Yearly overview

INTRODUCTION
1. Introduction
2. Education and Protection
3. Citizenship and Engagement
4. Advocacy
5. Publications
6. Official Visits
MSL centers are spread across all the Lebanese areas.
INTRODUCTION

The Movement Social focuses on the potential role the Lebanese youth can play in favor of social, cultural and democratic development, as well as in favor of promoting citizenship values within society. It is through this energy of positive change that the association has defined three intervention tracks.

The first and crucial track is access to civic education. The Mouvement Social accompanies and inspires an effervescent youth living in the shadow of a crisis which threatens to destroy the democratic foundations of our society. To that end, it mobilizes its resources with the aim of transmitting to the Lebanese youth values of citizenship through proactive methods whereby both children and young people become actors for development.

The second track is respect of identities and intercultural differences. In a society known to be a cultural, religious and ethnic mosaic, such intervention is much needed. It is even of greater significance in the current circumstances as it works on reducing the social tensions generated by the Syrian crisis.

The third track focuses on a new strategy for volunteer work. Such strategy aims at allowing the youth to actively and efficiently take part in their society so that they may assert themselves, fulfill their commitments and achieve their vision of the world.

Feyrouz Salameh
Executive officer
Ever since its inception in 1961, The Mouvement Social has been committed to the education and protection of children and youths. To ensure the rights of children provided for by the « Convention on the Rights of the Child », it has launched a series of projects in the last few years revolving around alternative and mainstream education as well as on child protection.
In line with the organization’s main objective of building a more just society, “Around the School” project is aimed towards ensuring equality of access to education and recreational activities.

Through this project, French sponsors were able to support, through individual and collective sponsoring plans, 577 children and youths aged between 3 and 21. It provided them with school support, trainings, human and social coaching, and access to recreational activities.

- More than 450 children from all grades (from kindergarten to upper high school) have benefited from scholarships and school follow up.
- 300 hundred children at least have had access to recreational and psychological activities and to school support programs.
- 52 children in Jnah elementary school have had better access to education, knowledge, recreation and civic activities. A new class was opened and equipped to host 25 new out-of-school Syrian children and provide them with access to education and recreation.
- 40 mothers have received training on school support methods.

Since 2011, the Mouvement social has accompanied more than 2100 children and youths living in the poor Beirut suburbs of Jnah and Sin El Fil. They come from disadvantaged environments, are often in difficulty or out-of-school and exposed to the dangers of the street life and the workplace. It is to not that already vulnerable situation of these neighborhoods has worsened with the arrival of syrian refugees.
«Protecting children from conflicts in the Middle East»

EDUCATION AND PROTECTION

Through a series of workshops and trainings, this international project, which is implemented in collaboration with the Palestinian Association “Culture and Free thought”, has succeeded in protecting Lebanese and Palestinian children from conflict and violence.

The project is implemented in disadvantaged Lebanese areas where the living conditions of children are particularly difficult. It has allowed to change the behavior of youths and surrounding individuals towards reducing the use of violence. In Lebanon, the project targeted youths aged between 11 to 18.

Activities
Age group 11 to 14 years

- More than 350 out-of-school children aged 11 to 14 at risk of entering the labor market have benefited from awareness sessions about different occupations. Through alternative education classes, participants were able to acquire basic language and math skills.
- Group and individual psychological support sessions, drawing and theater workshops, recreational and awareness / mediation activities, have allowed children and youths to release tension and develop their expression skills.
- Parents were invited to visit the centers and attended awareness sessions on the negative consequences of violence on children.

Age group 15 to 18 years

- Over 250 young leaders aged 15 to 18 years were identified and received training on leadership and mediation (non-violence and conflict resolution). They produced various awareness films on violence and youth.
Solidarity days, organized within the framework of the project, aim at raising the awareness of children, youth and communities in different Lebanese areas to the issues of non-violence and child protection.
The MSL has used its long experience in the field of alternative education and vocational training to provide Syrian children with education and protection within its own centers and in Lebanese public schools.

