



ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

2018



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KEY

PRL: Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon

PRS: Palestinian Refugees from Syria

SR: Syrians

LB: Lebanese

BAS: Beit Atfal Assumoud

NISCVT: The National Institution for Social Care
and Vocational Trainings

VT: Vocational Trainings

INTRODUCTION

Since the inauguration of our institution, The National Institution for Social Care and Vocational Training main concern was the support and empowerment of the Palestinian families in the camps of Lebanon. Palestinian refugees residing in camps in Lebanon suffer hard circumstances and very unhealthy conditions, since 1947 with the first exodus from Palestine their homeland. Yet this refugee population in Lebanon was exposed during the years that followed to different massacres leading to loss of lives, and displacement and hence worse situations. During the past six years we witnessed a new kind of refugees, with new wounds, namely the Palestinian refugees from the Syrian refugee camps. Though these refugees were living in Syrian in far better conditions than those of their brothers in camps of Lebanon. The armed conflict forced them to leave their temporary stability only to take shelter in the already crowded Palestinian camps of Lebanon. Beit Atfal Assumoud didn't wait for long to lend a supporting hand, its motto had always been empowering families in various aspects, psychological, social, educational and health.

In the absence of any responsible authority to manage and fulfill the growing needs of the Palestinian communities, in such conditions, we had to come forward and cover this gap. Thus, our work expanded to encompass more and more families, and more and more services and programs, yet all within the same framework of empowerment and support of all members of these families. Today, our programs cover various aspects of life for refugee families, ranging from family social care programs, to educational and vocational training, dental health, psycho social support programs, children's cultural and sports activities, supportive school program and the youth program of reproductive health.

However, what makes all these programs successful is our great team composed of five psychiatrists and eight psychologists with high professional standard and great commitment.

MEET NISCVT

Beit Atfal Assumoud, The National Institution of Social Care and Vocational Training (NISCVT), is a non-governmental organization working with the Palestinian community in Lebanon. The establishment of the organization started out in the year 1976, and our immediate focus was the families, or rather the remaining members of families from one camp, Tal Ezzaatar, which suffered a 55-day siege followed by a massacre. Moreover, we launched an alternative home for them with a system of substitute families, in an attempt to compensate for their loss and somehow help them surpass their hard times and live as much of a normal life as possible.

NISCVT MISSION

NISCVT's services address the needs of the families through various gender-balanced projects empowering the potentials and skills of the children, youth and their parents or guardians. NISCVT's programs and services take place in NISCVT ten centers and address education, health, culture, recreational activities and vocational training in addition to social intervention, and target children, youth and their families within a comprehensive approach.

Although NISCVT's programs are primarily addressed to Palestinians, all services are open to Lebanese and other children and youth from underprivileged communities. Since 2011, NISCVT has expanded its service to include refugees from Syria, both Syrian and Palestinians.

PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF DIRECTOR WORD

When we chose the name Beit Atfal Essomoud (Home for Children of Resilience) in 1976, to embrace 200 children, who lost both parents during the 55 days' siege of Tal Ezzaatar refugee camp and the massacre that followed, we meant to symbolize the continuous resilience and resistance of Palestinian families in Palestine and in countries of refuge. Our mission toward these children was to empower them as individuals within a family framework, in an attempt to compensate for the loss of their real parents, by providing them with basic emotional security on one hand, and equipping them with knowledge, values, and skills to lead a better quality of life, on the other.



Dr. Najla N. Bashour

Our belief was and still is that a torn up family and a shaky personality cannot help develop a person who can endure hardships and work efficiently to gain back their rights, in a proper home in their own homeland, Palestine. Later on our institution expanded its work to encompass Palestinian children in all camps of Lebanon and lately refugees from Syria, (both Palestinian and Syrian). Though its difficult to provide equality of opportunity for children to develop in such difficult circumstances, yet we insist on exerting our best efforts to ensure them the ultimate equality of opportunity that we can. Our motto has always been offering the best services within the most difficult conditions. Our programs are run by highly qualified and dedicated specialists and volunteers in various fields, Palestinian, Lebanese and from the International community. This variation in itself reflects the support for Palestinian cause on one hand and appreciation of our work on the other. Without this variation and cooperation, our programs couldn't possibly succeed and continue. We hence forth express our deepest gratitude for all our friends and supporters.

GENERAL DIRECTOR MESSAGE

This year marks the 42nd anniversary of Bait Atfal Assumoud. We have had 42 years of service, sacrifice, and endless commitment. Together, we have survived a heap of difficulties and challenges, and came out stronger.

As an organization that puts humanity above all, our policies revolve around social justice and social service. Our lifeline has been our donors: all the NGOs, embassies, and individuals who step up and share our values and morals for independent service that is free from sectarian, political, and divisive thinking. We are proud to have built some partnerships of over 32 years in various countries.

We hope to continue to earn your trust with our delivery, transparency, and national commitment to the Palestinian cause.

The beating heart of the institution continues to be the passion and dedication of our staff, without whom all our work would collapse. As a team, we have all kept alive the rich heritage and the righteous cause of the Palestinian people while making possible the survival of the programs that serve some of the poorest and most underprivileged from multiple nationalities inhabiting the Palestinian Camps of Lebanon.

Forever, we are grateful to everyone who believes in peace and the justice of the Palestinian cause and the injustice of the Palestinian experience, and especially those who translate this into committed action by guiding, advising, pioneering, and sustaining programs. One of the icons of this commitment was the late Dr. Svein Staff of NORWAC, whose physical presence is dearly missed and whose soul is always present in our mental health programming. Our special gratitude and utmost respect to Dr. Svein and every one of you, who voluntarily supports this cause with their time, prayers, money, or efforts.



