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### The Driving Force Behind ALPHA's Vision and Mission

The year 2024 was marked by wars, massive displacement, and widespread destruction.

Despite these significant challenges, ALPHA successfully fulfilled its ongoing projects and carried out critical humanitarian aid interventions.

Thanks to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our team members, 2024 also stood out as a year of remarkable teamwork and resilience. It is not customary for me to highlight individual efforts in an annual report, but the team's readiness to face new challenges, all while navigating personal hardships, deserves commendation.

The passion displayed by the youth team for the "Agri-Youth project" has been truly inspiring, offering a beacon of hope in the midst of darkness.

The efforts of the southern Lebanese team displaced to Beirut were equally noteworthy. Their willingness to support and uplift other displaced populations during aid distribution turned these interventions into moments of dignity, hope, and strengthened community bonds.

The managerial team demonstrated exceptional foresight, enabling us to adapt project activities swiftly and effectively to the emergency situation.

Similarly, the visibility officer took on more challenging tasks, significantly enhancing the visibility and impact of our projects.

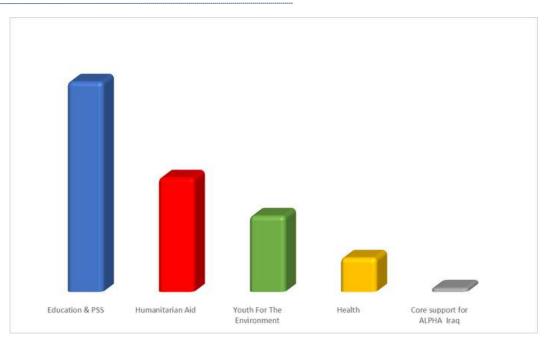
Collaboration between the managerial team and the field team has been exceptional. Despite the undeniably challenging times, we remained strong and persevered together.

In 2024, the dedication and hard work of the team have left an indelible mark on our organization, empowering us to continue advancing ALPHA's vision and mission.

