



Annual Report 2023



MISSION

The Jesuit Garden Neighborhood Gathering لقاء حيّ جنينة اليسوعية (LIQAA) has come together because of our collective interest in our community. We wish to improve the lives of people and businesses in the neighborhood and take care of our public spaces, especially the Jesuit Public Garden, one of the few green spaces in Beirut. We hope the community can reconnect to nature, connect to each other and feel a sense of ownership over public spaces.

- Improve quality of life (health, happiness, and well-being)
- Foster eco-sustainability
- Promote small local businesses
- Preserve cultural heritage
- Create a network of local initiatives
- Re-own, protect, and preserve public space
- Leave a legacy for future generations

VALUES: Community, participatory, inclusivity, transparency, preservation, innovation, education, environmentally conscious



HISTORY

The Jesuit Garden Neighborhood Gathering لقاء حيّ جنينة اليسوعية (LIQAA), a grassroots initiative, was born from an activist movement in 2013. Ten years ago, it was initiated by active citizens living in the Geitawi neighborhood. They joined together to protect the Jesuit Public Garden from development projects which would have disfigured it. Later, during the 2019 revolution, residents started to meet more regularly, and organized the first community meeting or Sobhyeh in the garden. During the COVID pandemic, residents became disconnected from the community and stress was heightened by the very heavy impact of the Port Blast in 2020. In 2021, active community members created a second petition to prevent another development project in the garden designed without the community's voice. The resurgence of community engagement led to the establishment of LIQAA, with the support of the SEE CHANGE fund, by COSV and OXFAM, in a partnership with Assabil Association, who operates the public library located in the Jesuit Garden. Activities for the community started to be organized in 2023.

ACTIVITIES

The governance of LIQAA is collaborative and participatory and is structured so community members can conceive and lead a variety of activities. This grassroots local initiative is open to any community member, regardless of gender, ethnicity, political affiliation or religion.





Cleaning Day

After a survey we did in partnership with Assabil Association and the Scouts Groupe de l'Annonciation, LIQAA organized a day to clean the garden with the scouts and other residents. This youth-led event had eco-awareness activities organized by the Scouts, Assabil, and Maya Abou Habib.

Ongoing cleaning was organized by Liqaa and financially supported by LIQAA, Assabil and Beit el Baraka from May- December 2023.



Sobhyeh

In 2023, we had eight Sobhyehs in partnership with Assabil, where community members could talk about community needs, problems and solutions.



The Walking Club

Launched in March 2023 this weekly sports activity is for all ages. It is led by a trainer and promotes physical health as well as is a social meeting place. A rotating group of 10-20 people join weekly, a majority of which are 55+ women.



Composting

In partnership with Compost Baladi, Assabil Association and the Beirut Municipality and governorate, LIQAA began composting in the Spring 2023. Two Earth Cubes were donated by Compost Baladi and are being used by 15-30 families to make organic waste into compost.



Chess

In partnership with Assabil Association, a weekly meetup started in April 2023 takes place in the garden for Chess players of all levels and ages.



Jam Session

A Jam session was organized for musicians to play together in February 2023.



Self-Care Workshop

In partnership with the Anbar Festival and Assabil Association, a workshop on stress with 15-20 participants was led by Nisrine Feghali in March 2023.



Film Screenings

Film screenings were held in partnership with Assabil Association, Nadi Lekol Nas, Tripoli Film Festival (July 2023) and Anbar Festival (February 2023). Each screening had between 50 to 100 people.

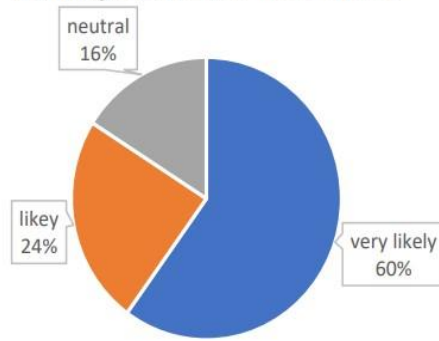
Garden Market

With our partners the Municipality of Beirut, Assabil Association and the Scouts Groupe de l'Annonciation, LIQAA successfully launched its first Garden Market on June 23 & 24, 2023

- 3000+ Visitors (neighborhood and outside)
- 31 Vendors (products made in Lebanon or vintage)
- 8 Musical acts (including La chorale eglise de St. Joseph, La Chanterie de Beyrouth, The Beirut Vocal Studio and emerging local talents)
- 3 Eco-workshops (with Refuse, Lebanesecomposters, and Zero Waste Heros)
- 13 Neighborhood vendors
- 17 National vendors
- 4 Food vendors (community initiatives)

Vendor Survey

Joining Market in the Future



Feedback from Visitors

“This was such a successful event! The fruit of all your efforts and ideas coming to life and made everyone happy. Congratulations on this beautiful project. To many more garden markets!!”

