PMI LEBANON CHAPTER **NEWSLETTER**

QUARTER 1, 2026

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WORD FROM PMI **LEBANON CHAPTER**

A Message from the VP of Membership,

Building Our Future Together,



It is a privilege to address you as I take on the role of VP of Membership for the PMI Lebanon Chapter. My journey within this profession has been defined by a simple yet powerful conviction: that a good spirit will always carry the cause. This mindset is what I hope to bring to our community as we grow and evolve together.

For many of us, the journey begins with a single step- often the pursuit of a PMI certification. Whether it is the PMP or a specialized credential, these are transformative tools rather than just milestones. My own experience earning the PMP combined with my current journey pursuing a DBA, has been a powerful catalyst in shifting my perspective.

It has taught me that project management is as much about orchestrating human potential as it is about strategic discipline. This path opens doors to global standards while providing the practical expertise needed to innovate and succeed within our local market

As I take on this new responsibility, my commitment is to foster a membership experience that is both inclusive and impactful. Drawing from the incredible momentum of our recent National Conference, I am dedicated to ensuring our chapter remains a dynamic hub for professional development and meaningful connection. I am particularly passionate about empowering our members and emerging leaders across Lebanon by providing the tools and networks necessary to thrive in an era of rapid technological change.

Being part of PMI Lebanon is about belonging to a community that fosters growth in ways we often don't anticipate. It is a space where leadership qualities are discovered and refined. I wholeheartedly encourage you to stay engaged, share your expertise, and leverage the network we are building.

The strength of our chapter lies in its people. I look forward to meeting many of you at our upcoming workshops and events as we continue to elevate the standard of project management in Lebanon.

Sarah Abou Hamdan, MBA, PMP

VP Membership, PMI Lebanon Chapter

Thriving with M.O.R.E - from Noise to Clarity

by **Rashad Issa**

DATE: January 20th, 2026 / TIME: 7:00 pm
SESSION: Online



The PMI Lebanon Chapter was pleased to announce that Rashad Issa was the featured speaker for the month[RC2.1], delivering a lecture titled “Thriving with M.O.R.E: From Noise to Clarity,” held online on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 7:00 PM Lebanon Local Time.

During this insightful session, Rashad explored PMI’s M.O.R.E strategy and its role in helping professionals navigate complexity, reduce noise, and achieve greater clarity in their work environments. He emphasized the importance of understanding stakeholders at a deeper level and adapting communication approaches to foster stronger engagement and collaboration.

Drawing on his extensive experience in quality management, governance, and operational excellence, Rashad highlighted how identifying stakeholder types and personality traits can significantly enhance communication effectiveness.

He demonstrated how tailored engagement strategies contribute to improved productivity, reduced conflict, and more successful project outcomes.

A key focus of the session was the practical application of communication frameworks. Participants gained valuable insights into recognizing their own communication styles, understanding others’ preferences, and aligning messaging to meet diverse stakeholder needs.

Rashad also addressed the broader impact of structured communication and stakeholder alignment on organizational success, stressing that clarity and adaptability are essential skills for modern project professionals.

The session concluded with an engaging discussion, offering valuable takeaways for professionals seeking to strengthen stakeholder engagement and communication effectiveness.
fy, organize, and set your project people up for success,
-Share your experiences about the mysterious side of projects and learn from each other.

Sustainability in Project Management

by **Haikal El Abed**

DATE: February 26th, 2026 / TIME: 7:00 pm
SESSION: Online



The PMI Lebanon Chapter was pleased to announce that Haikal El Abed was the featured speaker for the month[RC3.1], delivering a lecture titled "Sustainability in Project Management," held online on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 7:00 PM Lebanon Local Time.

During this thought-provoking session, Haikal challenged traditional definitions of project success by introducing the concept of the "Invisible Failure" pattern here projects may meet time, cost, and scope objectives, yet still create unintended negative impacts on trust, people, and long-term value.

He emphasized that sustainability should not be treated as a secondary consideration, but rather as a core element of risk management, value creation, and continuity. Through the concept of "Sustainability-by-Default," he presented a mindset shift in which sustainability is embedded in decision-making from the outset, rather than added retrospectively.

Drawing on his international experience, Haikal demonstrated how sustainability can be integrated into everyday project management practices without adding unnecessary complexity. He highlighted how key elements—such as charters, governance, procurement, and delivery strategies—can be designed to ensure long-term, sustainable outcomes.

A key highlight of the session was the introduction of practical decision-making prompts that project managers can apply in real time, enabling sustainability to move from theory to actionable practice.
Haikal also addressed the evolving role of project professionals, noting that sustainability literacy is becoming as essential as scope, schedule, and cost management.