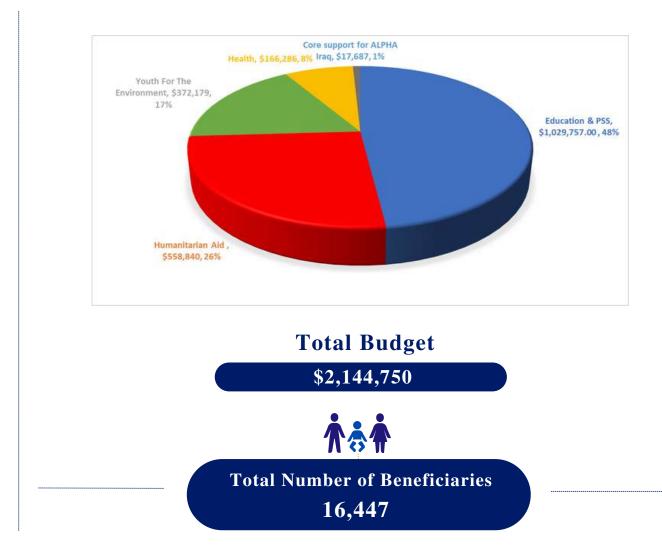
Father Albert Abi Azar ALPHA President



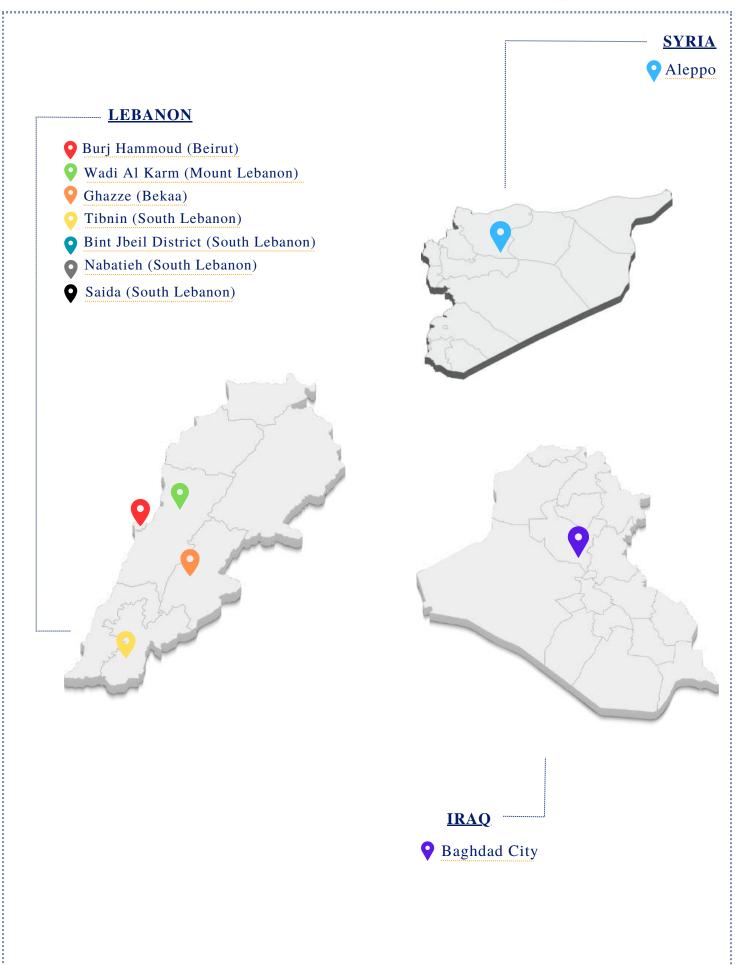
# **Sectors of Intervention**



# **Budget Per Sector**



# **Geographical Areas of Intervention**



PRO

## A'Risheh Know & Grow Youth Environmental Center









After three years of sustained efforts in implementing the Agri-Youth project, A'Risheh - the magic feather - has spread its Nature's Whisper Dust this year, putting the final touch on the creation of a fully operational youth environmental center.

#### **The Power of Collective Effort**

As a result of collective efforts and the commitment of our partners and donors, several major achievements have been accomplished this year:



An all-inclusive ecological center, providing space for training and educational activities, and a dormitory offering indoor accommodation for 36 visitors.

A fully equipped camping area, ready to welcome outdoor enthusiasts in a safe and natural setting,





handmade biodiversity trail, offering Α an immersive educational experience in the region's rich ecosystem,

A productive agroecological garden that has yielded 1,998 kg of vegetables, showcasing the success of sustainable farming practices.



#### A Tangible Impact on Youth

The center's youth team has benefited from 71 training sessions on management, agroecology, biodiversity, and eco-citizenship, equipping them with essential skills to lead and grow within their community.





929 students have been sensitized through engaging programs.

175 campers had set their tents in the camping area.





2,000 visitors have explored A'Risheh and witnessed its commitment to ecological sustainability.

#### **Exciting News! A'Risheh Know and Grow Selection for the NABTA Program**



Led by INCO and Campus AFD, the NABTA support program addresses critical biodiversity and climate challenges in the Mediterranean region. The A'Risheh team is thrilled to announce the selection of A'Risheh Know and Grow to participate in the NABTA program. The team eagerly looks forward to this journey of learning, collaboration, and action, bringing fresh insights and sustainable practices to their center. The NABTA journey will be led by their team leader, Agriculture Engineer Perla Naaman, and stands as a testament to the recognition of their collective efforts and dedication.

#### **Empowering Youth through Education and Environmental Stewardship**

No longer just a vision or a project, A'Risheh is now a thriving reality. Youth actively engage in learning and hands-on initiatives, supported by 53 educational tools and a dedicated curriculum.



Fostering young minds' intellectual and social growth while promoting environmental preservation is deeply embedded in A'Risheh's team mission.



# **Alpha's Southern Lebanese Office**

#### **Implemented Projects**

**Clear Horizon and Future Dream** – Early Childhood Education (ECE), Homework Support (HWS), and robotics sessions are implemented in Southern Lebanese villages, benefiting both Lebanese and Syrian refugee children. Donor: KNH Germany.

