



ACTIVITY REPORT 2016

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AMEL ASSOCIATION

Amel Association International (Amel) is a non governmental, civil and non-sectarian organization that was established in 1979 by Dr.Kamel Mohanna.

Through its 24 centers, 6 Mobile Medical Units and its Educational Mobile Unit, Amel provides access to healthcare services and implements development programs across Lebanon, targeting underprivileged communities, regardless of their nationality, political or religious affiliations .

Amel also aims to strengthen the culture of rights among citizens, refugees and migrants and to promote their access to rights as well as their involvement in public life.

Until today, Amel has offered more than 8 million accessible services to all in health and psychosocial sectors.

Musseitbeh.
Amel House of Human Rights.
Haret Hreik.
Bachar Mohanna & Muslim
Akil Center: Chyah.
Ain el Remaneh.
Hay el Sellom.
Bourj el Barajneh.
Mucharrafieh.





HEALTH & MEDICAL SUPPORT



Since the foundation in 1979, health has been at the heart of Amel's priorities. Over the years, the medical support provided by Amel has consistently grown.

Amel now has 15 primary health care centers across Lebanon. These centers are vital for providing essential healthcare to vulnerable populations, as well as offering preventive health awareness. Within the healthcare package offered across Amel PHCs, patients can access general and specialist doctors, family planning, medication, blood tests, vaccinations and X-rays. Amel has also built a strong referral network among partners. to assist patients in getting the services they need.

A number of Amel centres have been included in the Ministry of Public Health network, which has enhanced yet further the quality of care that they provide.

In this way, Amel's team and partners contribute to creating a strong, nationwide health system, ensuring access to healthcare for all.



250000
CONSULTATIONS
IN 2016

15 PRIMARY
HEALTHCARE
CENTERS

MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS



Amel currently has 6 Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) covering several informal tented settlements (ITSs), shelters and remote municipalities, in the Bekaa and South Lebanon regions where large populations affected by the Syrian crisis are living. These mobile clinics have the role of monitoring and preventing the outbreak of communicable diseases, while dispensing basic healthcare, providing health education and social counseling. More than 50,000 beneficiaries have been reached through Amel's Mobile Medical Units in 2016.





EDUCATION & CHILD PROTECTION



Amel Association International considers access to education as a fundamental right for all children. Thus, supporting the most vulnerable children in succeeding and continuing in the formal education system is one of Amel's priority.

In 2016, Amel provided educational activities (homework support, remedial sessions, reading sessions, etc) as well as recreational and psycho-social activities to more than 1000 vulnerable children through its centers of Haret Hreik and Ain el Remaneh (Beirut Mount Lebanon area) as well as in its Mobile Education Unit (MEU) operating in Marjayoun area (South Lebanon).

In addition to its education program, Amel also puts great emphasis on the psychosocial well-being of children and their parents. Given the critical situation in which many members of host and refugee communities are living in in Lebanon, due to the Syrian refugee crisis, such actions are of utmost importance. Within the framework of its child protection activities, Amel provides psychosocial activities for children as well as awareness sessions and parenting skills for adults.



MOBILE EDUCATIONAL UNIT

Based on its extensive experience of working directly in Informal Tented Settlements and remote areas, thanks to its 6 Mobile Medical Units (MMU), and after a comprehensive needs assessment conducted in the Kham-Marjayoun area, in 2016 Amel Association International decided to launch a pilot project: the Mobile Education Unit (MEU).

The MEU, also known as “The Amel Bus” is a special vehicle equipped with educational and recreational materials (books, educational games, numeric tablets, etc..) as well as a cubicle for psychological consultations, benches, tables and movie-projection equipment. The MEU operates directly in 5 Informal Tented Settlements in the Kham-Marjayoun area on a weekly basis, and provides vulnerable children with retention support activities (homework support, remedial sessions), psychosocial activities (individual consultations, focus groups, awareness sessions for parents), recreational and cultural activities (weekly movie projections in the ITS, outdoor activities, drawings, theatre, etc).



Amel implements livelihood activities targeting youth given that they are the future of our societies. Consequently, Amel offers vocational training including language classes, IT courses, internships, life skills training and psycho-social support to Lebanese and refugee youth. More than 7,000 youths benefitted from these activities in 2016.





GENDER & RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Empowering women is essential to Amel, and our team is largely composed of women, at the highest levels. Knowing the incredible potential they have, we believe that economic independence of women leads to social independence. Amel has therefore launched several initiatives with women in rural and urban areas.

The *Mann Hiya* project to empower women through handmade crafts and artifacts was initiated in the same spirit. The artisanal soap factory of *Ebl el Saqi* is another example of the kind of rural development projects that Amel has initiated. This offers women wider chances of gaining economic empowerment.

Menna is a project that aims to provide access to the labor market for women working in food production, handicrafts, recycling, handmade accessories and organic soap, and consequently providing wider selling opportunities. Amel launched *Menna- Hand Made Products* shop in 2015, as a showroom and a market place. Moreover, Amel created *Menna Catering Group* which is composed of women who prepare sweet and savoury pastries for events and occasions.

Amel also frequently participates in national campaigns to advocate for women's rights.



YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & VOLUNTEERING



Activities and projects are developed to enhance youth skills, capacities and knowledge on leadership, communication, peace-building, equality, non-discrimination, and public well being.

Amel's youth have always participated in cross-cultural settings to exchange experiences and share the Lebanese culture, concerns and values to the world. Amel strives to involve youth in their communities.

In 2016, Amel hosted the first ERASMUS + workshop in Lebanon, with 30 participants from 10 different countries. This was a unique experience for cultural sharing and learning on the subject of anti-hate speech. This workshop was the offspring of previous Amel involvement in other international youth projects across the Euro-Med area, including Tunisia, Italy and Latvia, in which participants networked with international partners and developed training programs suited to the specific Lebanese context.

Amel continues to develop its networks and has a number of international youth projects lined up for 2017, related to a number of pressing topics at the local, national and regional levels, including integration of migrants and entrepreneurship.

At the local level, Amel continues to engage volunteers from local communities and universities across its programs, for example teaching in Haret Hreik and planting trees for enhanced environments in Beirut.





MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS



In 2011, Amel established its Support of Migrant Domestic Workers (MDW) and Victims of Human Trafficking Program.

Within its projects, the team takes a holistic approach in supporting this vulnerable group, namely through a six-pronged approach:

- Advocacy with key stakeholders;
- Awareness raising on rights and duties with employees, employers and students;
- Collaboration with countries of origin (research, case management, referral, ...);
- Empowerment through skill building;
- Research on Human Rights issues affecting MDWs in Lebanon and abroad;
- Legal, health, social and psychosocial services.



Through the above mentioned activities, Amel aims to improve the living and working conditions of MDWs in Lebanon, as well as to alleviate the suffering of victims of abuse and of human trafficking.

Amel works with all stakeholders in Lebanon in order to achieve this: employers, employees, students, NGOs and civil society, as well as ministries and governmental bodies.

Furthermore, during 2016, Amel has enhanced links with actors in countries of origins, through conducting field research and networking, as well as through attending international migration conferences, namely the GFMD and PGA. Amel now actively supports cases with actors in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nepal and Sri Lanka in addition to its assistance to migrant domestic workers here in Lebanon.





Amel House of Human Rights (AHHR) is a project in collaboration with La Sagesse University, that works to develop advanced programs in education and training on human rights, and seeks to be an academic reference and training center on issues related to human rights and international humanitarian law in Lebanon and the Arab world.

Each year, AHHR organizes a Summer School in law of armed conflict, in collaboration with La Sagesse University, gathering around 50 participants from the Arab region.

Amel is already a well-recognized NGO internationally, notably through its membership in the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and in the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership, an extensive network of NGOs favoring better coordination of humanitarian action worldwide.

Amel's scope of humanitarian activities is thus ever expanding. The organization has opened offices in Switzerland and France to replicate its approach with vulnerable populations in Europe.



Moreover, Amel was one of the key local NGOs participating in the fruitful dialogue related to “Reshaping Humanitarian Action”, as part of the process of the World Humanitarian Summit that was held in 2016.

Already at the end of last year, Amel's achievements were recognized and honored by receiving the annual prize of the “Fondation Ghazal pour l'éducation, la recherche et la paix au Liban”.

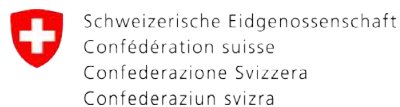
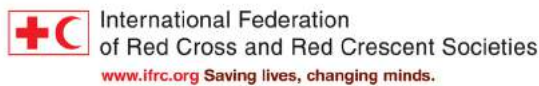


«Nobody is able to choose their place of birth or their family. No one is given the choice to grow up in a war-torn country, in a place so dangerous that you would rather risk drowning in the Mediterranean than staying in your homeland.»
Dr.KamelMohanna-Amel's President

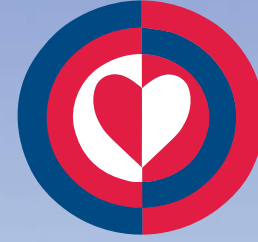
Amel Association International was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 2016, by His Excellency Georges Corm, a former Lebanese Minister of Finance and a University Professor in Political Sciences at the Saint-Joseph University in Beirut. This was initiated to highlight our commitment to social justice and devotion to the most vulnerable populations, including marginalized Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian refugees as well as other migrants living in Lebanon. Within this framework, Amel's engagement towards the populations affected by the Syrian crisis has been considered by the former United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and present UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, as an "essential and unique contribution" to the crisis response.

With the provision of more than 1.8 million services to the populations in Lebanon affected by the Syrian crisis since April 2012, Amel has been actively contributing through its field-based facilities in alleviating the dire circumstance which they are living in. This successful intervention forms part of the remarkable Lebanese Civil Society's response to the Syrian crisis. Lebanon is a country that maintains a model of coexistence and diversity. Recognizing the efforts and the commitment of local NGOs and civil society groups is the only way for stability and sustainable peace in the region. Supporting such a model is also a way to send a symbolic message from the Lebanese people to the international community in this critical time and can inspire neighboring states in the re-construction of their countries.

OUR PARTNERS



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