



2023 SUMMER ADVENTURES REPORT

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TITLE	2023 Summer Adventures
PROJECT LOCATION	Eight Palestinian Refugee Camps in, Lebanon
PROJECT DURATION	7 August, 2023 – 15 September, 2023

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Summer Adventures project is implemented in three cycles, two weeks per cycle, aimed to spark the imagination and foster the creativity of refugee children in Lebanon. The project was implemented in six refugee camps, namely, Burj El Shemali, Rashidieh, El Buss, Beddawi, Nahr El Bared, and Wavel. Due to the eruption in the security situation in Ein El Hilweh camp and the delay in repair works at Burj El Barajneh center, these two centers were not included in the project, as originally planned.

The project revolved around the screening and subsequent discussion of two beloved classic movies, "Alice in Wonderland" and "Peter Pan". Children were encouraged to participate in various related activities, including art projects, attending creative writing workshops, and taking part in storytelling sessions. These activities were designed to cultivate the children's skills in creativity, storytelling, and problem-solving.

Moreover, the Summer Adventures project sought to nurture a sense of responsibility among the children. At the end of the project, children were challenged to create their own initiatives to be implemented in their communities. This challenge prompted the children to think critically about the needs of their respective communities and develop innovative solutions to address them. Remarkably, a significant number of participants chose to express solidarity with the Ein El Hilweh children by sending them personalized gifts through "Child to Child" initiative. These meaningful gifts will be distributed to 380 children in a special event when the situation permits.

This project exceeded all expectations, capturing the enthusiastic participation of 380 children who wholeheartedly engaged in the various activities.

It is worth noting that the successful implementation of the Summer Adventures was made possible through the co-funding efforts of the "Center for Global Education / NIPSA" and the generous contribution of private donor "I Engineering SAL."

This report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the project, including detailed activities, outcomes achieved, the impact made, the challenges encountered, and suggestions for future adventures.

2. OVERALL OBJECTIVE

The project aims to provide a safe and enriching experience for children aged 6 to 12 years in eight Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon fostering creativity, volunteerism, learning, and social responsibility among the participants during their summer vacation.

3. TARGET GROUP

Children from 6 to 12 years, boys and girls, participated in the project. Two groups were formed in each of the four camps, namely, Rashidieh, El Burj El Shemali and Wavel. Additionally, and three groups in each of Beddawi and Nahr El Bared (NBC) camps. These groups consisted of children from diverse backgrounds and profiles, including individuals from Palestinian refugees in Lebanon (PRL), Palestinian refugees in Syria (PRS), Syrians (SYR) and others.

The total number of children participants is 380 divided into three cycles including 2% children with various disabilities.

- 120 in cycle 1
- 137 in cycle 2
- 123 in cycle 3

3.1 Number of Participants – Cycle 1

Center	Target	Actual	Gender		Nationality				Location
			Male	Female	PRL	PRS	SYR	Others	
Beddawi	30	24	12	12	23		1		North
NBC	30	30	10	20	28	2			North
Rashidieh	20	19	5	14	19				Tyre
El Buss	20	20	10	10	17		1	2	Tyre
Burj El Shemali	20	7	4	3	2			5	Tyre
Wavel	20	20	13	7	17	3			Beqaa
TOTAL	190	120	54	66	106	5	2	7	

3.2 Number of Participants – Cycle 2

Center	Target	Actual	Gender		Nationality				Location
			Male	Female	PRL	PRS	SYR	Others	
Beddawi	30	30	18	12	19	8	3	-	North
NBC	30	27	15	12	26	1	-	-	North
Rashidieh	20	20	11	9	20			-	Tyre
El Buss	20	20	8	12	19	1		-	Tyre
Burj El Shemali	20	20	0	20	20	-	-	-	Tyre
Wavel	20	20	11	8	15	5		-	Beqaa
TOTAL	190	137	63	73	119	15	3	-	

