is an architect, living and working in Beirut. Having graduated from ALBA in 1985, he is a founding member of *Dagher Hanna & Partners architects*.

He has been working on heritage preservation for 30 years, as an *advisor to* the *Ministry of Culture* (1994-2016), and was part of the team that drafted the new law for the protection of heritage.

He represents the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut within BHI.



Lynn Tehini Kassatly

is a journalist and consultant for Cultural affairs. Since 2019, Tehini was part of the *Presidency of Council of Minister team as a Cultural Advisor*. She regularly works as a consultant/expert in the cultural field for various consultancy firms in the Arab world.

Tehini is an active member of *Lebanon* of *Tomorrow* (board member) and *Cenacle de la Lumière*. She is also a member of the *Baalback International Festival* General Assembly.



Houda Kassatly
Ethnologist, photographer, & researcher
Main Coordinator



Yasmine Dagher Architect, DocuComm Manager



Yasmine El-Majzoub Architect, Field Operation Manager



Nadine Salloum Financial Manager



Mia Mouawad
Grants Officer, 3RF Coordinator

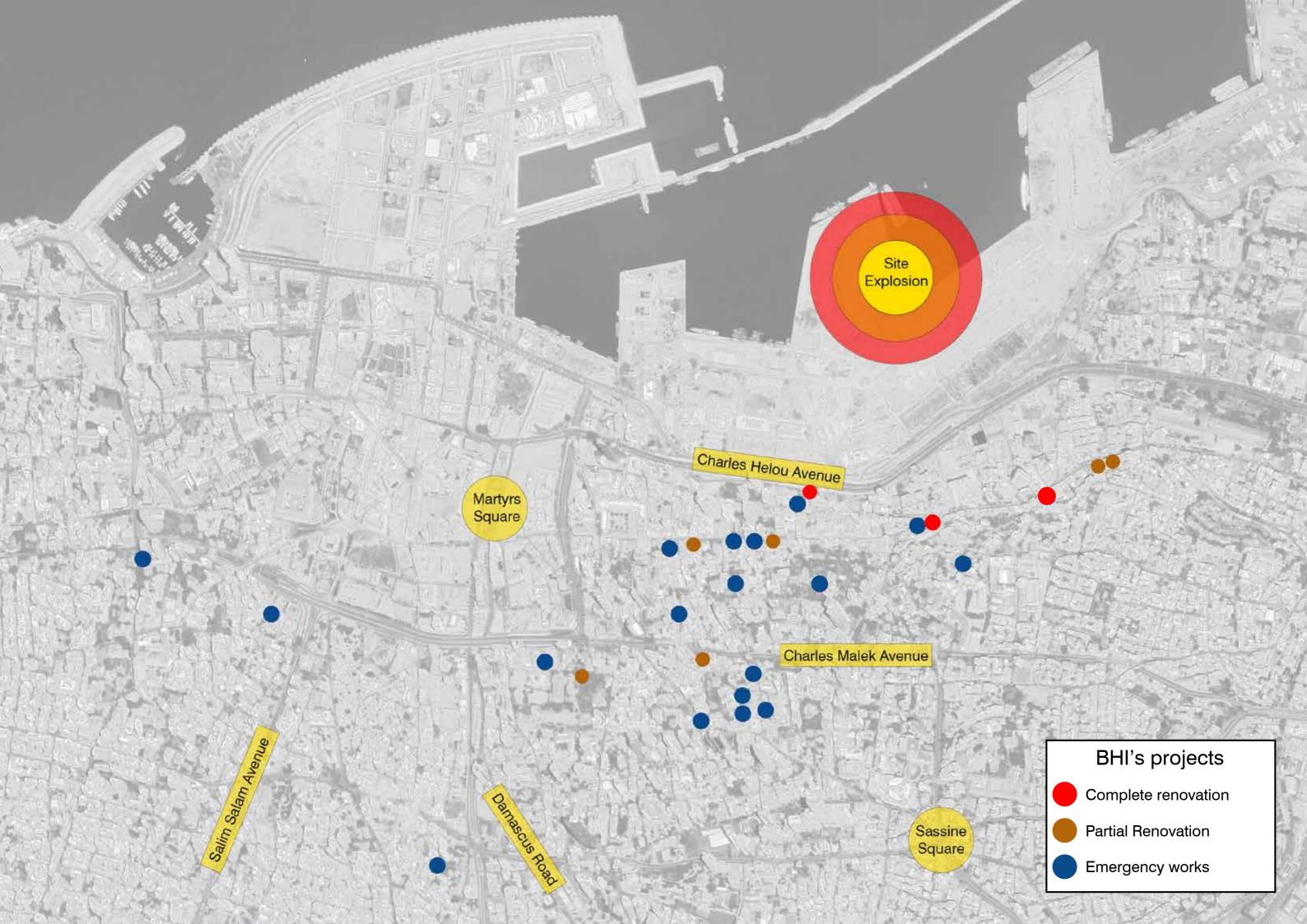


Youssef El-Kassar Civil Engineer, Site Manager



Justine Chalfoun
Architect, Photographer





