

Amel Association International Restoring Dignity, Changing Lives

Activity Report

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ABOUT AMEL

Amel is a non-governmental and non-sectarian Association, 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. For more than four decades, Amel continues to work through its 32 facilities, eight mobile medical units, two mobile education units, and one protection unit in Lebanon's most marginalized areas. Led by 1500 workers and volunteers, Amel offers dignified and accessible humanitarian programs for all.

Our mission is placing human dignity at the core of humanitarian action, and fight to build a state of social justice based on citizenship, in which the fundamental rights of all are protected.

The pillars of Amel's roadmap to achieve the mission:

- All humanitarian actions should focus on development and empowerment, ultimately leading to democracy.
- Support fair causes of the people around the world, primarily focusing on the fair cause of the Palestinian people.
- Refuse the double standards of "First" versus "Third" world societies.
- Work committedly towards a fair distribution of global wealth and goods equally between all humans and societies.
- Encourage welfare systems and social justice approach among all countries.
Act on the impacts of Climate change that is threatening humanity as a whole



Human Dignity

The heart of Amel's struggle is to uphold the dignity of every single human being, as the notion of human dignity is the basic underpinning of any belief in human rights, because belief in human rights acknowledges that the human being, being a human being regardless of affiliations, has an ensemble of rights that must be preserved under any circumstances. Human beings are accorded these rights not because a society, body, or party chooses to provide them to them, but because they deserve them because of their inherent worth as people.

Dignity is protected by acknowledging human autonomy and sovereignty over oneself and choices. For that, Amel seeks to empower people through its programs until they are ready to take control of their own destiny, free of any type of dependence.

Dignity for all



Amel Impact in numbers 2023

In 2023, Amel Association International was able to provide dignified access to some fundamental rights for over 170,000 individuals across different regions of Lebanon through its diverse programs, centers, mobile clinics, and field teams.

- Right to healthcare (including mental health, mobile clinics, and services for the elderly): Benefited 136,311 individuals, with 663,645 services provided across various domains.
- Right to education: Extended to 16,592 individuals.
- Child protection: Assisted 3,319 individuals, largely children.
- Empowerment of women and combating gender-based violence: Supported 9,976 individuals.
- Youth empowerment and capacity building: Engaged with 3,700 young men and women.
- Protection and empowerment of migrant workers: Assisted 5,308 migrant workers.
- Social assistance: Provided support to 1,318 individuals.
- Social and volunteer initiatives: 226 initiatives and activities across Lebanon.





AMEL International Mouvement

Amel Association International, a global Movement including:

Amel France
Amel USA
Amel Switzerland
Amel Italy
Amel Belgium

The year 2023 marked the strengthening of collaboration between the numerous branches of the Amel Association, which are interconnected with the Amel International Movement.

Representatives of the Amel International Movement met in France, and discussed the movement's goals & achievements, as well as its plan of action for the coming years, to advocate for just causes for peoples, to confront double standards and superior discourse, and to strive to correct Humanitarian work compass, to be based on dignity and rights for the popular people, in addition to expanding the scope of the movement's activity in Africa, the Arab region and Latin America.



Emergency Response and Relief Initiatives

The earthquake that struck Syria and Turkey in February 2023 stands as one of the region's most significant emergencies. Amel acted swiftly, launching a donation campaign in Lebanon and dispatching aid trucks to Syria in collaboration with Lebanese NGOs network and the Beit Atfal Al-Samoud Association. In Lebanon, Amel completed a cholera vaccination campaign in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, alongside providing social support and relief activities for those affected by the economic

crisis and Beirut blast through its programs, centers, and mobile clinics.

At the close of 2023, Amel, alongside various organizations, initiated a relief effort titled "From Lebanon to Gaza: Bishop Hilarion Capucci's Ship", aiming to deliver humanitarian aid to the people of the Gaza Strip, who are enduring genocide, displacement, and a brutal war on civilians.



Response and solidarity with South Lebanon

In October 2023, Amel Association International initiated a comprehensive emergency plan across Lebanon, responding to the heightened crisis along the Lebanese borders due to escalating Israeli attacks. This included the displacement of approximately 80,000 individuals from villages and border regions.

The plan involved measures to enhance organizational readiness, establish new centers in Sidon and Nabatieh, and provide crucial support to Amel frontliners in Khyam, Kfarchouba, Halta, and Ferdis. Despite challenging circumstances, collaboration with

local municipalities and stakeholders ensured an integrated and effective response.

