



ACTIVITY REPORT - 2020

مؤسسة عامل الدولية
amelassociation International



ABOUT AMEL

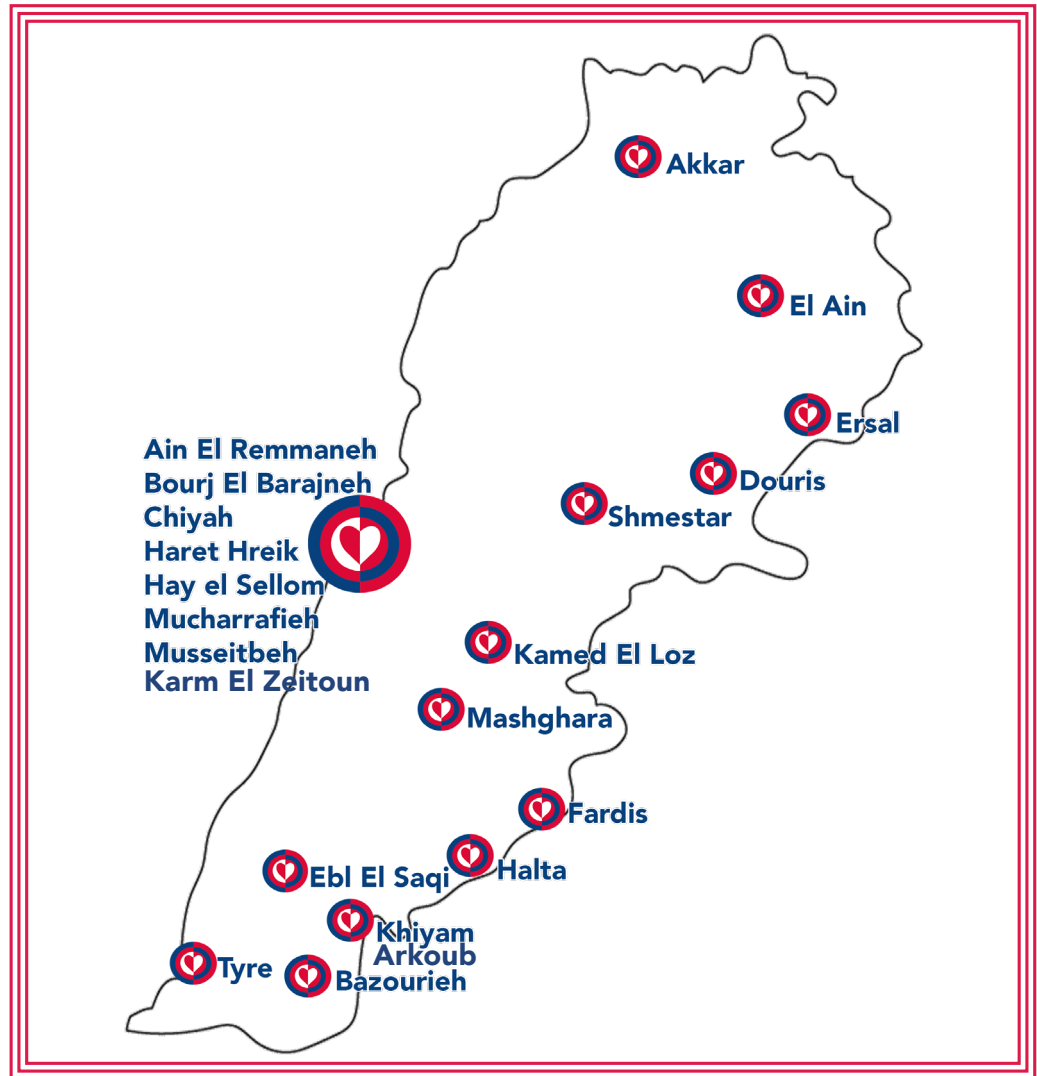
Amel Association International (Amel) is a non-governmental, non-sectarian, civil organization established in 1979 by Dr Kamel Mohanna.

Through 28 centres, 6 Mobile Medical Units, 2 Mobile Education Units, and 1 Mobile Protection Unit, Amel provides access to healthcare, education, protection, livelihood and food security, whilst implementing development and human rights programmes across Lebanon, targeting vulnerable communities regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, gender, age, political beliefs or religious affiliations.

Amel aims to uphold the rights of all those in need, as well as to promote their access to basic human rights and their involvement in public life, whilst respecting their humanity, dignity and encouraging solidarity.

