



Seenaryo
سیناریو 2024
Impact Report

Foreword

In 2024, James Baldwin's words felt painfully relevant to the Arab region: "People are trapped in history, and history is trapped in them." It was easy to feel helpless. But at Seenaryo, everything we do is geared towards building people's agency: their sense of control over their own lives. It's slow and painstaking work - person by person, community by community. But holding onto individual moments of respite and transformation has powered us at Seenaryo, in a year when at moments the very possibility of supporting communities in our countries of Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Syria has seemed threatened and politicised.

"I felt comfort and safety." These are the words of Haifa, a young Lebanese woman, but they could have been from any one of our participants living across the region. Rarely have our communities longed for comfort and safety more than in this year of war, destruction and displacement.

Haifa was one of 1.2 million people in Lebanon displaced by the war with Israel in the autumn; and one of the 36,301 people Seenaryo reached in 2024. She had joined a Seenaryo theatre project addressing the mental health of those living in temporary shelters. "The sessions helped relieve the stress I had been carrying since the war," she told us. "They allowed me to release emotions I had been holding inside for so long."

The year began – and ended – with the bombardment of Gaza, and with clashes between Israel and Hezbollah on Lebanon's Southern border. On October 1st, Israel invaded Lebanon, precipitating a two-month war that killed over 4,000 people in Lebanon and displaced a quarter of the population. Then, in the space of a fortnight at the end of the year, a ceasefire was called in Lebanon and the Assad regime fell

astoundingly fast. Barely six weeks later, a fragile ceasefire was declared in Gaza: the region's political map is being redrawn and civilian lives hang perilously in the balance.

Through these seismic changes, Seenaryo responded with speed and purpose, nearly doubling our reach from 2023. With the support of over 300 donors, we launched an emergency response in Lebanon's shelters, reaching 700 people across 39 projects. We expanded our teacher training across the West Bank, and worked in Syria for the first time, training teachers in the country's three largest cities. We redesigned and relaunched our app for teachers, the Seenaryo Playkit; and trained 120 youth in Jordan and Lebanon to deliver theatre workshops in schools and community centres through our Scenechangers project.

As we look ahead to our tenth anniversary year, there are tentative green shoots of renewal in Lebanon and Syria, but the path to comfort and safety in the region remains long and littered with injustice. We remain committed to using theatre and play to support people to lead, learn and thrive - and have a raft of ambitious projects planned across five countries to mark our decennary.

At a moment when international solidarity is waning and governments are scaling back development aid, we are deeply grateful to our community of donors and collaborators. Your support has never been as important as it is today.