The session concluded with an engaging exchange of ideas, offering valuable insights for professionals seeking to align project delivery with long-term impact and resilience.

Community Talk for Hope and Support

by **Grace Nakhoul**

DATE: March 27th, 2026 / TIME: 7:30 pm
SESSION: Online



The PMI Lebanon Chapter hosted a meaningful community session titled “Community Talk for Hope and Support,” facilitated by Grace Nakhoul, Clinical Psychologist, Psychotherapist, and Psychosocial Support (PSS) Trainer.

The session took place online on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 7:30 PM Lebanon Local Time.

In a time marked by uncertainty and ongoing challenges, the session created a safe and welcoming space for participants to pause, reflect, and reconnect - both with themselves and with others. It emphasized the importance of human connection, emotional wellbeing, and collective support during difficult periods.

Grace Nakhoul guided the conversation with sensitivity and professionalism, fostering an environment where participants felt encouraged to share, listen, and engage openly.

The session focused on themes of hope, resilience, and emotional awareness, offering a moment of calm and grounding amidst the pressures of everyday life.

More than a traditional talk, the session was designed as an interactive and supportive experience, reinforcing the value of community in navigating personal and professional challenges. It highlighted how creating spaces for dialogue and empathy can play a vital role in strengthening individual resilience and collective wellbeing.

The session served as a reminder that, beyond project delivery and professional growth, community and human connection remain at the heart of meaningful impact.

"LEADERSHIP, RESILIENCE, AND IMPACT ACROSS MENA: A REGIONAL CONVERSATION WITH WOMEN CHAPTER PRESIDENTS"

DATE: 16/03/2026 / TIME: 7:00 PM / SESSION: Online

The PMI MENA region hosted a distinguished panel discussion that brought together six accomplished PMI Chapter Presidents from across the Middle East and North Africa for a powerful conversation on leadership, resilience, and impact. The session was held online on Monday, March 16, 2026, and gathered professionals from across the region. The event was honored by the presence of PMI President and CEO, Pierre Le Manh, who delivered the opening remarks. His message emphasized that leadership today extends beyond individual achievement, focusing instead on enabling others, strengthening communities, and transforming strategy into meaningful outcomes. He also highlighted the importance of inclusive leadership in driving innovation and sustainable progress across the MENA region.
Moderated by PMI Regional Managing Director Hanny Alshazly, the session featured the participation of six Chapter Presidents: Riam Chazbeck (Lebanon), Dr. Tahani I. Aldosemani (Saudi Arabia), Amina Abdulrahim (UAE), Nadia Borshek (Jordan), Sara Chetoui (Morocco), and Imen Fakhfekh (Tunisia).
Insights on Leadership and Regional Impact
The discussion provided diverse perspectives on the realities of leading projects and communities across the region. Each speaker shared personal experiences and practical lessons drawn from their leadership journeys, highlighting the importance of resilience, adaptability, and purpose-driven decision-making.
A recurring theme throughout the session was the evolving role of leadership in complex environments. Speakers emphasized that effective leaders must balance strategic thinking with emotional intelligence, fostering trust, empowering teams, and creating inclusive environments where individuals can thrive.



