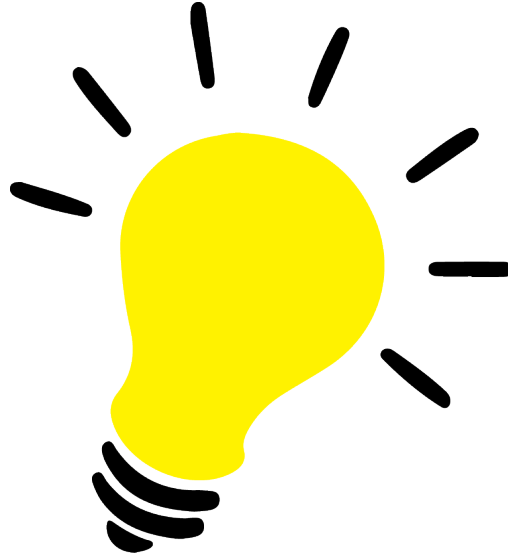


Education Program

مؤسسة عامل الدولية
amelassociation International



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“Today’s Learners, Tomorrow’s Leaders”



01

Amel Association International

Amel is a non-governmental and non-sectarian organization, created in 1979 by Dr. Kamel Mohanna and a group of doctors, journalists & activists in response to the atrocities of the Lebanese civil war and the Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon. Amel has worked through 28 centers, 6 mobile medical units, 2 mobile education units and 1 protection unit for more than 4 decades in the most marginalized regions of Lebanon, from Beirut and its Southern Suburbs to Mount Lebanon, Bekaa and South Lebanon. Led by 1200 workers and volunteers, Amel is offering dignified and accessible programs for all people in the following fields: Health, psychosocial support, professional training, women empowerment, rural development, support to migrants, protection, and human rights.

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Education in crisis

In recent years, the multifaceted crisis affecting Lebanon has provoked an **education emergency**. The socio-economic crisis coupled with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have raised unprecedented challenges for all families and dramatically restricted the access to quality education. The multiple schools' closures and the shift to distance learning are the main factors that jeopardize the learning journey of all children living in Lebanon, affecting first the most vulnerable households. Since October 2019, it is estimated that the school education of **1.3 million children has been disrupted** while 700,000 children were still out of school (Education Sector Advocacy Brief, October 2021). The loss of learning is worrying and will result in serious damages for the children's learning outcomes in the coming years.

