Policy Plan

Stichting The Lebanon Mountain Trail Foundation

V 1.81 – Sept 2026

Contents

1. Foreword

The Lebanon Mountain Trail Foundation (hereinafter referred to as "Foundation") is a Dutch *Stichting* fully dedicated to serving the public interest. It was incorporated by deed under the laws of the Netherlands and registered in the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce.

This Policy Plan outlines the objectives, principles, governance, source of funds, funds management and use of funds for the coming years, in compliance with ANBI *(Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling)* requirements and regulations. The Foundation's board sets out the current policy which will be adopted by the board during 2026 and will be adjusted annually as necessary.

2. General Information

Name	Stichting the Lebanon Mountain Trail Foundation
Date of Incorporation	May 2, 2025
RSIN	867940050
Chamber of Commerce (KvK)	97172995
Email	info@lmt-foundation.org
Website	www.lmt-foundation.org
Visiting & Mailing Address	Piekstraat 131 3071 EL Rotterdam
Statutory Seat	Gemeene Lochem (Registered address)
Bank	ABN AMRO - Gustav Mahlerlaan 10 | 1082 PP Amsterdam The Netherlands | HQ5021
Management account	NL90ABNA0149299206
BIC	ABNANL2A

The Foundation fulfills its publication obligation through its official website, where all required ANBI information will be publicly accessible.

3. Board of Directors

3.1. Composition of the Board

The Foundation is governed by a Board consisting of at least three (3) natural persons, subject to the Foundation's Articles of Association.

The Board shall collectively include the functions of Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. One person may hold more than one function, provided this is permitted under the Articles of Association and does not impair good governance.

Board members shall be appointed on the basis of integrity, relevant experience, independence, and commitment to the Foundation's public-benefit objectives.

The current Board members are:

- Wim Balvert - Chairman
- Jan Waltmans - Member
- Annette Nijs - Member
- Dany Njeim - Treasurer
- Alfred Farwagi - Secretary

3.2. Appointment, Resignation and Vacancies

The Board shall appoint new members and fill vacancies in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Board members may resign voluntarily by written notice to the Board.

In the event of a vacancy, the remaining Board members shall take reasonable steps to appoint a suitable successor as soon as practicable.

3.3. Independence and Collective Governance

The Board shall act independently and exclusively in the interests of the Foundation and its public-benefit objectives.

No Board member, natural person, or legal entity may exercise decisive control over the Foundation's assets as if such assets were their own.

The Board independently determines the allocation and use of the Foundation's assets. No beneficiary or strategic partner, including the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association, may direct or control the Foundation's grant-making decisions or the management of its assets.

Board members shall avoid conflicts of interest. Any actual or potential conflict of interest shall be disclosed without delay and handled in accordance with applicable law and internal policy.

Each Board member shall have one vote. Board decisions shall be adopted by majority vote unless otherwise provided by the Articles of Association.

3.4. Responsibilities of the Board

The Board bears collective responsibility for the proper governance, stewardship and oversight of the Foundation. Its responsibilities include:

- **Mission and public benefit**
  Safeguarding the Foundation's mission, statutory objectives, public-benefit purpose and institutional integrity.

- **Financial stewardship**
  Overseeing the prudent management, preservation and use of the Foundation's financial assets and resources, including grants, reserves and endowment assets.
- **Governance, compliance and risk**
  Ensuring compliance with applicable Dutch laws, regulations and ANBI requirements, and identifying and managing material risks and conflicts of interest.
- **Strategy and performance**
  Setting strategic priorities, approving policies and significant allocations of funds, and overseeing the effectiveness and impact of the Foundation's activities and grants.
- **Accountability and reporting**
  Ensuring appropriate transparency, record-keeping, financial and activity reporting, and public disclosure.

3.5. Meetings and Decision-Making

The Board shall meet as often as necessary for the proper functioning of the Foundation and at least once annually.

Meetings may be held physically, electronically, or by other lawful means.

