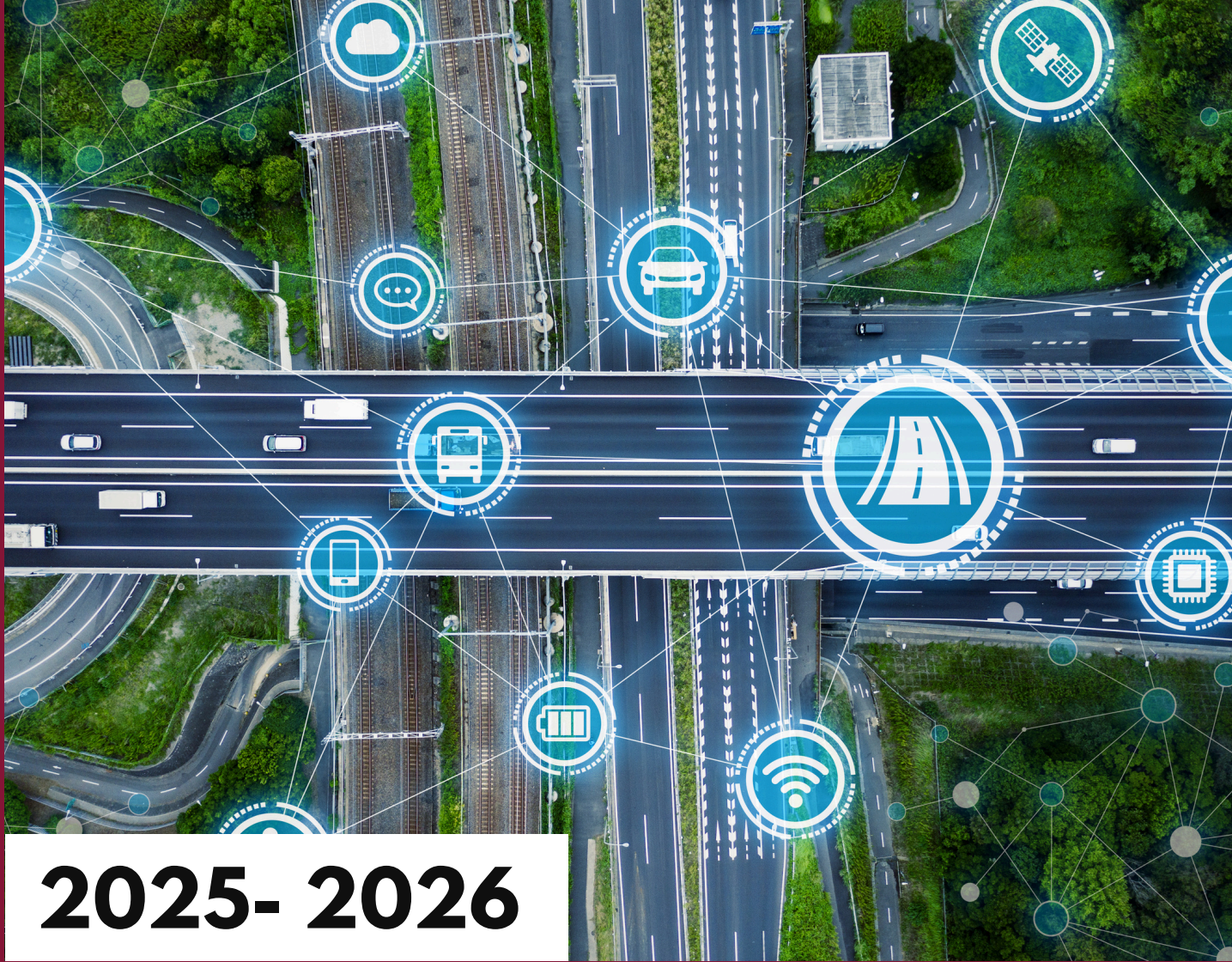




2025- 2026

GEP DEEP DIVES

INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESTORATION
OF CORE SERVICES



AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT



I. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT PROMISES

The following commitments were made by the Lebanese government in its ministerial statement, **forming the baseline against which actual progress is assessed across the Infrastructure and Restoration of Core Services.**

Connectivity

Rehabilitating the road network to support economic activity across all Lebanese regions.



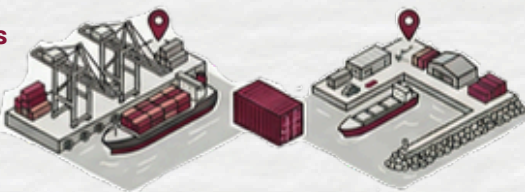
Public Property Enforcement

Strict enforcement of laws governing maritime and river public property.



Port Logistics

Upgrading Beirut and Tripoli ports to strengthen Lebanon's role in global trade.



Airports

Expanding Rafic Hariri International Airport and operationalizing Rene Moawad Airport.



