## POPULAR AID FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT



**PARD Annual Report** 











## **Special Thanks:**

PARD offers special thanks to the following organizations, volunteers and individuals for their support during the year 2015 (in alphabetical order):

- Asfari Foundation
- Canadian Foodgrains Bank CFGB
- > Humanserve International- Canada
- Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)
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#### Introduction

The Popular Aid for Relief and Development (**PARD**) is an independent grassroots organization working on gender equality and women's empowerment women's empowerment, youth empowerment, environmental health and relief for people in distress among Palestinian and Lebanese communities and refugees from Syria. It was founded in 1985 under the name of "The Relief Agency" by a group of volunteers. It received official recognition under the name of Popular Aid for Relief and Development through notification number 44/AD in 23/4/1990.

The past few years have been characterized by several challenges that have impacted both the Lebanese people and the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Among these challenges were the different political stances toward the crisis in Syria and the hosting of thousands of refugees from Syria in Lebanon. As a result, the existence of the refugees from Syria negatively affected the shelter situation, the labour market, the WASH and health facilities, and the general security situation.

**PARD** believes that in addition to providing relief and support to the Palestinian refugees at times of disaster, there is a great need to provide environmental, health and social services to the marginalized and vulnerable groups in the Palestinian camps and gatherings in Lebanon at times of stability as well. These services are extremely crucial to the refugees' wellbeing and substantially contribute to building their resilience and ability to participate meaningfully in their communities.

**PARD** adopted a participatory approach to develop its new strategy for 2013-2015.

#### PARD adheres itself to the Millennium Development Goals which include the following:

- Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger by supporting small local projects
- Achieve universal primary education: by providing remedial lessons to students, combat illiteracy and vocational trainings
- Promote gender equality and empowerment of women: through the formation of women's committees
- Improve maternal health: through the mother and child health program
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases: through health education for prevention
- Environmental sustainability: by providing environmental health programs
- Developing a global partnership for development: through networking with local and international NGOs and UN agencies.



## **Mission**

The Popular Aid for Relief and Development is a non-profit, grass-root; rights based NGO that aims to promote gender equality and the right of marginalized and vulnerable groups, especially in the Palestinian gatherings, to access social, health and environmental services. PARD does so by providing access to healthcare and environmental health services and by empowering women and youth to practice their rights and participate effectively within their communities. PARD also provides support and relief to people affected by disasters.

## **Vision**

Palestinian refugees in Lebanon enjoy civil and social rights and are empowered to participate meaningfully in life-determining decisions. Palestinian women have the right to participate effectively and equally within the community. The Palestinian gatherings are environmentally clean, healthy and safe. PARD's programs are rights-based, need-responsive, participatory, well designed, implemented and monitored by a committed, highly skilled, efficient and motivated team



## **Principles and Values**

**Human Rights & Social Justice:** PARD believes all human beings have the same universal rights. These rights should guarantee freedom, justice, and equality to everybody. All individuals should have an equal opportunity to exercise the privileges of citizenship, freedom of speech, press, religion and to participate fully in civil life, regardless of race, religion, sex, or other characteristics irrelevant to the true value of each individual.

**Gender:** PARD believes that women should enjoy equal political, civil and social rights under equal circumstances that would lead to equal opportunities and capabilities.

We believe that all society members and women in particular should be empowered to participate in the decision-making and implementation of issues that affect their lives.

**Participation:** PARD believes that all individuals and groups have the right to participate in the processes that define their lives. All individuals should have the chance to participate meaningfully in the making of decisions that influence their lives and the lives of their families.

PARD believes that the organizations' stakeholders and constituencies are integral and full partners of the planning, action and learning processes that PARD takes on.

**Accountability and Transparency:** PARD perceives transparency as a reflection for openness and clarity on crucial issues such as decision making mechanisms, operations, finance and relations.

We think of accountability as an expectation to the responsibility and commitment towards PARD's mission, values and promised quality performance.

**Value of International Agreements:** PARD is committed to all relevant international agreements and conventions on human rights, such as CEDAW, CRC, Beijing declaration and the Alma-Ata Declaration as well. PARD also believes in its role as an active participant that aims to contribute to the accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals.



#### **Beneficiaries**

**62% of the Palestinians in Lebanon reside in the 12 refugee camps** mandated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and governed by Popular Committees — a body consisting of representatives of political factions responsible for maintaining a moral authority and historically responsible for the provision of services and utilities. The officially demarcated, poverty-stricken camps are overcrowded and suffer from inadequate basic infrastructure. A restriction on horizontal expansion and four-fold increase in the original refugee population has had a severe impact on their situation.

**38% of the Palestinian refugees also live in informal gatherings** (settlements), predominately in rural areas, that fall outside the UNRWA mandate.

The discrimination faced by Palestinian refugees in Lebanon is clearly evidenced by their lack of rights to housing, land and property ownership. A Law published in 2001 amended the Presidential Decree of 1969 on Foreign Acquisition of Property (hereafter the 2001 Law). The amended Law prohibits people who do not "carry a citizenship issued by a recognized state" from securing legal title to housing and land (real rights) in Lebanon.

Whilst not specifically named, this modification clearly targets Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, as effectively all stateless people in Lebanon are Palestinian. Overnight, this decree prohibited Palestinians from the right to the ownership of land and property and precludes them from transferring already purchased property and their ability to inherit.

The discriminatory stance of the Lebanese Government towards Palestinian refugees is born from an intricate political and social, national and regional context. The fragile sectarian balance, the fear of naturalization of Palestinians and the right of return of Palestinians are commonly used to validate new and existing policies, laws and attitudes.

Based on UNDP and UN- HABITAT 'Profiling Deprivation' report (2014), **Palestinian gatherings are defined as communities that** 

- have a population of Palestinian refugees (whether they are registered with UNRWA and/or the Lebanese Government or not)
- has no official UNRWA camp status or any legal authority identified with responsibility for camp management
- is expected to have clearly defined humanitarian and protection needs, or have a minimum of 25 households
- has a population with a sense of being a distinct group living in a geographically identified area

42 Palestinian gatherings in Lebanon continue to be home to 110,000 Palestinian refugees and now an additional 30,000 Palestinians and Syrians who are recent refugees from the conflict in Syria. Often falling through the cracks in terms of support availability, Palestinian Gatherings are among the most vulnerable host communities in Lebanon. This situation has been exacerbated with the influx of Palestinian and Syrian refugees over the past three years. The gatherings are located within the administrative boundaries of a total of 25 municipalities, with the areas of Saida and Tyre constituting alone about two-thirds of total gatherings. While almost all gatherings do not benefit from upgrading projects undertaken by municipalities, about a third enjoys a harmonious relationship with mayors.

Concerning Basic Urban Services, including WASH, the report reveals increased pressure on the already inadequate networks and services in the sectors of water, sewerage, solid waste management, roads and electricity, in addition to deteriorating hygiene conditions.

On the educational front, about two-thirds of the gatherings indicated not having any school within their borders, yet most children are enrolled in UNRWA schools, some in nearby schools and some at quite a long distance away from the gathering. Less than one-third of gatherings have an UNRWA school, and only two gatherings enjoy both UNRWA and private schools. This has an impact on the provision of intermediate and secondary education in the gatherings. The arrival of refugees from Syria exerted additional pressure on



UNRWA facilities, whereby the Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS) are enrolled in the Agency's schools. Two shifts were recently introduced in some UNRWA schools in order to absorb the new number of PRS students.

As for health services, the availability of health centres inside gatherings is limited, according to the results of the RNA. The vast majority of residents, however, still utilise UNRWA health facilities, even if not in the direct proximity of the gathering. Distance from health care services was reported by some gatherings to be a central issue, namely by those not located close to camps.

#### **PARD's beneficiaries**

PARD's primary target group has no access to the services that UNRWA, the UN agency responsible for the welfare of Palestinian refugees, provides inside the official camps, nor is it covered by Lebanese municipal authorities. Discriminatory laws (which deny Palestinians their right to own property and to employment in a broad range of professions) are still in place, despite decades of struggle to dissolve them. In the absence of political stability in Lebanon, and the lack of progress in finding a fair solution to the Palestinian – Israeli conflict, the hardship of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon is most likely to continue, especially in light of diminishing funding to UNRWA. PARD operates in such an environment, where it combines urgent service provision with longer-term developmental interventions.

**Beirut**Table1: Number of families and people living in Beirut gatherings who benefit from PARD services

Name of Location	No. of Families	No. of People
Gaza 1	110	660
Gaza 2	42	252
Gaza 3	85	510
Gaza 4	25	150
Daouk	60	360
Saeed Ghawash	431	2586
Salwa Al Hout	31	186
Sub-total	784	4704

#### The South

Table2: Number of families and people living in the Southern gatherings who benefit from PARD services

Name of Location	No. of Families	No. of People
Tyre Gatherings		
Shabriha	370	2850
Wasta	87	434
Burghuliyeh	630	3150
Aitaniyeh	80	400
Kfar Badda	167	835
Jim Jim	58	291
Maashouk	525	2623
Jal Al Baher	318	1590



Qasmiyeh	375	1877
Total Tyre Gath.	2459	14,050
Saida Gatherings	-	
Sikkeh	527	2635
Baraksat	800	4000
Tawariq	396	1980
Jabal El Halib	405	2025
Bustan Al Quds	400	2000
Bustan Abu Jamil	140	700
Hay El Sohoun	85	425
Fadlo Wakim	100	500
Total Saida Gath.	2853	14,265
Sub-total	5312	28,315



## **Core Strategies**

To accomplish its mission, PARD has chosen to take up the following four core strategies during 2013-2015. While the first three strategies are programmatic and operational, the fourth strategy addresses PARD's organizational development directly and supports the achievement of the first three.