# PHASE I: EMERGENCY WORKS UNDER ALIPH

# **Urgent Roof Covering:**

BHI intervened on emergency works such as propping and sheltering with a grant received from the International Alliance for the protection of heritage in conflict areas (ALIPH). BHI's mission was to shelter 10 (or more) heritage buildings that were damaged by the Beirut blast on August 4, 2020, in coordination with the Directorate General of Antiquities (DGA), and its crisis cell Beirut Built Heritage Rescue 2020 (BBHR20).

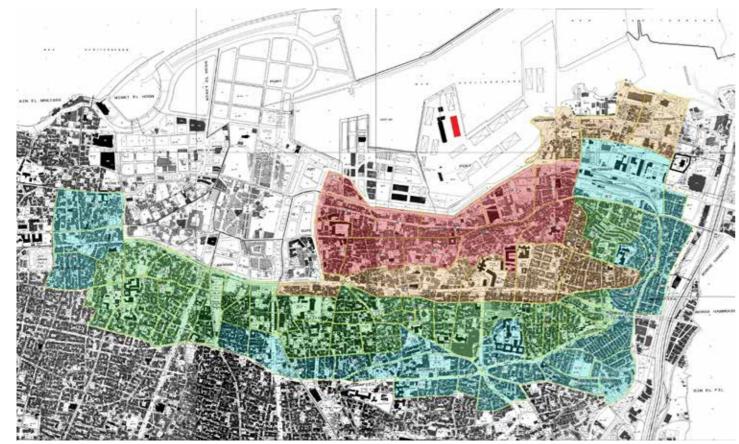
**Immediate action was taken in October 2020**. A representative from *BBHR20*, followed up on the works executed by *BHI*, by inspecting and supervising the works from beginning through completion.

Red - Orange Zone			
Total Pitched Roofs		97	
	Lightly damaged	18	
	Moderately damaged	48	
	Severely damaged	31	
Total Pitched Roofs Restored		85	
	Restored by owners	46	
	Restored by BHI*	7	
	Restored by other NGO	32	
Remaining Pitched Roofs		12	

Blue - Green Zone			
Total Pitched Roofs			
	Lightly damaged		
	Moderately damaged		
	Severely damaged		
Total Pitched Roofs Restored		12	
	Restored by owners		
	Restored by BHI*	8	
	Restored by other NGO	4	
Remaining Pitched Roofs			

Restoration of pitched roofs within the affected area, BBHR20

<sup>\*</sup> BHI has intervened on flat roofs that were damaged by the earthquake following the blast.



BBHR20 zoning map.

The red and orange zones represent the neighbourhoods that were the most affected by the blast. The Blue and Green zones are the neighbourhoods that sustained minor damage.