Victoria Lupton

2024 in numbers



7,384

theatre participants



1,232

teachers



...who reached

27,685

children

we reached

36,301

people



4,212

audience members



67

schools



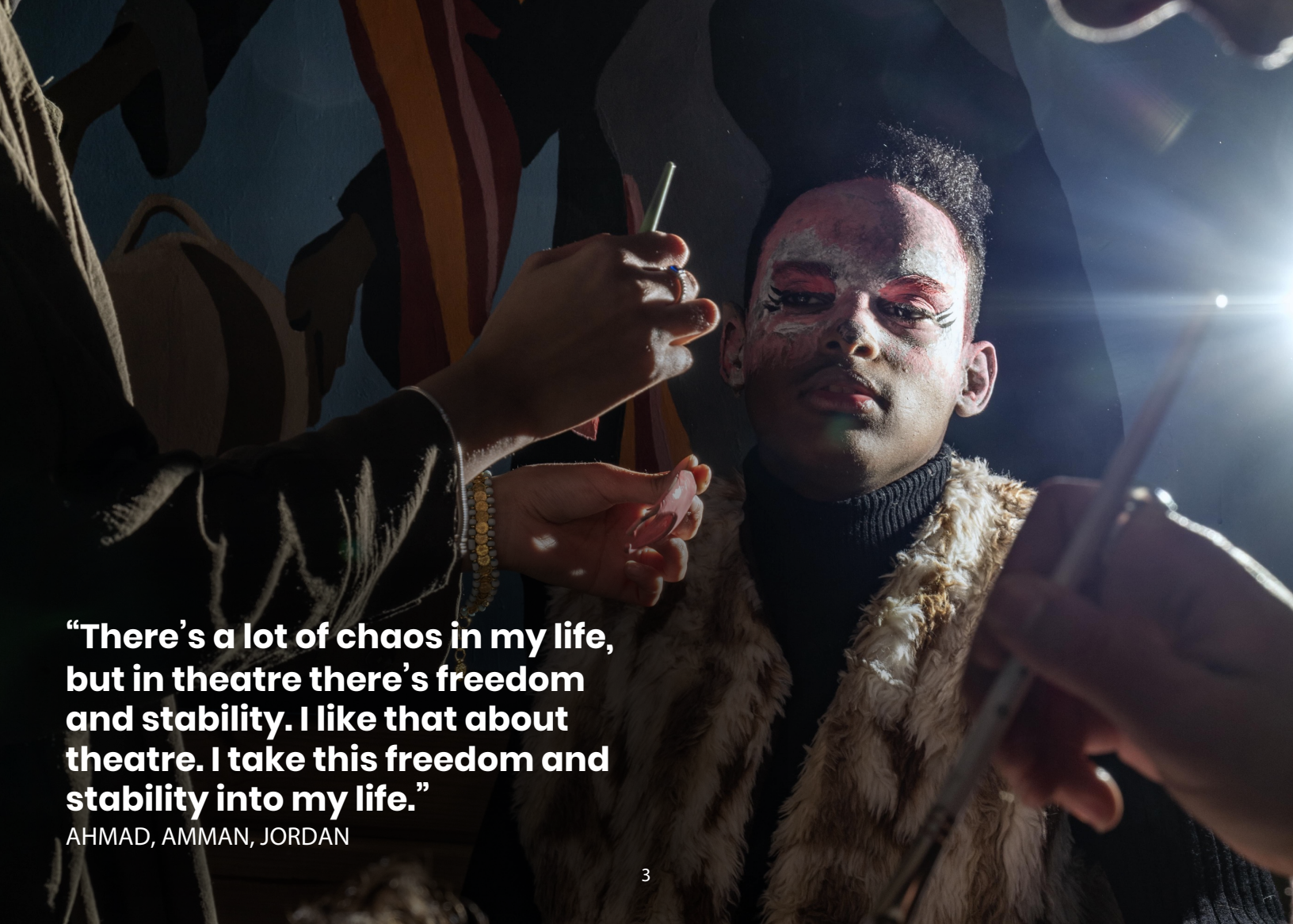
250

trainees



103

freelance jobs
created

A close-up photograph of a person with theatrical makeup, including white face paint and red eye makeup, wearing a dark turtleneck and a thick fur coat. They are being prepared by others; one hand holds a cigarette to their lips, and another holds a small object. The scene is dimly lit with dramatic lighting, suggesting a backstage or stage environment.

**“There’s a lot of chaos in my life,
but in theatre there’s freedom
and stability. I like that about
theatre. I take this freedom and
stability into my life.”**

AHMAD, AMMAN, JORDAN

Why theatre and play?

Creative activity has been observed to stimulate an understanding of the process of making, giving rise to a greater sense of responsibility and self-reflection, increased **confidence and self-esteem**, and **better mental health**.

Creative Health: The Arts for Health and Wellbeing, report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Arts, Health and Wellbeing, 2017

Play-based learning **fosters creativity** by allowing children to explore and experiment in a safe environment. Creative play, such as arts and crafts or storytelling, enables children **to express themselves and innovate**.

Jones, 2020; Garcia, 2021

Culture has the capacity to open minds by showing alternative perspectives and thus ultimately **strengthening the capacity of individuals to participate in society as democratic citizens**.

OECD, Value of Culture & Creative Industries, 2018

Play-based learning helps develop **motor, cognitive, and social skills in children with disabilities**. Tailored play activities can address their specific needs and enhance their overall development.

Nguyen, 2019; Lopez, 2020



Vision

Seenaryo's vision is a world where all individuals can be active collaborators, creators and catalysts for social change.



Mission

By breaking apart the typical hierarchies that exist in theatre and classrooms, Seenaryo creates playful spaces for the meaningful participation of under-served communities in Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine and Syria.

Aims



Facilitate skills development by supporting individuals to build social skills, life skills, critical thinking and wellbeing.



Challenge polarisation and mistrust by bringing conflict-affected communities into dialogue with each other.



Create wider and alternative employment pathways and professional capacity within classrooms and communities.



Transform teaching and learning to become child-centred, engaging & inclusive.



Advocate globally for play-based learning and participatory theatre in the Arab region.

All of our aims align with sector-wide and international goals for sustainable development (SDGs). Our work particularly focuses on the following SDGs set by the UN in 2015.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



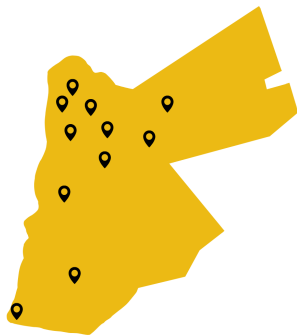
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Where do we work?



