

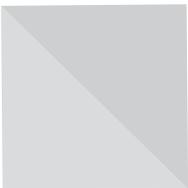
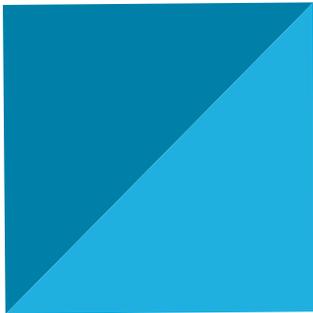


**IDAL**  
INVEST IN LEBANON

# INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN NORTH LEBANON

2018

**NORTH  
LEBANON**

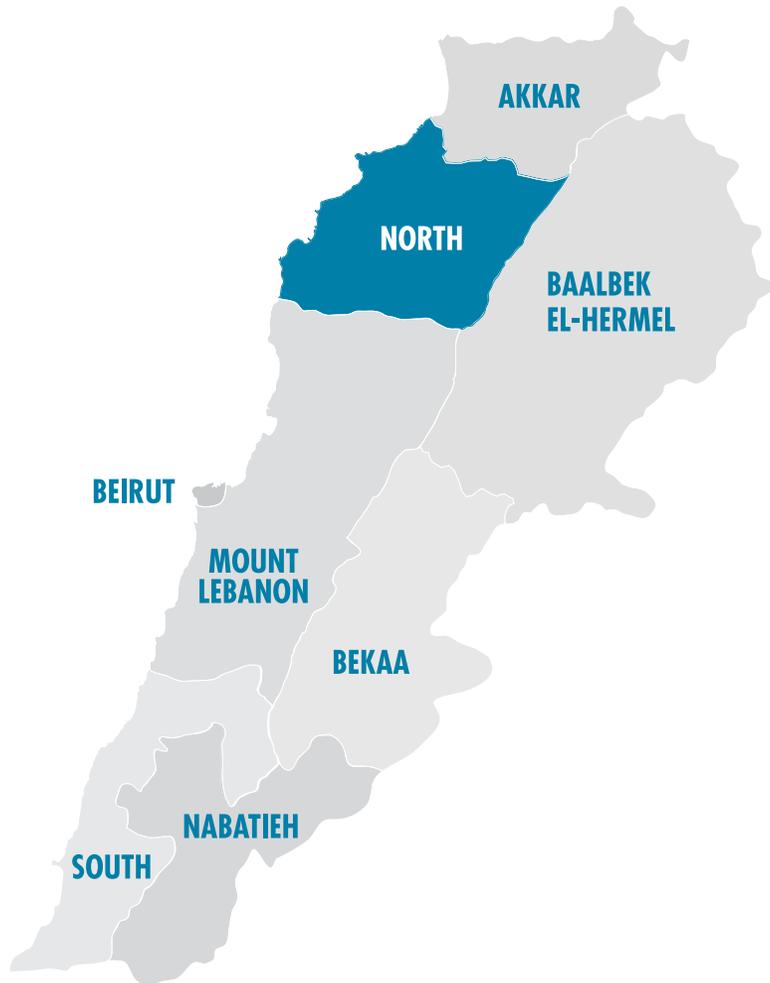




# I. SOCIO ECONOMIC BASELINE ANALYSIS OF NORTH LEBANON

**North Lebanon** is one of Lebanon's 8 Governorates, and is composed of 6 districts, with Tripoli as its administrative center

LEBANON'S 8 GOVERNORATES

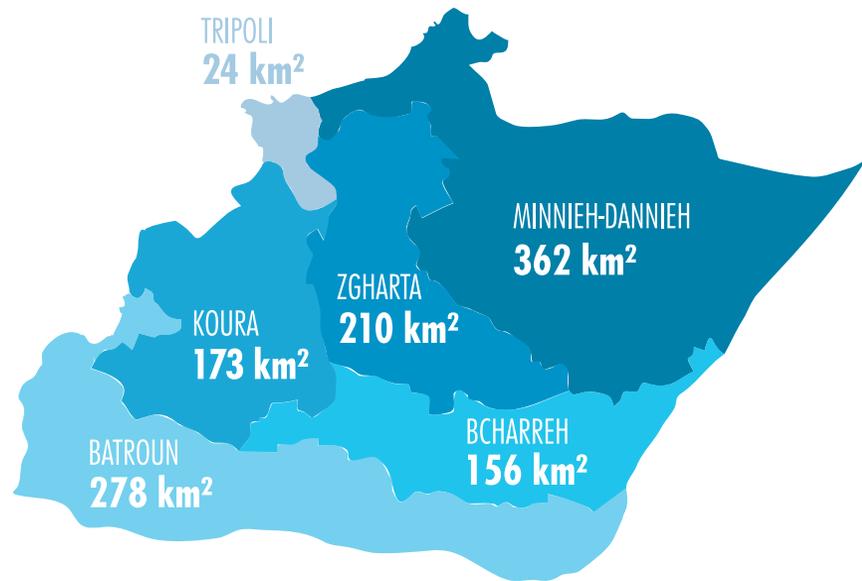


NORTH LEBANON GOVERNORATE



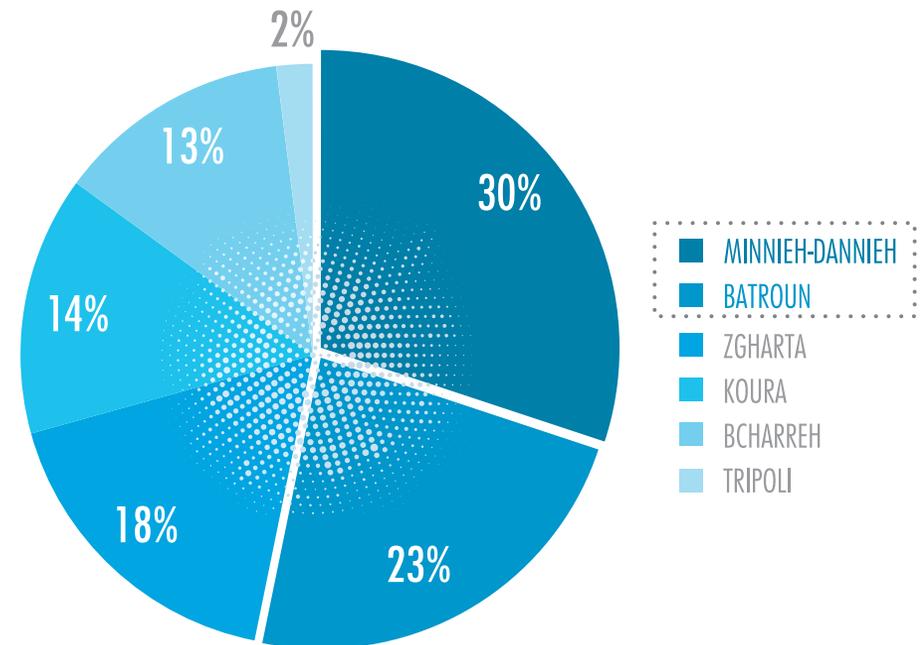
It covers a total area of **1,203 km<sup>2</sup>**, with Minnieh-Dannieh & Batroun accounting for around **50%** of its area, while Tripoli accounts for for only **2%** of its territory

AREA SIZE OF DISTRICTS IN NORTH LEBANON GOVERNORATE



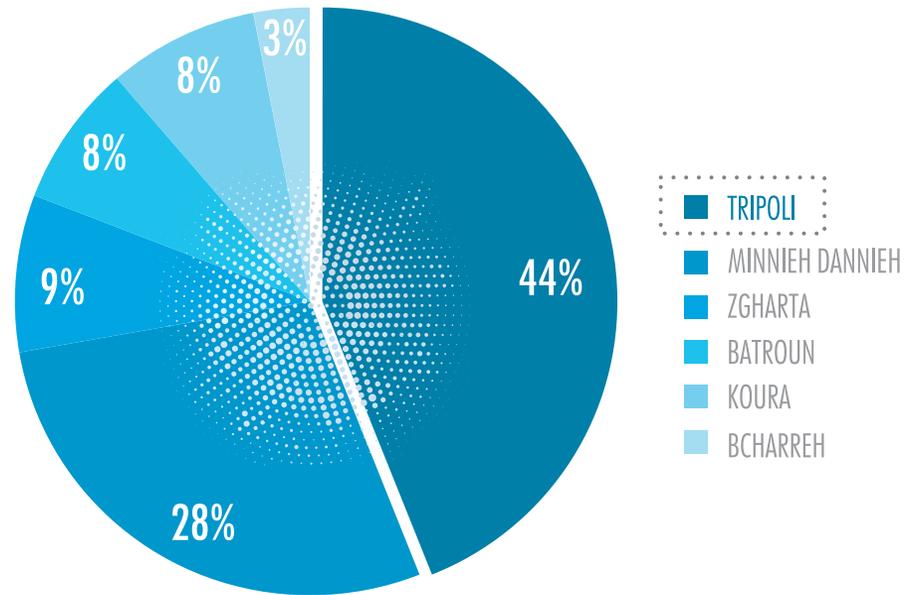
NORTH LEBANON TOTAL AREA SIZE = **1203 KM<sup>2</sup>**  
% OF TOTAL LEBANESE TERRITORY = **11.5%**

DISTRIBUTION OF NORTH LEBANON AREA SIZE BY DISTRICT



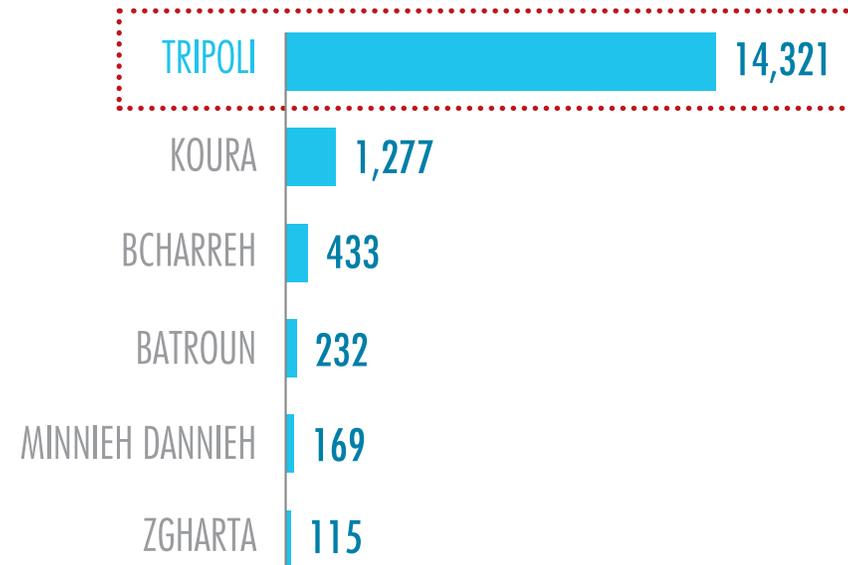
The North has around **1 million inhabitants**, with Tripoli district having the largest share of population and highest population density

