

SEAL: 2005 AT A GLANCE

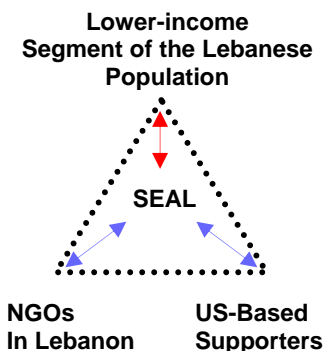
Social and Economic Action for Lebanon



Website: www.seal-usa.org

Email/Donations: info@seal-usa.org

SEAL's mission is to assist low-income individuals in Lebanon to increase their incomes and develop successful businesses, thereby creating jobs and lifting the standard of living for themselves, their families, and their communities.



Quick Facts:

- Non-profit organization, founded in NY by a group of Lebanese-Americans interested in taking action against the severe social and economic problems facing post-war Lebanon
- Assistance provided to people, irrespective of their background, religion, political affiliation or geographic location
- Full transparency, SEAL's financials are reviewed by certified public accountants every year and posted on our website
- Tax deductibility for donations
- All operating expenses covered by SEAL's officers; 100% of the contributions are used directly for SEAL-sponsored projects

The year in review: SEAL just wrapped up yet another successful year, with a total of \$77,000 raised in 2005 alone. For that, we need to thank our generous donors; Professor Rashid Khalidi for graciously agreeing to be the featured speaker at our fundraising dinner back in April; and all of the artists who participated in our third annual art auction - our most successful one to date. We also need to applaud our volunteers for their exceptional and untiring commitment.

The capital raised has allowed the funding of a number of projects, including:

- Empowerment of disabled citizens in the Bekaa Valley, through training sessions in information and communication technology on board Saradar's Mobile Computer School (in partnership with Fondation Saradar).
- Purchase of agricultural feeds/fertilizers intended to maintain agricultural land and ensure production for the year's crop in Hasroun, Northern Lebanon (in partnership with the agricultural cooperatives of Hasroun and Bazaoun).
- Endorsement of business education at the Zahrah public school for girls in Tripoli (in partnership with Junior Achievement Lebanon).
- Vocational training sessions in income-generating activities, such as catering or management of tourist accommodations, for women living in impoverished rural areas, in Maad, Jbeil (in partnership with ALDEC - Association Libanaise pour le Développement et la Culture/Al-Tilal).
- Purchase of bottling machinery for fully-accredited organic olive oil production in Saida (in partnership with Healthy Basket/American University of Beirut).

We are also in the process of funding projects under study, including:

- Construction of a tree nursery in the Hermel area, which would allow local families to make a living through the sale of samplings while simultaneously fighting deforestation (in partnership with MADA/Al Jord).
- Purchase of laptop computers and Braille display terminals for students at the Lebanese School for the Blind and Deaf in Baabda, to help their insertion into the job market.
- Classes sponsorships (e.g. "Internet" / "Job Search" / "English") at public libraries, aiming to encourage teenagers from lower-income families to pursue their education and find fulfilling jobs (in partnership with Assabil).

In addition, SEAL has spent significant time following up on the projects funded in the past, including: the development of a water purification system in Hermel; the purchase of agricultural equipment for organic farmers in the Bekaa valley; the purchase of industrial machinery used for training students at the Technical School in Jbeil, etc. We are proud to announce the successful and timely completion of all of the 15 projects funded thus far, **and the significant impact that your financial contributions have made on the lives of the people involved, their families and their communities.** *Additional details about SEAL's projects, including photographs and contact information, can be found on our website.*

Also worth noting in 2005, is the addition of Dr. Nabil Husami to our Board of Advisors. **With the severe socio-economic conditions plaguing Lebanon, funds are needed more than ever, as we have a long list of worthy projects in our pipeline.** While we are delighted with this year's success, we hope that we can keep growing and make 2006 an even greater success with your help and support.

On behalf of everyone at SEAL, I would like to send you our best wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful new year. We sincerely hope that you will continue encouraging our efforts.

Philippe P. Asseily, President

SEAL – DONORS, 2005
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