The focus areas below represent the areas and themes of interest that will be addressed by PARD's programs when using proper identification, formulation and implementation approaches.

#### **Program Strategies**

#### I. Strategy One: Gender Equality and Women's empowerment

**Areas of focus (Entities):** peer education, right to participate, gender equity, access to sources, education, right of representation, freedom of expression, skills, illiteracy, communication, dialogue, civil and political rights, volunteers, awareness, community participation, training, community support, lobbying and advocacy, health consultations, advocacy, polices, biostatistics, nutrition, health protection, the right to prevention, treatment and control of diseases; access to essential medicines; maternal, child and reproductive health; equal and timely access to basic health services; the provision of health-related education and information; participation of the local population in health-related decision-making; right to access social and healthcare services, family planning, preventive and curative services and advice, etc.

#### II. Strategy Two: Environmental Health Services, Awareness and Trainings

**Areas of focus (Entities):** environmental health, access to safe water supply, disposal of solid waste, garbage collection, vector control, infrastructure development, environmental health hazards control and health education.

## **III.** Strategy Three: Relief for People in Distress

**Areas of focus (Entities):** disaster management, preparedness, planning, disaster relief, recovery, food and nutrition, preventions, disability, water and sanitation, hygiene, shelter, non-food items, clothing, rescue, education, economic recovery, healthcare, training, participation, coping mechanisms, etc.

#### **Organizational Development Strategies**

#### IV. Strategy Four: Organizational Development of PARD

**Areas of focus:** governing bodies, administrative structures, roles and responsibilities, conflict management, capacity building, strategic management, strategic human resource management, image building, positioning, differentiation, fundraising, non-profit marketing, networking, etc.



Strategy One:
Gender Equality
&
Women and Youth Empowerment

This program targets 24 Palestinian gatherings in Beirut, Saida and Tyre areas benefiting 6096 families (33,019 people).



#### **Palestinian Women**

Palestinian women refugees lack access to rights and to equitable development, assets and sources of income even within their own community. Female Palestinian refugees face double discrimination: externally for their refugee status and internally for their position as women. Although Lebanon has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), it has not committed itself to Article 16, which governs equitable marriage and family relations, that undermines the purpose of the treaty. The monitoring of CEDAW for Palestinian refugee women has also been particularly difficult.

Palestinian women face further obstacles in the workforce, such as discriminatory conditions favoring men who lack familial responsibility. The inequality between the genders has also been worsened by the reinterpretation of religious duties to excuse the marginalization and abuse of women. Moreover, the rise of fundamentalism in the camps and gatherings had led to more disempowerment of women, who have been stripped of decision-making power and positions.

Not only barred from participating in Lebanon's politics, refugee women also find themselves excluded from participating effectively and democratically in the Palestinian Popular Committees, the internal decision-making bodies responsible for the overall running of the Palestinian camps and gatherings.

Several studies have found that a large rate of Palestinian women are exposed to physical violence, which is recognized as part of the cultural traditions. Given the widespread view that violence must remain private, the most common coping strategy for Palestinian women facing abuse is to "keep silent and stay patient".

In 2012, Lebanese and Palestinian women's organizations have joined forces for women's rights in Lebanon for the first time and put together a 10-point list with actions necessary to meet their demand of full equality. The demands are:

- 1. Personal status civil law.
- 2. Women's right to pass on the citizenship to her children and family.
- 3. Criminalization of violence against women and girls.
- 4. Women's quota in the Lebanese parliament.
- 5. Reform of the electoral law.
- 6. Civil and human rights for Palestinian women in Lebanon.
- 7. The protection of women and promotion of their right in decision-making.
- 8. Elimination of discrimination against women in the Lebanese Penal Code.
- 9. Gender equality in labor law and social security.
- 10. Gender equality in the tax system.

There is a need for local Palestinian NGOs to empower women and help them participate more effectively in processes and decisions affecting their lives and the lives of their families.

Long-term, sustainable development will only be possible when women and men enjoy equal opportunity to rise to their potential. Unfortunately, Palestinian women and girls continue to face disadvantages and extreme challenges that deprive them of their rights and they are still much more likely than men to be poor and illiterate. They usually have less access to medical care, property ownership, training and employment than their male counterparts. They are far less likely than men to be politically active and far more likely to be victims of domestic violence.

Gender equality implies a society in which women and men enjoy the same opportunities, outcomes, rights and obligations in all spheres of life. Equality between men and women exists when both sexes are able to share equally in the distribution of power and influence; have equal opportunities for financial independence through work or through setting up businesses; enjoy equal access to education and the opportunity to develop personal ambitions. A critical aspect of promoting gender equality is the empowerment of women, with a focus on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving women more autonomy to manage



their own lives. Women's empowerment is vital to sustainable development and the realization of human rights for all.

Where women's status is low, such as in the Palestinian camps and gatherings, family size tends to be large, which makes it more difficult for families to thrive. Population and development and reproductive health programs are more effective when they address the educational opportunities, status and empowerment of women. When women are empowered, whole families benefit, and these benefits often have ripple effects to future generations.

The roles that men and women play in society are not biologically determined – but rather socially. Although they may be justified as being required by local culture and religion, these roles vary widely by locality and change over time. PARD will apply culturally sensitive approaches that can be key to advancing Palestinian women's rights while respecting different forms of social organization.

Empowering Palestinian women lies in the ability of each woman to control her own life. This implies that to be empowered, women must not only have equal capabilities and equal access to resources and opportunities, but they must also have the proper conditions to use those rights, capabilities, resources and opportunities to make strategic choices and decisions. And for women to exercise this right, they must live without the fear of coercion and violence.

Addressing Palestinian women's issues also requires recognizing that women are a diverse group, in the roles they play as well as in characteristics such as age, social status, urban or rural location and educational attainment. Although Palestinian women may have many interests in common, the fabric of their lives and the choices available to them may vary widely. PARD plans to seek groups of women who are the most marginalized and vulnerable (for example, those who are heads of households or living in extreme poverty), so that interventions address their specific needs and concerns.

Palestinian women and girls need to be empowered so as to remove all discriminatory practices, traditions and policies that impede their access to resources and their ability to identify and implement actions that would lead to gender equity in their own context. PARD also plans to mobilize the Palestinian women and link them to larger women's movements that can unite their struggle and experience into a more unified action. One of PARD's interventions will be achieved once the Palestinian women have gained the ability to take action and have brought forward gender equality in processes that involve making decisions that affect women's lives and resources.

Moreover, gender equality and women's empowerment are central to the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals. Development policies and actions that fail to consider gender inequality and that fail to enable women to be actors in those policies and interventions will have limited effectiveness and serious costs to societies.

## PARD will adopt an operational framework for addressing gender equality and women's empowerment that has three main dimensions:

- Capacities and Education that refer to basic human abilities as measured by education, health, and nutrition. These capabilities are fundamental to individual well-being and are the means through which women would access other forms of well-being.
- Access to resources and opportunities, which refers primarily to equality in the opportunity to use
  or apply basic capabilities through access to economic assets and resources, as well as political
  opportunity. Without access to resources and opportunities, both political and economic, women will be
  unable to employ their capabilities for their well-being and that of their families, communities, and
  societies.



3. **Security**, which refers to reduced vulnerability to violence and conflict. Violence and conflict result in physical and psychological harm and lessen the ability of individuals, households, and communities to fulfill their potential. Violence directed specifically at women and girls often aims at keeping them in "their place" through fear.

#### **Palestinian Youth**

The most striking characteristic of the camp is how young the population is; over 64% fall in the 1-19 age-group and only 8% in the 50 and above group. The remaining 27.6% are between 20 and 49. This fact, resulting from a very high birth- rate, is an important one in assessing the outcome of the Palestinian people's protracted struggle to regain their rights.

The birth rate is increased by the fact that the average age of marriage in Palestinian camps is relatively young: 24.5 for men and 21.6 for women. A single status among those of marriageable age (20 and above for men, 15 and above for women) is correspondingly low; 17.7 per cent and 24.3 per cent respectively. At the same time, the rate of divorce is very low; among men aged between 15 and 39, none are divorced; of females under 39, the percentage of divorced compared to the married ranges from under 1 per cent to 7 per cent. The stability of arranged marriages, and the mechanism of social and family pressures on married couples to remain together, are strongly reflected in these figures.

The restrictions imposed on the Palestinians by the Lebanese state limit young men's economic opportunities, making it harder to earn a living and plan a future. According to the study, these men suffer from feelings of hopelessness and despair which lead to psychological problems that often are dealt with through drug abuse. The lack of access to education outside UNRWA schools may lead the adolescent groups down a path similar to that taken by the young men in the camp.

With the legal restrictions imposed on the Palestinians, the pressure to find employment and the effect of not finding work are greater on men than on women. There is also an absence of services that cater to young men's needs at many levels. Most health services and health education sessions do not target males because of the notion that they are less vulnerable than women and children.

There are serious threats to the health of the youth in the camp and the entire community, given the difficult economic, social and educational circumstances. These threats may not diminish in the future as a result of the stressful realities and the lack of foreseeable change in the economic, educational, and other living conditions of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Adolescents may face the same challenges confronting the older generation today. This study has implications for public health professionals and policy-makers. To avoid repercussions for the younger generation, interventions to improve the quality of education and reduce structural restrictions are required.