DISTRIBUTION OF NORTH LEBANON POPULATION BY DISTRICT  
% | 2016



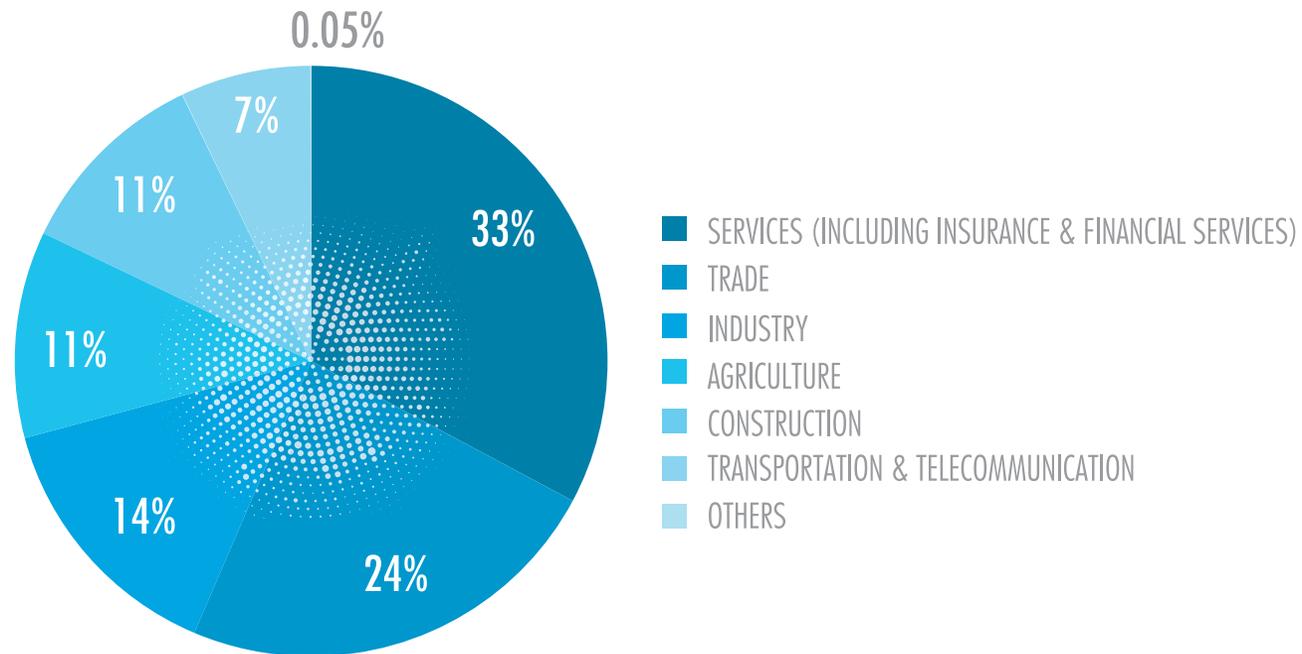
NORTH LEBANON TOTAL POPULATION = **781,930**

POPULATION DENSITY PER DISTRICT  
(NUMBER OF PEOPLE/KM<sup>2</sup> | 2016)



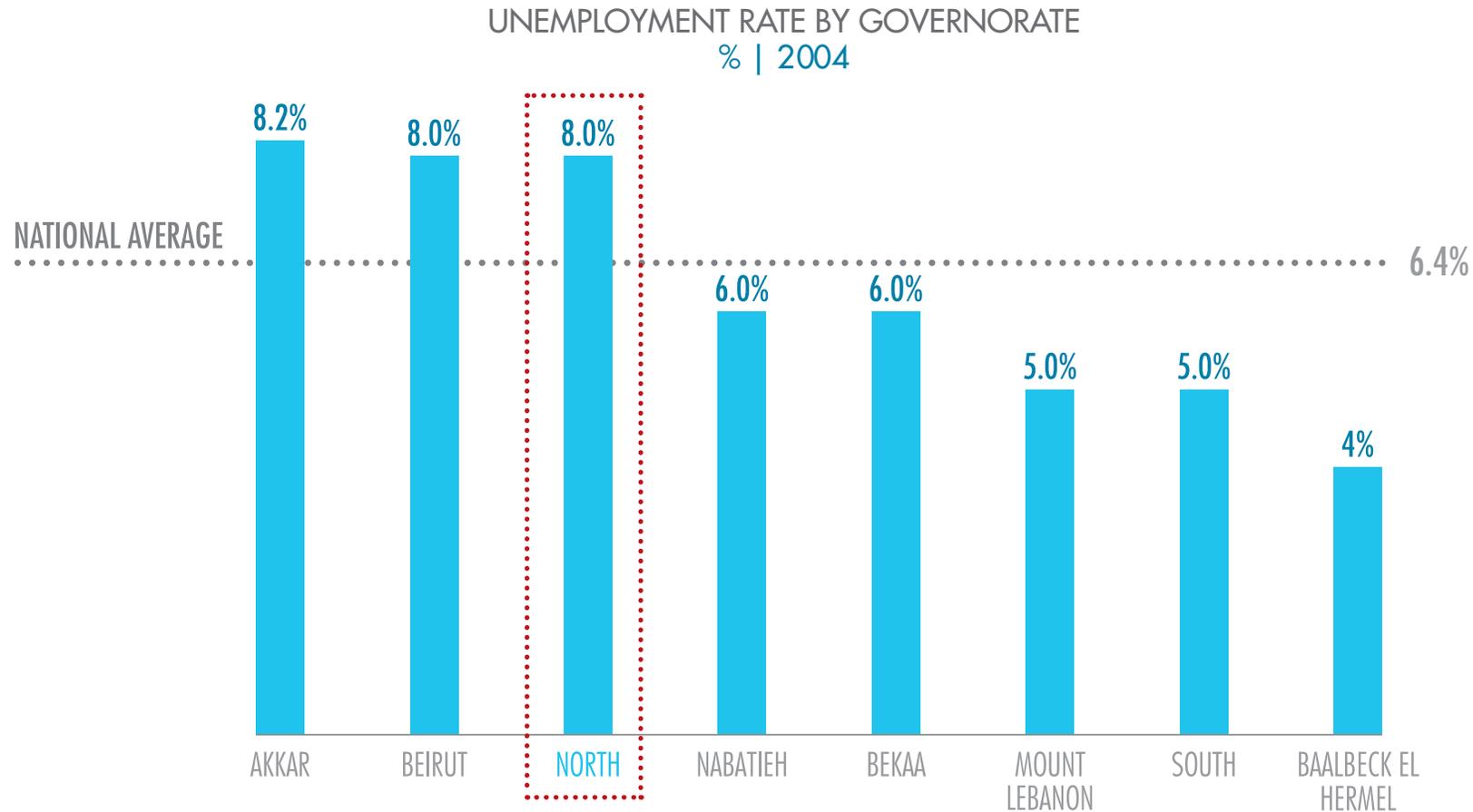
North Lebanon's **economy** is mainly services-oriented with industry and agriculture constituting only 14% and 11% respectively of total labor force

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR FORCE BY ACTIVITY IN NORTH LEBANON  
% | 2004



LABOR IN AGRICULTURE = **21,248**

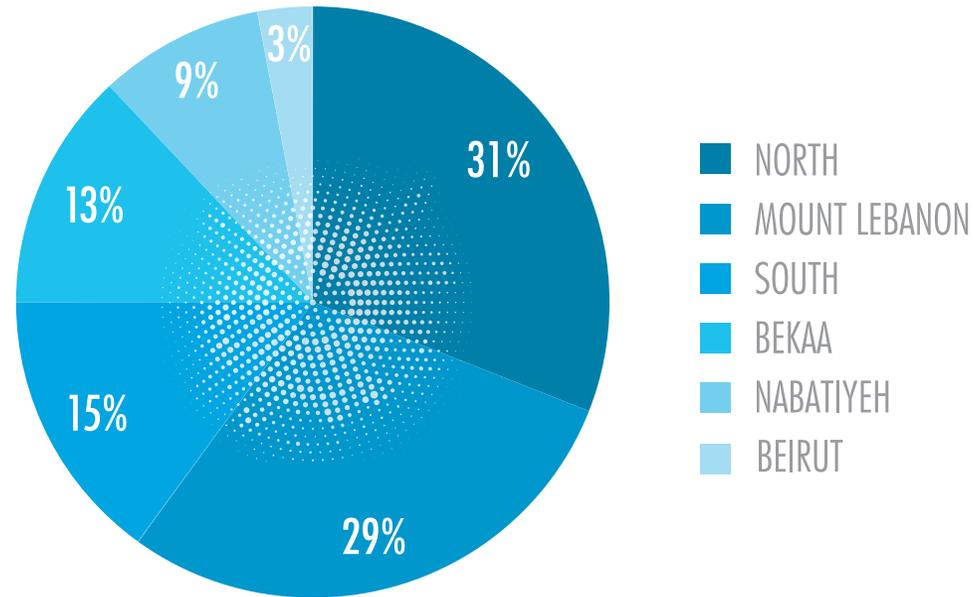
# North Lebanon Governorate suffers from above-average unemployment rate estimated at 8%



Source: Central Administration of Statistics, 2004

...which explains the **highest** concentration of poor households at a national level

CONCENTRATION OF POOR HOUSEHOLDS PER GOVERNORATE  
% | 2014



A dense forest of evergreen trees, likely cedar or pine, covers a mountain slope. The trees are lush green and fill most of the frame. In the background, the forest is partially obscured by a light mist or fog. A semi-transparent dark rectangular box is centered over the middle of the image, containing white text.