LEBANON

According to the UN, Lebanon is the country hosting the highest number of refugees worldwide. It is in the midst of an ongoing economic collapse, described by the World Bank as one of the worst in the world since the 1850s. Compounding an already fragile state, the Israel-Hezbollah war killed nearly 4,000 people and injured over 16,000 in Lebanon in 2024. It also displaced over a million people – a quarter of the population.

JORDAN

Jordan hosts the second highest refugee-per-capita ratio in the world (UNHCR). 1 in 12 people residing in Jordan are registered as refugees, and half of them are children. Refugee populations are from Syria, Iraq, Sudan, Yemen, and other regional countries. Jordan also has a high unemployment rate, with just 46% of youth regularly employed, and only 15% of women (World Bank, 2024).

PALESTINE

Palestine is facing one of the largest humanitarian crises in history. The Israel-Hamas war has killed at least 50,000 people (Palestinian Health Ministry), although the actual figure is likely higher, and displaced 1.9 million people. Over 1,200 entire families have been wiped out by Israeli strikes and the Gazan economy and health system have been destroyed. The West Bank also faces unprecedented settler and state violence.

SYRIA

With the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024, Syria entered a transitional period of state building. Over a decade of civil war has extensively damaged infrastructure, including schools, roads and hospitals. There are 6.5 million Syrian refugees outside Syria and 7.2 million internally displaced. Syrian society is deeply divided after years of war and the monumental task of rebuilding lies ahead.

Who do we work with?



Seenaryo works with children, youth, women and teachers from under-served communities. We particularly work with people from the following communities:

Women & girls

Refugees

Children in care

People living with disabilities

Migrant domestic workers

Communities living in poverty

People affected by trauma


How do we work?



Seenaryo is **participatory to the core**: from the way we devise theatre and run workshops, to the structure of the core team. Our team is **women-led**, working collaboratively across our offices in Amman, Beirut and London.

Each country office is independently managed and Seenaryo Lebanon is registered as an independent organisation, with its own board of trustees. The UK office is a support office, managing finance, communications and philanthropic fundraising.

We also work with a pool of over 140 freelancers, a third of whom started out as participants with Seenaryo, before training to become the leaders themselves. We aim for **our projects to be run by and for the communities we serve**.



“You feel safe and connected – like you’re in another world, another dimension that you belong to in every session.”

THEATRE PARTICIPANT, AMMAN, JORDAN

What do we do?



We make theatre

Seenaryo co-creates **collaborative, powerful and imaginative theatre** in partnership with organisations deeply rooted in the communities they serve. The original plays put participants at the heart of the creative process, giving them a space to **collectively share and explore their stories, as well as to advocate for their rights.**

Our theatre programmes target a wide variety of life skills. By learning through theatre, our participants **develop artistic skills**, as well as tools for **leadership, problem-solving and critical thinking.**

223 ORIGINAL PLAYS SINCE 2015

We train future leaders

Seenaryo trains youth and women to become **creative leaders in their communities.** We are currently doing this through our Theatre Leadership Training and our Scenechangers programme.

Through our trainings we aim to **create wider and alternative employment pathways**, equipping young people with vital professional skills.

1,096 NEW LEADERS SINCE 2015

We bring play to classrooms

The Seenaryo Playkit is an award-winning phone app and teacher training designed to support children's **well-being, life skills development, and engagement in learning.** It supports early-years teachers in under-resourced settings to bring their curriculum to life.

The Playkit approach goes beyond traditional play-based learning by integrating the creative and expressive practices of theatre and music, which are vital tools for **nurturing creativity, emotional intelligence, and social skills** in young children.

5,316 TEACHERS TRAINED SINCE 2015

Seenaryo in 2024

March

Israel continued to bombard Gaza in the first three months of the year, killing at least 10,000 Palestinians by 29th March (The Lancet), almost 70% of them women and children (UN).

April

Regional tensions intensified when Israel attacked the Iranian embassy compound in Damascus. Iran retaliated by targeting Israel with hundreds of missiles and drones.

August

An escalation of Israeli strikes in Southern Lebanon led 10,000 people to flee their homes during the month of August. It became increasingly dangerous to travel in Southern Lebanon.



Research trip to the West Bank

In April, our CEO Victoria and Executive Director Lara travelled to Palestine to meet with 12 partner organisations. The need for theatre and play across the West Bank was clear and the meetings have led to longer-term partnerships, with our first Playkit trainings in Palestine complete and plans in place for a theatre production in 2025.

Staging CATS in Jordan

An ensemble of young people performed their play CATS six times across Jordan, from major stages in Amman to local community centres, reaching 630 audience members. The play explored the refugee experience in Jordan, through the eyes of a cat, and was performed as part of UNHCR's Refugee Week activities.

