

# 2011 AT A GLANCE

As we start a new year, we wanted to share with you some exciting news about the tremendous impact that your donations have had throughout Lebanon in 2011.

The funding of 9 projects for a total of \$143,000 is expected to benefit 1,540 families and result in 500,000m<sup>2</sup> of land being properly irrigated.

We would like to acknowledge a number of people without whom the endeavors listed below would have not been possible:

- our donors for their generosity
- our volunteers for their unwavering commitment
- the artists who donated pieces for SEAL's art auction
- Ms. Ranya Husami for curating the auction
- Mr. Jonathan Daou for offering his gallery for the event
- Ambassador & Mrs. Chedid for helping SEAL to expand its reach to the DC community
- Ms. Annia Ciezaldo & Dr. Paul Boulos for their inspirational speeches
- [Ms. Nadine Hajjar](#) for her continuous support in designing SEAL's printed and web materials throughout the years

## Completed projects:

**Water Pumping Station in Akoura, Mount Lebanon.** Installation of a water pump and 400 meters of pipes. This is SEAL's third project in the area, which now allows an entire region to benefit from irrigated agricultural land.

**Reconstruction of a Milk Collection Facility in Aytaroun.** Restoring the destroyed facility allowed over thirty families to commercialize the milk they produce and encouraged additional milk production.

**Refrigerated Truck to Collect Milk from Wadi Khaled.** Purchase of a refrigerated pick-up truck benefited 210 farmers who are now able to sell their high-quality, properly refrigerated milk at competitive prices.

**Apple Tree Roots in Hrajel, Keserwan.** Distribution of 8,230 apple tree roots benefited 686 farmers in Hrajel, whose single source of income is most often the production and sale of apples.

**Equipment & Training for a Women's Association in Baskenta.** A training session and the purchase of kitchen appliances allowed over twelve women in Baskenta to significantly increase the production of their *mounee* food products, which they sell at local markets.

## Projects awaiting implementation:

**Water Pipes & Cement Canals in Kfarzebian, Keserwan.** Installation of 100 meters of water pipes and 220 meters of cement canals from the springs of "Ellaban" and "El Assal" – allowing the irrigation of 250,000m<sup>2</sup> of new land for agriculture and benefiting more than 500 families.

**Water Pipes in Aynata, Bekaa Valley.** After financing the construction of a water well in Aynata in 2008, SEAL funded the purchase of 2,000 meters of water pipes originating from the well. This will result in the irrigation of 250,000m<sup>2</sup> of land for agricultural production, with approximately 80 families benefiting from this project.

**Kiosks in Bkessine, South Lebanon.** Purchase and installation of 6 kiosks in a natural reserve pine forest area – a recently rehabilitated tourist attraction – allowing local craftsmen to sell their merchandise.

**Cement Canals in Al-Menieh, Tripoli Area.** Construction of 300 meters of cement canals used to channel rainwater properly, so as to prevent flooding and the ensuing destruction of the agricultural land, thus improving farming conditions.





### Dr. Nabil Husami's Legacy

2011 was also a difficult year, SEAL lost a friend and key member of its group. Up until the very end, Dr. Husami's commitment to SEAL and to helping others was as impressive as it was inspiring. His generosity, uplifting "can-do" attitude, and great sense of humor are part of his legacy to our organization. In 2012, we intend to keep on implementing projects that have tremendous impact on people in need throughout Lebanon; we need as many passionate volunteers as we can get to help SEAL, just like Dr. Husami did.

### LECTURE/DINNER WITH MS. ANNIA CIEZALDO

On April 26, SEAL hosted an intimate lecture/dinner with Ms. Annia Ciezaldo who spent five years studying food and politics in the Middle East for her critically acclaimed book *Day of Honey: A Memoir of Food, Love, and War* which offers a fearless, intimate portrait of civilian life during wartime. From secret Baghdad book clubs to family recipes from her Lebanese mother-in-law, Ms. Ciezaldo takes the reader into the heart of the modern Middle East at a historic moment when hope and fear collide.