## **II. COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF NORTH LEBANON**

The competitive advantages of the district will be assessed along **4 dimensions**

## DIMENSIONS FOR ASSESSING NORTH LEBANON

- 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES**  
Existing Natural Resources  
Economic Assets
- 2. ACCESS TO MARKETS**  
Infrastructure  
Exports Performance
- 3. ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL**  
Universities & Vocational Schools
- 4. ACCESS TO FINANCE**  
Accessibility Indicators

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Around **15%** of the governorate area is classified as agricultural area, with the quality of its soil decreasing as we move inland

SOIL CLASSIFICATION IN NORTH LEBANON  
2005



**LEGEND**  
**SOIL CLASSIFICATION**

- VERY GOOD
- GOOD
- MEDIUM
- LOW FERTILITY

MAP OF NORTH LEBANON DOMINANT LAND USE  
2005



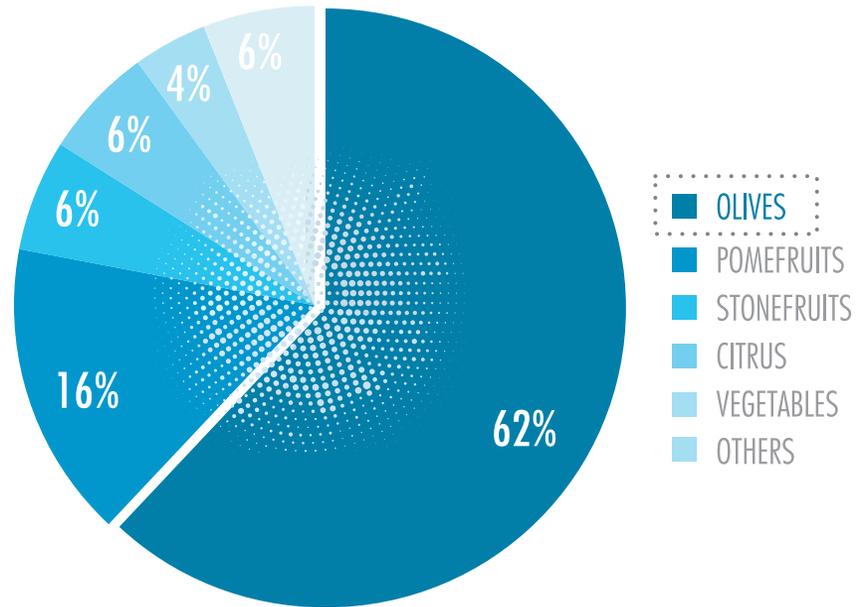
- MAIN AGRICULTURAL AREA
- MIXED RURAL AREA
- NATURAL AREA
- URBANIZED AREA
- AREA OF LARGE AGGLOMERATION

Source: CDR. National Physical Master Plan of the Lebanese Territory, 2005

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

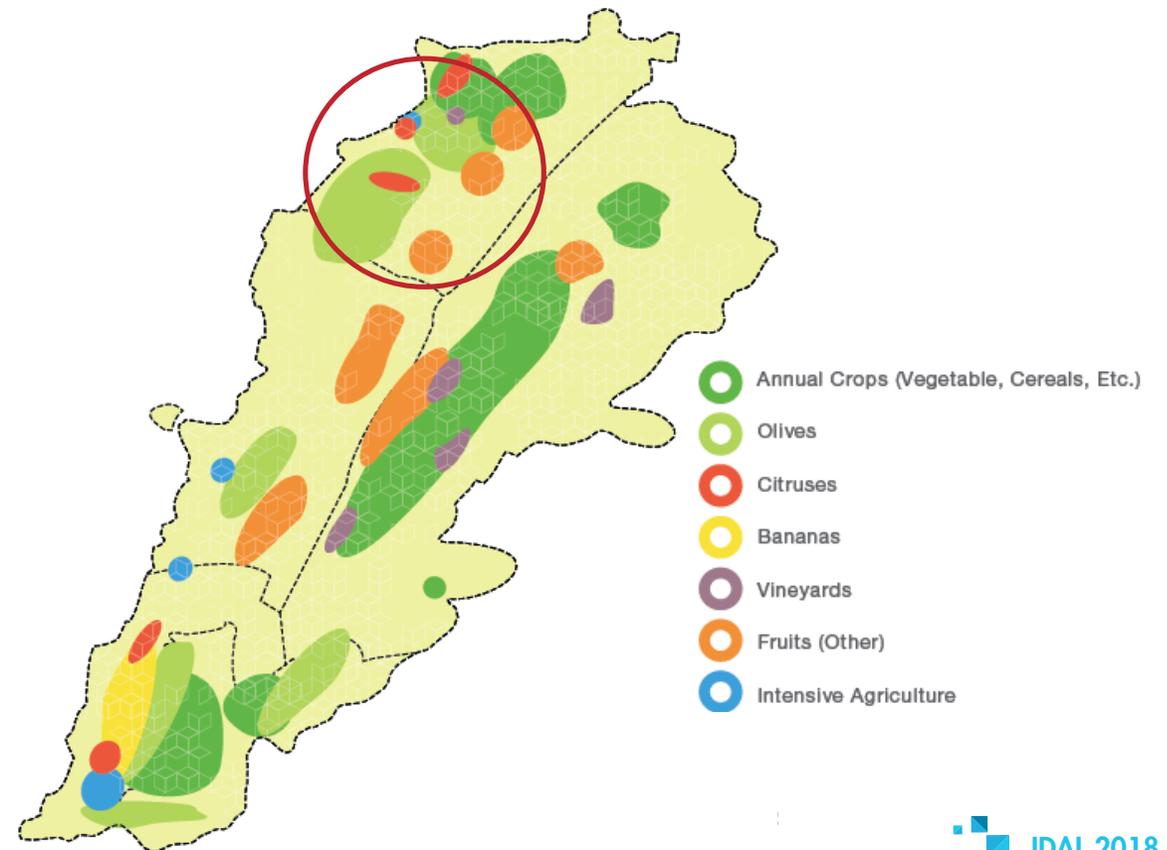
62% of North Lebanon's cultivated lands are used for the **cultivation of olives**

NORTH LEBANON PERMANENT & TEMPORARY CULTIVATED LAND PER PRODUCE  
% | 2015



Source: Ministry of Agriculture

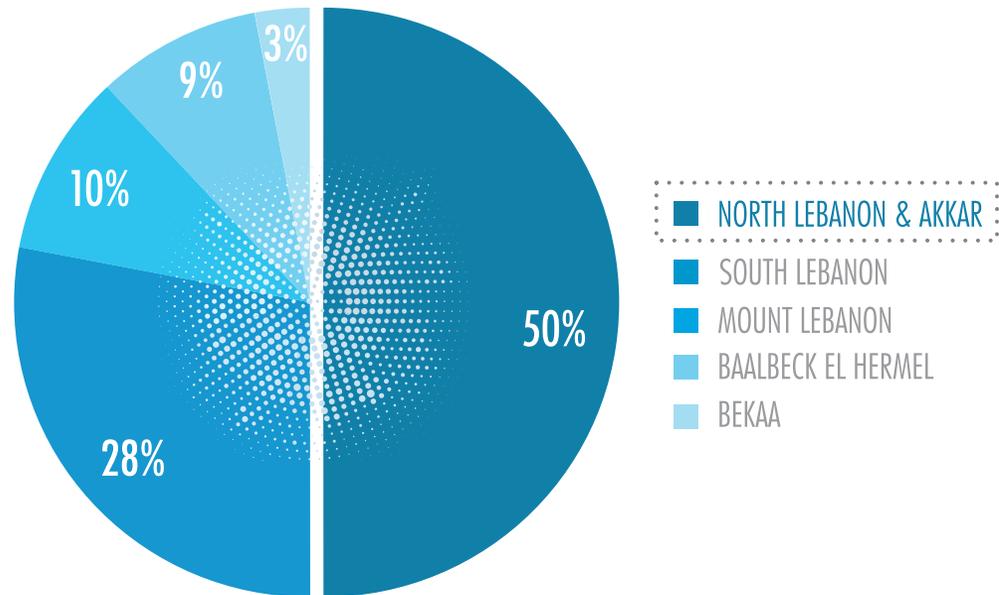
AGRICULTURAL MAP OF LEBANON  
% | 2010



# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

North Lebanon is home to **50% of Lebanon's olive trees**, the highest concentration in the country...

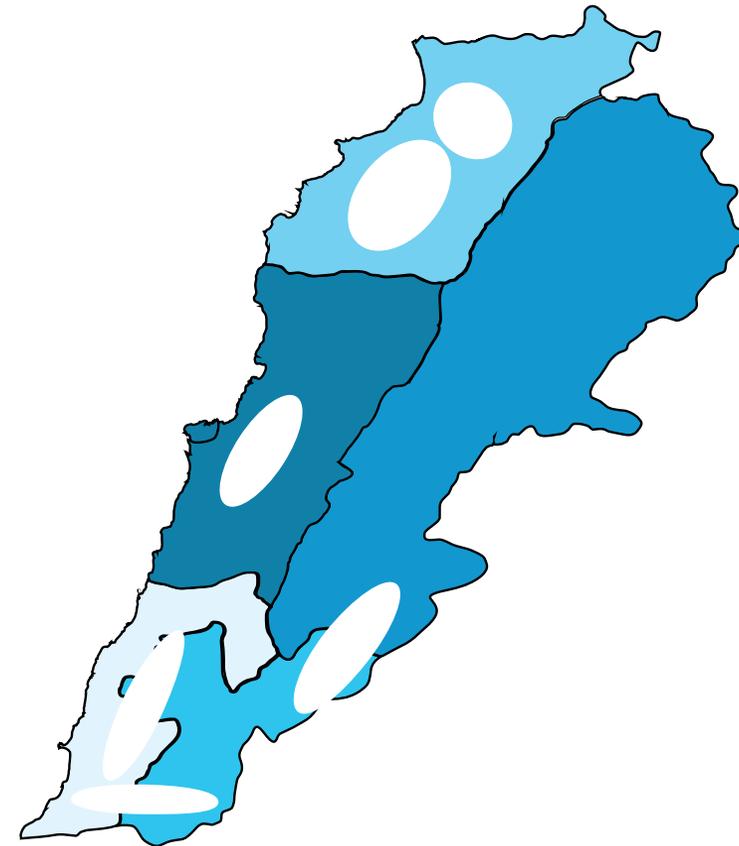
DISTRIBUTION OF OLIVE TREES IN LEBANON BY HARVESTED AREA\*  
% | 2015



\*Includes Akkar

Source: Ministry of Agriculture (Latest available figures)

