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POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

REFUGEES INTEGRATION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES

TONIA YAMMINE

Advisor: Mr Michele Bonino
Co- Advisor: Ms Marianna Nigra

Research Platform: Lina Ghotmeh
Architecture, Paris, France

Corso di Laurea Magistrale in
ARCHITETTURA COSTRUZIONE CITTA'

Turin, Italy





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I.ABSTRACT

One fundamental challenge faced nowadays is the separation between refugees and local communities. The proposed spatial design and programmatic solutions aim to provide **opportunities** for both communities to **strengthen ties** while enabling self control.

This connection of both communities can rely on a **shared association and management of activities** with co constructed platform that involve **women and kids** of **Ein el helwe camp**. The project is a form of strategy of work and freedom of creativity focusing on addressing the economic and social vulnerabilities that refugees face in urban environments and to build on refugee talent and capacity to create livelihood opportunities by an exchange of skills. It allows access to education, skills, training and connectivity and in the same time planting, food production respecting the environment.

II.ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This thesis work on Urban integration is supported by the Architecture department of Politecnico di Torino.

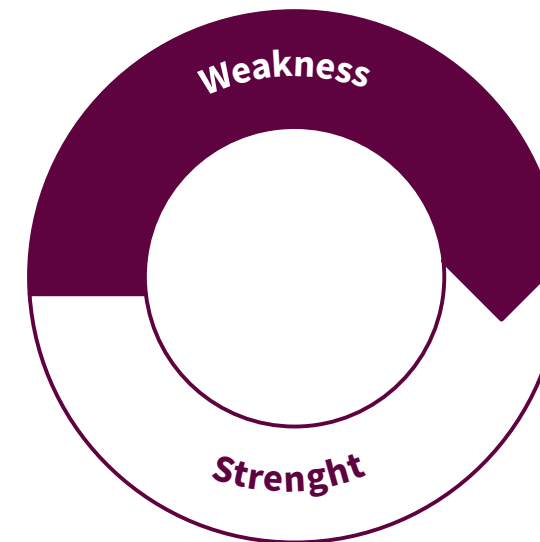
With sincerely appreciate and cooperation of my supervisor Mr Michele Bonino whom I thank for his great effort put in the Architecture department of the university and his contribution to my thesis.

I would like to thank and express my appreciation to Dr Marianna Nigra for her constant and kind help and support. She guided me throughout my educational career at Politecnico di Torino in the right direction to fulfill my goal.

I thank "Lina Ghotmeh architecture" for welcoming me for 3 months in their Architecture office in Paris, France to elaborate my thesis research in correspondence with a project they were working on.

Last but not least I would like to express my gratitude to my family, my life; My mother, Sister and Aunt who encouraged me to make this step in my life and follow my ambitions and dreams which is being here now in Politecnico.. I am grateful for their presence, the motivation the support and love they always give me.

III.APPROACH



The project will contribute to improve the social, economic and physical environment in the area while providing interaction between refugees and their local communities

IV.LEBANON



A bridge between east and west,
both geographically and culturally

LEBANON

OVERVIEW

Lebanon is a small Mediterranean country of 10452 km² in south-west Asia. It lies at the center of the gulf that runs between the oriental Mediterranean sea between Turkey and Egypt. Syria Limits Lebanon from the north and east and Israel and Palestine from the south. The total Population is estimated around 6 million with refugees with 10 million Lebanese living abroad.

It is characterized by a great religious and culture diversity. With 18 religious sectors.

In addition to Arabic, English and French are widely spoken as well as Armenian by a small percentage of the population.

Lebanon's rich history has been shaped by many cultural traditions, including

Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Islamic, Crusader, Ottoman Turkish, French. The resulting culture is distinctively Lebanese which is a combination of East and west.

Lebanon is a democratic country with a parliamentary system of government.

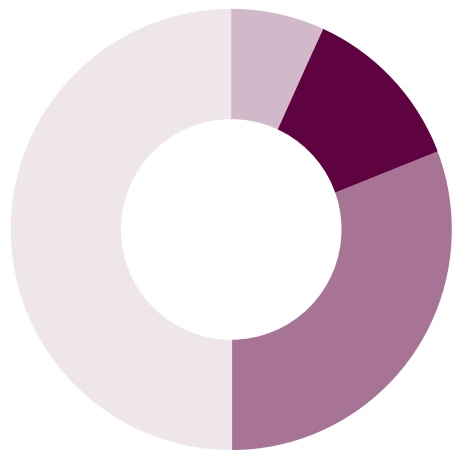
However, the country's history is marked by a religious and political friction which led to many conflict back in the 90s.