**Improving Quality Education by Fostering Learning Capacities and Child Protection Policies in Public Schools in South Lebanon** – This project is implemented in two complementary schools in the southern villages of Tibnin and Kabrikha in partnership with Kinder Not Hilfe (KNH) Germany. Donor: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

**Dirasa –** Supporting out-of-school children (OOSC), both Lebanese and non-Lebanese, this project is implemented in 11 schools across five southern Lebanese districts – UNICEF Project.

Leisure activities for children in Tibnin village. Donors: Action Solidarité pour le Développement Humain-ASODH and United Nation Interim Force in Lebanon UNIFIL.

#### War Responsive-Adaptation

Due to the needs induced by the war, we have modified our projects to tackle the challenges of population displacement and destruction. We also have integrated emergency support measures while continuing to uphold our long-term goals.

#### <u>Clear Horizon and Future Dream – Geographical Shift in Activities</u>

Early shildhood advastion for

Early childhood education for children aged 3 to 6 years



Academic support for students aged 8 to 13 years



Robotics workshops

During times of war and displacement, ALPHA transitioned to remote ECE learning. Teachers sent video lessons and messages to parents, ensuring continuity in education. Parents actively participated by returning completed assignments for correction.

HWS activities shifted to a safer region where a large number of displaced students had settled. Children received education in core subjects (Math, Science, Arabic, and English), along with recreational activities to enhance their psychological well-being. Two rounds of robotics workshops were conducted, each accommodating 80 students (ages 7-15). Addressing the needs of both children and parents, psychosocial support was provided by our psychologists and social workers.









<u>Improving Quality Education by Fostering Learning Capacities and Child</u> <u>Protection Policies in Public Schools in South Lebanon – Advancing Learning</u> <u>Capacities and Enhancing Psychological Support</u>

Launched in March 2022, this three-year project (extended until June 2025) aims to enhance education quality through computer literacy, arts, sports, child protection programs, and teacher training initiatives. Despite ongoing bombardments targeting Tibnin and Kabrikha surrounding villages, during the academic year 2023-2024, digital learning, arts, sports, and teacher training activities continued in both complementary schools.

Teacher Training activities included an introduction to AI tools for teaching, cyber safety, and digital selfprotection. A refresher training session focused on maximizing the use of Interactive Whiteboards in classrooms. Additionally, an Alpha Project Server was created on "Discord" to facilitate teacher collaboration, lesson sharing, and provide pedagogical updates.

However. psychosocial support has become increasingly vital. Teachers, caregivers, and students experienced heightened anxiety as the war intensified. Hence, psychosocial activities included counseling individual for students. monthly awareness sessions for parents on managing warrelated stress, and teacher training on handling student anxiety during wartime.









#### Evolving Leisure Activities into Therapeutic Experiences

War and conflict burden children with sorrow and a sense of loss. To address this issue, the ALPHA team collaborated with a local theater practitioner to transform theater activities into a healing experience. The teacher brought in theater therapy to create a space where children could express themselves. Participants found a safe, approachable, and non-judgmental environment to articulate their emotions.



#### **Emergency Response Program**

In response to massive displacement and in coordination with the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) committee, the Ministry of Education and UNICEF, ALPHA implemented an emergency response program in eight schools in Saida (A southern Lebanese city, 70 km from the conflict zone).

Activities included on-site operations management, aid distribution, and educational initiatives, such as LEGO and stationery distribution provided by UNICEF to support recreational learning.



#### Visit to Displacement Shelters in Beirut (October 2024)

ALPHA southern Lebanese team visited IDP's shelters in Beirut city to assess and respond to their needs.

Key support supplied wheelchairs, adult diapers, mattresses, medical beds, winter clothing, blankets, chronic medications, and direct cash assistance.



## The UNICEF Dirasa Program

Since its launch in 2022, ALPHA has been executing the UNICEF Dirasa program. In 2024, ALPHA took responsibility for the program in 9 schools across five southern Lebanese districts: Saida, Marjeyoun, Bint Jbeil, Nabatieh, and Tyre.