First ever Playkit training in Palestine

In August we trained 52 teachers in Ramallah, in the West Bank, to teach through play. It marked our first time training teachers in Palestine. Two teachers who took the training were inspired to share the Playkit with their colleagues in Hebron, so we arranged a second training there later in the year.

Showbuild in South Lebanon

We co-created a Showbuild with a group of children, as strikes increased in South Lebanon. The ensemble devised a play about a group of people who decide to leave their village because of a strange, relentless noise that surrounds them.

September

After their pager and walkie talkie attacks, Israel launched a ground invasion and a nationwide bombing campaign of Lebanon, displacing a quarter of the population.

October

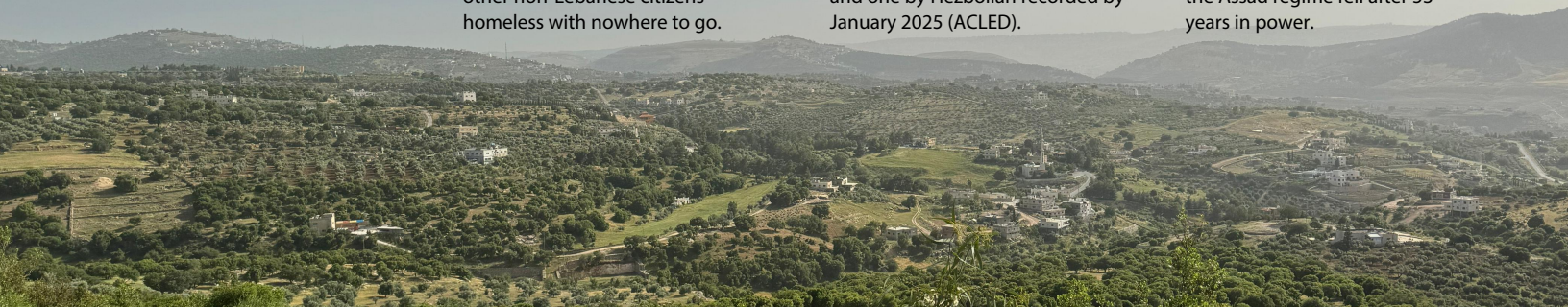
Within weeks of the war starting, 901 out of 1,094 recently opened shelters had filled up. Many only accepted people with Lebanese nationality, leaving Syrians and other non-Lebanese citizens homeless with nowhere to go.

November

A ceasefire agreement on 27th November between Israel and Hezbollah put an end to the war. Israel has continuously violated the agreement, with 330 strikes by Israel and one by Hezbollah recorded by January 2025 (ACLEED).

December

After Syrian opposition forces conducted a 10-day offensive of key Syrian cities, President Bashar Al-Assad fled on 8th December. Damascus was captured and the Assad regime fell after 53 years in power.



Emergency Campaign for Lebanon

Responding to the war in Lebanon, Seenaryo launched an emergency response to support communities sheltering in displacement centres. Throughout the war, we supported the mental health and learning of 700 displaced people across Lebanon through theatre and play sessions.

Relaunch of the Playkit app

We relaunched an updated version of the Seenaryo Playkit app in the autumn. We have also started a partnership with UCL's Institute of Education, who are developing our MEAL tools and publishing research focussed on the efficacy and impact of play-based learning in under-resourced countries (forthcoming in 2025).

Resilience in Action award from HundrED

Seenaryo won an award at the HundrED Summit in Helsinki, in acknowledgement of our emergency response in Lebanon and Palestine.