Empowering the Next Generation

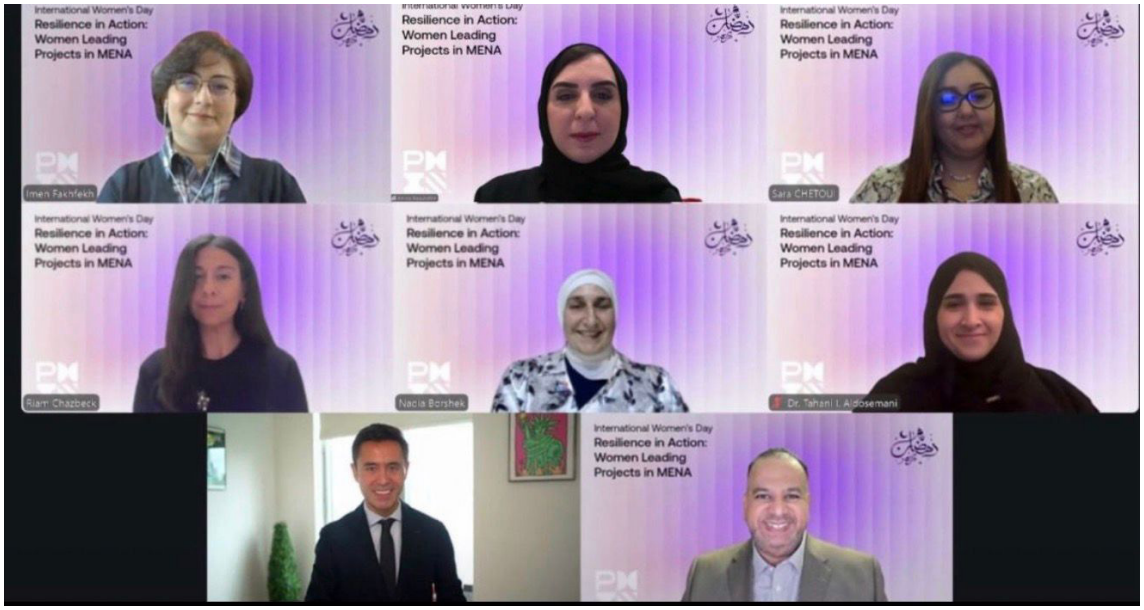
The panel also shed light on the growing role of women leaders in shaping the future of project management across MENA. Through mentorship, community engagement, and active leadership, the speakers demonstrated how they are paving the way for the next generation of professionals. Their collective message reinforced that leadership is not only about delivering results, but also about creating opportunities and driving meaningful, long-term impact.

A Conversation, Not a Presentation

Unlike traditional sessions, this event was designed as an open and engaging dialogue rather than a formal presentation. This format encouraged authentic exchanges, allowing participants to connect with the speakers' experiences and perspectives in a more meaningful way.

The session concluded with closing reflections from Hanny Alshazly, who reinforced that leadership today goes beyond execution. It requires empathy, resilience, mentorship, and a commitment to building strong, connected communities.

This regional initiative highlighted the strength and diversity of leadership across MENA, showcasing how project professionals are driving transformation, bridging strategy with impact, and inspiring future generations across the region.



Launch of the PMILC Career Opportunities Hub

As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting the professional community, the PMI Lebanon Chapter has launched the PMILC Career Opportunities Hub: a structured initiative designed to enhance visibility of career opportunities within the network.
This initiative introduces a trusted, peer-to-peer space where job openings can be shared among members, reinforcing collaboration and facilitating access to potential career paths in a professional and organized manner.

Strengthening Professional Connections
In an increasingly network-driven job market, access to opportunities often depends on visibility and connections. The Career Opportunities Hub aims to:

- Foster stronger engagement among members
- Increase exposure to relevant job opportunities
- Encourage a culture of collaboration and mutual support
- Provide a centralized space for opportunity sharing

How the Hub Operates
The initiative is implemented through a dedicated WhatsApp group that serves as an opportunity-sharing platform. Within this space:

- Board members and Chapter members share verified job openings
- Content is strictly limited to career opportunities
- Interested candidates review postings and apply directly through the channels indicated

Access the Career Opportunities Hub:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/GxwyiZADjvKIbUW7ibfFyI?mode=gi_t