Mr. Kassem Aina

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED IN 2018

EDUCATIONAL	TOT
Kindergartens (7 centers)	596
Learning Support Centers (8 centers)	560
Vocational Training Program - Youth	347
Vocational Centers Scholarships	51
Non-Formal Education Classes for School Dropouts	79
Special Needs Classes - Children	30
UNICEF Project Psychosocial Activities - Children	3830
UNICEF Project Psychosocial Activities - Caregivers	1281
HEALTH	
Dental Education, Screening, and Treatment (6 clinics) - 3-6 yrs	8008
Dental Screening, and Treatment - 7-18 yrs, Mothers & Adults	3022
Mental Health (5 clinics)	1602
Reproductive Health Services	4831
Pediatric Clinic (Nahr El-Bared)	4402
Peer Education Program - Youth	3393
Peer Education Program - Caregivers	514

FAMILY HAPPINESS PROJECT	TOT
Sponsored children	1091
Sponsored elderlies	26
Sponsored children participated in psychosocial activities	2034
Sponsored caregivers participated in psychosocial activities	1028
Mothers benefited from non-formal education activities	6884
Sponsored children referred to special educational schools & institutions (MSN project)	174
Sponsored children received medical assistance from Individuals	106
CULTURAL	
Embroidery Production Project - Women	94
Scout Groups - Children	263
Sports Teams - Children	345
Dabke Groups - Children	126
Musical Bands and Choral Groups	493
Exhibitions and Theater Plays	3833
Summer Activities and Camps	3790
IN-KIND DISTRIBUTIONS	
Diesel Fuel Distributions for Families in Baalbeck Camp	1635
Food Portion and Hygiene Kits	7001
Winter Clothing and Shoes Distribution - KG and Learning Support Children	734
Educational Gifts - KG Children	596
Japanese Dream Bags - KG Children	6000

**FAMILY
HAPPINESS
PROJECT**

Family Happiness Project

THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The sponsorship program has started in the mid-seventies and is still attracting many people from different nationalities ready to sponsor a child or even an elderly. In addition to the usual program, a sponsorship for KG children was also adopted by some friends in different countries. A new initiative started to support the old members in the community. Through a generous support from the Finnish Arab Friendship Society and some friends living in USA, a number of 26 elderly were sponsored in 2018, and they are being included in diverse activities inside our centers to boost their mood and mental health condition.

1091 SPONSORED CHILDREN

563 SPONSORED FAMILIES

26 SPONSORED ELDERLY

This program is supported by: GERMANY: Fluchlingskinder in Leban- ITALY: Un Ponte Per , ULAIA ArteSud Onlus, Associazione di amicizia italo palestinese – NORWAY: Palestine Committee – FINLAND: Finnish Arab Friendship Society (FAFS) Global Social work – JAPAN: Japanese Committee for the Children of Palestine (JCCP)- USA: United Palestinian Appeal (UPA)- FRANCE: Association Franco Palestinienne Solidarite (AFPS)- BELGIUM: Action Development Parrainages Mondiaux (ASBL)- SWITZERLAND:(PaICH) PALESTINE's CHILDREN - MALAYSIA (donors who wish to remain anonymous) - BAHRAIN KINGDOM: Awal women society

SPONSORED FAMILIES

NISCVT Center	PRL	PRS	TOT
Bourj Al-Barajneh	53	11	64
Shatila	50	4	54
Mar Elias	23	–	23
Beddawi	47	4	51
Naher Al-Bared	70	7	77
Ain Al-Helweh	70	10	80
Rachidieh	54	4	58
Bourj Al-Shemali	65	11	76
El-Buss	33	2	35
Wavel	40	5	45
TOT	505	58	563

SPONSORED ELDERLIES

NISCVT Center	F	M	TOT
Bourj Al-Shemali	4	4	8
Wavel	4	3	7
Shatila	5	2	7
Bourj Al-Barajneh	1	3	4
Total	14	12	26

SPONSORED CHILDREN

NISCVT Center	PRL	PRS	TOT
Bourj Al-Barajneh	108	23	131
Shatila	113	7	120
Mar Elias	50	–	50
Beddawi	89	7	96
Naher Al-Bared	137	13	150
Ain Al-Helweh	130	16	146
Rachidieh	91	8	99
Bourj Al-Shemali	142	18	160
El-Buss	66	5	71
Wavel	60	8	68
Total	986	105	1,091



Family Happiness project

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

The social services that NISCVT offers to the community in all its centers naturally go parallel with the sponsorship project which provide diverse benefits to the families of the sponsored children tackling problems they face in addition to referrals to other psychological, medical, educational and other available services and recreational activities. Therefore, the social workers cooperate with the staffs of all projects to secure the wellbeing of the whole families.



1028 families, 2034 children followed up

throughout ten centers located at Beirut, South, North and Bekaa covering all the camps and informal gatherings of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

4000 home visits, 212 on daily basis

to follow up and assess needs of families in which GBV and extreme poverty were seen as threatening factors.

Main roles and duties of social workers:

Creating positive and trustful relationships between family members to promote positive and effective communication skills between children and parents

- Updating data through regular home and field visits

- Maintaining close educational follow ups at schools and other educational institutions for the sponsored children in order to supervise their educational performance

Building a solid relation between the children and their sponsors through annual reports and encouraging children to write letters and post cards

Participating in the implementation of Family Guidance Centers' action plans for children and families when needed as well as assessing and referring the cases supporting L'Union Pour La Protection de L'Enfance Au Liban (UPEL) social workers

Following up with academic interns coming from the Lebanese universities and from abroad and overseeing their duties inside the centers

Motivating children to participate in the different recreational activities

Facilitating their field intervention or for reporting system, in addition to accompanying minors to palace justice in cooperation with UPEL staff

Raising awareness among beneficiaries and their families (mothers, parents, peers)

Family Happiness Project

CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT FOR SOCIAL WORKERS

The social work department is currently finalizing the implementation of phase three - capacity building project entitled: Potential for Human Development (PHD phase 3).

Moreover, we are aiming to promote competent and professional social workers who will be able to tackle various forms of abuse and violence and guide the caregivers towards safety, security and social/emotional well-being of the family members. This project is funded by Taawon organization and covered the phases:

- 1) Feb 2016 until Feb 2017-
- 2) March 2017 until Feb 2018
- 3) Sep 2018 until Sep 2019.



60 sessions put in place between 2016 and 2018

TOPICS:

Mental disorders symptoms; Interventional skills with adolescents; Crisis intervention; Documentation in social work; PRA (rapid assessment); Early marriage; Social intervention methods with individuals and families; Social intervention methods with groups; Social intervention methods with communities (Palestinian communities); Child protection and SOP; Schooling failure - intervention with special cases; Intervention with hardship cases - PSS; Gender based violence intervention; Case management process

Family Happiness Project

MOTHERS AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

NISCVT devoted staff members strive each day to develop a positive relation based on respect and cooperation with the mothers and caregivers. In order to achieve excellent results with the children and youth, establishing a strong bond with the family is crucial because we believe that caregivers are the vital part of the equation. When being guided children and youth will receive the same consistent messages and feel supported and encouraged in their pursuits. Therefore, NISCVT organizes several educational activities for the caregivers aiming at empowering their parental

skills and increasing their general knowledge regarding challenging and important topics which relate to education, protection and health. Moreover, they take part in our cultural and recreational activities to build a solid the relation with them and help them feel part in our mission.



