

**MINI BASMA**



2011-2012 Report



**35**

**th  
anniversary**

Beyond obstacles....

## Living environment

*For autonomy in everyday life*

The center receives young autistic children with the objective of creating a temporary home adapted to their disability, in which they can learn and discover how to live in a group outside of their home. The youth are received at the center in rotation for a total of 4 to 8 days per month, and are supervised by adequate staff.

Beneficiaries: 12 youth

## INNOVATION: A PILOT CENTER FOR AUTISM

SESOBEL created the first specialized program for autistic children and youth in 1989. Since then, the children who were received there have grown older, and today, our building no longer accommodates their needs and those of their families. The construction of a new center has become a necessity, especially that the number of children born with autism is increasing everywhere in the world. According to the UN, there are 67 million autistic people today in the world.

The building will comprise:

- A family reception service for about 120 families.
- An early intervention unit for 50 children.
- An education center for 40 autistic children and youth.
- A living environment to receive in rotation 15 autistic youth in the afternoons and at nights.
- A support and socialization center to receive 30 autistic youth during the day.
- A recreation area to receive the children and their families.
- A hydrotherapy unit for all children and youth of SESOBEL.



The project is estimated to cost around 4 million USD  
To donate, please call SESOBEL at: +961 9/233940/42/52

## The Vocational Rehabilitation Program (VRP)

*Something to do for everybody!*

Ain El-Rihani

The vocational rehabilitation center welcomes the youth of SESOBEL who possess production capabilities starting from age 20, in order to walk them towards personal and social autonomy.

Shredding: 4 youth	Chocolate: 8 youth
Horticulture: 6 youth	Sewing: 7 youth
Technical assistance: 3 youth	Laundry: 2 youth
Administrative work: 2 youth	Shop: 8 youth
Recycling: 7 youth	Pre-press: 6 youth
Existential training: 3 youth	Warehouse: 3 youth

## INNOVATION : 3 HEARTS LODGE

*Welcome to our Lodge*

Under the patronage of her Excellency Minister Leila El-Solh, the "3 Hearts Lodge" program was inaugurated on the 5th floor of the SESOBEL building in Ain El Rihani. The floor was equipped in collaboration with the Alwaleed ben Talal foundation. It comprises: A family reception center for emergencies, a workshop for printing work,

- A hotel management workshop: 14 youth



# 35 years...

What a long way we've come!

All these years spent in the service of children with disabilities, of people in all their states, differences and diversity, to get to where we are today...

The dark nights of our beginning are already pretty far. Also far is the time when we used to look for children with disabilities, abandoned and marginalized, in the darkness, before our candles individually exposed to light their rights, dreams, future and dignity.

2012 is surely an exceptional year. In the face of challenge and progress, SESOBEL is proud of its children and their achievements, especially the lesson of courage from a group of our adults who are mobilized as ambassadors of their own cause. They are now in charge of welcoming visitors, media relations, participating in seminars and conducting field visits to schools and universities. We also made progress in technical innovation with new approaches and programs.

This year was also marked by festivities for our 35th anniversary, as well as various prizes and awards as a sincere token of appreciation for SESOBEL. One such award was the Apostolic Benediction and the Knight's insignia of the National Order of Merit given to Mrs. Yvonne Chami by the President of the Lebanese Republic, Gen. Michel Sleiman, and to myself by His Excellency the ambassador of France, Mr. Patrice Paoli, representative of the French president Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy.

In this 2012 edition of Mini Basma, we share with you dear readers and friends all the precious moments that made our 35th year so exceptional and unique, and would like to deeply thank you - friends, sponsors, donors and collaborators in Lebanon and abroad.

We would also like to express our deepest gratitude to our whole team, committees and board of directors. Thank you for accompanying us every step of this long and sometimes winding way, which is nevertheless our true "raison d'être".

Fadia Safi  
President, General Manager

## The Family Reception Service / SAF

The SAF received 180 families in the year 2011-2012.