The UNICEF-Dirasa program ("learning" in Arabic) aims to support out-of-school children (OOSC), both Lebanese and non-Lebanese, through three main objectives:

- Support government-subsidized schools that are struggling financially to continue operating. This ensures that all children enrolled in the targeted schools remain in education.
- Support to enrolled children: Provide Lebanese and non-Lebanese children already enrolled in targeted government-subsidized schools with a complementary package of services. These services aim to enhance the quality of education, promote children's well-being, and ensure their retention in school.
- Expand equitable access to education for out-of-school Lebanese and non-Lebanese children, including children with disabilities.
- Provide teachers and parental sessions in child protection and inclusion.

#### **2024 Major Challenges**

#### <u>Urgency to Conclude the Program</u>

The implementation period began in October 2023 and concluded in August 2024, one month earlier than planned due to several obstacles.

#### Conflict Escalation and Displacements

Up until August 2024, school attendance in the border areas was significantly affected by the emergency situation in the south, with average attendance rates fluctuating between 65% and 70%. As the cross-border conflict intensified in August, parents became increasingly reluctant to send their children to school, leading to a further decline in attendance and the early termination of the program in August instead of September. Additional factors also impacted attendance such as legal documentation issues and curfew restrictions. Many non-Lebanese children lacked proper legal documentation; curfews imposed by the Lebanese Security Forces (LSF) further limited children's access to schools.

#### Support for Children with Disabilities

Over 3% of students with disabilities were identified in the targeted schools. However, the budget was insufficient to meet all their needs. In response, the budget allocation for the inclusion component was increased from 3% to 5%.

#### Children Overcoming Critical Circumstances

A total of 971 Dirasa students (74% of the target of 1,271) passed the posttest.

Several factors contributed to the absence of the remaining students, including:

- Relocation due to parents' fears regarding the latest security situation
- Travel to Syria for various reasons
- Dropout due to personal family circumstances
- Enrollment in child labor

#### **ALPHA's Approach to Overcoming Obstacles**

#### Collaboration and Crisis Management

ALPHA worked closely with school directors, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), and local authorities to assess security conditions and adapt plans accordingly. Regular updates were provided to caregivers on school closures and security developments. Evacuation plans were prepared, and emergency response efforts included the assessment and relocation of students.

#### Referral and Support for Displaced Students

ALPHA ensured the referral of displaced Dirasa children to partner organizations in other governorates. Approximately 50 displaced children were referred to NGOs such as LOST, War Child, and AVSI, which are active in areas where families resettled for security reasons.

#### Addressing Transportation Challenges

Some parents were unable to accompany their children to inclusion sessions due to high transportation costs. ALPHA followed up consistently with families to address these challenges; some school directors volunteered school buses to transport parents to sessions, ensuring their participation.

#### Advocacy for Increased Funding.

ALPHA submitted a formal request to UNICEF to increase the inclusion component budget for the next program cycle, aiming to prevent similar challenges in the future. UNICEF has committed to addressing this issue.

#### The Dirasa Program's Impact Amidst Challenges

#### On Children

The Dirasa Program has had a transformative impact on children, ensuring a better future while safeguarding their dignity and providing access to fundamental rights, particularly the right to education. Children developed basic literacy skills, enabling them to read, write, and enhance their learning skills. The program shielded children from risks such as homelessness and delinquency. It fostered a sense of belonging and reduced discrimination, as expressed by students during their sessions.

#### On Parents

The impact on parents was evident in feedback gathered during regular meetings facilitated by the SBC team. Parents expressed immense gratitude for the program, highlighting:

- Its role in securing their children's future, especially amid challenging economic conditions
- Assistance in overcoming barriers to education, such as lack of documentation for Syrian refugee children
- The creation of a safe and supportive space for their children, helping them return to education in Dirasa schools.





#### On the Community

The Dirasa Program has sparked positive change within the community. This was reflected in:

- Increased interest and requests from parents for new registrations for out-of-school children
- The program's ability to create a ripple effect of positivity during parent gatherings
- Over time, the program also transformed the attitudes of stakeholders, including municipalities. Initially hesitant or inactive, stakeholders gradually became supportive due to the program's demonstrated success and impact. They began assisting outreach efforts and even provided referrals to identify out-of-school children, significantly improving access to the program.

