





#### **Vision**

A world in which all people are able to express themselves in order to reach their full potential



#### **Mission**

Using a participatory, arts-based approach, our mission is to equip all people in Lebanon and Jordan with the tools to collaborate, think critically, and become resilient as individuals and in their communities



#### **Aims**

- Facilitate the creation of powerful, high-quality performances
- Support individuals in building social skills, life skills and wellbeing
- Foster social cohesion within and between refugee communities and host groups
- Increase employment opportunities and professional capacity within teaching and facilitation
- Transform teaching and learning to become child-centred, engaging and inclusive
- Facilitate intercultural understanding within the Arab region and globally



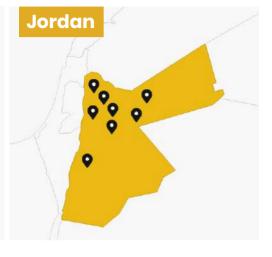
# Where do we work?

More than 5 million Syrians have been externally displaced since the war began in 2011, leaving Lebanon & Jordan as the countries with the highest per capita proportion of refugees worldwide. These host countries have welcomed huge numbers of refugees, but many feel they are worse off. The refugee crisis has hit the most vulnerable people hardest.

Seenaryo's work focuses not only on refugees but on **all marginalised communities** in these two countries.







Lebanon hosts the most refugees per capita of any country in the world.

1 in 4 👗



27% of Lebanese citizens live in poverty; the figure for refugees in Lebanon is much higher. Unemployment is rising dramatically due to the current economic crisis in the country.

Jordan is host to the second highest share of refugees per capita in the world.



Syrian refugees in Jordan suffer from long-term deprivation and stress, and tensions between refugees and host communities are high.

#### What do we do?

Theatre

We work with **children**, **youth** and **women**, facilitating the creation of original, high quality and multi-disciplinary theatre, in which participants write their own scripts.



We run a collection of choirs for **children** in Lebanon, singing music from around the world in two-part harmony.



We've developed the Seenaryo Playkit, a resource and training for teachers of 3-8 year olds, supporting them to make their lessons interactive through movement, music, story and play.

In 2019, we had...

# 15

original theatre productions



WONDERLAND CHILDREN'S THEATRE LEBANON Partner | Women Now Funded by | The Linbury Trust



THE ELEPHANT & THE ANT CHILDREN'S THEATRE LEBANON Partner | Women Now Funded by | The Linbury Trust



JUSTICE IN SPACE CHILDREN'S THEATRE JORDAN Partner | Hamzet Wasel Funded by | Norton Rose Fulbright



THE CAPTAIN'S MAGIC WORDS CHILDREN'S THEATRE JORDAN Partner | Hamzet Wasel Funded by | Norton Rose Fulbright



LIFE ON PLANETS CHILDREN'S THEATRE JORDAN Partner | Sama Al Badea Funded by | Team Archie



THE MYSTERY OF THE FOREST CHILDREN'S THEATRE JORDAN Partner | Sama Al Badea Funded by | Team Archie



SOLVED SHOWBUILD LEBANON Partner | Yaabad Scout Troupe Funded by | The Linbury Trust

# performed 30 times altogether in 3 countries



THE WATER JOURNEY SHOWBUILD LEBANON Partner | Women Now Funded by | The Linbury Trust



THE CURSE OF THE SEA SHOWBUILD JORDAN Partner | Haya Centre Funded by | Team Archie



SHOWBUILD JORDAN
Partner | Collateral Repair Project
Funded by | Team Archie

THE MAGIC NOTEBOOK



YOUTH THEATRE LEBANON

Partners | Goethe-Institut Libanon, Dar Al
Aytam, Yaabad Scout Troupe, INTERSOS

THE METAMORPHOSIS



#8\_YEAR\_CHALLENGE
YOUTH THEATRE LEBANON
Funded by | Team Archie, Create Syria
(Ettiiahat Independent Culture)



