

The National Institution of Social Care & Vocational Training

Beit Atfal Assumoud



Annual Operational Report 2020

INTRODUCTION

The economic deterioration in Lebanon which started in 2019 continued its radical decline in 2020, eliminating hopes of positive changes. The emergence of the pandemic COVID-19 earlier in the year intensified the crisis up to the maximum. The challenges caused by the pandemic were high and risky worldwide, both physically and mentally; yet Lebanon remains a unique case due to its internal political, economic, and security upheavals, with a diverse population including the presence of refugees.

While struggling to contain the virus infections, the number of people in Lebanon suffering from extreme poverty has tripled. Huge numbers of the population depended on daily income for living. The imposed lockdown has cut off the people's means of income, with no support plan provided by the government.

Amid poverty and the contagious pandemic, another devastating catastrophe befell upon the country. The blast at Beirut Port that summer had broken the last straw. Destruction of properties, the numbers of casualties and deaths, the terror and fear, all brought back images and feelings of bloody wars. The explosion and the scenes of destruction and death caused deep traumas among the survivors nationwide. Relief aid of food and non-food items became more in demand, and mental support became urgently needed.

In such an environment, the economy and supply chains in Lebanon were only worsening the already deteriorating socio-economic situation. An increase in the number of the poor and extremely poor within Lebanon's various communities has become significant. The overall conditions have consequently increased the crime rate in the whole country. Cases of theft, burglaries, violent assaults leading to murder, are frequently seen on the news.

The already marginalized Palestinian refugee camps are no void of such acts. Increased violence domestically and in the streets has been frequent. Reports emphasized increasing numbers of gender-based violence victims besides crimes caused by theft and family disputes. The cascading crises have laid heavy influence upon the Palestinian refugee communities in Lebanon demonstrated by drug abuse and smoking, intense depression and mental disturbances, and an increase in domestic problems leading to divorces and disintegration of families.

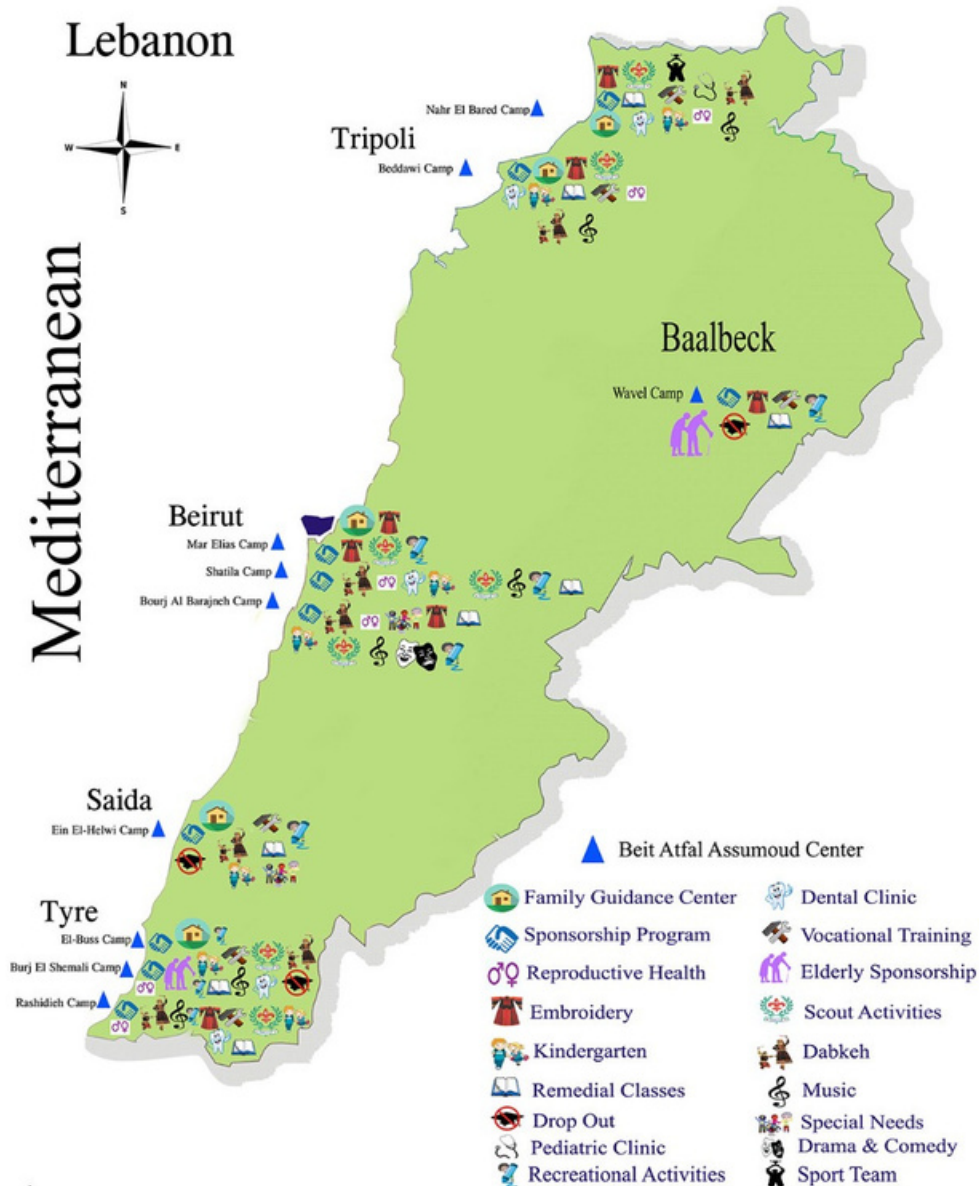
Who We Are

Locally known as Beit Atfal Assumoud (BAS), The National Institution of Social Care and Vocational Training (NISCVT), is a humanitarian, non-governmental, non-profit, non-political organization that works on the development of the Palestinian refugee communities in Lebanon.

Founded on 12 August 1976, NISCVT provides developmental programs, health, and relief services to Palestinians living in the camps and the Gatherings on the Lebanese territories.

Access to these services are enhanced by establishing 13 centers around Lebanon; 10 of which are in ten camps in different districts and governorates.

NISCVT has significant human resources, employing 265 motivated staff members: 145 full-time and 120 part-time employees, in addition to numerous national and international volunteers.



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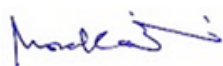
Dr. Muna Khalidi
*Vice President
Board of Directors*

By all accounts, 2020 has been one of the most challenging years in the life of Beit Atfal Assumoud and of everyone that works in the organization. Along with everyone in Lebanon, we have been faced with many hardships. Economic, security, political, and health adversities have stretched our capacities as we strived to respond to the rising social and mental health needs of the communities we serve. However, despite all the hardships, we chose to rise to the occasion and to accept the challenge.

As an organization, we subscribe to the concept of mental health and wellbeing as a bio-psycho-social construct and, therefore, a product of the interplay between these various factors. So, we re-grouped and decided that our programs and interventions were now needed more than ever. We continued to work finding creative ways around the closures and the requirements for safety imposed by the COVID pandemic. We distributed humanitarian assistance to those who need it most, but we continued with all our programs, finding new and innovative ways to do things. We used technology whenever we could, we went out into the community whenever we could, we learned a lot and succeeded in providing high-quality services, including mental health services, to the children and their carers.

This year we also struggled with diminishing finances as external funding was diverted elsewhere. But we continued to strengthen our own programs and structures. All mental health centers were assessed and plans for improvement put in place. We used the “down-time” to introspect and reflect on our history, our achievements, and our weaknesses, and we embarked on developing a Mental Health Strategic Plan which was subsequently adopted, and now forms the backbone of our program.

We continue to face huge challenges. But we will continue to rise to the occasion.



Mr. Kassem Aina
General Director

As we welcome a new year with hopes, we cannot but note how last year was not like any other past. 2020 was a year of pain, disappointment, and challenge. The pandemic fiercely invaded our vulnerable communities in the Palestinian refugee camps, sweeping off the leftover of incomes that the families once had, and eliminating any job opportunities. Within an accumulating environment of socioeconomic deterioration and hostile virus, the horrible explosion of Beirut Port topped the crises which have been mercilessly hitting Lebanon.

All through, we had been striving to maintain the delivery of high-impact services as the pandemic profoundly changed every way we lived and worked. Soaring prices of the essential commodities manipulated preset budget. Activities of social nature had to be canceled for safety. Yet, the resilient and adaptive nature of NISCVT family succeeded in ensuring necessary programmatic changes with an uninterrupted provision of quality services to our community: promoting mental and physical health, access to online education and consultations, as well as compensating for the basic needs with food support and essential hygiene materials distributed to the families.

These urgent times call for us to move with speed and intention, reinforcing social cohesion in times of social distancing, ensuring our future reflects the insights these past events have revealed. We want to shape the way for health and rights work, a way that evolves and deepens in the years ahead, supporting resilient systems that can continue to serve the community during crises. We work to accomplish our mission of empowering and serving the Palestinians until the liberation of the Land and Right of Return are gained. With you standing steadfastly beside us, we remain strong.