#### **Key Findings**

In the academic year 2023-2024, despite the conflict that began in October 2023, ALPHA successfully reached 1,271 out-of-school children in the targeted schools: 610 females and 661 males, 1,230 non-Lebanese children, 51 Lebanese children, 123 children with disabilities (60 females and 63 males).

The program also supported 46 Math, English, and Arabic teachers, and 12 sports teachers. It provided 10 parental sessions on child protection and inclusion.

"Since its launch in 2021-2022, and throughout 2023-2024, the Dirasa Program has evolved into a trusted initiative. The visible results on children, families, and communities underscore its vital role in addressing education gaps and fostering long-term resilience." Soad chouaf - Project Manager & Dalal Moussa - Project Coordinator



## **ALPHA Iraq**

#### **Optimizing Outcomes**

In 2024, with the support of CCFD Terre Solidaire, we successfully maximized impact while minimizing expenses. Our extensive field experience, strong connections with local communities, and the support of skilled volunteers enabled us to implement environmental, educational, and health initiatives effectively.

#### **Environmental Initiatives**

#### Green Belt Initiative for Better Health

This pilot project sought to raise environmental awareness and promote sustainable practices among 25 Iraqi families in new Baghdad residential complexes. It introduced recycling, waste sorting, and utilizing domestic waste in agriculture—new concepts in Iraq. Activities included awareness workshops, a planting event, waste collection, and a documentary to advocate for scaling up the initiative. Donor: ASODH

https://drive.google.com/file/d/19QcrolqMZ2SHab3UZ6zY0H8WLLeKFRnI/view

#### <u>Recycling Workshops for Baghdad University Students</u>

One hundred student participants recycled organic, plastic, and glass waste into useful products and learned how to produce organic fertilizers from organic waste.

#### Youth Workshops to foster environmental awareness

Fifty first-year university students were trained in green skills to empower youth, promote environmental responsibility, and encourage sustainable practices. The training aimed to equip students with practical knowledge and tools to address environmental challenges, fostering a generation of leaders committed to sustainability and ecological innovation.

#### Planet Friends Initiative

We planted 50 trees at Al-Saffat Elementary School, engaging 120 enthusiastic third- and fourth-grade students in the process. This initiative not only enhanced the school's green spaces but also aimed to instill a sense of environmental stewardship in young learners. Through hands-on participation, the students gained a deeper understanding of the importance of trees in combating climate change, improving air quality, and fostering biodiversity.









#### **Health Services**

#### <u>Medical Webinar Series</u>

We hosted six surgery webinars featuring expert lectures by Dr. Omer Raheem, Assistant Professor of Surgery at Chicago University, two dental-focused sessions, attended by 150 participants, and two environmental awareness webinars, engaging 175 Medical Doctors.



#### Environmental workshops for medical & paramedical students

- Iraqi University: We conducted three lectures on environmental awareness and infectious diseases, attended by 250 students and 20 professors.
- Middle Technical University: We organized environmental awareness sessions with the participation of 100 students, eight professors, and the university dean.
- Jabir Ibn Hayyan University, Najaf: We delivered lectures to 350 students from the pharmacy and general medicine departments.

#### Education

- We introduced creative activities in kindergartens, such as drawing, candlemaking, and yoga, alongside academic tutoring. Sixty students benefited from the activities over a six-month period.
- We provided homework support to 10 socially vulnerable children.
- We printed 200 Braille books for visually impaired students at the Al-Basira Association.
- We donated 20 desks and 8 chairs to the library of Al-Noor Institute for the Visually Impaired.







#### **Our Strategic plan for 2025**

In response to the challenges of securing funding for sustainable development projects, our organization emphasizes the importance of public-private collaboration and the formation of strategic partnerships with local organizations to ensure long-term sustainability.

The core of our strategy is to equip youth with essential skills for the labor market through customized training programs focused on entrepreneurship and career development. Simultaneously, we are committed to empowering women to take on active roles in both the economic and social sectors, ensuring they make meaningful contributions to shaping a better future.