BHI was committed to shelter as many buildings as possible within the granted budget from ALIPH, and succeeded in doing 22 interventions, rather than the 10 buildings initially assigned.

The sheltering provided by BHI was based on 4 methods:

- A- When the roof structure was not severely affected: Repairing the pitched roof wood structure and replacing the broken roof tiles.
- B- When the roof structure was severely damaged: Repairing the pitched roof timber structure with a temporary replacement and covering the building with a tarpaulin (Belmark 550mg).
- C- When the roof is made out of a reinforced concrete slab (1930's 1960's constructions): water-proofing application including grouting and slanting.
- D- Roof's that were covered with a tarpaulin cover, are now getting a full reconstruction.



īle Replacement, *Y. Kassar* 



Waterproofing application, D. Mrad



arpaulin Cover, *LiveLoveBeirut* 



Beirut Heritage Initiative - Report

Roof Reconstruction, D. Mrad

#### TILE REPLACEMENT:



Ashrafieh 1139, after the blast, C. Acra



During the intervention, LiveLoveBeirut



After the intervention, D. Mrad

## **TARPAULIN COVER:**



Rmeil 292, after the blast, LiveLoveBeirut



During the intervention, LiveLoveBeirut



After the intervention, LiveLoveBeirut

#### **WATERPROOFING APPLICATION:**



Ashrafieh 1161, before intervention, *D. Mrad* During the intervention, *D. Mrad* 





After the intervention, D. Mrad

#### **ROOF RECONSTRUCTION:**



Rmeil 812, after the blast, J. Chalfoun



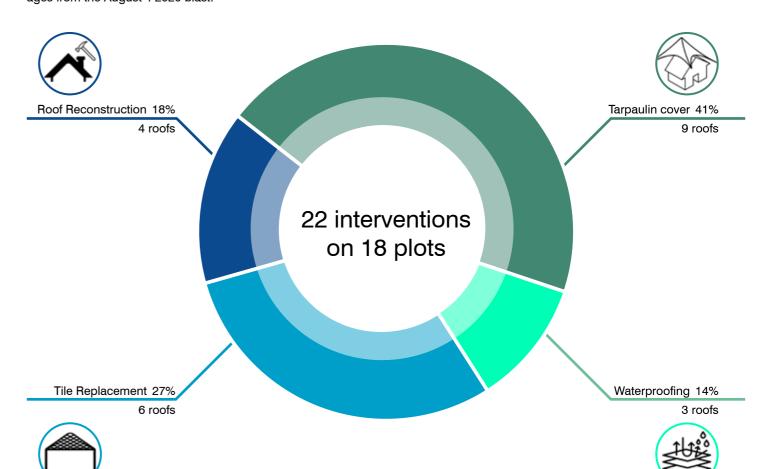
During the intervention, J. Chalfoun

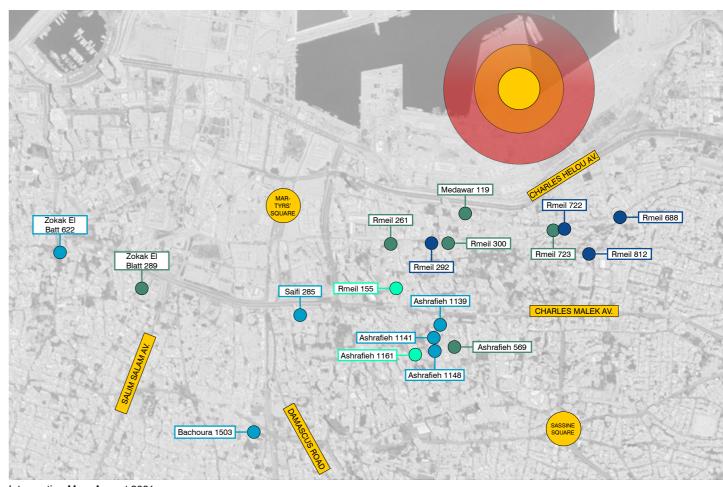


After the intervention, Y. Kassar

#### **Summary of Works:**

With the granted budget from ALIPH, BHI was able to carry a total of 22 emergency operations on 18 plots that had endured damages from the August 4 2020 blast.