2020 in Numbers

PROGRAMS AND BENEFICIARIES

Total PRL PRS SR LB

Education

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Pre-school/Kindergarten | 527 | 83% | 3% | 10% | 4% |
| Learning Support Classes | 617 | 65% | 15% | 19% | 1% |
| Vocational Education | 268 | 82% | 14% | 2% | 2% |
| Scholarships (Uni. and VET) | 67 | 84% | 9% | 0% | 7% |
| Special Classes: School Dropout Children | 30 | 70% | 7% | 23% | 0% |
| Special Classes: Children with Special Needs | 32 | 59% | 19% | 22% | 0% |

Health

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Dental Education, Screening & Treatment (3-6 years) | 6,634 | 64% | 16% | 13% | 7% |
| Dental Education, Screening & Treatment (7-18 Children + Adults) | 6,052 | 78% | 14% | 4% | 4% |
| Pediatric Clinic: Screening & Treatment Babies and Children | 3,217 | 93% | 4% | 2% | 1% |
| Pediatric Health Education (Mothers) | 173 | 75% | 25% | 0% | 0% |
| Reproductive Health: Specialized Medicine | 3,995 | 75% | 5% | 19% | 1% |
| Reproductive Health: Peer Education | 552 | 86% | 11% | 3% | 0% |
| Mental Health | 1,781 | 62% | 4% | 20% | 14% |
| Psychosocial Support for Children & Youth | 3,885 | 92% | 4% | 3% | 1% |
| Psychosocial Support for Parents/Caregivers | 1,486 | 92% | 4% | 3% | 1% |

Sponsorship (Family Happiness Project)

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-----|-----|----|----|
| Sponsored Children | 1,044 | 88% | 11% | 1% | 0% |
| Sponsored Elderlies | 41 | 98% | 2% | 0% | 0% |
| Sponsored KG Children | 347 | 94% | 2% | 4% | 0% |

Art & Culture

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|----|
| Embroidery Production Project - Women | 117 | 100% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| Scout: Children and Youth Groups | 356 | 78% | 18% | 1% | 3% |
| Sports Teams - Children & Youth | 129 | 78% | 17% | 5% | 0% |
| Dabkeh Groups | 107 | 92% | 7% | 1% | 0% |
| Musical Bands & Choir Groups | 471 | 84% | 11% | 1% | 4% |
| Drawing & Comics | 140 | 76% | 10% | 12% | 2% |

Relief Aid and In-Kind Distributions

| | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----|-----|----|----|
| Diesel Fuel | 3,000 | 52% | 48% | 0% | 0% |
| Food Support (parcels & vouchers) | 24,237 | 71% | 26% | 2% | 1% |
| Hygiene Kits | 10,274 | 34% | 65% | 1% | 0% |
| Pregnant Women & Babies' needs (hygiene, diapers, & milk) | 2,828 | 32% | 65% | 2% | 1% |
| Clothing (winter clothing and Eid outfits) | 1,105 | 79% | 16% | 4% | 1% |
| Children's Gifts & KG Stationery | 1,814 | 72% | 15% | 9% | 4% |

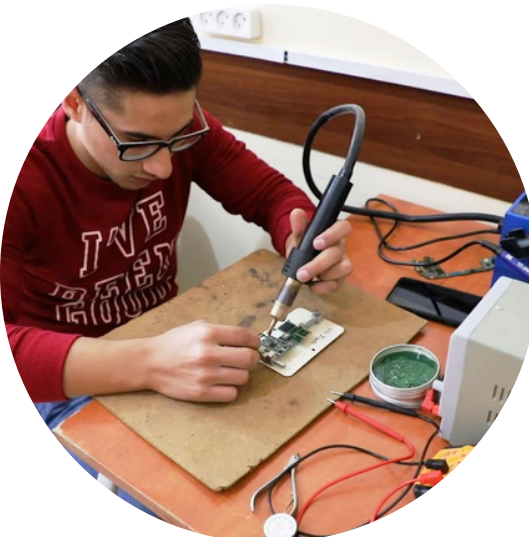
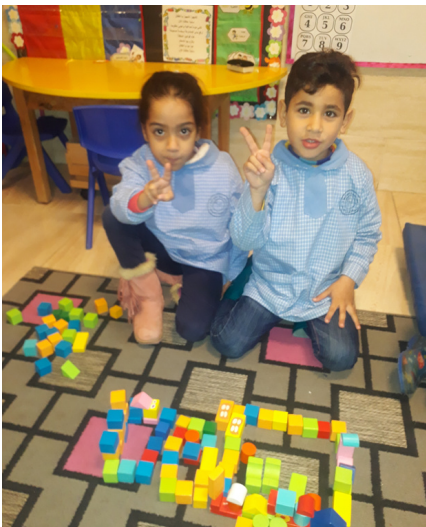
PRL = Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon
PRS = Palestinian Refugees from Syria

SR = Syrian Refugees
LB = Lebanese

EDUCATION

"Children and young people have the right to education no matter who they are: regardless of race, gender or disability; if they're in detention, or if they're a refugee."

Article 28, UNCRC



PRESCHOOL EDUCATION - KINDERGARTENS

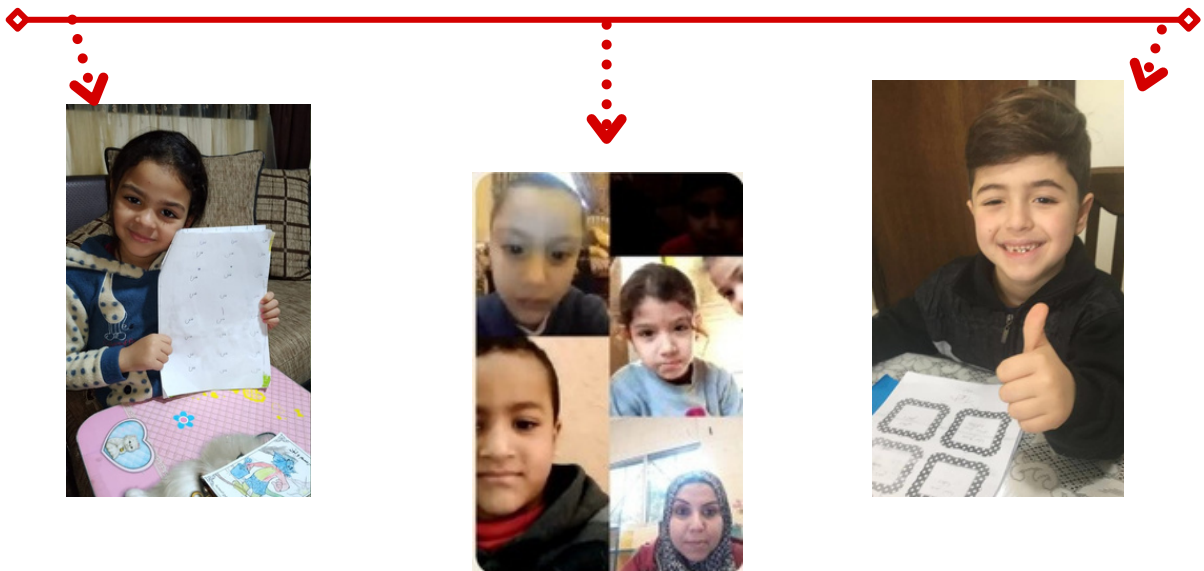
"The COVID situation in the camps was so bad in the summer of 2020 that it crippled us from working closely with the children."

Rania Khartabil
Education Coordinator

2020 deprived the children of the joy of attending classes as a result of the spread of COVID. Distant learning was extremely challenging for both parents and children as the learning responsibilities heavily laid upon the parents. As such, training in distant learning techniques targeted the teachers and parents/caregivers. Despite the difficulties, the team turned the experience into a success.

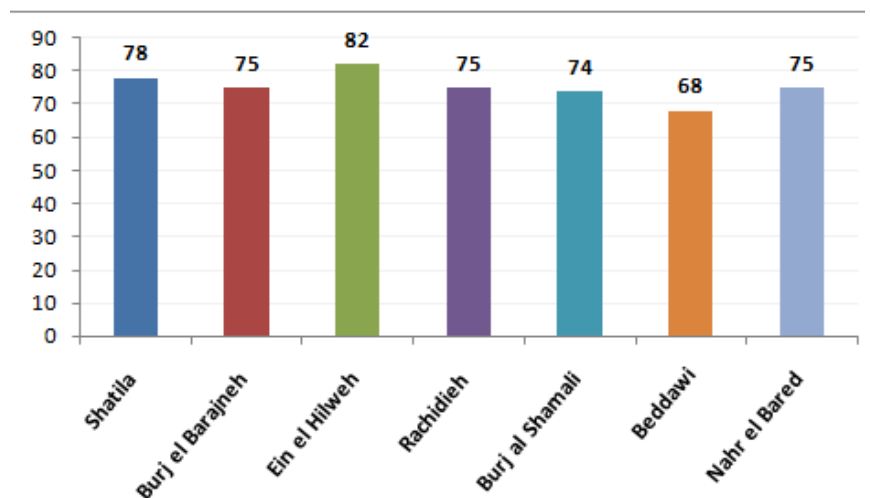
BAS kindergartens continued the academic education virtually reaching **527** children with the planned curriculum. Weekly worksheets on the lesson activities were sent to the students. Children followed links to videos that explained the learning skill/objective, followed by voice messages and video calls that supported the caregivers in the application.

The children shared videos of themselves achieving the learning activities using the WhatsApp application for group interaction with the teacher and peers.



Our Preschoolers:

A total of 527 children, 3-5 years old, were enrolled in the 7 kindergartens of BAS centers in the various camps in Beirut, south and north Lebanon. Ensuring no discrimination takes place, children of different nationalities received equal opportunities of learning.

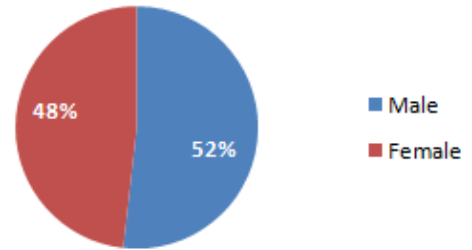


Numbers of KG children in each camp

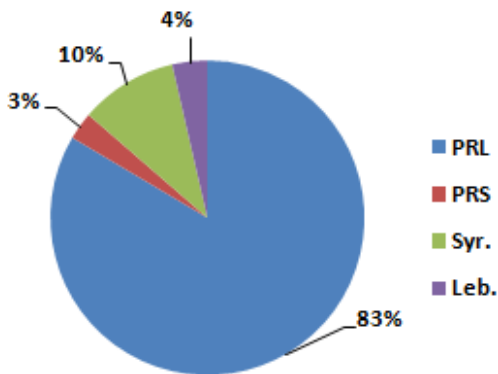
PRESCHOOL EDUCATION - KINDERGARTENS

Of the total number of children, 273 are boys and 254 are girls, making up 48% of the total. The figure here reflects the percentages of female and male KG children.

Percentage of Male/Female KG Children



The figure below illustrates the percentages of children segregated by nationalities, whereas the adjacent table shows the numbers.



| Centers/Camps | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Shatila | 63 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 78 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 49 | 5 | 16 | 5 | 75 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 74 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 82 |
| Rashidiyeh | 72 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 75 |
| Burj al Shamali | 69 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 74 |
| Beddawi | 42 | 2 | 16 | 8 | 68 |
| Nahr el Bared | 71 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 75 |
| Grand Total | 440 | 15 | 53 | 19 | 527 |

UNICEF – Taawon Project

Under the UNICEF-ECE project, Welfare Lebanon (al Taawon) has been of great support to BAS kindergartens during the COVID lockdown days. Al Taawon enhanced virtual learning along with offering safety measures to its partners. These included the distribution of hygiene kits to all seven kindergartens, 15 laptops to the educational team in order to enhance the online teaching through videos and other audiovisual materials, and basic stationery to the children and storybooks. It also supported rehabilitation works of necessary facilities in two kindergartens of Shatila and Bourj al Shamali.



LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAM

NISCVT runs eight learning support centers in different Palestinian camps across Lebanon. This program focuses on encouraging students to become independent learners. Using the student-centered approach and active learning methodologies, the children are apt to develop self-esteem and decision-making skills.



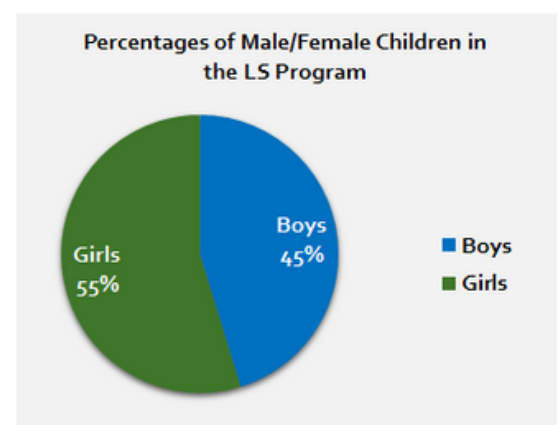
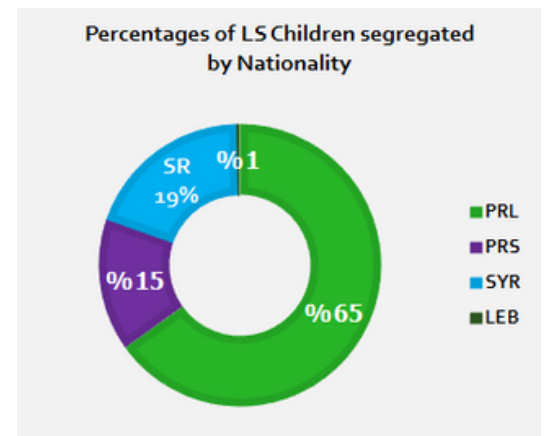
The Learning Support Program constitutes learning opportunities to:

- Students of the primary cycles, mainly in UNRWA schools, to improve their school performance;
- School dropouts;
- Children having learning difficulties and other special needs.

Learning Support School Children:

In 2020, BAS reached a total of **617** children through the learning support services, of which 55% are girls. As with all programs, BAS provides equal opportunities to all children regardless of gender, race, or nationality. Description of the children reached is seen below.

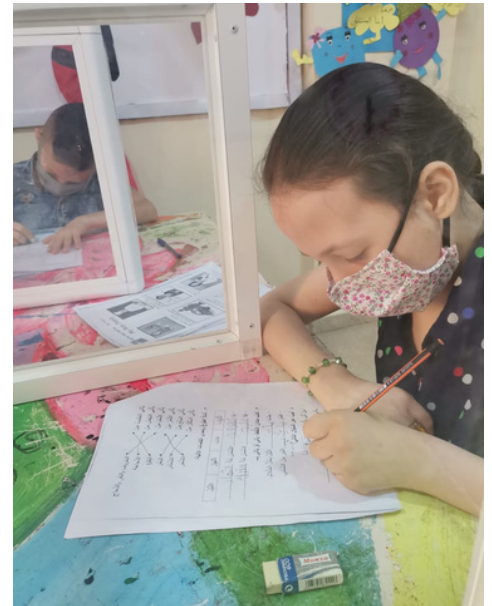
| Center/Camp | Nationalities | | | | Total |
|--------------------|---------------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|
| | PRL | PRS | SR | LEB | |
| Burj el Barajneh | 0 | 0 | 119 | 0 | 119 |
| Shatila | 33 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 37 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 86 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 91 |
| Wavel (Baalbek) | 81 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 116 |
| Beddawi | 46 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 63 |
| Nahr el Bared | 47 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 |
| Rashidiyeh | 63 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 81 |
| Burj al Shamali | 45 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 60 |
| Grand Total | 401 | 92 | 122 | 2 | 617 |



LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAM

The pandemic-imposed lockdown has greatly harmed the students of the remedial classes, who are in need of direct supervision to improve their educational achievement. To ensure the proper support is provided to the students, BAS prepared a safe classroom environment and invited the weak students to attend the class at the center.

The physical distance and additional protective measures were strictly considered. The students were separated in their seats by using children-friendly partitions that provided safety and, simultaneously, allowed comfortable communication among all.



The children, as well as their respective parents/caregivers, were happy with the new classroom formation. They were encouraged to study, feeling confident with the privacy awarded by the new partitions.

With daily cleaning and sanitization, maintaining the safe distancing, adjusting the classroom formation, and discarding crowds, Beit Atfal Assumoud centers ensured high standard protective measures for both, the children and the staff.



LEARNING SUPPORT: Special Classes Education

No child should be excluded from learning.

Inclusive Education;
UNICEF

NISCVT provides special education classes to school dropout children and youth, and those experiencing learning difficulties. The special education is implemented in two of its centers in Ein el Hilweh (South) and Burj el Barajneh (Beirut). At the centers, these children receive ample care while engaging in the learning process. They also participate in other programs, such as awareness sessions, and take roles in celebrating national ceremonies and cultural activities.



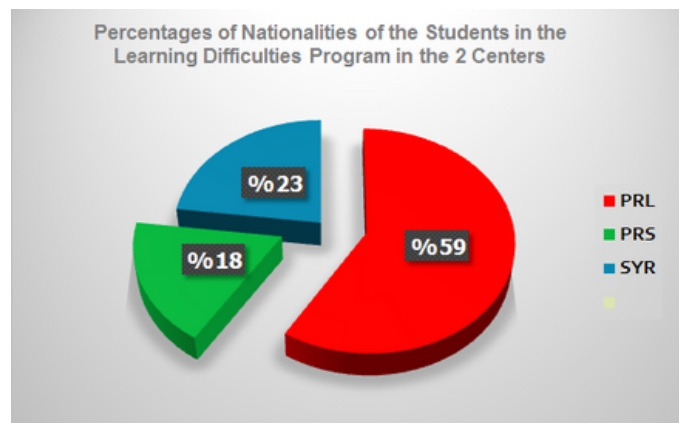
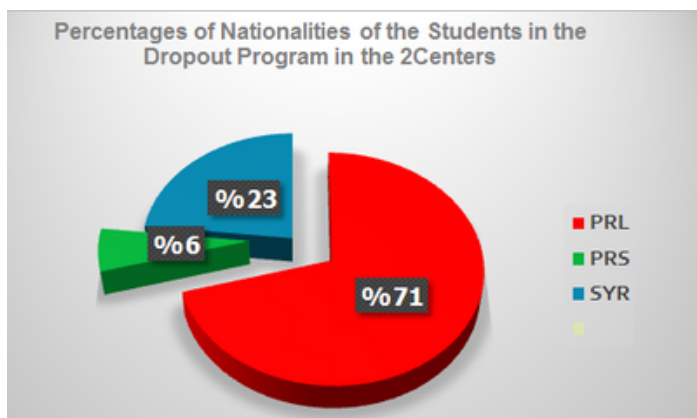
Learning Support - Special Education Children:

A total of 30 school dropouts and 32 students with learning difficulties attended BAS classes in 2020. The table below shows the number of children-students in each of the centers.



| Center / Camps | Dropout Students | Learning Difficulties Students | Total |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Burj el Barajneh | 14 | 13 | 27 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 16 | 19 | 35 |
| Grand Total | 30 | 32 | 62 |

The children come from different nationalities of the refugees living in the camps. The figures below show the percentages of the children segregated according to the nationalities in each of the two groups of learners.



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

"We encourage the girls to study any type of vocation and break the conventional gender careers. A number of girls in our camp graduated last year in computer and cell phone hardware maintenance."

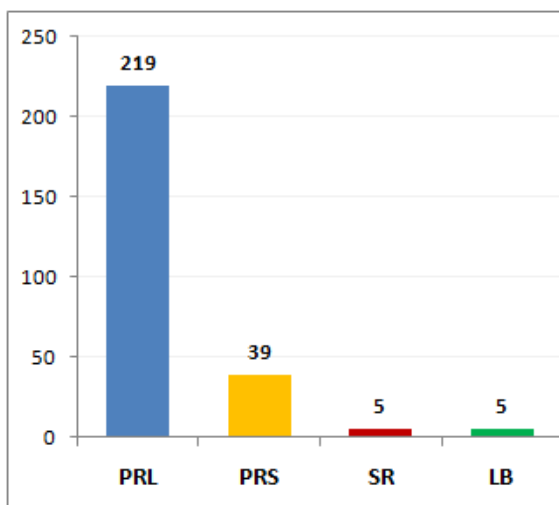
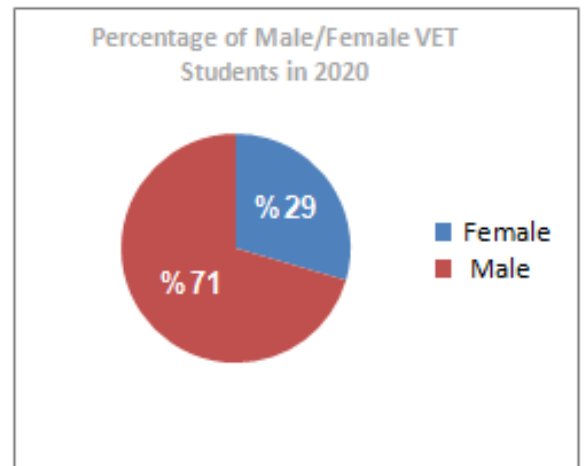
Asaad Abdul Al
VET Coordinator

For those children and youth who decide not to follow the path of school, college, or university (forced by circumstances or by choice), NISCVT provides vocational education and skills training opportunities. 15-25 year old girls and boys involve in accelerated non-academic practical courses, totally related to their choice of career development. In addition to the technical skills, the program integrates life skills development within the curriculum, where students develop personal and social skills that are crucial to possess in the workplace.