We strongly believe that collaboration among all stakeholders is essential for realizing our vision of a cohesive society, one that thrives on the potential of youth and the creativity of women. By empowering these key groups, we aim to lead Iraq toward a prosperous and sustainable future built on hope, collective action, and inclusive growth.



# **Damma Learning Center 2024 Activities**



Damma, meaning "Hug" in Arabic, is an educational center located in the village of Ghazze, West Beqaa, Lebanon. Since 2018, Damma has provided after-school support and remedial education (RS) to Syrian refugee children enrolled in Lebanese formal schools, kindergartens, or early childhood programs (ECE), as well as Remedial Education (RE) to children not enrolled in Lebanese schools.

#### **Impact On Community**

Damma's center is having a significant impact on the Syrian refugee community in Ghazze, particularly in the areas of education, social support, and overall well-being. By providing access to educational resources, the initiative empowers children with essential skills and knowledge, offering hope for a brighter future. It also fosters social support networks that enable families to connect, share experiences, and navigate challenges together. This stability is crucial for enhancing the emotional and psychological well-being of both children and their families.

#### **Progress in Educational Support**

In 2024, a total of 687 children were enrolled at Damma Educational Center: 240 children in Early Childhood Education (ECE), and 447 children in the Remedial Support (RS) and Remedial Education (RE) programs. Classroom teaching was provided during the 2023/2024 school year (Oct 2023 – May 2024) and during summer school (July and August 2024). Online teaching took place in October and November 2024 due to the war. The ECE program adopted a hybrid model, with children attending on-site classes once a week and participating in online lessons (videos sent via WhatsApp) for the remaining days. RS and RE students received online education through WhatsApp and Google Classroom. Over the years, Damma's targeted interventions have led to noticeable progress in the skills of Syrian refugee students. However, for some students, progress has been gradual and requires more time to meet academic expectations. Nevertheless, for the academic year 2024/2025, the overall pass rate was 83% among students enrolled in Lebanese schools. Many students who completed Grade 9 in Damma's RS program have continued their education successfully, with several excelling academically and advancing to university. Some students, however, enrolled in technical schools due to lower academic performance or a preference to enter the workforce immediately.



#### Damma as an IDP Shelter During the War

As the war extended to the Beqaa governorate, Damma organized its facilities in September 2024 to receive internally displaced persons (IDPs). The rooms in the center were equipped with mattresses, sheets, pillows, and blankets. Mid-September 2024, Damma accommodate 10 displaced families (9 Syrian and 1 Lebanese) from the Beqaa and southern Lebanese villages, totaling 42 individuals—16 children under 18 and 26 adults. The families experienced anxiety and fear due to displacement and the ongoing war, compounded by exposure to hate speech and discrimination, which affected their emotional stability. Children suffered from anxiety and had difficulty expressing their emotions, highlighting the need for emotional relief sessions.



#### Humanitarian Aid Initiatives

With the support of our donors, primarily KNH Luxembourg and Germany, and in collaboration with other NGOs operating in the area, Damma's project team delivered emergency aid to the families upon their arrival. This assistance included heating, clothing, daily lunch meals, medications for chronic diseases, and personal hygiene products such as shampoo, tissues, toothpaste, and women's hygiene pads.

Additionally, baby milk and diapers were provided, and a mobile clinic operated by an international NGO visited Damma once a week to examine the IDPs and provide necessary treatments and medications. In emergencies, the clinic could respond to a call within 30 minutes.

The displaced families also received counseling and psychological support, which helped children improve emotional expression and reduce anxiety. Group therapy sessions and interactive activities promoted a sense of belonging and social cohesion. Furthermore, a hotline was established by social workers to support Damma's students and their families.

The hotline provided emotional and psychological support, guidance on coping with stress and trauma, resources for safety, shelter, and medical aid, and connected families to humanitarian assistance. Each week, 250 Damma students' families received messages through the hotline, with 40% seeking psychological guidance or providing feedback.