The million refugees mass influx has placed unprecedented tension on the economy, public services and infrastructure, as well as on social relations. This was reflected in a negative image abroad exaggerated by media.



LEBANON
PEOPLE

6.1 Million



Population

Source: worldbank.org

- Highest upper class
- Below Poverty Line
- Upper Middle Class
- Moderate Middle Class

1.5 Million

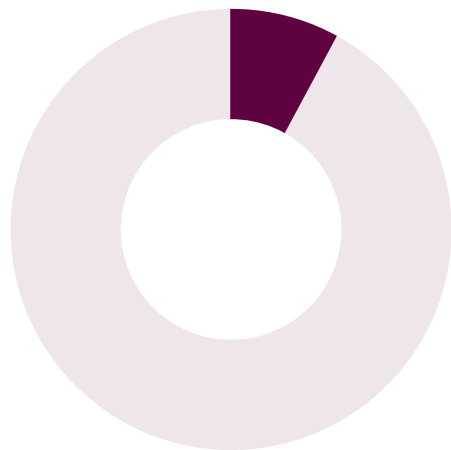


Refugees

Source: ec.europa.eu

- Refugees Population
- Lebanese Population

14 Million

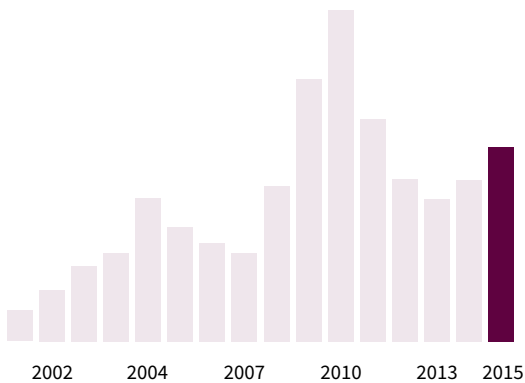


Diaspora

Source: ec.europa.eu

- Lebanese Citizens
- Lebanese

1.5 Million



Tourists

Source: tradingeconomics.com

- Yearly Arrivals

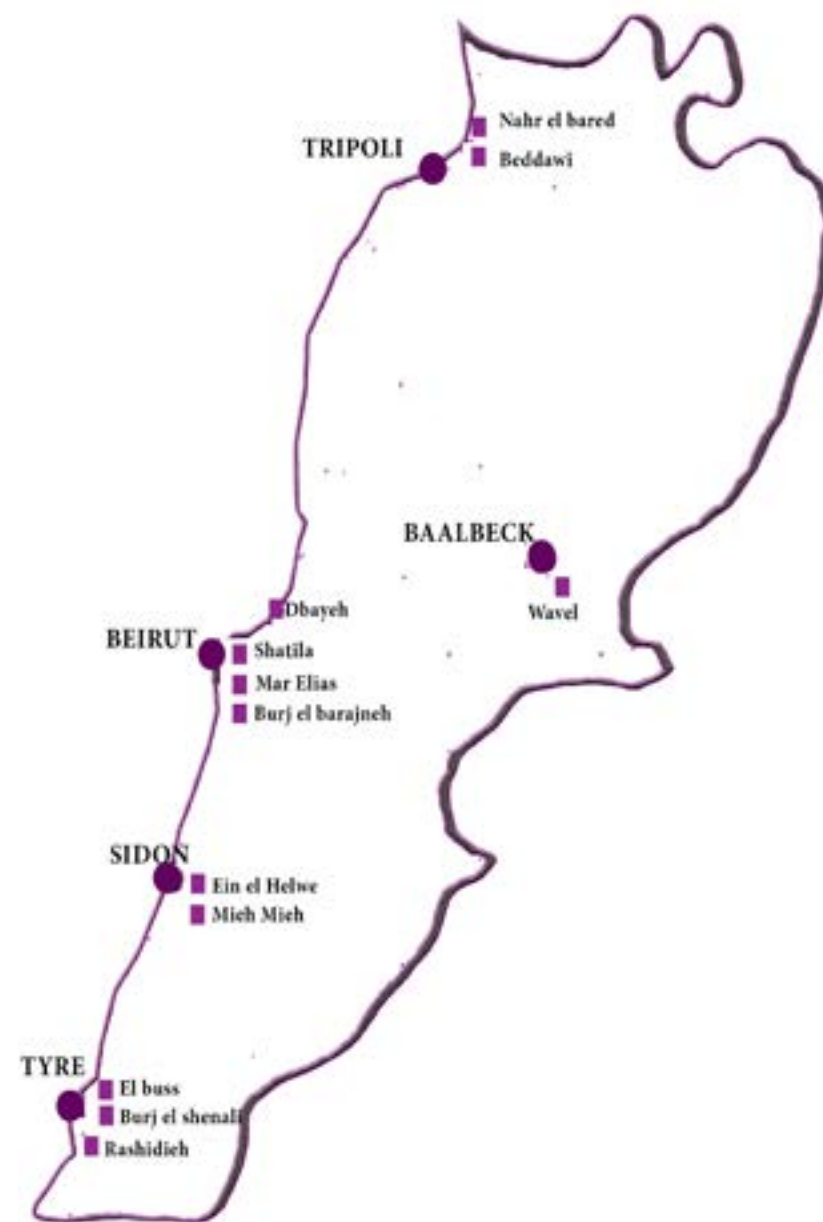
CAMPS & REFUGEES



LEBANON

CAMPS & REFUGEES

Lebanon the country that suffered from war and political instability is not well equipped to host the largest per capital population of refugees in the world. Yet without the abilities, Lebanon has responded to the migration crisis and is hosting now **1.5 million refugees** today, and most of them distributed in 12 camps all over the country or in informal gatherings planned in the first place as temporary housing. Lebanon has become home to the Palestinian refugees since 1948 but ever since they haven't receive same rights and resources as Lebanese natives. Due to the 2011 Syrian war many Syrian and Palestinian living in Syria fled the war to settle also in informal tented settlements all over Lebanon.



- **Nahr el Bared:** Built in 1949, destroyed then in 2007 due to a fighting . Two third of the camp's 36,000 registered refugees fled the fighting and ended up in temporary quarters on the camp's outskirts, many in neighboring Beddawi Camp.

-**Beddawi:** Built in 1955, one of the newest camp in Lebanon located 5 kms away from the city Tripoli that host 15000 Refugees and then doubling its population after Nahr el bared conflict.

-**Wavel:** Began as a French army barracks opened to shelter Palestinian refugees in 1948. Many of Wavel's 8,000+ residents still live in the poorly ventilated army barracks. The camp is located near Baalbeck in the Bekaa Valley.