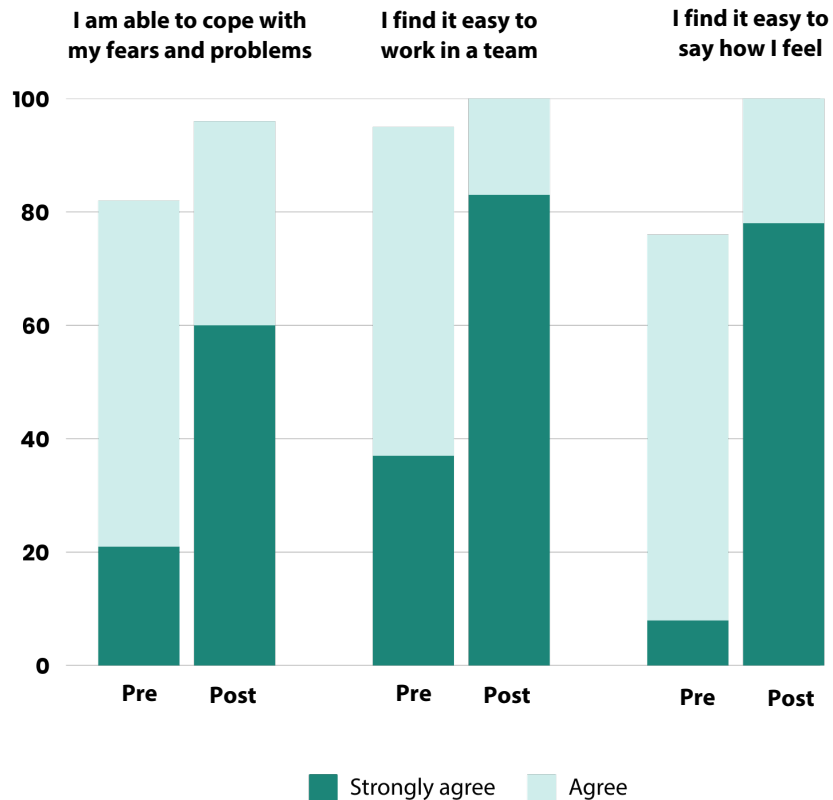
TILKA screening in the UK Parliament

A few days after the ceasefire announcement in Lebanon, Helen Hayes MP hosted a screening of our documentary *TILKA*. At the screening we called on parliamentarians to support civil society in Lebanon to recover and to put pressure on Israel to uphold the ceasefire.

We make theatre



In a survey of 292 participants who took part in Seenaro theatre projects in 2024:





Meet Farhan

Farhan is Lebanese and has grown up in Dar Al Aytam Al Islamiya, an orphanage in Beirut. He was part of the ensemble that created the show *Orphanage of Dreams*, which was a Seenaryo Cycle with children at Dar Al Aytam.

Seenaryo has been co-creating theatre with children in the care system since 2019. **There is no state system of foster care in Lebanon**, with 40,000 children living in 300 privately run children's homes.

After the performance in June, Farhan told us: **"The session felt just like being at home.** Usually I hate leaving home, but I had so much fun that I didn't mind being away. **I often feel lonely at the orphanage, but with my friends around during the play I didn't feel like that. It was like a big family."**

Meet Haneen

Haneen, 18, is from an Iraqi-Egyptian refugee background and lives in Amman. **Her refugee status limits her professional and educational opportunities**, as there are restrictions on what non-Syrian refugees in Jordan are able to apply to.

Taking a lead acting role in the show *CATS*, Haneen reflected: "I've tried a lot of different things to try and find myself, but I really felt like I found myself in theatre."

She added: **"Society places limits on what a girl can do.** Many people do not accept the idea of seeing a girl dancing, acting or mingling with boys. In the end **I was able to break this barrier...** When I go on stage, I feel capable of expressing myself and sharing my own ideas. I've proved myself to this group that was telling me no."



16 ORIGINAL PRODUCTIONS



STUDIOS



SHOWBUILDS



CYCLES

As well as 33 sharings as part of our emergency response projects during the war in Lebanon



A Temporary Journey
CHILDREN
BEKAA VALLEY, LEBANON



Setting Time Free
CHILDREN
BEKAA VALLEY, LEBANON



CATS
YOUTH
AMMAN, JORDAN



Saeeda's Journey
CHILDREN
AMMAN, JORDAN



On Planet Safar
CHILDREN
AMMAN, JORDAN



Orphanage of Dreams
CHILDREN
BEIRUT, LEBANON



The Star and the Campsite
CHILDREN
BEIRUT, LEBANON



Engraving Stories
CHILDREN
RUSAIFEH, JORDAN



Ship, But...
YOUTH
AMMAN, JORDAN



Threads of Hope
YOUTH
AMMAN, JORDAN



I Wish I Had Gone Astray
CHILDREN
AMMAN, JORDAN



Out in the Open
CHILDREN
BEIRUT, LEBANON



On the Way
YOUTH
AMMAN, JORDAN



A Long Story
CHILDREN
BEIRUT, LEBANON



I Dream of a Different World
CHILDREN
ZRARIYEH, LEBANON



Neighbours at the Border
WOMEN
AMMAN, JORDAN

In a survey of 292 participants who took part in Seenaryo theatre projects in 2024:

95%

of participants feel like they have an outlet for their feelings
(compared to 70% before)

93%

of participants feel able to explore themselves and their story
(compared to 73% before)

93%

of participants agree that they understand the feelings of others
(compared to 76% before)

81%

of participants feel able to make their own judgements
(compared to 69% before)

"The exercises we did changed my way of thinking. I used to take things at face value, but now I think more deeply. I've realised there's so much more to consider beyond my own reality."

