

# ANNUAL REPORT



# DEAR FRIENDS AND RUNNERS.

Allow me to thank the entire Lebanese running community for another amazing year of helping us move and unite people through running. We celebrated our 15-year anniversary with great achievements that wouldn't have been possible without our supporters, friends, runners, coordinators, volunteers, partners, staff and all the board of trustees.

### AN EVENTFUL YEAR

This past year was a busy one for the Beirut Marathon. Three major races took place, all while organizing smaller regional races in Lebanon, as well as leading a successful community and training programs throughout the year.

### BANKMED YOUTH RACE

On April 2, 2017 the youth of Lebanon ran for a very important cause, the Lebanese Armed Forces. Registration was free of charge to give all our future heroes the chance to be part of this humanitarian and healthy event.

Dbayeh streets greeted the early morning risers who filled the gathering area and enjoyed a full line up of entertainment on stage. A staggering number of 7,079 registered to run the races and new records were held.

### SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE

May 21, 2017 was a memorable day for the women of Lebanon, the arab world and everyone who took part in the 4th edition of Saradar Bank Women's Race. Women from all walks of life, all ages, and all backgrounds participated in this race that is designed specifically for them. This event would not have been such a success without everyone's exceptional support.

More than one thousand women took to the streets of Jounieh, supported by men and children who stood on the sidewalks and cheered for their moms, their wives, their loved ones, their best friends, and their sisters. The course was flat, festive, and loved by all the runners who enjoyed every kilometer crossed.

### **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON**

15 years ago, the word marathon did not exist in Lebanon. Today, the word "marathon" has many meanings in our beloved country. On November 12, 2017 the word defined breaking records, personal achievements, and running for causes. The event has grown to become THE biggest national event of the year, one that unites all the Lebanese under the banner of peace and sports.

### PROGRAMS

In its 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Beirut Marathon's **542 training program** witnessed its most prominent year yet. With the support of BLOM BANK, volunteer coaches dedicated their time to train hopeful runners, and managed to inspire 158 runners to complete the full marathon on November 12. Following the 542 path, we introduced a similar training program -510- to help women train for the 10 KM over a span of 5 weeks. The first grass root edition assisted 32 women to reach their goals of completing the running distance.

The Beirut Marathon Ability Program, with the support of TEC Interior Design, expanded to reach Tripoli and increased the number of professional hand-cyclists to a total of 22. Para-athletes trained vigorously to participate in many regional events while preparing for the Beirut Marathon.

All that we do is only possible with the extraordinary support of our volunteer coaches who train our champions twice a week with conditioning exercises.

With the running culture continuing to be on a constant rise, the spirit of giving was manifested in the "Donate Your Running Shoes" (DYRS) program. A generous number of shoes were donated through numerous outlets around Lebanon. Also, out of conviction that running is for all, "Adopt a Team" program managed to cover the cost of transportation, breakfast, participation and lunch to 1,495 children from all corners of the country.

### CAUSES TO RUN FOR

We have been encouraging participants to dedicate their run to causes they believe in. With 183 partnered NGOs, an overwhelming number of 25,688 registered through charities on November 12, 2017. By running for a cause, 25% of the registration fee goes straight to support the NGOs work. For last year's BLOM BANK Beirut Marathon, a total amount of \$154,787 was raised by the partnered NGOs through registration fees alone.

### **APM (ASIAN PREMIER MARATHONS)**

Asian Premier Marathons, a new marathon league jointly established by Infront China, Beijing Marathon, Beirut Marathon and Seoul Marathon, under the leadership of the Asian Athletics Association.

This league was launched in July 2017, and we, at the Beirut Marathon, are very honored to be part of it, as it will help us push our mission forward and drive Lebanese Elite runners to compete at a Pan Asian Level.

APM's hope is to focus on the mass participation market in sports and to further boost the development of marathons in China and across Asia.



### BEIRUT MARATHON AND THE WORLD

In an effort to grow the running community and to bring people together through the sport of running, the Beirut Marathon initiated Memorandums of Understanding with regional and international marathons.

The partnership agreements entitle participating entities to promote their respective marathons, and it allows for exchange of logistics expertise in organizing road-running events.

The Beirut Marathon signed MOUs with Limassol Marathon, Cairo Runners, Serbia Running Association, Comar Marathon, and Cardiff Metropolitan University. We are looking at potential partnerships with Maratona di Roma, Bosnia, and Croatia.

### BEIRUT MARATHON TEAM

The contagious energy of the Beirut Marathon team never fails to entice commitment, passion, and inspiration in any project we lead. I couldn't be prouder to be surrounded by professionals who are leading by example.

### **15 YEARS AND MORE**

Here's to many more years of moving the community through the power of running. We are thankful for everything we have achieved, and, with your support, we promise you a great 2018 filled with running, health, love, and, most of all, peace.

### BECAUSE PEACEMAKING IS NOT A SPRINT, IT IS MORE OF A MARATHON

May El Khalil *President* Beirut Marathon Association

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# **KEY ACTIVITIES** 2017 CALENDAR



# *OVERVIEW* 2017

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# **15 YEARS IN REVIEW**

2017 marked the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Beirut Marathon. What started with 6,000 runners grew to encompass more than 47,800 participants challenging themselves, championing causes, bettering their best, inhaling intentions and exhaling expectations.

Life is a marathon, we live in a country where ordinary does not exist, but on this one November day, we prove to the world that we're all in this together. For years, people have taken part in this event that has succeeded to bring everyone together under the umbrella of peace. To move and unite people through running is our mission at the Beirut Marathon and this is what drives us to organize races and develop sustainable programs that contribute to a healthy lifestyle and well-being.

The 2017 Marathon Course has changed to be the fastest & flattest one vet, where all event records were broken on Nov 12, 2017.

2017 also marked a great milestone for the Beirut Marathon Association, where we have joined in founding the ASIAN PREMIER LEAGUE - the 1st continental marathon league in the world.

The 1st event in the 2018-2019 season will start in 2018 in Beirut during the BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON and will attract a wide range of Asian Athletes that will compete to cross the finish line.

Here is to everyone who makes the marathon happen from Runners, Volunteers, NGOs, Media, Internationals, Cheerers, Officials, Partners Supporters, the Beirut Marathon team and our new Asian Premier Marathon family!

### **TO ANOTHER 15 YEARS AND MORE!**

ASIAN PREMIER MARATHONS NOV. 12, 2017 APM ACLARINA

BLOM BANK

jointly established by Beijing Marathon, Beirut Marathon, Seoul Marathon and Infront China under the leadership of Asian Athletics Association (AAA). The new league aims to raise the competition level and international appeal of marathon events in Asia as well as attract more high-level Asian athletes

September, followed by Beirut Marathon 2017 and Seoul Marathon 2018, and finish with Beijing Marathon 2018. Top 3 men's and women's Asian runners (6 in total) will share the USD 500,000 prize. Moreover, APM member events will jointly set a ranking and awarding system for all Asian runners.







From its remarkable and relatively humble b joined to run the streets, this year the 2017 E attracted more than 47,859 peace runners re

2003	6,000	
2004	12,000	
2005	17,0	000
2006		22,000
2007		26,00
2008		29
2009		30
2010		28,
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		

THE BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON BOASTS EXCELLENT ORGANIZATION, AMAZING CROWDS, AND SAFE COURSES.

beginning in 2003, when 6,000 runners BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARTAHON epresenting nearly 104 nationalities.	
000	
9,000	
70,000	
3,072	
31,136	
33,500	
36,000	
37,153	
37,811	
47,518	
47,859	



# BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION MUSEUM

For our 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, we went the extra mile and went back in time to re-live each moment since the day the Beirut Marathon Association came to life. We collected BIB Numbers, T-shirts, Medals & gathered them in a modern setup to showcase each year's kit. Our runners re-lived their first marathon, experience, moments of glory and were able to go down memory lane & enjoy their win one more time.

2017 This year is about the kineting of the second of the

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### ROMERO BRITTO, DORI HITTI & **BEIRUT MARATHON** ASSOCIATION

In celebration of the Beirut Marathon 15 years anniversary, a collaboration with international artist Romero Britto and renowned Lebanese architect Dori Hitti resulted in an artistic "RUN" structure on the streets of Beirut.

The relationship between Britto and the Beirut Marathon goes back to 2014 when President May El Khalil visited the artist studio during a marathon-related trip to Miami with Board Member Thomas Abraham. Britto expressed his utmost respect towards the Beirut Marathon and the values it stands for. Britto's colorful work inspired the peace and love symbols found in the word RUN introduced by the Beirut Marathon on that same year.

The 5 meters structure was painted live by Romero Britto with the of the city that welcomes runners from all over the world. The artistic structure was listed in the annual Beirut Art Fair and was placed at a strategic location in Downtown Beirut.

runners of Lebanon and the world are its heroes. They infuse goodness and positivity. They are the #PEACERUNNERS OF THE WORLD.

This tribute will be seen by generations to come, and will hopefully keep inspiring the community to run more and celebrate the joys of life through a healthy, simple sport that has a lot to give back.



PEACE AND LOVE ARE FOUND IN THE RUN!

# TRANSMED MARATHON VILLAGE 2017

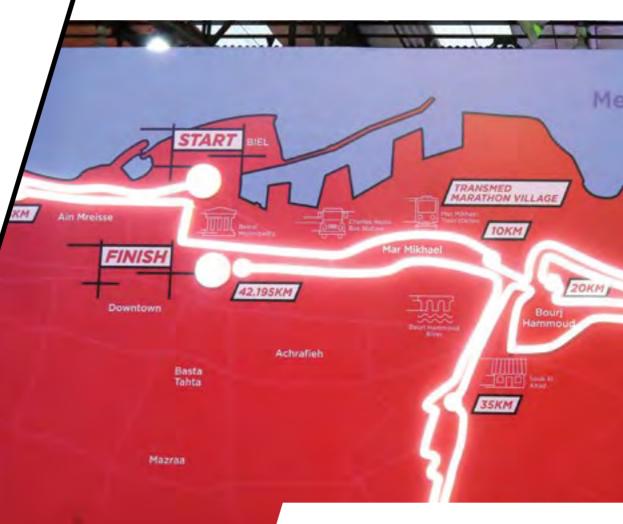
**The TRANSMED MARATHON VILLAGE** hosted more than 35 exhibitors featuring the latest developments in sports, fitness and nutrition. In addition, the Marathon Expo was home to the BIB Pick-Up for all 47,859 participants at the BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON 2017. Held at the TRAIN STATION, Mar Mikhael, the four-day event and expo was free and open to the public.

The event was also home to the BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION 15 years museum, which gave tribute to all our campaigns, race kits, and memorabilia since 2003 to date.

Many activations took place around the event by different entities such as: FITNESS ZONE, SHARPIE, SOUK EL AKEL, BLOM BANK, AL KAZZI NUTS, VOLKSWAGEN, KIDZMONDO and many more to interact with the audience & runners.

### SPONSORS AND PARTNERS:





A dedicated conference area inside the village, hosted many technical seminars, conferences and entertainment slots back-to-back during the opening hours.

Souk El Akel hosted a Pasta Party for the BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON runners on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 06:00 PM to get them ready for the next day race and help them reach the finish line.

Souk El Akel that took part inside the Marathon Village was a Food Celebration showcasing Lebanon's vibrant culinary world of foods including Lebanese, Middle Eastern and International bites.





# BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION ROUGH THE YEARS





### Sebastian Coe

The president of IAAF attended the Beirut Marathon as a Guest of Honor



### The ReRun initiative

was launched to encourage art through recycled items

### Ability Program

The Beirut Marathon launched the Ability Program, a special needs training program that also provides professional wheelchairs for selected participants

### **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON**

IAAF Silver Label

Romero Britto 3D Run Structure

SARADAR BANK Women's Race

Celebrating 15 years of running in Beirut, a marathon that gathered more than 47,800 runners on that day. TRANSMED Marathon Village An expo dedicated to sports, health, fitness and home to the Beirut Marathon Bib pickup.



Damascus to Beirut 111 KM Ultra Marathon with 11 international

In its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 7,079 runners ran in solidarity with our Lebanese Armed Forces

a collaboration with international artist Romero Britto and renowned architect Dori Hitti resulted in an artistic "RUN" structure on the streets of Beirut



Maintaining our status as a silver label event by the IAAF (International Association of Athletic Federations) for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year





# BANKMED YOUTH **RACE** 2017

### April 02, 2017 Dbayeh

Following our commitment to grow the running culture in Lebanon, the Beirut Marathon Association organized the 3rd edition of the BANKMED YOUTH RACE on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 in Dbayeh. The main goal of the youth race is to nurture and grow the next generation of runners and leaders in the Lebanese communities. The youth of Lebanon, chose to run for the love of challenging their bodies, minds and to nurture their willpower.

But then, there are those who run to answer a call of duty, to protect lives and to defend a country in need, the Lebanese Armed Forces. They ran for honor, sacrifice and loyalty.