New families have benefited from our social action program, by helping them resolve problems related to:

- 1 - Lack of information on the disability
- 2 - Not accepting the disability
- 3 - Feelings of guilt
- 4 - Anxiety over the uncertain future of their child
- 5 - Lack of confidence in the medical professionals and pedagogical structures in the country
- 6 - Financial problems

## Educational programs

*For a harmonious development of the child*

The children and adult benefit from the educational programs which focus on their overall development. They aim to educate the learner about his own learning style so that he can update his cognitive and emotional strategies and develop more self-confidence



Programs:

Early stimulation  
unit

37 children

Mental  
disability  
program

78 children

Physical  
disability  
program

34 children

The "chouchous"  
program  
(multiple disabilities)

15 children

Autism  
program

43 children



## The Social Action

*The family at the heart of our action*

Since its founding, SESOBEL has worked with the families of disabled children, a handicap being no reason for uprooting a child from his/her home environment. We work to support the family and help it find harmony and a way to preserve its integrity.

### Social action program

- 141 home visits
- 393 interviews at the center
- 1 hospital visit
- 84 parental guidance
- 13 medical consultations
- 2 siblings camps
- 1 vocational training for moms in sewing and embroidery

## Training Center

During the year 2011-2012, the activities at the Training Center have focused on 2 fronts: in-house teaching and the setting up of training sessions for Syrian NGO professionals.

Between July 2011 and June 2012, SESOBEL's Training Center organized:

- 10 in-house training modules for 208 professionals working in 39 socio-medical Lebanese establishments.
- 3 in-house teaching classes for 16 professionals working in 13 socio-medical Syrian establishments.
- 5 rounds of internships for 37 professionals working in socio-medical Syrian establishments (in collaboration with the European Cooperation and Development Institute [IECD]).

Under the patronage of his Excellency Mr. Denis PIETON, the French ambassador to Lebanon, represented by Mr. Gilles THUAUDET, SESOBEL has concluded its project "Establishing a training platform for professionals working with disabled children 2009/2011", during a ceremony held on the 10th of January 2012, at 11:00 at SESOBEL.



## Special Events

- ★ Launching of the advertisement campaign "35th anniversary special".
- ★ Launching of "The Cultural Card for the Disabled" during a seminar organized in collaboration with mobile phone operator, Alfa.
- ★ Presenting Mrs. Yvonne Chami the Knight of Honor insignia by the president of the Lebanese Republic, Gen. Michel Sleiman.
- ★ Presenting Mrs. Fadia Safi with the Knight's insignia of the National Order of Merit by the ambassador of France, Mr. Patrice Paoli, representative of the French president Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy.
- ★ Receiving the Apostolic Benediction for SESOBEL, Anta-Akhi and HVE.
- ★ Receiving 1st prize for a competition by BLC bank among 4 Lebanese NGOs.
- ★ Receiving 1st prize for best Facebook page from Panarabawards

## Year-end party: Draw a dream!

To celebrate its 35th anniversary, SESOBEL organized a theatrical dance performance entitled "Draw a dream", under the high patronage of the First Lady Mrs. Wafaa Sleiman, on the 22nd of June, 2012 at the UNESCO Palace.

The actors were the children, youth and team of SESOBEL, including about 130 children, the majority of whom were on wheelchairs. We had to prepare for more than a year for the performance with the help of the Spanish choreographer, José Melgar, a cyclo-dance teacher.

The show is inspired from the everyday life of a disabled person who needs friends and a special place to realize his dream, based on encouragement and solidarity, just like in the kingdom of blue butterflies.



## THE SOUTH LEBANON PROGRAM

*A continuity of SESOBEL's mission*

### 1 - CLIS, Academic Inclusion Class

SESOBEL ensures through the Jezzine primary public school two kinds of academic inclusion that aim to raise the awareness about and recognize the rights of children with special needs –

**Beneficiaries:** 12 children

### 2- Vocational Rehabilitation Program

The vocational rehabilitation center at Kfarhouna is designated for the production of local produce under the name of "Gê, the motherland". The center ensures that children with disability receive professional training and have their work protected, in order to walk them towards economic and social autonomy.

All products are handcrafted with passion and creativity: jam, syrup, rose water, orange flower water, honey, labneh, canned vegetables, dry herbs, etc.

