

November 30th, 2021

Light for Lebanon – a look back at our first year’s accomplishments:

It’s been one year since your generous donation that **enabled us to kick off our important solar lighting program Light for Lebanon**, and I would like to update you on the progress we’ve been able to make thanks to our generous sponsors. We raised \$113,000 which allowed us to purchase almost 4000 light fixtures! The pandemic curfews slowed us down, but we are once again very busy with distributions and installations as we await our latest purchase orders to arrive.

We surveyed neighborhoods to see which suffered the most from darkness. We simultaneously contacted the municipality/ army branch in charge of the neighborhoods for approval for our work, to ensure that our installations would be protected and would not conflict with any other development plans, and we have partnered with many local organizations such as Live Love Beirut, Nusaned, Beit el Baraka, Beirut Heritage Initiative, Temporary Art Platform, and Al Chafaka.

Our first distribution was to the **fire station in Quarantina**, which was the closest and the first to respond to the blast, and which tragically lost members to the explosion. Their fire station was badly damaged but they heroically continued working in the dark to help residents. We gave them 60 portable lights and installed 15 floodlights and a streetlight so they could safely maneuver their fire truck in and out of their fire station. The grateful firefighters are now helping us in turn with distributions and installations.

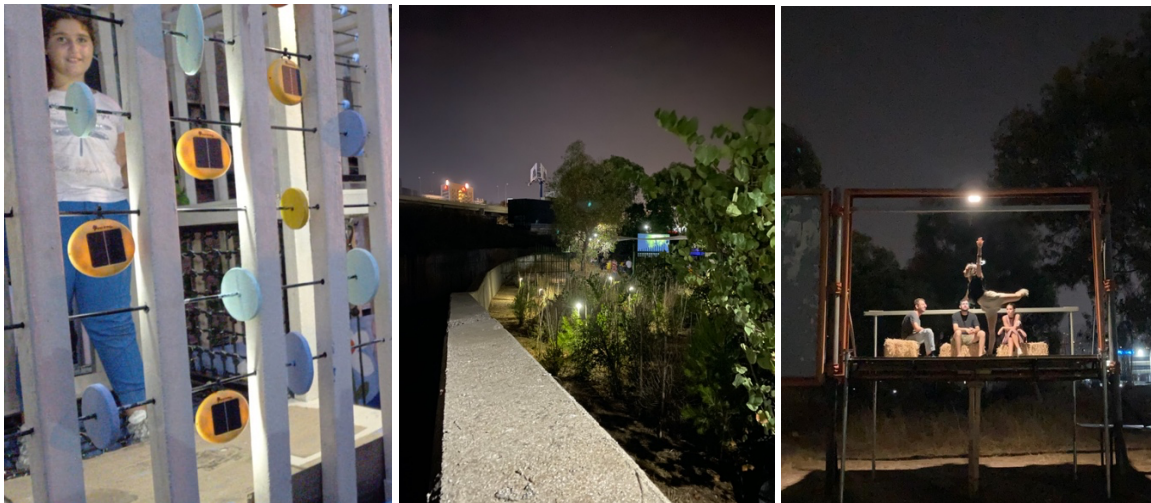


We distributed over 1,500 portables in areas hardest hit by the blast, areas of high poverty and with a large number of elderly residents, such as the neighborhoods of Quarantina, Achrafieh, Bourj Hammoud, Mar Mkhael, Gemmayze, Zkak el Blat, Mousaitbeh, Medawar, Mazraa, Geitawi and Karm al Zaytoon. **We installed almost 100 floodlights** at building entrances in Quarantina and Rmeil, as well as in a mobile playground for kids in Bourj Hammoud and in a temporary art installation in Sin el Fil. Lebanon is in crisis mode but we must not pause childhood development and artistic expression, for without those things we have no future. **We installed 10 streetlights** in Rmeil on Salah Labaki road

lighting the way to the Orthodox hospital, and are looking to install 50 more in a cluster around that neighborhood.



Just last week we installed another 10 floodlights in building entrances in Geitawi., and this week we will distribute 500 more portables in Karm el Zeitoun and Geitawi, to ensure that all residents have illumination. We are working with Beirut Heritage Initiative to light dark thoroughfares such as a stairway in Rmeil. We will also light up an interior courtyard/ play area for an orphanage in Hazmieh, which has tragically seen a large increase in the number of children being given up to them by impoverished parents.



We plan on distributing over 500 portable lights and holding multiple lighting workshops to teach science and art to kids through lighting, as well as lighting their playgrounds with floodlights and streetlights.

We are very proud of having been able to serve so many residents of all ages in Beirut this past year, but the needs are enormous and much more needs to be done. Lebanon has run out of fuel and the two main power companies have shut down. Lebanon can no longer subsidize fuel and far too many cannot afford to plug into the diesel generators that are powering the country. While the country waits for more sustainable solutions such as solar microgrids, we can light up people’s lives tomorrow.



111 E 14th Street – PMBox 187 New York NY 10003 USA

Our goal is to distribute and install 20,000 solar lights throughout the areas affected by the 2020 blast and we seek to raise \$150,000 for our second phase: will you help by sponsoring us again for 2022?

I attached our annual corporate sponsorship rates and benefits. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or for any further information.

Sincerely,

Nathalie Rozot, Miina Matsuoka, Manal Kahale, Tina Aghassian and the entire Light Reach team

e: mmatsuoka@phoscope.org, taghassian@hlblighting.com