### THIS YEAR, WE RAN IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR LEBANESE ARMED FORCES.

7,079 runners in total, ran the 2 KM & 5 KM races. The runners aged between 7 & 13 years old ran the 2 KM while the rest 14 to 17 years old, ran the 5 KM.

In addition, the event included the 2 KM Para-Athlete category & the most popular 5 KM Fun Run which was open to all.



2009

2006



	3,926	3,153	7,079
	2,458	2,269	4,727
tes Race	51	25	76
	535	253	788
	882	606	1,488
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL

# BANKMED YOUTH RACE IN NUMBERS





RACE BRANDING 684 m<sup>2</sup>



LABORERS 100



ACCREDITATION PASSES 2,325



MEDICAL TENTS 2 START & FINISH LINES 2 POST FINISH LINES **1 ON COURSE** 



PARTNER BRANDING 2,411 m<sup>2</sup>

SCAFFOLDING

3,121 m<sup>2</sup>



COMMUNICATION BRANDING 765 m<sup>2</sup>

**CARPET** 

592 m<sup>2</sup>

PARKING PASSES

950



SECURITY (START & FINISH LINE) 43 personnel

FLAGS

15

POLICE

100







20 personnel



WALKIE T 38

VESTS

559

/		
LKIE		

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BARF 7 /	

52 Trucks

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MUNICIPALITY STAFF 23





VEHICLE PASSES

50

MEDICAL STAFF 15 PHYSIOTHERAPISTS **15 NURSES** 4 DOCTORS



AMBULANCES 5















20



# SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE 2017

### **May 21, 2017** Jounieh

This year's Saradar Bank Women's Race took place on May 21<sup>st</sup> in Jounieh under the message "LET'S RUN FORWARD"; a call to action for all women in Lebanon to keep moving forward, run for women empowerment causes and to rise to the challenges of every day no matter how big or small.

By committing to run the 10 KM for herself, her cause, her health, her loved ones and her future, every woman realizes that she is capable of much more, be it by breaking her own record or completing the distance for the first time, this is her race to celebrate, compete, achieve and become.

THE BEIRUT MARATHON WOMEN'S RACE WAS LAUNCHED IN 2013 WITH THE GOAL TO EMPOWER WOMEN THROUGH THE SIMPLE SPORT OF RUNNING.

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all min

15

1.00

## BECAUSE A BIT OF SUPPORT CAN GO A LONG WAY # انا\_معكى

انا\_معكي # is an activation introduced by the Beirut Marathon for the Saradar Bank Women's Race, inspired by a movement born in the UK #whatifirunwithyou

"It started when a runner, Andy, saw a lady struggling through a 6-mile run—she'd all but given up at 5.7 miles—so he offered to run with her. He knew he couldn't take away the pain she was going through. but he could support her until the end. Andy started supporting runners who were struggling or needed an extra bit of love, motivation or reassurance that someone out there cared. The idea was to raise awareness and to show anyone that needed someone that someone is, in fact, out there rooting for them."

We, at the Beirut Marathon, are on a mission to move and unite people through running. Sport might not be perceived as a priority in our country, but the benefits of running transcend the physical and help alleviates challenges.

R

# NATIONAL ITIES

### FACTS & FIGURES RACE

10 KM Race 10 KM Relay Race 10 KM Para-Athletes

Total

Numerous studies, dating back more than 30 years have shown that regular exercise can help relieve symptoms of mental challenges, as well as lowering the risk of illnesses and obesity.

With the Women's Race approaching, we felt that support was needed to get more girls and women to commit to train and run the full 10 KM in a race dedicated to them. That's when the work started. The Beirut Marathon team approached influencers, sports figures and celebrities and asked them to show their support to the Saradar Bank Women's Race by either posting a photo with the forward sign >> or by sharing words of encouragement through videos.

The results were overwhelming, #ana\_ma3ki, (which means: I am with you), went viral as friends and family joined in to encourage their loved ones to complete the distance.

Suffice to say that for the very first time, more than 60% of all participants completed the 10 KM Saradar Bank Women's Race in less than an hour, which by itself is a great measurement of how one little shoutout can help one finish faster and stronger than ever.

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	l	
	949	
	60	
s Race	17	
	1,026	

# SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE IN NUMBERS







LABORERS 70



CAR RENTAL 212 Days



MEDICAL TENTS 4 START & FINISH LINES **1 ON COURSE** 



PARTNER BRANDING

2,573 m<sup>2</sup>

SCAFFOLDING

106 m<sup>2</sup>

ACCREDITATION

PASSES

MEDICAL STAFF 8 PHYSIOTHERAPISTS 10 NURSES **4 DOCTORS** 



COMMUNICATION BRANDING 676 m<sup>2</sup>

CARPET

106 m<sup>2</sup>



LEBANESE RED CROSS PARAMEDICS





SECURITY (COURSE) 30



TRANSPORTATION 42 Trucks





















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330



**VEHICLE PASSES** 62



PARKING PASSES

POLICE

















# **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON** 2017

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PACER 1

*November 12, 2017 Beirut* 

In celebration of our 15 years anniversary, the campaign was a tribute to all who made the event what it is today. Developed by Brandem and the Beirut Marathon team, "15 years of Running" was the reigning slogan on the streets of every corner of Lebanon. The visual introduced a real marathon runner carrying the Lebanese flag while crossing the finish line.

The visual campaign had also a second phase that emerged on lightpoles, towers and bridges depicting 6 different words that represent what the past 15 years were about: committing, uniting, volunteering, cheering, giving and growing. The photos featured runners, para-athletes, Beirut Marathon team members, volunteers and cheerers, adding the real deal to an event that has managed to bring people together under the umbrella of sport.

The colorful word RUN presented all throughout the campaign is the one adopted by the Beirut Marathon since 2014, it carries both the peace symbol and the heart shape, following the Peace, Love, Run motto of the Beirut Marathon. For 2017, the design of the word was created by international artist Romero Britto.

12<sup>TH</sup> NOV, 2017 WAS A NEW MILESTONE FOR THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION, WHERE WE CELEBRATED THE 15<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF THE BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON.

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AWADA





# NEW RECORDS AT THE BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON

When it comes to broken records, 2017 was definitely a winner. With a better, faster and more entertaining marathon course for the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of BLOM Bank Beirut Marathon, a time of 2:10:42 was set by Dominic Ruto from Kenya, and a new marathon record of 2:28:38 for women was set by Eunice Chumba from Bahrain.

On the Lebanese front history was made as Chirine Njeim beat her event record which she set in 2016 by running a faster pace and completing the Marathon in 2:45:00. This is the best event record that Lebanon has ever witnessed on the special streets of Beirut. Nadia Dagher, an emerging elite athlete, won 1st place in the half marathon and achieved a record time of 1:26:39

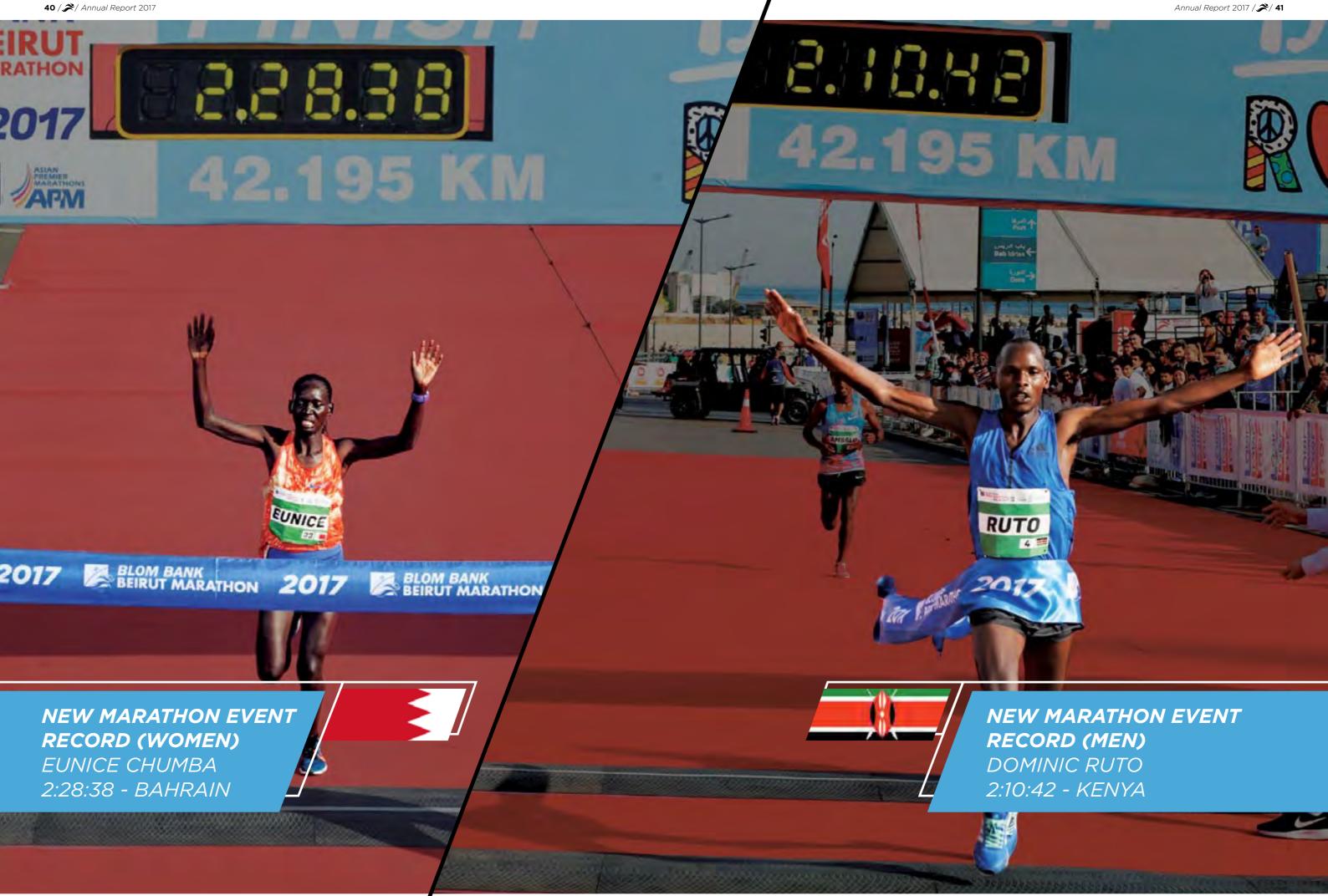
One of the biggest surprises was the stunning half marathon record achieved by Iranian Mohamed Jafar Moradi who completed the full distance in 1:08:04, raising the bar for all hopeful elite athletes.

The race department at the Beirut Marathon worked very hard on improving the course, with that came great results and a wonderful experience to elite and amateur runners who rated the track as the best one they've ever ran to date.

> CHIRINE NJEIM 2:45:00



**NEW LEBANESE MARATHON EVENT RECORD (WOMEN)** 



# **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON** FACTS & FIGURES

21,906

	MALE	FEMALE	GUIDES	TOTAL
1 KM RUN WITH PARENTS	960	840	2,700	4,500
5 KM YOUTH RACE	2,806	2,694	2,000	7,500
8 KM FUN RUN	14,638	15,862	0	30,500
8 KM RACE	1,074	676	0	1,750
21.1 KM RACE	1,066	517	0	1,583
JUNIOR RELAY MARATHON	162	28	0	190
42.195 KM MARATHON	730	244	0	974
42.195 KM MARATHON RELAY RACE	254	106	0	360
8 KM PARA-ATHLETE RACE	76	24	50	150
42.195 KM PARA-ATHLETE RACE	42	8	2	52
5 KM PARA-ATHLETE RACE	98	52	150	300
	$2100c^{-3}$	$21 \cap E1 = 1$	1002-20	17050

21,051









# AGE CATEGORIES

AGE GROUP	NUMBER   OF PARTICIP	ANTS
17 YEARS OLD & UNDER	17,114	
18-30 YEARS OLD	14,402	-
31-40 YEARS OLD	/ 8,209	
<i>41 YEARS OLD &amp; ABOVE</i>	8,134	
TOTAL	47,859	

### 42.195 KM MARATHON WINNERS

MALE			
NAME	DOMINIC RUTO	ADANE AMSALU	EDWIN KUPTO
NATIONALITY	KENYA	ETHIOPIA	KENYA
TIME	2:10:42	2:10:45	2:11:56

### 21.1 KM MARATHON WINNERS

MALE			
NAME	MOHAMMAD JAAFAR	AHMAD SAMMOUR	ISMAIL SSENYANGE
NATIONALITY	IRAN	JORDAN	UGANDA
TIME	1:08:06	1:08:50	1:11:53

### 27 ELITE ATHLETES







### 42.195 KM MARATHON WINNERS FEMALE EUNICE CHUMBA NAME NATIONALITY BAHRAIN TIME 2:28:38

1755

FEMALE	ON WINNERS	MA	21.1 KM M
-(1)	¥		FEMALE
NAME NADIA DAGHER	DAGHER SA		NAME
NATIONALITY LEBANON	ANON	r	NATIONALITY
<b>TIME</b> 1:26:41	26:41		TIME

1690

10 × 1

1688

1755





# AMBASSADORS 195 KM RACE

This year's BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON was a proud event for us all and the most successful one to date! We had the wonderful support of the UNIFIL, our esteemed ambassadors and their embassies' staff members including their family members, each dedicating their time and effort in helping us show the world the positive impact of our Marathon values.