4620 Happiness Project mothers and **6884** Kindergarten and Learning Support children' mothers took part in cultural & national events and awareness sessions

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

KINDERGARTENS

The National Institution of Social Care and Vocational Training, Beit Atfal Assumoud has seven kindergartens in the different camps. We have been offering preschool classrooms to the Palestinian communities living in the Lebanese camps and gatherings since 1985 because we believe that early childhood education is an important period of life. It is when children acquire knowledge while experiencing, observing, and participating with their peers in daily activities within their environment. It is also when the children acquire lifelong attitudes toward themselves, others, and learning.



596 Children enrolled in 7 Kindergartens

Beit Atfal Assumoud motto is that children need to grow and develop in a safe environment in which learning through play is essential. It's not "Just Play", Play is an essential part of early learning. It is the lifeblood of the learning process. As children play, they develop the cognitive, socio-emotional and physical skills they need to acquire for a successful adulthood. They also develop their curiosity, problem solving, flexibility, and verbal and non-verbal skills. We value the acquisition process of important attitudes such as being independent, cooperative, negotiator, confident learners and we ensure that our children are practicing them in everyday life situation.

During the summer, Beit Atfal Assumoud teachers undertook a series of training sessions to empower their skills and work on reframing the content of the curriculum while incorporating UNRWA's standards. We offer the children range of experiences in areas such as literacy, mathematics, science and languages while taking into consideration the different learning styles of each individual. Children and the teachers share experiences in and out of the classrooms, and we trust that children learn best when given the chance to explore their direct environment and work on hands on experiences.



Our curriculum tends to be more flexible on how and what material is taught when compared with other kindergartens inside the camp. We value children's creativity, interest, and individuality away from following strict guidelines. In addition, we often come up with different ways of introducing new concepts as well as various forms of knowledge. When implementing our curriculum, teachers organize structured activities so that our preschoolers are actively involved and have the opportunity to plan and direct their learning journey with the teacher's support and guidance. While our children are involved in the learning process, we feel committed to passing our culture and values to them and engraving significant cultural and national events in their mind since we reckon that it is our main goal to pass the history of Palestine to the new generation.

LEARNING SUPPORT CLASSES

NISCVT believes that educating Palestinian children is the only way to prepare them to embark on a brighter future and empower them with important skills which will enable them to face life challenges. We pursue this goal through focusing on providing early elementary years classes in eight camps which aim at supporting the children with their homework and ensuring that the intended learning skills are being mastered. Our classes welcome PRL, PRS and Syrian children and teachers assist them during the afternoon and encourage them to become independent learners and improve their learning experiences.

560 children enrolled in the 8 learning support centers

The learning support children take part in different kinds of activities inside the centers. It is important to offer them the chance to empower their social skills and learn about Palestine because UNRWA's schools are prohibited to teach about important National Occasions and unfortunately the new generations aren't being exposed to Palestine's geography and its main historical turning point events.

Therefore, the children participate in recreational activities on a weekly basis which target civic education improvement and at the same time, they allowed them to mingle in fun and educational activities.

Learning support teachers visit UNRWA schools on a regular basis to check on each child's educational results in addition to behavioral problems that they might face with their peers or even with the teachers. We also step in and guide them on how to solve their challenges independently and help them acquire problem solving techniques which will keep them away from violence. In case a child faces some learning difficulties, we directly cooperate with UNRWA teachers and the parents on ways to help him/her overcome them and we even advise the parents to visit our Family Guidance Centers for further guidance and support. Through FGC's, the child and his/her caregivers will be followed up by specialists who will collaborate with the learning support teachers on methods of assistance to control potential learning difficulties and achieve better results.



Our Learning Support classes support a large number of children who are from different nationalities

The number of classrooms that BAS launch in the different centers differ due to the availability of rooms. We strive to offer them the necessary support since we believe that education is their only weapon. As in Bourj Al-Barajneh and Beddawi centers, we felt responsible to open Syrian learning support classes since many were not enrolled at schools for months and even years and we had to empower them with the required skills to avoid school dropout among the children.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

NISCVT's technical and vocational education provides practical training sessions to young Palestinian refugees living in four different locations: Al-Rachidieh – Bourj Al-Shemali – Naher-Al-Bared - Beddawi. It offers them the relevant skills and expertise which help them find a suitable job in the market and improves their economic situation.

347 youths benefited from the VT program in 4 camps

The organization offers a range of courses which are required in our community and are also accessible in terms of employment for Palestinian refugees. Moreover, a variety of specializations at different levels are covered, such as mechanics, plumbing, electrical installations, mobile maintenance, hair dressing as well as new professions that are demanded in the work force such as solar energy, video editing, nursing and other vocations.

These courses are organized in response to local needs. Most of the trainees succeed in securing employment thus provide support to their Palestinian families.

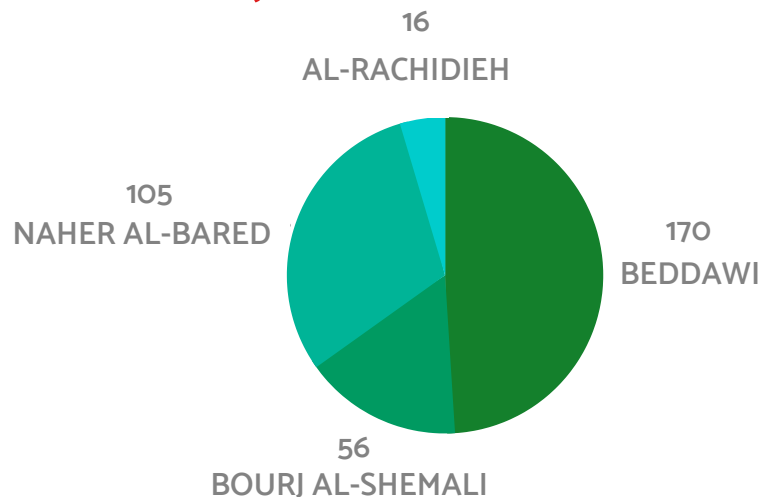


A total of 347 youths/beneficiaries were registered in the year 2018 and they attended a variety of VT courses in our different centers. Additionally, they received an official certification that would allow them to find a job in the market place and support their families.