In tandem, mobile clinics intensified activities, delivering essential psychosocial health support to those arriving from southern regions at selected schools and shelter centers in Tyre and Nabatieh. Amel Association International exhibited resilience and compassion, navigating challenges to provide vital aid to those in need.



Women empowerment Program

The program is dedicated to empowering women to seize control of their own destinies, particularly through economic liberation. Hence, "Amel" executes numerous specialized projects aimed at magnifying the skills of women and girls across various domains. With a commitment to gender equality, Key interventions of the program include:

- Implementation of projects facilitating women's access to fundamental rights.
- Provision of comprehensive training to enhance the professional and cognitive capacities of women and girls.
- Leadership in national awareness campaigns aimed at shedding light on women's issues and rallying community support.
- Delivery of psychological, social, and legal support to women facing various forms of violence and discrimination.



Support to Migrants

At the heart of this program's mission is the preservation of migrants' dignity, both male and female, ensuring unfettered access to their fundamental human rights. Commencing in 2011, its primary focus is challenging the sponsorship system and addressing the vulnerabilities faced by male and female workers, particularly in domestic service settings.

Amel, recognized as an observer member of the International Organization for Migration and a leading participant in Lebanon's migrant support sector, operates on two fronts. The first involves facilitating safe and dignified access to rights for migrant women and men, while the second entails collaborating with advocacy groups to

reform policies concerning this demographic. In Lebanon, the emphasis is on fairness and adopting a humanitarian approach.

Program interventions encompass:

- Implementation of health and social projects
- Empowerment and skill development for male and female workers across various fields through the "Amel School"
- Provision of psychological support
- Legal support and protective measures
- Advocacy and awareness campaigns for equitable policies
- Coordination with countries of origin





AMEL Shop

Amel Shop, a project by Amel Association International, champions women's empowerment and community upliftment through comprehensive capacity building and livelihood training initiatives. Each meticulously crafted handmade product transcends conventional income generation, providing a sustainable livelihood for countless individuals.

Our unwavering dedication to preserving authentic craftsmanship and honoring diverse local cultures, notably the rich Palestinian heritage showcased in our exquisite embroidery line, positions Amel Shop at the vanguard of cultural preservation.

Nestled within Amel's headquarters in Beirut, every penny earned is dedicated to ensuring hundreds lead lives of dignity. At Amel Shop, we envision a world where the transformative power of beauty, authenticity, and cultural heritage not only enriches, but also saves lives.



Amel House of Human Rights

Amel House for Human Rights is a program by Amel Association International aimed at fostering a more equitable and just world. It entails various initiatives, including:

- Summer School on Humanitarian Law and Armed Conflict: Targeting law students and human rights professionals across the Arab world.
- Advocacy and Awareness Campaigns: Focused on enforcing laws and policies with a humanitarian perspective.
- Empowering Arab Youth: Equipping young individuals with the skills to champion social justice causes.



Sustainable Environment & Climate Action

The environment and climate change are central to global reform efforts. Recognizing the fundamental human right to a sustainable, clean, and safe environment, Amel prioritizes this issue, seamlessly integrating environmental components into all of its programs.



- Eco-friendly center conversions.
- Transitioning to clean energy gradually.
- Conducting awareness campaigns on local environmental issues
- Embedding environmental protection concepts into education, training, and child protection curricula.