Minutes shall be kept of Board meetings and decisions.

3.6. Remuneration and Expenses

Board Members serve on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration for their role or services as members of the Board. Board members may be reimbursed for reasonable and properly documented out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, provided such reimbursements are not excessive and comply with applicable ANBI requirements.

3.7. Advisory Support

The Board may establish one or more advisory councils to provide non-binding expertise and recommendations in areas such as investments, governance, communications, outreach or strategy formulation. Such advisory bodies shall have no executive authority, and final decision-making authority shall remain with the Board at all times.

4. Objectives

The Objectives of the Foundation as stated in the Articles of Association are:

- to enhance environmental education and to raise awareness about the importance of conserving Lebanon’s cultural and natural heritage;
- to promote a sustainable and economic community development through socially responsible tourism along the Lebanon Mountain Trail, ensuring accessibility for all;
- to create awareness to protect and maintain the Lebanon Mountain Trail, including all hiking trail networks in Lebanon for future generations; and
- to promote a form of wellbeing from total immersion in nature on the Lebanon Mountain Trail,

as well as all that is directly or indirectly connected therewith or may be conducive thereto, all to be interpreted in the broadest sense, if in the general interest.

5. Policy

5.1. Strategic Intent

The Foundation has the long-term strategic intent of developing a sustainable financial base to support its public-benefit objectives over the long term: an endowment. The Foundation may maintain long-term capital where permitted under applicable ANBI requirements, including donor- or testator-restricted capital and reasonable reserves necessary to ensure the continuity of its planned public-benefit activities. Unrestricted funds will not be accumulated or retained beyond what is reasonably necessary for the Foundation's planned activities and continuity.

The income and returns generated from this capital base will be used to advance the Foundation's objectives over the long term through periodic grants to the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association and, where appropriate, other qualified public-benefit organizations whose objectives and activities are aligned with the Foundation's impact areas and serve the public interest. In all cases, grants will be subject to appropriate governance, due diligence, monitoring, and oversight.

5.2. Beneficiaries and Public-Benefit Partnerships

The Foundation is established to pursue a broad range of public-benefit objectives relating to the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, environmental education, rural and community development, wellbeing, inclusion, and responsible outdoor and nature-based initiatives in Lebanon.

In pursuing these objectives, the Foundation is not established for the benefit of any single organization or project. The Lebanon Mountain Trail Association is an important strategic partner and eligible beneficiary whose work closely aligns with the Foundation's mission, but has no predetermined entitlement to Foundation funds. The Foundation may also provide grants or other forms of support to qualified public-benefit organizations whose objectives and activities are consistent with those of the Foundation and serve the public interest. The Board independently determines whether, to whom, for what purpose, and in what amount grants or other support are provided.

By working with organizations that bring complementary expertise, local capacity, networks, and resources, the Foundation can broaden the reach of its public-benefit activities and maximize their long-term impact. Any grants or other support will be assessed against the Foundation's objectives, public-benefit purpose, and applicable governance and grant-making criteria.

5.3. Core Principles

The Foundation adheres to the following core principles:

- The Foundation has no profit motive.
- The Foundation's efforts are almost entirely focused on the public benefit.
- The Board is ultimately responsible for the stewardship and oversight of financial assets.
- No individual or entity may dispose of Foundation assets as private property.
- The Foundation does not have employees.

- The Foundation shall manage assets conservatively to ensure sustainability and shall not hold more assets than are reasonably necessary for its planned public-benefit activities and reasonable continuity, except for assets that may be retained in accordance with applicable ANBI requirements, including qualifying donor- or testator-restricted capital.
- Any funds or assets remaining after the dissolution of the Foundation shall be allocated to a public welfare institution or a foreign organization whose objectives are similar to those of the Foundation and which exclusively or almost exclusively serve the public benefit.