A total of 51 youths enrolled in VT courses at private VT centers in 2018 due to the fact that NISCVT is not well- equipped in offering the courses such as nursing, preschool education, accounting and several other courses. NISCVT offers scholarships to the students in order to assist them in the private VT program enrollment process. Moreover, this procedure helps produce positive effects on their self-worth and adds a meaningful purpose to their lives. furthermore, 60% of the youths who graduate from the various VT courses were able to find jobs in the market place and improved the financial situation of their families.

51 youths enrolled in courses at private VT centers 60% were able to find jobs

Even though the youths are extremely benefiting from the vocational courses which are contributing to social stability and as well as a noticeable decrease in unemployment within the Palestinian community, NISCVT is still facing challenges in offering the above mentioned courses due to a budget constraint.



CLASSES FOR DROP-OUT CHILDREN

Due to the enormous amount of children in UNRWA's classrooms, many who are still in the elementary years end up slipping out the crack and dropping out of school and these children are at high risk of being abused and exploited. We find ourselves responsible to offer classes to those vulnerable and unprivileged children since their education is the only safe ground to set upon and ensure a brighter and healthier future. As shown in the above table, 79 children (PRL, PRS and even Syrians), had the chance to enroll in our drop-out classes and were able to acquire basic learning skills.

**79 drop-out children enrolled in
non-formal education classes in 6 camps**

CLASSES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

NISCVT believes that special education is vital because all children should have equal access to education. Moreover, our Special need classes are designed to meet the unique requirements of the children with disabilities who are not able to gain knowledge in UNRWA's regular classroom set-ups. These courses are organized in response to local needs and most trainees succeed in securing employment, which also leads to providing support to their Palestinian families.

30 children benefited from special needs classes in 3 camps

DETAILED CHARTS

CHILDREN'S ENROLLMENT IN OUR KINDERGARTENS

KINDERGARTEN	NATIONALITIES				GENDER		TOT
	PRL	PRS	SR	LB	FEMALE	MALE	
Shatila	64	3	10	4	41	40	81
Bourj Al-Barajneh	39	5	28	28	31	41	72
Ain Al-Helweh	94	3	8	8	64	41	105
Bourj Al-Shemali	87	9	-	2	54	44	98
Al-Rachidieh	67	14	-	-	38	43	81
Beddawi	37	2	32	7	48	30	78
Naher Al-Bared	74	4	80	1	32	49	81
Total	462	40	80	14	308	288	596
	77%	3%	7%	3%	52%	48%	



CHILDREN'S ENROLLMENT IN OUR LEARNING SUPPORT CLASSES

KINDERGARTEN	NATIONALITIES				GENDER		TOT
	PRL	PRS	SR	LB	FEMALE	MALE	
Shatila	42	9	-	-	65	57	51
Bourj Al-Barajneh	-	-	122	-	23	28	122
Ain Al-Helweh	21	27	-	-	28	24	48
Bourj Al-Shemali	24	28	-	-	33	27	52
Al-Rachidieh	45	28	-	-	17	31	73
Beddawi	36	3	26	2	38	29	67
Naher Al-Bared	51	3	-	-	24	30	54
Wavel	49	57	-	-	57	60	106
Total	268	142	148	2	274	286	560
	48%	25%	26%	1%	49%	51%	

CHILDREN'S ENROLLMENT IN OUR DROP OUT CLASSES

KINDERGARTEN	GENDER		TOT
	FEMALE	MALE	
Shatila	12	-	12
Bourj Al-Barajneh	6	6	12
Ain Al-Helweh	12	-	12
Wavel	11	-	11
Rachidieh	11	-	11
Beddawi	11	10	21
Total	63	16	79
	80%	20%	



CHILDREN'S ENROLLMENT IN OUR SPECIAL NEEDS CLASSES

KINDERGARTEN	GENDER		TOT
	FEMALE	MALE	
Bourj Al-Barajneh	17	-	-
Ain Al-Helweh	13	-	-
Total	30	-	30

PSYCHOSOCIAL PROJECT

The Psycho-social project has been funded by UNICEF and managed by MAP since 2014, it aims at supporting children and their caregivers who fled the Syrian conflict and took refuge in the various Palestinian camps and gatherings. Furthermore, Its main objective is to offer provision to children and their parents on psychological, social and mental levels, through planned and structured activities.



3830 children and 1280 parents joined psychosocial activities

The project also provides children with healthy meals, and distribution of in-kind assistance to the families. The activities are implemented through art, music and games that help enrich the children's skills and capabilities in addition to integrating refugee children within the new communities. Our staff works closely with the parents who are part of the program to increase their knowledge and awareness on different issues related to the protection of children from abuse, domestic violence, gender issues, adolescent problems, and stress management.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATED IN PSYCHO SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

KINDERGARTEN	NATIONALITIES				GENDER		
	PRL	PRS	SR	LB	FEMALE	MALE	TOT
Al-Rachidieh	1261	112	48	2	702	721	1423
Naher Al-Bared	1426	103	9	7	726	820	1546
Al Buss	211	18	59	1	144	145	289
Al-Rachidieh	512	35	9	14	299	273	572
UNRWA Clinic							
Total	3410	268	125	24	1871	1959	3830
	89%	7%	3%	1%	49%	51%	



CAREGIVERS PARTICIPATED IN PSYCHOSOCIAL ACTIVITIES

KINDERGARTEN	NATIONALITIES				GENDER		
	PRL	PRS	SR	LB	FEMALE	MALE	TOT
Al-Rachidieh	539	35	17	3	558	36	594
Naher Al-Bared	402	34	0	4	407	33	440
Al Buss	34	6	12	4	56	0	56
Al-Rachidieh	170	13	4	4	184	7	191
UNRWA Clinic							
Total	1145	88	33	15	1205	76	1281
	89%	7%	3%	1%	94%	6%	

HEALTH SERVICES

DENTAL HEALTH

The “silent epidemic” of oral diseases is affecting the most vulnerable of our communities—poor children, the elderly, and many members of racial and ethnic minority groups. Oral health not only has an effect on teeth and gums, they can also have an effect on general physical health and mental well-being. Furthermore, oral health care and awareness is optimal when integrated into one’s lifestyle and daily practices. Ensuring positive dental experiences at an early age is essential, as it provides an important foundation for better oral and general health.