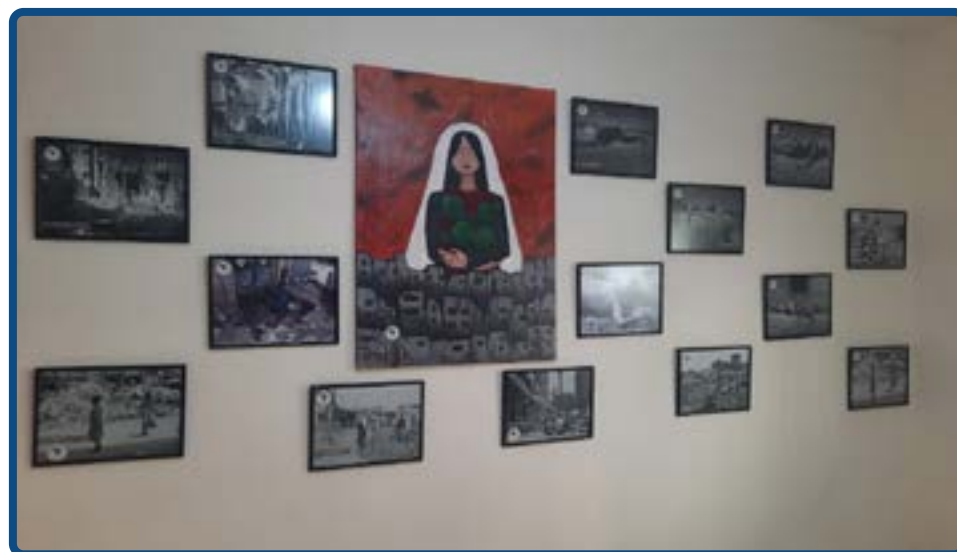
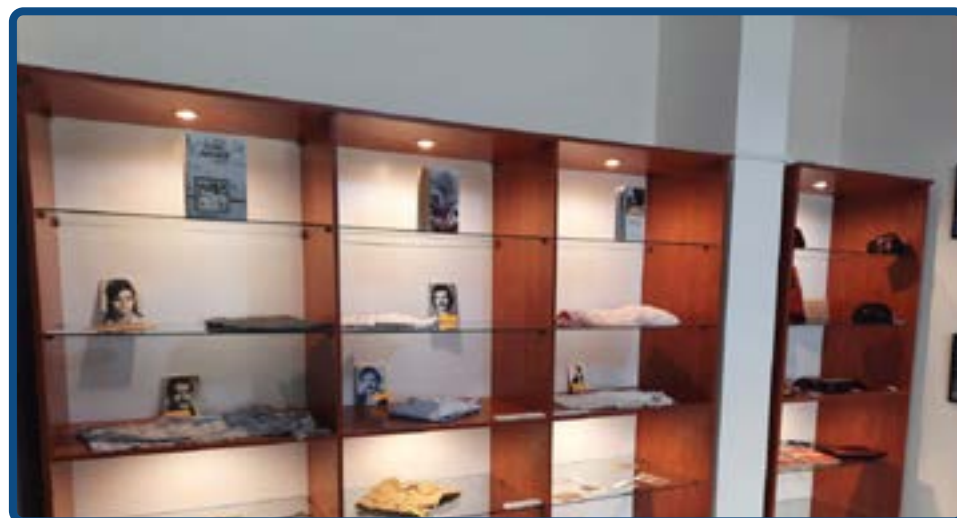
Sabra and Chatila permanent solidarity exhibition

The permanent Sabra & Shatila solidarity exhibition has been launched in September 2022 by Amel Association International, in partnership with the Palestinian NGO "Beit Atfal Assomoud" and the Italian-based Committee "Not to Forget Sabra and Shatila".

The purpose of the exhibition is to research and document the massacre and its victims, by tracing detailed trajectories of the events through the voices of the survivors and their grandchildren, collecting belongings, stories, and information that are still largely missing.

Through this initiative, Amel and its partners aim at empowering youths from the Palestinian refugee camps and the neighboring areas, by engaging them in various activities and training that are designed to enable them to find new means to seek justice for the victims of the Sabra and Shatila massacre and the Palestinian cause as a whole.

On the international level, there will be networking and cooperation with several international campaigns and organizations in Europe and around the world to initiate a permanent exhibition in memory of the Sabra and Shatila massacre.



The Right to Education program

Education, with its pedagogical and academic facets, stands as the conduit for the societal renaissance we aspire to achieve. Consequently, the education sector takes precedence within Amel, manifested through diverse approaches and projects with various communities in Lebanon. The objective is to safeguard the universal right to education, and ensure the accessibility to education for learners.

Amel's education program team is resolute in ensuring every child, young person, and adult enrolled in the Associations's projects has access to necessary educational support. This commitment extends through various projects and constructive partnerships, be it through formal or informal means, utilizing Amel's centers, mobile units, and other activities to empower and positively influence the minds of thousands.

Key interventions of the program include:

- Providing non-formal educational support for children, youth, and adults.
- Augmenting the capabilities of the formal education sector.
- Providing psychological, social, and academic support to project participants.
- Extending outreach to children and youth in remote areas and displacement camps.
- Cultivating diverse capabilities, skills, and multiple intelligences.
- Offering awareness and support to learners' families and caregivers.





The Right to Health

Embarking on Amel's inaugural program, the primary objective is to safeguard lives and deliver universal primary health care without discrimination. The guiding motto encapsulates the essence: "Building a healthy human being healthy in body and mind."