-**Dbayeh:** Set up in the mid 1950's , had a population of 4000 most of them Christians refugees of Palestine.

-**Shatila:** Established in 1949 and destroyed many times, it hosts around 9000 refugees who live in very bad conditions.

-**Mar Elias:** The smallest camp with 600 residents. It was settled by the The mar Elias Greek Orthodox convent.

Burj el Barajneh: Set up in 1948 in the southern suburbs of Beirut, it is home to about 16,000 refugees. It is the most overpopulated camp in the Beirut area. The water and sewage systems are deteriorated.

-**Ein el Helwe:** The largest camp in Lebanon with 80000 refugees. More details will be given later on.

-**Mieh Mieh:** Located near the southern city of Sidon, the camp houses more than 4,500 refugees in the shelters that were set up in 1954. Part of it was destroyed during the civil war.

-**El Buss :** Located near the southern city of Tyre and built by the refugees who arrived there in the 1950s. It hosts 10000 refugees.(cement block dwellings)

- **Burj el Shemali:** Located on the outskirts of Tyre and home to roughly 20,000 refugees.

-**Rashidieh :** First established in 1936 to house Armenian refugees. the camp was expanded in 1963 to accommodate 29000 Palestinian refugees today.

V.SIDON



Sidon was the most powerful city-state of ancient Phoenicia

Surface City	Population City	Surface Metropolitan	Population Metropolitan
7 km2	80.000	25 km2	266.000

SIDON

OVERVIEW

Sidon is the Greek name (meaning 'fishery') for the ancient Phoenician port city of Sidonia.

"Along with the city of Tyre, Sidon was the most powerful city-state of ancient Phoenicia and first manufactured the **purple dye** which made Tyre famous and was so rare and expensive that the color purple became synonymous with royalty".

It is located on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea 48 km south of Beirut.

The city is limited on the north by two rivers which have their source in the chain of Mont-Liban.

Many cities and villages that bound the city Sidon are considered part of Grand Saïda.

The city northern harbor is characterized by Castle of the sea, a main touristic site of the south. In the old town more buildings and sites are worth the visit like the old souks, Khan of soap and Khan of Franks.