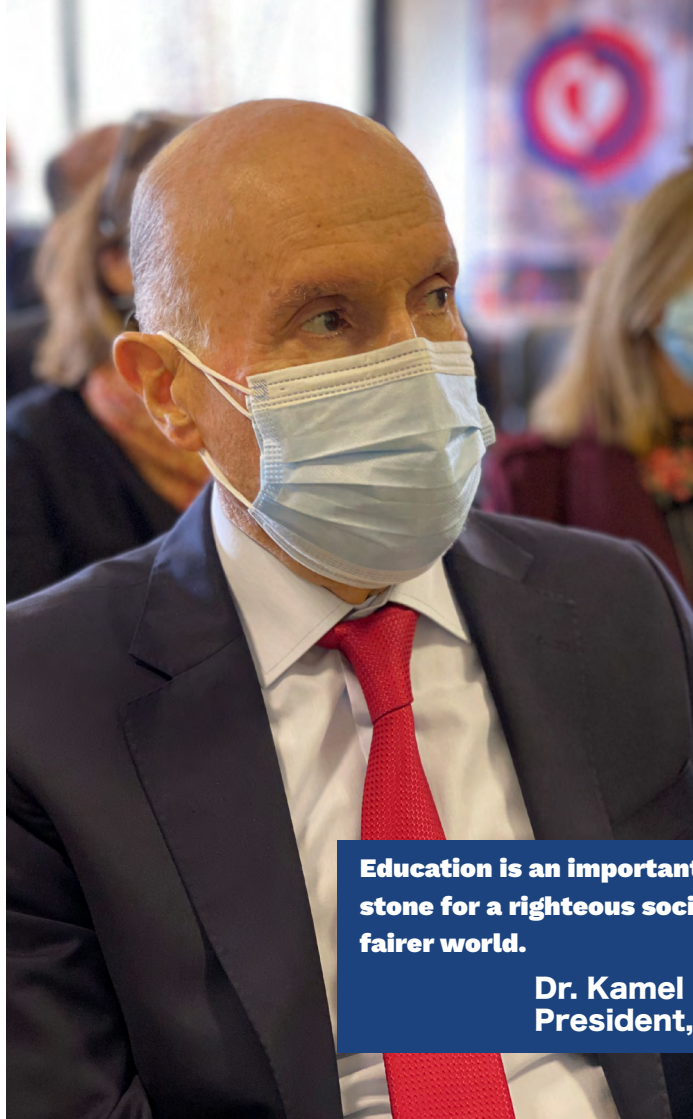


The restricted access to meaningful learning also contributes to expose the children to **higher protection risks**. Children out of education are more at risk of abuse and violence. In addition, the economic crisis has pressured the families to replace learning by income-generating work. These protection risks lead to psychological pressure and lack of perspectives, which are main barriers to mental stability and wellbeing.

The education emergency needs an immediate, collective and well-coordinated response. The Right to Education should be safeguarded to ensure life perspectives to a whole generation. Education is an **investment in the future**, guiding young and autonomous citizens to build a prosper Lebanese society.

“Education is an investment in the future”

04



Education is an important cornerstone for a righteous society and fairer world.

**Dr. Kamel Mohanna
President, Amel**



Education Charter

Vision

Amel's Education Program aims at building a fully educated community in Lebanon, where all individuals have the right to **equal access** to quality education, regardless of their background, origins or gender.

Amel strives to having the right to education be at the core of the democratic society, where the State guarantees the existence of a strong public education system that accompanies children throughout their learning journey. **A strong public-school system** is a unified one, in which all children enjoy the same opportunities across Lebanon, from main cities to remote areas, in inclusive schools acting as the cornerstone of the surrounding communities.

School education should be complemented by life learning opportunities, generating forums where individuals are empowered, and where they become **autonomous citizens** free to think, speak up and decide for themselves.

Mission

Amel's Education Program has a mission to promote a **safe environment** for individuals where they feel protected, ready and willing to learn. Amel intends to guarantee the right to quality education to the most vulnerable populations living in Lebanon, while offering conducive platforms where learners can acquire meaningful knowledge, build fundamental skills and adopt positive attitude. Amel is willing to develop **learners' potentials** to raise their autonomy through participatory, inclusive and innovative approaches. Collaboration being the key for collective and positive change, Amel advocates for **systemic development** in the education sector through experience sharing, based on empirical knowledge owing to its community centers.



Amel's Education programme bases its intervention on five main pillars

1. Designing, implementing and continuously adapting the support provided by multi-disciplinary teams **based on the needs** of the most vulnerable children, youths and adults, collectively assessed in Amel's community centres, through multi-sectorial services following a holistic approach.
2. Building **solid and trustful relationships** with local communities, engaging them in the promotion of the right to education through awareness raising, constant communication and strong participation in activities.
3. Offering **quality learning opportunities** using innovative teaching methods, as well as education material based on official curricula and aligned with livelihood opportunities to ensure that acquired knowledge and skills are meaningful, transferrable and lasting throughout the learners' lives to consolidate their autonomy.
4. Complementing the learning process with the provision of **psychosocial support** thanks to qualified team members (i.e social workers, psychologists, etc.) contributing to enhance an environment that is conducive to learning, adopting protection protocols and following do-no harm approaches.
5. **Collaborating** with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the consistency of the response and benefiting from experience sharing to build the capacity of humanitarian workers, capitalize on field experience and advocate for positive systemic change to better serve the community

Amel's Education achievements in 2021

In 2021, Amel's Education Program has responded to the increasing needs of the children, youths and adults affected by the multifaceted crisis in Lebanon. Based on the long-lasting experience of its **community centers**, Amel has adapted and developed its education intervention for more than **2420 individuals** who benefited from a focused support with weekly activities (2000 children, 260 youths, 160 adults).