YOUTH THEATRE JORDAN
Partners | Sawiyan, Tarabot, Haya Centre
Funded by | Direct Aid Program (Australian
Government)

**UP TO THE LIGHT** 



TURNED INTO STARS
YOUTH THEATRE JORDAN
Partner & Funder | MMAG Foundation



BEIRUT & LONDON
Partners | Women Now, Southbank
Centre, Counterpoints Arts
With funding from | Arts Council England
& Lily Harriss

WHAT'S FAR IS NEAR

WOMEN'S THEATRE EXCHANGE

# 3

#### Aswat Seenaryo choir concerts

#### SPRING: BEKAA LEBANON

Partner | Women Now Participating organisations | INTERSOS, Gharsa School, Kayany Foundation

#### SUMMER: BEIRUT LEBANON

Participating organisations | Dar Al Aytam, Amel, Tahaddi

#### WINTER: BEKAA LEBANON

Parter | Women Now Participating organisations | Molham Orphanage, Hrouf School, Kayany Foundation







#### Theatre and choirs reached:

511 children
54 youth
55 women
3,581 audience

19

Playkit trainings

reached:

62 schools
410 teachers
10,250 children

168 paid opportunities
5003 f social media following
136.9K video views

486 **Our work** reached beneficiaries

# 10 highlights of 2019

Over **10,000 children** reached through the Seenaryo Playkit

One of 120 Global Innovators for Expo Dubai 2020 (chosen from over 11,000 applicants) Yaabad Scouts, a grassroots Palestinian group, ran their own Showbuild 5 years after they first took part

**Registration in Jordan**, and opening an office in Amman

Simultaneous
Showbuilds in
Lebanon and
Jordan with
participants
exchanging
video challenges











**New choir** in Beirut bringing together Syrian and Lebanese children

Women's Theatre production, **connecting refugees in London and Beirut** via video link-up

**Invitation to present** the Playkit at the Queen Rania Foundation's education conference First youth project in Jordan (16-25 year olds) **5 new core staff roles** created in Lebanon and Jordan

#### In 2020 we aim to...

Work with participants to create **20 original theatre productions** in 2 countries

Train teachers working inside Syria to transform teaching through play Develop a UK office as a launchpad for **scaling our work** beyond Lebanon and Jordan

Present the Seenaryo Playkit at the **Expo 2020 World Fair** in Dubai Gain **1,000 subscribers** to the Seenaryo Playkit app











Work with Integrated International to upgrade our impact measurement, ensuring data-driven practice

Tour a Youth
Theatre production
to **Germany** 

Reach 30,000 children, young people, women and schoolteachers

**Deliver 7 choirs** with children and women

# Theory of Change



0

Deep rootedness in local contexts and parnerships

D

The intrinsic value of artistic excellence



Agility & Innovation

### THE PROBLEM in Lebanon & Jordan

There is a protracted crisis in refugee service provision; refugees and vulnerable local communities suffer from trauma, isolation

Inter-community tensions are high and increasing at the local, national and global level

and poverty

Teachers are under-skilled and under-resourced, particularly in early years

Employment is uncertain and decent work is limited among youth & women

#### **OUR ACTIVITIES**

with a focus on work with marginalised communities

# Theatre for children, youth and women Training and resources for teachers

#### MEDIUM TERM GOALS

# Teachers & Facilitators

Participant - centered learning

Positive behavior management

Inclusive learning environments

Enjoyment & inspiration in their work

#### **Participants**

Confidence & self -worth

Resilience & personal strength

Communication skills & self-expression

Access to international audiences

Professional empowerment

#### **LONG TERM GOALS**

at individual, family, community, national and global levels

# SYSTEMIC CHANGE



# Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

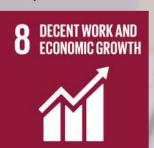
We aim for Seenaryo's goals to align with sector-wide and international goals for sustainable development (SDGs). Seenaryo's programmes particularly focus on the following two SDGs set by the United Nations in 2015:





Secondary SDGs addressed by Seenaryo are:







# Theatre | Children







87 children and parents of children evaluated

felt more confident and capable

felt more able to **face** their worries and fears



#### Lebanon:

4 13-week cycles

2 weeklong summer Showbuilds



#### Jordan:

4 13-week cycles

2 weeklong summer Showbuilds



















**Funders:** 







99%





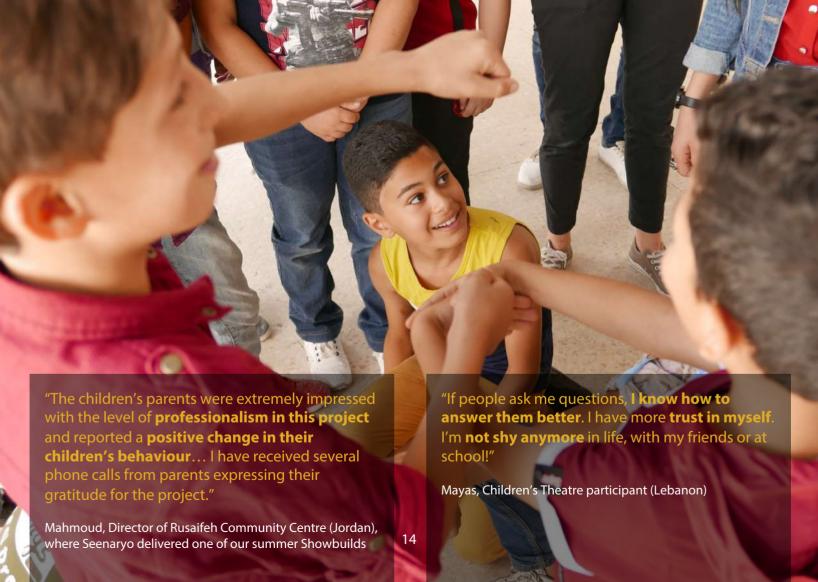


learnt how to cooperate in a team

felt better at understanding the feelings of **others** 

felt they have their own ideas and can think more for themselves

**better in school** now



# Theatre | Youth







29 youth evaluated

felt they gained **acting** and **innovation** skills

felt they gained **teamwork** and **communication** skills



#### Lebanon:

3 intensive projects



#### Jordan:

2 intensive projects

100%

felt they increased their professional capacity



felt they gained facilitation and workshop planning skills

9/10

was the average score for the quality of direction and support



was the average score for **how much they gained** from a Seenaryo project vs. others

Partners & funders:















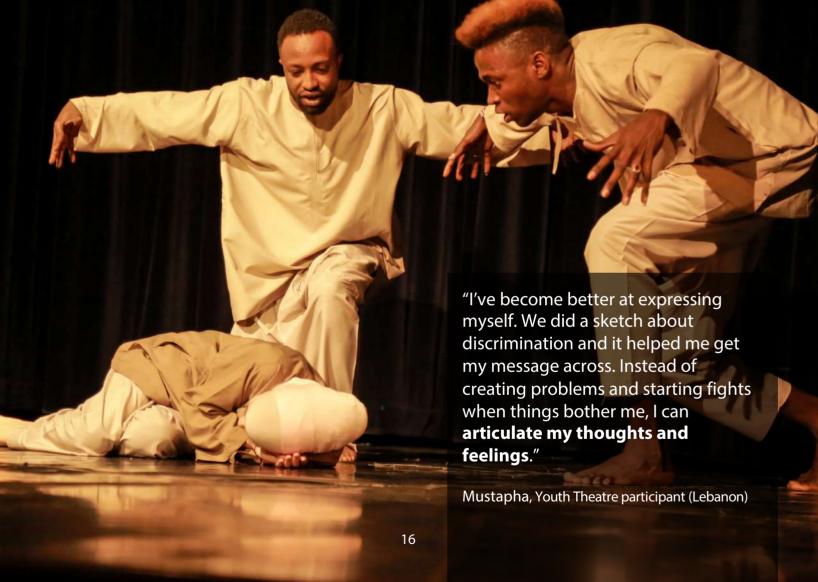














### In focus | Fida

Youth Theatre Participant (Lebanon)