5.4. Activities

The activities of the Foundation are directed toward establishing a sustainable financial and organizational basis for achieving its public-benefit objectives. They include:

- **Fundraising and resource development:** developing relationships with individuals, companies, foundations, institutions and other potential supporters to secure funds for the Foundation's objectives.
- **Grant-making and support:** providing grants and other appropriate forms of support to the Lebanon Mountain Trail Association and, where appropriate, other qualified public-benefit organizations whose activities are aligned with the Foundation's objectives.
- **Financial and asset management:** overseeing the prudent management of funds, reserves and long-term capital in accordance with the Foundation's policies.
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** monitoring supported initiatives, reviewing outcomes and assessing their contribution to the Foundation's public-benefit objectives.
- **Partnerships and outreach:** maintaining relationships with Dutch and international foundations, institutions and other partners that can contribute to the Foundation's objectives.
- **Reporting and accountability:** maintaining appropriate records and reporting on the Foundation's activities, finances and impact.

5.5. Sources of Funds and Assets

The Foundation obtains its assets through:

- Donations, gifts and bequests from individuals and companies.
- Acquisitions by testamentary dispositions (may only be accepted by the Foundation under the benefit of inventory).
- Contributions and other income.
- Grants and subsidies from other foundations and from public institutions.

Donations received by the Foundation from individuals and corporations are earmarked to the Foundation rather than to specific programs, unless requested by donor(s) to be earmarked to a specific initiative within the Foundation’s objectives.

5.6. Management of Funds and Assets

Assets will be managed conservatively to ensure sustainability. The Foundation’s financial resources will consist of:

- Short-term Funds expected to be utilized within one year and invested in short-term bank financial instruments with maturities not exceeding 1 year.

- Long-term funds (Endowment) to ensure long-term impact through sustainable funding. The Foundation may maintain long-term funds where permitted under the applicable ANBI spending criterion. Such funds may include donor- or testator-restricted capital that is required to be maintained and reasonable reserves required to ensure continuity of its planned public-benefit activities. The Board will periodically review whether the retention of such funds remains reasonably necessary and compliant with applicable ANBI requirements.

<u>Spending Rate</u>

The Foundation balances the need for periodic financial support with the long-term preservation of capital. Income generated from the Endowment, including dividends and interest, may be used for spending and grants, and will be reviewed regularly and adjusted as needed to maintain proper balance. The Board will determine annually the amounts available for grants and other public-benefit expenditure, taking into account planned activities, donor or testator restrictions, liquidity requirements, reasonable continuity needs and applicable ANBI requirements

<u>Asset Allocation and Oversight</u>

The asset allocation strategy is designed to achieve long-term investment objectives through diversification across three main categories:

- Growth Assets
- Risk Reduction Assets
- Inflation Protection Assets

The Advisory Council may recommend from time to time to the Board a prudent asset allocation. Adjustments may be made in response to market conditions, economic outlook, and performance expectations.

The Board retains ultimate oversight and approves any significant changes to the asset allocation, ensuring alignment with the Foundation's objectives and long-term sustainability.

5.7. Appropriation and Use of Funds

The Foundation allocates its funds as follows:

- Programs and initiatives (majority of funds):
    - Allocation of grants to programs and initiatives in the public interest that support the Foundation's Objectives.
- Operational costs (limited proportion):
    - Administrative expenses
    - Communication and outreach
    - Compliance and reporting

6. Transparency & Accountability

The Foundation is committed to maintaining high standards of transparency and accountability in all its activities and operations. It ensures that financial resources are managed responsibly and in alignment with its objectives.

Annual activity and financial reports are prepared and made publicly available. The Foundation provides regular updates to donors and relevant stakeholders on its activities, progress, and outcomes.

Appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to assess the effectiveness and impact of supported initiatives.

The Foundation complies with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements, including ANBI obligations, and maintains accurate and complete administrative records at all times.

7. Version History

- V1.0 - April 2026: Initial version
- V1.81 - Sept 2026: Latest version

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