Our goal is to promote youth development by encouraging the youth to acquire the proper, cognitive, democratic and social skills. These would consequently enable them to participate, plan and make conscious decisions concerning their lives and surroundings.

PARD believes in the concept that youth participation is the rightful involving of youth in responsible, challenging actions that meet genuine needs clearly seen within the local communities.

The youth should be allowed planning and decision-making opportunities that can prepare them to understand that choices they take impact their own lives, as well as those of others. Their constructive participation could lead to a positive chain reaction that will be both manifested on them and other communities.



Investing in youth development is an integral part of any development or social change plan anyone wishes to embark on. Without youth participation and involvement the aspirations of a community can be lost or become vague. Therefore, youth persistence and participation is a must and in order to make a significant difference, the youth should be educated and supported through:

- Increased awareness, education and communication skills among Palestinian youth.
- Increased participation of youth at local communities.
- Enhanced communication and exchange with other local, regional and international communities.

#### Activity One: Empowerment Training for Women and Youth

PARD has developed a comprehensive training program aiming at strengthening the women and youth communities in the fields of decision making and problem solving. They acquire basic skills related to management, planning and implementation of activities related to their own needs and the needs of their families and communities and related to advocating and lobbying for their rights as women and as refugees.



#### (a) Empowerment of Women

Women Committees according to location:

Location	No. of women committees	No. of members
Shabriha south and north	2	20
Jal al Bahar two quarters	2	17
Al samer	1	9
Maashouk two quarters	2	24
Burghuliyeh south and north	2	21
Qasmiyeh upper and lower	2	21
Kfar Badda	1	8
Jim Jim	1	11
Wasta	1	12
Aitaniyeh	1	7
Sikkeh two quarters	2	24
Said Ghawash two quarters	2	22
Gaza Bldgs	1	9
Daouk two quarters	2	25
Salwa AL Hout Bldg.	1	7
Total	23	242

Training on empowerment was conducted on the basis of each women's committee alone or 2 to 3 committees together, or through separating the South and Beirut, or all of them together.

Most women's committees formed their action plans, codes of conduct and division of responsibilities in each committee alone. The division of work includes: public relations, health education, social issues, note taking, and head of committee (elected). Those plans of actions were revised to monitor progress, together between the women committees and PARD's community health workers (CHW).



Each women committee met at least twice each month to followup on their plans of action, their relationships with the popular committees, a variety of other committees, NGOs & UN agencies.

Training on empowerment during the reporting period covered all subjects. **Methods** used were brainstorming, role playing, power point presentation, construction of problem trees, map drawing, transparencies, and questionnaires. **Materials** used were maps, cards, flipcharts, and transparencies. Training subjects included:



Importance of group work Code of conduct Objectives of Empowerment Writing Minutes of Meeting **Human Rights** Women Rights **CEDAW** Gender Equality Community Mapping Prioritization of needs Needs assessment Identification of stakeholders Community mobilization Preparation of files(issues) Communication skills Networking Conflict Resolution skills Participatory Leadership Planning of Campaigns **Project Writing** 

In order to achieve its goals in empowering the community, PARD conducted a ToT workshop on empowerment in 2013 after which the participants trained new women committees. 5 women from the South gatherings and 4 from Beirut gatherings were chosen from those trained in 2012.

Since then, the nine trainers have been conducting training on empowerment for the benefit of new women and youth committees or new members in those committees.

### (b) Empowerment of Youth

After continuous training on empowerment for new members in youth committees, and refreshing courses for older ones, the total number of youth committees is now 7 with 130 members.

Training on empowerment for youth has a lot in common with that for women.

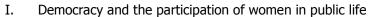




Location	No. of Groups	No. of Participants		Subjects	
		M	F		
Burghuliyeh	1	4	11	Community Mapping, Stake holder analysis,	
Jim Jim	1	5	13	communication, leadership, conflict	
Qasmiyeh	1	8	12	resolution, gender equality, human rights,	
Sikkeh	1	9	13	report writing, introduction to advocacy,	
Said Ghawash	1	8	8	preparation of files, voluntary work;	
Daouk	1	13	8		
Gaza Buildings	1	10	7		
Total	•	57	73		
<b>Grand Total</b>		13	30		

## **Women Can Do It Project**

In addition to regular training of empowerment, a training workshop was conducted by PARD's trainers (CHW) for the benefit of 20 selected members of women committees' members from nine gatherings in the South. This workshop was a part of "Women Can Do It" project supported by NPA, it included the following subjects:



- II. Conflict resolution
- III. Planning of campaigns
- IV. Mobilization of communities



The objective of this training was to encourage more women to participate in public life in their gatherings and to coordinate with the popular committees (local governance) there.

#### (c) Training of Youth in other NGOs

PARD trainers benefitted youth in other local NGOs by raising awareness and training as such:

Name of Local NGOs	Subject	Number of	beneficiaries
		Female	Male
Youth for Development	Training on Proposal Writing	14	9
	Raising Awareness on Anaemia	40	25
	Raising Awareness on Breast Cancer	52	-
	Training on Communication & Gender Equality	17	5
Youth in Shabriha gathering Project supported by DRC	Training on: Mechanism of problems in a community centre Voluntary Work Management of Community Centres	- 7	7



#### (d) Activities and Achievement of Women and Youth Committees

After this basic training, the committees developed their own project ideas for community development – starting from the concrete situation in each community. They discussed them with the relevant stakeholders (PARD, the Popular Committees, and Municipalities and others) and implemented them through community mobilisation, local existing resources and the resources of contacted organisations.

Each women and youth committee had its own agenda, interests, needs and projects. One common character among them in the past and the present is the willingness to participate in PARD's activities.

The women and youth tried to fulfil their own local agendas, such as caring for the elderly, organizing dinners for the needy during the fasting month of Ramadan, supporting hardship cases, supporting people with chronic diseases, providing first aid services and supporting people with special needs.

## **Common Activities of Women Committees:**

- The women committees in the South and Beirut worked with PARD to deliver health education sessions on breast and cervical cancer.
- Participation in campaigns (promotion of health issues in the community, cleaning whole areas in the gatherings, organizing spraying of insecticides, raising awareness on social/ health issues such as drug addiction or AIDS and others).
- Alert PARD if a certain contagious disease shows up (chicken pox, Hepatitis A, diarrhea, scabies, head lice and others caused by overpopulation resulted by the arrival of refugees from Syria and other possible reasons).
- Data collection
- Celebrate international mother's day & women's day with members of their communities.
- Help organize and supervise remedial lessons and activities for their children.
- Support first aid teams in their gatherings.
- Coordinate with PARD on water caretaking.
- Support and implement health education for the community and teach literacy groups.
- Distribute support materials; including bread to needy families.
- Supporting the refugees from Syria (data collection, relief services).
- All the women committees participated with many people from their communities in sit—ins to lobby for better services offered by UNRWA.
- Members of the women committee in the gatherings of **Burghuliyeh** (South and North), **Qasmiyeh** (upper and lower) Aitaniyeh, Jim Jeem, Jal Al Baher and Shabriha participated in preparation of compost through special barrels distributed by PARD.
- Conducted many friendly meetings with women who have problems (domestic violence, marriage problems, children problems and so on) for the purpose of unloading problems through listening,



discussing them openly and finding solutions when possible.

- Conducting social visits to patients, new married couples, families bereaved through death, etc.
- Coordination meetings among the women's committees, in addition to individual visits and joint actions.

## **Community Achievements (of women):**

The achievements focused mainly on water and sewage issues, in addition to garbage collection, which are issues very much related to the protection of their and their families health. Other issues of interest to them range between education to their children, their elderly welfare, combating drug addiction, health services, life saving road bumps and safe roads.

The methods which the women committees used to reach their achievements were acquired through PARD's training. The women used communication and conflict resolution skills, their own community mappings including their needs assessment, identification of stake holders, community mobilization and so on. They also used their skills in presenting their cases through preparing files (data collection pictures, maps), corresponding and conducting meetings and negotiations with stakeholders.



Through all the information collected, PARD together with the women committees submitted proposals to UN agencies and international NGO's to support the suggested works and activities.

The **achievements** were reached through the women committee's communications with PARD and other donors such as Norwegian refugee council (NRC), a joint UNDP/ UN-HABITAT programme, Terre Des Hommes (TDH), popular committees, Care International and local Lebanese municipalities.

#### (e) Graduation ceremony of members of women committees

On the 17th of October 2015, a graduation ceremony was conducted for the benfit of 162 women members of women committees in 9 gatherings in the South and 3 gatherings in Beirut. The ceremony took place in the municipality of Saida and was attended by NGO representatives, heads of popular committees (local governance in the gatherings), representatives of local Lebanese municipalitie, in addition to family members of the graduates and PARD staff.

A guide for "Family Health" prepared and donated by "Welfare Association", in addition to small presents and certificates were distributed to women graduates.

The ceremony noted the close of a long empowerment training project implemented by PARD for women committees in the gatherings, in addition to an acknowledgement from PARD and local stake holders of these women's efforts and achievements. Through a particiaptory approach, a new training course on empowerment will be prepared and implemented for the women in 2016.

### **Activity Two: Training on Combating Illiteracy and Providing Literacy Course**

### (a) Training on Literacy:

Mastering the basic literacy skills (reading, writing, calculating) are necessary preconditions to participate actively in public decision making beyond the immediate family and also for successful economic activities (micro business), that will strengthen the role of women within their family and community.



Activities to reduce the gender gap in literacy in the project communities are therefore another central part of this project.

For this purpose a four day training course took place on combating illiteracy for the benefit of **38 women** in **the South & Beirut** in 2014.