The Psychology of Stakeholder Influence and Engagement

Insights from the PMI Mumbai Chapter Xchange Program

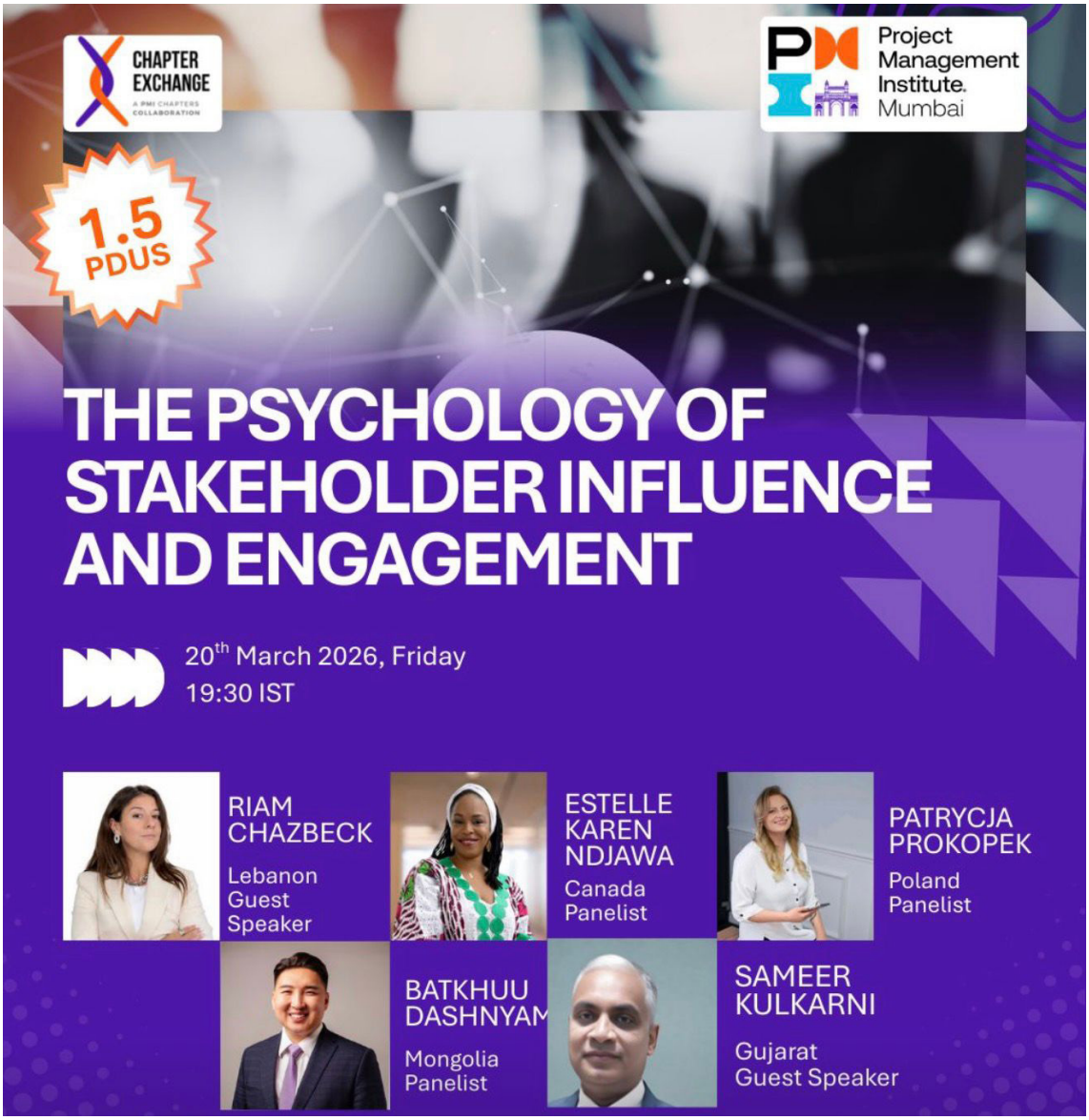
A recent session hosted by the PMI Mumbai Chapter as part of the Xchange program brought together a diverse panel of global practitioners to explore one of the most critical dimensions of project success: the human side of stakeholder engagement.

The panel featured distinguished contributors including Sameer Kulkarni, Batkhuu Dashnyam, Estelle Karen Ndjawa, Patrycja Prokopek, Ashfaq Ahmed, Tao Chun Liu, Priscila Vendramini Mezzena, and Aneta Wereszczak, each contributing rich perspectives shaped by international experience.
At the heart of the discussion stood a powerful reminder: project management is not only about processes, tools, or timelines—it is fundamentally about people.

Moving Beyond Compliance Toward Alignment

Workplace environments often prioritize compliance through pressure, overlooking the deeper value of alignment built through understanding. Communication tends to focus on being heard rather than truly listening. This dynamic frequently leads to resistance, disengagement, and misalignment.
A central insight emerged clearly:

"People do not resist change; resistance emerges when involvement is absent."
When stakeholders feel heard, included, and acknowledged as part of the solution, resistance diminishes and ownership naturally develops.



Key Insights from the Expert Panel

1. From Threat to Reward: Stakeholder behavior is strongly influenced by emotional responses. The SCARF model—Status, Certainty, Autonomy, Relatedness, and Fairness—provides a practical lens to shift interactions from defensive reactions to collaborative engagement.