This vision is a unique catalyst for social change in the region, embedded in a culture of equality and strengthened by partnerships between all actors (i.e. national and international, governmental and non-governmental) committed to ensure sustainable change.

Amel's community centres are located across Lebanon, in the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach areas, namely in Beirut and Mount Lebanon, Bekaa and South Lebanon regions.



COVID-19 RESPONSE

2020 has been an exceptional year for Lebanon and especially for its health sector. The year began with the World Health Organisation declaring a health emergency due to a new viral disease that took over the whole world. Through this pandemic, Amel's health facilities and medical mobile units continued providing services to the most vulnerable populations.

The response to COVID was multilayered, including training the healthcare centers on infection prevention and control measures, providing the needed PPEs for the staff to ensure their safety and the safety of the patients, supporting the contact tracing activities at MoPH by strengthening the peripherals with human resources, in addition to establishing isolation rooms in the centers and screening as per the case definition for symptomatic patients and launching the call center of the national hotline at MoPH and staffing it with 45 registered nurses.

Amel has also established the rapid response teams in the catchment areas of its centers in BML, Bekaa, and Beirut to respond to the increased number of cases providing them with home-based care guidance and medical follow-up.

Due to its extensive experience in informal settlements where Syrian refugees live, Amel was the first organisation to conduct PCR tests and examinations in these camps across Lebanon. This Covid testing campaign began in Ersal with the cooperation of our partners the Fondation Merieux and the Rodolphe Merieux laboratories based in the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université St Joseph and under the supervision of the Ministry of Health.

Amel and its partners conducted over 5,200 PCR tests in these fragile communities in the early days of the pandemic, showing its ability to react to this crisis.



FOOD SECURITY

In response to the economic and social crisis that struck Lebanon in parallel with the outbreak of the Corona pandemic, Amel's Food Security Program, distributed food rations and hot meals in many marginalized regions, especially after the August 4 explosion.

The food response plan included strengthening the sustainable agriculture project, with the aim of enabling marginalized people to secure their basic needs and achieve self-sufficiency, in parallel with training women in manual production and professional skills to help them launch small businesses in cooperation with Buzuruna Juzuruna



HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

In Lebanon, domestic work is not included under the labor law, thus violations of human rights of migrant domestic workers (MDWs) are recorded on a daily basis in the absence of legal protection and control.

In this context, as a response to the suppressed rights of these vulnerable migrant workers, Amel established the program for "The support of Migrant Domestic Workers and Victims of Human Trafficking" in 2011 to alleviate exploitation, discrimination, violence and trafficking in order to empower this marginalized category of women.

More recently, Amel started targeting all the migrant workers, men and women, without discrimination since due to the economic situation and the global pandemic their vulnerabilities increased exponentially leaving all of them at risk.

Amel's efforts to enhance the social and labour rights of migrant workers are conducted through advocacy, coordination, empowerment, awareness raising, group therapy, research, repatriation and provision of social, health and legal services. The program has so far succeeded to support thousands of beneficiaries from Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and others in collaboration with a number of key local and international partners.

Activities of this program are conducted in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, Bekaa, and South Lebanon, as well as on an international level in coordination with other Arab, Asian and European countries.



SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS

This project targets vulnerable migrant workers from different nationalities in Lebanon in partnership with Humedica, it provides support in the form of food parcels (400), hygiene kits (200), cash for rent (120) and voluntary return tickets (40) with the mandatory PCR test (54).

COVID19- & the Economic Crisis

Moreover, in partnership with OCHA, Amel is targeting:

- 600 at-risk migrants for protection and health needs including food baskets, non-food items, cash for rent/emergency shelter, and health services including Covid19.
- 150 at-risk migrants will be provided with tailored legal support and voluntary return assistance.

BeirutBlast response.

Also, a project funded by HUMEDICA is targeting people from all nationalities that have been affected by the Beirut Blast by:

- Distributing 500 hygiene kits (including 2500 high-quality face masks).
- Distributing Diapers and 700 mattresses for both elderly and children.



AMEL SPORTS LEAGUE

Amel Sports League was established in 2018 with the goal of providing valuable life skills to vulnerable youths in Beirut while enjoying sports.

It all started in Amel's Hay el Sellom center and included around 90 at-risk children divided into teams for a 3 months season which included weekly team practices, life skills and health sessions after each practice.

As the pandemic halted all sports activities around the world, it also affected the sports program, thus all activities moved online, focusing on the mental wellbeing of the children.