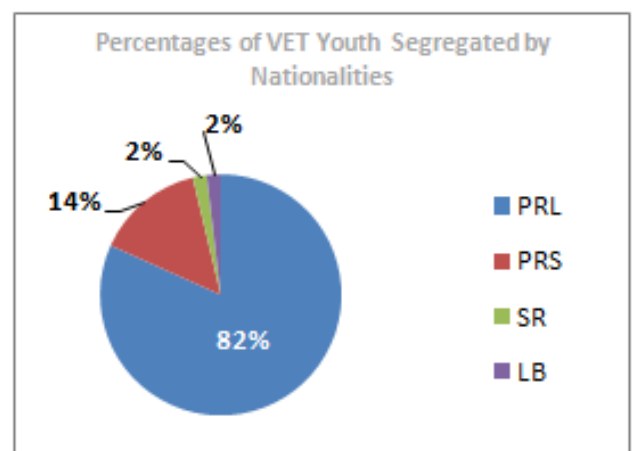
Upon completing the courses, each student receives a certificate and a tool kit necessary to start up his/her career within the student's specialty.

Vocational Education Training Youth:

268 youth, with 29% female, graduated in 2020 from the vocational education program in NISCVT, certified in various vocations. Of the total number, 219 are Palestinian refugees originally living in Lebanon, representing 82% of the students. The figures and the chart below show the percentages and the numbers of the youth segregated by gender and nationalities.



Number of VET students segregated by nationalities



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

The VET program is implemented in NISCVT centers in Nahr el Bared and Beddawi camps in the north, Wavel camp in Baalbek, Rashidiyeh and Burj el Shamali camps in the south.

Scholarship Program:

Through partnerships and donors support, NISCVT provides university and vocational education scholarships for the youth. Specialized fields of study, such as, Nursing, Dental Assistants, Business Administration, and other degrees are additional opportunities for the youth education.

In 2020, **67** students in the various camps received scholarships to complete their studies. 3 of the 67 scholarships were in music.

NISCVT staff keeps track of the students' performance regularly to ensure successful progress and completion of degrees from the private institutions/universities.



Special scholarships also are offered to children living with special abilities in the camps. By the support of the Finnish Psychologists for Social Responsibility (FiPSR) and the Finnish Arab Friendship Society (FAFS), another **143** scholarships have been provided to children living with special needs. The **Multiple Special Needs Project (MSN)** enables children living with multiple disabilities to pursue their academic education, ensuring equal opportunities to all girls and boys despite their abilities.

The MSN project scholarships are distributed through the Family Guidance Centers (FGC) in Beirut, Nahr el Bared and Beddawi camps, Saida, and el Buss camp.

| Family Guidance Center | # of Children Male/Female |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nahr el Bared | 17 |
| Beddawi | 17 |
| Beirut | 68 |
| Saida | 22 |
| El Buss | 19 |
| Grand Total | 143 |



HEALTH

"It is health that is real wealth, and not pieces of gold and silver."
Mahatma Gandhi



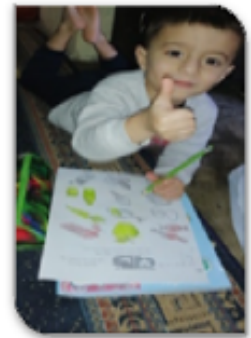
"Dental problems in adults and children increased significantly in the camps due to stress, poor hygiene, and fear of seeing a dentist during the pandemic."

Dr. Faiza Masri
Dental Health
Coordinator

As dental staff classified at high risk of contracting the Corona virus from patients through droplets and aerosols, NISCVT clinics were closed for 28 days. The closure period was used to increase the knowledge of the staff about the pandemic, and design a plan for safe return to dental practice. Educating the community, young and adults, on dental health did not stop during the lockdowns. Coloring sheets for children and relevant knowledge to parents were frequently disseminated. The clinics operated only in response to emergency cases.

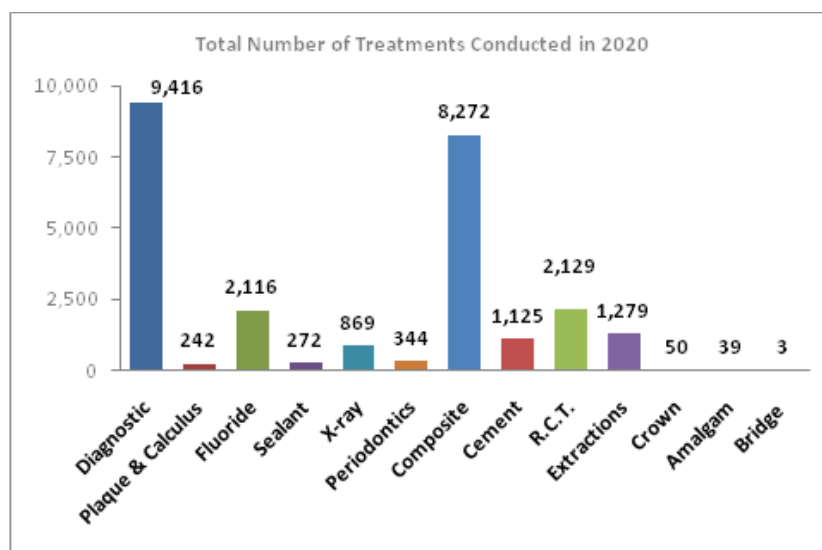
Dental Care program comprises of 3 components:

- Treatment,
- Health Education, and
- Prevention (involves regular examination of the children's teeth)



Target Beneficiaries & Services

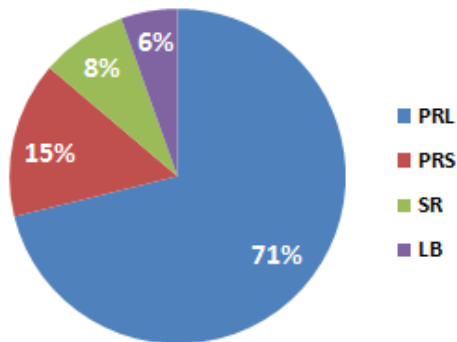
The dental program targets BAS kindergarten children (3-5 years) and 6-18 year old children sponsored via the Family Happiness Project and their mothers. It also serves NISCVT staff and extends the services to children of all ages participating in the organization's activities, such as those involved in educational programs, scouts, and music, with the needed treatments.



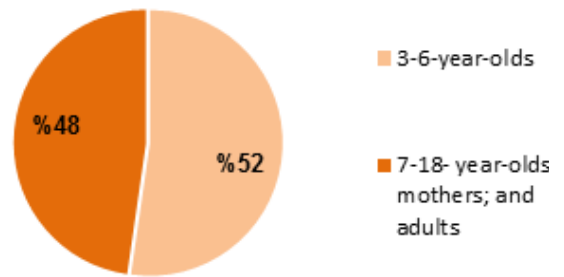
12,686 beneficiaries of different age groups and nationalities were reached in 2020, as the table below shows. The corresponding percentages are seen in the figures that follow.

| Category | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|
| 3-6 year old children | 4,268 | 1,066 | 843 | 457 | 6,634 |
| 7-18 year olds; mothers & adults | 4,756 | 849 | 214 | 233 | 6,052 |
| Total | 9,024 | 1,915 | 1,057 | 690 | 12,686 |

Percentages of the Total Beneficiaries segregated by Nationalities

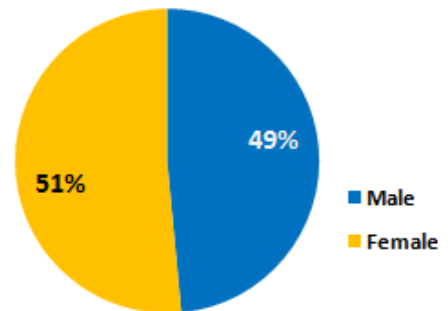


Percentage of Treated Beneficiaries segregated by Age Group

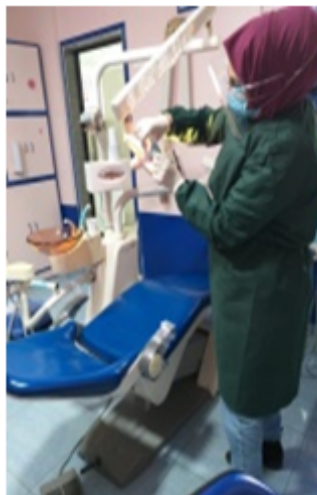


Of the total number of the children in both age groups are girls, representing a 51% of the beneficiaries, as the figure shows.

Percentages of Male/Female Children received Dental Services in 2020



NISCVT has been providing dental health care since 1999. Six clinics are established with easy access to the Palestinian refugees and other camp residents in Shatila (Beirut); Ein el Hilweh, Burj el Shamali, Rashidiyeh (south); Nahr el Bared and Beddawi (north).



The Pediatric clinic was founded in the Nahr Al Bared center in 2012, with the support of a Palestinian expatriate, Dr. Mahmoud Lubani. The clinic provides medical care for children as well as counseling and health awareness sessions for parents and caregivers. NISCVT's clinic is the only specialized pediatric clinic in the camp and its surrounding area.

Beneficiaries at the Pediatric Clinic

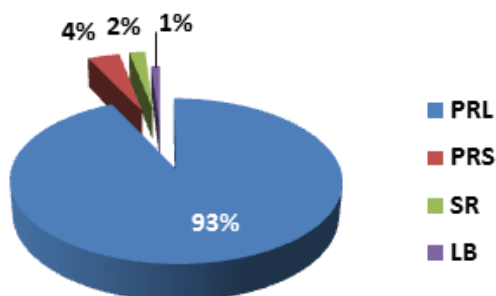
In 2020, the clinic continued providing treatment for infants and children, and health education for mothers. Indiscriminately of nationality or place of residence, a total of **3,390** children and adults were reached in and around NBC.