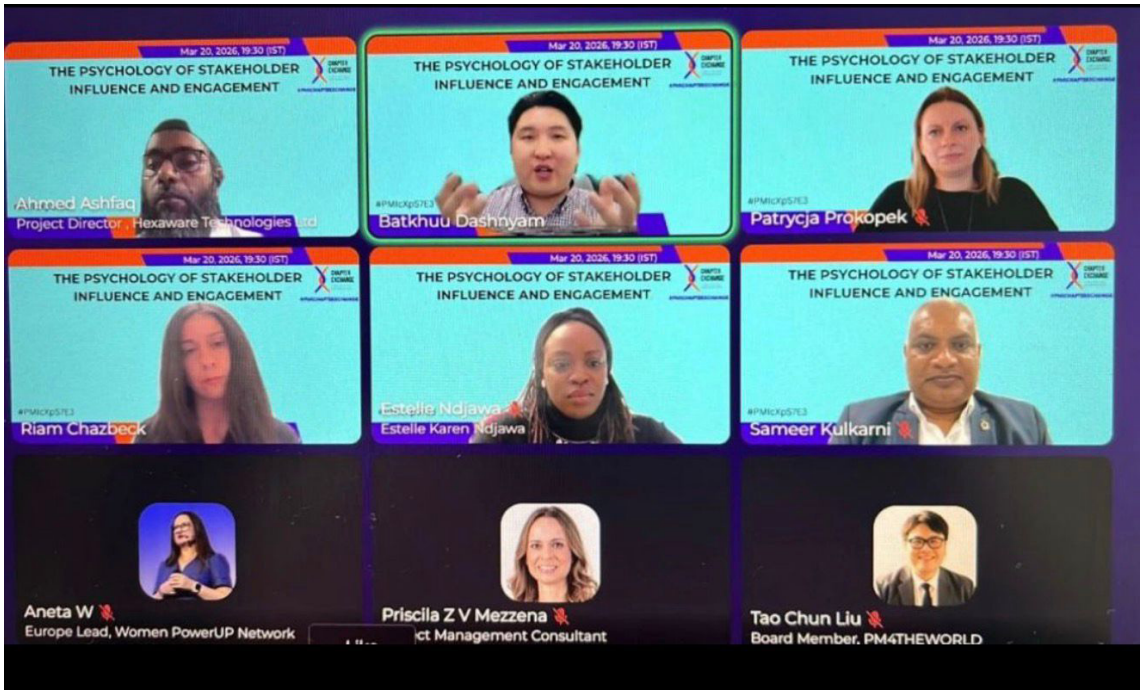
2. Building a Circle of Safety: Consistency and competence form the foundation of trust. In fast-paced, AI-driven environments, cultivating psychological safety encourages cooperation rather than competition.

3. Co-Creation Over Command: Top-down directives often trigger resistance. Co-creation fosters ownership by allowing stakeholders to contribute meaningfully to solutions, creating stronger commitment to outcomes.

4. The Power of Framing: Message delivery shapes perception. Strategic framing and early alignment conversations can be more effective than lengthy presentations or data-heavy discussions.

5. Emotional Intelligence as a Differentiator: Technical expertise alone is no longer sufficient. Emotional intelligence enables deeper connection, stronger collaboration, and sustained engagement across teams.

6. The Human Anchor in Project Management: Modern project professionals increasingly operate at the intersection of strategy and psychology. Understanding cognitive biases—such as loss aversion and confirmation bias—supports better decision-making and stakeholder alignment.



The T.R.U.S.T. Framework for Stakeholder Engagement

A structured approach to effective engagement emerged through the T.R.U.S.T. framework:

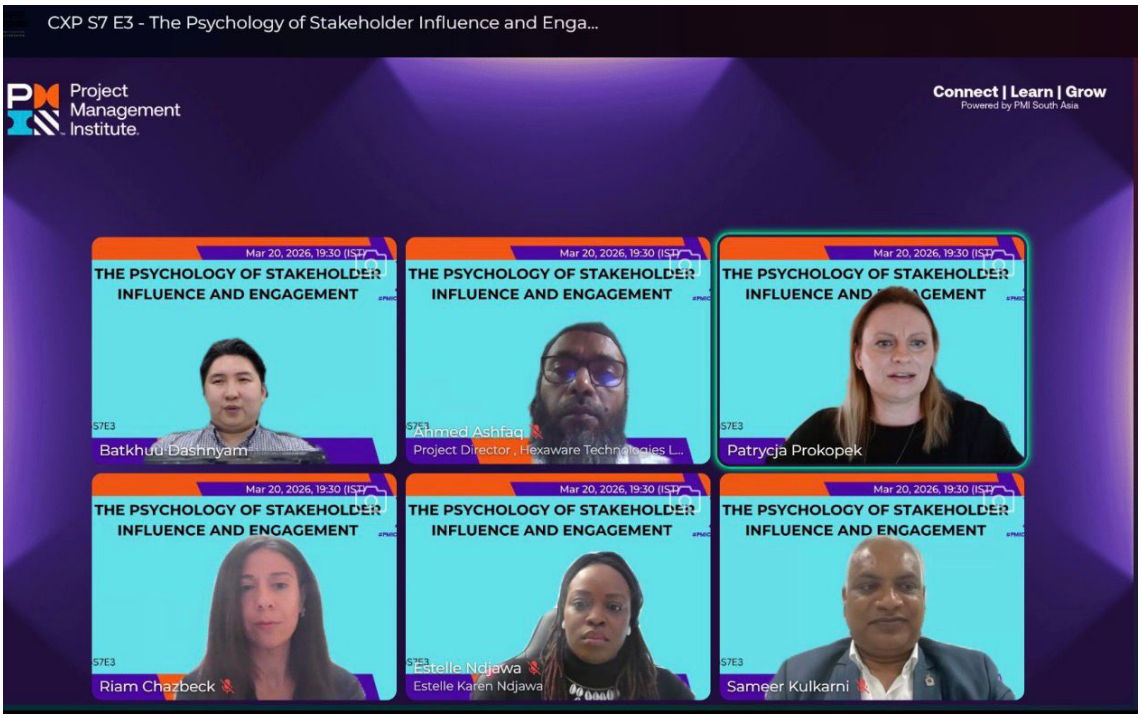
- Trust: Maintain consistency and transparency
- Reward: Create environments where stakeholders feel safe and valued
- Understand: Recognize underlying motivations and biases
- SCARF: Address fundamental social needs
- Tailor: Adapt communication styles to different audiences