The Relay Team was organized few months before Race Day, team members were coached by Mrs. Mona Shour, a Beirut Marathon Association board member, and trained by our Lebanese sports hero Maxime Chaya.

Some of the Relay team members ran their relay leg and went on to run the full marathon. This year for the first time, some of the spouses caught our contagious energy and also competed in the relay race.

T THEY IT

### **Diplomats**

Belgium
Brazil
Brazil
Canada
Germany
USA
World Bank

Jean Francois Parmentier, Consul Ursula Zaluar Achilles Zaluar, Syrian attaché Sebastian Beaulieu, spouse of Canadian Ambassador Annahid Huth, spouse of German Ambassador Edward White, Deputy Chief Of Mission Haneen Sayed



# BLOMBANK BEIRUT MARATHON INNUMBERS









LABORERS 178



CAR RENTAL 212 Days



TRANSPORTATION 80 Trucks





PARTNER BRANDING 4,767 m<sup>2</sup>

SCAFFOLDING

1,219 m<sup>2</sup>

ACCREDITATION

PASSES

5,325

COMMUNICATION BRANDING 950 m<sup>2</sup>

CARPET

420 m<sup>2</sup>

VEHICLE PASSES

440



MARATHON VILLAGE BRANDING 950 m<sup>2</sup>

SECURITY (MARATHON VILLAGE) 29

SECURITY (START & FINISH LINES) 155

6.5	
(I))	

155



BARRIERS

13.5 KM

401



POLICE



FLAGS

44

AMBULANCES

WALKIE TALKIE





1,930





















SECURITY (COURSE) 87

























Like our marathoners we continue to challenge ourselves to progress. All that was accomplished was made possible by the extraordinary work of our members, the race committee, supporters, volunteers, participants, partners, staff and officials as the event once again broke its total number of participants reaching 47,859.

> Wissam Terro Race Director





THE 2017 BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON WAS CLASSIFIED FOR THE 4<sup>™</sup> CONSECUTIVE YEAR AS A SILVER LABEL ROAD RUNNING EVENT BY THE IAAF (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS) FOR ITS EXCELLENCE IN ORGANIZING A WORLD CLASS MARATHON UP TO THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FROM ALL RACE MANAGEMENT ASPECTS.

THE BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON IS ONE OF 18 SILVER LABEL ACCREDITED RACES THAT TAKE PLACE ANNUALLY AROUND THE WORLD:





Kagawa Marugame International Half Marathon

eDreams Mitja Marato de Barcelona

Chongquing International Marathon

Lanzhou International Marathon

Cardiff University / Cardiff Half Marathon

Saitama International Marathon

United States of America South Korea South Korea Spain Spain China South Korea Italy Germany Poland Poland China Netherlands United Kingdom France South Korea Lebanon



# RESPONSIBLE INITIATIVES



# "542" TRAINIG PROGRAM

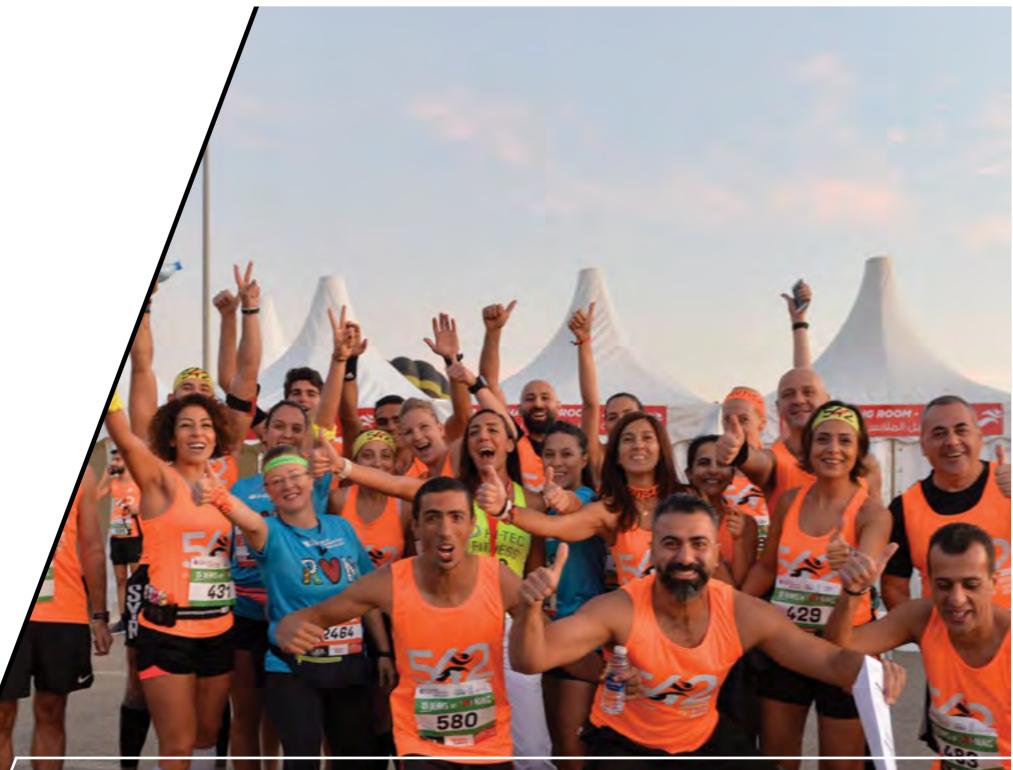
"542" is a free of charge running program created by the Beirut Marathon Association. Since its foundation in 2014, and on a yearly basis, "542" opens its doors to the community for exactly 5 months before Marathon Day. The mission of the "542" is to offer hopeful runners the training necessary to finish a marathon.

In the previous 3 editions (2014, 2015 & 2016) and with the exceptional effort of the coaches, the hard work of the "542" organizers, and the commitment of the runners, "542" shaped a total of 158 first time marathoners.

This year, on its  $4^{th}$  edition, 7 teams were created in Beirut and 2 teams in Jounieh.

158 amazing runners took on the challenge and eventually accomplished their first ever marathon on November 12, 2017. Most of the runners started with no previous running experience, and have been training with extreme perseverance. Their training journey consists of intensive weeks of training, sore muscles, bumpy feet, exhaustion, fatigue and self-discovery: "At times it becomes unpleasant as you log more Kilometers during the run and your body refuses to go further, yet your mind is determined to make it happen.

Nonetheless, the "542" family has proven to make this journey go smoother, training with a team is known to decrease anxiety levels and boost confidence at times of doubt. That is really the secret behind the program, It gathers people from different backgrounds and breaks through social barriers. It brings experienced runners and aspiring runners together as solid groups, or rather as new running communities, who are forging friendships that motivate and empower individuals."



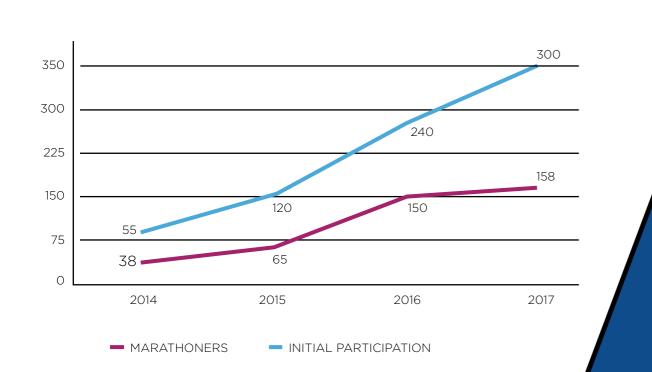


*"542" IS AN UNFORGETTABLE TRAINING JOURNEY FILLED WITH SOCIAL AND ATHLETIC EXPERIENCES, IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THE MAIN GOAL OF "RUNNING A FULL MARATHON FOR THE FIRST TIME!"* 

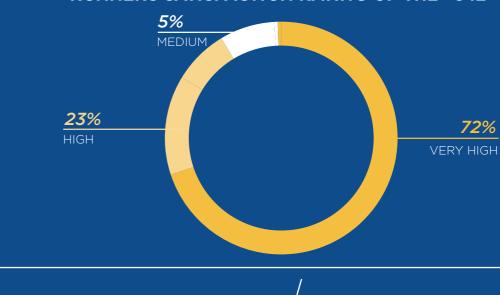


# "542" FIGURES PER YEAR











RUNNERS AT THE RUNNERS START LINE CROSSING THE FINISH LINE

### RUNNERS SATISFACTION RATING OF THE "542"





# "542" CODE

### 542ERS:

PUSH THEIR MINDS & BODIES **TO THE LIMIT** 

ARE FUTURE MARATHONERS

ARE ALWAYS UNITED

CHALLENGE

THE ENVIRONMENT

BEHIND

PERSEVERE

**INSPIRE** OTHERS

TO CHANGE

'BEST EXPERIENCE IN MY LIFE!'

*'AMAZING TEAM SPIRIT AMAZING PEOPLE REALLY GREAT TRAINING'* 

*'I HAD FUN AND MADE FRIENDS AND ABOVE ALL THAT, I LEARNED TO BE PATIENT WHEN I WANT TO ACHIEVE MY GOAL'* 

*'THIS EXPERIENCE CHANGED MY LIFE TO THE BEST, BROUGHT ME HAPPINESS, BETTER HEALTH AND MADE GREAT FRIENDS!'* 

*'TEAM SPIRIT, NEW FRIENDS, NEW FAMILY. GAINING MENTAL STRENGTH ALONG THE WAY AND ALL THE HELP FROM THE ORGANIZERS'* 

*'I GOT THE CHANCE TO MEET A COMMUNITY THAT TRULY SUPPORTS EACH OTHER. I GOT INTRODUCED TO THIS SPORT THAT REALLY IMPROVED MY LIFE ON SEVERAL LEVELS.'* 

*'BEING PART OF THIS PROGRAM IS LIFE CHANGING, LIBERATING AND FULL OF POSITIVE VIBES AND HOPEFUL THOUGHTS. THIS RUNNING COMMUNITY HOLDS A BIG PART IN MY HEART'* 

WHAT OUR RUNNERS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE





# "542" PARTNERS

A BIG THANKS TO ALL OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS THAT CONTRIBUTED IN MAKING THE "542" 4<sup>TH</sup> EDITION A REAL SUCCESS











MR. CHARBEL ALAM Motivational Speaker



DR. RACHID RAHME Chief of Department of Clinical Care



42.195 KM

DR. LAMA MATAR Nutritionist



DR. KHALIFE KHALIFE Physiotherapist on Call





Physiotherapist on Call





WALID KABBANI started running at the age of 14 and ran his very first marathon at the first edition of the Beirut Marathon in 2003! Since then, he has run 19 marathons with a personal best time of 3:19:00 in the Beirut Marathon and in 2011 with a half marathon best of 1:29:00. He has also completed 3 Olympic triathlons and 3 sprint triathlons and has been a coach with the "542" family since its 1st edition in 2014.



ALI KEDAMI is an inspiring and extreme runner. He runs for his daughter "Saria" for her charity "Make Saria Run". He has run 17 marathons and 9 ultra-marathons ranging from 80 KM to 600 KM! In 2015, he completed The Track Outback Australia which was 520 KM and in 2016 he ran 48 hours non-stop across the Lebanese coast to raise funds for "Sanad" Association. Ali has been a devoted coach with "542" since its 1<sup>st</sup> edition in 2014.

**ROCKY KIBLAWI** is the Lebanese and Arab Muay Thai Champion, Spartan racer, marathoner and athlete. He has been a runner for twenty years as part of his exhaustive training, and three years ago he trained with "542" and ran his first Beirut Marathon. Since then, he has been running marathons and travelling the world to participate in international races.

**MOUSTAFA AHMAD** is a well-defined extreme runner. He has run 33 marathons in each of Berlin, Amsterdam, Istanbul, Dubai, Barcelona, Nice, Oman, Warsaw, Lisbon, London, Paris and almost all the Beirut Marathons since 2003. He has gone even further by doing numerous Ultra Marathons such as England (100 miles), Grand Canyon (273 KM) Iron (250 KM), Ismik (80 KM) and many more.

JIHAD SHOUEIB started running in 2003. He currently runs with Elite Running Club and has a personal record of 4:09:00 in the marathon, 00:40:12 in the 10 KM and 00:19:39 in the 5 KM category. He has steadily placed second in his age category from 2003 till 2014. Jihad is also a telecom engineer, avid painter and sportsman on all fronts.