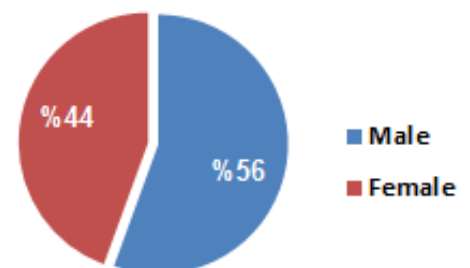
Of the total, **3,217** infants and children benefited from the clinic treatment services, with 44% females. The table shows the number of beneficiaries segregated according to gender and nationalities, and the figures illustrate the corresponding percentages.

| | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total |
|--------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Male | 1,660 | 80 | 35 | 13 | 1,788 |
| Female | 1,340 | 58 | 19 | 12 | 1,429 |
| Total | 3,000 | 138 | 54 | 25 | 3,217 |

Percentages of Beneficiaries Segregated by Nationalities



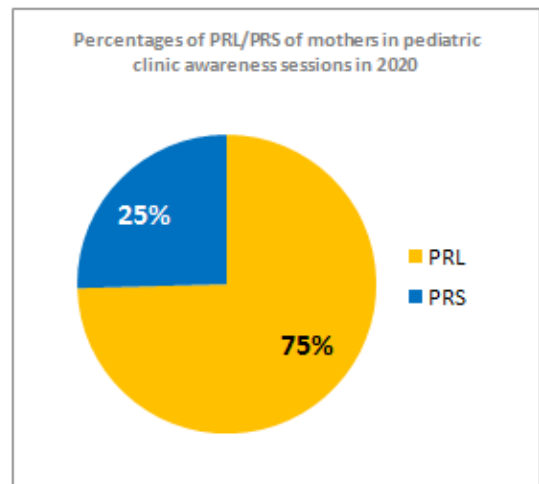
Percentage of Male/Female Children Treated in the Pediatric Clinic in 2020



Educational & Awareness Sessions for Mothers

Led by the principle of protection and prevention, NISCVT emphasizes knowledge sharing in the community. Despite the lockdown intervals and continual social distancing, the pediatric clinic in NBC center has been committed to informing the public about common diseases and the pandemic impact, especially on children who are most vulnerable of the population.

173 refugee women attended sessions on multiple health subjects, learning about the nature of common diseases, their nature, ways of prevention and direct response to sickness. Of the total number, 44 women/caregivers (25%) are Palestinian refugees from Syria (PRS).



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

"It's not only the lab tests and medication. It's the knowledge and awareness that need to be accessible to our people in the camps, men and women, young and adults."

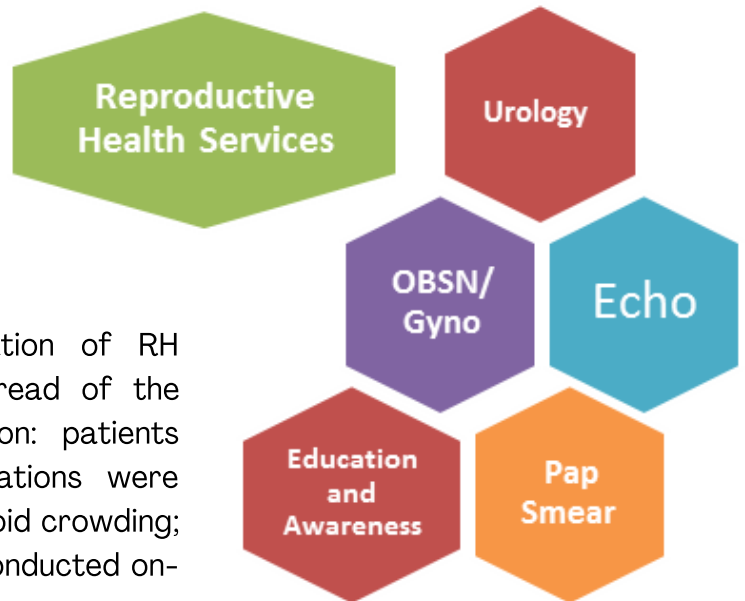
Fadia Hamzeh
RH Coordinator

NISCVT's Reproductive Health (RH) program for the Palestinian refugees is implemented in five centers. Introducing the project to the camps aimed at filling a gap for the refugees by having easy access to health services which are not available at the UNRWA clinics. Its goal is to improve the physical, psychological, mental, and emotional well-being of the targeted groups, their families, and the community as a whole.

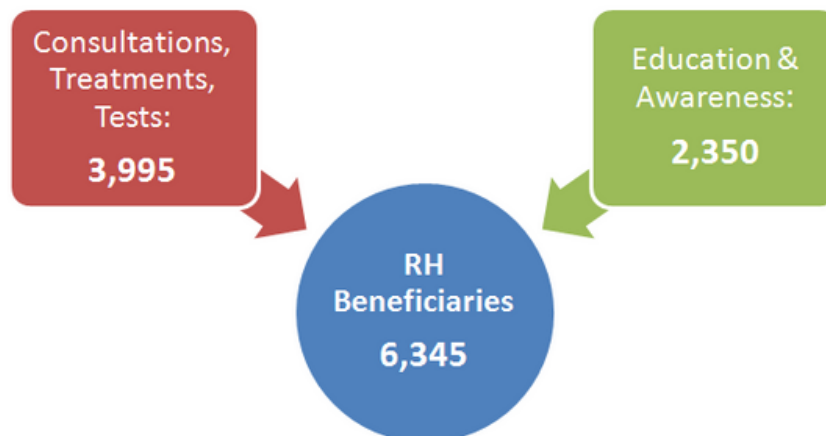
The RH program uses a comprehensive approach of prevention and intervention with male and female adolescents and young parents.

RH clinics provide consultations, medical screening and treatment, counseling, sexual education for youth, and at-home awareness-raising sessions. Additionally, it conducts lab and Pap-Smear tests.

Like all other sectors, the implementation of RH activities has been affected by the spread of the pandemic and the lockdowns in Lebanon: patients seeking medical treatment and consultations were attended upon distant appointments to avoid crowding; some counseling and consultations were conducted on-line via WhatsApp video calls; home-visits for awareness and education became conducted at the centers where hygiene and protection procedures are ensured, and with very little number of room-capacity.



Locations of NISCVT's RH Clinics & Beneficiaries



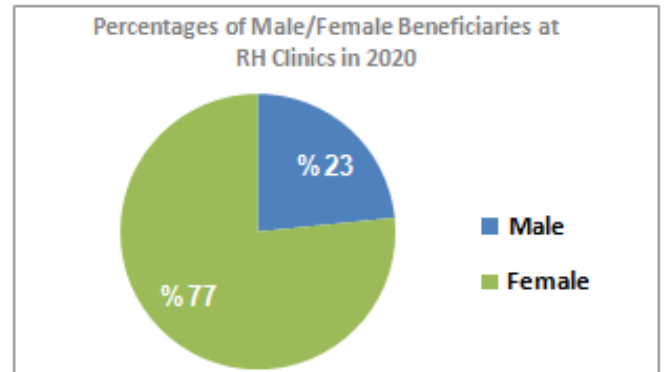
RH clinics are established in Rashidiyeh and Burj el Shamali (south) centers, Burj el Barajneh (Beirut), and Beddawi and Nahr el Bared centers (north).

6,345 benefited from the various services at the clinics in 2020, of which 37% participated in the home-based sessions of education and awareness.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

As seen in the figure above, **3,995** people (77% female) received counseling, consultations, treatments and lab test services. The table and the figure below show the beneficiaries in each center/camp segregated by gender and the respective percentages.

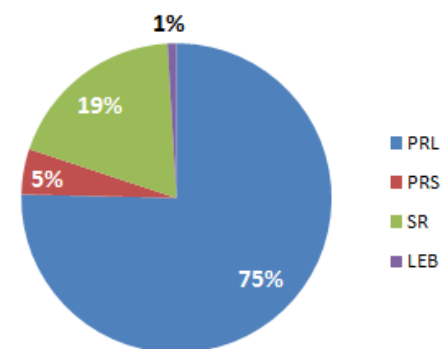
| RH Clinics | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Nahr el Bared | 374 | 855 | 1,229 |
| Beddawi | 141 | 590 | 731 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 94 | 481 | 575 |
| Burj el Shamali | 176 | 378 | 554 |
| Rashidiyeh | 149 | 757 | 906 |
| Grand Total | 934 | 3,061 | 3,995 |



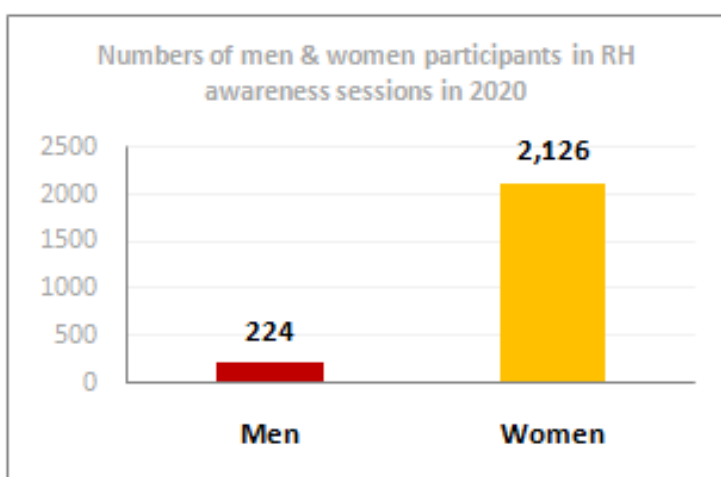
The various nationalities reached by RH services at the clinic are as follows:

| Center/Clinic | PRL | PRS | SR | LEB | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Nahr el Bared | 1,169 | 47 | 7 | 6 | 1,229 |
| Beddawi | 410 | 28 | 274 | 19 | 731 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 218 | 8 | 340 | 9 | 575 |
| Burj el Shamali | 460 | 58 | 35 | 1 | 554 |
| Rashidiyeh | 754 | 49 | 101 | 2 | 906 |
| Grand Total | 3,011 | 190 | 757 | 37 | 3,995 |

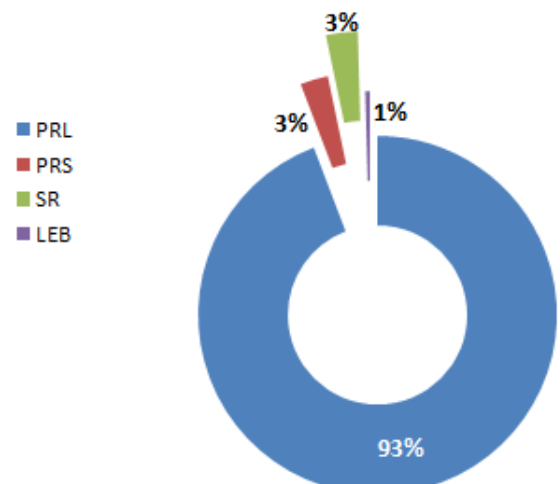
Percentages of RH beneficiaries, segregated by nationality



The education and awareness sessions conducted by NISCVT experts included **2,350** participants. With the hard attempts to include men in the sessions, only 224 of the total are males, representing 10% of the participants. The figures below show the number of participants segregated by gender and nationalities (illustrated in percentages).