SIDON

MIGRATION FLOWS

Owing to Lebanon geographic position, and proximity to Syria and Palestine, the overlap in language , historical relations and close culture make Lebanon one of the most obvious destination for refugees to escape the war or the conflicts. The emigration to Lebanon started in Mount Lebanon dated from the 1870.

Back in time **Sidon** was built on a foreland with an offshore island, hat secured back in time the harbor from storms and provided a safety throughout the war, since then it was considered one of the safest hosting city in the south. After the Syrian war, Sidon has seen an increase in the number of refugees , they move attracted by many reasons; safe city, warmer winter, cheaper rents, job possibilities .

Humanitarian programs progress in the south has been increasing and improving responding to the refugees needs respecting to Bekaa and north of Lebanon. Local and internationals NGOs are building presence in the south every now and then. Education and administrative structure, society capacity and security situation are improving even if with a low progress trying to provide integration in the society better than other areas.



VI.EIN EL HELWE CAMP

Sidon - Lebanon

OVERVIEW

Ein El Hilweh Palestine refugee camp (EHC), located 3 km south-east of **Sidon**; South **Lebanon**.

"It was first settled in 1948 by the International committee of Red Cross to accommodate refugees from northern Palestine due to the Israeli war".

*The camp received many **Palestine refugees** from other camps during Lebanon's civil war, becoming the country's largest camp in terms of both area and population.*

*The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (**UNRWA**) began operations in the camp in 1952. The Agency does not manage or administer the camp, but does provide many essential services within".*