RAMA, AMMAN, JORDAN



“It changed the psychological state of the kids and us.”

In August, Seenaryo started a Showbuild in Zrariyeh, an area of South Lebanon that had been under attack from Israeli strikes since October 2023. We spoke afterwards with Tala Zaher, one of the facilitators, about the project.

“The road from my house to the project’s location is a dangerous one; many people have been killed by Israeli bombings. It was nerve-wracking to pass through, my heart would clench every time. But the moment we reached the S.S. Foundation and saw the kids – how they welcomed us and how excited they were – **it made me forget all the fear.**”

She continues, “On the day of the show, the security situation was terrible; it was one of the worst days. I was glad that we postponed it. Finally, when we were able to set a day to proceed with the performance, I was thrilled. The kids were ten times more excited. Although the kids initially had no idea about theatre, and the sessions were intense, **they quickly opened up.** They became much more confident on stage. I’m so happy we did something in the South. It changed the psychological state of the kids and us.”



Audience feedback

In a survey of 589 people who attended a Seenaryo performance in 2024:

88%

of audience members agreed that the show made them see things from a different perspective

95%

of audience members agreed that the show had an emotional impact on them

9/10

audience members felt the show made them think about an issue they don't usually think about

“When you live a story in real life and then see theatre depicting what you went through, it delivers a message that you hadn't been able share with the world. It means a lot to us.”

AUDIENCE MEMBER, AMMAN

TILKA in 2024



**“The most beautiful documentary
about sisterhood and the power of
theatre to change lives.”**

AUDIENCE MEMBER, AWAN FESTIVAL 2024

26 948 4
SCREENINGS AUDIENCE MEMBERS FESTIVALS

TILKA is Seenaryo’s award-winning debut documentary, directed by Myriam Geagea. It is an intimate portrait of five women who meet to create a collective piece of theatre with Seenaryo amid Lebanon’s collapse. In 2024, we screened it at festivals, universities, cinemas and community centres across Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and the UK.



Watch the trailer by
scanning the QR code:



We train future leaders

90%

**of trainees think of
themselves as a leader after
completing the training**

(56 theatre leadership trainees surveyed)

88%

**of trainees feel confident
applying to jobs in theatre
and education**

(56 theatre leadership trainees surveyed)

**“I used to think I was always right and
wouldn't consider other perspectives.
After the training, I started putting
myself in other people's shoes before
deciding if I was right or wrong.”**

TRAINEE, IRBID, JORDAN

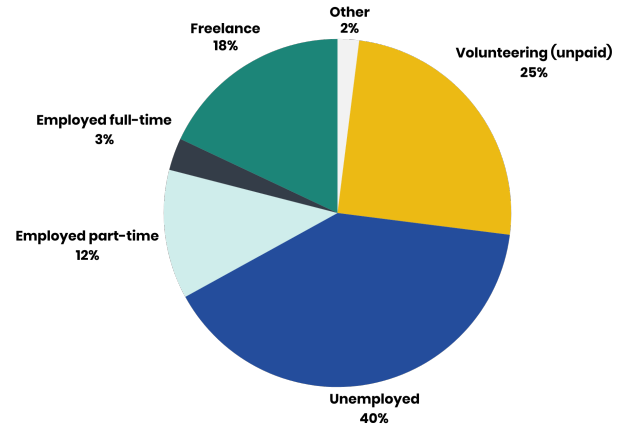




Scenechangers Spotlight

In 2024, Seenaryo trained 97 young people across Lebanon and Jordan to **lead participatory theatre workshops** in schools, shelters and community centres. This is part of a four year project that aims to provide young people with **professional skills and employment opportunities**.

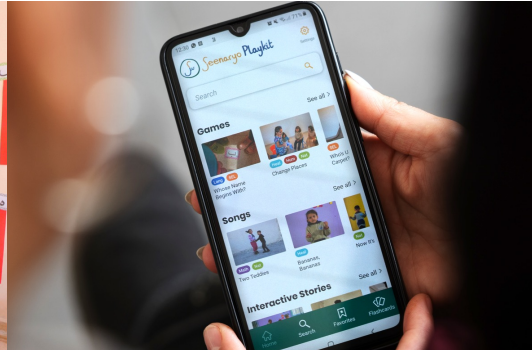
The MENA region has the highest youth unemployment rate in the world and at the start of this project, most participants were unemployed:



92% of Scenechangers had paid work with Seenaryo in 2024

In 2025 and 2026, half of these recently-trained *Scenechangers* will be **employed to run their own series of participatory theatre sessions** with groups of younger people in community-based organisations.