Percentages of participants in RH education & awareness sessions, segregated by Nationalities



“The COVID-imposed challenges turned into opportunities, revealing the creative skills and abilities of the young peer educators through the effective interaction with the beneficiaries.”

Dunia Fatayri
Peer Edu. Coordinator

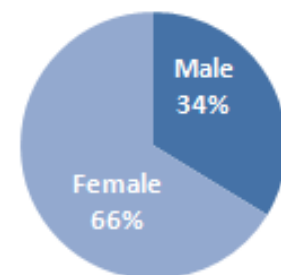
When it was first launched in 2006, the Peer Education was part of the Reproductive Health program, providing sexual education to the youth. Shortly after, it became a stand-alone program for empowering girls and boys with the appropriate skills of leadership. The program prepares male and female youth (aged 14-24 years) to become agents of change within their communities. Under the supervision of social workers, they lead educating and informing sessions to other youth in topics of concern to their growth and development.

Locations & Beneficiaries

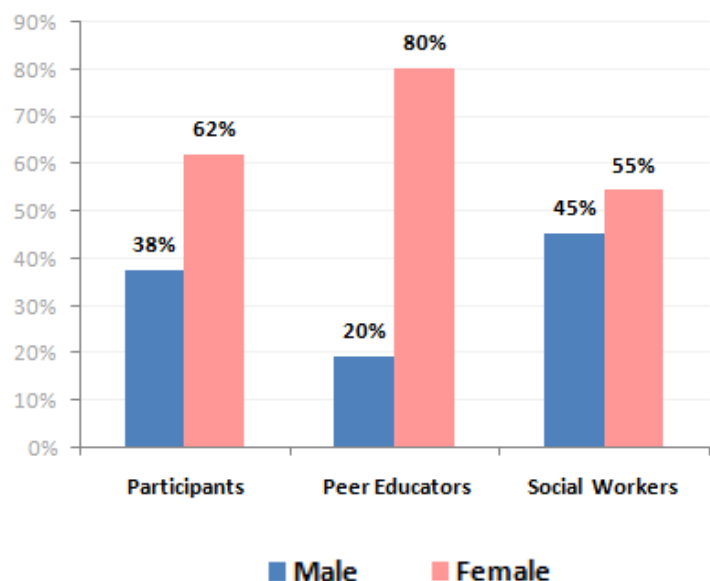
Implemented in eight camps/centers, in 2020 **413** youth participated in the sessions provided by **128** Peer Educators, with **11** social workers supervising the activities. 66% of the total participants involved in the program implementation are females.

| Peer Education Program | Male | Female | Total # |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Participants (14-24 years) | 156 | 257 | 413 |
| Peer Educators (14-24 years) | 25 | 103 | 128 |
| Social Workers | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| Grand Total | 186 | 366 | 552 |

Percentages of Male/Female Total Participants in Peer Educ. Program in 2020



NISCVT strongly promotes girls' leadership roles and decision-making within their communities. It works to ensure gender balance among its employees and beneficiaries. However, results show that the female involvement in programs is higher. As seen in the adjacent chart, the percentages of female participation at each role in this program implementation is higher than that of the males'.

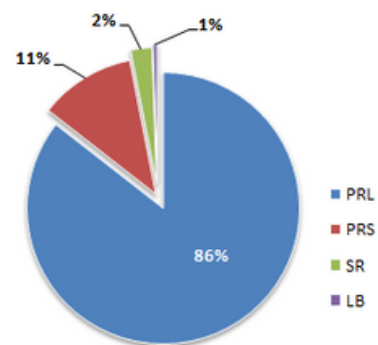


The groups of youth integrate the different nationalities in the learning and implementation. The numbers of the youth refugees and local Lebanese are shown in the table below, and illustrated in percentages in the following figure.

| Peer Education Program | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total # |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Participants (14-24 years) | 341 | 63 | 9 | 0 | 413 |
| Peer Educators (14-24 years) | 122 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 128 |
| Social Workers | 10 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11 |
| Grand Total | 473 | 63 | 14 | 2 | 552 |



Percentages of Peer Educ. Youth segregated by Nationality



The young leaders receive extensive training in positive communication, leadership and essential life skills, in addition to subject-specific education and research. The workshops are provided in a joyful interactive methodology where, in turn, the youth pass it on to their peers maintaining the same spirit.



MENTAL HEALTH

"The program continued to provide the MH services online during lockdowns; times when these services are needed most."

Khawla Khalaf
MH Coordinator

Launched in 1997 in Beirut, NISCVT's Mental Health Program provides high quality prevention and intervention services for the Palestinian refugee children and their caregivers. Presently implemented in 5 specialized centers around Lebanon, a multi-disciplinary team of highly skilled professionals leads the various evidence-based activities. Psychiatrists, therapists, and community workers are available at the Family Guidance Centers (FGC) in Beirut, north (Nahr el Bared and Beddawi camps), and south Lebanon (Saida, and el Buss camp).

We provide these Mental Health Services:



We do these Mental Health Activities:



How we do it:

NISCVT's Mental Health program uses a comprehensive approach to ensure positive results are reached. Activities are community-based encompassing all the family members: children and youth, parents and caregivers, and the surrounding community as a whole.



Locations & Beneficiaries

As in all the regions in the world, the spread of COVID-19 increased the stress and mental disturbances especially among the camp inhabitants. Mental health disorders were observed in the community and the need for mental health treatment became urgent.

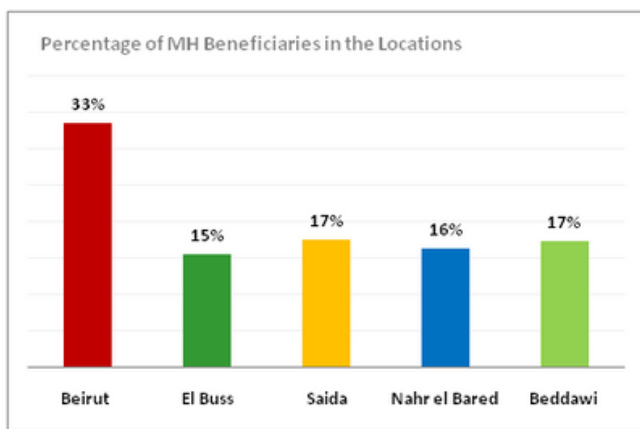
In 2020, NISCVT reached **1,781** beneficiaries (35% female) despite the lockdowns and COVID measures, showing a 15% increase in the number of last year's. The table on the side reveals a comparison between the numbers reached by the mental health services in the 5 FGCs in 2019 and 2020.

| FGC Centers | 2019 | 2020 | Difference |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| Nahr el Bared | 207 | 290 | 83 |
| Beddawi | 200 | 308 | 108 |
| Beirut | 458 | 596 | 138 |
| Saida | 178 | 311 | 133 |
| El Buss | 284 | 276 | -8 |
| Grand Total | 1,327 | 1,781 | 454 |

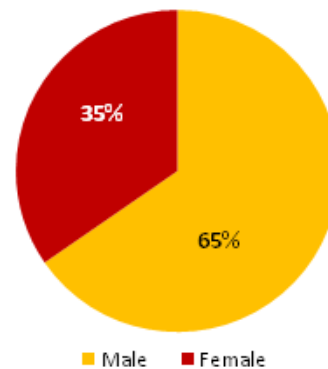
MENTAL HEALTH

Below are the numbers and percentages of beneficiaries in each FGC reached in 2020, segregated by nationality and gender.

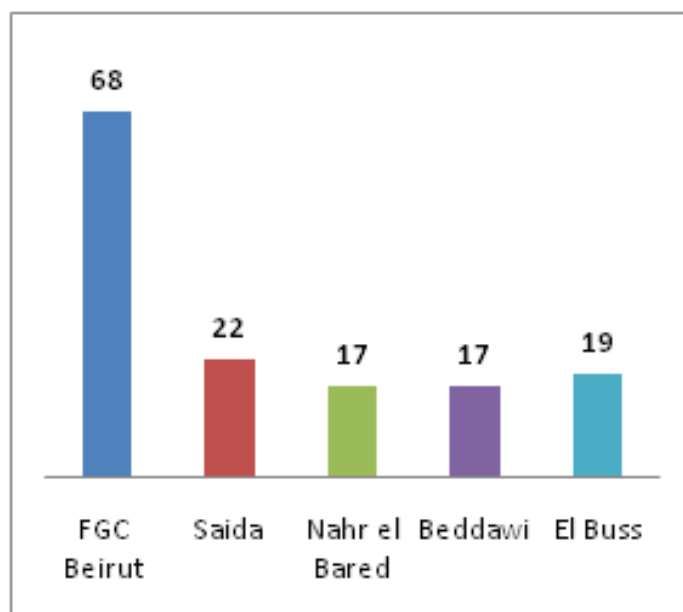
| FGC Centers | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Other | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Nahr el Bared | 259 | 14 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 290 |
| Beddawi | 176 | 15 | 62 | 54 | 1 | 308 |
| Beirut | 208 | 8 | 264 | 111 | 5 | 596 |
| Saida | 239 | 10 | 15 | 41 | 6 | 311 |
| El Buss | 217 | 25 | 15 | 19 | 0 | 276 |
| Grand Total | 1,099 | 72 | 357 | 241 | 12 | 1,781 |



Percentages of Male/Female MH Beneficiaries



Through the Mental Health program, **143** scholarships were granted to children living with Multiple Special Needs. By collaborating with NISCVT generous donors, FGCs manage a Multiple Special Needs Program (MSN) which supports children to pursue their education. The scholarships contribute to finance schooling fees for children living with special needs to continue their education in special schools. The chart below shows the number of contributions in each center.