"I've done other workshops in the past, but Seenaryo gave me something much fuller. I used to finish work and go to rehearsals even though I was exhausted. It took time to become visible in the group, as I was one of only two girls; but **now we are a family**. It means a lot to be a part of this group, I'm from a conservative background and I'm different from the others. My **self-belief** has become much greater, I've **found myself** in theatre. The play gave us space to express ourselves, and gave me the **faith to say whatever I want** in front of others. Outside I don't feel I can talk in front of people, for example about politics. It was really important to be able to do that in sessions with Seenaryo."

Fida has since been hired as a designer on our children's Showbuilds and an assistant facilitator for our Women's Theatre programme.

**SDG 10.2 Reduce inequalities** | By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

**SDG 5.5 Gender Equality** | Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life.



# Theatre | Women







23 women evaluated

felt the project helped them **understand the situation** of people they hadn't met before

felt more **confident**, **capable** and able to **express themselves** 

100%

felt more able to face their worries and problems



felt they learnt how to **cooperate** in a team



was the average score for the quality of direction and support

8/10

was the average score for how much they **learnt** from the project

# F

#### Lebanon:

**2** intensive projects, including an exchange project with London

**Partners:** 



SOUTHBANK CENTRE

COUNTERPOINTS.

**Funders:** 







# Digital exchange

A key part of our Women's Theatre programme this year was our production of What's Far Is Near, a cross-border theatre exchange bringing together migrant and refugee women living in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and London, UK. Working across national and language barriers, these women came together to form one company, rehearsing together weekly over Skype, with facilitators in both countries using participatory devising processes. The production was showcased to audiences of 710 people at London's Southbank Centre and The Palace Theatre in Beirut via video live stream.

Of 57 audience members evaluated across both countries:

91%

said this was the first time they had seen this type of digital exchange

84%

said the project made them empathise with refugee women around the world

91%

said the performance made them see something from a new perspective



# In focus | Najah

Women's Theatre Participant (Lebanon)

Najah from Aleppo in Syria has participated in all three of Seenaryo's Women's Theatre programmes to date. Outside of theatre, she is a football instructor at a local school. She says:

"Theatre is probably the most important thing that has happened in my life in the two years that I've been involved with Seenaryo. Before theatre, I hadn't adjusted to life in the place in which I was living. Theatre helped me to laugh more. At home, there's a lot of noise and I hate noise. But here, it's me that makes the noise!

"Theatre puts my life in order, it organises my time and organises my thoughts with the people around me: sometimes I disagree with them, but I don't think anyone is 100% aligned in their points of view. I don't need to agree with everyone in order to commit to sticking with them. In this group, we help each other."

Now, almost three years since she first started with Seenaryo, Najah uses the exercises that she learns in theatre to lead her football sessions. "There are certain games which really help me to manage the children's behaviour," she says. "Theatre helps me to build confidence and skills for my working life."

## In focus | Asia

Women's Theatre Participant (Lebanon)

"My life in Lebanon is hard: making ends meet, keeping a roof over our heads, everything is difficult. I wanted to escape a little, and I found another life in theatre. I got to know new people, and was able to get rid of some of the sadness inside me.

"My life has changed so much since I left Syria. I now live in a camp, and it's difficult to make enough money to get by. But here in the theatre, we can put across our true thoughts. I have to travel two and a half hours to get here for each rehearsal and the same to get back, so I have to put a whole day aside every time we have a rehearsal. Others might not do it, but I need theatre to get rid of negative energy, and to communicate the reality of the life that we live to audiences. Nothing except theatre allows me to make my voice heard.

