



## Who We Are

Socio-Economic Enhance and Development (SEED) is a non-profit and non-governmental organization based in Tripoli, North of Lebanon. SEED was founded in 2014 by a group of civil society activists from different backgrounds, each enthusiastic about activism and development. Today, SEED has six board members and total of 14 members. SEED now has two centers, one in a vulnerable camp called Hay El Tanak in Mina and another around old souks of Tripoli. We also have a professional training room that is well equipped.

The core value of SEED is to empower individuals and communities in order to create an independent and prosperous society. We give people a hand up, not a hand out. The way we do this is through projects offering education, equipping people with vocational skills, and providing information on matters such as health and legal issues. We encourage volunteering and delivery of services by the community, for the community.

SEED has two concepts: it's a volunteering based NGO – this means we rely on volunteers to carry out our work. SEED does community based activities – which means we work within the same community we target.

## What We Do

### Our Mission

SEED is dedicated to investing in Lebanese civil society development by creating a dynamic platform which unites all efforts. We encourage volunteering; foster economic and social engagement; empower individuals; and support cultural initiatives.

### Our Vision

SEED aspires to create an active civil society union in Tripoli and in Lebanon. We want to mobilize all members of society, from all backgrounds, to cooperate to create a cohesive response to the crisis we are witnessing in Lebanon.

### Our Background

SEED exists as a result of the refugee crisis, but does not work exclusively with refugees. Our cause is to support the people of Tripoli, which is under pressure following the sudden influx of refugees. With a population of almost half a million, Tripoli now hosts an estimated 150,000 Syrian refugees which translates to 1/3 of the overall population. Therefore, it is no surprise that services are stretched and resources are scarce. We aim to strengthen the local community in order to provide somewhere that all nationalities can live and work.



# Projects

## Current Projects

### Back to the Future Project

This Education project started out as a one-room library in Hay El Tanak implemented by volunteers who helped students from the local neighborhood with their homework before and after school. The project has now expanded into two centers with 4 classrooms each, one in Nejme Square and the other in the original Hay Tanak location. The project is carried out by hired teachers who have homework support classes for children who have dropped out of school. There are also class for young children to help prepare them to enter formal education. The community in Hay El Tanak consists of nearly 65% Syrian, 35% Lebanese, and less than 1% Palestinian. In Nejme square, the population is 70% Lebanese, 30% Syrians, and 5% other nationalities including Palestinians. We work with all members of the community regardless of nationality.

Our center originated as a library/homework support centers in response to the realization that many students in the neighborhood were in need of homework support. Many of the parents themselves had low levels of education, they were often illiterate, and they were for the most part unable to assist their children with their homework. Over time of running this project, we were able to observe the literacy, both in Arabic and French (most schools in Tripoli run French education programs) and numeracy levels of the students.

We found that regarding Arabic literacy, many of our students who are enrolled in formal school are very low, and some are completely illiterate. Additionally, as most schools in Tripoli teach in French, and as about 65% of the residents in the neighborhood are from Syria where lessons are given in Arabic, they have no previous knowledge of French and they are therefore completely lost in their classes. Most Lebanese students we have low levels in French, as again the parents often not highly educated and know little to no French themselves. We see that many students are memorizing lessons and are being passed through school, but they still do not have basic literacy and numeracy skills. Furthermore, we have many children in HayTanak who are not attending school at all due to either having decided to drop out of school, parents having been unable to afford to keep their children in school, or having been denied entry into local schools (applicable especially for Syrian children). When these children do not have classes available to them, we have seen that they are often forced into child labor, and without proper education and at least basic literacy and numeracy skills, these children are left with few employment options for now or the future and little chance for success in life. The duration of this project is 3 years but there is no specific plan for the entire 3 years and we are implementing each activity cycle by itself.

**To read more about the successes, challenges and future plans for Back to the Future project please visit this link:**  
<https://www.seednational.org/publications>

# Projects

## Current Projects

### **Quick Impact Skills Development for Adolescents and Youth affected by the Syrian Refugee Crisis II Project**

The idea behind this project is to offer opportunities to youth of poor areas by proposing them classes combined with vocational trainings. This project is implemented with the help of ANERA and funded by UNICEF. For this project, we have BLN Youth, Hotel Management training, and Sales and Management training.

BLN Youth: this project aims to provide basic knowledge in 5 main topics (Arabic, English, Mathematics, Health and Sport/life skills). The most important is to transmit a maximum of knowledge in a most pleasant way for the student. Given that they dropped school, SEED has to propose something entirely different than school keeping in mind that the beneficiaries have to acquire as much knowledge, if not more, than in a standard school program. It is done by proposing them to learn through different ways than in school.

The ultimate goal is to observe a progression of their level in each topic between the beginning and the end of the each cycle. SEED also has the objective of giving kids who, for some of them, left school very early, the essential of education and knowledge in order to be able to do an internship and, later on, to make it easier to find a work position.