Out of the 38 trained women from Beirut and Southern gatherings, PARD chose the best 15 who followed the following criteria:

- Very good communication skills
- Good teaching skills on the subject of combating illiteracy
- Good reporting skills including evaluation
- Accepted by the community



The rest of the trainees were qualified to work with other NGOs or work in kindergartens and schools if they find jobs.

The chosen 15 trainees conducted 6 months courses on combating illiteracy for the benefit of women in their communities throughout 2014 and 2015. There was no need to train new people in 2015.

#### (b)Literacy courses:

The trained women on combating illiteracy became literacy educators, conducted many literacy courses for the benefit of women groups from their communities, aiming to strengthen the role of women within their families and communities, in addition to reducing the gender gap in literacy between the men and women in the same communities.

The women who participated in the literacy courses acquired basic skills in reading and writing Arabic and arithmatic. The educators used texts from subjects (chosen by the women) on topics such as depression, sexual harrassment, tense relationships with refugees from Syria, and home economy. The texts were boken down into sentences, the sentences into words, the words into letters and so on. Exercises were taken out and used from special text books.

#### 220 women benefited from combating illiteracy courses.

## What women participating in the combating Illiteracy courses which took place can do (after training):

- ✓ Help their children in kindergartens and elementary levels in their home works
- ✓ Read the Koraan
- ✓ Read health brochures distributed by PARD and other NGOs
- ✓ Encourage other women to join combating illiteracy courses
- ✓ Help each other as a group while learning in class or at home
- ✓ Know how to calculate quantity of food or things they need for their homes (to put budgets)
- ✓ Know how to sign their names
- ✓ Know how to read street signs
- ✓ Use "whatsapp" for communication
- ✓ Use the telephone (reading the numbers)
- ✓ Form a "friends group" to continue relationships after the courses end
- ✓ Gain knowledge on social and health subjects
- ✓ Read news
- ✓ Become active members in the local women committees
- ✓ Knowledge on group working and respecting timing (of sessions & activities)



#### Psycho-social results of combating illiteracy courses:

- ✓ Participants have more confidence in themselves and their abilities.
- ✓ Participants combated shyness; they expressed themselves better & more frequently.
- Participants faced verbal abuse from their husbands and sometimes children when they were illiterate. They have gained their abuser's respect & encouragement.
- ✓ Participants gained the concept of peer to peer support. They help each other in class and at home.
- ✓ Participants learned how to respect timing and group work.



# Activity Three: Training on Health Education and Providing Health Education for the Community

## (a) Training on Health Education:

Health knowledge is a key component in the process of women gaining independence, particularly in the field of sexual and reproductive rights and health. Gender concepts that hinder women in the realisation of their rights, such as the right to self-determination on marriage, conception/contraception etc. have an enormous impact on independence.

PARD's long experience in this field in the communities have encouraged women not only to use the knowledge that they gained in PARDs courses in their families, but to think about themselves as multipliers of this knowledge.

#### The criteria used for choosing trainees for health education:

- Have attended health education sessions with PARD for several years or have a medical background (nurses- midwives others)
- Ready to do voluntary work
- Obtained good relations with their communities and have gained their respect
- Can read and write well
- Are committed to capacity building and training courses offered by PARD or other NGOs
- Are members in the local women's committee.

In 2012, 30 women who fit the criteria in the South & Beirut trained on health education. The content of the course (5 days long) included the following:

- Objective of training
- What is health education
- Characters of the health educator
- Choosing the location of a health education session
- Forming groups
- Communication skills
- Lesson planning
- Planning health campaigns
- Means of illustration
- Communication and support to people with special needs
- Role of the health educator before, during and after crisis situations
- Evaluation tools



During the past years, PARD trained 77 women and 12 male youth to become local health educators.

In 2015, to ensure more outreach in the community on health education, especially among men, PARD conducted a training course on 'how to become health educators' for the benefit of 10 male youth from areas in Beirut and South. The trainees (male health educators) have now the skills to raise awareness on health issues, among them reproductive health subjects, for the benefit of young and elder males (peer to peer education).

#### (b) Raising Awareness on Health Issues in the Community

Following the training of health educators, the participants who became health assistants used their learned knowledge to convey this knowledge to community groups(women, youth and children).PARD provided them with the necessary materials for information on several health issues (with focus on reproductive health) such as transparencies, flip charts, posters, video films etc.

About 2870 people from the communities in 13 gatherings benefitted from health education sessions covering many health subjects including reproductive health.

## (c) Health Campaigns:

In addition to providing health education within groups of women and female youth, **a health campaign** was conducted for the targeted communities at large:

Early detection of breast	15 gatherings in the South	964 women
and cervical cancer	& Beirut	benefitted
(raising awareness)		

### **Activity Four: Training of Animators on Children Activities**

#### (a) Training of Animators on Children Activities

In the process of establishing teams of animators for children activities in the Southern and Beirut gatherings, PARD invited a group of youth to attend training on animation skills. The training was designed to prepare youth to be able to plan, implement and evaluate the children activities.



**Subjects of training:** Code of Conduct – Introduction to animation and its objectives – Physical and psychological benefits of the animation - Children Rights – Animator Character – Planning of Children Activities – The importance of relaxation and warm up activities – Managing group and ensuring equal participation – Communication skills – Learning through action – Means of clarification importance and usage – Integration of children with special needs – Actions in Emergency – Protection – Conflict Resolution – Importance of Evaluation – First Aid designed for children activities – Handcrafts with recycled materials. Gender Concepts & roles – Integration of gender concepts in children activities.

**Methodology:** Working groups – Role playing – Games – Videos – A practical training for the planning of activities was being done to prepare for the children summer activities (the trained animators conducted the summer activities where the trainers recommend which trainees would be animators and which would be assistants).

**Tools:** LCD projector and Laptop – Flip Chart – Camera – Sticky Notes.



#### 38 youth (21 females, 17 males) from the South & Beirut gatherings were trained.

In addition to PARD's training, UNDP conducted another training course for PARD and other NGOs animators. Six animators from PARD participated in training in the best methods to relay messages to children on water conservation, recycling of solid waste, personal hygiene, head lice and scabies. The training lasted for two days.

Moreover, PARD trained 18 young people from a local NGO in Saida (AL Adab Wa Al Thaqafa) on animation for children activities. The course lasted for 3 days. They wanted to prepare for summer activities in summer.

#### (b) Children Activities:

With the support on UNDP and MCC, PARD implemented two different sets of children activities:

#### I. With UNDP

PARD, together with trained local animators and implemented a 3 month project with children from the 18 following targeted gatherings:

Tyre: Burghuliyeh, Adloun, Maashouk, Qasmiyeh, Kfar Badda, Jim

Jeem, Baysariyeh, Jal al Bahar

Saida: Baraksat, Jabal al Halib, Bustan al Quds, Hay al Sohoun, Fadlo Wakim, Hamshari

Beirut: Gaza Buildings, Daouk, Said Ghawash

Coastal Road: Wadi al Zeini



#### **Objective:**

To support PARD in improving environmental and hygiene conditions for communities in targeted gatherings in Tyre, Saida and Beirut.

#### **Activities included:**

- + <u>22 Home Stations</u>: Trained facilitators of PARD discussed with woman and adolescent girls issues related to sexual and reproductive health as well as personal, household and environmental hygiene. **540 women benefitted** from this activity.
- + <u>7 Open Days</u>: They served as public awareness raising events, attracting mainly women and children. During open days, children and their families visited six awareness corners tackling diffrent WASH themes (persoanl hygiene, home accidents, lice and scabies, nutrition, water preservation and recycling of garbage). **1443 women and children benefitted from this activity**.
- + <u>4 Clean Up Campaigns</u>: Participatory activities were encouraged as communities and local authorities were engaged. Cleaning up campaigns were implemented in 4 most underpriviledged gatherings whereby **193 youth participated** in the activity.
- + <u>6 Puppetry Shows</u>: An adaptation of the classic puppet show, "Shu Sar bi Kfar Minkhar", was performed for **1203 (6 to 10 years old) children from the gatherings**.
- + <u>22 Children Activities</u>: A series of children activities were implemented throughout the campaign, using various interactive and creative techniques by trained animators. **1064 children benefitted from these activities**.
- + <u>3 Hairdressing Trainings</u>: By transferring basic hair cutting and styling skills to women as well as expertise in treating head lice, this training provided participating women with an income generating activity and improved WASH conditions in their communities, **32 women and young girls benefitted from this training**.



#### II. With MCC

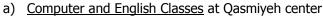
The locally trained animators with PARD have been implementing a children activities project supported by MCC since August 2015. The project hopes to improve the psychological and social situation of 200 children and improve social cohesion of their families with the host communities in 8 Palestinian gatherings in South Lebanon by providing community-forming psychological support through interactive activities and informal



lifeskills education geared at their emotional and physical well being as well as provide opportunities to build friendships with those from other groups. Activity daytrips as well as opportunities for their families to have better social relations due to monthly dialogue- led meetings that will take place. The project started in August 2015 and will end by May 2016.