Intervention Map, August 2021

#### Structural consolidation of Rmeil 358 - Sursock Palace, supported by *ALIPH*



Sursock Palace North Façade, after the blast, D. Mrad

Located at the top of the cliff overlooking the Beirut port and the northern Lebanese coast, **Sursock Palace has been severely affected by the blast on Aug. 4 2020.** 

The North façade (facing the port) has been detached from the rest of the building. Most of the woodwork is destroyed, and internal damages include large wall cracks, ceilings, walls and roof damage.

Due to the urgent need for structural consolidation, and the prevention of further collapse, a contracting company (*EDRAFOR*) chosen by the Sursock family, under the recommendation of *BHI*, and as per instructions from Michel Chalhoub (specialized engineer-restorer) supported the fragile North façade with a steel structure, thanks to the support of *ALIPH*.



Interior propping and bracing, Y. El-Majzoub



The bracing system on the facade, Y. Dagher



The shoring system standing on the balcony-terrace, Y. Dagher

#### Roof reconstruction of Rmeil 310 - Villa Mokbel, supported by ALIPH



The North-West corner, before the intervention, D. Mrad



The internal system, after the consolidation, D. Mrad



Under the roof structure, after repair, Dia Mrad

Rmeil 310, known as Villa Mokbel, is a heritage palace located on Sursock street. The building endured severe damage on August 4, 2020, such as **three arches destruction** on the first level, and **detachment of the North-West corner** from the rest of the building.

A bracing system was installed to ensure the stability of the building, and prevent any collapse. The vertical steel bracing are stabilizing the affected corner, preventing it from collapse.

Furthermore, the roof structure is made out of steel, and the damage occurred mainly on the roof tiles. In early October, with the support of *ALIPH*, the red tiles were replaced, securing the roof and the interior before the rainy season. The windows were also sheltered with plywood boards, and tarpaulins.



Villa Mokbel North Façade, after the blast, D. Mrad

# PHASE II: PARTIAL RENOVATION

#### **Rmeil 342: Three arches reconstruction**





Rmeil 342, after the blast, D. Mrad

After the intervention, Y. Dagher

Beirut's built heritage is mostly known for its iconic triple arched bays facing north. The destruction of those arches left the interiors of the houses exposed and structurally vulnerable.

BHI managed to restore this unique architectural feature in two heritage buildings. The intervention included:

- The reconstruction of the sandstone arches and Carrara marble columns
- The restoration of damaged corbels or wooden beams that held the balconies' Carrara marble slabs
- Plastering of the newly constructed arches using lime plaster



During the intervention, Y. Kassar



Balcony installation, F. Dagher



After the intervention, F. Dagher

## Rmeil 646-648: Façade Rehabilitation

Rmeil 646 and 648 are two early modern heritage buildings, located in the centre of Mar Mikhael. The buildings endured damage such as plastering crack, carpentry loss, and interior damage. Beirut Heritage Initiative is working on the rehabilitation of the façades of those buildings, and the repair of the concrete balconies.

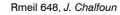


Rmeil 646 (left) and Rmeil 648 (right), D. Mrad



Rmeil 646, J. Chalfoun







Balcony repair, Rmeil 646, J. Chalfoun

#### **Saifi 242:**

This heritage building was severely damaged. BHI's intervention consisted in the reconstruction of Northern façade's triple arches, with Carrara marble columns and sandstone arches, with plaster and carpentry works, as well as the restoration of the Carrara marble balcony laid on steel trusses and wooden beams.