## INNOVATION : A NEW CENTER AT K FARHOUNA

With collaboration from the Ministry of Education, a new center that comprises a professional training program and a vocational rehabilitation center, was opened at the public school in Kfarhouna.



## INNOVATION : A NEW PERMANENT EXHIBITION IN JEZZINE

## Medical and rehabilitative program

Providing medical and rehabilitative support for children with mental or physical disability or those suffering from pervasive developmental disorder, will help them attain maximum autonomy capacity on the motor, cognitive and affective levels, thus fostering their development and integration in their family and social environment. SESOBEL was especially able to develop its rehabilitation techniques through the help of specialized centers, as well as Lebanese and foreign doctors and professionals.

56 doctors,  
10 hospitals,  
29 paramedical centers, 89 institutions,  
5 universities, 118 interns

All SESOBEL children benefited from the different services: Medical, physical therapy, respiratory, psychology, psychomotricity, speech therapy, occupational therapy, technical aids, Gait Lab.

During the year 2011-2012, SESOBEL's medical and rehabilitative program took **24,974 actions.**

1,168  
assessments

21,521  
treatments

40 surgeries

975  
medical  
consultations

406  
parental  
guidance

200  
medical  
exams

619 technical  
aids

45 Gait Lab  
exams

## INNOVATION : OUTPATIENT CARE SERVICE

This service welcomes any person who needs short-term, temporary care outside of the SESOBEL programs, in collaboration with a network of therapists in all Lebanese regions.

### Services offered:

- Medical and rehabilitation checkup
- Family support and guidance
- Inpatient care and therapy at the center
- Outpatient care and therapy
- Home care
- Orientation to other structures

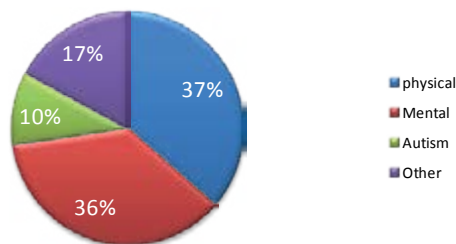


## Our action in numbers

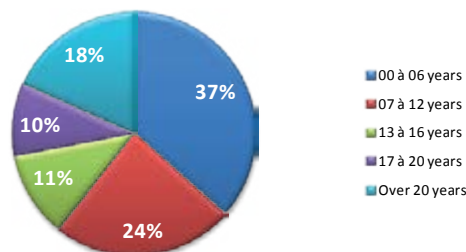
During the year 2011-2012, SESOBEL received:

**536 children** who come from **497 families**

### Handicap category



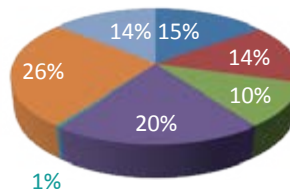
### Age category



## Budget

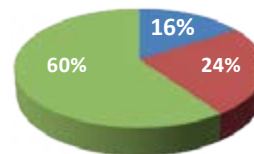
- Foreign donations and sponsorships
- Local donations and sponsorships
- Social Affairs Ministry
- In-kind donations
- Emergency donations
- Fundraising activities
- Family contributions

## Income



## Expenses

- Protected workshops and Production
- Reception, Medical follow-up and Rehabilitation
- Educational Programs and Social Action



**Audited by  
ERNST & YOUNG**

## TRANSPARENCY

SESOBEL does not depend on any religious or political entity, in order to preserve its moral and financial freedom. Additionally, more than 80% of SESOBEL's funds come from fundraising activities and private resources, which allow the association to maintain its autonomy.

For complete transparency towards its donors, SESOBEL's accounts are subject every year to the control of 2 statutory auditors designated by the general assembly and the board of directors. Accounts are audited by the Lebanese firm "Antoine J. Haddad", and the French firm "Ernst & young".

## The people who make it all happen

Mrs. Yvonne Chami: founder of SESOBEL, Anta-Akhi and HVE.

- A president, General Manager
- A general assembly comprising 30 members
- A board of directors comprising 12 members
- Auditors and technical advisors
- A multidisciplinary work team made up of 203 people

## SESOBEL is also...

A network of 4000 friends and collaborators from around the world.