Pillar 1: Designing, implementing and continuously adapting the support provided by multi-disciplinary teams **based on the needs** of the most vulnerable children, youths and adults, collectively assessed in Amel's community centres, through multi-sectorial services following a holistic approach.



Mobile Education Units



Learning Support



Basic Literacy and Numeracy



Ideas Box

Mobile Education Units

Khiyam



In Autumn 2016, based on this extensive experience within informal settlements and hard-to-reach areas with its 6 Medical Mobile Units, Amel launched a pilot project of a Mobile Education Unit in Khiam Marjayoun, to assist vulnerable children in South Lebanon. The successful implementation of this project informed the launching of a second MEU in the West Bekaa region. The MEUs, also known as ‘**The Amel Bus**’, are vehicles specifically equipped with educational and recreational material (books, educational games, numeric tablets, etc.) as well as a cabinet for psychological consultations, benches, tables and movie projection equipment.

Over the years, the MEUs’ multi-disciplinary teams have tailored the support provided to the children and other community members. The approach being to sustain the intervention in the same locations to offer **tailor-made support**. Hence, in addition to the **retention support** provided to 600 children enrolled in elemen-

Literacy & Numeracy classes for adults: thanks to a partnership with Ana Aqra (Lebanese NGO), who supported the design of a tailored curriculum, Amel has launched cycles of Literacy & Numeracy classes for adults, mostly with the caregivers of the children enrolled in the MEUs’ activities. While providing strong basic knowledge and skills to their parents, the MEUs’ teams promoted the importance of education for their children.

tary public schools, the MEUs also offered **Basic Literacy & Numeracy** to 250 children, youths and adults living in the same informal tented settlements. The learning support was complemented by regular recreational activities for 80 young children as well as psychosocial support, awareness sessions and focus group discussions.

Amel also launched a pilot initiative for enhancing **social cohesion and building peace** among community members through capacity-building of 10 mediators as well as Amel's facilitators and other team members. Amel also organized **vocational cycle-based activities** for children aged from 10 to 14 years old with exposure visits to raise awareness on the importance of education for their future perspectives. Finally, a **Back to Education campaign** was conducted in the informal tented settlements reaching more than 2000 individuals with outreach, follow up and awareness raising activities to encourage registration at schools and referral to education services.

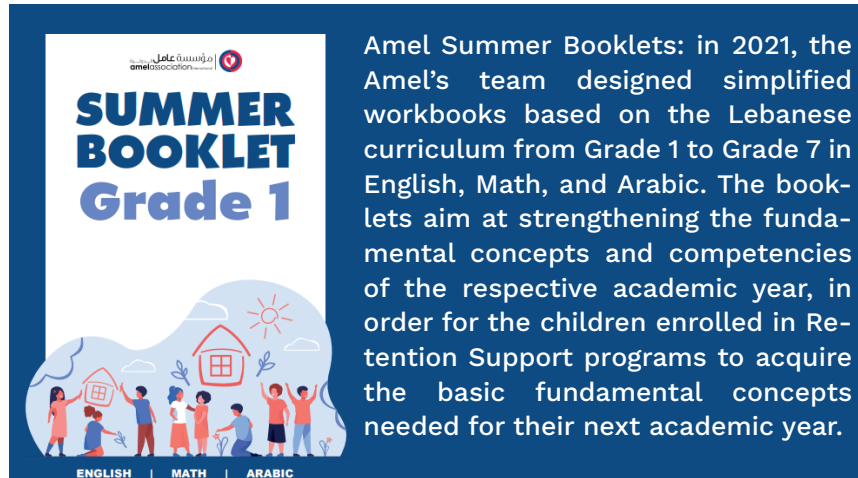


Kamed el Loz

Pillar 2: Building **solid and trustful relationships** with local communities, engaging them in the promotion of the right to education through awareness raising, constant communication and strong participation in activities.