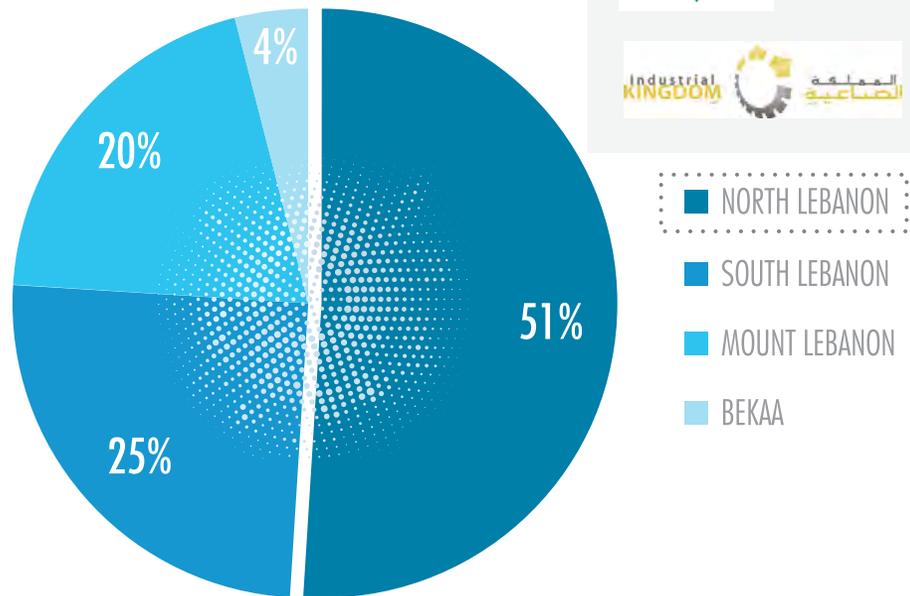
MAPPING OF OLIVE GROVES IN LEBANON  
2010



# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

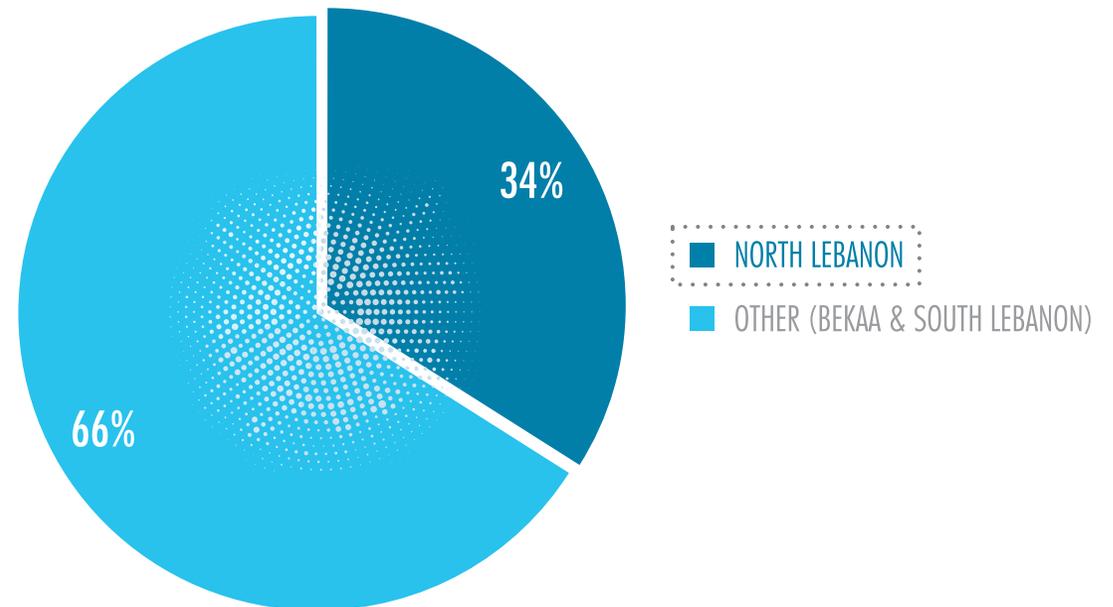
The Governorate is home to **51% of olive mills** operating in the country thus **creating opportunities to strengthen the olive production** in the area

EXISTING OLIVE MILLS PER REGION\*  
% | 2010



- NORTH LEBANON
- SOUTH LEBANON
- MOUNT LEBANON
- BEKAA

OLIVE OIL EXPORT PER REGION  
% | 2016



Source: IDAL's Calculations

TOTAL NUMBER OF MILLS IS NORTH LEBANON = **274**

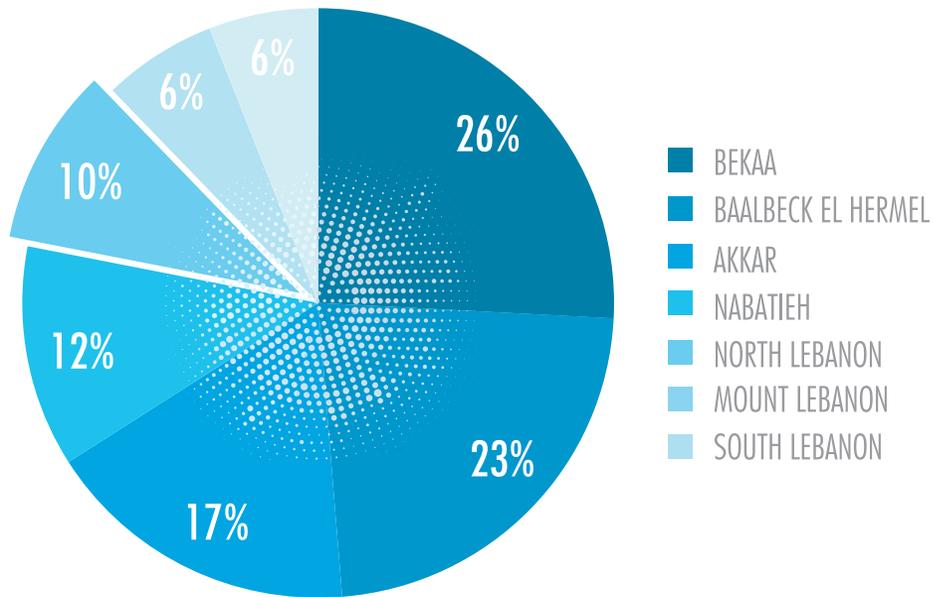
\*Includes Akkar

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

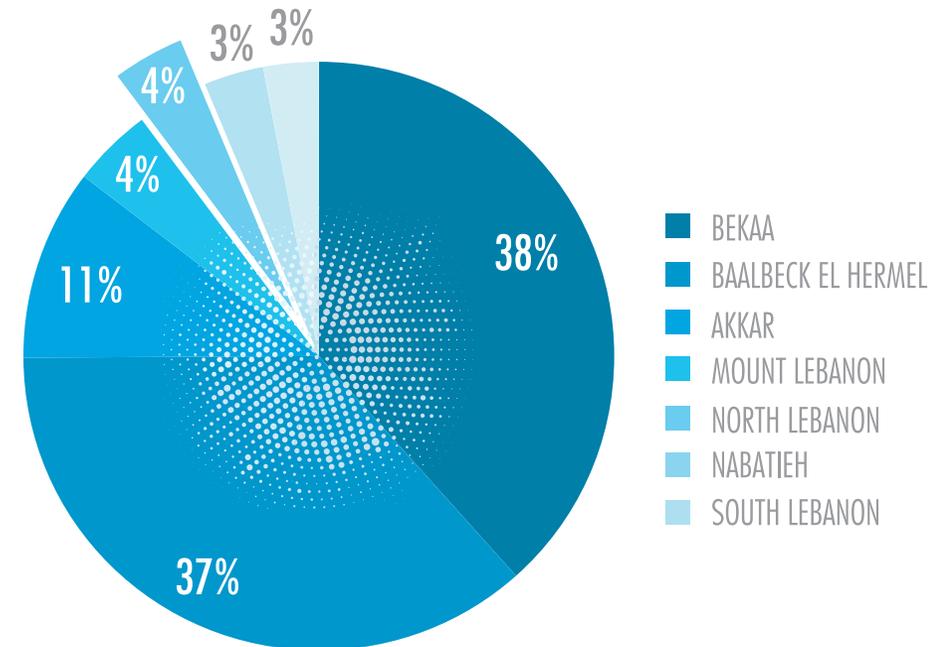
It has **10% of cattle holdings** of the country allowing for production of dairy products