3.3 Number of Participants – Cycle 3

Center	Target	Actual	Gender		Nationality				Location
			Male	Female	PRL	PRS	SYR	Others	
Beddawi	30	40	21	19	27	-	13	-	North
NBC	30	28	14	14	28	-	-	-	North
Rashidieh	20	14	10	4	14	-	-	-	Tyre
El Buss	20	20	10	10	10	3	5	2	Tyre

Burj El Shemali	20	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	Tyre
Wavel	20	21	3	18	9	7	5	-	Beqaa
TOTAL	190	123	58	65	88	10	23	2	

3.4 Participants' Age Range

Center	Age Range		
	5-7 years	7-9 years	9-12 years
Beddawi	30	35	29
NBC	27	21	37
Rashidieh	12	16	25
El Buss	16	14	30
Burj El Shemali	8	7	12
Wavel	14	14	33
TOTAL	107	107	166

4. VOLUNTEERS

The Summer Adventures activities were designed and delivered by young volunteers, 18 to 35 years old, from the respective camps with guidance and supervision from WPA staff at the head office and the centers.

The volunteers were recruited through social media via a link in the advertisement. The shortlisting was made based on set criteria, followed by interview. The selection took into consideration the candidates' experience with similar activities and target group, interests and the specific needs of the project. The process aimed to identify individuals who could contribute effectively to the project's goals.

The majority of recruited volunteers consisted of university students, university graduates, and experienced animators. Their diverse background and skill sets brought valuable perspectives and expertise to the project.

5. ACTIVITIES

The Summer Adventures included a series of engaging creative activities for the children, over a period of 10 days, five hours per day.

5.1 Movie Screening and Discussion: Children had the opportunity to watch "Alice in Wonderland" "and Peter Pan" and engage in discussions afterward, encouraging imaginative thinking. This activity encouraged children to actively watch the movie by providing them with a list of questions or themes to look out for. For example, they can identify the main characters, plot points, and moral lessons presented in the film related to friendship, loyalty, and courage.

5.2 Shadow Play and Storytelling: Activities included shadow play sessions and storytelling workshops, where children could explore their creativity through visual and verbal storytelling. This activity encouraged children to reimagine or create their own stories inspired by

the movie's themes or characters. They could draw, write, and verbally share these stories with their peers. Moreover, role-playing games encouraged the children to explore various scenarios and develop their communication and teamwork skills.

5.3 Handcraft Workshops: Children participated in various handcraft workshops, creating props and decorations related to the movie themes. Children were encouraged to create drawings, paintings, and crafts inspired by the movie. They could craft props, costumes, and scenes from the film.

5.4 Snack Preparation: Children participated in making their own daily healthy snacks, promoting healthy eating habits and teaching basic cooking skills.

5.5 Skills Games: Games aimed at teaching essential life skills while keeping the children engaged and entertained, such as puzzles, chess, and drawing.

5.6 Outdoor Adventures: Outdoor activities allowed children to enjoy nature while connecting with the themes of the movies, such as scavenger hunts and nature walks.

5.7 Trips: The cycles concluded with an exciting trip, fostering bonds among participants and enhancing their overall summer adventure experience.

6. IMPACT

The Summer Adventures project was a valuable experience for all involved. It provided the children with a safe healthy environment to enjoy part of their summer vacation with their peers, to develop their creativity, social connections, and to improve their self-confidence and self-esteem. Children felt proud of their accomplishments and they realized that they were capable of doing great things.

In specific, this project:

- a. Provided children the opportunity to learn new skills and expand their knowledge base.
- b. Helped children to develop their social and emotional skills and they learned how to make new friends and cooperate with others.
- c. Offered children a fun and engaging way to spend their time, and helped to reduce boredom and stress.

6.4 Provided parents with a break from childcare, which can be helpful for working parents or parents who need some time to themselves.

7. CHALLENGES

The project faced certain challenges, some of which were mitigated and others will be taken as lessons learned for future adventures.

7.1 Some centers lacked the space to accommodate some of the activities. In such cases, activities were modified or replaced with similar suitable activities.

7.2 The timing of the project was during a hot and humid period of the year, which hindered the execution of some of the planned outdoor activities.