MENNA SHOP

"MENNA" shop is one of Amel's initiatives aiming to support marginalized women from both host and refugee communities.

The shop provides vulnerable women with increased and sustained access to the market and consequently, improves their livelihood opportunities in Lebanon; while Amel also continues to conduct women empowerment activities through cooking, catering, training, and service provision.

In the year 2020, and by relying on remote learning techniques and technology, hundreds of women were trained in various fields such as making accessories, knitting and making masks for preventing the Coronavirus pandemic.



AMEL HOUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Amel House of Human Rights (AHHR) was established in 2011, aiming at developing advanced annual education programs in addition to systematic training on human rights and International Humanitarian Law in Lebanon and the Arab world, in collaboration with La Sagesse University.

AHHR organizes a yearly summer school focusing on the "law of armed conflict", gathering around 70 participants from all over the world. Moreover, AHHR regularly implements Video Advocacy Action Training, which provides youth with technical skills to promote their rights. Other trainings include a course on Palestinians' rights.



BEIRUT BLAST RESPONSE

The tragic explosion in Beirut, on August 4th, has revealed the importance of human solidarity. Amel Association, which was at the center of this response, dedicated all its capabilities to support the affected areas.

800 workers, 6 mobile clinics, a protection unit for street children, and 25 developmental centers, all focused their efforts on serving the people most affected by the blast. Amel mobile clinics were continuously present on the ground in the area of Karantina to provide basic medicines, wound dressings, and medical consultations. They worked in parallel with the PSS team to support traumatized children, the food security team to provide food parcels and meals, and distributed personal hygiene kits, among other basic necessity goods.

Amel centers in the Bekaa, South, and Mount Lebanon started collecting donations for the affected populations, while the central Administration launched a global solidarity call to help Beirut, to which people and organizations responded and provided Beirut with in-kind medical and non-medical donations and monetary contributions.



MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is a particularly important component of the overall health of individuals and societies. Therefore Amel continues to integrate mental health interventions into all its programs, in addition to securing permanent psychological and social consultants in its 26 centers, medical and educational units, accessible for Lebanese, refugees. As part of the response plan to the outbreak of Covid 19, Amel strengthened the mental health program, which is being implemented in several centers in preparation for its subsequent implementation in other centers, in cooperation with the German Foreign Ministry GFFO, Medico, and MDM.

The main objective of the program is to provide access to mental health professionals and appropriate treatment for patients, and to reduce the stigma that accompanies mental health issue and community awareness. Spreading attention and accessibility to mental health topics among our cultures is becoming more and more efficient as mental health problems are increasing due to the country's overall situation.

The number of consultations provided during the last 4 months of the year in 2 of our centers is as the following:

1000 consultations in Ersal (between Sept and Dec)

900 consultations in Kamed El Loz (Also between Sept and Dec)



SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The project aims at eliminating gender based violence and at providing quality sexual reproductive healthcare for host communities and refugees.

In 2020, the project adopted new outreach and awareness methods due to Covid-19 outbreak.

- 25000 persons reached through online awareness
- 2600 SRH consultations
- 24780 different services including door to door awareness and midwives consultation
- 2100 adolescent reached with awareness and life skills



EDUCATION

Throughout the year of 2020, AMEL's teams have provided education, recreational and psychosocial support activities to more than 1680 children and youths. With a tailored-made approach centered on the learners' needs, the education program aims at ensuring the right to quality education for the most vulnerable populations in Beirut Mount Lebanon, Bekaa valley and South Lebanon. Thanks to a constant adaptation of the 60 education teams' members, the education program has been offering quality services with alternative and creative method to respond to COVID19 challenges.



MOBILE PROTECTION UNIT

The project aims at providing care and protection for children aged from 0-18 years old and their families through the Mobile Protection Unit.

- Social support and health care
- Life skills and referrals for the purpose of specialized psychological support
- Two teams (day and night shifts) working according to SAMUSOCIAL International standards to reach the largest number of children
- Distribution of in-kind assistance
- Reaching 450 beneficiaries in the year 2020



WOMAN EMPOWERMENT

Empowering women through economic support and strengthening social and leadership skills
In the year 2020, the program continued its tasks in line with standards for preventing Coronavirus and adopted remote education tools, by contributing to the following:

- Empowering women by supporting them in launching their small projects
- Helped 55 refugee and Lebanese women start their businesses around Lebanon
- Training and empowerment of 760 women in Ain El Remmaneh and Haret Hreik Centers for Social Development Providing psycho-social support



CHILD PROTECTION

- Setting up protection committees in local communities
- Coordinating with Municipalities and local civil society
- Parenting skills
- Creating safe spaces and psycho-social support for children

17,613 beneficiaries (children and their parents) in 2020



SOCIAL COHESION

This project aims at providing health care and protection regardless of gender, nationality, or religion, and it aims at strengthening dialogue and cohesion between the host community and the refugees, with the focus of achieving social peace and ending all forms of conflict.

