



## ZADEA FOUNDATION

Founded in 2011, Azadea Foundation is a non-governmental organization managed, financed and sponsored exclusively by Azadea Group board members and employees. Its vision is to be the leading regional Foundation in creating and restoring green spaces in cooperation with international organizations both civil and governmental agencies. Its mission is to carry out, organize and support environmental projects.

In May 2013, Azadea Foundation made the decision to conduct a complete make-over of the President René Mouawad, Sanayeh Garden with the support of the Beirut Municipality turning it to the next best Public Park in the city of Beirut. The renovation plan came as part of the Foundation's mission to give back to the society by increasing the space area of greenery and spreading environmental awareness.

Work was done within a year while maintaining the cultural heritage of the Sanayeh garden. The \$2.5 million project included the renovation of several amenities in the 22,000 square meter garden. It now has three secure children playgrounds, specialized bicycle and running tracks, promenade lanes, a fountain, an amphitheater, exhibition areas and reading areas, all in line with international standards. To add, Azadea Foundation has also drawn a maintenance plan for the next 10 years to preserve this beautiful new green space.

A grand two-day opening event on May 31st and June 1st 2014 welcomed 22,000 visitors who enjoyed a fun-packed day at the park which featured ongoing entertainment shows by talented local bands. Moreover, the fountain of the René Mouawad, Sanayeh Garden was portrayed in a legend written by Lebanese author May Menassa, who encouraged visitors to make a wish and place a Dahlia flower, symbolizing peace in the majestic fountain.

The garden now hosts up an average of 3,000 visitors weekly, where monthly cultural and environmental activities are being held.