Saifi 242, after the blast, D. Mrad



During intervention, D. Mrad



After intervention, D. Mrad



Laying of the fallen sandstones, D. Mrad



Replacing the broken Carrara tiles, D. Mrad





Carpentry installation, collaboration with Bebw' Shebbek, D. Mrad

BHI was able to intervene further on this plot, with two other operations:

- Reconstitution of *Qotrani* wooden windows and arches for the new facade, a project in collaboration with Bebw'Shebbek.
- Renovation of the damaged Baghdadi ceilings using traditional techniques, in collaboration with Save Beirut's Old Houses.



Repair of Baghdadi Ceiling, D. Mrad

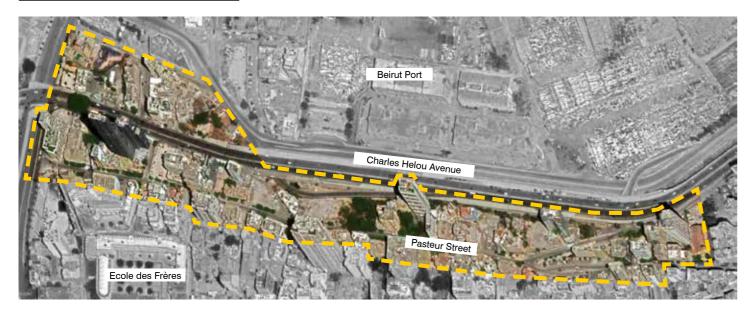


# PHASE III: FULL RENOVATION WITHIN CLUSTERS

The extent of damage from the explosion can be witnessed on numerous heritage buildings that are grouped into heritage clusters.

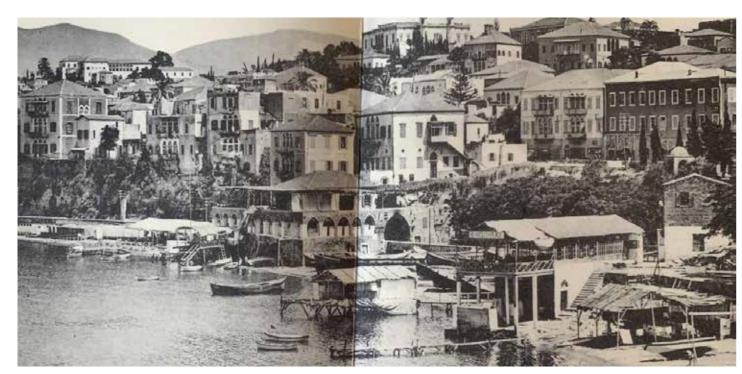
BHI's strategy aims to respond to this urgent need to preserve and protect heritage clusters. Carrying the memories of generations and a unique historical identity, these buildings represent Beirut's rich history and culture. They offer the city and its inhabitants a sense of continuity in this fast changing world.

## **1- The Shoreline Cluster:**



Located less than 500 meters from the blast area, the <u>Shoreline Cluster</u> is composed of 35 heritage buildings. Before the construction of the Charles Helou Avenue and the extension of the port, the shoreline cluster was located on the Medawar Cliff, on the banks of the St. Andrew's Bay.

BHI is intervening on a heritage buildings, Medawar 479, in the middle of this cluster, and is in contact with several actors to collaborate on other heritage buildings within the cluster.

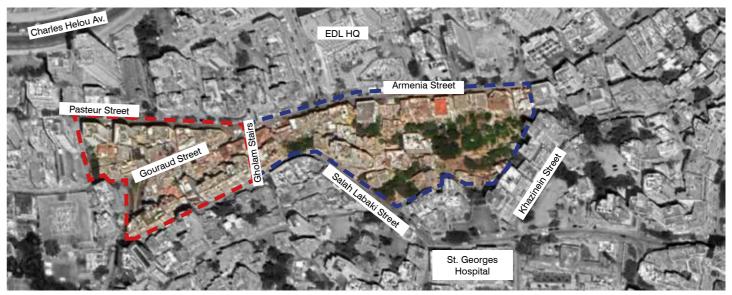


The Saint-Andrew Bay - 1920, Beyrouth, Notre Mémoire - Fouad Debbas

### 2- The Gholam & Mulberry Clusters:

The Gholam Cluster & Mulberry Cluster are located less than 500 meters away from the explosion site. Both clusters endured severe damage from the blast.

