



# Italian Masterpieces

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Tyre - South Lebanon

# Cultural Heritage

One of the pillars of the partnership between Italy and Lebanon is the Italian Cooperation's engagement in the country since 1983. The Agency for development cooperation (AICS) is active in several domains: infrastructure projects, sustainable social and economic development, environment, agriculture, industrial development, social affairs, tourism development, cultural heritage, education and knowledge sharing. Italy's support of cultural heritage projects in Lebanon is an important success story.

Under the framework of the "Cultural Heritage and Urban Development" (CHUD) program, Italy's € 10.2 million soft loan and € 2.2 million grant made it possible to implement preservation projects in the cities of Tripoli, Byblos, Baalbeck, Saida and Tyre.

The CHUD program aims at supporting the Lebanese institutions in enhancing economic development and the quality of life in these five urban areas and at improving the conservation and management of Lebanese cultural heritage.

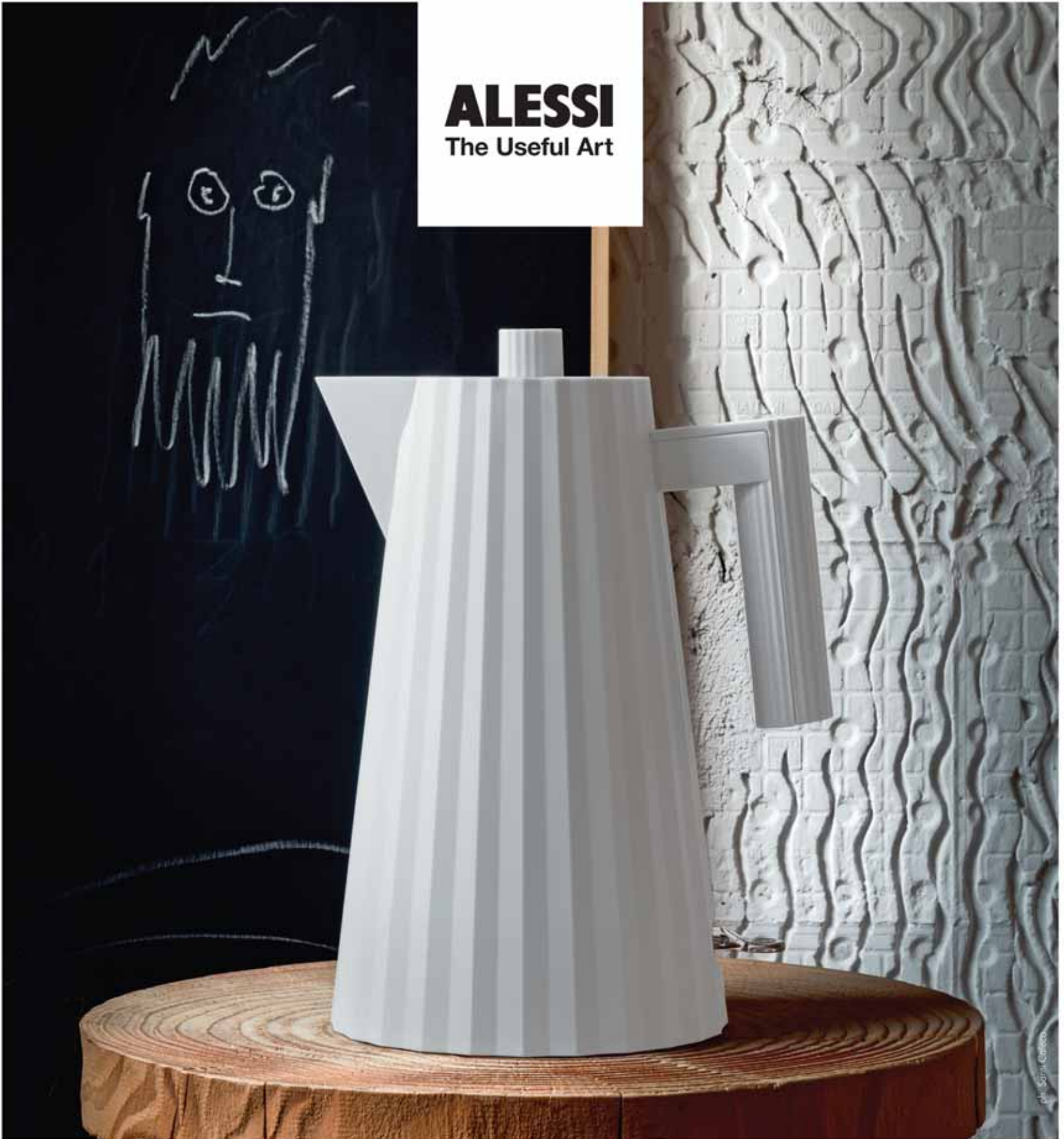
The first phase of the CHUD was financed by Italy, AFD and the World Bank. In Baalbeck, Italy funded the restoration of the Temples of Venus and Bacchus. A highly qualified team of scientific and technical experts are working with the Lebanese contractors.

The restorer teams trained 80 Lebanese technicians. Two types of advanced cleaning laser machines were imported from Italy in Lebanon for the first time, among other new equipment.



Shamaa - South Lebanon

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"Plissé" - Electric kettle, design Michele De Lucchi, 2018



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The second phase, funded only by Italy and implemented by the CDR, aims at restoring two World Heritage archaeological sites in Baalbeck and Tyre, rehabilitating Baalbeck's Serail, Saida's Khan el Echle and Land Castle, and Tripoli's Mill.

Italy assisted the working teams with technical and scientific knowledge and expertise. The experts of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, UNESCO and the DGA of the Ministry of Culture guarantee the scientific supervision of the works in the World Heritage sites of Baalbeck and Tyre.