#### **Bringing Syrian Refugee Adolescents to Advocate for Their Rights**

2024, was a year of significant concerns for Syrian refugee children attending the Damma Education Center; these children were deeply distressed by the events unfolding in Gaza- Palestine, identifying with their peers there, who were caught in a cycle of killings and displacement. As the conflict threatened to spill over into Lebanon, they also worried about their own safety. In this tense context, tools such as Instagram posts, posters, podcasts, storytelling, and poetry became powerful means to amplify their voices, foster understanding, and advocate for their needs.

However, it was more difficult to engage boys, who avoided participation, leaving the space predominantly to adolescent girls aged 14 to 18. The girls chosen topics not only reflected the community's cultural norms and values but also questioned them. The girls' voices challenged the notion of their "so-called vulnerability," showing strength and determination. Short videos, animations, and photo essays from other adolescents motivated the participants to address their own emotions and experiences. Encouraging the girls to research their chosen topics broadened their understanding and enriched their creative output. Regular feedbacks from instructors helped refine their approaches and improve their productions.

See the link below <u>Yohttps://drive.google.com/file/d/1G31qfCrENyRufgm1z67we5LrYA5V7lMs/view?</u> <u>usp=drive\_linkur\_paragraph\_text</u>

#### **2025 previsions**

Despite the collapse of Assad's regime, Syria continues to be in turmoil, grappling with severe economic, social, and political instability. Syrian refugee families in Lebanon persist in being reluctant to return to their hometowns due to ongoing insecurity, lack of basic services, and economic hardship. In this context, international support remains crucial, both for Syrians and for Lebanon, which continues to host a large refugee population despite its own economic crisis. Grassroots organizations like ALPHA and the Damma Educational Center will continue to play a vital role in supporting both displaced populations and vulnerable host communities. Our work not only nurtures individual growth but also strengthens social cohesion, paving the way for a more inclusive and sustainable future.



## Aid Distribution During Times of War An Example of ALPHA's Cross-Functional Collaboration

ALPHA's capability to transition between humanitarian aid and development work has been crucial, especially during aid distribution efforts in 2024 amid war.

Since its founding in 1993, ALPHA has navigated the distinct challenges of both approaches—humanitarian aid requiring rapid emergency response and development work demanding long-term planning and sustainability.

Successfully shifting between these efforts depends on effective communication and cross-functional collaboration.

Cross-functional collaboration enhances teamwork, innovation, and adaptability but also presents challenges, such as resource allocation, scheduling, and balancing expectations. Despite these hurdles, collaboration fosters unified goals, dynamic problem-solving, and innovation through diverse expertise.



ALPHA's proficiency to leverage cross-functional collaboration, while partnering with governmental institutions and local NGOs, has remained key to balancing emergency aid and sustainable impact in politically sensitive situations and challenges, such as the 2024 war in Lebanon.

Janine Naufal Capacity building department

#### ALPHA's Role in Fostering Inclusion in Times of War and Post-War Recovery

2024 was a particularly challenging year, especially for ALPHA's team in southern Lebanon, many of whom were displaced from their villages and whose homes came under fire.

Because team members experienced displacement firsthand, they understood better than anyone in our organization how deeply displacement can divide communities along religious, socio-economic, and political lines.



In response, we made every effort to foster social inclusion during the war. We worked to maintain trust with our beneficiaries by providing accurate information and transparent updates on our programs and activities. We ensured that aid reached internally displaced persons (IDPs) without discrimination based on political affiliation, faith, or origin. Fairness and effectiveness in resource allocation during aid distribution were crucial to our work.

After the war, returnees are facing political tensions and economic disparities that exacerbate their fears of being marginalized or forgotten, while their villages remain in need of reconstruction. As a grassroots organization, we promote collaboration and unity between municipalities and international NGOs to support post-war recovery programs. Our engagement not only serves local southern communities, but also fosters solidarity, ensuring that individuals feel seen and valued in the collective struggle to recover from the impacts of conflict.