Hotel management training: the hotel management training consists of giving intensive training in hotel management skills. In the class, theory and practice are combined to transmit comprehensive information about detailed aspects of the hotel management field. The idea is to

provide the participants with the essential knowledge in service, security and hygiene rules, food management and administration.

Sales/marketing training: the aim of the sales/marketing training is to give the participants essential knowledge about business administration, finances management, accounting and accounting records. At the end of the program, the participants should be able to be independent if they want to run their own business and, also, to be less vulnerable to potential frauds or scams.

**To read more about the successes, challenges and future plans for Quick Impact Skills Development for Adolescents and Youth Project please visit this link:**

<https://www.seednational.org/publications>



# Projects

## Current Projects

### Early Childhood Education (ECE) Project

Early Childhood Education is a 9-month project that started in July 2017 and will end in March 2018. This project targets children ages 3 to 5 years old from the local community and refugees in Tripoli. It is being implemented in one of our centers in Nejme square. We have four classes targeting 80 children. Each cycle is three months and has 200 teaching hours. Currently, our 4 classes are active and we have more than 100 children currently enrolled. The children are from surrounding areas of the center and from AbouSamra Al shock area where the nearest Syrian population is located.

Our current challenge with ECE is we have no project officer. This project requires a lot of paper work and child protection and child safety needs to be monitored and implemented closely. Alos, the teachers and teacher's assistance should receive capacity building trainings in order to help the children in the most effective way.

### Project Goal

This project is being implemented in both centers in Mina and Nejme square targeting youth ages 15+. This is a unique project offering our volunteers life skills trainings, advanced life skills trainings, and advanced TOT skills training. First, all our interested volunteers will take the initial introduction training.

Then each volunteer will be engaged in the skill they want to learn more about and then it will follow by a TOT of the same skill. If they feel confident about their knowledge for the specific skill they chose, they will transmit the knowledge to other youth by becoming mentors. This is a three-year project that started in June 2016 and targets two groups of 30 youth each month.

To read more about the successes, challenges and future plans for Early Childhood Education (ECE) Project please visit this link:

<https://www.seednational.org/publications>

# Projects

## Completed Projects

### **Strengthening Resilience and Protection Project**

The Psychosocial Support (PSS) project was a new initiative for SEED. In conjunction with War Child Holland, SEED carried out a 4-month Psychosocial Support pilot project. War Child Holland provided training support, field support, and funding for the project. The PSS project had the overall objective of providing psychosocial services to vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian families in the areas of Mina and Nejme, Tripoli. The services included working with children, youth, and parents in several programs. The programs included Positive Parenting, Structured Recreational Activities (SRA), Peace Deal sessions, and Awareness Sessions. These programs were implemented to help provide appropriate information to communities on where to seek help and access support if needed. Furthermore, the programs were available to provide knowledge and support to local children and youth for learning positive and safe ways of engaging with peers, caregivers, and their community.

SEED had a total of four facilitators, four volunteers and one project coordinator working on the PSS project. Before beginning any services the facilitators and volunteers were briefed in child protection issues and requirements. Also, they were required to attend training for each specific program they would be implementing with the children and parents.

Beneficiaries included: 180 children ages 4-9 for SRA sessions, 780 children ages 4-18 for Awareness Sessions for children, 140 caregivers for Positive Parenting, 540 caregivers for Awareness Sessions for caregivers, and 20 youth ages 14-18 for Peace Deal activities.

**To read more about the successes, challenges and future plans for the Psychosocial Support Project please visit this link:**  
<https://www.seednational.org/publications>



## Projects

### Completed Projects

#### Protection/Information Hub Project

From March 2017 until October 2017 we have created an information hub project which has served two very vulnerable areas of Tripoli: Mina and old souks. These areas are over populated by a mixed community of underprivileged refugees and locals. The main aim of this hub is to improve access to services for refugees and locals who are lacking access to services due to vulnerability, disability, lack of outreach. The community has not been receiving services, even if they are eligible, from NGOs in the area. Through outreach, we learned what the community needs and simultaneously performing ongoing mapping of services provided by NGOs, we were able to link the two. By linking those two components, we could connect the people eligible for services and the services provided by near-by NGOs together. We have targeted 1000 families and reached 909 families. We were able to refer 280 vulnerable cases and successfully impacted 67 families with direct services.



## Projects

### Future Projects

#### Cultural Engagement among the Mediterranean and European countries

As part of the ERASMUS project funded by EU, we are applying for a project that supports cultural engagement among countries in Europe and Mediterranean through inviting youth from different countries to join a training that will be implemented in Lebanon.

#### Volunteer House

We are planning to fundraise to have a house available for the volunteers who are interested in volunteering in Tripoli and are looking for a place to stay. This project will encourage people from outside the country to come and join our cause.



## Contact

**Contact Person:** Nazih Fino, Board Member.

**Tel:** +96171199950

**Email:** [mail@seednational.org](mailto:mail@seednational.org)

**Social Media:** @seednational