Children with good oral health tend to be more confident, perform better in school, and have better overall social and emotional well being. Like any other chronic issue, dental problems lead to prolonged pain and suffering, despite them being largely preventable. Unsurprisingly, minorities and socioeconomically disadvantaged children have higher rates of dental problems, particularly advanced tooth decay. Consequently, this makes preventive and intervention dental services crucial for health among those groups. Moreover, the dental program at BAS aims to assist by providing those services to residents of the Palestinian Camps in Lebanon. In addition to treatment, BAS dentists, hygienists, and kindergarten teachers provide the community with safe and effective disease prevention practices that everyone can adopt into their lifestyles.

DENTAL HEALTH - KINDERGARTEN

8008 children aged 3-6 years enrolled in 64 kindergartens benefited from dental health activities and services

	FEMALE	MALE	TOT
Beirut (3 camps)	1436	1401	2837
South (3 camps)	1354	1359	2713
North (2 camps)	1298	1160	2458
	4088	3920	8008

Education

The dental health education program aims to foster good oral health habits at an early age by using entertaining and engaging activities. NISCVT also believe that emergency preparedness is important in dental health as well as other fields. Fostering first aid education in kindergarten can help children understand what to expect and how to act in the case of dental/oral injury. The program offers an introduction to first aid measures as well as first-aid services.

Milk Nutrition Program

Encouraging good eating habits is very important for the developing preschool child. Balanced meals with sugar free milk is offered regularly along with yogurt as well as other dairy products.



Screening

Children spend more wakeful time at school than they do at home and thus schools can support building healthy lifelong habits and offer a medium for data collection.

Healthier teeth lead to a happier child. Strong and healthy teeth support better growth as they facilitate painless chewing, clear speech, and a more beautiful smile. At BAS, screenings are conducted in 64 kindergartens in the 8 camps and follow-up referrals are made as indicated.

Dental Screening Results in the 8 Camps

	Treated Teeth	Untreated Teeth	Extractions needed
Beirut (3 camps)	3997	3220	252
South (3 camps)	1729	4268	321
North (2 camps)	2819	1607	481
	8545	9095	1054

Treatment

Healthier teeth make for a happier child. Strong and healthy teeth support better growth as they facilitate painless chewing, clear speech, and a more beautiful smile. Treatment to ensure dental health is provided as shown in the figure below.

Type and Frequency of Dental Services

Extractions	715
Crown	5
Composites	2715
Sealant	711
X-ray	281
Floride	8167
R.C.T.	519
Cement	849
Periodontics	412
Diagnostic	8008
Plaque & Calculus	211



DENTAL HEALTH - LEARNING SUPPORT CLASSES AND FAMILY HAPPINESS PROGRAM

1421 children aged 7-18 years benefited from dental health activities and services

Education

Reminders on good dental and oral health are repeatedly offered to all sponsored children in all camps, particularly through hands-on workshops

Treatment

Extractions	411
Crown	21
Composites	1611
Sealant	417
X-ray	619
Fluoride	811
R.C.T.	519
Cement	481
Periodontics	51
Diagnostic	1421
Plaque & Calculus	82



DENTAL HEALTH

MOTHERS

Mothers are generally the primary caregivers in the camps, and thus have the daunting task of ensuring their children follow proper oral practices on a daily basis. Moreover, well-informed women who practice good oral hygiene on their own happen to be better role models for the children. For that reason, mothers are also involved in the dental education program, and have access to free dental services and health education.

Treatment

Extractions	143
Fixed Prosthesis	182
Composites	2681
R.C.T.	256
Cement	81
X-ray	292
Diagnostic	711
Periodontics	83

Example 2 - Anterior Teeth Scaling
(4-year-old)



ADULT CAMP RESIDENTS

Two of BAS dental clinics are open to the camp residents in the afternoon, for a nominal fee.

Treatment

Extractions	411
Fixed Prosthesis	152
Composites	612
R.C.T.	212
Cement	421
X-ray	267
Diagnostic	890
Periodontics	182

DENTAL HEALTH - TRAINING FOR DOCTORS AND NURSES

In order to continue providing quality service, the dental team must stay up-to-date with developments in dentistry and related fields. Moreover, nurses and dentists at BAS clinics periodically attend conferences and receive training to ensure competency. In 2018, the team received trainings as follows:



Trainings:

- 1- Cross-infection control (CIC) training sessions consisting of several modules, conducted by CIC coordinator, to dental nurses on March 22, 2018;
- 2- CIC training for dentists, given by Italian dentists from Cooperazione Odontoiatrica Internazionale(COI), and monitoring of the implementation of the CIC protocol on October 1 & 2, 2018;
- 3- One day training by the Palestinian Dental Group in Tripoli on April 22, 2018

Conferences:

- 1- Beirut international Dental Meeting on July 5, 2018
- 2- Lebanese Dental Conference on October 4-6, 2018
- 3- Eleventh Mental Health BAS Conference, Beirut on October 30, 2018
- 4- Beirut Suburb Conference on November 16, 2018

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROJECT

Reproductive and sexual education is a community based project which is required during crisis as well as during periods of peace. Moreover, it was a quite challenging project due to the prevailing conservative community and the sensitivity of the diverse topics the program entails. It was launched in 2006, and carrying such a title it represented a real challenge to our organization in approaching a conservative community with such sensitive issues. However, the challenge was accepted and the project was implemented and still runs with success and satisfaction expressed by the beneficiaries and the donors.



The Reproductive Health Project was chosen among the best projects funded by EU in Lebanon. Through the past seven years, donors changed starting by the European Commission, the Italian cooperation, the Spanish cooperation, Medical Aid for Palestinians, and the embassies of Finland and Norway. The list of partners included are the Italian NGO Research & Cooperation, Lebanese Family planning Association and the Spanish NGO Catalana for Peace. The five reproductive health clinics funded by the Norwegian Embassy is one of the most vital services provided to the community. The increase in the number of patients in 2018 is 1114 patients in addition to the increase in the number of beneficiaries who were receiving ECHO as well as participating in the awareness sessions.

