“There’s no work in this region. We may currently be facing a crisis, but we always have a lot of hope in Lebanon. From Akkar down to Naqoura, we want to ensure that all people in Lebanon are able to live on their land.”

Mohamed, farmer & SEAL beneficiary 2016
Akkar el Attiqa, North Lebanon
2016 was a year of major growth for SEAL on the operational level.

The newly-hired Executive Director set fresh processes in place, from reviewing our approach towards sourcing and assessing projects, to establishing impact measurement, a renewal of our financial and accounting procedures, and a relaunched communications and fundraising strategy.

We implemented 8 new projects across Lebanon: 6 implemented by SEAL and 2 projects in collaboration with, respectively, Lebanon for Entrepreneurs and Beirut Art Center.
“There’s very little employment in this area. Men travel, anyone with an education leaves, but women can’t leave, we have our families. There are so many women who want to work, but we need organizations like SEAL to start working.

My mother used to make zaatar, and I decided I wanted to learn too, so I brought together 40 women for a training. We set up a cooperative to make sure we’re sharing our resources fairly. We’re all women in the cooperative: we vote, we produce, we sell, I go round the supermarkets, one of the women drives our truck.

We used to sell 200kg per month, but now that we have the equipment from SEAL we produce 2 tons and sell all our produce!”

Joumana, head of Wadi el Taym women’s cooperative & SEAL beneficiary 2016, Bekaa
“SEAL offered us a tractor and harvester. They saved us so much, you can’t imagine. We use the tractor as a generator for electricity, we extract water with it, we plough the land, gather the wheat and spread it, and produce wheat and hay, and irrigate the land with it. This tractor does more than 10 tasks for us. We used to cultivate 100,000m², now we cultivate 200,000 or 300,000m². Life has really changed, our burdens have lightened.”

Hassan, head of Khrab el Hayat cooperative & SEAL beneficiary 2016, North Lebanon
2016 IN NUMBERS

SEAL IN NUMBERS 1997 - 2016

$2,418,936
Invested in projects
113
Projects completed

$237,211
8
Invested in projects
Projects completed

Business Skills 10%
Women in the Workforce 11%
Fishing 17%
Land & Agriculture 41%
Culture & Tourism 21%

NORTH 39%
BEIRUT 21%
BEKAA 21%
CROSS REGIONAL 10%
SOUTH 9%
2016 GALA

SEAL’s annual gala dinner took place on Friday October 14th, 2016 at Hotel Eventi, 849 Avenue of the Americas, New York. The event was held in honor of fashion designer Rabih Kayrouz and food entrepreneur Kamal Mouzawak’s contributions to Lebanon. We welcomed over 200 guests for an evening of drinks, entertainment from Music by Gigi, and an auction of lots donated extraordinarily generously by Rabih Kayrouz and Kamal Mouzawak. The event was hilariously presided over by MC Richard Roth; we thank him for his presence.

Thank you to all our generous supporters in 2016

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- Dina & Hicham Aboutaam
- Nabil Abou Charaf
- Rima & Ziad Alameddine
- Maha Alami
- Dream & Elsy Atallah
- Nizam Azar
- Marwan Azzi
- Doris & Issa Baconi
- Hayat & Monir Barakat
- Sam & Karine Barakat
- Dina Bizri
- Karine & Charles Boorady

STAFF & TEAM

Executive Director
- Victoria Lupton

Project Manager in Lebanon
- Nassif Wakim

Volunteers
- Talia Kairouz
- Sabrina Tager

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LOOKING FORWARD 2017

We are celebrating SEAL’s 20th anniversary with a host of new Initiatives.

Projects: We are increasing the number of projects SEAL implements each year, having set in place new benchmarks to measure the success of the enterprises we support.

We are beginning to link together the projects we implement to scale the impact of our projects, and with new application procedures in place, we are receiving more applications. We are also embarking on consultancies with two major management consultancy firms (Booz Allen Hamilton, and Strategy&) in order to assess more deeply our approach and identify ways to continue to develop.

Communications: We launched a new website in 2017 and are raising SEAL’s profile in the international media.

Fundraising: We launched “Ambassadors of SEAL” in 2017, a new initiative to engage a younger generation of change makers in SEAL’s work. We are looking to expand SEAL’s family beyond New York to individuals in Lebanon, Europe, across the Americas and the Gulf, and we are reaching out to corporate sponsors in Lebanon and elsewhere for the first time. We are also developing partnerships with a number of Lebanon-based NGOs, international foundations and multilateral organizations in order to widen the scope of SEAL’s work and build our resources.

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN US!

With a 20-year history of 113 implemented projects behind us and the path clear to build up SEAL’s impact in the next 20 years, there has never been a better time to join SEAL.

Whether you are a young person looking for a way to get involved in an ambitious NGO with a proven track record, connected to a company that could sponsor SEAL’s work, or are interested to attend one of our events, please get in touch and donate to SEAL using the information on the left.

You can now donate monthly or adopt a project!
100% of SEAL’s operational costs are covered by the Board, meaning that your donation will go directly to those who need it.