Strengthening State Authority

Protecting public assets and addressing illegal encroachments to improve infrastructure governance.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE



1. Air Transport and Civil Aviation

- Strengthening **Rafic Hariri International Airport's security, safety, and service quality through inspections**, staff training, system upgrades, and the launch of the Digital Gates Project, with all security agencies now actively intercepting smuggled items and reinforcing sovereign control over airport operations.
- The **Civil Aviation Safety Center (CASC)** has been reactivated after years of inactivity, resuming ICAO-compliant training programs to restore Lebanon's role as a regional aviation training hub.
- The **Civil Aviation Authority** was formally activated for the first time for 23 years, representing a significant step toward improved sector governance and regulatory oversight.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (CONT'D)

- **Airport taxi fares have been officially unified and standardized**, with approved tariffs made available through ministry applications.
- Advancing the **reactivation** of René Moawad Airport following the approval of the Public-Private Partnership law in parliament, with 26 companies having expressed interest in redevelopment and operation tenders.



2. Ports and Maritime Infrastructure

- **New boards of directors were appointed for Beirut and Tripoli ports**, marking the first activation of their regulatory frameworks in over two decades.
- **Container scanners** were approved for **Beirut and Tripoli ports**, while **Jounieh port** was reopened, and maritime property violations were addressed, strengthening trade security and state oversight.
- **Operational and governance measures** coincided with a notable improvement in port performance indicators. In the **World Bank's Container Port Performance Index, the Port of Beirut rose to 54th globally in 2024, up from 81st in 2023 and 323rd in 2022**, reflecting significant gains in efficiency, logistics performance, and cargo handling processes.



3. Roads and Public Transport

- **The private operator ACTC in collaboration with the ministry launched the "ACTC PT" mobile app**, allowing commuters to track buses, explore 11 active lines, and plan routes in real time across Lebanon's expanding public transport network.
- Launching the **National Road Rehabilitation and Maintenance Plan under the "Lebanon on Track" program**, covering more than 25 districts across 7 governorates, with over 3,000 kilometers of routine maintenance and 500 kilometers of resurfacing supported by World Bank funding with \$175 million.
- Improving the **Jounieh highway** through the removal of illegal kiosks and encroachments, reducing travel time and easing congestion along the corridor, alongside plans to revive the expansion project that was halted in 2019.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (CONT'D)

- **Illegal, unlicensed buses, vans with approximately 12,000 forged license plates,** and tuk-tuks were removed from roads in coordination with the Interior Ministry.
- A **systematic campaign** to remove encroachments on railway property is actively underway, backed by high-level political support, with feasibility studies initiated to assess track conditions and prepare for the resumption of rail transport across Lebanon.



4. Institutions and International Engagement

- Institutionally, coordination and investment planning gained visibility. The **Council for Development and Reconstruction** intensified engagement with the Prime Minister and line ministries to prepare a government-wide investment program aligned with fiscal sustainability and sectoral priorities. Parallel efforts were launched to modernize CDR procedures with technical support from UNDP, signaling attention to implementation capacity and project management.
- **High-level engagements with the World Bank, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development,** and bilateral partners translated into major financing agreements, including a \$250 million advance loan and the announcement of a \$335 million reconstruction fund for infrastructure damaged by recent hostilities.

III. AREAS WHERE EFFORTS CONTINUE TO EVOLVE - AGENDA IN PROGRESS

1 Infrastructure and Restoration of Core Services

Land Transport & Connectivity



Deteriorating Road Quality

Major routes suffer from severe deterioration, inadequate lighting and safety deficiencies.

Rene Mouawad Airport Pending

The airport lacks a private operator and confirmed operational launch date.



750 BUSES

SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW TARGET

NATIONAL TARGET

OPERATIONAL FLEET

Insufficient Public Transit Fleet

The operational bus fleet remains significantly below the national target of 750 buses.

Incomplete Digital Gates

Digitalization of passenger processing is not yet completed across all airport terminals.



Stalled Railway Revival

Service resumption is blocked by ongoing encroachment removal and incomplete feasibility studies.



Stagnant Economic Zones

Special Economic Zones for Beirut and Tripoli ports remain stuck in planning stages.



IV. OVERALL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Commitment	Status	Note
Developing the road network and connectivity across Lebanon's regions		National Road Rehabilitation Plan launched across 25 districts; however, road quality and connectivity remain poor in many secondary and rural areas
Reforming the transportation sector		Public transport expanded with new bus lines and ACTC PT app; fleet remains far below the targeted 750 buses
Upgrading the ports of Beirut and Tripoli and strengthening Special Economic Zones		New boards appointed and container scanners approved; Special Economic Zone development has not yet moved beyond planning
Expanding and developing Rafic Hariri International Airport		Security overhauled, Civil Aviation Authority activated, CASC reactivated, Digital Gates Project launched
Activating René Moawad Airport		Bidding process for private operators is still pending; operations not yet started despite 26 companies expressing interest
Enforcing laws governing maritime and river public property		Violations remain widespread; enforcement notices issued but comprehensive coastal survey not yet completed



Note: RED - early ; YELLOW – moderate; GREEN – advanced



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