Context

- Out of 349,000 Syrian refugees of schooling age, only 22% were in schools in the middle of 2014. Since the Lebanese public schools have a maximum capacity of 360,000 students of all nationalities, a system has been put in place in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and with civil society organizations to absorb young refugees.*

Alternative education classes for Syrian and Lebanese youths.

- To cope with the Syrian refugee crisis, the MSL has set up a series of alternative education classes, inspired by the pre-professional club model, for more than 250 Lebanese and Syrian children aged 11 to 14.

- Alternative classes include recreational and entertainment activities aimed at developing the child’s personality, creativity and intellectual skills through drawing and theater classes as well as other educational activities promoting dialogue, communication, non-violence and respect of differences. These activities have allowed to boost the Lebanese and Syrian children’s self confidence and their ability to express themselves.

* Based on UNHCR estimates, in the middle of 2014
Education and protection within the context of the Syrian crisis.

EDUCATION AND PROTECTION

«Accelerated Learning Program » (ALP) in MSL centers.

- In Tripoli, Zahle, Borj Hammoud, Sidon and Akkar, the MSL has adopted the Accelerated Learning Program (ALP), which was jointly developed by UN agencies and the Lebanese Ministry of Education, and designed to support Syrian refugee children. Through the MSL, the program has reached 600 out-of-school children and adolescents aged 8 to 14 years exposed to violations against their rights.

Academic support

- In Tripoli, Akkar and in Saida, the MSL is also working with Syrian and Lebanese children and adolescents in 12 public schools, aged 6 to 17 years, who suffer from learning difficulties and are, therefore, at risk of dropping out. It provides them with remedial and summer classes to enhance their learning and allow them to pursue their schooling. More than 5,000 children have benefited from these academic support services.

Intercultural understanding and respect of human rights

In parallel and complementarity with its action, the MSL has developed two approaches:

- The MSL Teams have received intercultural trainings to better understand Syrian children in terms of their personal history and journey. They have thus worked on improving their knowledge and acceptance of others and their values. This intercultural approach has transformed the tension between the students into a positive synergy based on complementarity.

- Within these intercultural trainings, The MSL has also developed an right-based approach, working on teaching children to respect their mutual rights and to demand respect for their rights by adults.

The MSL is also part of a pilot project for designing foreign languages learning strategies which take into consideration the environment and the capacity of Syrian children.
Trainings in public schools

The MSL organizes intercultural trainings for public school teachers in Tripoli, Akkar, the Bekaa and Saida destined to help teachers understand and cope with intercultural conflicts or tensions between students, be it verbal or non-verbal. Parents also benefit from these intercultural training. The objective of MSL is to spread this intercultural approach among its staff, as well as among teachers, children and parents so that everyone may detect and defuse conflicts and see the positive synergy which can emerge from otherness.

Protecting children from the danger of the street and from the impact of armed conflicts.

- The project helps protect children from the dangers of the street and the impact of armed conflicts by providing them with the means to detect violations of their rights and ensuring their rehabilitation and reintegration through various activities.
- The project targets two groups; children aged 11 to 14 and adolescents aged 15 to 17. It is implemented in the Bekaa, the North, the South and Mount Lebanon.
CITIZENSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Convinced that individuals should be responsible for their own development and that of their society, the Mouvement Social has been engaged in several projects promoting the participation of youth and women in public life, in collaboration with local and national authorities. It has, thus, worked on empowering individuals towards ensuring respect of their rights and building aware and engaged citizens.
This project aims at raising youth awareness and civic participation by encouraging their involvement in public life and local decision-making processes.

The MSL works on fighting against the disinterest of youth in being part of local governance mechanisms, particularly due to the control exerted by political parties on the democratic life and the pervasiveness of sectarianism.

With the project "Citizenship is my right," the MSL helped in promoting the participation of youth in local governance bodies, in 12 municipalities in South Lebanon, the Bekaa and Mount Lebanon. Through the creation of "local youth councils" and other individual and group projects, the MSL has contributed in revitalizing social links and promoting civic engagement in rural areas.

