

Lebanon Update:

MDD *Atos*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI) extends its most grateful thanks to the American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL) for your support of our humanitarian programs to free the world of mines. ATFL's sponsorship of lifesaving Mine Detection Dog (MDD) *Atos* in 2014 to the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) has enabled thousands of people in Lebanon to return home, farm their land, and walk the earth without fear of hidden landmines. In 2017, MDD *Atos* helped to search 23,250 square meters of land, contributing to over one million square meters of land searched by MLI's MDDs in Lebanon since we started working there in 2001. MDD *Atos* is helping the LAF pave the way toward a mine safe Lebanon and sustainable economic, social development in areas impacted by mines and other explosives.

OVERVIEW OF LEBANON OPERATIONS

Throughout 2017, MDD *Atos* worked in both southern (Mays Jabal, Houla, and Taybeh) and northern provinces (Niha, Madfoun, and Toula) in Lebanon, as well as the Mount Lebanon province. In the wake of 15 years of civil war and multiple conflicts with Israel, these regions were left littered with mines and other explosives. The LAF's demining efforts, however, are rapidly releasing land for productive and safe use, and the LAF estimates that nearly 3,500 people directly benefited from land cleared by MLI's MDDs in 2017. This land will be used for agricultural purposes, development of housing areas, and improving infrastructure, such as the construction of new water pipelines. MLI is extremely proud of the LAF and its productive use of MDDs; we will continue providing support to the LAF through the donation of highly trained mine detection dogs and explosives detection dogs, and provision of training to dog handlers so it can further expand its demining capacity and expedite clearance efforts.

On behalf of the people of Lebanon and the LAF, MLI thanks the American Task Force for Lebanon for your support and for giving hope to mine-threatened communities.



MDD *Atos*



MDD *Atos* training with handler





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