Key program activities encompass:

- Providing quality and equitable primary health care at strategically dispersed "Amel" centers throughout Lebanon.
- Mobile medical units to reach isolated villages, displacement camps, and collective shelters.
- Conducting home visits tailored for the elderly, Covid-19 patients, and individuals with disabilities.
- Launching awareness campaigns addressing various health issues.
- Advocating for the implementation of preventive and equitable health policies.



Elderly support program

The rationale for establishing the Older People Program derives from a core belief in the inherent dignity of every individual. Initiated to tackle the marginalization and difficulties experienced by older adults in Lebanon, Amel has undertaken various projects aimed at addressing these challenges. These initiatives encompass:

- Offering primary healthcare services tailored to the needs of older individuals through centers, mobile clinics, and home visits.
- Organizing psychosocial support activities and informational sessions covering a wide range of topics relevant to the older people context.
- Distributing dignity kits and providing assistive devices, with a particular focus on supporting individuals with disabilities and women among the older population.
- Launching awareness campaigns and advocacy efforts to raise understanding and address issues pertinent to older adults.
- Through these interventions, the Older People Program endeavors to uphold the dignity and well-being of older individuals while striving to integrate them more fully into society.



Protection Program

Amel Association International staunchly upholds the humanitarian principle of protection for all, irrespective of affiliations in any manifestation. A suite of projects is dedicated to delivering diverse forms of protection across society, ensuring dignified access to basic rights and addressing legal, psychological, and social dimensions.

In addition, Amel actively engages in the recalibration of policies and laws pertaining to protection, advocating for the universal right to equality.

The projects' multifaceted interventions encompass:

- Implementing comprehensive approaches to safeguard marginalized groups (children in street situations, refugees, migrants, the elderly, women, transgender people, and others).
- Executing empowerment activities tailored to support various groups in attaining their objectives.
- Orchestrating awareness and advocacy campaigns focused on protection issues.
- Dispensing legal, social, and psychological interventions along with supportive measures.
- Community capacity strengthening and engagement



OUR PARTNERS

International Agencies:

ACCESS
AFD
ASODH
Ambassade de Belgique au Liban
Ambassade de France au Liban
Anera
Ana Aqra
ARCI
BDLE
Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs
BMZ
BSF
Caritas Austria
Caritas Germany
Caritas Switzerland
CDCS
CMA-CGM
Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs
DCA
DCI-Monaco
ECHO
European Commission
Fondation de France
Fondation Mérieux
FPF
GFFO
GOAL
HelpAge
HI
Human Dignity
ICRC
Institut Français du Liban
International Alert
IRC
KNH
Lebanon Humanitarian Fund
Lebanon Strong Canada
Les Baroudeurs de l'Espoir
Les Enfants de la Méditerranée
LIFE NGO
Medico

MSF
MMKN
Malala Fund
MdM
NAMAA
NRC
Nuffic
OHCHR
OIF
Orienthefner
PLAN International
PU-AMI
Samusocial International
Second Kicks
SEM
Sternstunden
Standford University
TdH Lausanne
The Big Heart Foundation
UNDP
UNFPA
UNHCR
UNICEF
University Of Michigan
UNODC
Un Ponte Per
WDF
WFP
WHO
WVI
WZB Berlin

Local, private and public Organizations

- Abaad
- Ajjal Al Mostakbal School
- Akkar Network for Development
- Al Majmoua
- Arcenciel
- Aydoun
- Beit Atfal El Somoud
- Bouzourna Jouzourna
- Caritas Lebanon
- Collège Protestant Français
- Contributors of the Solidarity Fund
- Culture and Science Foundation
- Dr. Ghada Al Yafi
- Dr. Nahida Al Yafi
- Father Pierre Lacoste and Mrs Christine Lacoste
- Himaya
- LAU, AUB, Lebanese University, La Sagesse and USJ
- Lebanese NGOs Network
- Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Social Affairs
- Mr. Rami Al Eidi
- Mrs. Arwa and Mr Aziz Chibani
- Mrs. Hofsa Al Azem
- Mrs. Loubana Kabbani
- Mrs. Rabha Al Eidi
- Seenaryo
- Skoun
- Warde
- YCMA
- Youth for Development

International Networks:

- FACM
- CHS Alliances
- One Sustainable Health
- UN-DPI-NGO
- UN-ECOSOC
- G2H2
- ICVA
- IOM / UN
- C4C
- PHM