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

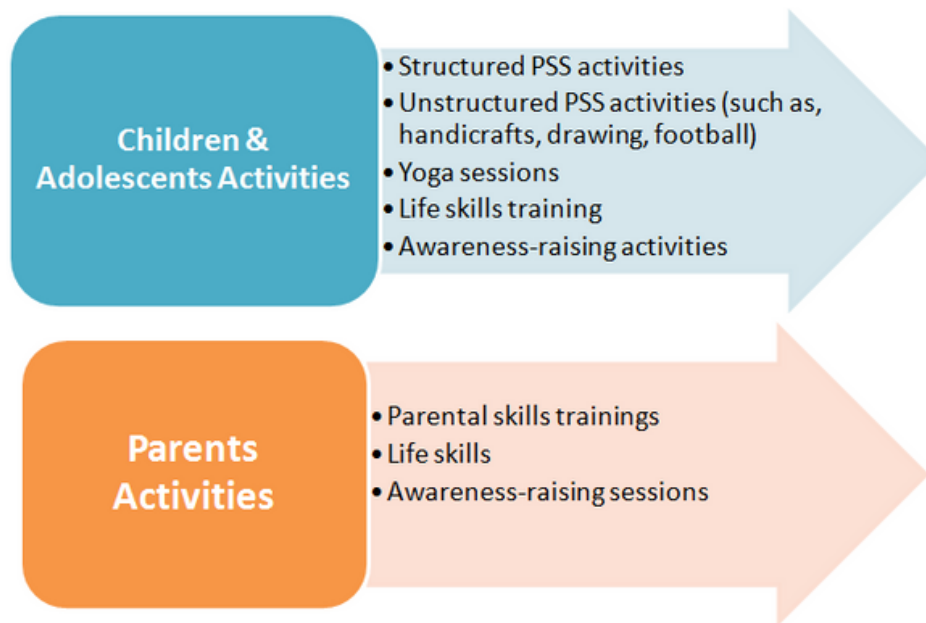
"Remote PSS sessions achieved the objectives: relieved the stress of parents and children, and detected special cases for focused PSS and professional psychological help."

Esraa Daher
PSS Coordinator

NISCVT's programmatic PSS activities aim at strengthening protection with structured interventions, promoting the social wellbeing and mental health for the families in the Palestinian refugee camps and gatherings in Lebanon.

The program targets children (3-18 years old) and their parents/caregivers with age-appropriate activities. It is implemented in the north (Nahr el Bared and Beddawi) and south (Rashidiyeh and el Buss) camps and gatherings.

PSS target-specific activities include:

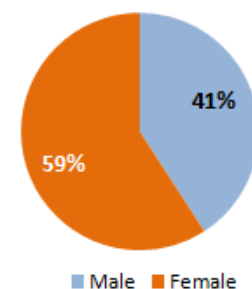


Locations & Beneficiaries

NISCVT reached a total of **5,371** of the target beneficiaries through the various focused and non-focused PSS activities, of which 59% is female.

| PSS Reach | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Children & Youth | 1,830 | 2,055 | 3,885 |
| Parents/Caregivers | 365 | 1,121 | 1,486 |
| Grand Total | 2,195 | 3,176 | 5,371 |

Percentages of Male/Female Participation in PSS Activities in 2020



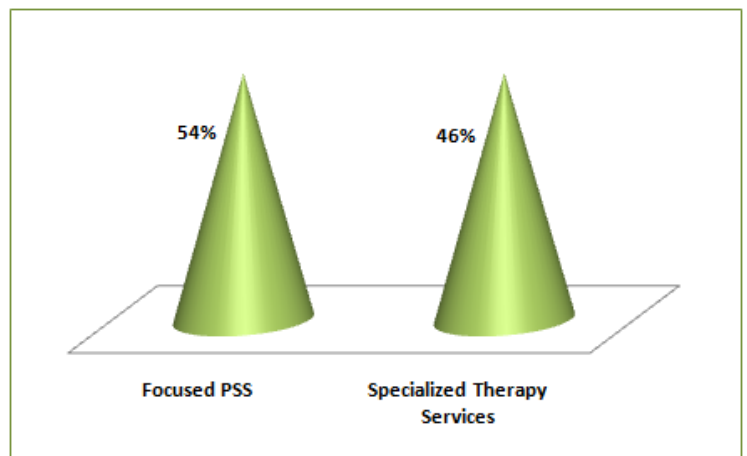
PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

The table below shows the segregation of the number of participants according to their nationalities, where the PRL form 92% of the total.

| PSS Reach | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Other* | Total |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| Children & Youth | 3,557 | 152 | 145 | 28 | 3 | 3,885 |
| Parents/Caregivers | 1,371 | 57 | 43 | 15 | 0 | 1,486 |
| Grand Total | 4,928 | 209 | 188 | 43 | 3 | 5,371 |

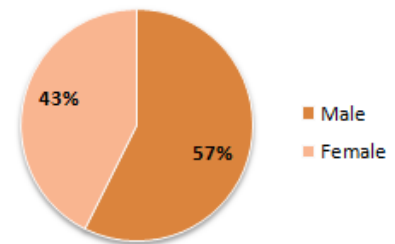
**Minorities of other nationalities living in the camp*

Through observation and professional implementation of PSS program, **284** individuals were referred to special activities of case management. Based on several sessions, **154** cases received focused PSS activities, and **130** were referred to the specialized services of psychotherapy and language therapy. Details are shown below.



| Case Management | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Focused PSS | 96 | 58 | 154 |
| Specialized Therapy | 67 | 63 | 130 |
| Grand Total | 163 | 121 | 284 |

Percentages of Male/Female PSS Referral Cases in 2020



| Case Management | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Focused PSS | 138 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 154 |
| Specialized Therapy | 105 | 19 | 3 | 3 | 130 |
| Grand Total | 243 | 30 | 8 | 3 | 284 |

SPONSORSHIP

FAMILY HAPPINESS PROGRAM

"Never miss an opportunity to put a smile on someone's face."

Arabic Proverb



FAMILY HAPPINESS PROJECT

She found herself alone and unsafe, with her 8 and 7 year old daughters, and a 2-year old triplets. She was young when she became widowed. Displaced from Syria, parents and family are far away. She lost confidence for her vulnerability. "I was scared with every knock at the door." She only opened her door to Beit Atfal Assumound. "BAS supported us financially, socially, and psychologically, sponsored my children in education, and never left me in the crisis alone." This is the story of Wissam, the widowed head of family, as she tells.

"Communication with our sponsored elderly via phone was not, in some cases, as effective as required. They need face-to-face care while the pandemic limited our visits. We aim to protect them."

Fatima Khaizaran
FHP Coordinator

Since 1983, the Family Happiness Project (FHP) has been implemented to support orphans and hardship cases of the Palestinian refugees. In addition to love, kindness, care and protection, NISCVT provides monthly financial aid, educational support, and health services.

The sponsorship program of the FHP encompasses sponsoring of elderly people who do not have support from their families, kindergarten children, and most needy families.

Elderly Sponsorship

The Elderly Sponsorship Program supports the elderly living in the camps where they suffer of social isolation, depression, and health threats. NISCVT's priority is to extend a helping hand, provide them with support, and integrate them within the community through cultural and recreational activities.

KG Children Sponsorship

The KG Sponsorship Program ensures fair opportunities of education are provided to 3-6 year old children of the hardship cases. By embracing those children in its centers, NISCVT fulfills its commitment to building an independent individual and an empowered community.

Family Sponsorship

Where parental care is missed for uncontrollable reasons, the Family Sponsorship Program meets the essential needs of the family. It provides monthly financial aid, and offers protection and guidance for the family members inclusive of social, health, and education services.

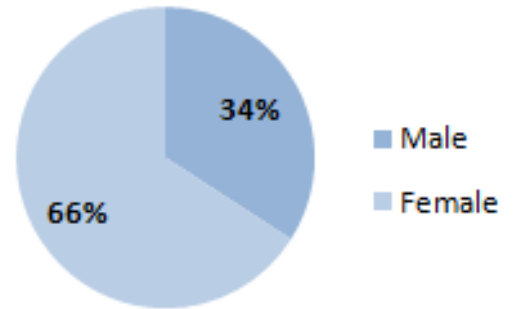
In 2020, the sponsorship program assisted 537 families, 41 elderly persons, and 347 kindergarten children. The support reached a total of 1,044 children from 0 to 18+ years old, of which 347 are sponsored children in BAS kindergartens.

FAMILY HAPPINESS PROJECT

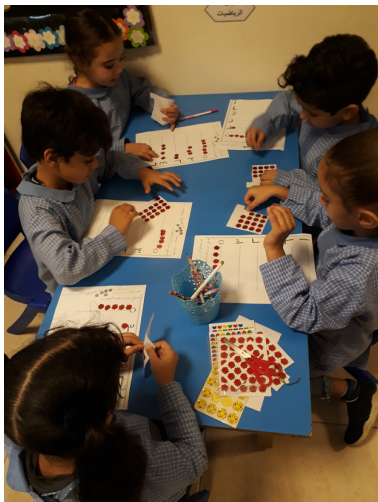
Elderly Sponsorship: NISCVT social workers provide direct aid and activities to keep the elderly engaged with the community, in addition to needed health services, physical and mental.

| Number of Sponsored Elderlies in each area/center | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Center | Male | Female | Total |
| Burj al Shamali | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Wavel (Baalbek) | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Shatila | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| FGC Saida | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 14 | 27 | 41 |

Percentages of M/F Elderly Sponsorship Beneficiaries in 2020



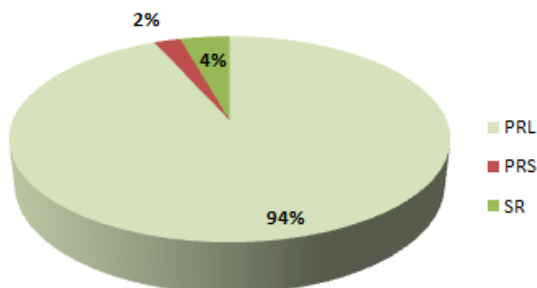
Children Sponsorship: NISCVT facilitates sponsoring of children in two ways: in the KG education, and within their families until graduation and are independent individuals able to support themselves and their families.