**GHASSAN HAJJAR** is a passionate and strong-minded runner. He has run 9 marathons locally and internationally with a personal best of 3:49:00. He is also a serious mountaineer and is also passionate about climbing, Ghassan considers running as a constructive addiction.



**KATHIA RACHED** was a regular school chemistry teacher leading a normal life. Her newly discovered passion with running did not occur until one day in August 2011: She was on her way to school & listening to the radio when a life-changing ad played. It was announcing the launch of the "542" training program. Without thinking twice, she signed up and joined the first training run. She ended up finishing 1st. As her passion with running grew immensely, she decided to go back to university and study Physical Education. She has also completed several internationally renowned coaching certifications. To date, she has participated in 9 Marathons and 4 Ultra Marathons.

JIHAD BOURJI is an enthusiast and passionate young marathoner that took part in managing Team Jounieh. Jihad has started running in 2011, since then he ran a marathon in each of Beirut, Prague, Paris, Limassol, Dubai, he also has accomplished an Ultra-Marathon (136 KM) in Turkey, Iznik. Jihad's personal best marathon time is 3:28:00.

CHUKRI NAKHOUL has dedicated most of his life to sports. Passionate about running, Chukri has also played football with "Ahle Sarba" first division, he won 3 times the Lebanese Tennis Champion and practices frequently skiing, diving and cycling. Member of the Elite Running Club, he has participated in every single Beirut Marathon since 2003 and is currently first in his age category. He has also placed first in the Batroun Triathlon with many other outstanding results in other races. His personal best marathon time is 3:30:00.













# ABILITY PROGRAM

For the second consecutive year, The Beirut Marathon Association launched the Ability Program, a training program for disabled athletes that offers professional hand cycles and full preparations to the athletes taking part in BLOM BANK Beirut Marathon. This program launched its first version in 2016 yielding encouraging performances of male and female champions in their respective categories.

In 2017, the program received 11 new additional wheelchairs - to reach 22 wheelchairs in total - bought with the support of Beirut Marathon Board of Trustees member Mrs. Chahrazad Rizk. The second batch of wheelchairs were distributed to para-athletes from Tripoli while the first batch had been distributed in Beirut; the full marathon training program is taking place in both Beirut and Tripoli to encompass a larger number of athletes.

In her words Mrs. May El Khalil, president of the Beirut Marathon Association, says she is pleased with this program and confirms that people with special needs were, from the very start of the association, at the very core of the Beirut Marathon. She also thanked Mrs. Chahrazad Rizk for her belief in the Beirut Marathon's mission towards para-athletes.

Mrs. Rizk, who has attended the Ability Program trainings in Beirut and Tripoli, was very satisfied and happy to see young men and women achieving their goals through this program.

The "super-abled" athletes are now more confident and excited to improve and reach their full potential. Mrs. Rizk confirms that supporting our "super-abled" athletes is a humanitarian imperative. She also adds: "We look forward to taking these Lebanese champions to international Para-Olympic Games".

It is worth noting that the program covers 2 months of intensive training before reaching the Marathon Day, at the rate of 3 training sessions weekly, including orientation seminars that provide health, nutrition and public safety advice.



ABILITY PROGRAM, A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PARA-ATHLETES THAT OFFERS PROFESSIONAL HAND CYCLES AND FULL PREPARATIONS TO COMPLETE A MARATHON









"This project was a whole new and exciting experience for me when I first started, but then with time and while working hard on it, this experience turned out to be a real joy because of these pure people's smiling faces. Driven by my challenge and mixed with my dedication to supporting others and seeing them shining from happiness, I am more than grateful to take in charge of this new born project and develop from all my heart."

### Chahrazad Rizk

# DONATE YOUR RUNNING SHOES

For the third consecutive year, the Donate Your Running Shoes initiative aimed at providing running shoes for underprivileged people, mainly children.

More than 100 donation boxes were distributed across Lebanon for any person to donate their used pair of running shoes.

From Tripoli to Zahle, schools and universities played an active role in collecting the running shoes, which would later on be sorted and distributed to those who cannot easy obtain running shoes. For 2017, the children who received the shoes participated in the SARADAR BANK Women's Race, which puts a bigger umbrella: gender equality.

AFTER ITS SUCCESS IN 2015 AND 2016, "DONATE YOUR RUNNING SHOES" TAKES A MORE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE AS MORE AND MORE PARTS OF LEBANON BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS INITIATIVE.







### ADOPT A TEAM

The Beirut Marathon Association works relentlessly on the inclusion of all socio-economic backgrounds within its events.

Out of the belief that running is a sport for all, and in order to be able to include the greatest number of underprivileged children within its events, The Beirut Marathon Association has created in 2009 the "Adopt a Team" program.

With this support, each team was provided with a round trip transportation, registration within the races, dedicated T-shirts, breakfast and lunch, and above all a wonderful experience.

IN 2017, THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN THE SUPPORT OF 17 DONORS AND SPONSORS TO COVER FOR 33 TEAMS FROM ALL OVER LEBANON THAT INCLUDED 1,495 CHILDREN.



2268

# A CONTRACTOR OF THE OF



# NGOS

WITH 183 PARTNERED NGOS, THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION THRIVES NOW MORE THAN EVER TO **BE A FAIR PLATFORM FOR NGOS/CSOS** AS THEY SEEK TO **CREATE AN IMPACT BOTH** SOCIALLY AND FINANCIALLY.



OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON 2017 RAN TO **SUPPORT CAUSES THEY BELIEVE IN.** WITH A 25% CONTRIBUTION MAINTAINED FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR, THE NGOS/CSOS HAVE A MORE ACTIVE AND KEY ROLE IN THE SUCCESS OF THE BEIRUT MARATHON RACES.

IN 2017, THE OUTREACH TEAM FOCUSED ON ESTABLISHING A CO-DELIVERY SYSTEM WHERE THEY HELPED THE **NGOs/CSOs** UNDERSTAND THEIR ROLE AND INCREASE THEIR EFFICIENCY WHEN USING THE PLATFORM.

HOURS ENGAGING PRESENTATIONS



600 PHONE CALLS

13,962

INDIVIDUALS WERE OFFERED FREE REGISTRATION ACROSS ALL RACES.



1,120 PRINTED DOCUMENTS

WEEKS OF

DEDICATED VISITS

BAN

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1210

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2,740 DISPATCHED **EMAILS** 



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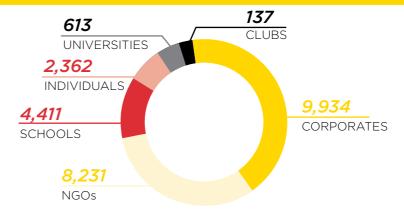




**BEST NGO** CHILDREN CANCER CENTRE LEBANON

FOR **RECRUITING THE HIGHEST** NUMBER OF RUNNERS (1,660) BOTH ONLINE AND OFFLINE

### **PARTICIPANTS RUNNING FOR NGOs**



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### AWARDS



### BEST MESSAGE ABAAD

FOR USING THE EVENT **TO RAISE THE** VOICE OF PEOPLE WITH AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE



### UNIVERSITY SPIRIT AWARD AUB

WITH 1,266 STUDENTS



### SCHOOL SPIRIT AWARD MELKART

WITH 633 STUDENTS



BEST VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AL MAKASSED

FOR **THEIR PROACTIVITY AND RESPONSIVENESS** THAT IS CONSTANT THROUGHOUT THE YEARS





FOR **RECRUITING ONE OF THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF RUNNERS (1,537)** AND EVERLASTING COMMITMENT TO THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION



BEST LONG-TERM PARTNER NGO KUNHADI

FOR **RECRUITING ONE OF THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF RUNNERS (1,342)** AND EVERLASTING COMMITMENT TO THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION



### BEST NEW NGO ANTA AKHI

### FOR **RECRUITING 568 RUNNERS** WITHIN THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF THEIR PARTNERSHIP WITH BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION





FOR **THE REMARKABLE ACTIVATIONS** TO THIS YEAR'S EVENT

# VOLUNTEERS

IN 2017, MORE THAN **70% OF OUR VOLUNTEERS** CAME FROM ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH SHOWS A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT FROM COMMUNITY SERVING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN PARTICIPATING WITH US YEAR AFTER YEAR.

Every year, our races become bigger and so does our need for volunteers. Race after race, our community of volunteers has shown that **these members who believe in our message,** are dedicated to their tasks, and are ready for the challenge. Together, we are a task force of constant improvement and positive impact.

**447** 

**BANKMED YOUTH RACE** VOLUNTEERS

3.623

**BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON** 



SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE VOLUNTEERS **140** 

542 TRAINING PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS



HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE CREDITED BY SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES



VOLUNTEERS

OUR VOLUNTEERS COME FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE; SCOUT TROOPS, ORGANIZATIONS' MEMBERS, HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS, UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES' STUDENTS





## VOLUNTEERS BREAKDOWN

### SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE POLICE VOLUNTEERS ARMY ISF MUNICIPALITY 75 75 304 100 TOTAL: **554**

**BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON** 

VOLUNTEERS	ARMY	POLICE MUNICIPALITY	ISF	
2,223	600	250	550	
TOTAL: <b>3,623</b>				

BANKMED YOUTH RACE			
VOLUNTEERS	ARMY	POLICE MUNICIPALITY	ISF
347	<u>50</u>	20	30
TOTAL: 447			



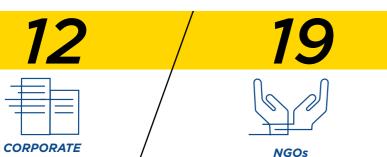
VOLUNTEERS	ARMY	MUNICIPALITY	ISF
130	-	-	10
	7	TOTAL:	140



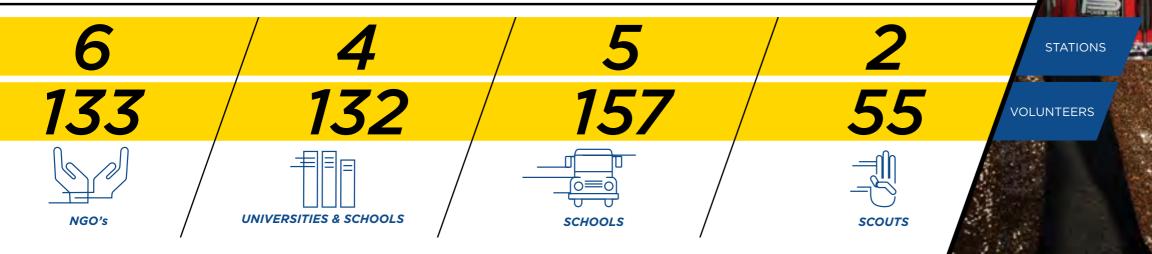








WATER STATIONS



6

**UNIVERSITIES & SCHOOLS** 

MUSICAL BANDS



### TESTIMONIALS





"**SESOBEL** had already joined all the editions of the Beirut Marathon and raised awareness about the disability cause, proving that "everyone's life, even with disability, is worth being lived as a celebration because love is enduring and because you are my brother" - our creed.

This year was special: people ran for our cause as one large family, at the heart of which the weakest had their place. "Obstacles are part of life. It is up to us to overcome them!"

See you next year!"







It is a true testimony to how together we can celebrate hope, and help in saving young lives. A special thanks to the Beirut Marathon Association for awarding the CCCL as "Best NGO" for this year. We are

"This was our first experience with the Beirut Marathon, and it was wonderful. The deaf persons enjoyed the Fun Run, especially the atmosphere and interacting with other participants, away from our daily life hassles. Our motto on that day was "We Run for Lebanon; We Run for Peace; We Run for Love".

Many hearing participants/runners took the time to ask the deaf people about their sign language and even learn a few words. The experience was special, for not only were we part of the positive atmosphere, but we also had an active role in introducing the deaf culture to fellow participants. This has been an eye-opening and unforgettable experience for many of us, thank you Beirut Marathon Association for the great opportunity."

> Dr. Hussein M. Ismail THE LEBANESE FEDERATION OF THE DEAF AND THE LEARNING CENTER FOR THE DEAF President and Director



aimava

"Barbara Nassar Association was founded in 2014 to make sure adult cancer patients follow their treatments with dignity. Our first participation with Beirut Marathon was on November 2017 where cancer patients gathered from all over Lebanon and shared their stories. More members came into the big family as volunteers. As they passed by, thousands of runners joined our volunteers dancing and singing the "Cancer Patient Houwara" at our cheering station. Big thanks to all runners and athletes who ran for this noble cause. Don't forget what Barbara said:

"Love is the best cure"."

"Beirut Marathon is an event that Himaya looks forward to taking part in year after year, as it gives us the opportunity to spread the word about child abuse and break the silence around it. This year, many supporters who believe in our cause chose to run for Himaya and help us prevent child abuse. Thanks to the Beirut Marathon Association, we are able to reach more people and continue our fight against child abuse all around Lebanon."