7.3 The scheduled timeline of the activities was limited, therefore some of the activities were omitted.

7.4 The delay in the repair works in Burj El Barajneh camp and the security situation in Ein El Hilweh prevented the implementation of the project in these locations, hence the planned target was not achieved.

7.5 There was difficulty in reaching the target in Burj El Shemali despite the exerted outreach efforts.

7.6 The training period for the volunteers was relatively short, which necessitated a more frequent intervention with some of them from WPA staff.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

WPA's experience with the Summer Adventures project and others involved was positive and rewarding at all levels. WPA provided a new model for the usual summer activities implemented before by adopting themes and depending on volunteers in the planning and implementation, with distant guidance and supervision. WPA intends to benefit from this experience and will build on it and improve it for future similar activities.

One major recommendation is to build a volunteer network by maintaining communication with them and providing them with the necessary training.

9. BUDGET

The project was co-funded by the "Center for Global Education / NIPSA" and a private donor "I Engineering SAL" with £1,500 equivalent to \$1,732 and \$3,200 respectively. WPA contributed to the costs of raw materials and stationery, venue, logistics, and supervisory costs.

Because of the inability to implement in two camps, WPA spent the amount \$3,800 covering the cost of participation of 380 children, \$10 per child. Hence incurring savings amounting to \$1,132. The expenditures were as follows:

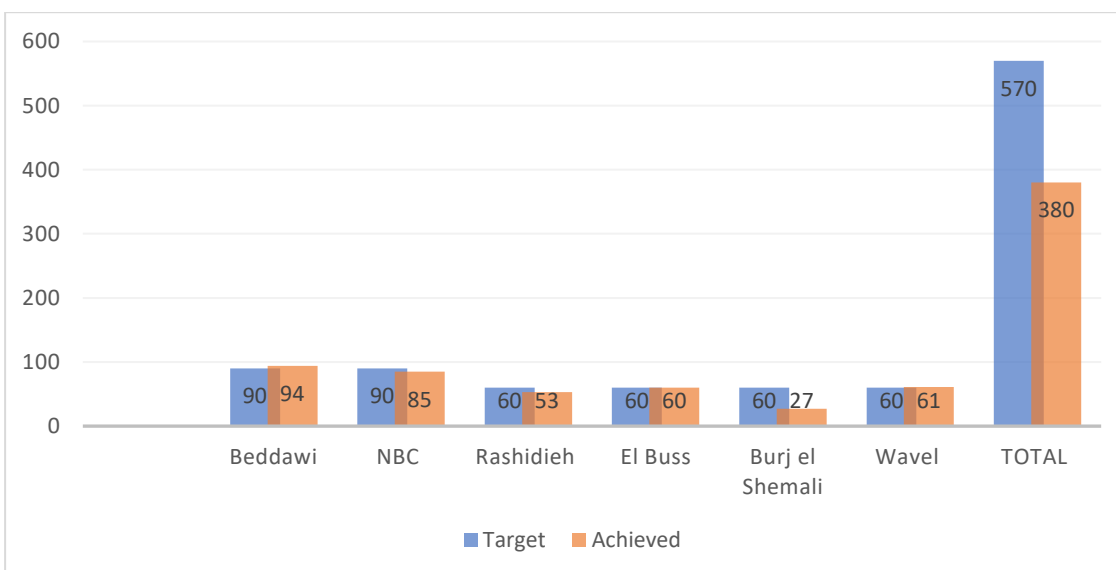
Funding Source	Amount \$	Expenditure \$	Savings \$	Proposal
Center for Global Education	1,732	1,732	Nil	
I Engineering SAL	3,200	2,070	1,170	To buy a school water bottle as a gift for each of the 380 participant children. Approval will be sought separately.

