The project aims to support the modernization of the Railway and Public Transportation Authority. The main outcome of the designed project is to provide the necessary institutional capacity to the Railway and Public Transportation Authority to define, develop, and implement potential and strategic public transportation projects, as well as deliver a technical assistance in the implementation of reforms aiming at the modernization, and efficiency of both the institution and the public transportation sector in Lebanon. The project will develop a strategy to enhance the institutional capacities of the Railway and Public Transport Authority, and provide support through the subsequent phases for the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the reform plan and strategy.

**Expected Results**

- Developed public transportation strategies.
- Updated institutional and technical structural capacities of the RPTA;
- Provision of support to the RPTA to coordinate and manage ongoing and potential technical projects.
- Identification of priority needs for external funding and creating linkages with resource organizations.
**Achievements**

- Supported the nomination of RPTA as the main beneficiary for the **Greater Beirut Urban Transport Project – (BRT and Feeder Buses)** for the supervision and oversight of the private operators: Referring to the Council of Ministers Decision 66, dated 2018/5/16, for the development and construction of a **BRT and Feeder Buses** project in Greater Beirut area, the **World Bank** will extend to the borrower (Lebanese Government) a loan on concessional terms in the amount of **USD 295,000,000**.
- UNDP unit has initiated the EIB- RPTA cooperation materialized by a **grant allocation of EUROS 1 Million** in frame of the **EIB Economic Resilience Initiative** for the construction of bus network and its terminals in Greater Tripoli.
- The unit assisted the EIB technical team on the preparation of Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Technical Assistance of Sustainable Urban Public Transport Investment Program for Greater Tripoli (SUPTIP).
- Preparation and signature of the cooperation Agreement (CA) between the European Investment Bank, Railway and Railway and Public Transport Authority and the Ministry of Public Work and Transport.
- Preparation of a workshop at Tripoli Governor Premises to present and debate the content of SUPTIP project document in presence of the EIB, UNDP, and municipalities.
- Terms of Reference (TOR) prepared and budget allocated for the formulation of railway master plan and related expropriation decrees.
- Terms of Reference prepared for a Mass transit system of the four corridors in Greater Beirut Area on the existing ROW between NBT - Khalde - Dora and Baabda. The World Bank adopted the project by launching a Pre-feasibility study for the southern and eastern corridors.
- Provided a Technical Support for the preparation of procurement documents for the renovation work of train stations, particularly for the existing buildings of Furn Chebbak and Mar Mikhael.
- Assessed the current regulations and frameworks of the authority to strengthen the institutional capacity of RPTA and revise the current organizational structure, current staff and their qualifications, functional job descriptions, internal institutional bylaws, and working methods and procedures.
- Preparation and signature of a **protocol on the restoration and adaptive reuse project and practices for Mina Railway Station in Tripoli** between the Directorate General for Cultural Heritage and Museums, Ministry of culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey and RPTA.
- UNDP Unit worked on collecting datas and designing the layout of **OCFTC website** in coordination with OMSAR.
• Involved **RPTA in EUMedrail Project** through the following activities:

  ▪ Reactivation Lebanon membership at the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF).

  ▪ Organized and defined an agenda to the European Union Agency for Railways (ERA) and the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) for a country site visit during the workshop on international railway legislation in Belgrade, Serbia.

  ▪ Launched the **EUMEDRAIL Action Plan for Lebanon 2018-2020** that will support decision makers for the revitalization of railway network during the EUMedrail conference held in Lebanon in presence of ERA, OTIF, EU and RPTA delegations.

  ▪ Presented long-standing proposals to rehabilitate the out-of-use railway to carry the EUMEDRAIL support for the revitalization mainly the coastal railway corridor at EUMedRail Action Plan conference held in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

  ▪ Presented on-going public Transportation and railway projects, highlighted on the necessity of its reorganization and rehabilitation and requested the European Commission involvement and support in relaunching the second phase of the feasibility study of Beirut- Tripoli railway section through the European Investment Bank during EUMedrail Annual Meeting in Brussels, Belgium.

**Issues & Difficulties**

• Delays may occur in the development and implementation of the project activities due to the complexity and time needed to complete the defined action plan within the actual local and international context.

• The recruitment of the remaining project team was delayed. Further recruitment of the project’s team is required to achieve a solid and sustainable output during the project’s duration of three years.