"As Syrians, our situation is hard, but we still like to laugh and find the funny side."

**SDG 5.5 Gender Equality** | Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life.



# Choirs | Children







**191** children, parents and teachers evaluated

of children felt more **confident** and **capable** 

of children felt they had learnt to sing with a **nicer sound** 



#### Lebanon:

2 cycles in the Bekaa Valley 1 cycle in Beirut 100%

of teaches agreed students' **behaviour** and **participation** was better post-project

88%

of children felt they had made **new friends** 

92%

of parents felt their children were better at **understanding** the feelings of **others** 

92%

felt their children were more accepting of different people's opinions

#### **Partners:**





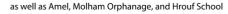
Participating organisations:





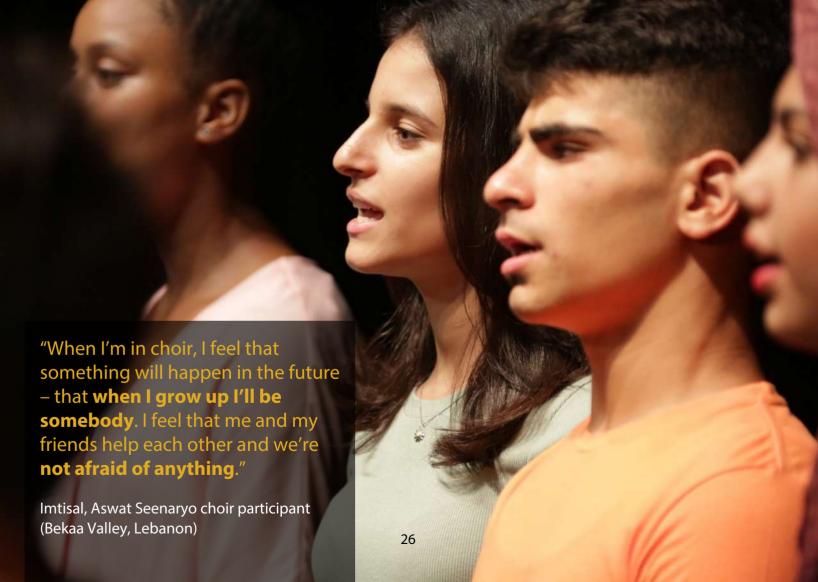












# Teacher training & resources







**274** teachers and headteachers evaluated

use games every other day or more (previously 45% never used games)

act out a story once a week or more (**previously 56% never did any acting**)



#### Lebanon:

9 teacher trainings



#### Jordan:

10 teachers trainings

Our teacher training and resource is the Seenaryo Playkit: a bank of hundreds of games, songs and interactive stories. It helps kindergarten, Grade 1 & 2 teachers deliver the curriculum in a play-based, child-centred way.

In 2019 we created the Seenaryo Playkit **mobile phone application** with digital agency WonderEight.

WONDEREIGHT

99%

agree that children's **learning** has improved



say children spend more time speaking in class



use our classroom management techniques every day (64% said behaviour used to be a challenge)



found it **easier to include all children** (44% said they found it difficult to include all children before)

#### **Funders:**







"When doing the interactive story Finding Mishmush, a student who is usually very shy joined in. This was his first time showing progress in activities related to language."

classes tomorrow." Terre des Hommes teacher Caritas Jordan headteacher

**SDG 4.a Quality education** | Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, nonviolent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

**SDG 4.c Quality education** | By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states.

"I have been teaching for 21 years

and this is the best training I've ever

had. We left feeling like we really knew

the content well and are ready to start

delivering the activities in our own

What's in the Playkit?