**Activities**

- 500 youths have attended workshops providing civic training and training on conflict resolution, project set up and management.
- 160 youths have become part of « youth municipal councils »
- 632 projects of public interest have been set up with youths and municipalities.
- 4 youths have set up a professional project.
- A « manual for the young municipal council member » has been drafted by youths.
- A forum gathering 750 participants has been organized to present the results of the project.
This project, launched three years ago, aims at empowering youths from disadvantaged areas to defend their rights before municipalities.

The involved children have become spokespersons engaged in local public life. They have worked with municipalities to ensure that these municipalities fulfill their obligations towards them by ensuring the respect of their rights and adopting child and youth friendly measures.

The project has allowed the collection of data on children’s rights violations in each of the involved municipalities, through a data collection method developed by the youths themselves. By promoting a human rights based approach and grass-root development, the MSL, thus, allows young people to be the source of change.

Six municipalities across the Lebanese territory have benefited from this project: Haret Hreik in Ghobeireh (Mount-Lebanon), Borj Hammoud in Sin El Fil (Mount-Lebanon), Marj (Bekaa), Abra in the Saida region (South-Liban), Nsar in Nabatiyeh (South-Liban) and Tal Abbas in Akkar (North-Lebanon).

Activities
- The MSL has trained 210 children on the Convention on the rights of the Child, as well as on interviewing and data collection.
- The MSL has also trained six municipalities on human and children rights, as well as on identifying the underlying causes of human rights violations and the means to ensure full respect of these rights.
- 220 questionnaires were completed by children in each of the six regions to identify violations of their rights.
- Workshops gathering lawyers and children have identified the elements of each right which were violated and the means by which the rights could be restored.
Since 2014, and in partnership with Fair Trade Lebanon (FTL), The MSL has been conducting a project aimed at promoting fair trade in Lebanese villages.

Participants from the involved villages are called to set up a civic project to improve the local economy and make it fairer in an attempt by the MSL and FTL to establish a new type of local governance in Lebanon. The project aims at building the capacity of municipalities and citizens and promoting their civic engagement, notably through the mobilization of young volunteers.

10 municipalities across Lebanon have been selected to become « fair trade territories »

In collaboration with FTL and local representatives, the MSL has contributed in drafting a fair trade charter which takes into account both international fair trade norms and the specificities of the Lebanese environment.

In the beginning, the Mouvement Social was a volunteer movement. Since its inception in 1961, it has attracted volunteers who related to its values, and who were committed to contribute in the development of their society. The MSL is convinced that volunteering is one of the best means not only to promote social commitment and civic awareness but also to make society more human and fair.
To ease tensions between the Lebanese host populations and Syrian refugees and in order to improve their living conditions, the MSL is working on building the capacities of both communities and on promoting their joint involvement in the local public life.

Context

The project, which is jointly carried out by the MSL and two partner NGOs namely Mada and FTL, aims at improving the socio-economic conditions of the local population in 6 villages and at mitigating the tensions linked to the presence of Syrian refugees in these villages by building the capacities of both communities and promoting their involvement in public life. The project is, thus, anchored in MSL conviction that involvement in a common civic project would help ease tensions between Syrians and Lebanese.

Activities

Five joint committees gathering Syrian and Lebanese women and youths as well as members of the municipal councils were formed; these committees are meant to work on resolving conflicts between the two communities and are responsible for the follow up of the project’s activities.

What the MSL brings to the project is its long expertise in the field of intercultural mediation and conflict resolution. Since the beginning of the Syrian crisis, the MSL has, in fact, focused on understanding the Syrian community and its cultural codes in order to develop and implement a more humane approach, beyond the emergency response. The association also works with all the stakeholders in the villages hosting its centers. It works with Syrian and Lebanese families to promote children’s understanding of the environment in which they live. To ensure reciprocity, it also collaborates with municipalities in order to enhance their role as important community actors.
Because everyone has the right to dignity, to employment and to a place in society, the MSL promotes social, human and professional integration of marginalized women and youths, in difficulty or incarcerated, through professional, educational and human trainings and workshops.
Vocational training and social rehabilitation

The MSL attaches particular importance to marginalized women and youths and endeavors to protect them from abuse. To that end, the vocational training and social rehabilitation sessions provided by the MSL are meant to promote their social integration and enable them to access the labor market.