Fadia Safi SESOBEL President and CEO

"It was a pleasure, again this year, for the *Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL)* to take part in the BLOM BANK Beirut Marathon 2017 having more than 1,660 registrants for its cause of treating children with cancer! It is a true testimony to how together we can celebrate hope, and help in saving young lives.

A special thanks to the Beirut Marathon Association for awarding the CCCL as "Best NGO" for this year. We are looking forward to more successes next year and a greater impact in support of the young heroes battling cancer."

Mrs. Hana Chaar Choueib CHILDREN CANCER CENTER General Manager

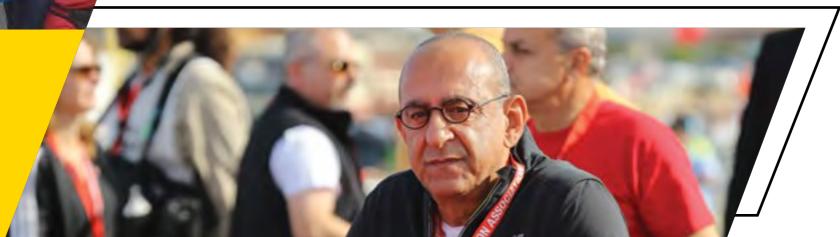
Suha Abu Farraj BARBARA NASSAR ASSOCIATION Volunteer

> Maria Shaya HIMAYA Communications Coordinator



"After fifteen years, it makes me happy to see that associations around the country understand the importance and the role the marathon plays as a platform for cooperation towards a better society. Our aim is to build on this spirit and strengthen the relations, so we can reach a point where the marathon is the biggest fundraising platform for NGOs who have causes that need support."

Abdallah Abdelnour Hospitality & Outreach Director





# **PARTNERSHIP**

THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION COUNTS MAINLY ON SPONSORSHIP AS A REVENUE GENERATION.

THE BIG SCALE WITH WHICH THE PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRIBUTES MAKES BMA EVENTS POSSIBLE. ASSOCIATING WITH THEM HAS ALSO PROVEN WITH TIME TO DEMONSTRATE A GOOD RETURN ON INVESTMENT. THE GREAT NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WITH A JOYOUS ATMOSPHERE REFLECTS BACK ON THE ENGAGEMENT LEVEL. WITH MORE THAN 250 PARTNERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, PARTNERS' RETENTION HAS SHOWN TO BE POSITIVE THROUGH TIME.

### 2017 PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

- DIVERSIFYING THE VISIBILITY PLANS TO FIT SMALLER BUDGETS
- INCLUDING NEW PARTNERS THROUGH THE TRANSMED MARATHON VILLAGE ACROSS A NEW PLATFORM.
- CUSTOMIZING THE PACKAGES ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE BRANDS THROUGH PERSONALIZED ACTIVATIONS.

26% CASH REVENUES

74%

**BARTER & IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS** 

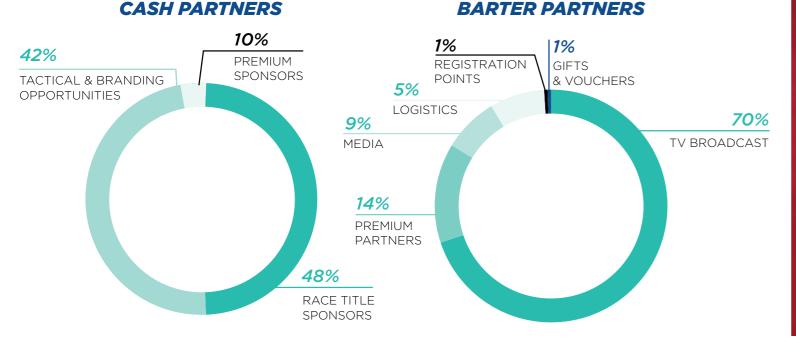
BLOM BANK

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### THANKS TO ALL OUR **PARTNERS** FOR THEIR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT



### **RACE TITLE PARTNERS**

**BLOM BANK** for the Beirut Marathon **BANKMED** for the Youth Race SARADAR BANK for the Women's Race



### TACTICAL PARTNERS Microsoft, Grid International, Liban Post, Cuisine Emm Georges, Le Royal Hotel, Alfa, Castania, BIEL, Ferdinand Hosri Ets



### **SUPPORTERS**

Al Mawarid Bank, GS, Reston Hotel, USEK, Crepaway, Passion Juice, G-Spa, Puma, Nike, Lucid Investment Bank, Otis, Carrier, Virgin, Dar El Handasah (Shair & Partners), Ethiopian Airlines, Tabbara General, Ghia Holding, Kidz Mondo, Playtown, Hop In, Tagabar

"2017 was marked by a great economic downhill in Lebanon, but with a greater felt implication from the corporate world for our events.

PREMIUM PARTNERS

Cinemas, Commercial

Aquafina, Solidere, Water

Mets Energy, Kurban Group,

du Monde, Lancaster Hotels

Wooden Bakery, MEA, Saveurs

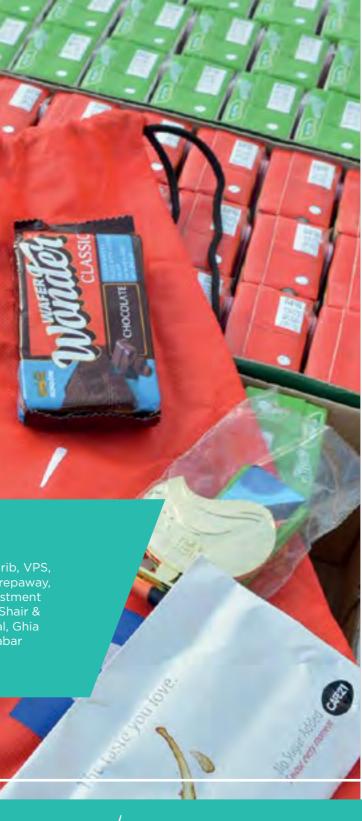
In order to accommodate and include a maximum number of partners within our races, smaller packages were created allowing everyone to participate in his own way. The BMA platforms have proven to be a unique experience of engagement for our sponsors, and joining positive feelings with a brand has shown nothing but positive impact on them.

Going beyond sponsorship, the BMA platforms have mainly served for partnership creation across and within all sectors where boundaries are broken to create a synergy like no other. The socio economic impact remains the main reason behind everyone's participation."

> **Deenah Fakhoury** Partnership Director



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CORPORATE RUNNERS

# OFF/C/AL SUPPORTING PARTNERS

WHO CONTRIBUTE TO BEIRUT MARATHON **ASSOCIATION'S SUCCESS** 

- Ministry of Youth & Sports
- Ministry of Tourism
- Ministry of Interior & Municipalities
  Ministry of Public Works and Transportation / CDR
- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Education and Higher Education
  Ministry of Social Affairs / Higher Council for Childhood
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Telecommunications
- Ministry of Culture
- Lebanese Armed Forces
- Internal Security Forces
- General Security
- National Security
- Airport Management
- Lebanese Athletics Federation
- Association of Certified Public Translators

### Municipalities of:

Antelias-Naccache Jdeideh-Bauchrieh-Sed Jal El Dib-Bkennaya Zalka-Amaret Chalhoub

Baabda-Louaize Dbayeh Dekwaneh Hazmieh Jbeil Jounieh-Haret Sakher Naameh-Haret El Naameh Sin El Fi

For the past years, the sports sector in Lebanon has been witnessing an admirable rise in different areas, enabling our country a great representation in many renowned international events. Today, the Beirut Marathon Association is perceived as the Godmother of races and distance running after growing the annual marathon to be a silver label one certified by the International Association of Athletics Federation.

The Beirut Marathon has proven its commitment as non-profit to further the culture of running by organizing world class marathons that transcend the race itself to influence the whole economy. The association's annual report for year 2017 extensively shares relevant numbers and information on the logistical and organizational aspects of their work. The report also includes a full study on the impact that races have on the economic cycle of the country.

This annual report is a great reference and offers transparent information about the mechanisms conducted by the Beirut Marathon Association as per set rules and guidelines.

I hereby wish you and your team all the best and great success as you run forward.

> H.E. Saad Hariri Lebanese Prime Minister

Saad Harf

# KEY OFFICIALS' TESTIMONIALS



### MOHAMMAD FNEISH MINISTER OF SPORTS AND YOUTH

"The Beirut Marathon Association (BMA) is considered to be an active association that plays an important role in oganizing world-class running activities and events across Lebanon. Since its inception in 2003, BMA was able to spread the culture of "running" in different Lebanese regions.

BMA is leading in promoting this culture through its annual race event. This race proved to be a tremendous success year after year, as evidenced by the record-breaking participation witnessed annually at both the local and international levels.

The importance of BMA's activities is that they have contributed to reinforcing national unity . BMA has also received several honorable awards and signed partnerships with leading international organizations.

Finally, I would like to thank and express my genuine appreciation to your respected organization, president and team, for your hardwork, persistence, and positive impact on our beloved country, with my sincerest wishes for future success to come."



### H.E. JUDGE ZIAD CHEBIB

GOVERNOR OF BEIRUT

"Since day one as the Governor of Beirut I have strongly supported the Beirut Marathon Association, only because I thoroughly believe that it is more than just a road race.

The Beirut Marathon is deemed to be the founder of a civilized and healthy culture in Lebanon :"the culture of running"; A culture that motivates you both physically and morally because you run with your legs for your health and with your heart for your cause.

The Beirut marathon has a visible positive impact on individuals and on the city of Beirut due to the rewarding feelings that stem from running the streets of our beloved and hospitable city. Today, the Marathon has undoubtedly become one of the most anticipated events in Beirut, welcoming people from all over the world to join us in running a world class certified marathon.

*I am proud to have supported the Beirut Marathon for the past* years, for I am very passionate about the mission and the values the association stands for. Looking forward to a continued support and partnership in the forthcoming years, wishing the association more successes and achievements that reflect back positively on the city of Beirut and our country Lebanon."

### ROLAND SAADE PRESIDENT OF LEBANESE ATHLETICS FEDERATION

"Partnership first starts with the family. Parents choose to work together to build bridges between their children. By the same token, and just like a family, the Lebanese Athletics Federation has forged a profound and solid partnership with the Beirut Marathon Association.

Year after year, we have grown more confident about the absolute professionalism in their work, all the more so because their president is anything but an amateur who would allow the time to go by without developing this sport. In the early years, the event was focused on one discipline, namely the 42,195 KM race. However today, the Association's agenda features many other races, including the women race, the half marathon, and the Youth Race. The latter specifically highlight the much commendable attention given to the rising generations.

When speaking of the excellent organization of the event, outsiders may accuse us of exaggeration; but in his handwritten letter, the IAAF President, Lord Sebastian Coe testified to the flawless, professional organization of the event and the level of competences that match up to the Arab and even European standards. President Coe was equally impressed by the world-class logistics management rivaling that of the IAAF itself. Moreover, all athletes, be it champions or amateurs, who regularly participate in international marathons, eagerly wait for the annual three races organized by the Beirut Marathon Association. Every race always ends up with great success that translates into positive feedback all over the media, thus confirming once again the high-level professionalism in logistics and organization. As a Federation, we are always delighted to see the steady growth of the event underpinned by a visionary approach and error-based learning.

In conclusion, these races positioned themselves firmly on the international map. The figures speak for themselves as the number of participants reached approximately 48,000, which is the greatest testimony to the organizer's caliber.

Long live Lebanon, long live sports."



### PARTNERS' TESTIMONIALS



### SAAD EL AZAHARI

BLOM BANK CHAIRMAN AND GENERAL MANAGER

"BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON is perhaps the best indicator of how Lebanese society can overcome its political differences and economic problems and to organize and excel in a world class cultural and sports event. We at BLOM BANK are actually honored to be the main sponsor of this event and to proudly support its simple yet profound motto "Peace, Love, Run". The Marathon's goals agree perfectly with the Bank's mission to be a socially productive agent in Lebanon's civil society, and to be of tremendous service to the community in terms of supporting humane causes and elevating the culture of sports."

### SELIM BOUTROS DIRECTOR OF KURBAN GROUP

"Taking part in the yearly BLOM Bank Beirut Marathon has become a tradition for Kurban Group. Our team, their families, friends, and all the people who belong to the cause of the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon, participated in the 8 KM fun run in the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON on Nov 12, 2017. Throughout the past years, we have developed a mindset for running and we are continuously aiming to increase our number of participants each year. We believe this partnership is of great value to our community."



### MR. EMILE MABRO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ETS. F. A. KETTANEH S.A.

"We strongly believe that Volkswagen has a great role to play in supporting the Beirut Marathon as one of the most important national events in Lebanon and in the Middle East.

What started as a sponsorship for the lead cars rapidly grew into a real partnership where we exchange expertise and knowledge to make this event exceptional. We are looking forward to the upcoming years events, enhancing the Lebanese economy and paying back to the community."