We bring play to classrooms



CERD Summer School

We designed five bespoke sessions for the Center for Educational Research and Development (CERD) summer school curriculum. CERD is a national Lebanese organisation charged with the modernisation and development of education, with close links to the Ministry of Higher Education in Lebanon (MEHE).

8,600

children reached through CERD

Playkit App Relaunch

We successfully re-launched the Seenaryo Playkit app, this included an updated design, improved user experience and optimised functionality. Teachers have responded positively to these updates, some have shared that the intuitive interface has made app navigation smoother and more efficient.

96


songs rewritten in Modern Standard Arabic, allowing the Playkit to scale across the region

Training with JRS Syria

Seenaryo trainers travelled from Lebanon to Damascus, Aleppo, Homs and Kafroun in Syria, where they upskilled teachers who run remedial education programmes. The training aimed to support teachers to deliver literacy and numeracy lessons through theatre and play, as well as helping them manage behaviour more effectively.

99%

of teachers believed that games and play are effective in achieving literacy and numeracy goals

A woman with dark hair pulled back, wearing a blue denim jacket over a grey t-shirt, is laughing heartily. Her eyes are squeezed shut, and her mouth is wide open in a joyful expression. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman in a maroon headscarf who is also smiling. The setting appears to be an indoor gathering or event.

“When you plant in children’s minds that they’re not just going to school to learn, but to play, they become much more engaged.”

TEACHER IN RAMALLAH, PALESTINE

Seenaryo Playkit in 2024

807

TEACHERS TRAINED
IN THE PLAYKIT

16,393

CHILDREN REACHED BY
THOSE TEACHERS



“The situation in Lebanon has negatively affected our students’ mental health and behaviour. The Playkit has improved communication and helped to reduce behaviour issues. Play reduces stress and anxiety, as it helps students to release the negative energy and fear that they are facing nowadays.”

TEACHER IN ZAHLE, LEBANON

In a survey of 725 teachers who took the Playkit training in 2024:

84%

of teachers agree their teaching practice has changed significantly since using the Playkit app

9/10

teachers agree the Playkit introduced them to new techniques and teaching practices

25%

increase in children who are better at regulating their behaviour when they lose

23%

increase in teachers who use music and movement in the classroom

19%

increase in teachers who use physical activities in the classroom

Meet Hanan



Hanan is a teacher in Hebron, Palestine, where she's been teaching for over 20 years. Seenaryo ran our first ever Playkit trainings in Palestine in 2024 and Hanan took part in the training. We caught up with her afterwards to reflect on the changes she noticed after she started using the Playkit in her classroom.

"Playing is one of the most basic rights of our children. However, **because of the war and conditions they're growing up in, they've lost so much of their**

childhood. Many have become overly attached to their phones and TV screens.

That's why learning through play is so important - it helps them **channel their energy in a healthy way and unlock their potential.** It can also ease the impact of the difficult things they are seeing and hearing.

I had a student who was very shy and hardly ever participated in class. He also struggled with reading. But after I started

using the Playkit activities, **he became more engaged, and I saw a real improvement in his ability to recognise and pronounce letters.** Now, he can read them all!

What made the difference wasn't just the Playkit's letter games - it was also the way it helps us group children during activities, **making learning more interactive."**

Emergency response in Lebanon



After a year's localised border conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, Israel launched a ground invasion and aerial bombardment campaign of Lebanon in September 2024. The war displaced up to 1.2 million people, a quarter of the population, almost overnight.

At the start of the war, we did a survey of our participants to understand how we could best support the communities we serve. Of those who responded, **43% had been displaced** and **96% had received no support** at all.

Seenaryo responded by launching an Emergency Campaign for Lebanon, rolling out theatre and play projects in shelters across the country – these provided vital **psychosocial support** and **play-based education** for displaced communities. We also referred 125 families to partner organisations who could provide basic necessities such as food, mattresses, clothing and shelter.

39
emergency
projects

700
participants

28
shelters

“There was a young girl who barely spoke on the first day. She kept to herself, often with her finger in her mouth. But by the third day, she was fully engaged, participating in all the activities and even speaking up.”