Furthermore, the project has completed its twelfth year in providing professional services to the local Palestinian community in five camps, in addition to benefiting the Palestinians from Syria PRS and a considerable number of Syrians and other nationalities, mainly poor people living around the camps.

The professionals at the clinics examine each patient and provide the required medication/treatment. Moreover, we offer ultra sound, pap smear, urine tests, contraceptives, lab referrals for more specialized tests, private counseling and upon need referrals to the family guidance center for psychological assistance.

The total number of patients who benefited from both urinary and gynecology clinics in 2018 was 4,831 patients.

Each patient has a special record with detailed information regarding his/her case; those records are kept in a safe and/or confidential place in the clinic. ECHO lab tests and Pap smear will also be provided given any need. All services are provided free of charge for all patients.

Counseling is available either privately or with both couples upon request in order to discuss family planning methods in regards to the different kinds of contraceptives and as well as providing guidance on personal problems. Moreover, counseling also tackles reproductive health-based subjects such as antenatal care, importance of breastfeeding, sexually transmitted diseases, breast and cervical cancer prevention and several other topics. NISCVT believes that home visits are of great importance since they allow us to approach a group of women and discuss reproductive health topics aiming at empowering their general knowledge, thus the ability to pass the acquired information to neighbors, family members or even friends. Awareness is the greatest agent for change.

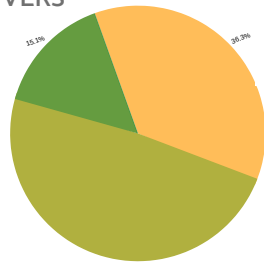
PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The peer education program is designed to empower the potentials of young males and females as well as preparing them to become peer leaders who carry knowledge to their counterparts. Since the early 1980's and the advent of HIV/AIDS, peer education became a popular and credible tool to disseminate information from youth to youth, based on the facts that peers' influence on young people is highly significant. Moreover, they are capable of influencing groups who are difficult to reach, in addition to showcasing their abilities in using creative methods when sharing information.

272 awareness sessions implemented inside 7 camps

The project emphasizes on working with the caregivers to ensure that both the youth and their caregivers are benefiting from the sessions. Luckily, we noticed that they acquired knowledge and became much more positive and willing to control their daily lives' stressful situations. Furthermore, more than five hundred mothers took part in the active learning awareness sessions in which games, role playing, and many practical activities were organized.

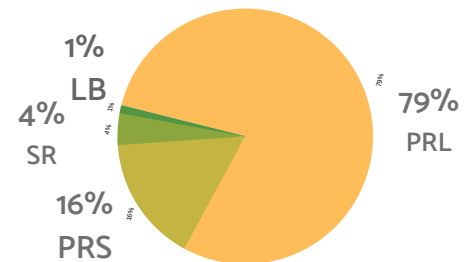
514
CAREGIVERS



1231
BOYS



1648
GIRLS



TRAINING SESSIONS OF PEER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Concerning the target group, the primary focus area was on the youth. However, due to actual needs in the various camps, it went on to include all the adults from both genders. Despite further changes, the needs intensified with the influx of Palestinian refugees from Syria, who also became part of our target groups. Furthermore, the PRS not only benefited from this specific project, they also benefited from all the services provided by the organization.



CAMP	Topic	F	M	TOT
Mar Elias	Conflict resolution	6	3	9
	Family relation	8	8	16
	Stress management	6	14	20
	Life skills	6	3	9
	Life skills	12	4	16
Beddawi	Conflict resolution	14	10	24
	Family relation	12	7	19
	Stress management	12	7	19
Burj Al-Shemali	Conflict resolution	15	8	23
	Family relation	20	6	26
	Stress management	11	6	17
Rashidieh	Stress management	17	6	23
Total		139	82	221

63% 37%

NAHER AL-BARED PEDIATRIC CLINIC

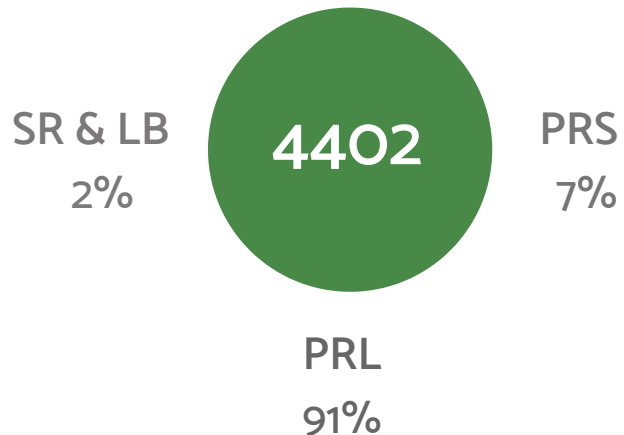
The Pediatric clinic in Naher El-Bared offers quality support for the Palestinian refugees and all the vulnerable people living in the camp and its surroundings, since the children receive medical assistance free of charge.



ATTENDANCES

MONTH	GENDER		TOT
	M	F	
January	269	235	504
February	191	209	400
March	252	196	448
April	178	177	355
May	90	60	150
June	141	121	262
July	226	153	379
August	203	167	370
September	181	151	332
October	324	279	603
November	198	165	363
December	129	107	236
Total	2382	2020	4402
	54%	46%	

NATIONALITIES



AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR MOTHERS

Naher Al-Bared center organizes regular workshops for the mothers in order to provide them with basic knowledge regarding their children's well-being as well as offering proper guidance incentives. He also listens to their problems/suffering and tries to advise them on methods appertaining to child rearing. Furthermore, free samples of medications are also distributed to the caregivers, which helps in reducing their financial burdens. Other support incentives include building a solid relationship based on trust, respect and cooperation regarding child rearing as well as ensuring the well-being of the children.