### MARIO SARADAR CHAIRMAN / CEO OF SARADAR BANK

"Our involvement in the Women's Race is aligned with our corporate culture and values, as we believe in women empowerment and the positive effects of sports on the community. The majority of our colleagues are women and this illustrates our belief in gender equality. We actively seek to consolidate women's role in the advancement of society and to strengthen their integration in the workplace, hence contributing to women's well-being and development.

We have confidence in the power of sports and support sports initiatives and young Lebanese athletes through Fondation Saradar. Our engagement in sports and in running more particularly is so strong and sustained that we have also launched "let'S run", our track & field federated club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Beirut Marathon Association for their hard work and commitment that have highly impacted the running culture in Lebanon, bringing people together and around great causes. Thank you again for all your efforts. We look forward to the 2018 edition of the Women's Race and to continuing our fruitful collaboration in the coming years."









## MEDIA

WE THANK ALL OUR MEDIA PARTNERS FOR ACCOMPANYING US THROUGHOUT 15 YEARS OF RUNNING!

WE, AT THE BEIRUT MARATHON ARE HONORED TO HAVE THE MEDIA AS PARTNERS IN OUR EVENTS AND RACES, AND ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PASSION AND CREATIVITY THAT THEY BRING TO THE COVERAGE OF OUR RACES AND FUNCTIONS.

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HOME MAGAZINE

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Annual Report 2017 / 🍂 / 107



### 2017 MEDIA REPORT

**BANKMED YOUTH RACE 2017** FEBRUARY 24 - APRIL 10

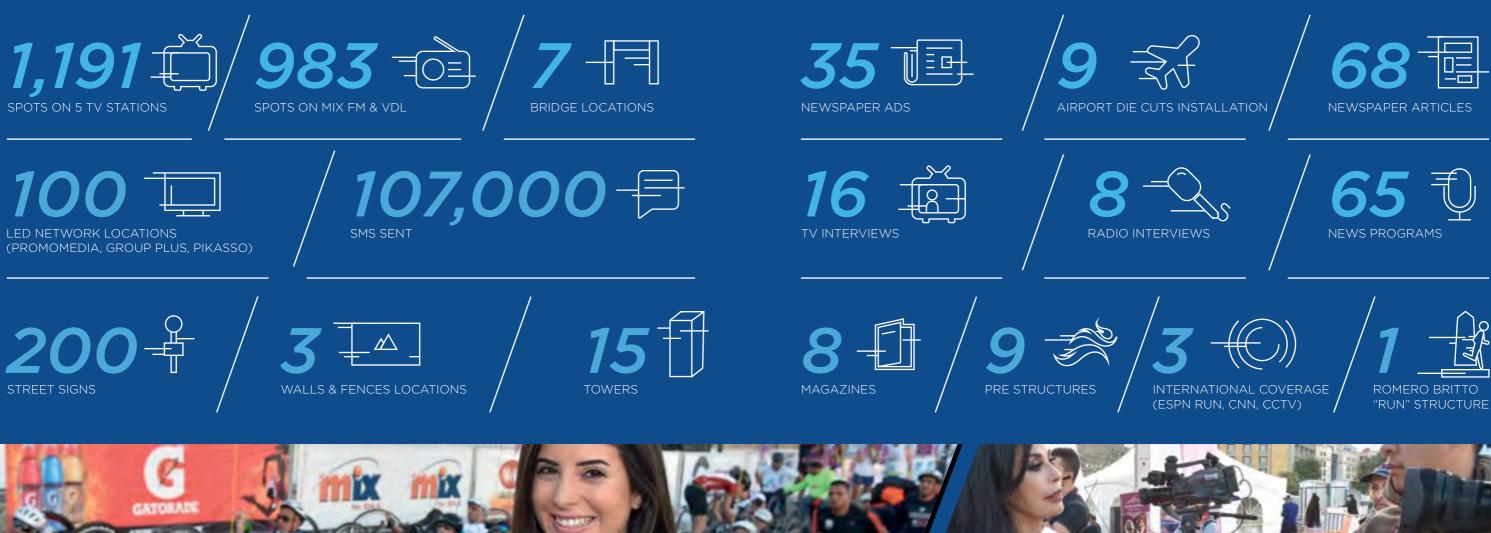


### SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE 2017 APRIL 15 - MAY 28

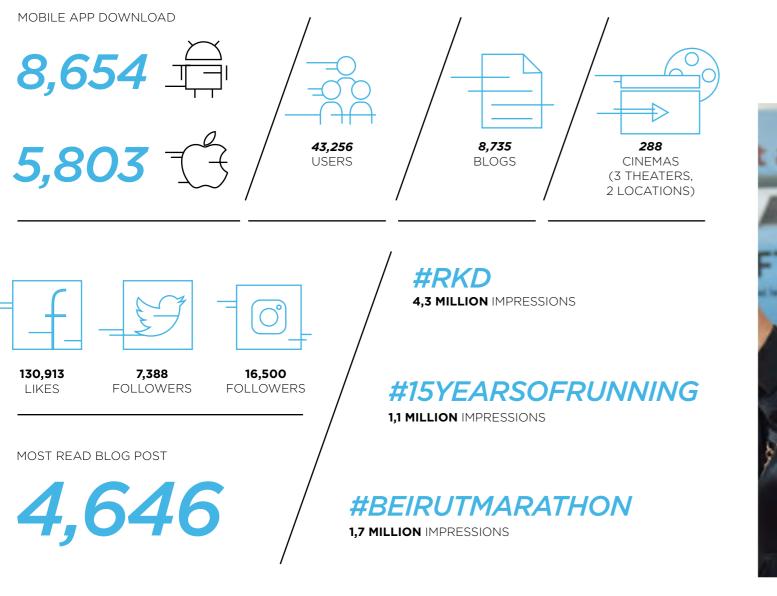


Peac

### **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON 2017** SEPTEMBER 5 - NOVEMBER 23









"In the world of communication, having the right team is key! I feel blessed to work with talented and capable team members who understand what we are and are passionate about what we do.

with professionalism. Seeing thousands take the streets of Beirut every year is the biggest testimony to our success in delivering a message of health, well being, togetherness and athleticism to the Lebanese community and the world. I am honored and proud to be part of this esteemed organization, and happy to deploy my skills to create a more positive change on the communication level."

Mandy Bassil Germanos







ALL BRANCHES











**REGISTRATION POINTS IN** 





# FINANCIALS

BBA



OTHER

\$317.236

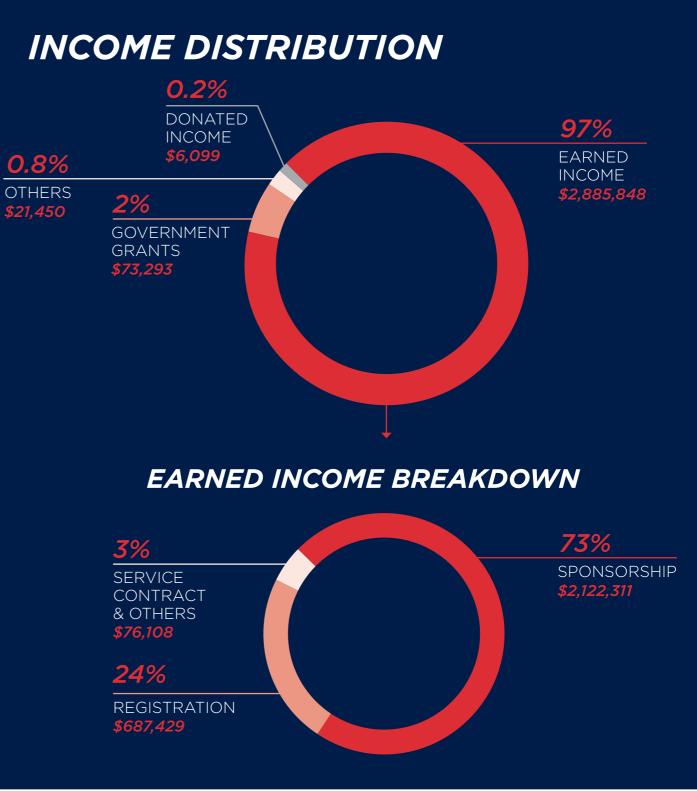
**EXPENSES** 

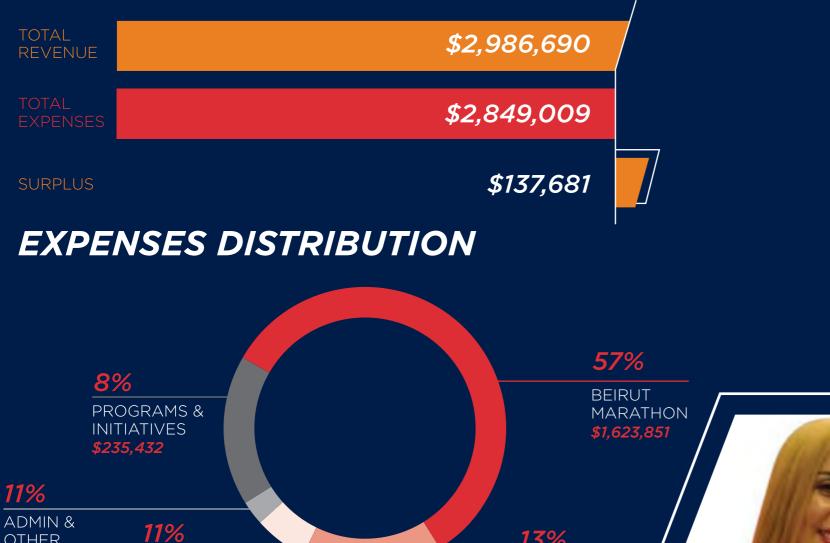
WOMEN'S

\$298.059

RACE

# 2017 BEIRUTMARATHON ASSOCIATION INNUMBERS



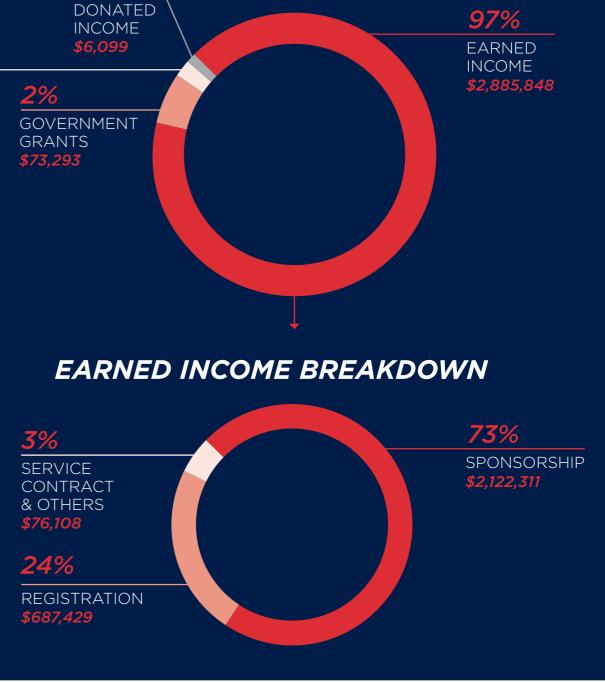


13%

YOUTH

\$374,431

RACE



Working at the Beirut Marathon Association has been one of the most challenging experiences in my professional life. What makes it stand out is that every single employee has a stake in the association's success because we are very team driven and focused on one vision and mission, we operate in a way that puts collective goals ahead of individual glory and we continue to succeed because we are a humble organization that can rise above any challenge. Managing this department is strictly focused on providing the best accounting and finance personnel, the accounting process is a sequence of organization activities that is used for gaining quantitative information about the finances because accounting information is a system of interrelated processes which represent financial data, required for strategic planning, setting out objectives, and decision making.