Learning Support

Amel's Education Programme has been supporting vulnerable children enrolled in elementary schools at high risks of dropping out. In 2021, around **300 children** living in the suburbs of Beirut have benefited from a learning support, including homework support, remedial sessions, recreational activities in addition to psychosocial support (case identification, individual counselling, awareness sessions, etc.). Owing to its longstanding experience in providing these services, Amel also formed a consortium with three partners (NRC, Ana Aqra, International Alert) to ensure the children's retention and academic success in public schools. The Nataf3al consortium will work with school communities to address the most critical retention needs in a holistic way with a social cohesion lens.



Amel Summer Booklets: in 2021, the Amel's team designed simplified workbooks based on the Lebanese curriculum from Grade 1 to Grade 7 in English, Math, and Arabic. The booklets aim at strengthening the fundamental concepts and competencies of the respective academic year, in order for the children enrolled in Retention Support programs to acquire the basic fundamental concepts needed for their next academic year.

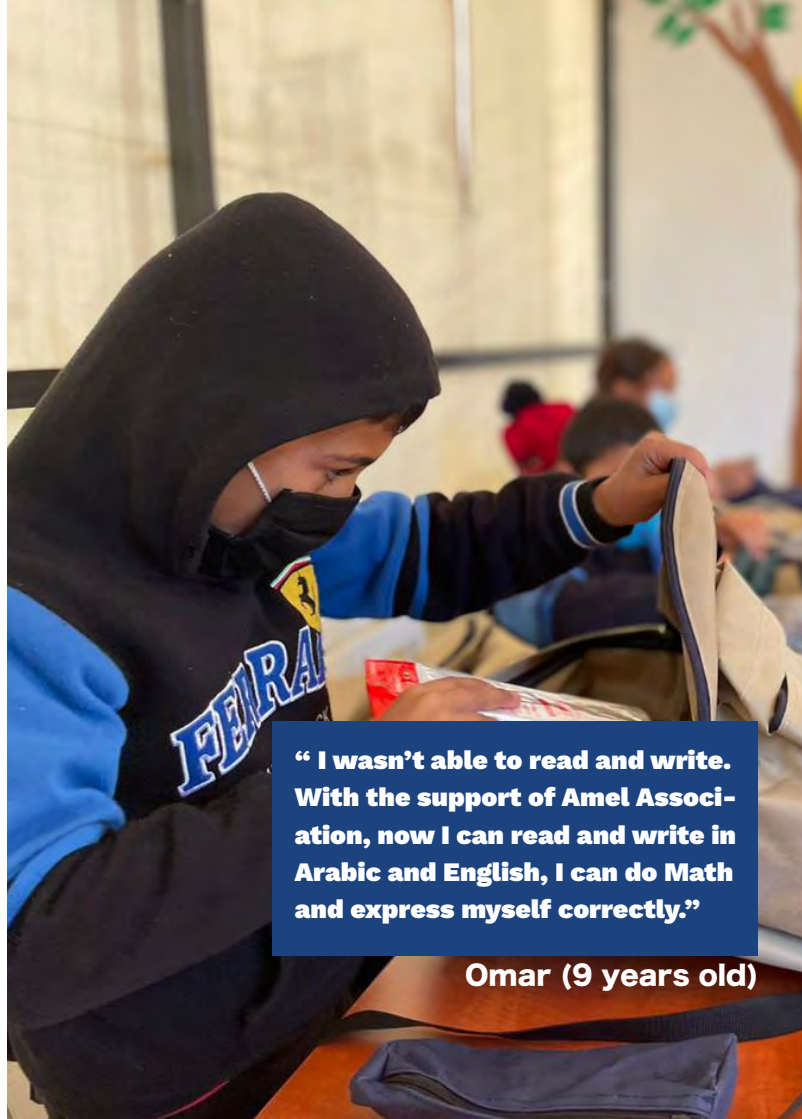


Pillar 3: Offering **quality learning opportunities** using innovative teaching methods, as well as education material based on official curricula and aligned with livelihood opportunities to ensure that acquired knowledge and skills are meaningful, transferrable and lasting throughout the learners' lives to consolidate their autonomy.