In 2015 the following activities took place:

- Interactive community psychological activities (Learn through action) for 200 children monthly in 8 gatherings. The activities promote children's learning life skills related to improve their physical and mental states. Activities run for 5 hours over 2 days per week during spring, summer and winter school vacations and one day per week throughout the rest of the year.
- 3 Types of modular educational life skills training activities (selected by children in consultation with parents, teachers/animators and PARD community health workers):



- b) for children 9-14 of age (2 groups of 20 students). This activity was completed during October- December 2015.
- Basic and Advanced First Aid training in 8 gatherings for 200 children (to be implemented in 2016).
- d) Health Awareness for 200 children in 8 gatherings (started in December 2015 until May 2016. The activity is being implemented by experienced local health educators and subjects include personal and public hygiene, preservation of water, head lice, scabies, nutrition and others.
  - So far 200 children (95 M, 105 F) have benfitted from 3 subjects in health education.
- e) 6 Puppet theater performance to raise knowledge on health and social themes for the children of the communities in 8 gatherings during the whole time frame of the project. In 2015, 6 performances for the puppet theater took place in 6 gatherings benefetting 356 children (164 M, 192 F). The

theater focused on two themes: personal and environmental hygiene, and primary eye care (including hazards of fire works).

★ Monthly Meetings with Parents in 8 gatherings to promote positive dialogue and explore displacement issues of concern and impact to children as well as trauma resiliency related to









tensions between refugees and host community. In 2015, **40 meetings took place and 144 parents** participated in each community.

Moreover, **48 women with children residing in the 4 Gaza Buildings** in Beirut (considered one gathering) benefitted from a course on **parents behaviour towards their children**. The course included threats and opportunities, comparison between past and present childhood (the childhood of parents), rights and duties and methods of improving parenthood.



## **Activity Five: Training on Gender Equality and Gender Workshops**

#### (a) Training on Gender Equality

In 2014, three training courses on gender equality were conducted for the benefit of 40 young people (38 females, 2 males) from the gatherings in Beirut & the South. Each course lasted for five days.

Out of the 40 trained youth, 30 conducted workshops on gender equality in their own communities.

#### (b) Gender Workshops with the Community

In order to conduct the gender equality campaign following the TOT training 30 trainees were chosen to raise awareness on gender. The selection was based on their personality, good communication skills, their level of knowledge and understanding of the topic. In 2015, sessions on gender equality were conducted for 625 people in 14 gatherings in Beirut and the South.

#### (c) Early Marriage Campaign:

1) Another matter of interest to the women committees related to gender equality was early marriage. This subject worried the women's committees because of its common occurrence more than before, and because they were aware of the social and health hazards resulting from it.

They started a **campaign to raise awareness on problems caused by early marriage** in 2013, and the campaign continued throughout 2014.

The campaign lasted for six months and included:

- ✓ Home visits to count youth (males 16 20 years old, females 12 18 years old)
- ✓ Filling a questionnaire on early marriage with 436 youth (males & females).
- ✓ Raising awareness on hazards of early marriage through 144 sessions for the benefit of 1,574 people (170 males, 1,404 females).

The **objective** of the campaign was to convince a number of youth and parents that early marriage is unhealthy physically, socially and economically.

The campaign continued in 2015 whereby **raising awareness on hazards of early marriage** targeted young males and females (12 - 20 years of age) and their families. In 2015, the total beneficiaries from raising awareness reached 250 people in the gatherings of the South & Beirut as a follow up activity to the campaign.

#### 2) Facilitating a study conducted by two AUB researchers on early marriage:

PARD's community health worker/trainer in Beirut facilitated workshops conducted by two researchers from the American University of Beirut (AUB) with men and women from the gatherings of Said Ghawash, Daouk and Gaza Buildings.

- 5 workshops with 15 men who have young women, 18 years old or younger, or who have married young women 18 years old or younger.



- 5 workshops with 20 women who have young women 18 years old or younger, or who have married young women 18 years old and or younger.

The findings of this research will be shared with PARD at a later stage.

#### Activity six: Training on first aid and providing services

This project started in 1998 in coordination with the Norwegian People's Aid. The coordination included training, exchange visits and support, both financial and in-kind. Since NPA trained local trainers (TOT), PARD has been doing its own training for new youth groups who wished to join first aid teams.

The first centre for first aid was founded in Shabriha in 2003, followed by the establishment of Beirut centre in 2005. In 2007, PARD established a new centre for the South Burghuliyeh gathering. Moreover, new centres were established in Qasmiyeh (2009) and in Kfar Badda (2013). It's notable that the first aid teams were formed and practiced services before the centres were founded, as many of



the first aiders were treating cases using first aid materials provided by PARD and kept at their houses.

#### The teams conduct the following activities:

Self-training including refreshment courses, training of youth from local communities, participation in PARD's campaigns (vaccination, awareness, cleaning campaigns, spraying insecticides and others), provide first aid services to the communities, fire fighting and support activities in national and international occasions, beside their participation in the health education sessions and other capacity building activities. The First Aid teams usually meet separately on a weekly basis. Assignments and responsibilities in the teams are shared and divided among all the team members.

## Currently, there are 7 first aid teams (4 first aid teams working in the Palestinian gatherings in the south and 3 in Beirut):

• Gaza building team : 8 first aiders (males)

Daouk team : 14 first aiders (4 females and 10 males)
 Said Ghawash : 9 first aiders (4 females and 5 males)

• Shabriha team : 12 first aiders (males)

Burghuliyeh team : 14 first aiders (10 females and 4 males)
 Qasmiyeh team : 12 first aiders (9 females and 3 males)
 Maashouk team : 12 first aiders (3 females and 9 males)

Totals : 81 first aiders

#### (a) Trainings on Basic First Aid

In the year 2015, PARD trained 7 youth groups on basic first aid. **60 youth participated** (35 males and 25 females) with age groups ranging between 16 and 28 years. The education level of participants included elementary, secondary and university levels.

**Basic First aid training includes the following:** Introduction to first aid - CPR-Recovery position – Injuries and Bleeding – Poisoning – Burns – Fractures – Suffocation – Safety and first aider behaviours. This training last for 4 days. Out of the 60 youth trained, 20 (11 male and 9 female) youth were chosen to participate in an advanced first aid training. This training last 8 days.



#### **Advanced First aid Training includes the follows:**

- Examination and treatment of a trauma patient, including airway management, use of oxygen and ambo-bag, use of neck- collar and backboard, and basic first aid for chest and abdominal and pelvic injuries.
- Acute illness, including asthma, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, stroke, diabetes, and epilepsy.
- Signs, symptoms, and treatment of the most important poisonings.
- Basic knowledge about fire-safety and management.

This training lasts for 8 days.

Instructions have been based on causes, signs, symptoms, and treatment, including practical training.

#### (b) Services of First Aid Teams:

Until now the seven first aid teams have conducted 2593 services at their centres' as follows:

TYPE OF SERVICES	TOTAL NO. OF SERVICES
Wounds	502
Fractures	257
Burns	305
Blood pressure monitoring	611
Diabetes Test	52
Administering Intramuscular Injections	253
Suturing Wounds	71
Transfer to the hospital	514
Breathing Difficulties	28
Total	2593

**The services are vital for the communities** who live in the south gatherings located in rural areas some of which are 20 km or more away from cities, where emergency centres or hospitals are placed. Moreover, those services save money and efforts for the benefit of people who have low incomes and no health security.

**Many members of the first aid teams have nursing background.** These members are involved in the cases which require more professionalism such as suturing and injection.

#### **Activity Seven: Training and Meetings with Popular Committees**

## **Workshops with Popular Committees:**

Meetings between the women committees and popular committees (local governance) in the targeted gatherings continued throughout the year. The agendas of those meetings ranged from information exchange on activities or campaigns, joint lobbying with UNRWA or Lebanese municipalities, decision making and problem solving.

Meetings between the committees will probably continue due to the need to solve problems facing their communities and realize common projects.

The popular committees **not only recognized** the local women committees, but they actually want them to join their committees. So now the committees (through the support of PARD) are negotiating the **best representation form.** 

They suggested that elected members of the women committees should represent the "women committees" who should remain as independent and not be completely absorbed or incorporated into the popular



committees (local governance in the gatherings). This level of relationship is considered as an **achievement**, a positive result of training on empowerment conducted by PARD for the women committees to become real decision makers in public life.

The meetings with the popular committees in the gatherings took place at different times. They took place once a month, twice a month & sometimes more often. In 2015, 12 meetings took place in each gathering. The frequency of the meetings depended on the pressing needs of the community.

#### Subjects discussed or resolved were devided into three categories mainly:

#### 1- <u>Issues directly related to the local communities:</u>

Several problems were discussed:

- Garbage disposal
- Electricity problems
- Sewer network problem
- Maintenance works on some buildings
- Asphalting the road
- Spraying of insecticides
- Chlorination of water
- Distributing rodenticide bags
- Collecting fees to pay the local garbage collector in Beirut
- Follow up on rehabilitation of shelters supported by NRC (Jal Al Bahar).
- Discuss results of meetings with Lebanese municipality in Burj Rahal to recruit their services related to the sewage network and other services (Qasmiyeh women committee).
- Facing water shortages in the summer of 2015 in all gatherings.
- Damage in electricity cables causing electricity cuts and solving the problem of the maintenance needed in all gatherings.

## 2- <u>Issues related to the presence of refugees from Syria in the gatherings:</u>

- Prepare new statistics for refugees from Syria in all gatherings.
- Prepare action plan for cleaning campaigns and spraying of insecticides in all gatherings.
- Follow- up on issues related to refugees from Syria such as new born registration and residency visas.
- Deteriorating situations of host families due to the large numbers of refugees from Syria.
- Increased consumption of electricity because of the increasing number of Syrian refugees in the gathering and its effects.
- Problems facing water network in the gathering.
- Problems in sewer drainage in a buildings inhabited by Syrian Refugees.
- Compare statistics on Syrian Refugees.
- Problems faced due to the cut in support of international organizations & UN agencies to the refugees from Syria in general, and to the PRS residing in the gatherings specifically.