ANNEX 1 - DETAILS OF PARTICIPANTS BY CENTER BY GENDER

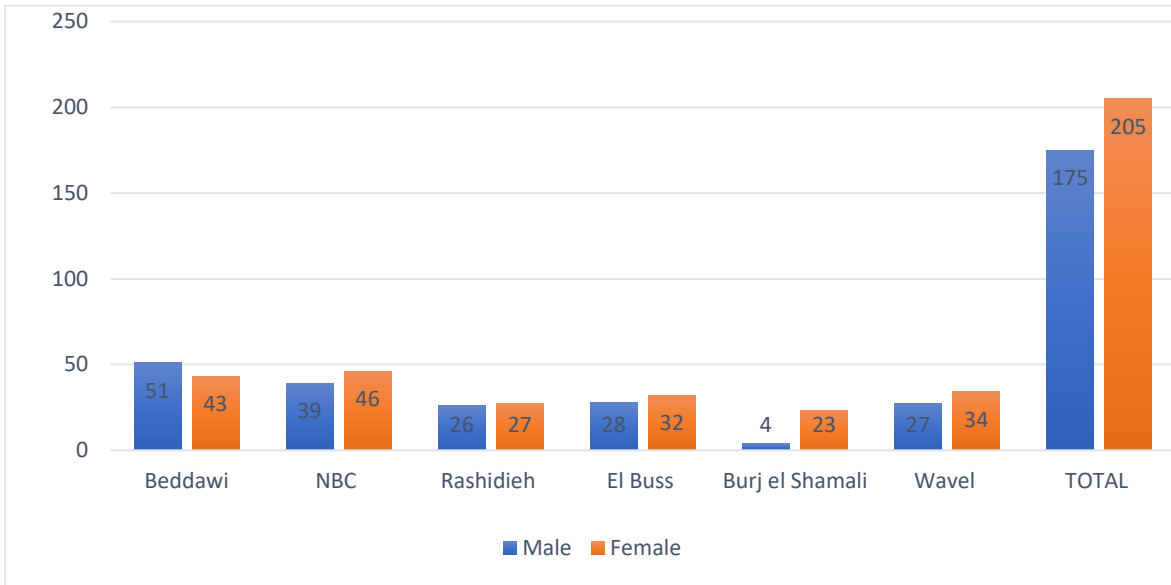
1.1 Total Number of Participants in Three Cycles

Center	Target	Actual	Gender		Nationality				Location
			Male	Female	PRL	PRS	SYR	Others	
Beddawi	90	94	51	43	69	8	17	-	North
NBC	90	85	39	46	82	3	-	-	North
Rashidieh	60	53	26	27	53	-	-	-	Tyre
El Buss	60	60	28	32	46	4	6	4	Tyre
Burj El Shemali	60	27	4	23	22	-	-	5	Tyre
Wavel	60	61	27	34	41	15	5	-	Bekaa
TOTAL	570	380	175	205	313	30	28	9	-

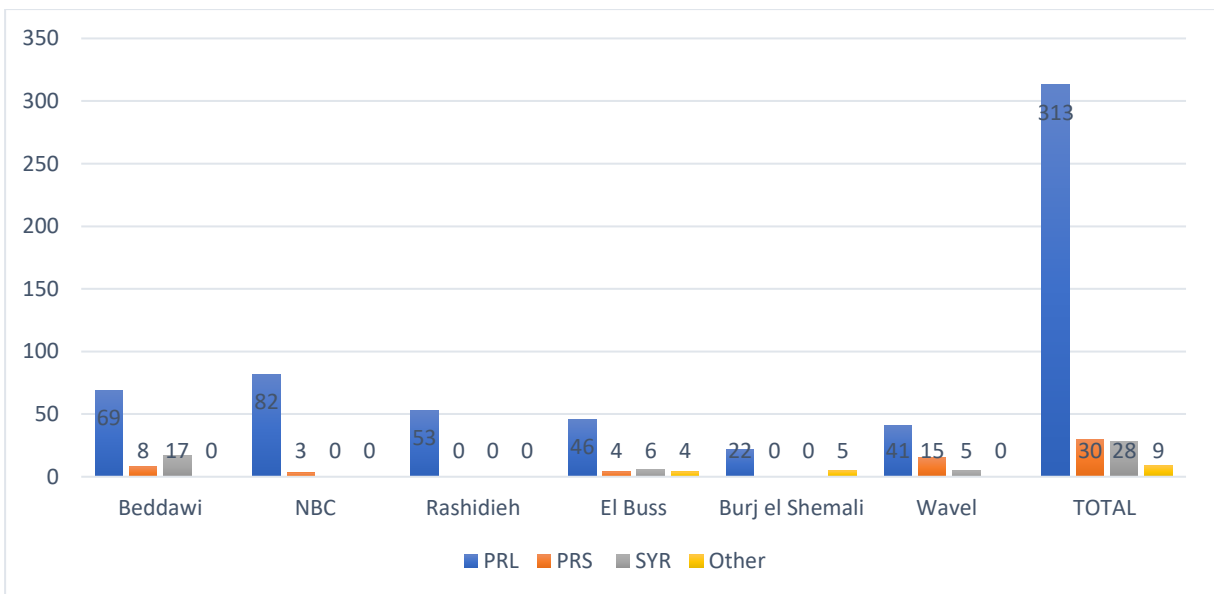
1.2 Total Number of Participants per Center in Three Cycles