Basic Literacy and Numeracy

Amel's education program also supported out-of-school children and youths affected by the multi-faceted crisis. In 2021, intense cycle of basic literacy and numeracy were provided to **980 children and 200 youths** living in the most vulnerable areas (South Lebanon, Bekaa, Mount Lebanon).

Three-month intensive cycles were organized to support 980 children with quality remote learning in Arabic, English and mathematics following official curricula. The learning support was complemented by awareness raising activities for children and parents as well as a life skills program delivered to 900 children (Better Learning Program - NRC), in addition to outreach, community mobilization and referrals. In the informal tented settlements of Khiam area (South Lebanon), the Amel's teams provided intense cycles of Literacy & Numeracy for youths aged from 15 to 24 years old, following the official curriculum including Arabic, Maths, English and life skills sessions. In 2021, this project benefited 100 youths, in addition to 100 youths previously enrolled in Y-BLN program in 2019-2020 who participated in reinforcement sessions and vocational activities.



“ I wasn't able to read and write. With the support of Amel Association, now I can read and write in Arabic and English, I can do Math and express myself correctly.”

Omar (9 years old)



Ideas Box



The Ideas Box is a mobile “pop up” multimedia center and learning hub that provides **educational and cultural resources**. 3 Ideas Boxes have been installed in 3 Amel’s community centers (Kamed el Loz, Khiam, Haret Hreik). Each box contains books, board games, laptops, tablets, cameras, films and video games, in addition to the widest range of materials for organizing recreational and artistic activities. The objectives of the Ideas Box is to reinforce the quality and the access to education and training programs through **innovative services and tools**, to contribute to protection and psychosocial wellbeing as well as to promote social cohesion and peace building.

In 2021, around **300 children** and youths enrolled in the Education Program have benefited from regular activities in the three Ideas Boxes. Moreover, the Amel’s teams organized several community events bringing together children, youths and other community members.

Pillar 4: Complementing the learning process with the provision of **psychosocial support** thanks to qualified team members (i.e social workers, psychologists, etc.) contributing to enhance an environment that is conducive to learning, adopting protection protocols and following do-no harm approaches.

Today's Learners Tomorrow's Leaders

“The major goal of this project is to encourage children and adults to develop their ability in facing their learning difficulties (in reading, writing, etc.). It also has an impact on child protection and learning reinforcement, and, at the same time, on strengthening the social bonds between host and refugee communities”.

Zahraa, Focal point.



Together, we can do so much!



Amel Association International strives to develop **multiple partnerships** to enrich its experience, improve and broaden its support to the most vulnerable individuals. **Collaboration** being the key to a coherent and holistic response to the increasing needs, Amel is a pro-active participant in the coordination of the Humanitarian sector.

In 2021, the Amel's teams participated in multiple trainings thanks to Amel's partners and joint activities were organized to provide additional support to the children enrolled in the Education Program.

Particularly, a strong partnership with the NGO Seenaryo enabled more than 100 children to enjoy a full cycle of theater activities, in which they created their own theater play performed at the final performance in front of their families and their classmates.

Pillar 5: Collaborating with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the consistency of the response and benefiting from experience sharing to build the capacity of humanitarian workers, capitalize on field experience and advocate for positive systemic change to better serve the community







Our Program's Achievements

Were Possible Thanks to the
Commitment and Devotion of
Amel's Team.



Amel thanks its partners

- Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- Action Solidarité pour le Développement Humain (ASODH)
- Ambassade de Belgique
- Ana Aqra
- Baroudeurs de l'Espoir (BDLE)
- Bibliothèque Sans Frontières (BSF)
- German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)
- European Civil protection and Humanitarian Operation (ECHO)
- Fondation CMA-CGM
- Fondation de France
- Fondation Protestante de France
- Himaya
- Kinder Not Hilfe (KNH)
- International Alert
- MMKN
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- Orienthelher e.V
- Seenaryo
- Sternstunden
- World Vision Lebanon (WVL)

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