BHI is intervening on a heritage building (Rmeil 722) in the <u>Gholam Cluster</u>, in collaboration with *Together Li Beirut*, and is assisting *LiveLoveBeirut* on the renovation of 5 heritage buildings in the Mulberry Cluster.



The Gholam Cluster, in red, and the Mulberry Cluster, in blue



The Gholam Cluster, Rmeil 722 (left) & Rmeil 723 (right), J. Chalfoun

#### **Rmeil 722: Beit Chaoul**

Rmeil 722, is a heritage building located at the juncture between Gemmayzeh and Mar Mikhael. Built between 1860 -1900, it is composed of a commercial ground floor and two residential floors. Severe damage have been inflicted upon this building as it lies along the direct axes of the port explosion.





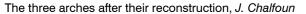
Roof Sheltering, C. Talj

Rmeil 722, after the blast, D. Mrad

In October 2020, BHI sheltered the building under a grant from ALIPH to secure it from further damage during the winter storms. In April 2021, with the help of multiple donors, BHI was able to secure the fund needed for the building's full restoration. Consequently, BHI will be contributing to the safeguarding of the neighbourhood's heritage cluster.









Roof works, D. Mrad

Restoration works will follow the guidelines of a thorough study conducted by Architect-Restorer Pierre Ghanem from BBHR which was commissioned by the DGA and funded by the DAI. So far, 75% of the works have been completed on site and the expected end date of the works is September 2021. In addition, a grant has been also allocated to the refurbishment of the Gholam Public Stairs by the French ministries of Culture and Ecological Transition.



During the intervention, reconstruction of the roof's wooden structure, J. Chalfoun



Plaster Repair, J. Chalfoun



Baghdadi Ceiling Repair, J. Chalfoun



Laying down roof tiles, J. Chalfoun

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#### **Medawar 479: The Blue House**

Medawar 479, known as "The Blue House", is a heritage building located between Pasteur Street, and Charles Helou Avenue. Due to its proximity to the port, the explosion inflicted damages upon its structure, interior, roof, carpentry...



The Medawar neighbourhood in the 1920's, Beirut Heritage

Prior to the construction of the Charles Helou Avenue and the port's expansion, the building sat on the cliffs of the Medawar shoreline overlooking the sea. Its construction was phased by two stages, whereby the first two floors were constructed in the early 1900's, and the third around the 1920's.



Medawar 479, before the blast, D. Mrad



After the blast, D. Mrad

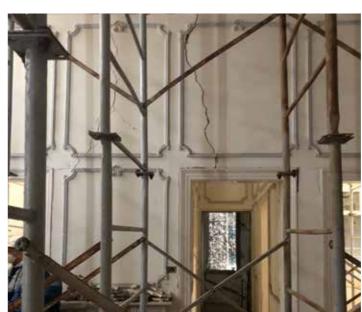
A generous grant allocated to BHI from the Honor Frost Foundation will enable its full restoration. The scope of restoration works includes structural consolidation, reconstruction of the pitched roof and the North façade, and interior renovations.

The restoration works will follow the guidelines of a thorough study conducted by Architect-Restorer Joe Kallas. After the launch of the tender process, ACE (Awaida Contracting & Engineering) was chosen as the contractor for the restoration works. Works are to start in October 2021.