A Call for Authentic Leadership

A recurring theme throughout the session emphasized the need to move beyond performative leadership. Authentic engagement requires recognizing the human dimension in every interaction—prioritizing empathy, inclusion, and meaningful dialogue.

In an increasingly complex and fast-evolving professional landscape, sustainable project success depends not only on execution excellence but on the ability to genuinely engage people.

This session reinforced a simple yet profound truth: successful projects are delivered not by managing tasks alone, but by understanding and connecting with the people behind them.



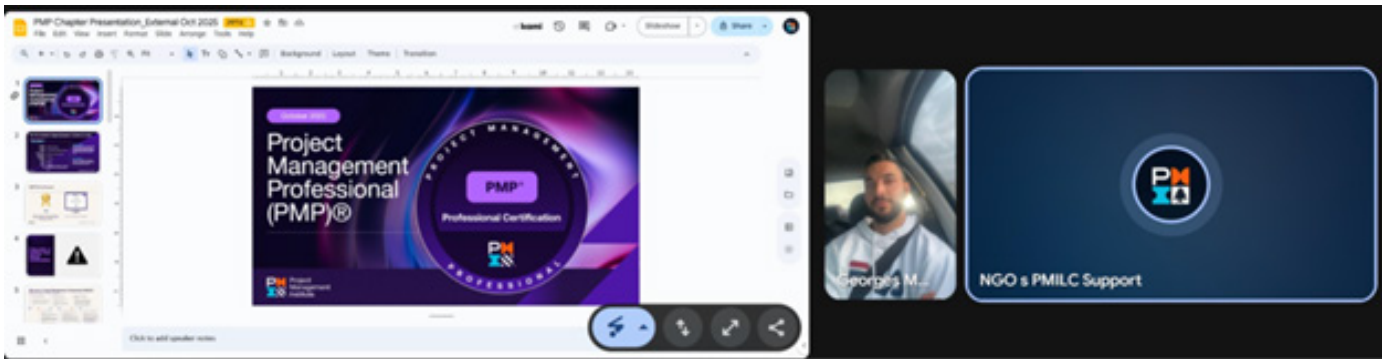
Volunteering Activities

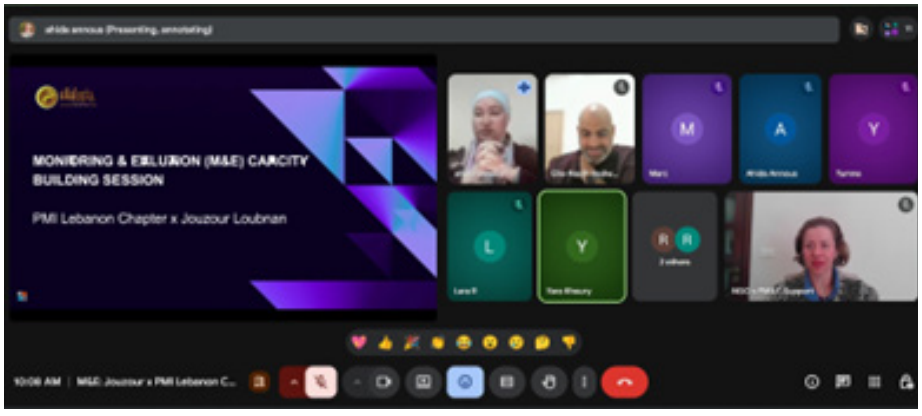
Our Project Management Without Borders (PMWB) volunteer team kicked off 2026 with energy and growth, welcoming new members to reach a total of 14 active volunteers. With this strengthened capacity, we're not only supporting our existing partners but also branching out to new collaborations, sharing expertise and practical project management tools with NGOs across Lebanon.