“Do it again soon!”

“Thank youuu for the amazing work you did!”



SUMMARY

In 2023, LIQAA launched many of the ideas that community members had conceived. With the support of SEE Change, active members were able to structure themselves and LIQAA grew not only in members, but in ideas and programming. This year also saw revenue generating activities in order for the initiative to become sustainable by receiving funding from different funding sources.

Fund from SEE Change \$20,000

Earned Income \$2220

Donations \$250

Income Total: \$22,470

Expenses Total: \$20,000



Applicant Organization	(JNG) Jesuit Neighborhood Gathering	لقاء حي اليسوعية	مقدم الطلب الرئيسي:
Applicant Organization	Assabil		مقدم الطلب المشارك:
Region:	Beirut		المنطقة:
Project Period:	August 2022 - August 2023		فترة المشروع:
Project Name:	GARDEN PARTY - PLACEMAKING INITIATIVE with THREE PILLARS:		اسم المشروع:
Project Code:	MARKET for 60 tables 4 to 5 times a year		رمز المشروع:

Budget Item بند الميزانية	Budget Item Description شرح بند الميزانية	unit الوحدة	Unit Cost سعر الوحدة \$	Quantity الكمية	frequency	Total Cost- المجموع \$	Expenses	Balance
1	Human Resources- الموارد البشرية							
1.1	Coordinators	month	\$ 200.00	12.00	1	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ -
	Total- المجموع					\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ -
2	Various Logistics Costs- تكاليف لوجيستية متفرقة							
2.1	storage space rent	months بالأشهر	\$ 100.00	12	1	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,320.00	\$ (120.00)
2.2	set up and removal of tents, tables, chairs, lighting	per event	\$ 100.00	5	1	\$ 500.00	\$ 808.50	\$ (308.50)
2.4	mobile phone monthly expenses	months بالأشهر	\$ 50.00	12	1	\$ 600.00	\$ 157.78	\$ 442.22
	Total- المجموع					\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,286.28	\$ 13.72
3	Equipment and supplies- معدات ومواد							
3.1	tents	m2	\$ 5.00	200	1	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,530.00	\$ (530.00)
3.2	Inverter+Batteries+Solar panels	lumpsum	\$ 5,000.00	1	0	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -
3.3	cable and lighting	lumpsum	\$ 600.00	1	1	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,254.00	\$ (654.00)
3.4	wooden plywood + bases	lumpsum	\$ 50.00	60	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ (600.00)
3.5	chairs	piece	\$ 20.00	120	1	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,062.27	\$ 1,337.73
3.6	mobile phone	piece	\$ 100.00	1	1	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.00	\$ (15.00)
3.7	outdoor information board	piece	\$ 200.00	2	1	\$ 400.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 330.00
3.8	cleaning material (rakes, broom, basic gardening tools)	lumpsum	\$ 175.00	1	1	\$ 175.00	\$ 43.47	\$ 131.53
	Total- المجموع					\$ 11,175.00	\$ 11,174.74	\$ 0.26
4	Other costs, services- تكاليف وخدمات أخرى							
4.1	Meetings/Workshops/Trainings (venue, trainer, stationery, etc.) (التدريبات (مساحة وتعبئ مدرب وقرطاسية، إلخ.)	lumpsum	\$ 50.00	12	1	\$ 600.00	\$ 712.48	\$ (112.48)
4.2	Monthly Activites with the community	unit الوحدة	\$ 300.00	8		\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,547.79	\$ (147.79)
4.3	Communications & Outreach expenses (print-outs, posters, banners, etc.) (تكاليف تواصل (طباعة، تكاليف لوحات، إلخ.)		\$ 2,000.00		1	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 790.38	\$ 209.62
4.4	Maintenance of tents, furniture and other equipments		\$ 250.00	1	1		\$ -	\$ -
4.5	cleaning of the garden, including toilets	per event	\$ 25.00	5	1	\$ 125.00	\$ 88.00	\$ 37.00
	Total- المجموع					\$ 4,125.00	\$ 4,138.66	\$ (13.66)
Total						\$ 20,000.00	\$ 19,999.67	\$ 0.33