6 sessions and 152 mothers beneficiaries



Date	Sessions	Beneficiaries
Jan 9th,	Nutrition for Children	36
Feb 10th,	Gastrointestinal infection	26
March 9th,	Anemia	18
March 14th	Anemia + Thalassemia + Iron Deficiency	27
June 27th	Gastroenteritis in Children	25
Aug 8th	Skin Diseases of children	20

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health problems affect 10–20% of children and adolescents worldwide. Unfortunately, the mental health needs of children and adolescents are neglected in our community and NISCVT reckon that action is imperative in order to reduce the problems for future generations and to encourage the full development of vulnerable children and adolescents. One of the major achievements during 2018 was when the MoU was signed with the Ministry of Public Health. Additionally, this gives our mental health program more credibility on a national level, thus an increased investment in the community is better developed. Furthermore, around 50 experts and social workers are team members of the mental health program and each clinic is run by a multidisciplinary team that provide services & treatments relating to: psychiatry, psychotherapy, guidance & counseling, evaluation and assessments, speech therapy, psychomotor therapy, special education and occupational therapy.



These services and treatments are complemented by social interventions, raising awareness activities, home visits and home stations in order to maintain a holistic approach. However, one of NISCVT's challenges are the waiting lists which tend to exist in the several FGC centers due to the high demands. Furthermore, We are hoping that more support from local and international organizations would be able to increase our services thus supporting a higher amount of children. Luckily, a number of children with special needs are offered the possibility to be referred to special schools and institutions through a specific sponsorship related to schooling as well as a medical assistance program.

NUMBER OF NEW PATIENTS IN THE FIVE CLINICS

	Beirut	El Buss	Saida	Beddawi	Naher Al-Bared	TOTAL
New patients in 2018	267	97	112	241	107	824
Beneficiaries in all disciplines	348	90	52	217	71	778
Total number of beneficiaries	615	187	164	458	178	1,602

INTERNAL REFERRALS TO THE VARIOUS DISCIPLINES

	Beirut	El Buss	Saida	Beddawi	Naher Al-Bared	TOT
Psychotherapy	50	57	19	85	11	222
Speech Therapy	143	38	56	53	16	306
Psychomotor Therapy	44	17	47	13	5	126
Occupational Therapy	-	13	-	-	-	13

FOLLOW-UP SESSIONS

	Beirut	El Buss	Saida	Beddawi	Naher Al-Bared	TOTAL
Psychiatry	686	292	91	162	214	1445
Psychotherapy	177	340	133	469	264	1383
Speech Therapy	1145	238	262	520	559	2724
Psychomotor therapy	865	163	118	323	497	1966
Occupational therapy	-	113	-	-	-	113
Special Education	-	-	-	610	320	930
Music Therapy sessions	101	-	96	48	-	245

2018 MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Ministry of public Health - Agreement and MoU

A memorandum of understanding was signed between NISCVT and the Ministry of Public Health

In July 2018: this MoU states that the MOPH will facilitate the successful implementation of activities / projects in line with the Mental Health and Substance Use strategy 2016-2021' and the implementation of the NISCVT mental health strategy 'in line with the National mental health strategy for Lebanon 2015-2020'.



2. American University Hospital

The second agreement was signed in November 2018 between the NISCVT and the Department of Psychiatry at the American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center-FMMC, for one year.

3. Annual Mental health Conference 2018

On the 19 and 20th of October 2018, the 12th annual mental health conference funded by NORWAC was organized under the patronage of the Ministry of Public Health and the National Mental health program. The conference entitled "Psychological Wellbeing and Mental Health: Interaction between Children, Parents, and the Environment" was held at Saint Joseph University. It hosted 200 participants from more than 50 local and international associations and NGOs. In addition to the scientific program, the conference organized five practical workshops during the second day.



CULTURAL SERVICES

EMBROIDERY PROJECT

The embroidery project was launched in 1987 and it carries two major goals; first, it contributes to preserving the Palestinian identity and culture and passing it to the new generations and second, it is an income generating project for women which enables them to secure a monthly earning while staying at home. About 100 women from the various camps benefit from this project and compassionate sponsors from all over the world (Japan, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, United States of America, and France) and the partnership with "Kisswe" - an American -Spanish company, are the main partners who invest their time in marketing the embroidery items and spreading the amazing work into their communities.

Exhibitions that we took part in:

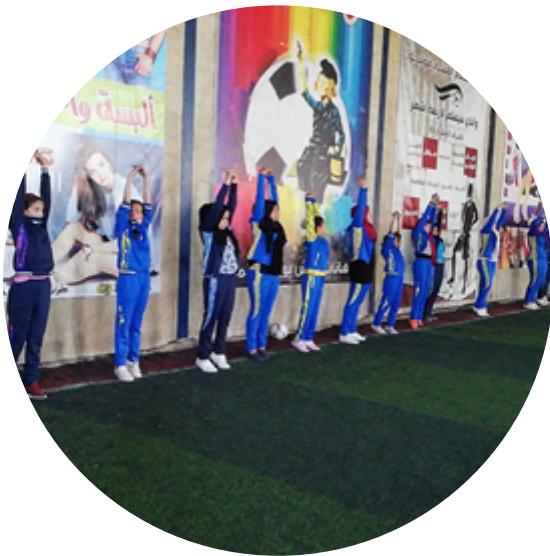
- Palestinian Land Day
March 31st, 2018- April 1st, 2018
- All Saint International Church
May 27th, 2018 – June 5th, 2018
- NISCVT Mental Health Conference October 19th & 20th, 2018 in Saint Joseph University – Beirut
- Christmas Fair in All Saint International Church
November 25th, 2018 & December 4th, 2018



SPORTS

Sport participation has been associated with improved life prospects such as academic performance and has been considered a powerful way to relieve stress for people living in unfortunate socioeconomic situations. As such, NISCVT believes that promoting sport participation by organizing several sports teams might be a way to support socially vulnerable youth and offer them the chance to improve their lifestyle and boost their overall mood and well-being.

120 children playing basketball, football, running, ping pong and chess



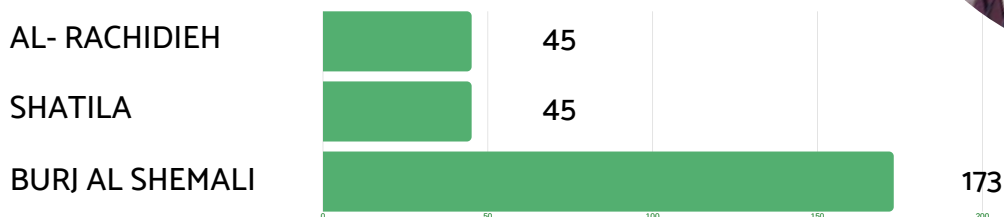
SCOUTS

Assumoud Palestinian National Scout was established in 1996 in Burj Shemali center of Beit Atfal Assumoud. Then, it was developed to reach Rashidieh, Nahr El-Bared, Beddawi, Burj Barajneh and Shatila centers.