#### 3- General Meeting with Popular Committees

A general meeting took place on the 17th of September 2015 in a local NGO center in Saida. The meeting was attended by 40 representatives of women committees from the gatherings in the South and Beirut, 20 representatives of the popular committees (local governance) from the gatherings of the South and Beirut and 4 PARD staff.

In the meeting, the positive and negative aspects of women participation in public life were discussed. The bigger role of women's participation in problem solving was acknowledged by the popular committees (mostly men), as was the need for further and continuous coordination between them.

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## Activity Eight: Esatblishing Small Income Generating Projects

#### **Vocational Training Courses**

In 2015, PARD focused on income generating projects implemented by the 140 youth trained in a vocational training centre in Tyre, through a relief project supported by ASFARI Foundation. 140 youth both males and females were trained on 5 vocational:

- Assistant Pharmacist
- Women Hairdressing
- Men Hairdressing
- Maintenance of Mobile Phones
- Air Conditioning



After the training course was conducted (6 months), PARD's staff followed up on how many of the graduates found or created jobs. The following findings were recorded:

- 1- Graduates of Assistant Pharmacists course:
  - → 21 youth attended
  - → 70% (15 graduates) joined hospitals and pharmacies to gain experience (practice). They will get jobs after they finish this period of practice.
  - → 30% (6 graduates) attended a Lebanese school to obtain the BT (Baccalauriet Technique) to continue their education at the tertiary level.
- 2- Graduates of Women Hairdressing course:
  - **→** 54 youth attended.
  - + 70% (38 graduates) conducted women hairdressing using rooms in their homes.
  - → 11% (6 graduates) found work at women hairdressing salons.
  - + 4% (2 graduates) established their own hairdressing salons.
  - + 15% (8 graduates) specifically the Syrians sought assylmn in European countries.
- 3- Graduates of Men Hairdressing course:
  - **→** 42 youth attended.
  - → 80% (33 graduates) work in men hairdressing salons.
  - → 5% (2 graduates) established their own hairdressing salons.
  - + 15% (7 graduates) specifically the Syrians sought assylum in European countries.
- 4- Graduates of Mobile Phone Maintenance:
  - **→** 13 youth attended.
  - → 38% (5 graduates) work in shops for mobile phone maintenance.
  - + 23% (3 graduates) established their own mobile phone maintenance shops.
  - → 39% (5 graduates) work in electronic maintenance shops.
- 5- Graduates from Air Conditioning course:
  - **→** 10 youth attended.
  - → 40% (4 graduates) work in companies for the maintenance and installment of air conditioning.
  - → 40% (4 graduates) work privately in the same field.
  - + 20% (2 graduates) specifically the Syrians sought assylum in European countries.



#### Activity nine:Training on Composting:

One of PARD's main objectives is to protect the environment thereby preserving health. Because one of the most significant causes of pollution is garbage piling which increases the risk of disease transmission through insects and rodents which gather around the garbage, PARD is trying to decrease the amount of garbage and pollution in the gatherings. In addition to that, many chemical fertilizers used to grow fruits and vegetables are dangerous to people's health and well-being.



So, PARD decided to start a new composting project that will help decrease the amount of garbage, percentage of pollution, and will help in the production of food that is free from chemical materials and limit the amount of chemicals in the soil and water.

The project includes training, raising awareness, and implementing household composting projects.

In 2015, awareness raising sessions were conducted as such:

Subject	Locations	Women Beneficiaries	Male Youth Beneficiaries	Female Youth Beneficiaries
Training on	10 gatherings near	118	15	8
Composting	Tyre			

10 barrels for composting were distributed.

## **Activity Ten: Participation in Human Rights Campaigns**

PARD, together with the women's committees mobilised communities for the participation in Advocacy Campaigns for Women Rights in particular and for Palestinian Rights in Lebanon in general, which are often interconnected. For example, the citizen law of Lebanon is still gender discriminating against Lebanese women who are married to Palestinian men; their children cannot gain the Lebanese citizenship.

Such campaigns were organized typically from a coalition of Lebanese and Palestinian NGOs, e.g. the Lebanese Palestinian Coalition for the Rights of Work to the Palestinian Refugees. PARD has joined these activities in the past. Furthermore, a recent coalition has been formed of NGOs working in the Palestinian communities to claim the "right to land property" for Palestinians, so that Families who have bought and built houses and apartments outside the camps can register them legally.

These campaigns have had the additional effect, to strengthen the relations between Lebanese and Palestinians and overcoming the sense of isolation that Palestinians have vis-à-vis the official Lebanese policy.

This type of cooperation has been intensified on the local level with the Lebanese authorities and Lebanese neighbourhoods which has led to a stronger integration of the project within the Palestinian communities.

On issues related to women's rights, PARD & members of the women's committees coordinated with NGOs working on gender based violence & nationality related issues, such as KAFA, ABAAD, & CRTDA.

14 members of the women committees in Beirut joined a sit-in organised by ABAAD against 'violence against women'. CRTDA is the organisation responsible for coordinating a campaign on 'My Nationality is My Right and the Right of My Family' in Lebanon. In 2015, PARD coordinated with CRTDA through several meetings



and a sit-in in the capital to lobby for equality between men and women in that Lebanese women have the right to give their children their nationality, including Lebanese women married to Palestinians. Members of the women's committee in Beirut gatherings joined the sit-in.

#### **Activity Eleven: Providing Health Services to Women**

Palestinian women do not have the ability to control their fertility and thus plan a family, a concept that is absolutely fundamental to women's empowerment<sup>1</sup> and equality. When a woman can plan her family, she can plan the rest of her life. When she is healthy, she can be more productive. And when her reproductive rights—including the right to decide the number, timing and spacing of her children, and to make decisions regarding reproduction free of discrimination, coercion and violence—are promoted and protected, she has freedom to participate more fully and equally in society.

The right to health is a fundamental part of our human rights and of our understanding of a living in dignity. Health is an integral issue of fundamental human rights and social justice and binds social work to apply these principles in both policy and practice. All people have an equal right to enjoy the basic conditions that underpin human health. These conditions include a minimum standard of living to support health and a sustainable and health-promoting environment. All people have an equal right to access resources and services that promote health and address illness, injury and impairment, including social services. Non-discrimination and equality are critical components of the right to health. PARD believes that it should continue to work for the realization of these universal rights through the development, articulation and pursuit of socially just health and social policies and practices especially for the Palestinian community.

Palestinian refugees in Lebanon face several obstacles in relation to the right to health. The Government of Lebanon does not provide any support to the Palestinian refugees while the UNRWA's services are limited to a specific budget that is diminishing year after year. Considering health as a human right requires specific attention to individuals and groups of individuals in the Palestinian society, in particular those living in vulnerable situations.

The equitable provision of affordable and accessible primary healthcare is central to human development, critical to meeting the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and a basic human right. Attention to the equity dimension of health care is especially important within the Palestinian communities because of its widespread poverty, high under-five and maternal mortality rates, low levels of basic health care utilization and the obstacles to health care services.

Women and children are among the most vulnerable groups in the Palestinian community. PARD plans to implement rights-based programs that would provide education and services to women, children and their families. Promoting the health of pregnant women and providing advice and medical consultation are some of integral parts of PARD's program that aims at improving the lifestyle of this group. This focal area also supports the fifth Millennium Development Goal that revolves around improving maternal health.

### **A- Services**

**10,998** affordable primary health services were used by about **4000** women patients through PARD's women health clinics in Beirut, Shabriha, Burghuliyeh and Wasta. The services include medical consultations by four gynecologists and two midwives, ultrasound, pap smear and family planning.

### **B – Expositions on Reproductive Health**

Empowerment is a multi-dimensional social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power in people, for use in their own lives, their communities, and in their society, by acting on issues that they define as important. Empowerment in this context means women gaining more power and control over their own lives.



Two expositions on reproductive health were held in the municipality of Saida and one in Beirut. **186 people attended** including members of popular, women and youth committees from Beirut and the South, representatives of NGOs, staff of PARD and others.

The activities started by an interactive play with the themes of early marriage and gender based violence reflecting a kind of a marriage behavior that is still prevalent in our society.

The expositions included the following sections:

- Family Planning
- Breast Cancer
- Nutrition
- Osteoporosis
- Cervical Cancer
- Gender Based Violence
- SIDA/ AIDS
- Early Marriage
- Breast Feeding
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)
- Hepatitis C

## C - Health Education on Stages of Pregnancy and After Birth

In the gatherings of Tyre and Beirut, the health educators of PARD visited pregnant women and women with new born babies, providing them with education and baby kits. Subjects included the following based on stages of pre and post natal cases:

Stages	Subjects	Beneficiaries
1 <sup>st</sup> three months of pregnancy	Nutrition- Hazard of Medications	
4-6 months of pregnancy	Follow up by Gynaecologist	516
	Monitoring Check Ups	
	Preparation of a File	
7-9 months of pregnancy	Care of newborn	
	Hygiene after Delivery	
	Breast Feeding	
Post Natal Visits	Baby bath	
	Combating wrong beliefs	
	Nutrition	



Strategy Two:
Environmental Health
Services, Awareness &
Trainings

19,554 Palestinian refugees and poor Lebanese (15643 females and 3911 males) living in gatherings in the outskirts of the Palestinian camps; 4,704 living in Beirut gatherings (these are 3763 females and 940 males); 14,850 living in the South gatherings (11880 females and 2970 males) living in better environment and infrastructure condition. Through the following activities:



## **Activity one: Water control and testing**

**120 water tests in 10 Palestinian gatherings** (4 times x 30 locations in the gatherings including the well, reservoirs, network and household water tap) were conducted.