This quarter, we initiated new partnerships with Volunteering Marathon and the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association. Our team is providing Volunteering Marathon with 1-on-1 coaching in AI and automation and hosted a PMP certification Q&A session, helping their team build both technical and strategic skills. For the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association, we offered tailored guidance on selecting and implementing project management software, setting them up for more efficient operations. These efforts will expand and diversify over the coming months, ensuring deeper impact.

We also continued our support for Jouzour Loubnan, this time by preparing a Monitoring and Evaluation capacity-building session to strengthen their assessment capabilities. On the broader front, our volunteers are collaborating closely with PMWB's US team, sharing the Estimation of Effort tool originally designed for Lebanon Reforestation Initiative. This tool is now being positioned as a model for PMWB teams in other PMI chapters worldwide, demonstrating the global reach of our volunteer-led PMWB initiative.

Do you know a small or medium-sized Lebanese NGO that could use our support?
Email NGOs_support@pmilebanonchapter.org.





PMI Global Updates: What 2026 Brings

Since the beginning of 2026, Pierre Le Manh, President & CEO of the Project Management Institute (PMI), has shared several updates outlining PMI's global direction and priorities for the years ahead.
A key focus has been the expansion of PMI's global membership model, now active in over 40 countries, with plans to extend to many more throughout 2026. This initiative aims to provide a more consistent and accessible membership experience worldwide.

Le Manh also highlighted significant progress in AI-driven learning and digital platforms, including the continued growth of PMI Infinity™ and increasing adoption of PMI's AI-focused certification programs.
Looking ahead, PMI is preparing the next evolution of its certification ecosystem, including updates to the PMP® examination expected in 2026 and the development of advanced credentials designed for leaders managing complex, high-impact initiatives.

Across these updates, a consistent message emerges: PMI's commitment to empowering project professionals through innovation, continuous learning, and a stronger focus on value-driven project success.

COMMUNITY **THOUGHTS**

Cindy Keserwani



Joining PMI in 2025 marked the beginning of a truly meaningful journey for me. My first real experience with the community was attending PMI Lebanon Chapter National Conference, where I had the opportunity to meet inspiring professionals, connect with fellow members, and gain valuable insights from a series of impactful talks.

Following that experience, I was eager to get more involved, which led me to start volunteering. My first volunteer engagement was supporting an NGO in selecting a project management tool, where I developed a presentation comparing different tools against their specific needs. Shortly after, I contributed to another initiative by creating a monitoring and evaluation deck to support an NGO in strengthening their processes and impact.

Through these experiences, I discovered that volunteering within PMI is far more than just contributing skills…it is about being part of a community. The energy, collaboration, and genuine willingness of members to support one another is truly remarkable. There is a strong sense of shared purpose, where everyone is not only striving to grow professionally but also committed to helping others succeed. I feel both grateful and privileged to be part of PMI Lebanon Chapter.

WELCOMING
NEW MEMBERS

Welcoming our 190 new members who joined the chapter in Q1 2026

1. Mohamed Al Tayan
2. Hazem Daou
3. Fadi Yared
4. Karim Chaaban
5. Rihab Al Mohammad
6. Hana Abou Rjeili
7. Habib Massaad
8. Michel Akl
9. Mohamad Assaad Abdallah
10. Yara Fadlallah
11. Nour Karim
12. Gabriel Hamati
13. Raymond Serhal
14. Jean Paul Hanna
15. Maher Abbass
16. Sirene Nsair
17. Abdul Nasser Skaf Halabi
18. Ghina El Sabbagh
19. Raymond Frangieh
20. Stephanelle Rachwan
21. Shadi Monzer
22. MHD Mouaz Hakki
23. Rim Haidar
24. Bakri Maamari
25. Johnny Al Andary
26. Miguel Karam
27. Houssam Bleibel
28. Ramez Zayyat
29. Omar Assaf
30. Joseph Hajj Moussa
31. Ali Farhat
32. Amer Al Mardini
33. Elie Sader
34. Nicolas Sahadi
35. Mohamad Ali Nasser
36. Rami Ramia
37. Joud Arabi
38. Sara Tanios
39. Jana El Moussawel
40. Sireen Youssef
41. Samer Mikhael
42. Tamara El Majzoub
43. Jean El Hajj
44. Christine Haidar
45. Nabeel Abdallah
46. Nassif Elias
47. Khaoula Sahli
48. Joey Atallah
49. Adam Jaber
50. Nagham Abi Orm
51. Amani Al Hassanieh
52. Khaled Alfahd
53. Johnny Barmo
54. Zeina Khalife
55. Mohamad Chatila
56. Faissal Madi
57. Adel Harfouche
58. Nour Dahdouh
59. Toni Tahan
60. Jad Azzam
61. Pamela Ziade
62. Pietro Aoun
63. Khaled Alassaad
64. Louay Jarkass
65. Dany Bou-Boutros
66. Micheline Nader
67. Rim El Tannir
68. Adham Bou Reslan
69. Dana Kaddouh
70. Veronica Matar
71. Ghea Saliby
72. Roula Abi Gerges