DISTRIBUTION OF CATTLE HEADS IN LEBANON  
% | 2015



NUMBER OF CATTLE HEADS IN NORTH LEBANON = **9,023**

DISTRIBUTION OF SHEEP HEADS IN LEBANON  
% | 2015

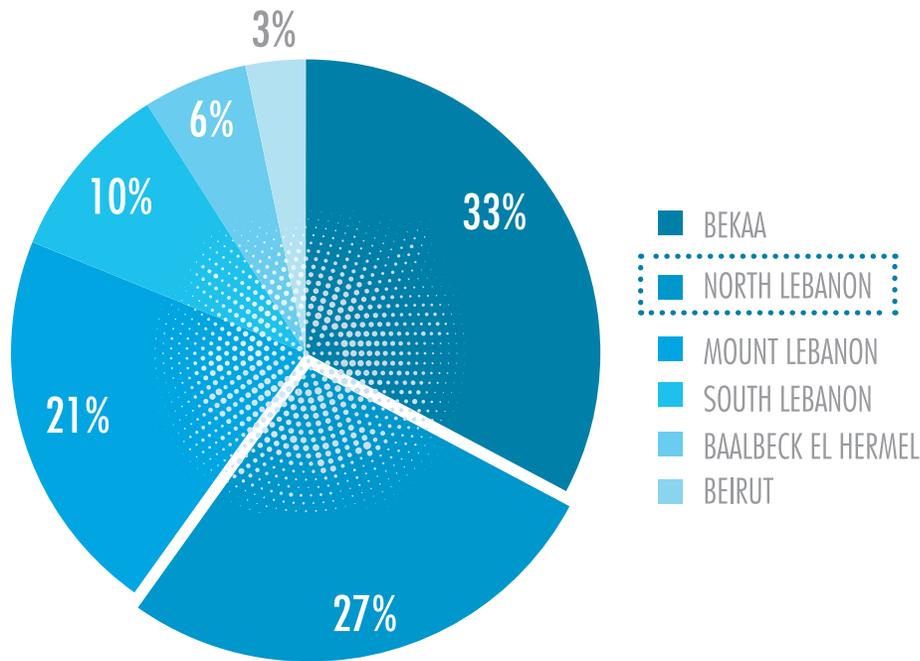


NUMBER OF SHEEP HEADS IN NORTH LEBANON = **14,320**

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

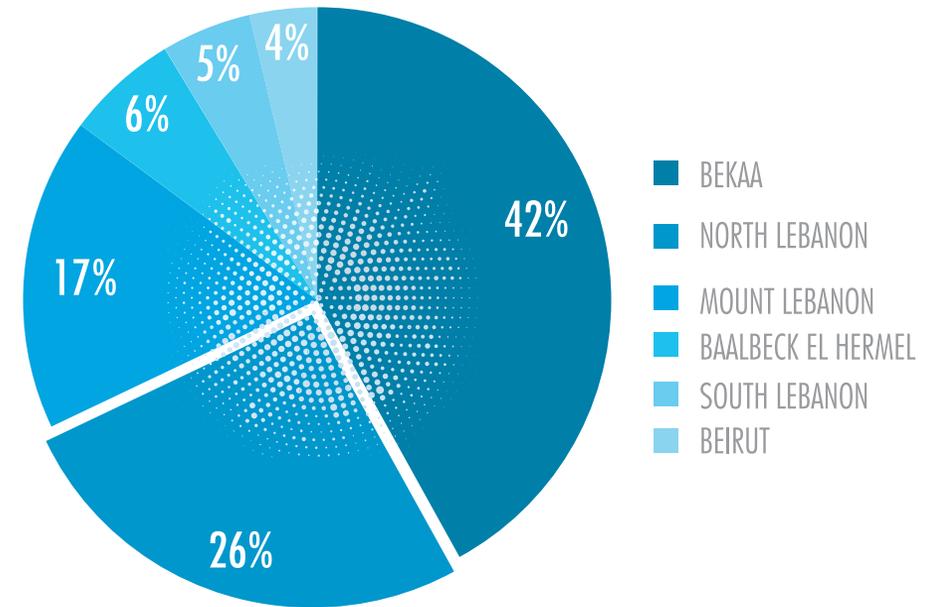
It accounts for **27%** of the country's packing houses and cold storage facilities which could serve the 6 districts' agricultural produces

DISTRIBUTION OF PACKING CENTERS IN LEBANON  
% | 2017



NORTH LEBANON PACKING CENTERS = **33**  
CAPACITY = **3,341 TONS/DAY**

DISTRIBUTION OF COLD STORAGE HOUSES IN LEBANON  
% | 2017

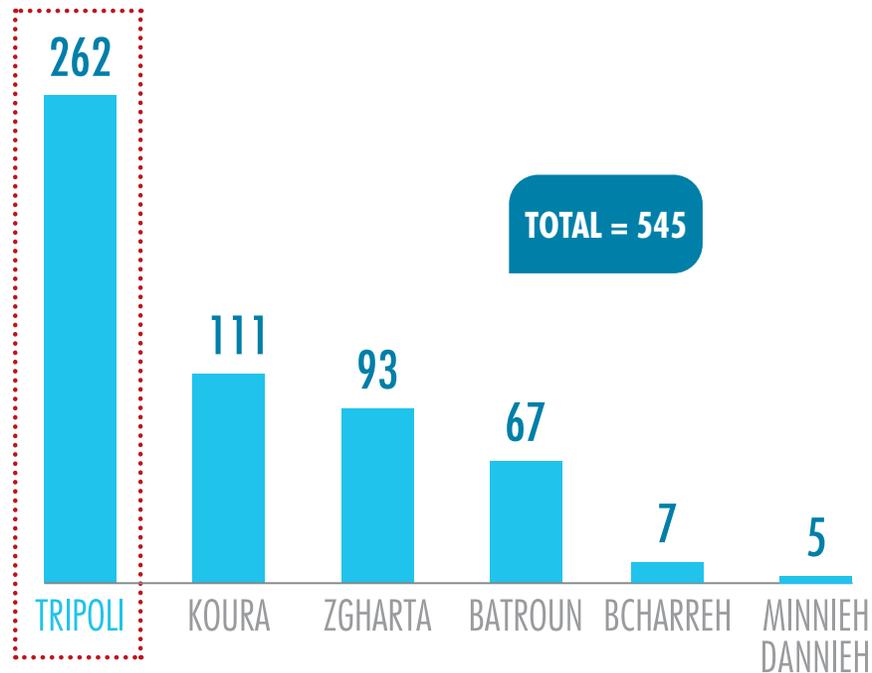


NORTH LEBANON COLD STORAGE HOUSES = **21**  
CAPACITY = **19,630 TONS**

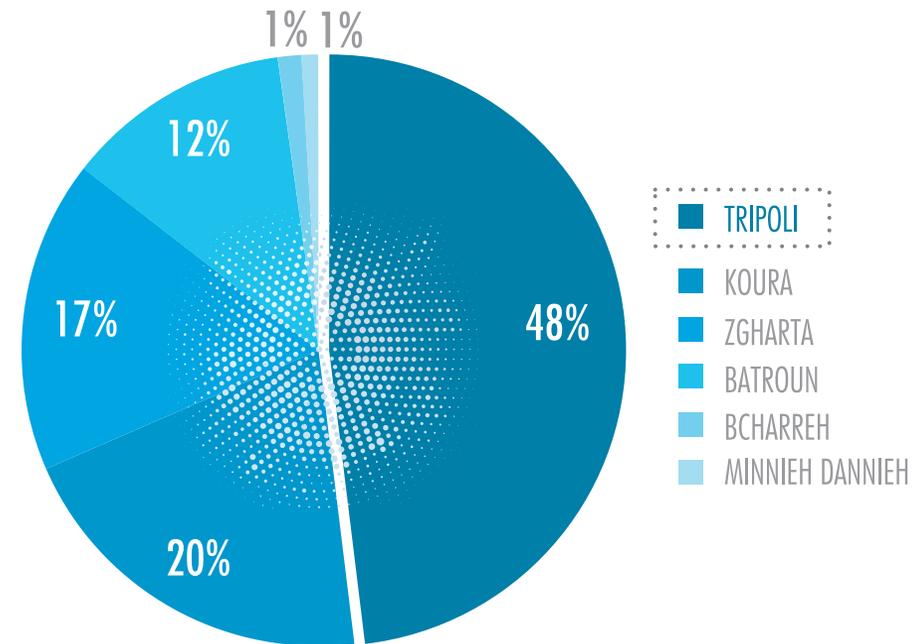
# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

On the industrial front there are **545 companies** operating in the North with around **48% in Tripoli**

NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL FIRMS PER DISTRICT IN NORTH LEBANON  
2017-2018



DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIAL FIRMS  
PER DISTRICT IN NORTH LEBANON  
2017-2018



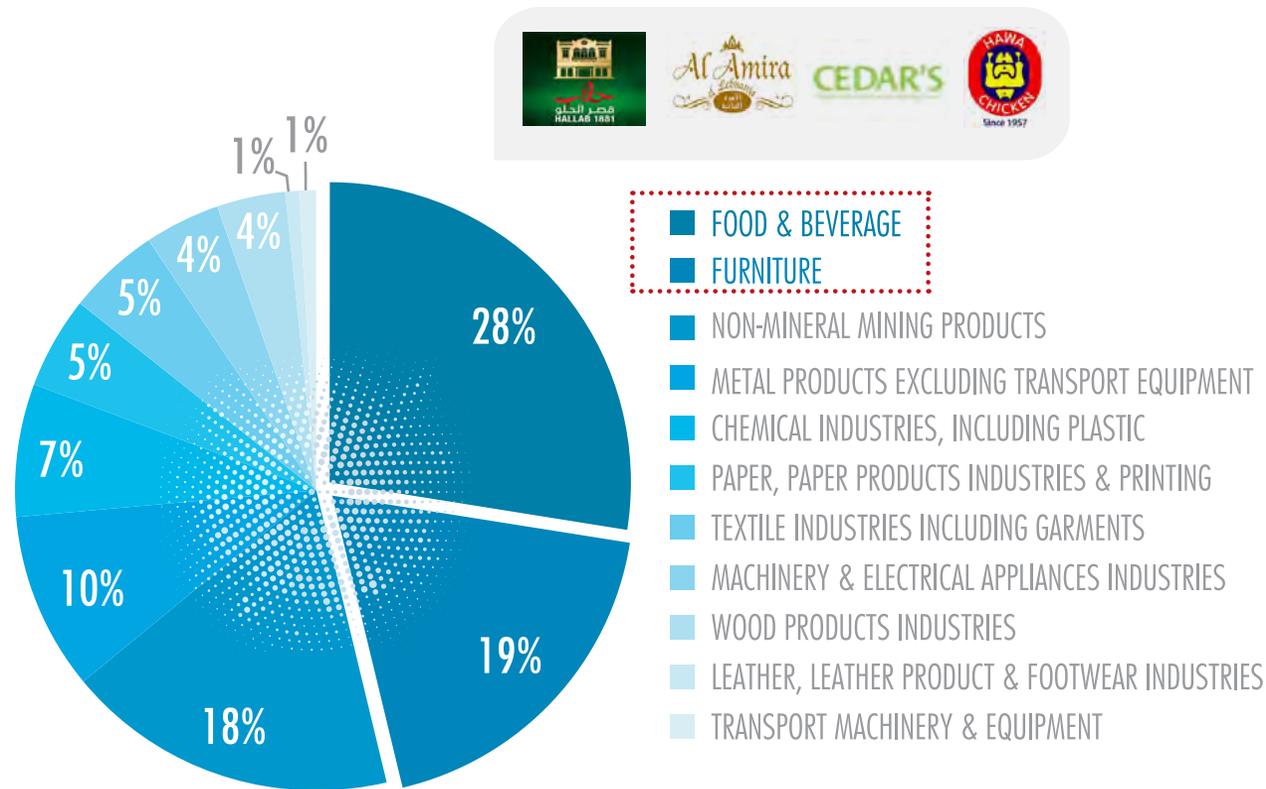
*\*This source only considers firms with at least 8 employees.*

Source: Directory of Exports & Industrial Firms in Lebanon, 2017-2018, IDAL's Calculations

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

28% of these companies operate in the **Agro-Food sector**, followed by **19% in the Furniture sector**