Vocational training and skill building classes

Since 2011, over 550 participants have benefited from vocational training classes offered at the MSL center and at the “hope Oasis” training center. Participants were introduced to the jobs of cook assistant, video assistant, nursing assistant, computer assembly and maintenance technician, hairdresser, makeup artist, electrician, and to others such as marketing, electronics, confectionery, reception and secretariat.

Social and professional integration

Social Rehabilitation sessions are an integral part of the vocational training we provide. They allow participants to develop their personality and use their full potential. Issues of democracy and civic values are addressed to strengthen the commitment and perseverance of young people involved in the project.

Participants complete an internship in one of the companies member of the MSL network. At the end of the training sessions at the “Hope Oasis”, the youths are delivered a certificate from the Director General of Technical and Vocational Education. Those who undergo training in MSL centers receive a certificate from the National Employment Office.

Through professional training and social rehabilitation, the MSL has contributed to the integration of more than 500 youths into the labor market since 2011.
The MSL has been working in Roumieh prison since 1994 and in Al Barbar Khazen prison since 1998. It supports and trains young people in conflict with the law and incarcerated women with the aim of improving their lives in prison and facilitating their reintegration into society.

**Vocational training**

The project in the Roumieh prison and Barbar el Khazen should be considered as a rehabilitation phase during which incarcerated youths and women are prepared to reintegrate society.

During this phase, social, psychological and legal support is provided to prisoners. Vocational training enables them to acquire new skills and facilitates their social integration upon their release.

In this framework, 778 young people received vocational training on the following professions: computer assembly and maintenance, hairdressing, leather and wood work. In addition, 183 incarcerated women were trained on using computers, embroidery, baking and hairdressing.

This vocational training had a positive impact on prisoners as they were commissioned to produce artisanal work, especially for the “Artisan du Liban”

**Intercultural mediation:**

Intercultural mediation aims at renewing social ties by enabling individuals to change their perceptions through a deep understanding of the linguistic, cultural and social specificities of the concerned communities. It also provides them with the means of decoding and subsequently resolving the underlying signs of conflict.

**Social rehabilitation and psychological counseling**

Social and psychological counseling respects the privacy of the prisoner. The team uses different techniques adapted to individual needs. 784 young people and 551 women have benefited from this service during which prisoners were offered the chance to discuss a series of topics related to human and children rights, labor law, communication, hygiene, sports, drugs, the environment, etc. The MSL also offered legal assistance to incarcerated youths and women on legal procedures, release, reduced sentences … In some cases the MSL had recourse to a defense lawyer.

**Recreational activities**

Entertainment is an essential part of the rehabilitation process. This is why the MSL organizes activities in prisons to help incarcerated minors and women express themselves and interact with others. In this regard, 264 youths took part in drawing workshops and 95 in theater workshops and sports classes. They were also provided with a library which the MSL built in the prison of El Barbar Khazen. In addition, they also took part in organizing different events for their vacation and graduation. This helped reduce the negative impact of incarceration.
After prison:
Integration into society

To facilitate the social and professional integration of incarcerated youth and women, the MSL helps them build a life project and implement it upon their release.

This project is divided into two phases: the preparation phase in prison and the implementation phase upon release. Assisted by the MSL team, women and youths reflect on a life project to work on after their release to guarantee the success of their social integration.

The MSL has provided more than 301 young people and 48 women with support following their release. The association covers the regions of Mount Lebanon, the North, the Bekaa and Beirut. Follow up entails different levels of support: individual, family, social, professional and psychological support. Overall support is an important means of encouraging youths and women to work, with the purpose of facilitating their reintegration.