**Diala Abou Saeed** Accounting Director

# IAAF ROAD RACES MARATHON TICKET PRICES

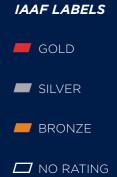
ΩN

285\$	
250\$	THE BOSTON MARATHON
220\$	BANK OF AMERICA CHICAGO MARATHO
195\$	BLACKMORES SYDNEY MARATHON
150\$	SCOTIABANK TORONTO WATERFRONT MARATHON
144\$	SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC MARATHON DE PARIS
135\$	STANDARD CHARTERED DUBAI MARATHON
135\$	MARATONA DI ROMA
130\$	BMW BERLIN MARATHON
127\$	VIENNA CITY MARATHON
125\$	STANDARD CHARTERED SINGAPORE MARATHON
120\$	ATHENS MARATHON. THE AUTHENTIC.
114\$	
109\$	EGYPTIAN MARATHON
108\$	VIRGIN MONEY LONDON MARATHON
101\$	ZURICH MARATO DE BARCELONA
100\$	AMMAN INTERNATIONAL MARATHON
98\$	EA7 EMPORIO ARMANI I MILANO MARATHON
98\$	HARMONY GENEVE MARATHON FOR UNICEF
98\$	NN MARATHON ROTTERDAM
97\$	MAINOVA FRANKFURT MARATHON
96\$	RAS AL KHAIMAH HALF MARATHON
96\$	VENICE MARATHON
90\$	LISBON MARATHON
90\$	ZURICH MARATÓN SEVILLA
90\$	TCS AMSTERDAM MARATHON

89\$	OSAKA WOMEN'S MARATHON
88\$	HAJ HANNOVER MARATHON
85\$	COPENHAGEN HALF MARATHON
71\$	LATTELECOM RIGA MARATHON
67\$	NEW TAIPEI CITY WAN JINSHI MARATH
66\$	VODAFONE MALTA MARATHON
60\$	BRIGHTON MARATHON
60\$	MARSEILLE CASSIS
60\$	OPAP LIMASSOL MARATHON GSO
54\$	SANLAM CAPE TOWN MARATHON
50\$	BEIJING MARATHON
50\$	$\Box$ seoul international marathon
40\$	BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON



### ION



### SOC/O-ECONOMIC **IMPACT**

For the second consecutive year, the Beirut Marathon Association collaborated with Strategy&, part of the PwC network, a global strategy consulting firm on its impact report to capture and materialize the realized returns of the Beirut Marathon Association events on the Lebanese economy. This comes as a result of holding its major events and programs including - but not limited to - BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON, BANKMED Youth Race, Saradar Bank Women's Race, MySchoolPulse Race, 510 and 542 training programs, Donate Your Running Shoes initiative and Ability Program.

The report demonstrates how events and programs organized by Beirut Marathon Association drive economic and social growth. It aims to quantify the total amount of funds spent specifically for events and programs organized by the association, estimating the direct spending in the economy by event and program participants, spectators, the association itself, as well as, the indirect and induced impact generated.

THE REPORT ALSO AIMS TO HIGHLIGHT AND QUANTIFY POSSIBLE KEY AREAS OF SOCIAL IMPACT.

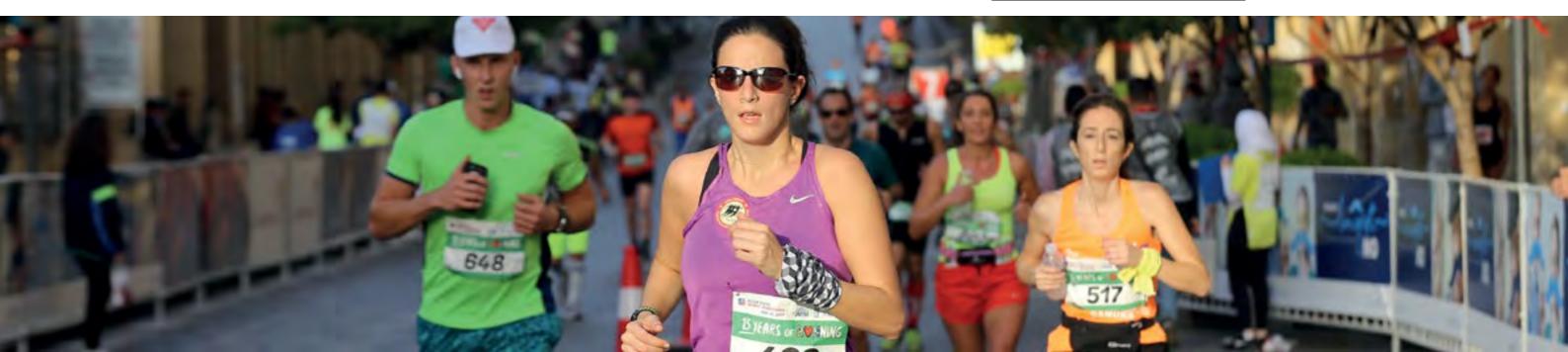
THE ECONOMIC RETURNS COME FROM DIRECT AS WELL AS INDIRECT AND INDUCED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GDP

### DIRECT IMPACT

ANY SPEND THAT IS DIRECTLY DRIVEN BY THE EVENT

- ✤ SPECTATORS SPEND
- RUNNERS SPEND
- VOLUNTEERS SPEND
- SPONSORS SPEND
- BMA SPEND

### TOTAL **IMPACT IN** CONTRIBUTION TO GDP





### **INDIRECT AND** INDUCED IMPACT INDIRECT IMPACT

SPEND FROM BUSINESSES AND SUPPLIERS TO MEET THE DEMAND GENERATED FROM DIRECT SPEND

INDUCED IMPACT INCREMENTAL HOUSEHOLD SPENDING ON GOODS AND SERVICES AS RESULT OF CHANGES IN INCOME



### THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION INITIATIVES IS \$19.1M

2017 BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION DIRECT, INDIRECT AND INDUCED IMPACT BY INITIATIVE (USD MN)



BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON \$13.99M

> **BANKMED YOUTH** RACE

\$3.57M

SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE \$0.61M

542 TRAINING PROGRAM \$0.55M

MY SCHOOL PULSE + **REGIONAL RACES** \$0.16M

DONATE YOUR **RUNNING SHOES +** ABILITY PROGRAM \$0.21M

\$11.58M \$7.52M

### TOTAL: **\$19.10M**

**DIRECT IMPACT** 

INDIRECT IMPACT

### 2017 BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE CREATION OF 2,400 JOB OPPORTUNITIES. IN THE ECONOMY IN 2017 *2,410* 



826 Workers

DIRECT

IN ADDITION TO THE IMPACT IT CREATED IN GDP CONTRIBUTION. THE BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION ALSO GENERATES SOCIAL IMPACT AROUND FIVE DIMENSIONS



BEIRUT MARATHON ASSOCIATION'S INITIATIVES CAN HELP MINIMIZE HEALTHCARE COSTS THAT ARE DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH PHYSICAL INACTIVITY.

Physical inactivity incurs high medical costs and is the fourth leading cause of mortality worldwide as it contributes to cardiovascular diseases, cancer, type 2 diabetes, falls resulting in fractures etc. The cost of inactivity is estimated at 2%\* to 8% of the national healthcare bill according to the World Health Organization WHO. In Lebanon, this potentially amounts to \$150M. By driving more people to sports through running, the Beirut Marathon Association helps reduce this burden on the healthcare bill and the Lebanese Economy.

BY PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RESOURCES TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE ENCOURAGING HEALTHY HABITS, COMMUNITIES CAN REDUCE THE RISKS AND COSTS OF PHYSICAL INACTIVITY.

\* Source: "Physical Inactivity and Sedentary Behavior Report 2017" British Heart Foundation National, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization.



### MEET THE TEAM

The Beirut Marathon Association was founded in 2002 at the initiative of Mrs. May El Khalil with the purpose of promoting the running culture in Lebanon & with a clear vision to become the leading running organization in the Middle East.

The Beirut Marathon Association is a Lebanese Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organization, independent of all political & religious affiliations, registered under the Ministry of Youth & Sports under number 103/SH.R.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

President Vice President General Secretary Treasurer Accountant Members Mrs. May El Khalil General Retired Hassan Rustom Mr. Hassan Muhieddine Mrs. Ilham Hmeidan El Fakih Ms. Nabila El Fakih Mrs. Rose Mary Boulos Mrs. Najla El Khoury

### HONORARY COMMITTEE

Mr. Antonio Vincenti Mr. Faysal El Khalil Mr. Ghassan Hajjar Mr. Mazen Hanna Mrs. May El Khalil Mr. Micky Chebli Dr. Nadine Panayot Haroun Mr. Pierre Gaspard H.E. Mrs. Raya Haffar El Hassan Mr. Richard Haykel

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Dr. Amine Daouk Mr. Antonio Vincenti Mr. Bassam Nassar Mrs. Berthe Chagoury Mr. Carl Bistany Mr. Chadi Massaad Mrs. Chahrazad Rizk Mrs. Dina Harake Mr. Fadi Fawaz Mr. Fadi Nahas Mr. Faysal El Khalil Mr. Georges Chehwane Mr. Ghassan Tahir Mrs. Ivonne Abdel Baki Mr. Joe Saddi Mr. John Akouri Dr. Joseph G. Jabbra Mrs. Joumana Dammous Salame Mrs. Laila Ajam Mr. Maher Beydoun Mr. Marwan Kheireddine

Mrs. May El Khalil Mr. Maxime Chaya Mrs. Micheline Chammas Garzouzi Mrs. Mona Shour Mrs. Mouzayane Ajami Mrs. Rose Mary Boulos Mrs. Sophia Kassem Mr. Talal Shair Mr. Thomas Abraham Me. Uthman Arakji Mr. Walid Tabet Me. Ziyad Baroud



First of all this role is a great honor and a privilege for me to be able to assist and stand for Lebanon, a country with such a rich history and such a great people. Secondly, knowing all efforts and amazing achievements that BMA team is able to do year after year I am also very proud to promote their highly inspiring results in my region.

Finally being an international coordinator of such valuable organization it also brings a responsibility and a duty to do well organized and coordinated work that will support the work of my BMA colleagues.



**Erol Mujanovic** Director "Marathon" Sarajevo

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

MAY EL KHALIL

CEO PETER MOURACADE

ADMINISTRATION	ACCOUNTING	HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH	PARTNERSHIP	RACE
ADMIN & OFFICIAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR	ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR	HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH DIRECTOR	PARTNERSHIP DIRECTOR	RACE
ILHAM EL FAKIH	DIALA ABOU SAEED	ABDALLAH ABDELNOUR	DEENAH FAKHOURY	WISSAM T
PROCUREMENT MANAGER ABBAS AYOUB	ACCOUNTING OFFICER LILIANE GHANEM	HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH MANAGER MYRNA MERHEJ	PARTNERSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER RAMZI GEAGEA	RACE OPERA MANAGE FRANCOISE N
TIMING, IT & ARCHIVING MANAGER <b>BASSEL EL FAKIH</b>	CASH MANAGER FATEN DOUGHAN	HOSPITALITY & OUTREACH COORDINATOR DANIELLA KHALIL		REGISTRAT COORDINA <b>PATRICK NIC</b>
WAREHOUSE MANAGER MOHAMAD ABILMONA		ADMIN & OUTREACH OFFICER <b>RIMA NEHME</b>		RACE COORDI ALBERT CHI
OFFICE RUNNER <b>MOHAMAD JAAFAR</b>				LOGISTICS & BR COORDINA AYMAN YACO
OFFICE KEEPER MICHELINE KANAAN				LOGISTICS COOR JOSEPH ABOU
		l		



EDITOR & VIDEOGRAPHER GEORGES HELOU

# THE RUNNER MANTRA

When we run, we feel good. We run more, to feel better. When we feel better, we become better people. We achieve inner peace. We accept who we are. We are confident. We are tolerant. We are in tune with our environment. We smile more. We live more. We see the world differently. We let go of our grudges, And of all the extra baggage holding us back. We move forward, stronger. We radiate more positive vibes. We advocate running. We advocate PEACE.

### WE ARE PEACERUNNERS







### STAFF TESTIMONIALS



**SAFA SALEM** "Once you're a Beirut Marathon team member, your life changes forever. There is something about working in this environment that makes you addicted to the spirit of giving and being part of its mission to move and unite people through running. To entice healthy change in a community is huge and a big part of the success lies in the journey. The journey is the everyday brainstorming, communication, design, ideation and creation and that's what counts!"

**ABBAS AYOUB** "2017 was one of the most challenging years of my career. The integration of the Marathon Village, also maintaining and raising the quality of our programs and races, added a new level of complexity to my work. In addition, closing deals with our suppliers was far from being easy. However, all the efforts paid off and the year turned out to be a real achievement. We always aim to be better as a Team. **Team = Together Everyone Achieves More.**" **CARLA MATTA** "You never know how much it takes to prepare a marathon until you are part of it. I'm proud to have met such supportive colleagues and to be a member of the Beirut Marathon family."

**DANIELLA KHALIL** "This year has brought a lot of new challenges and opportunities to develop. I am grateful for getting the chance to test new limits and seeing its impact with better results."



**ALBERT CHEAIB** "The best & most rewarding part about my job is watching the running community grow over the years. "Sports Development" engages the Lebanese community in breaking social barriers, unfortunately present in our everyday lives. Our yearly races and programs, such as the BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON and the "542", give Lebanon an international spotlight to show the world that we are not what they see or hear on TV every night. The world gets a chance to see Lebanon the way it really is; a collection of very different people in a very small and unique place, doing the best they can to get along and live together, while everyone around us tells us we cannot."