Interior propping, D. Mrad



Interior damage, Y. Dagher



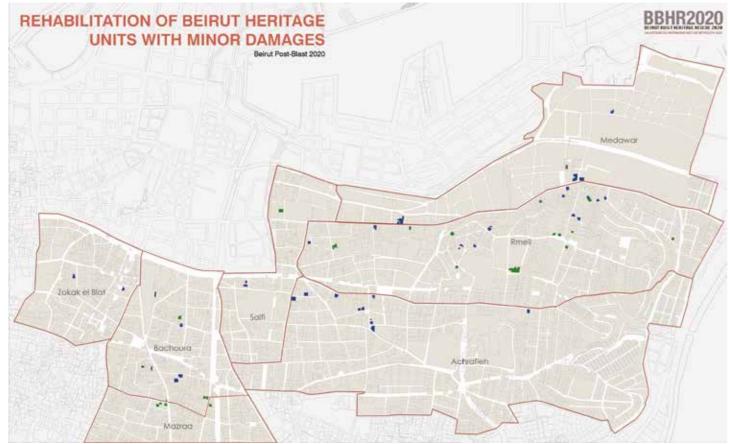


Baghdadi Ceiling propping, D. Mrad

# ASSISTANCE TO UNHCR: HERITAGE RESTORATION WORKS IN BEIRUT

The objective of the project is to assist *UNHCR* in conducting restoration of heritage buildings affected by the Beirut Blast. *FNP - Beirut Heritage Initiative* Campaign will provide the assistance through preparation of technical documents allowing UNHCR's selected contractor to execute works in an adequate manner, supervision of the execution works, and hand over of works with relevant reports to *UNHCR. INTERSOS* will support the intervention by ensuring the funding from *UNHCR* to *FNP - Beirut Heritage Initiative* Campaign in the framework of the project is compliant with the requirements and providing financial oversight of the expenditures done by *FNP - Beirut Heritage Initiative* Campaign.

Ms Grace Rihan Hanna, architect-restorer from the *Beirut Built Heritage Rescue 2020*, was selected as the project manager and heritage expert, to carry out this project.



Map of phase one, Grace Rihan Hanna

#### Methodology:

Once a unit is selected, a survey is done to assess damages in terms of quantities. They are highlighted on a current situation "minute" (Plan).

The data collected for unit selection and survey are registered on an Excel template sheet that cover three main aspects:

- 1. An architectural assessment for each unit describing its typology, damage type and general information
- 2. A technical assessment that groups the site photos, the current situation plan and the intervention BOQ for that same unit
- 3. A social status report of the family living inside that specific unit along with the legal documents of the owner / tenant of the unit an ID copy and a proof of residency being a real estate affidavit, a lease agreement or an electricity or water bill.

Once approved by the UNHCR, the site work begins under the team supervision and inspection.

# REHABILITATION OF BEIRUT HERITAGE UNITS WITH MINOR DAMAGES

Beirut post-blast 2020

150

109 APPROVED UN

or darmage • 109 units were nits were approved by UNHCR (R202)



The purpose of the mission is to present a project similing to assist UNHCR in preparing small technical documents with relevant BOQ//speci/drawings, allowing the selected

 to execute works in an adequate manner
 so supervise the execution of these works
 to hand over of works with relevant reports to UNHCR, ICOMOS and DGA

Selecting units based on three main crasers:

-The bushling unit should be classified as a herit
building.

-The unit should be inhabited.

-The unit should have manor damage.

Once a unit is selected, a survey is done to assess damages in terms of quantities. The data collected for unit selection and survey an registered on exert template sheets that covers three main aspects:

describing the unit typology, damage type and general information.

A technical assessment that groups the site photos the current senation plan and the inservention BOQ for that same unit.

A social strust record of the family

Once approved by UNHCR, the size work beginneder the team upervision and inspection



















Nooden doors, windows and shutters installation or repair along with painting works and glass installation



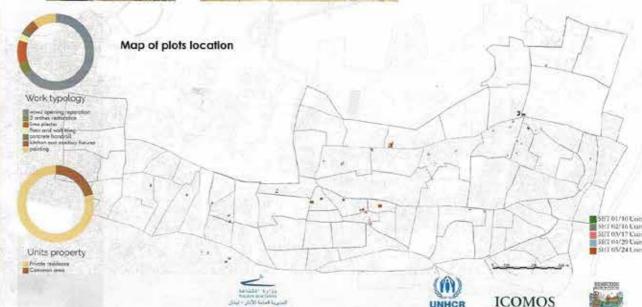












Summary of the works, Grace Rihan Hanna

# RESTORATION MANUALS & SPECIALIZED PRESENTATIONS, WITH FONDATION de FRANCE

The project with the Fondation de France has 3 components:

- 1- Publication of two technical manuals, on heritage buildings built between 1860-1925 and 1925-1970
- 2- Specialized presentations (refer to page 30 & 31)
- 3- Site visits and assessments

The manuals, trainings and expertise are necessary for the renovation of the affected heritage houses, awaiting for funding for proper intervention.



Site Visit with Engineer - Heritage specialist Michel Chalhoub, D. Mrad

Our project benefits a large number of people and different target groups. From the inhabitants of these houses which need to be restored, to the engineers, architects, associations, trades, craftsmen who participate in this reconstruction.

All of our actions are therefore beneficial to multiple sectors. With the proper know-how, each house or business restored will induces a revitalization of the city, the social life, and the economic activity. By restoring the buildings, we encourage the inhabitants to return to their homes and thereby resume their main activities. Our policy is directed not towards aid for the restoration of a building, but of a group of buildings, within clusters, in order to encourage residents to establish themselves in their neighbourhoods.

The knowledge contained in the manuals, the practices and solutions it proposes are already applied either during the various interventions that we carry out ourselves, or during the interventions of our partners and other actors who work in the affected neighbourhoods.

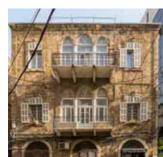
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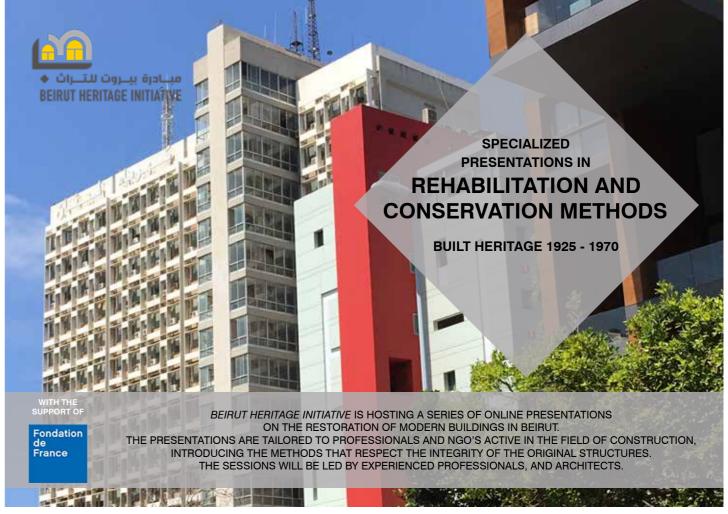
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**EFFICIENT BUILDING RENOVATION** 

Aram Yeretzian Rodolphe Mattar



**ACCESSIBILITY** 

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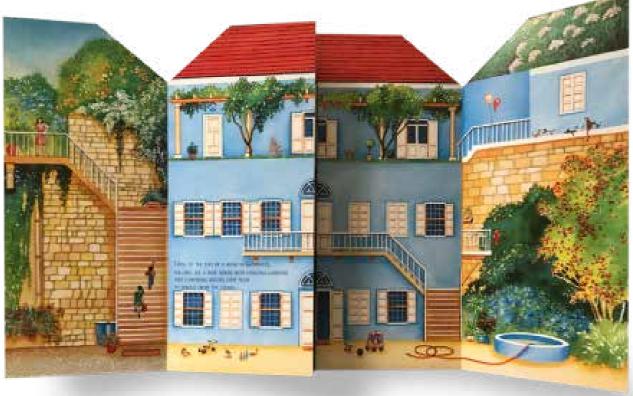
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