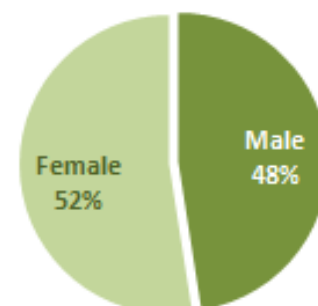
KG Children Sponsorship by Center/Camp and Nationalities

| Center/Camp | Male | Female | Total | PRL | PRS | SR |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Shatila | 29 | 19 | 48 | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 17 | 17 | 34 | 34 | 0 | 0 |
| Burj el Shamali | 19 | 29 | 48 | 47 | 0 | 1 |
| Rashidiyeh | 24 | 30 | 54 | 52 | 2 | 0 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 26 | 34 | 60 | 55 | 2 | 3 |
| Beddawi | 22 | 25 | 47 | 35 | 4 | 8 |
| Nahr el Bared | 28 | 28 | 56 | 53 | 0 | 3 |
| Total | 165 | 182 | 347 | 324 | 8 | 15 |

Percentages of KG Sponsored Children by Nationality



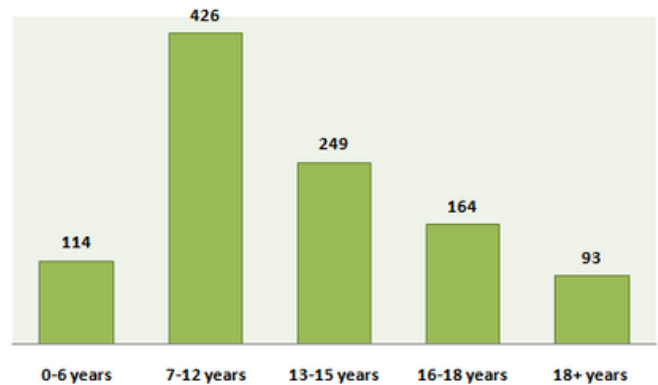
M/F Percentages of Sponsored KG Children



FAMILY HAPPINESS PROJECT

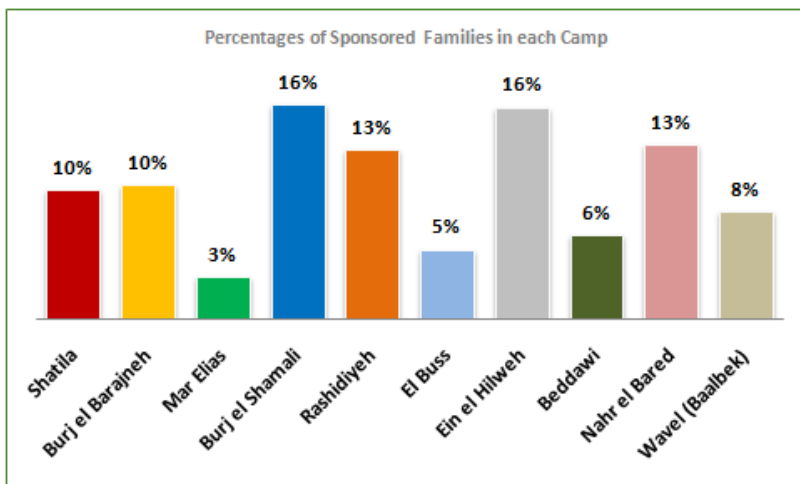
The total numbers of sponsored children, segregated by age groups, are detailed in the table below and illustrated in the chart.

| Sponsored Children Age Groups | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Age-group | Male | Female | Total |
| 0-6 years | 55 | 59 | 114 |
| 7-12 years | 212 | 212 | 426 |
| 13-15 years | 109 | 140 | 249 |
| 16-18 years | 74 | 90 | 164 |
| 18+ years | 39 | 54 | 93 |
| Total | 489 | 555 | 1,044 |



Family Sponsorship: The 537 families reached through this program include 88% PRL and 11% PRS families. However, the need remains pressing due to the economic conditions in the camps.

| Number of Families per Nationality and Camp | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Camp | PRL | PRS | SR | Total |
| Shatila | 49 | 3 | 0 | 52 |
| Burj el Barajneh | 41 | 11 | 2 | 54 |
| Mar Elias | 16 | 1 | 0 | 17 |
| Burj el Shamali | 73 | 13 | 0 | 86 |
| Rashidiyeh | 63 | 5 | 0 | 68 |
| El Buss | 25 | 3 | 0 | 28 |
| Ein el Hilweh | 76 | 9 | 0 | 85 |
| Beddawi | 31 | 3 | 0 | 34 |
| Nahr el Bared | 64 | 6 | 0 | 70 |
| Wavel (Baalbek) | 38 | 5 | 0 | 43 |
| Total | 476 | 59 | 2 | 537 |



ART & CULTURE

*"And WE love life if we find a way to it ...
We open the garden gate for the jasmine to step out on the streets as a beautiful day."
Mahmoud Darwish*

Embroidery

DA BKEH

Comics

Scouts

Sports

Music



PALESTINIAN EMBROIDERY

“There was no choice but to continue the work of embroidery. It's been a joy and an opportunity for income during the increase of unemployment and relief to the women in the COVID lockdowns.”

Hanan Zaaroura
Women's Embroidery
Project Coordinator

Palestinian embroidery is not only decoration for clothing; it's a heritage passed on by women from one generation to another. Patterns of stitching, colors, and shapes indicate the unbreakable link with homeland.

With the challenges of the COVID pandemic, face masks production was in high demand in 2020. Ornamented with colors and shapes, 117 women committed with the Women's Empowerment Project revealed creativity and delicate skills.

The other usual products of cushions, shawls, bags, bookmarks, coasters, and other items, were also produced in high quantities. The products are marketed in Canada, USA, Germany, Italy, and Japan, besides Lebanon.



Music

It is used for fun as used for therapy, music is the language that everyone understands. NISCVT provides easy access to music for the Palestinian refugee children, and others living in the camps to help them express their emotions and overcome fears and anxieties. Most importantly, it opens the doors to the talents hidden in the narrow alleys of the camps. Through its partners, organized music programs are implemented professionally.



Musical bands and choir groups formed in NISCVT centers hold public performances in the cities around Lebanon. **471** children and youth (52% female) passionately play their musical instruments, and chant for the love, hope, and Homeland. In 2020, three scholarships were provided to female students of music at the Lebanese National Conservatoire. The scholarships are provided by NISCVT's Italian friends, the OPM Waldensian Church of Italy, which supported forming the Band Without Borders orchestra of 156 children and youth.



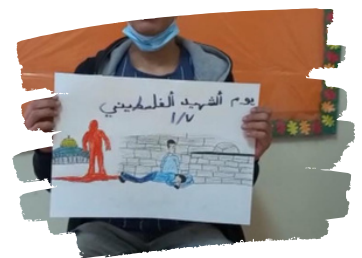
Palestinian Dabkeh

The Dabkeh is another tradition and heritage that the Palestinians use to express connecting to Homeland. Though a group folklore dance, **107** children and youth (52% female) practiced the steps sometimes at home during lockdowns. They performed the Dabkeh on the special Palestinian occasions celebrating life.



Comics

Comics is another technique that NISCVT employs to enhance the Palestinians' wellbeing. It is a way to support the individual's mental health, provide psychosocial support, and teach messages necessary to both, the individual and the community. Young children, adolescents, adults, specifically mothers, are targeted in this activity. **140** participants (81% female) used comics drawings to express their feelings, identify their problems, and suggest solutions. The lockdown and physical distancing did not deter the implementation of the activities.

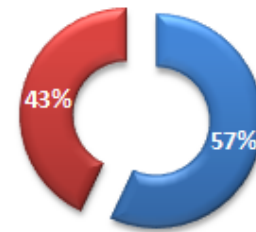


Scouts Groups

NISCVT fulfills the scouts' mission in preparing young people to make ethical choices in their life by adopting the values of the oath. **356** children and youth (43% female) are committed with the scout groups in Burj el Shamali, Rashidiyeh (south), and Shatila (Beirut) camps. PRL, PRS, SR and Lebanese pledging a common oath, proved their commitment to the ethical values in community service when group activities were halted due to health hazards of COVID. Boys and girls alike participated in the centers' humanitarian and awareness-raising activities. They also celebrated national days, keeping the collective memory of the Palestinians inspired.



| Camp/Center | PRL | PRS | SR | LB | Total |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Burjel Shamali | 144 | 40 | 5 | 10 | 199 |
| Rashidiyeh | 98 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 112 |
| Shatila | 35 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 45 |
| Total | 277 | 64 | 5 | 10 | 356 |

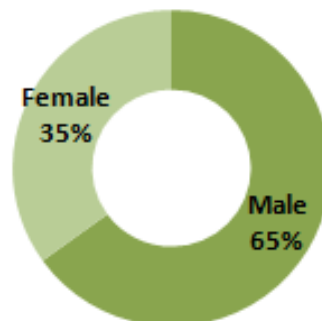


■ Male ■ Female

Sports

NISCVT views sports as an important tool for development. Sports activities are used for physical and mental health, for peace building and promoting gender equality, as well as for entertainment and recreational purposes. The imposed lockdowns limited the implementation of sports events but did not cancel them. The usually implemented summer camps were replaced by special sports activities, in consideration to the pandemic situation.

In 2020, **129** children and youth (35% female) participated in different sports activities. The summer camp involved 20 girls in special sports program.



Relief & In-Kind Distributions

In solidarity with the Palestinian refugees living in the camps and gatherings, NISCVT's friends and supporters extended their generosity to support the targeted population with necessary items. Maintaining the dignity of the people, NISCVT reached about 25,000 families in several rounds of distributions during 2020.



24,237
Food Parcels & Vouchers



3,000
Diesel Fuel



10,274
Hygiene Kits



2,828
Pregnant Women's and Babies'
Kits



1,105
Children Clothing



1,814
Children's Gifts & Stationery

Donors, Partners & Friends

NISCVT expresses its thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers and donors, institutions and individuals, who supported the delivery of quality services and support to the refugees and underserved communities in all the camps and gatherings on the Lebanese territories.



Awal Women Society



Action Development Perrainages Mondiaux (ASBL)



Finnish Psychologists for Social Responsibilities (FIPRS)
Finnish Arab Friendship Society (FAFS)
Global Social work



Association Franco Palestinienne Solidarité (AFPS)
Conseil International De La Musique



Fluchtlinge in Lebanon



Associazione di amicizia italo palestinese
Cooperazione Odontoiatrica Internazionale
Un Ponte Per
ULALA ArteSud Onlus
Waldensian Church of Italy



Campaign for the Children of Palestine (CCP)
Japanese Committee for the Children of Palestine (JCCP) / Tokutei Hieiri Katsudou
Rissho Kosei-Kai, Lay-Buddhist (RKK)



Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)
Welfare Association



The Palestine Committee of Norway
Forum for Culture and International Cooperation
Norwegian People's Aid-Lebanon (NPA)
Norwegian Aid Committee (NORWAC)
Norwegian Embassy in Beirut
Jessheim Videregående Skole



Associacio Catalana
Farmamundi



Verein Die Unterst (PaCH)



United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East –UNRWA
United Nations Development Programme –UNDP
United Nations Children's Fund –UNICEF



Al-Ghurair Foundation for Education



Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)



American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA)
Learning for the Empowerment and Advancement of Palestinians (LEAP)
United Palestinian Appeal (UPA)
WESPAC Foundation



Friends and Individual Supporters around the World