#### Activities of water testing and control include:

- 1- Collecting and analyzing water samples to control quality (free from bacteria causing waterborne diseases). Analysis takes place at the official water laboratory in Saida and the lab at PARD's center provided by Oxfam.
- 2- Analysis of water samples took place four times/ year from each water source; results are documented in special schedules.
- 3- Control of chlorine residual in the water.
- 4- Follow up and control of chlorine pumps installed in the water wells.
- 5- Follow up with the local water caretakers for operating the chlorine pumps.
- 6- Preparation of a workshop for the water caretakers including (relationship of water to human health-importance of chlorine in sterilizing the water- quantities of chlorine used in chlorination of water- how to control chlorine residuals- how to maintain chlorine pumps).

## Activity two: Solid waste collection and disposal

This activity includes regular solid waste collection at the household level, in addition to cleaning public zones in the southern gatherings.

**2,496 tons of solid wastes were collected through 1092 shifts** (2 tons/ shift) 8 locations in Tyre gatherings in the South to the main dumping place.

6937 people benefited from this project in the south (3815 females and 3122 males).

## **Activity three: Spraying of insecticides**

Rodents and insects constituted a major source of nuisance to the residents of the gatherings, especially during summer when the number of insects increases tremendously. To control the problem, PARD implemented twenty spraying campaigns in each of the 10 gatherings in the South and 3 gatherings in Beirut.

PARD sprayed 39,450 litres of insecticides (200 ml of insecticides for every 20 litres of water). 19554 people benefited from this project (15643 females and 3911 males).

# Activity four: Maintenance of water and chlorine pumps, sewage and water networks

#### Water Supply includes the following sub- activities:

- 1.1 Maintenance of water network, wells reservoirs and chlorine pumps
- 1.2 Pumping out wastewater from septic tanks.

#### 1.1 Maintenance of water network, wells, reservoirs and chlorine pumps:

- ✓ Maintaining the well water networks in addition to the cleaning and chlorination of the water tanks once a year in all gatherings.
- ✓ Cleaning of water reservoirs
- Maintaining and following up the chlorination pumps in six gatherings (Shabriha, Aitaniyeh, Sikkeh, Maashouk, Wasta and Burghuliyeh).



✓ In 2014, PARD partnered UN agencies and international NGOs in providing submersible pumps in the water wells of the south gatherings, in addition to many other WASH activities. In 2015, PARD again followed up with UN agencies and international NGOs projects to rehabilitate water and sewage networks (details are in the relief section of this report).

## **1.2 Pumping out of wastewater, cleaning manholes and maintenance of wastewater network** (to prevent infiltration of wastewater into drinking water network):

i. PARD operates a special truck for suctioning of septic tanks in the Southern gatherings. Some gatherings are not linked to major wastewater pipelines and therefore discharge their household wastewater into primitive ground septic tanks. These usually overflow and contaminate the land and water sources around them. As such, to prevent this from happening, PARD caters for this need through a system of on-call duty of the specialized truck for suction of black water in return for low fees.

In 2015, 101 septic tanks were sucked out by the truck.

In addition to the regular activities, sewage networks in many gatherings were rehabilitated through relief activities (see report on relief).

## Activity five: Cleaning campaigns of general premises

At least once a year, before implementing spraying of insecticides, each gathering organizes a cleaning campaign whereby a team of workers and volunteers cleanup their gatherings.

In 2015, **26 campaigns took place in the gatherings** in the South, and the collected wastes were removed by PARD's 2 garbage trucks and deposited at designated places.

6 campaigns were implemented in the Beirut gatherings.

## Activity six: Training of local water caretakers

- a) As part of their continuous training, 11 local water care takers in seven gatherings in the South were taken to a field trip to the main water station in the Tyre. The 8 male and 3 female water care takers were taken to a tour in the water station whereby they visited all stages of water treatment from the main pumping station on the water source all through the purification process till stage of the pumping water into the water network. Samples were taken by the participants and tested for chlorine precipitates. The visit included the exchange of information between the water experts who accompanied the participants, and the participants themselves about water purification.
- b) Another training course was conducted for the benefit of 14 local water care takers in Burghuliyeh on the subject of the minimum standard for 'WASH' based on 'SPHERE Project'. The purpose of this training was to teach the water care takers on the best methods to deal with the added new burdens on the water system and water availability in the gatherings overly populated by arrival of new refugees.

## Activity seven: Distribution of rodenticides, anti-lice shampoo, and anti-scabies lotion

The Beirut gatherings are overcrowded habitats with problems in the sewage systems. The Southern gatherings are not over crowded, but individual problems related to the sewer system and household garbage might pose breeding places for rodents like in Beirut. The local health educators and members of local women's committees are the ones who distribute rodenticides to control such pests. Distributions are accompanied by written instructions on proper use and the protection of family users. **1,202 rodenticide** bags were distributed in **2015**.

Additionally, 703 anti- lice shampoo and 200 anti-scabies lotion were distributed during the year 2015.



## **Activity eight: Health Education**

For the purpose of raising awareness on waterborne diseases within the community, the following subjects were tackled as such:

Location	Subject	Number of beneficiaries (women)
9 Gatherings near Tyre	Jaundice	169
	Typhoid	181
	Hazards of garbage	95
	Total	445

Moreover, health education sessions where conducted on prevention methods against the insect called bed bug (Cimex) which spread in the gathering of Said Ghawash in Beirut. **106 women benefitted from this awareness raising** to contain the spread of this bug.





PARD became involved in the relief operation for refugee families from Syria since July 2012. Our relief program was guided by PARD's contingency plan prepared in 2012.

Since July 2012 till the end of 2015, PARD implemented many projects for the benefits of refugees from Syria residing mainly in the Palestinian gatherings (nine in Tyre, seven in Saida and four in Beirut). The targeted refugees reaching about 11,000 people including both Syrians and Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS). The support ranged from food and non-food items (NFIs) to WASH activities, shelter rehabilitation, health education and children education. During the period April 2015 till March 2016, PARD will be supporting 5,800 people (not the 11,000) due to decrease in funding.



## Relief activities in 2015 included the following:

#### 1. Nutrition

- **(a)-** PARD supported the targeted number of the refugees through providing \$20 vouchers to each for the period of 12 months on a monthly basis(69,600). The number of family members could not be more than 5. The refugees reside in the following gatherings:
  - Tyre Area: Shabriha, Jal Al Bahar, Al Samer, Maashouk, Qasmiyeh, Burghuliyeh, Wasta, Aitaniyeh, Kfar Badda, Jim Jeem and Baisariyeh
- Beirut: Daouk, Said Ghawash, Gaza Buldings, Sabra Nearby supermarkets to the gatherings were contracted and the refugees chose what they need from food items within the monitory cost range of the vouchers received. The project was supported by CFGB/ MCC.



**(b)-** In connection with the distribution of food vouchers to refugee families from Syria, **health education** was provided for 2,400 women (240 lectures). The subjects covered included nutrition, breast feeding, nutrition of babies (6 months- two years), nutrition of children (3years-5 years) and food security. This project was supported by CFGB/ MCC.

#### 2. WASH Activities

PARD partnered with UNDP and SIF (Secours Islamique France) to implement projects related to water and sanitation.



## a) With UNDP

Location	Works
South gatherings (Saida and Tyre)	PARD provided assessment studies with BOQs for water and sanitation works implemented by UNDP in the South.
22 Beirut, Saida and Tyre gatherings	<ul> <li>WASH awareness campaign including:         <ul> <li>Training of 8 animators for children activities</li> <li>Health education for 240 women and young girls on personal hygiene</li> <li>Activities for 800 children</li> <li>Seven open days for 951 children and women (WASH awareness raising public events)</li> <li>Four cleaning campaigns implemented by 193 local youth benefitting 10,102 people</li> <li>Six puppet shows for 1203 children(impact of hygiene risky behaviours)</li> <li>Hairdressing training for 32 women</li> <li>Distribution of hairdressing kits(income generating and head lice control)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Kfar Badda	Complete a water network(1,110 m)
Aitaniyeh	Rehabilitation of Sewage line
Shabriha	Complete water network(70 m)
Qasmiyeh	Upgrade part of sewage network



Details of children activities are mentioned in the section of children activities page 22 since they benefitted both Palestinian refugees residing in Lebanon (host community) and the refugees from Syria.

## b) With SIF:

Location	Works	
3 gatherings in Beirut	Health promotion for 562 women and youth on five	
	subject related to WASH	
Gaza Buildings	Rehabilitation of water network	

## 3. Distribution of Hygiene Kits

Donor	Location	Number of Hygiene Kits distributed
UNDP	22 Beirut, Saida, Tyre gatherings (refugees from Syria)	2520
	(ioragess nom syna)	256(personal hygiene kits)
		800 (personal hygiene kits during activities)
MCC	12 Beirut and Tyre gatherings	686(household hygiene buckets)
	(refugees from Syria)	4,274(personal hygiene kits)

The personal hygiene kits include the following:

- Small Towel
- Nail Clipper
- Tooth brush
- Hand soap
- Combs



The hygiene kits and buckets include the following:

- Bucket with lid
- Towels
- Shampoo
- Tooth brush
- Hand soap
- Combs
- Detergents
- Dish washing liquid
- Washing powder
- Sanitary napkins
- Paper tissues
- Toilet paper
- Washing lines
- Nail clipper
- Band aids
- Garbage bags





### 4. Rehabilitation of shelters, roads, houses, fences and retaining walls

Donor	Location	Works
UNDP	Qasmiyeh	Install fence along water channel
		(Litani project), road rehabilitation
	Burghuliyeh	Retaining wall, install fence along
		water channel (Litani project)
	Qasmiyeh, Jim Jeem and Kfar Badda	Rehabilitation of 57 households
	Daouk and Said Ghawash gatherings	Rehabilitation of 24 household
	in Beirut	
SIF	Daouk, Said Ghawash and Gaza	Rehabilitation of 80 households for
	Buildings (Beirut)	Syrian refugees (including latrines and
		kitchen)

The activities benefitted both the refugees from Syria and the host community.