DISTRIBUTION OF INDUSTRIAL FIRMS PER SECTOR IN NORTH LEBANON\*  
2017-2018



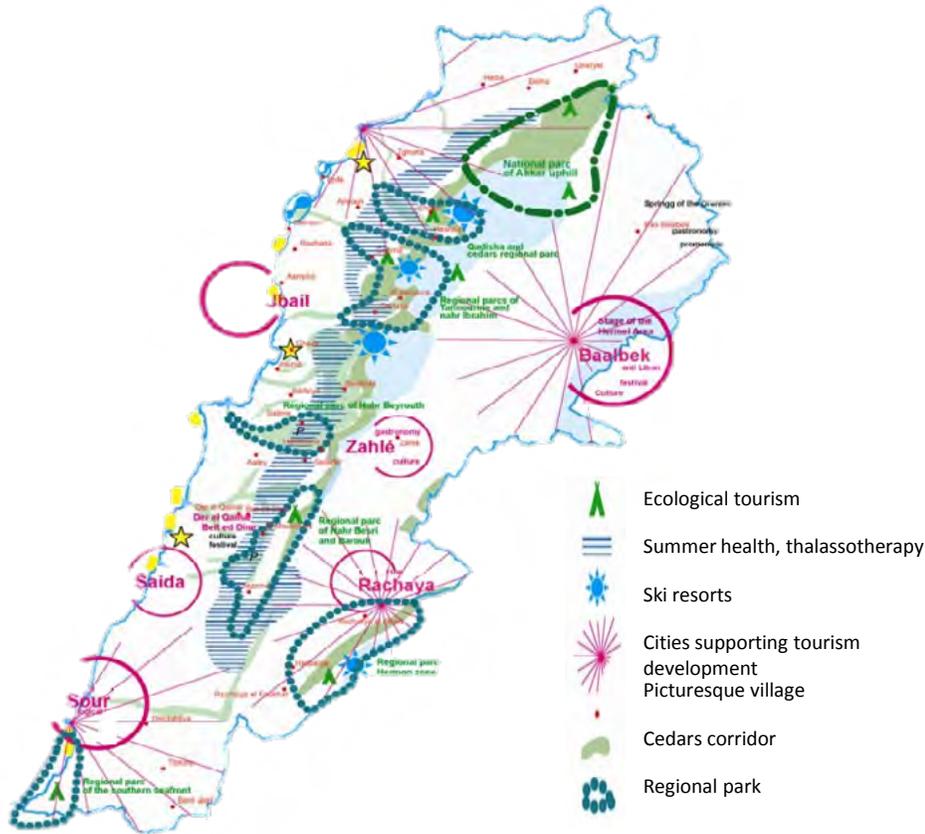
\*This source only considers firms with at least 8 employees.

Source: Directory of Exports & Industrial Firms in Lebanon, 2017-2018 IDAL's calculations

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

North Lebanon also offers endless opportunities of **religious, cultural and eco-tourism activities...**

MAP OF LEBANON'S TOURISTIC ATTRACTIONS



MAP OF NORTH LEBANON'S TOURISTIC ATTRACTIONS



Source: Council for Reconstruction & Development, 2005

# 1. ACCESS TO RESOURCES

...With more than 150 religious touristic attractions

NON EXHAUSTIVE

RELIGIOUS TOURISTIC ATTRACTIONS IN NORTH LEBANON

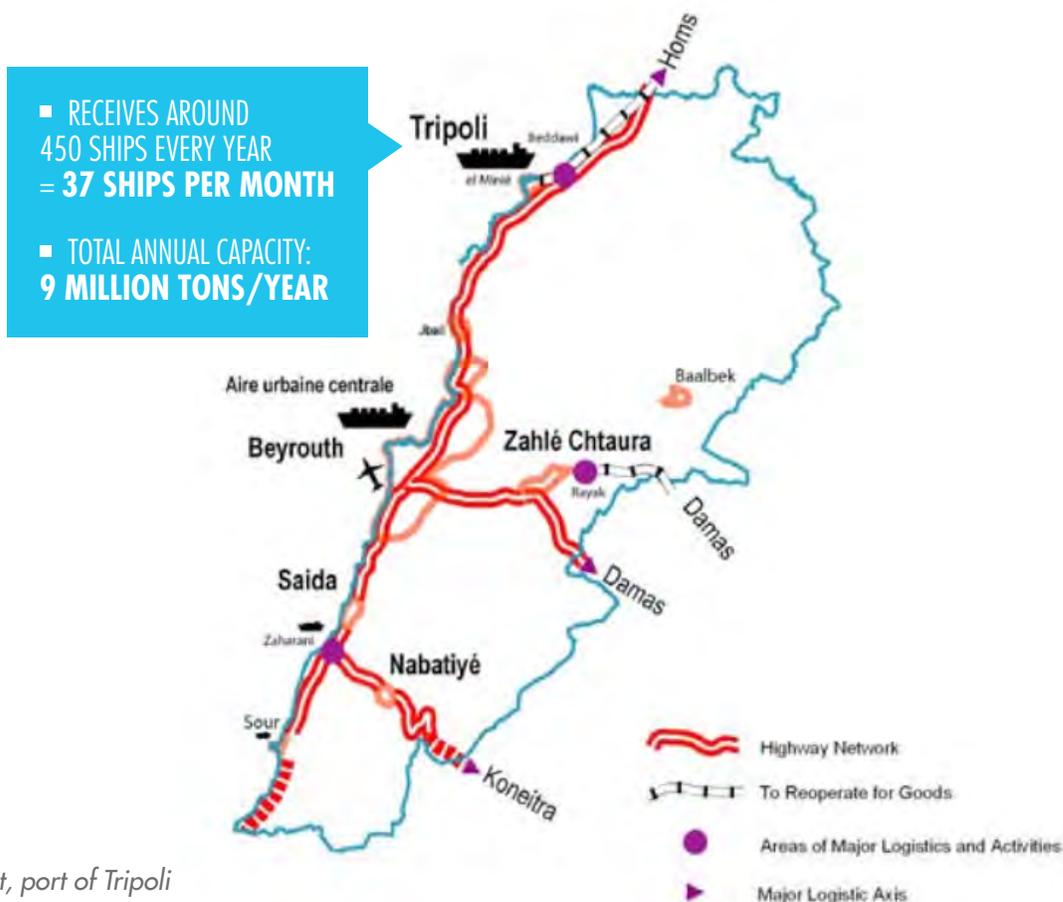
			NUMBER OF SITES
	<b>BCHARREH &amp; ZGHARTA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Wadi Qadisha</li><li>▪ Deir Saydet Qannoubin</li><li>▪ Monastery of Saint Eliseus</li><li>▪ Monastery of Saint Serjurs</li><li>▪ Monastery of the Cross</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ El Baher Mosque</li><li>▪ Barbar Mosque in l'al</li><li>▪ Ain El-Jami' prayer hall</li></ul> <b>55 SITES</b>
	<b>KOURA &amp; BATROUN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Churches of Amioun</li><li>▪ Monastery of our Lady of Hammatoura- Kousba</li><li>▪ Deir Balamand</li><li>▪ Churches of Anfeh</li><li>▪ The Covent of Virgin Mary-Keftoun</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Beshmezine Mosque</li><li>▪ Barbar Mosque in l'al</li></ul> <b>48 SITES</b>
	<b>TRIPOLI &amp; MANNIEH-DANNIEH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Church of Saint John</li><li>▪ Church of Saint Salomé</li><li>▪ Deir Saydet El Qalaa</li><li>▪ The Churches of Qobayyat</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The Great Mosque</li><li>▪ Tainal Mosque</li><li>▪ El Burtasi Mosque</li><li>▪ El Attar Mosque</li><li>▪ El Tawbah Mosque</li><li>▪ El Baddawi Mosque</li></ul> <b>50 SITES</b>

Source: Live Love Lebanon

## 2. ACCESS TO MARKETS

The governorate is home to the **2nd largest and fastest-growing sea port, the port of Tripoli**