> Salma Fawaz ALPHA Southern Lebanese Team Director

#### Theater Therapy as a Complement to Traditional Therapy Methods

War and conflict leave children grappling with grief, fear, and loss. Traditional methods of therapy can often feel intimidating or inaccessible to younger populations. This was the case for returnee children in southern Lebanese villages. "During therapy sessions with returnee school students, many struggled to articulate their emotions or experiences, making traditional talk therapy feel limiting" explained Abeer Salhab, ALPHA's Protection Officer.

To address this challenge, the ALPHA team in southern Lebanon enlisted the help of southern Lebanese theater practitioner Kassem Istambouli. He introduced theater therapy as a means of bridging the gap by offering children a space for non-verbal and imaginative expression. Through role-playing, improvisation, and storytelling, participants were able to convey complex emotions, process trauma, and explore difficult topics in a way that felt safe, approachable, and nonjudgmental.



I had the privilege of capturing a powerful moment as they presented their theatre piece in front of caregivers, teachers, and the community in Tibnin. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwzoUzbEQJ8</u>

The performance was deeply emotional, filled with raw expression and connection.

By acting out scenarios or stepping into different roles, children accessed and processed their feelings in a deeply immersive way. They engaged their imagination, body, and emotions to create a holistic experience, role-playing common challenges such as overcoming fears or navigating relationships with their parents during armed conflict and displacement.

Theater therapy is not meant to replace traditional therapy but rather to complement it. "By integrating the structured, analytical strengths of traditional therapy with the creative, expressive power of theater, we aimed to offer a comprehensive and transformative approach to emotional and psychological recovery," said Salma Fawaz, Director of ALPHA's southern Lebanese team. "Together, these methods create a rich tapestry of support that nurtures resilience, expression, and growth."

> Evelyn Maalouf ALPHA visibility officer

TESTIMONIES
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#### What it means to be displaced

"Being displaced means having to flee your home overnight, unprepared, and scrambling to find whatever shelter you can. It means sharing that shelter with others, waiting in long lines just to use the bathroom, only to find there's not enough water for everyone. It means surviving on whatever food is available—usually just a few cans of tuna or cheese—and relying on a loaf of bread as your staple, which is never enough to satisfy your hunger. It means constantly hearing bombs explode around you, never knowing if the next one will strike you or pass you by. Displacement brings relentless anxiety, tension, sorrow, and fear—fear for your children, and grandchildren".



Grandmother of 18 grandchildren, 75 years old

"I don't know where my friends from kindergarten are now. I haven't heard anything about them, and it makes me sad. I miss them so much and wonder what happened to them. When I play with my cousins, I always think about my friends and feel scared that I might lose my cousins too. I'm also scared of losing my parents... but my grandma always tells me we are "in God's hands," and I believe her".

Grandchild, 4 years old

#### Kindness and solidarity amid loss

"Distributing aid is more than just delivering food, clothes, or medicine—it is an opportunity to uphold dignity, foster hope, and strengthen bonds within a struggling community. Aid given with kindness and solidarity becomes a powerful gesture of humanity, reminding people that they are not alone in their hardships. Furthermore, In the chaos of displacement, a powerful bond emerges—those who have lost their homes helping others who share the same fate. Displaced communities often find ways to support each other, offering whatever they can: a shared meal, a comforting word, or a safe place to sleep. In refugee camps, temporary shelters, or even in new neighborhoods, displaced families form new networks of care."



Hayat Fakhreddine "c'est la vie association", ALPHA partner

# A Special Tribute

Along with our gratitude to our institutional donors and partners, whose generosity has been remarkable, this year—more than ever we extend our deepest appreciation to our private donors. Their solidarity goes beyond the scope of our projects, filling critical gaps that would otherwise remain unaddressed.

Their support enables us to provide assistance where traditional funding falls short and sustain essential initiatives that directly impact the lives of those we serve.

This invaluable contribution not only strengthens our ability to adapt in times of crisis but also reinforces our commitment to long-term, meaningful change.

Every donation, regardless of its size, stands as a testament to a shared vision of solidarity and hope.

# **Donors & Partners**

In partnership with Wi
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التواني جد ورال المراجد ورال المراج
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