**Activities** 





### **Topics**



Languages

| Language   | Math  | Social &<br>Emotional                                 | Health                            | Natural<br>World                                    | Human<br>World   |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Letters Adjectives Verbs Sentences Colors Directions | Counting Addition Subtraction Shapes Measuring The Time | Myself<br>Family<br>Friends<br>Feelings<br>Transition | Hygiene<br>Food<br>Body<br>Senses | Animals<br>Habitats<br>Plants<br>Seasons<br>Weather | Jobs<br>Transport<br>Home<br>School<br>Celebrations<br>Materials |

عربي

**English** 

français

# How does it work?

1. ATTEND A TRAINING

Teachers participate in an intensive training where they are introduced to the Playkit's activities, its core values and pedagogies

2. DOWNLOAD THE APP TH

They download the app, and...



Search for the topics they are teaching



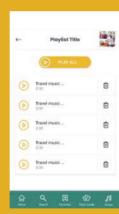
Watch step-bystep instructional videos



Save and print relevant flashcards

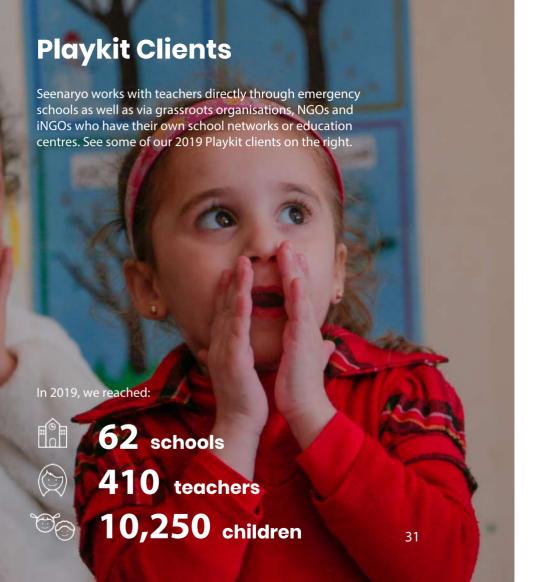


And play music in their classroom



3. FOLLOW UP

Seenaryo follows up with the school to check progress and troubleshoot any issues they are facing

































QUEEN RANIA TEACHER ACADEMY أكاديميــة الملكـة رانيا لـتدريب المعـلمـين







**SDG 4.2 Quality education** | By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.



**SDG 4.c Quality education** | By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states.



**SDG 4.a Quality education** | Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, nonviolent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.



"I had a child in my class who constantly hid under a table. When he saw us playing Jump or Touch he came out and wanted to participate. Since then he's been joining in with everything."

Caritas Austria teacher

"Children from refugee camps are often hyperactive but the **Playkit classroom management strategies** helps them benefit more from the lessons and helps me control the classroom more efficiently."

Al Qabas teacher

"The Playkit is so organised and easy to follow. We've asked our school administration if they can just **replace our curriculum books** with Seenaryo's Playkit!"

Gharsa School teacher



#### How can you help?

pays for one child to take part in a summer Showbuild course

pays for 10 children's transport for a whole term between refugee camps and our workshops

pays for 50 teachers to subscribe to the Playkit app for one year

pays for an entire school staff to take part in the Seenaryo Playkit training course

pays for 30 children to take part in Aswat Seenaryo choir for one year

allows us to initiate a brand new programme in Jordan or Lebanon

#### 2019

# Institutional Funders





Non-project related: The Amjad & Suha Bseisu Foundation, Arthur & Holly Magill Foundation, The Fore, The Galashan Trust

**Project related:** Arts Council England, Azm Foundation, Create Syria (a project by Ettijahat Independent Culture in partnership with the British Council), Direct Aid Program (via the Australian Government), Expo Live (an Expo 2020 Dubai Initiative), Goethe-Institut Libanon, Help Refugees: Choose Love, Kids Rights, MMAG Foundation, Norton Rose Fulbright, The Linbury Trust, St James's Place Charitable Foundation, Team Archie