Activities

The MSL organizes several cultural activities (theater, art) as therapies. Former prisoners write poems and stories and produce audio recordings and films. They also learn knitting and manual crafts and participate in recreational and educational outings. Despite their very low income, the possibility of producing and creating is a very important moral support for prisoners and constitutes an opportunity for them to have a sense of the evolution they have achieved.

"What is the life I want to lead once released?". This is the question tormenting prisonners which they try to answer to guarantee the success of their life projects. Life projects take into account various key elements of social reintegration: family, education, work opportunities, personal skills, etc...
Community work, an alternative to imprisonment

The MSL provides follow up for youth in conflict with the law sentenced to community service, an alternative to imprisonment in Lebanon.

Community service is a measure provided for in the Youth Protection Law of 2004. It is based on this law, and in line with its commitment to children’s rights, that the MSL provides support to young offenders sentenced to community service with projects in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, the North and in the Bekaa since February 2006.

An action-based approach

Youths sentenced to community service are involved in a variety of tasks designed to offer positive support to the local community or to an entitled institution, through non-paid activities. MSL Social workers endeavor to limit the risks of relapse, by providing regular follow-up throughout the rehabilitation process. They agree on a contract with the youths, in the presence of different actors and liaise with institutions entitled to receive youths in conflict with the law. During the rehabilitation process, the MSL advises and monitors youths and assesses their work on a regular basis. The MSL has offered support to 464 youths sentenced to community work in municipal, medical and social institutions, etc.

Cooperation and awareness

Throughout the year, the MSL team conducts visits to different organizations and institutions in order to raise awareness about community service. The association encourages various stakeholders to work together for the benefit of youth in conflict with the law. Thus, a network of NGOs and institutions where young people can serve their community work sentence, was established by the MSL. This network is in constant development and included X partners at the end of 2014.
ADVOCACY
The Social Movement works on achieving a policy change aimed at improving the conditions of the poor by taking part in several platforms and networks including:

- The platform for youth policy.
- The "Observatory on Social and Economic Rights" established by the ANND (Arab NGO Network for Development) to produce an alternative report.
- The National Commission for Lebanese Women.
- The National Committee for the Protection of Children in Armed Conflict under the patronage by the High Council for Children, which gathers together local and international NGOs.
- Collaboration with various ministries (the ministries of social affairs, justice, education and employment through the National Employment Office).
PUBLICATIONS
The Game « This is how I protect myself » includes a game board, an interactive CD and an instruction manual for children exposed to the dangers of the street.

The game « Tripoli » is an awareness tool designed for youths in conflict with the law.
Legal study “Minors and Adults facing justice”

A rap album recorded by minors in conflict with the law “a song for advice”
- Testimonies from women and youths in conflict with the law

- The cartoon album: «Sami, why me?»
- Socio-professionnal follow up manual

- Intercultural mediation manual
“Child Led Data Collection – CLDC” REPORT
- Youth success stories in setting up individual and public interest projects

- Album on protecting children in conflict
OFFICIAL VISITS
Visit of the European Commissioner on European expansion and neighborhood policy, Mr. Štefan Füle, in the presence of the European Ambassador to Lebanon, Ms. Angelina Eichhorst, and the UNICEF representative in Lebanon, Ms. Annamaria Laurini, on the occasion of the inauguration of the « Mouvement Social » center in Bourj Hammoud.
Visit of HE the Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon and UNICEF representatives to the Mouvement social.
## 2014 Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Amount in $</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prevention and protection</td>
<td>858,505.00</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>772,155.00</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship and engagement</td>
<td>193,835.00</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economical rehabilitation</td>
<td>194,845.00</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration and Coordination</td>
<td>212,930.00</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,232,270.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2014 Resources

International Partners (in alphabetical order)

- AFD
- Asfari
- CCFD-Terre solidaire
- Christian Aid
- Hilfswerk Austria
- OMSAR
- Partage
- Save the children
- Swiss Agency for development
- Unicef

Official bodies

- Ministry of social affairs
- Ministry of justice
- National office of employment

Local and personal funds

- Murex
- Participation