



LOOKING BACK:

OCT 2019 - SEPT 2020: A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

In just one year, Lebanon went through months of mass protests and country-wide roadblocks, the collapse of its economy and banking system, the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns, and the deadly explosion that rocked Beirut in August. In parallel, Syria's economy has been severely affected by the Lebanese crises and international sanctions that have greatly hurt the already struggling population.

These new and overlapping crises have increased vulnerabilities at an alarming rate, while the daily-evolving environment in which we work greatly affected our capacity to respond. Had it not been for the adaptability, creativity, and all the extra work of our team, we would have found it difficult to even maintain some of the most basic assistance we help provide.

Despite all the challenges, discover what you helped us do during this unusual year by reading our impact report.



“ Word from the team

Looking back on this past year feels a little surreal. So much happened that no one could have foreseen, and which stretched us all well beyond what we ever thought we could handle.

Yet again, we were able to count on our growing number of partners on the ground and on the unwavering support and generosity of our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere in the world.

More than simply maintaining the overall level of our assistance, we were able to scale up as the various compounding crises occurred.

We do not know how God plans to work in everything that has happened, and our hearts ache for the people around us.

But we trust that it will all be for His glory in the end, and we feel privileged to continue laboring for Him, each and every one of us in our own places.



Check out our **IMPACT REPORT!**

SHELTER : UPDATE ON OUR BLAST RESPONSE



After our initial food and voucher distributions, we launched a shelter project to help rehabilitate homes in blast-affected areas. Rehabilitation efforts include repairing windows, doors and damaged furniture, painting walls, and replacing damaged furniture. With three churches, we rehabilitated 70 homes so far, so families can live in decent conditions again before winter.

[Our blast response to date](#)



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EDUCATION : GETTING INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



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COVID-19 is still very much spreading in Lebanon and schools have been opening on and off during the first months of the new academic year. These disruptions are starting to heavily weigh on the children's education. Despite our renewed efforts to implement distance learning, all children and families agree they in-person education is best. Thankfully, the centers were open this Advent season and the children prepared some beautiful decorations and carols.

[Watch video](#)

MEET OUR PARTNERS : SARAH

"My ministry is mainly with the migrant domestic workers. They work in Lebanon under a very precarious system that makes them vulnerable to all sorts of abuses. We are so happy that MERATH has come alongside us on this journey. We feel strengthened. We thought we were alone. Of course, we provide material support, but Jesus is our cornerstone. We have that in common and MERATH values it."

[Meet Sarah](#)



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MERATH, through local partners, implements relief and development projects
for thousands of vulnerable families
in Syria, Lebanon, and Iraq



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