WELCOMING
NEW MEMBERS

73. Firas Soubra
74. Samer Hammoudy
75. Tala El Sayed
76. Raed Bou Salman
77. Rami Chebbani
78. Hanady Haddad
79. Assaf Freiji
80. Sandra Shamseddine
81. Fiona Abou Abdou
82. Sandra Salameh
83. Tamer Al Banna
84. Jad Chehade
85. Mohammad Hodroj
86. Antoine Khoury
87. Mansour Neaimeh
88. Lea Sadek
89. Mohamad Mikati
90. Reem Farhat
91. Ahmad Zayour
92. Mohamad Al Berjawi
93. Issam Eljabali
94. Rony Bazouny
95. Antonios Bou Abdallah
96. Sasha Haidar
97. Majd Nasr
98. Bechara El Murr
99. Kamal Awwad
100. Omar El Arja
101. May Mallah
102. Patrick Tadros
103. Fatima El Tahech
104. Georges Maalouf
105. Abou Arrage Patrick
106. Rodrick Tabet
107. Sandra Tauk
108. Charbel Matar
109. Yara Albitar
110. Fouad Halaby
111. Jessica Matta
112. Alaa Hammad
113. Jeff Al Msanne
114. Mohamad ElJibai
115. Nader Rafeh
116. Christel Safi
117. Olivia Abou Rjeily
118. Elie Howayek
119. Mark Wehbe
120. Omar Dahan
121. Gilbert Dahdah
122. Ahmad Terro
123. Majd Hallab
124. Alaa Al Azami
125. Mario Khadra
126. Anthony Mourra
127. Zouhair El Arja
128. Hana Jawhar
129. Elio Ghanem
130. Mohamad Charara
131. Saria Cheaib
132. Omar Al Ghadban
133. Vanessa Abou Diwan
134. Ashraf Al Sayegh
135. Cynthia Azzam
136. Firas Saab
137. Ali Khorfan
138. Sandy Chehade
139. Iman A. Itani
140. Razane Massouh
141. Isabel Raad
142. Hayat Sobhi Baydoun
143. Pamela Bazerji
144. Ibrahim Haydar Ahmad
145. Aref Saliba
146. Mustapha Marmar
147. Bahaa El Awar
148. Georges Nassar
149. Maha Khalaf
150. Rami Abou Younes

WELCOMING
NEW MEMBERS

151. Raed Diab
152. Jessica Saliba
153. Mohammad Arkadan
154. Elie Semaan
155. Marc Nakhle
156. Mouhamad Rayed
157. Walid El Masri
158. Amer Khaled Serhan
159. Hussein Moukachar
160. Michel Shahoud
161. Karen Shaar
162. Noura Akhrass
163. Anthony Al Zhoury
164. Ibrahim Nassar
165. Georges Alzakhem
166. Haitham Al Amin
167. Riad Hamzeh
168. Joseph Abboud
169. Elia Alhanach
170. Bahaa Abou Harb
171. Paul Alwan
172. Ayman Elmoghrabi
173. Anthony Zaarour
174. Mayssa El Tannir
175. Wissam Jilwan
176. Pierre Abi Khalil
177. Rita Abi Moussa
178. Charbel Al Achkouty
179. Imad Eddine Alameh
180. Jack Kalioundji
181. Nabila Chaar
182. Jessica Jabr
183. Gaby Zoghby
184. Bruna Sehnaoui
185. Divina Abou Nader
186. Ziad Kilani
187. Nelly Jardak
188. Ali Mohsen
189. Selim Hobeika
190. Elbaba Mohamad

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