MAP OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE  
2005

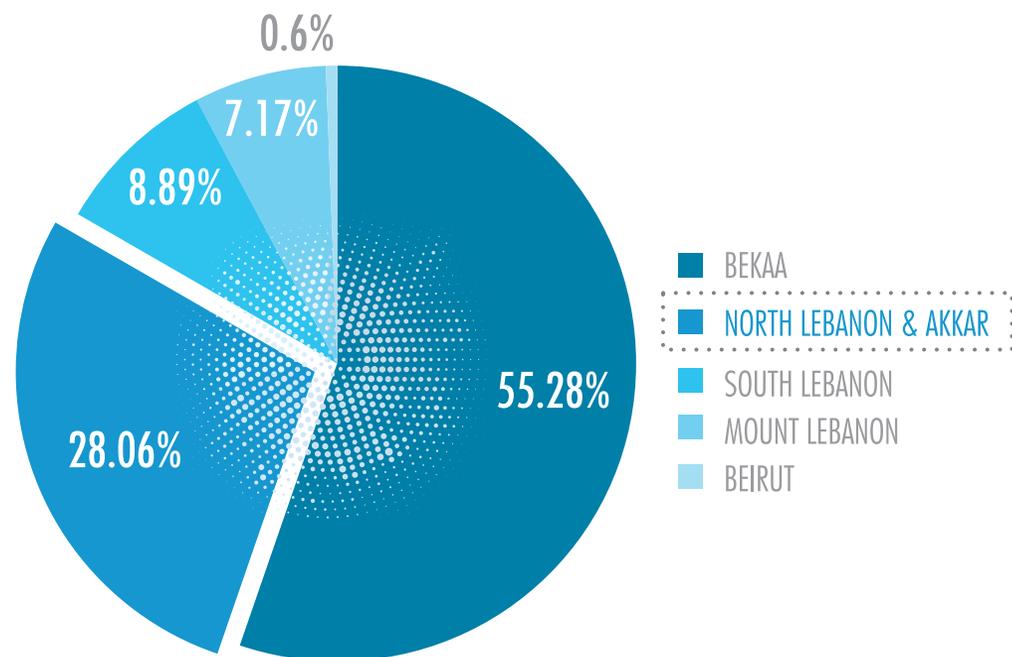


Source: Council for Reconstruction & Development, port of Tripoli

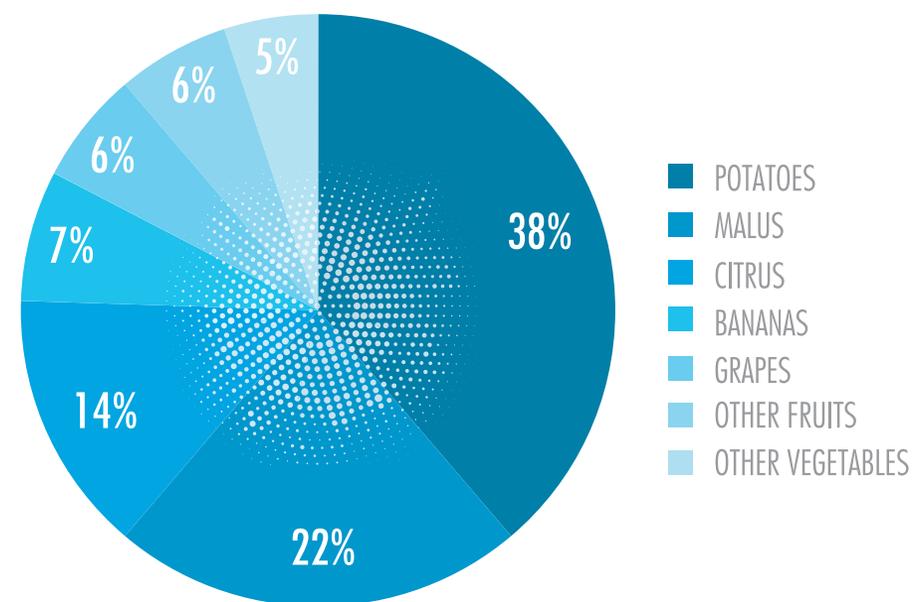
## 2. ACCESS TO MARKETS

Due to its strategic location and high quality infrastructure, **the region is the 2nd largest exporter of fruits & vegetables in the country**

DISTRIBUTION OF LEBANESE FRUITS & VEGETABLES EXPORTS BY REGION  
% | 2017



LEBANESE FRUITS & VEGETABLES EXPORTS  
% | 2017



POTATOES EXPORTED QUANTITIES = **130,191 TONS**  
MALUS EXPORTED QUANTITIES = **77,531 TONS**  
CITRUS EXPORTED QUANTITIES = **48,816 TONS**  
TOTAL EXPORTED QUANTITIES = **344,621 TONS**

Source: IDAL's Calculations

Various **planned infrastructure and logistics** projects are expected to enhance the Governorate's access to International Markets

### INFRASTRUCTURE & LOGISTICS PROJECTS IN NORTH LEBANON

#### RASHID KARAMI INTERNATIONAL FAIR

- Area of 1 million sqm (not fully operational)
- 5th among the largest exhibition centers in the world
- Includes an exhibition space, a guest house and a theatre with 100 seat capacity

#### QLAYAAT AIRPORT

- Civil & military airport with a runway of 3km by 45m
- The plan is to activate the airport to accommodate commercial planes mainly low cost airlines and general cargo
- Capacity (per year): 1 million passenger and 200,000 tons of freight

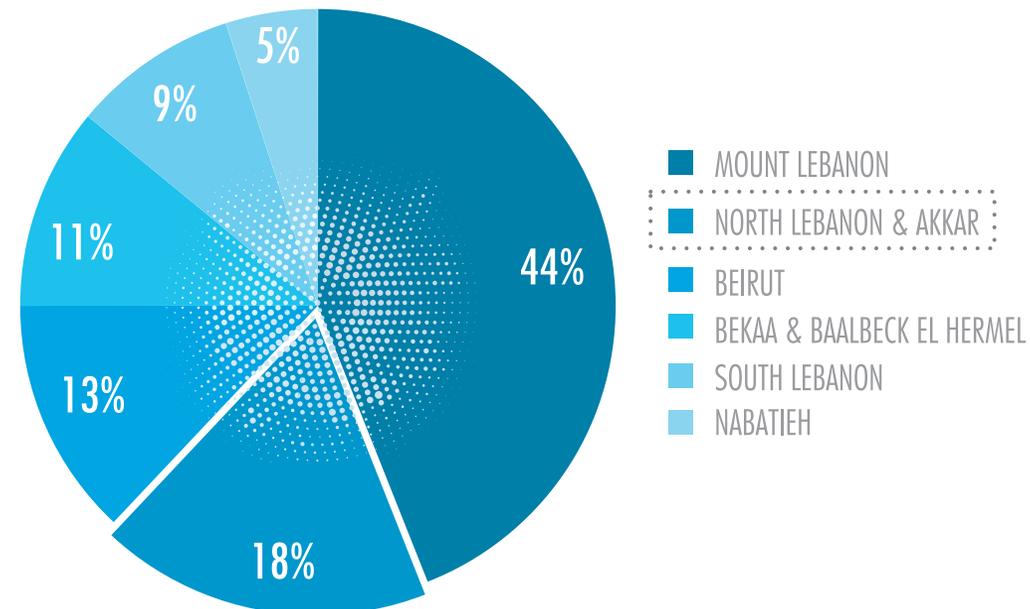
#### TRIPOLI SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE (TSEZ)

- Provides companies with fiscal, financial, as well as non-financial incentives.
- TSEZ was established in 2008 through law No 18 which created the framework for the zone and the authority that will regulate it.
- The zone is expected to become operational by 2020

### 3. ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL

**18% of total Lebanese labor force is located in North Lebanon & Akkar,** the second highest share in the country after Mount Lebanon

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR FORCE BY GOVERNORATE  
% | 2004

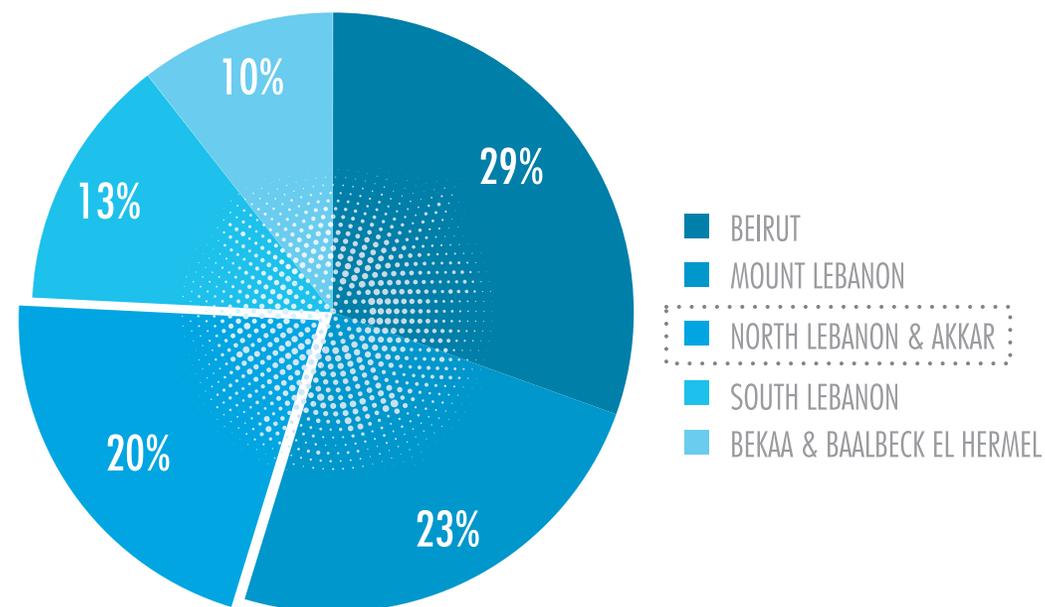


Source: Central Administration of Statistics, 2004

### 3. ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL

The Governorate has one of the highest concentration of private universities after Beirut and Mount Lebanon

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES PER GOVERNORATE  
% | 2017

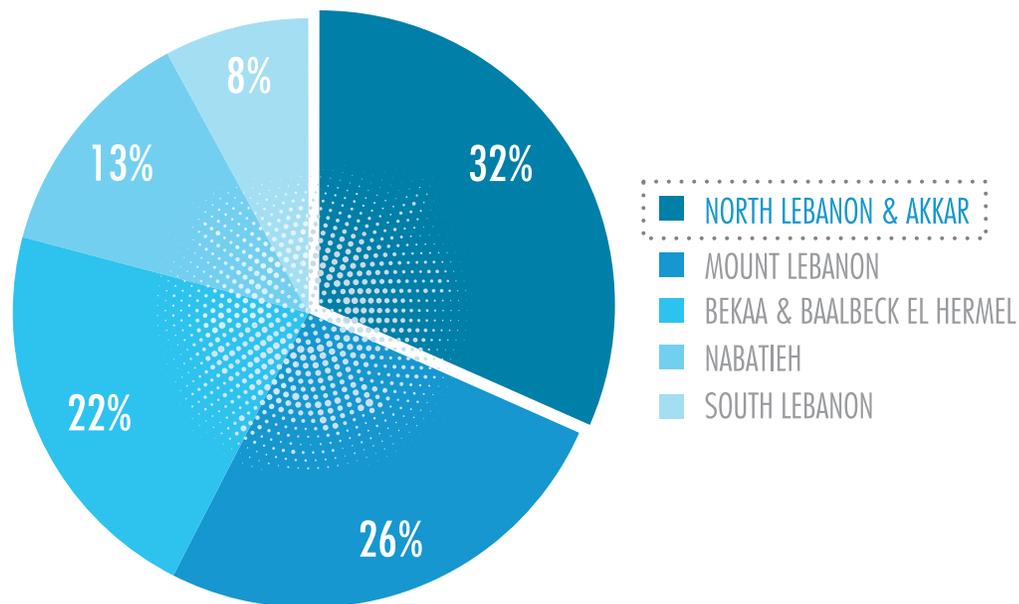


Source: Ministry of Education and Higher Education , IDAL Analysis

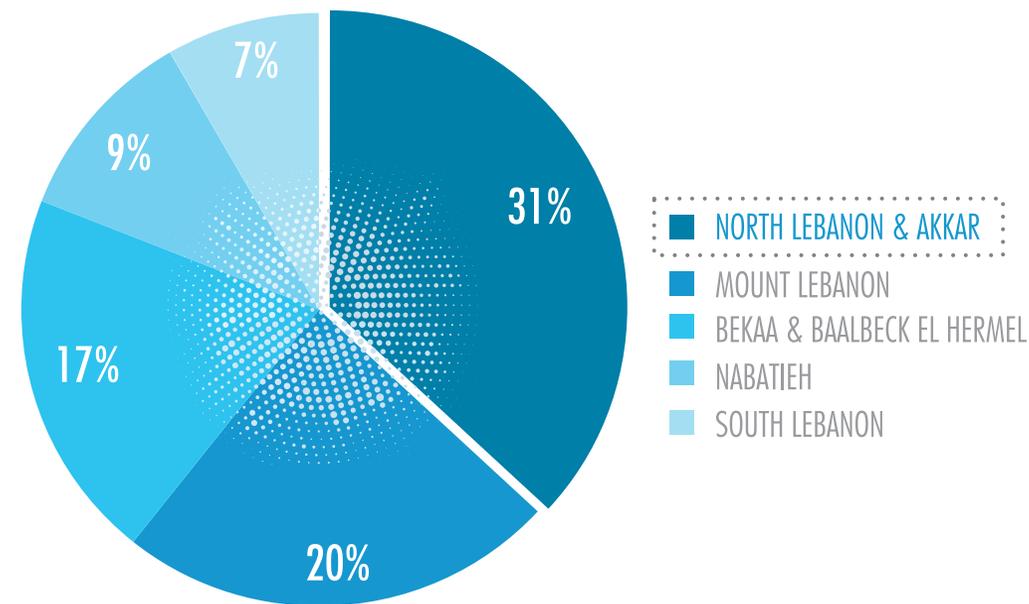
### 3. ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL

The Governorate has the **highest share** of Lebanon's public technical schools and students

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC TECHNICAL SCHOOLS  
BY GOVERNORATE  
2016-2017



DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC TECHNICAL SCHOOL STUDENTS  
BY GOVERNORATE  
2016-2017



Source: The Center for Educational Research & Development, 2017

### 3. ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL

Various initiatives are being put in place to **upgrade the entrepreneurship and technology** skills of the youth in the Governorate

#### INITIATIVES TO DEVELOP ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NORTH LEBANON

##### BIAT

**BIAT's** mission is to identify, incubate, host, network, train, and support value added business opportunities.

It has incubated more than **50 companies**

##### DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY TRUST DOT

**DOT Lebanon** delivers training programs that equip vulnerable populations and people with entrepreneurship & technology skills.

##### INSTITUT EUROPEEN DE COOPERATION ET DE DEVELOPPEMENT

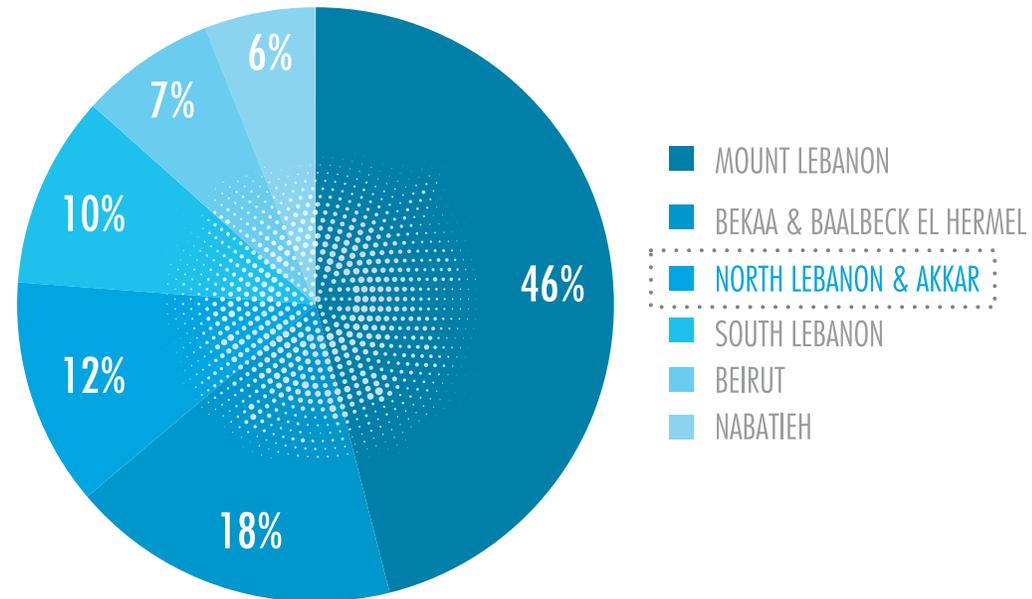
**IECD** is a French development organization that provides technical training to small entrepreneurs in Tripoli.

In 2011, **110 entrepreneurs** have been trained.

## 4. ACCESS TO FINANCE

In terms of finance, **North Lebanon has the 3rd largest share of Kafalat Loans** in Lebanon for the Small and Medium Enterprises in the productive sectors

DISTRIBUTION OF KAFALAT LOANS IN LEBANON  
% | 2017



The competitive advantages of the Governorate can be summarized as follow

## DIMENSIONS FOR RATING NORTH LEBANON

1.

### ACCESS TO RESOURCES

- **Natural Resources:**
  - 3 rivers and fertile land on the coast
  - Home to 41% of Lebanon's olive groves
- **Economic activities:**
  - 41% of Lebanon's olive groves
  - 19% of total production of furniture in Lebanon
  - 30% of industrial firms operate in the F&B sector

2.

### ACCESS TO MARKETS

- **Infrastructure:** access to the second largest seaport in addition to infrastructures and logistics projects to enhance access to international markets
- **Exports:** 28% of Lebanese fruits and vegetables are exported from North Lebanon

3.

### ACCESS TO HUMAN CAPITAL

- **Universities:** 18 private universities offering business & law, and engineering programs
- **Technical and Vocational schools:** around 32% of the countries vocational schools and 3 entrepreneurship programs
- **Labor pool:** The second largest labor force in the country

4.

### ACCESS TO FINANCE

- **Financing:** The third largest share of kafalat loans to small and medium enterprises in the country

A photograph of an olive grove at sunset. The trees are silhouetted against a warm, orange and yellow sky. The ground is covered in green vegetation. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark band across the middle of the image.

# **III. CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TO NORTH LEBANON**

Based on the comparative advantages of the Governorate, **IDAL identified 2 main clusters** that can be strengthened to increase their competitiveness

## 1. WOOD PROCESSING & FURNITURE CLUSTER IN TRIPOLI



## 2. OLIVE OIL CLUSTER IN KOURA



# The furniture cluster in Tripoli has all the right ingredients to flourish but lacks strong institutions to formally organize it

## 1. WOOD PROCESSING & FURNITURE CLUSTER IN TRIPOLI



### STRENGTHS

- A large cluster membership of around 500 craftsmen with a diversified range of products; The furniture sub-sector constitutes the second largest share of total industrial firms in North Lebanon;
- Concentration of the firms of the cluster in 3 areas of Tripoli;
- High quality experienced craftsmanship at competitive costs.
- Existence of two associations governing the sector: Syndicate of furniture and wood production of Tripoli headed by Mr. Abdallah Harb and the Union of Furniture Manufacturers headed by Mr. Jawad Sharafeddine.

### WEAKNESSES

- Modest economies of scale;
- Lack of automation and industrialization in the manufacturing process;
- Deficiency in export market knowledge: Exports of furniture constitute only 2% of total Lebanese exports.

Various upcoming **opportunities** in the city of Tripoli are expected to boost the furniture sector and make it more competitive

## 1. WOOD PROCESSING & FURNITURE CLUSTER IN TRIPOLI



### OPPORTUNITIES

- **Strong design capacity** & brand recognition in Beirut.
- **Various projects are planned for the city to upgrade its export infrastructure** and make it easier to access foreign markets (e.g. Reactivate Qlayaat Airport and Rashid Karami International Fair, Development of Tripoli SEZ).
- **Funding support from International Organizations:** UNIDO in Lebanon is helping in upgrading the furniture cluster in Tripoli by providing skill development trainings especially for the youth and investment in modern equipment.

### RISKS

- Decreasing customs tariffs on imported furniture;
- Lack of collaborative spirit between firms of the cluster.

The cluster development strategy for the furniture industry in Tripoli is based on **the triple Helix model**

## THE TRIPLE HELIX MODEL FOR CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT

### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES

- INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
- LIRA PROGRAM
- LEBANESE UNIVERSITY IN TRIPOLI
- OTHER PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN TRIPOLI

### PRIVATE SECTOR

- WOOD & FURNITURE CRAFTSMAN
- MANUFACTURERS
- DISTRIBUTORS
- EXPORTERS

### GOVERNMENT



### SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS





The olive oil cluster in Koura is facing fierce **competition** in the region but can overcome those risks by investing in research and innovation

## 2. OLIVE OIL CLUSTER IN KOURA



### OPPORTUNITIES

- **Production of olive oil in Lebanon increased** from 6 thousand tonnes in 1990 to 23 thousand tonnes in 2017 (International Olive Oil Council);
- **The EU-Lebanon Association Agreement (AA)** where there is a quota of 1,000 tonnes of olive oil to be exported duty free to the EU.

### RISKS

- **Increased regional competition**
- **Issues in quality and standards**

# The cluster Development Strategy for the olive oil industry puts at its core the private sector and enables it through the right policies and incentives

## THE TRIPLE HELIX MODEL FOR CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT

### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES

- LARI
- LIRA PROGRAM
- LEBANESE UNIVERSITY IN TRIPOLI
- OTHER PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN TRIPOLI

### PRIVATE SECTOR

- OLIVE FARMERS
- OLIVE OIL MILLS
- OLIVE OIL PROCESSORS (SOAP MAKERS & OTHER DERIVATIVES)
- DISTRIBUTORS
- EXPORTERS
- ECO-TOURISM OPERATORS

### GOVERNMENT



### SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS



**The public private partnership** between the various actors of the cluster is expected to make it more effective and productive

## THE TRIPLE HELIX MODEL FOR CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT

### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES

**R&D centers can assist the cluster members by:**

- Providing advice on new techniques of production and processing
- Accelerate innovation in the cluster and upgrade of quality of production

### PRIVATE SECTOR

▪ Those private sector players are at the core of the cluster.

- Through membership and commitment to the cluster, they can upgrade the marketing channels of the cluster, the branding, and ensure the sustainability of the cluster initiative.

### GOVERNMENT

**IDAL can assist the cluster members by:**

- Accessing funding for member firms
- Providing incentives
- Coordinating with the various stakeholders of the cluster

### SUPPORT INSTITUTIONS

**Support institutions can assist the cluster members by:**

- Technical know-how
- Training and networking events

# CONTACT US

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