- 5589 medical consultations in 2020
- 67 % Women



NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In 2020, the project has focused on Covid-19 preventions, screening and awareness, in addition to provide access to medical care and medications for chronic disease patients.

- 1452 NCD patients managed in clinics
- 2700 beneficiaries screened
- 500 beneficiaries participated in PSS activities and 700 received online and face to face counselling sessions
- 1400 beneficiaries screened for Covid-19
- 1400 received hygiene kits and awareness raising Covid-19 brochures



PROTECTION OF ELDERLY

The project is targeting 700 older people of all nationalities in Beirut blast affected areas.

- 500 older people have been outreach and provide with medical and nursing care through home visits, in addition to referring them to other services including mental health.
- 700 hygiene kits and other items are provided.



PRIMARY HEALTHCARE

Ensuring quality access to health care for local communities and refugees, throughout 14 centers and 6 mobile medical units. During 2020, Amel was able to provide, thanks to its partners:

- 240000 health services and consultations
- Launching of 2 new medical centers
- Training 3 rapid response teams

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Amel Association aims at empowering young people, through several projects implemented in its centers, using series of activities and targeted training in the fields of leadership skills, solidarity and volunteering.

360 youth benefited from these projects through a set of remote activities:

- Online training on dialogue and communication skills
- Providing field volunteer opportunities
- Providing remote awareness sessions on several topics



MOBILE EDUCATION UNIT

In 2020, as a result of the Covid19 outbreak, an innovative curriculum was developed and distributed, in order to adapt the educational process to the lock down measures.

- Educational and Recreational activities
- Psychosocial activities
- Awareness Campaigns
- 600 Syrian children in the Bekaa (Kamed El Loz area and its environs)
- 600 Syrian children in the South, Khiyam and Marjayoun



OUR PARTNERS

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS:

- Age International
- Ambassade de Belgique au Liban
- Ambassade de France au Liban
- AFD
- Agora Europa
- Anera
- ARCS
- ARCI
- BMZ
- BSF
- The Big Heart Foundation
- CDCS
- CESVI
- DCI-Monaco
- Diakonia
- Dorcas
- FACM
- Fondation Breteau
- Fondation de France
- Fondation Mérieux
- Fondation Protestante de France
- GFFO
- HI
- Hilton Foundation
- Humedica
- Human Dignity
- HelpAge
- ICRC
- IRC
- Institut Français du Liban
- Intersos
- International Alert
- IOM
- KNH
- Lebanon Strong Canada
- Lebanon Humanitarian Fund
- Les Enfants de la Méditerranée
- Les Baroudeurs de l'Espoir
- Médecins du Monde
- Medico
- MSF

- Orienthefner
- Samusocial International
- Second Kicks
- Stanford University
- TdH Lausanne
- NRC
- NAMAA
- OIF
- PLAN International
- PMM

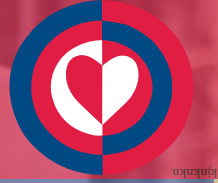
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC:

- Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- Ministry of Social Affairs
- Ministry of Public Health
- Abaad
- Ajyal Al Mostakbal School
- Al Majmoua
- Akkar Network for Development
- Arcenciel
- Aydoun
- Beit Atfal El Somoud
- Buzurna Juzurna
- Collège Protestant Français
- Contributors of the Solidarity Fund
- Culture and Science Foundation
- Himaya
- Skoun
- Youth for Development
- Lebanese NGOs Network
- Mrs Arwa and Mr Aziz Chibani
- Dr Ghada Al Yafi
- Dr Nahida Al Yafi
- Mrs Hofsa Al Azem
- Mrs Rabha Al Eidi
- Mr Rami Al Eidi
- Mrs Loubana Kabbani
- Father Pierre Lacoste and Mrs Christine Lacoste

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS, PRIVATE AND PUBLIC:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|
| •UN-DPI-NGO | •HAP | •IOM / UN |
| •UN-ECOSOC | •NEAR | •G2H2 |
| •FACM | •ICVA | |

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