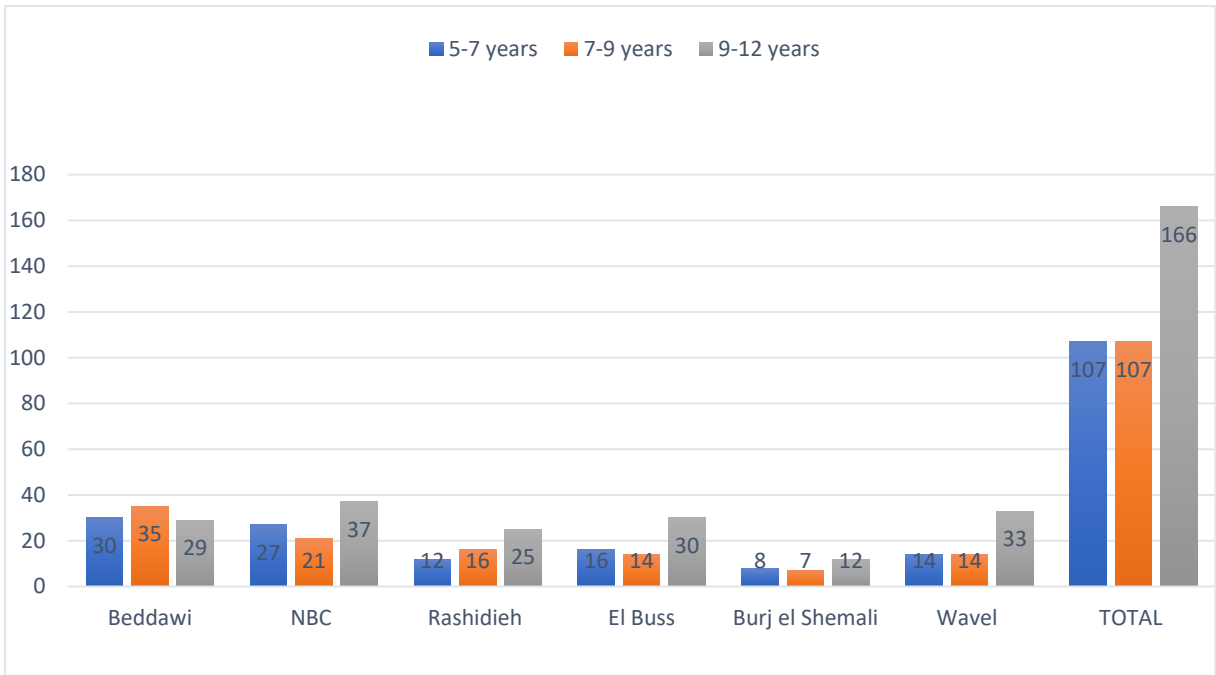
1.3 Total Number of Participants per Gender Per Center in Three Cycles



1.4 Total Number of Participants per Nationality in Three Cycles



1.5 Total Number of Participants per Age Range in Three Cycles



ANNEX 2. PHOTOS & VIDEO















Link for video: <https://youtu.be/ENR-MPoTQTA>