### ART AUCTION CURATED BY MS. RANYA HUSAMI

On June 2, SEAL raised approximately \$45,000 during its annual art auction at the Openhouse Gallery, a space generously offered by Mr. Jonathan Daou. We wish to thank once again Ms. Ranya Husami for her time and expertise, as well as the fourteen Middle Eastern artists who contributed their art to help us raise funds for projects in Lebanon:

- |                |               |               |                 |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Etel Adnan     | Fouad Elkoury | John Jurayj   | Mounira Al Solh |
| Nadia Ayari    | Mona Hatoum   | Ziad Naccache | Hannibal Srouji |
| Ayman Baalbaki | Susan Hefuna  | Nabil Nahas   |                 |
| Annabel Daou   | Ahmad Hussein | Walid Raad    |                 |

### AMBASSADOR & MRS. CHEDID INTRODUCE SEAL TO THE WASHINGTON DC COMMUNITY

Ambassador Antoine Chedid and his wife Nicole, who have supported SEAL since its early days, generously organized a dinner in Washington DC on June 21 to help introduce the organization to a wider audience. Given our long pipeline of projects throughout Lebanon, the opportunity to reach out to another community and thereby increase our network of supporters was welcomed with open arms.

### FRIENDS OF SEAL INSPIRED BY DR. PAUL BOULOS

On October 17, "Friends of SEAL", a group led by young professionals helping SEAL to expand its reach to the younger crowd, organized an event in New York City centered around Dr. Paul Boulos. A renowned international authority in water resources engineering, Dr. Boulos is also an expert on drinking water, from hydraulics to water quality principles. He answered a wide array of questions surrounding water issues in the Middle East and more particularly in Lebanon, and also inspired the attendees by sharing with them his values around the need to always aim high and to build a great life – not simply a great resume.



### Please contribute:

As always, what we need most is your continued financial support. With all of SEAL's operating expenses covered by Board Members and Officers, every single dollar that you **donate** is spent on projects.

We hope to see you at our fundraising dinner on **March 9**, and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year, the SEAL Team

### CONTRIBUTIONS & FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

used entirely towards funding SEAL projects

### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

paid for 100% by SEAL Officers and Directors



*SEAL's mission is to assist low-income individuals in Lebanon to increase their income 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 background, religion, political affiliation or geographic location
- › Full transparency
- › Tax deductible donations
- › 100% of contributions used to sponsor projects

[www.seal-usa.org](http://www.seal-usa.org)

### 2011 DONORS

#### Benefactors (\$10,000+)

- Anthony R. Abraham Foundation, Inc.
- Claudia & George Bitar
- Danielle & George Boutros
- Nayla Hadchiti
- Lara & Habib Kairouz
- Wissam Kairouz
- Maya & Marc Malek
- Riad Younes

#### Patrons (\$5,000+)

- Sima & Khaled Beydoun
- NOK Foundation Inc
- Annie & Sami Totah

#### Supporters (\$1,000+)

- Kinda & Philippe Asseily
- Omar Baker
- Dr. Paul Boulos
- Adla & Alex Massoud
- Philippe & Joumana Tager
- Charbel & Aida Tagher

#### Friends

- Nicolas Chikhani
- Ralph Debbas
- Cristina Enriquez-Bocobo
- Dana Farouki
- Hani Hassoun
- Bardia Mesbah
- Serge Mouracade
- Salim Samaha

#### Donations in Kind

- Etel Adnan
- Ayman Baalbaki
- Annabel Daou
- Jonathan Daou
- Fouad Elkoury
- Mona Hatoum
- Susan Hefuna
- Ahmad Hussein
- John Jurayj
- Ziad Naccache
- Nabil Nahas
- Walid Raad
- Mounira Al Solh
- Hannibal Srouji