NOUR, FACILITATOR IN AKKAR



“The sessions helped **relieve the stress** I had been carrying since the war started. They allowed me to **release emotions I had held inside for so long**. We had never experienced anything like this before: playing, acting, dancing, and singing. It was all new to us... This was such a safe space where we could **express ourselves freely**. You gave us a chance to talk about ourselves and focus on who we are, without distractions.”
HAIFA, DISPLACED IN BEIRUT

“Awalya used to be very anxious about the strikes and the news. During your activities, he seemed **completely disconnected from the war**, and even after coming back to our room, his mind stayed focused on the class and what he had learned with you. Other mums and I are so impressed with how you’ve brought **laughter and joy to our children’s lives**. You’re truly changing their mood and created a positive, uplifting environment for them.”
AWALYA’S MOTHER, DISPLACED IN CHOUF

“Although we came from a place of war, when we gathered **I felt like I could finally let go**. I gained new skills, learned to express my feelings, and was able to **forget my worries**, leaving each session feeling happy. I sing to my kids now and I taught them the butterfly exercise. It’s helping them express their feelings without resorting to yelling. I’ve shown them how to calm down and communicate better.”
HIBA, DISPLACED IN BEIRUT

Meet Aya



When Aya fled Syria with her family 10 years ago and sought refuge in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, she never imagined she would become a theatre maker.

Before being introduced to theatre, Aya says she was "a very serious, disciplined person who avoided expressing emotions". No matter how upset she was, she never cried.

During the pandemic, she joined her first Seenaryo production and says that doing theatre "**showed me parts of myself I didn't know existed.**"

After participating in a number of Seenaryo plays, Aya trained to become a facilitator. When Israel began its ground invasion of

Lebanon in the autumn, she was chosen to pilot Seenaryo's emergency theatre response in a displacement shelter in the Bekaa Valley.

The war in Lebanon was particularly difficult for Syrian families like Aya's. Most shelters only accepted Lebanese nationals, refusing entry to Syrians.

Aya told us: "**For Syrians in the region, there were suddenly no job opportunities.** Even if you had legal residency, you couldn't work anymore." She was looking for work at the time, but "opportunities disappeared because of the war."

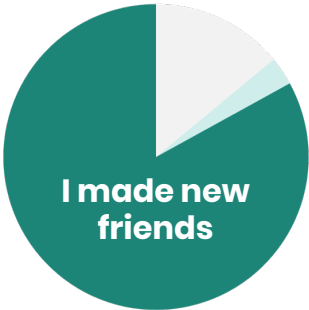
"**Theatre gave me a sense of purpose** and a way to express myself. Even when I couldn't

work because of the war, I found small ways to care for myself and others. For example, I started teaching people simple self-care routines, like how to relax."

When we spoke to Aya during the war about Seenaryo's emergency theatre response, Aya said: "it's incredibly needed – **people are in desperate need of spaces where they feel safe.** It's not just about giving psychological support in the traditional sense, but **creating a space for people to escape their circumstances,** even if just for a little while."

She added: "Theatre is as essential as food. It gives people a space to express themselves and release what's inside."

In a survey of 258 people who participated in emergency response projects in Lebanon:



● Yes ● Not sure ● No



Thought leadership & advocacy

In 2024 we started developing an organisational advocacy strategy for the first time. To achieve our aims we engaged in the following activities.



AWARDS

HundrED selected the Seenaryo Playkit as one of their **top 100 education innovations** to watch out for in 2025 (selected from over 3000 applicants). They also awarded us a **Resilience in Action Award** for our emergency work in Lebanon and Palestine. **TILKA** received a **Special Jury Mention** at the Beirut Women Film Festival.

PUBLICATIONS

We released three publications, including **Women Leading Theatre for Change** (a guide for practitioners) and **Transforming Attitudes to Play-Based Learning** (a study by DARNA Research). We also published a report by **MIT Solve's LEAP programme** on our evaluation tools.

Read all the publications at: www.seenaryo.org/publications

CONFERENCES

Our team was invited to speak at a number of conferences, including Head of Education Dima Nustas, who spoke at a symposium on **Children Under Crisis and War** in Amman, and our Director of Arts Lama El Amine who spoke at Moleskine Foundation's **Creativity Revival** in Milan.

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

As part of our new advocacy strategy, **Helen Hayes MP hosted a screening of our film TILKA in parliament**. Seenaryo's Founder & CEO Victoria Lupton spoke alongside Joseph Willets (Council for Arab-British Understanding) and Maha Shuayb (Centre for Lebanese Studies).

PRESS

In the wake of Israel's ground invasion of Lebanon, our Founder & CEO Victoria Lupton appeared on **BBC R4 Today, ITV News, BBC Breakfast, Times Radio and the Telegraph podcast** (among others) to highlight the impact of the war on civil society.



How can you help?

As a fast-growing organisation, we rely on your support to continue increasing our impact. Here are some ways you can help:

BECOME A FRIEND OR BEST FRIEND

You can join Seenaryo's circle of friends by signing up to give monthly via direct debit. seenaryo.org/support-us



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