#### 5. Education

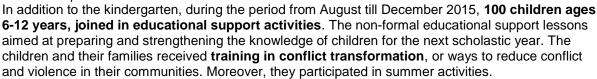
## a) Kindergarten for refugee children from Syria

Refugee children from Syria of school age (6 years and up) joined either UNRWA schools (PRS) or

public Lebanese schools (Syrian). Moreover, some NGOs took in some of the refugee children (aged from 4 to 6 years) but many of them were not accommodated.

In Beirut, **PARD targeted 110 children (aged 4 to 6) through establishing a kindergarten** for them. This kindergarten is divided into 3 grades (KG1 for 4 years, KG2 for 5 years and KG3 for 6 years old). A team of 3 teachers, 3 teacher assistants, 1 coordinator. 1 psychological assistant and a







The activities were mentioned both in the program for youth and children empowerment and the relief program since the beneficiaries were Palestinian refugees residing in Lebanon (PRL), Palestinian Syrian Refugees (PRS) and Syrian refugees.

## c) Vocational Training (See children activities in P 29):

The activities were mentioned both in the program for youth empowerment and the relief program since the beneficiaries were Palestinian refugees residing in Lebanon (PRL), Palestinian Syrian Refugees (PRS) and Syrian refugees.

#### 6. Distribution of Non-Food items

Donor	Location	Item
MCC (In Kind Support) 12 Beirut and Tyre gatherings	932 Comforters/ blankets	
		192 Infant care kits
		2002 School kits
		23 School kits/ Teachers supplies





The Overall Goal of the Organizational Development Strategy is to increase PARD's organizational effectiveness, performance and service quality.



## Workshop: Gender Equality Mainstreaming in all PARD's programs

Gender Working Group (GWG) was set up in order to adopt and establish sequence for addressing gender inequalities in programs and structure through an approved action plan. GWG consisted of both administration and operational departments in PARD. GWG also developed a gender vision statement that set visionary goals in gender mainstreaming in PARD.

GWG developed a training plan for technical and non-technical staff in order to improve their skills in gender integration and mainstreaming. The level of training and opportunities were identified so that specific trainings on relevant gender topics would be provided. GWG also developed and organised gender awareness trainings plan that would be integrated in other trainings. Board members, admin and technical staff and all the new employees would be participating in such trainings.

In this context, a "gender equality mainstreaming of all PARD's programs" took place for a period of 3 days and was facilitated by Mr. Jean Kors, external consultant from ICOD. This course was attended by the following PARD staff:

- Coordinator of Women and Youth empowerment program
- 3 Community Health workers
- 2 Youth Empowerment trainers
- Finance Coordinator South
- Assistant Finance Coordinator South
- Program Assistant in Relief program
- Project management of kindergarten Beirut
- Field Officer in Environmental Health program

The <u>objectives</u> of the workshop included application of gender concepts in:

- Needs Assessment of the programs
- Design of programs
- Implementation of the programs

## **Development of Children Protection Policy**

This workshop took place for a period of three days and was facilitated by a trainer from Islamic Relief Worldwide – Lebanon office.

This workshop was attended by

- The Coordinator of Women and Youth Empowerment program
- Four Community Health workers/ trainers
- Coordinator of Children Activities project
- Three Children activities animators

The workshop included the following subjects:

- Definition of child protection concept
- Definition of mistreatment of children
- What is child protection policy, to whom is it applied?
- How does an organization guarantee the application of child protection policy
- The code of conduct document

### **Community and Partners Capacity Building**

PARD partnered with the Welfare Association-UK in a four year program called "Empower Marginalised Communities – South Lebanon". This project aims to strengthen the capacity of Palestinian refugees living in 3 refugee camps and 9 gatherings in southern Lebanon, where Palestinians are particularly marginalized, lack many public services, and suffer high poverty rates. The project benefits 71,350 beneficiaries including 2,970 families in the gatherings and 10,274 families in the camps. The project is implemented through six local NGOs (including PARD) who have in-depth experience working within these topics in the south. Palestinian Arab Women's League (PAWL), Women's Humanitarian Organization (PWHO), Association Najdeh, National Institute for Social Care and Training (NISCVT) and Beit Atfal Sumud are other partners.



The project aims to build on the expertise, local knowledge, and vast experience of the partner organizations in their particular areas of strength, by having them conduct the training components in the relevant activities (awareness raising, composting, and water management) which ensures that local capacities are further increased. The project provides sustainable capacity building skills to these communities, with four main components:

- (1) Community awareness-raising on social and health topics
- (2) Strengthening local NGO capacities in community based rehabilitation techniques (CBR)
- (3) Introducing techniques to improve the environmental health of the communities
- (4) Initiating a micro loan scheme with business support

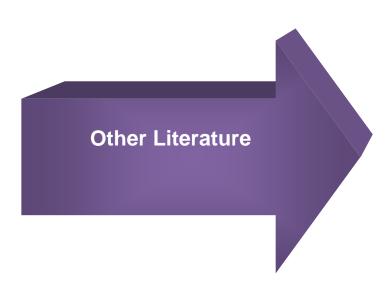
This project continued throughout 2015.



## **Capacity Building for Staff**

Training Organisation	Position of Staff trained	Subject of training
Campaign 'Sure She Can' NDI, March, ACD and Women in Front	Community Health Worker/ Trainer	Advocacy
Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)	Coordinator of Women and Youth Empowerment program Programme Assistant in Relief program	Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation program
Norwegian People's Aid (NPA – Lebanon)	Community Health Worker/ Trainer	Women participation in public and political life
Oxfam	Coordinator of Youth Empowerment	Training of Trainers (ToT)





PARD is part of a number of coordination forums and national and international coalitions that focus on Palestinian rights and issues.



## **EU-Arab Civil Society Dialogue in Brussels**

SOLIDAR co-organized together with CONCORD, the Arab NGO Network for development (ANND) and the EuroMed NGO Platform the "European Neighbourhood Policy Days" in Brussels in order to strengthen CSO policy dialogue in the wake of the revision of the European Neighbourhood Policy.

Second "Rebuilding Relations with European Southern Neighbourhood Countries" forum, at the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels was attended by 70 civil Society organisaitons from Europe and the MENA region, academia, Trade Unions and EU officials.



PARD Programme Manager presented a paper regarding the social, legal and economic situation of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon, highlighting their role as a 'host community' to the newly arrived refugees from Syria.

#### **Coordination Forums**

- 1. The coordination forum of the NGOs working among the Palestinian Community has been operating since the beginning of 1995. Its aim is to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon in all aspects of their lives, including the political (through lobbying), social, and health, educational and economic. PARD has been a founder of this forum of 16 NGO members. As long as this forum helps its NGO members to reach a better understanding about the problems facing them and facing the communities they work with, and succeeds in complying with its aims, namely to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian refugees, PARD will remain an active member within it. This forum has implemented many joint projects, participated in joint training programs and participated in national and international workshops and conferences.
- 2. The Coordination forum of Social and Health NGOs in Saida Area was established as a result of the Israeli aggression on the South of Lebanon July 1993. PARD is one of its founders, and it has played an active role in it from the start. The number of NGOs who are part of this forum is 38 members. This forum has implemented many joint projects both for the Lebanese and Palestinians in the areas of health, social issues, education, and relief in the city of Saida and the surrounding area.
- 3. The Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) was established in June 1996, with a membership of 45 networks and non-governmental organization from 12 Arab countries. The initiative for establishing ANND came from a group of Lebanese and Tunisian civil society organizations that met in 1993, during one of the preparatory meetings for the International Social Development Summit that took place in Copenhagen, in 1995. PARD has been a member of ANND since 1997. ANND is an advocacy group. Since its establishment, it has worked extensively on strengthening and shaping the role of civil society organizations in Arab countries. Currently, ANND has three main programs; Development program, Democracy program and Globalization and Trade program.

## **National and international Coalitions**

**1.** PARD is part of a coalition of organisations working in the Palestinian community **advocating Palestinian Refugees Right to Own Property in Lebanon** since 2011. The project is hosted by Norwegian People's Aid NPA- Lebanon. The project launched an ongoing campaign on the right to own property for the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. The campaign has focused on:



- Highlighting, for the Lebanese public, the injustice of the 2001 legislative amendment, and its incompatibility with human rights principles namely the principle of non-discrimination
- Developing a unified draft law for modifying the 2001 legislative amendment
- Mobilising and unifying the Palestinian community and public opinion around the campaign for the right to own property
- Gaining support among Lebanese parliamentary groups and law makers for the campaign
- 2. PARD is part of an **International Coalition for Right of Return** for Palestinians. The coalition include organizations, institutions and groups form all around the world that pursue the Palestinians right to return to their homeland, Palestine. The coalition includes entities from Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Germany, France, The Netherlands, USA, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Belgium and Poland.