#### Gold Supporters

Anonymous, Sawsan & Ayman Asfari, Nasreen & Hasan Askari, Richard Collins, Teen & Rod Cooke, Jane & Julian Corkill, Mashrurah & Abdulhussein Ebrahim, Ruqaiya & Zafir Ebrahim, Saker & Noordin Ebrahim, Hania & Nick Farrel, Lily & Julian Harriss, Alexandra Jackson & Philip Kay, Azmina & Malik Karim, Lady Lupton & Lord Lupton, Cathrine & Simon Mace, Sophie & Nigel Meek, Kate & Bejamin Meuli, Diana & Finian O'Sullivan, Clare & Jamie Pike, Dalia Salaam Rishani, Lydia & David Roper, Vanessa & Lindsley Ruth, Sabine Sarikhani, Thomas Seddon, Phyllis & Thomas Sharpe, The Simpson Family, Jo & Crispin Southgate, Tina & Ian Taylor, Jonny Tyndall, Guy Weston, Mary Rose & Charles Wood, Anna Yang

#### Silver Supporters

Myrna Atallah, Mark Baring, Paul Clegg, Sally Elliot, Mona Dahdaleh, Lucy & Julian Gibbs, Max Goldman, Toby & Jillie Gore, Yusouf Kaj, Elizabeth Maitreyi, Milia Maroun & Philippe Grohe, Wendy Matthew, Lynne & Jonathan McIvor, Gabrielle Putter & Tom Meakin, Douriya & Yusuf Nurbhai, Michelle & Richard Pelly, Sarah & Philip Richards, David Robbie, Riham Serhan, Dana Shami & Hatham Karakat, Tiggy & Robert Sutton, Jeanine & Richard Zirps

#### Bronze Supporters

Hanan Abdalla, Anonymous, Anna Agapiou, Heidi Baraville, Louis Brooke & Alex Lawrence Archer, Nicky & Jonathan Brown, Pansy Cooper, Adrian DeSegundo, George Duncan Jones, Jane Earl, Lamise Ghalia, Alice & Frank Guest, Victoria Harper, Alicia & Martin Herbert, Anne & Jeremy Lodwick, Hattie Middleditch, Cecily Motley, Mona Mourad, Nadim Naaman, Derek Netherton, Patrick Netherton, Lady Plumbly & Sir Derek Plumbly, Isabelle Pelly & Luke Hayman, Helen Putter, John Rowley-Conwy, Maria & Ghalib Sarkar, Lara Tabbara

#### **Trustees**

Jennifer Allsopp, Lily Harriss, Oliver Paterson, Zoe Tyndall

#### Core team

Hamzeh Abbadi, Myriam Ali Ahmad, Lama Amine, Louay Dawaime, Sara Ghanma, Naqiya Ebrahim, Natalie Khoury, Victoria Lupton, Lara McIvor, Oscar Wood

# Regular freelancers



Fida Al Waer, Hassan Akoul, Sarah Atallah, Amani Burhan, Ahmad Dalati, Hadi Deaibes, Feras Hatem, Hiba Hussein, Dana Jammoul, Nivine Kallas, Maher Khedr, Chrystèle Khodr, Seba Kourani, Nisreen Motiwalla, Yassin Msallakh, Rania Mroueh, Ali Shaikh, Somar Shaikh, Nour Shamaa, Yasmine Shurbaji



Husam Abed, Abdallah Smaik, May Malhas, Razan Mbaideen, Fares Sakkijha, Manar El Ayoubie, Eyad Mhemed, Mary Madanat, Mohammed Idreesi

Photo credits for images in this report include: Nicholas Frakes, Alia Haju, Simon Lundh, Jose Martinez, Mohammed Masalmeh, Yassin Msallakh, Fares Sakkijha, Ali Shaikh, Emad Zayoub

www.seenaryo.org www.seenaryoplaykit.org info@seenaryo.org



Follow us! @seenary0

Registered UK charity no: 1173822

Registered Jordan NGO number: 201903111761