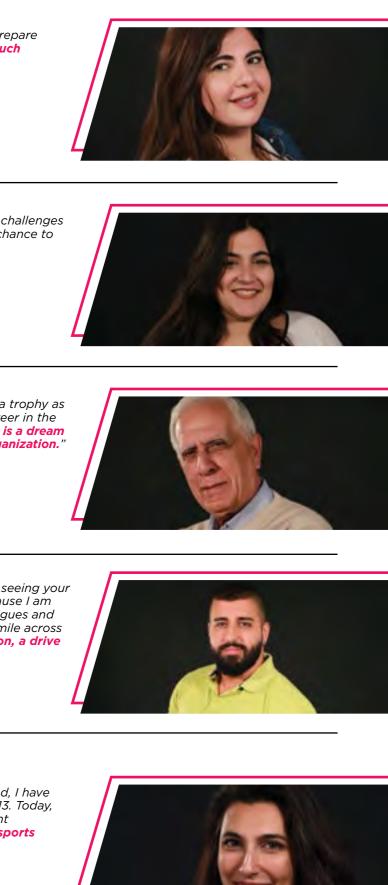
**AYMAN YACCOUB** "This year, the amount of logistics, installations and dismantling needed to be executed upon our races was enormous! Yet, the success that followed, made my whole experiences so rewarding. 2017 was by far the most challenging and the most successful year of my previous 7 years of work with the Beirut Marathon Association." **JOSEPH ABOU SAAD** "I spent my youth running after a trophy as a volleyball player & transporting injured players as a volunteer in the RED CROSS. **Being part of the Beirut Marathon Association is a dream comes true, as it combines sports & social values in one organization.**"

**MOHAMAD YATIM** "Proud means working for BMA and seeing your work spreads all over the world. At BMA i wear a smile because I am confident that my contagious smile will spread to my colleagues and will build a stronger team who is able to deliver the same smile across thousands of faces. BMA is more than just work, it is a vision, a drive and a family."



**BASSEL EL FAKIH** "I'm proud to be a part of this exceptional organization, its initiatives, mission, vision and values, and fulfilling them with integrity. I am what I do, I am BMA and I am proud to be part of something special."

**MYRNA MERHEJ** "Coming from a hospitality background, I have handled various projects with the Beirut Marathon since 2013. Today, I feel happy and proud that I joined the team as a permanent employee, which gives me the chance to see the world of sports from a new perspective."



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MOHAMAD ABILMONA "It's always comforting to realize the importance of sports in our life. I can't but be happy of all running events that take place all over Lebanon throughout the year, even if they require working on weekends to provide the logistical support."



**GEORGES HELOU** "Working with Beirut marathon has given me the opportunity to combine what I do with sports. This has allowed me to implement myself in a field that is different and more challenging than what I'm used to. I'm grateful for the opportunity to combine arts and sports."

**PATRICK NICOLAS** "Every year, the number of participants is growing at the Beirut Marathon Association's events, to reach in 2017 more than 47,000. I believe that the Beirut Marathon unites people spreads peace in Lebanon. I am happy to play a role in this event and to reach our goal."



RAMZI GEAGEA "After working with the Beirut Marathon Association for over 6 years and working closely with the private sector, I can say that the Association and its events have been able to maintain their growth for more than 15 years due to the continuous partnerships with the corporate world."

**FRANCOISE NEHME** "Working at the Beirut Marathon Association is my way of paying it forward to our community, where we engage, encourage, help and put Lebanon on the map again."



LILIANE GHANEM "Being in this position requires from me to handle a big responsibility which is both challenging and fulfilling, where I can summarize it by art of managing accounts. The essential base of a teamwork is the ability to work as a group toward a common vision, even if that vision becomes extremely blurry at times. As Beirut Marathon Association members we share one language, involuntary, we became runners ourselves."

YARA SAAD "Working on the BBBM 2017 and the Marathon Village was a great pleasure and seeing my designs turning to reality was really fulfilling. This was such a fun and unique experience to bring different people together to work as a team."



**RIMA NEHME** "The Beirut Marathon association represents a core part of my life. Throughout the last 15 years, I have grown within this entity by learning, overcoming all kind of challenges and mostly enjoying the unique spirit of this association."

**RAWAD KOBTAN** "Seeing countless people achieving their goals and dreams when crossing the finish line is the best gratification a person can get from their job, I feel extremely proud to help provide a platform where they can do that."



MOHAMAD JAAFAR "The Beirut Marathon Association's vision and mission is what keeps us driving towards a better future."

**MICHELINE KANAAN** "Everyday is a promissing one at the Beirut Marathon Association and I feel happy helping in any way possible to make it a happy place for everyone.

















### **GENERAL RETIRED HASSAN RUSTOM - VICE PRESIDENT**

"Year 2003 still feels like yesterday, as I can still clearly remember how Beirut Marathon started, the vision and the objectives we were trying to reach. Our thinking was always centered around growing the running culture in Lebanon and put our country on the international map of sports. We hoped for more people in Lebanon to take on distance running as a sport, and we hoped to have Lebanon represented in Tokyo Olympics year 2020. Ever since, we focused on organizing world class marathons in Beirut. With hard work and professionalism, we successfully earned the silver label by the IAAF in 2015. We exceeded our own expectations when Chirine Njeim, a Lebanese hero, qualified to take part in the Rio Olympics year 2016. Her participation proved to us that Lebanon is truly embracing the sport of running Marathons and that the Lebanese community is celebrating

the achievements of our Lebanese idols. The ongoing efforts of the Beirut Marathon team and the executive committee, guided by the vision of President Dr. May Faysal El Khalil, has led the association to become one of the most professional entities in organizing road races as well as guaranteeing competition opportunities for our Lebanese elites abroad. In addition, the Beirut Marathon partnership agreements with marathons from all over the world is strengthening the bonds between Lebanon and many other countries through the power of sport. Some of the partnership agreements signed were with Limassol, Dubrovnick, Belgrade, Rome, Sarajevo, Serbia and Cairo to name a few. And to take it to another international level, the Beirut Marathon is now one of the founding members of the Asian Premier Marathon League (APM). This worldwide spread of the Beirut Marathon running culture is reflecting the true image of Lebanon which is now hosts more than 105 nationalities on the Beirut Marathon day. Congratulations to all of us on these beautiful achievements. The Beirut Marathon should be proud of what it has accomplished to date for our community. Here's to wishing more success to us and to our beloved Lebanon."



### PETER MOURACADE - CEO

"2017 was a year for all records. We looked inwards and embraced Sustainable Growth as our number one priority while staying the course on our president's vision for the decades to come.

2017 marked an important milestone in the journey of the Beirut Marathon Association. We turned 15 and graduated into a new era, consolidating our place on the international map of running. We effectively measured our impact and positive ripple effect on the Lebanese Economy and communities and most broke all our event records, all the while improving the financial sustainability of our institution.

Here are some of the highlights I am most proud of:

- 47,859 Highest recorded number of participants to the BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON
- 7,079 Highest recorded number of participants to the BANKMED YOUTH RACE
- 4,764 Highest recorded number of volunteers to help stage our events
- **183** Highest number of participating NGOs
- 155 K USD Highest recorded amount of contribution raised to NGOs from Registrations
- 3.200 Highest recorded number of international runners from 104 nationalities
- 2:10:41 New Marathon Event Record (men)
- 2:28:38 New Marathon Event Record (women)
- New Half-Marathon Event Records (Men & Women)
- 158 runners took part in the "542" training program and became first-time marathoners
- 22 Para-Athletes took part in the "Ability Program" and became super-abled marathoners
- 19 M USD Highest Economic Impact of a Sports Organizing Association in Lebanon
- 4th Year in a row Accredited the Silver Label from the IAAF

- Asian Premier Marathons (APM) co-founded the 1st continental league of Marathons in the world (dedicated to grow and reward Asian runners)

None of these achievements could have been accomplished without the work of a determined and invincible BMA team who worked restlessly against a tide of challenges.

What crowned this year's success was that we were able to close the year on an encouraging surplus, ensuring that we move steadily into the next. We look forward to an even more impressive 2018 where the focus will be put on growing our events and developing our international outreach, while reinforcing our corporate culture and nurturing our human capital.

### For what is the power of the Beirut Marathon, if not for the driving engine of its individual members and key partners."

### HASSAN MUHIEDDINE - SENIOR MEDIA CONSULTANT

*"The Language of Numbers. Since its inception, the Beirut Marathon"* Association (BMA) has always issued its annual report, an important document for those interested in knowing (in numbers) about the key events and activites of BMA that took place throughout the year. In particular, BMA's media coverage has played an essential role in spreading the association's ongoing activities throughout 2017, as evidenced by the media team's following accomplishments:

- 93 press articles were distributed to different media sources. - 76 radio and television interviews with local, regional and
- international media channels.
- We have organized 10 press conferences.
- LBCI broadcasted the marathon event live for 4 consecutive hours. - 136 media cards were distributed to media representatives
- covering the BMA event on the race day.

In short, the above numbers reflect the important role the BMA's media team has played in supporting the big race event and documenting its activities, thanks to its partnership with the various media channels whom we sincerely thank for showing interest in our organization throughout the past years, and for the years to come."

### ILHAM HMEIDAN EL FAKIH - TREASURER/ ADMIN AND OFFICIAL RELATIONS DIRECTOR

"Wow.... It's been already 15 years!!!! Time has flown indeed, and it has carried us through this remarkable, incredible and inspirational journey that has been full of challenges, worries and judgements but also has held cheerful and memorable stations. A history by itself that has stood out with glory among the very unpredictable, insecure, inauspicious circumstances. So proud to witness those 15 years, to meet multitudes of people, to learn thousands of lessons and to be part of this great association that still has a lot to give to our community.

Let's all join hands to keep the Beirut Marathon running in unity, love and peace."

### BASHIR SAKKA - COORDINATOR & PROTOCOL SUPERVISOR

"The idea of establishing an international marathon in Lebanon is a result of the will and ambition that came from Mrs. May El-Khalil, which resulted in the launch of the Beirut Marathon in 2003. In order to spread the culture of running in Lebanon, she appointed coordinators & called them ambassadors of the Beirut Marathon Association.

Every year, responsibilities, dreams and goals grow...

From my experience since 2003, as a coordinator of the Beirut Marathon Association & the Protocol Supervisor, I assure you that the Association, through a distinguished working group that has surrounded the President of the Association in terms of governmental, security, official, media, administration and logistical relations, has been able to spread the culture of running in Lebanon and to launch several races throughout Lebanon. BMA was able to attain its objectives by being a distinctive organization and by the certificate of the international, local and official institutions. And that is shown through the bronze classification of the Association and after it the silver classification. I am proud to be a member of the Beirut Marathon team and that I have worked with Mrs. May Al-Khalil and the team, and I wish Beirut Marathon Association continuity, progress and the attainment of the golden rating."







### **2018 RACE** CALENDAR

### WHAT DOES 2019 HOLD?

APRIL 22, 2018 SARADAR BANK WOMEN'S RACE **5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION** 

> NOVEMBER 11, 2018 **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON 16TH EDITION**

APRIL 07, 2019 YOUTH RACE, 4<sup>TH</sup> EDITION



**17TH EDITION** 

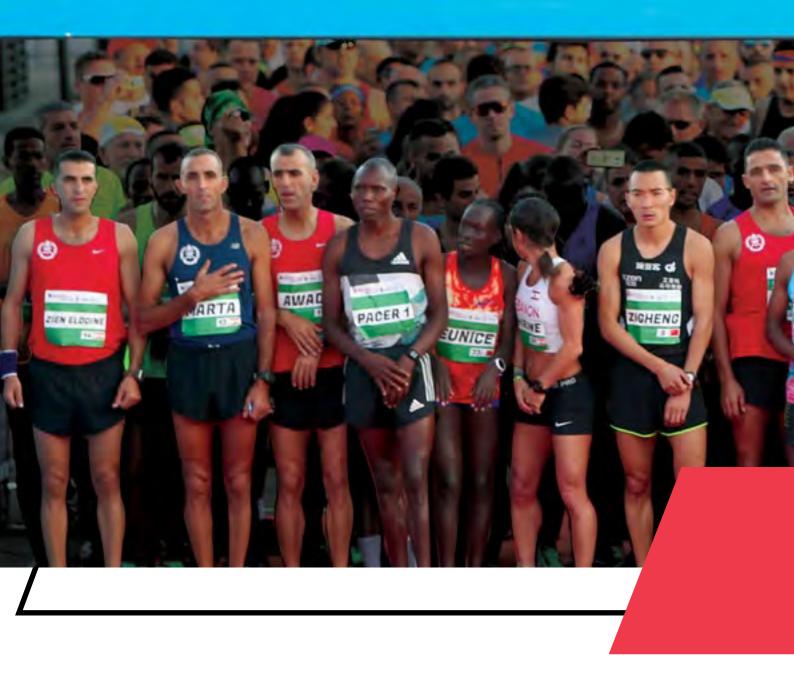
YINLI



### WOMEN'S RACE, 6TH EDITION

### NOVEMBER 10, 2019 **BLOM BANK BEIRUT MARATHON**





### CONTACT US AT

Beirut Marathon Association 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Makateb Bldg., Mar Takla, Hazmieh, Lebanon O: +961 (05) 959 262 F: +961 (05) 959 263 info@beirutmarathon.org www.beirutmarathon.org