The aim of this scout is to strengthen the patriotism, cooperation, and other scout duties that play an important role in building the individual's personality. Within the scout activities, dancing groups were established with bagpipes where they started participating in national and social scouts and in internal and abroad festivals.



12 Scout Groups for children and youth
263 Members 49% MALE and 51% FEMALE



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

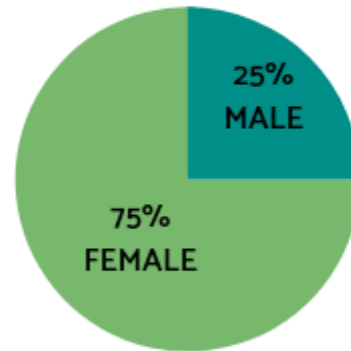
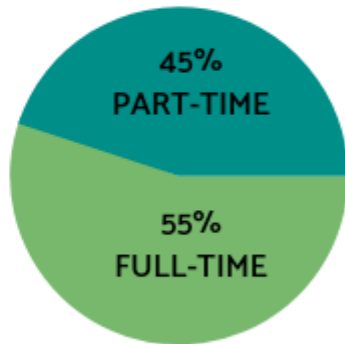


Cultural activities increase opportunities for social interaction and new relationship development among youths and adults. They also teach students how to work for a common goal and this ultimately develops a sense of responsibility in them. Moreover, we organize cultural activities in all NISCVT to ensure reviving our culture as well as shedding light on major turning points regarding national events and terrible massacres. Unfortunately, many important national occurrences are banned from further discussion in all UNRWA schools and we find ourselves responsible to pass the horrific and unfair history to our youths, children and their parents.

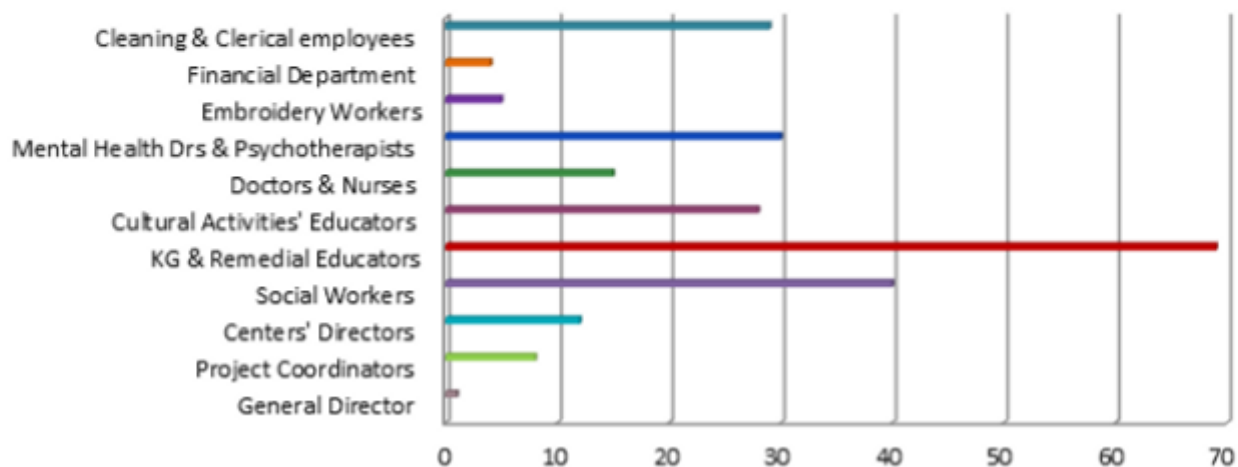
1394 beneficiaries in cultural groups & libraries



NISCVT STAFF



NISCVT provides a variety of services for the Palestinian community living all across Lebanon; a high number of dedicated employees support the refugees whether Palestinians, Palestinian-Syrians or even Syrians and contribute to the well-being of the members of the families. 75% of the working staff are females and the rest are males which contribute to the empowerment of women within the refugee camps. The total number of NISCVT staff is 241 in 2018 and the majority of the employees are full-timers. They are distributed among the various programs and cooperate together to provide community members with the essential basic needs. NISCVT has been operating in the various Palestinian camps and their surroundings for 42 years and its team is still motivated and keen to ensure that they are reaching the vulnerable members in the community. As provided in the above table, education, social and mental health services and cultural activities are key parts of our goals. We devote significant time to their implementation and we critically think about how to align the organization services and activities with our core values and beliefs.



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CONCLUSION

For over six decades now, the Palestinians have been met with an ongoing strive to retrieve their identity and the means to its preservation. It is now evident that the Palestinian experience has yet to overcome the preexisting refugee situation and simultaneously retract the misconception that their future is meant to be stateless and bound to occupation. As violence remains persistent along the Gaza strip, the U.S.' decision to open its embassy in Jerusalem had the Palestinians reminiscing on the turning point of history for their homeland. Moreover, this event coincided with the 100 year mark of the Balfour declaration which eventually signed away the Palestinian homeland and resulted in the downfall of a whole nation. Today, Palestinians number more than 12 million, and are scattered throughout the world; 6 million are still living in exile and around 1.75 million suffer within a discriminating system in occupied Palestine. Despite the provocations from the Israeli government and their illegal settlement on Palestinian soil, many have been avid devotees to the Palestinian cause and have condemned Israel's unlawful activities as a violation to basic and fundamental human rights and overall dignity. On behalf of NISCVT, we have a sense of urgency over the Palestinian crisis and it's our main duty to offer the vulnerable children, youth, adults and elderly our services to diminish their suffering and concurrently preserve their unforgotten heritage and identity. NISCVT's urgency to invigorate the knowledge of Palestine, as a country and cultural heritage, remains momentous. It at the core of all our programs and activities and it is also engraved in the minds and hearts of all the Palestinians. One of our goals is to create a certain vision for the children in order to see themselves as future citizens leading their own country in addition to having a sense of pride for their heritage and Identity.