EIN EL HELWE OVERVIEW

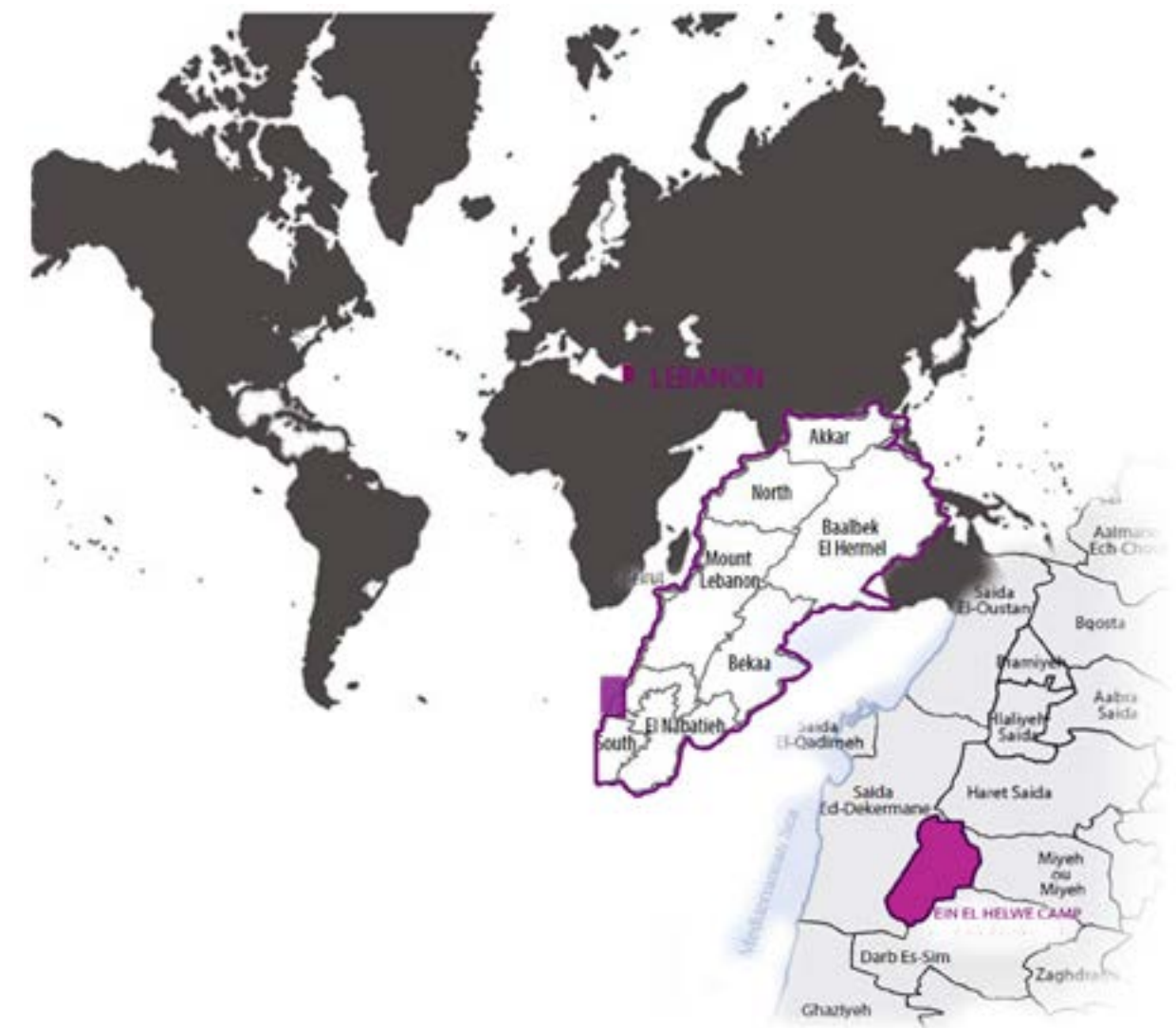


Ein el helwe camp in 1953

EIN EL HELWE OVERVIEW



THE CAMP



Surface 1,5 km2	Population 80,000	Religions Islam	Syrian Refugees 6,000	Schools 8	Health Centers 2	Relief and social services offices 2
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EIN EL HELWE THE CAMP



EIN EL HELWE
PEOPLE

80,000

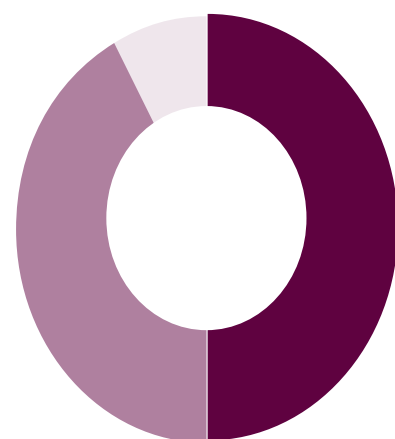


Population

Source: unrwa.org

- 55000 Palestinian refugee in Lebanon
- 6000 Palestinian refugee from Syria
- 12500 Inhabitants in adjacent areas
- 6500 Others

25.5 Average
age

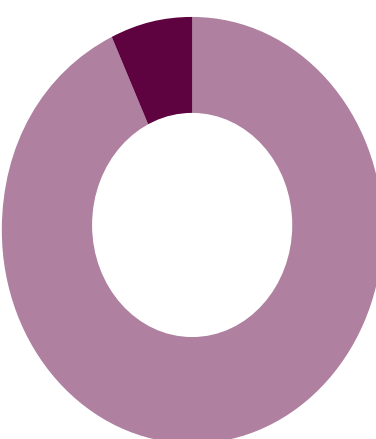


Age

Source: unrwa.org

- 50% < 25 years old
- 42% 26-40 years old
- 8% > 60 years old

Education



Education

Source: unrwa.org

- 5500 Student
- Rest of the population

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE



GRAPHICS ARTS

The Culture of Palestine is closely related to those of its nearby countries; Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan. The major aspects of Palestinian Society and Culture include: customs, religion, language, literature, art, costume and music of the land and its inhabitants.

EIN EL HELWE

CULTURE-GRAPHIC ARTS

Palestinian designs feature plants, leaves or geometric shapes same as Islamic art or Mediterranean graphics.

Palestinians are skilled in **Calligraphy**, it is used as a profit by illustrating verses from the Koran in designs and selling them in some art shows.

In Palestine main cities still produce hand made rafts from rugs, leather goods, clay for pottery, as well as ceramic jars. They work also in products made from local wood to create crafts related to Christians and Islams representation and symbols.

Glass and soap making are also activities that take a great part of the Palestinians crafts designs.



© Fatima Abbadi

EIN EL HELWE

CULTURE-GRAPHIC ARTS



EIN EL HELWE
CULTURE-GRAPHIC ARTS



EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-GRAPHIC ARTS



EIN EL HELWE
CULTURE-GRAPHIC ARTS



EMBROIDERY

It is known that Embroidery brings a source of pride for Palestinians.

This type of crafts work is considered a language of beauty for this culture, it is used to communicate both within the society; with visitors or societies abroad.

They produce these type of works to reflect a wealth of positive culture to the audience whose only knowledge of Palestine is usually images of war and violence.

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-EMBROIDERY



DABKE

Dabke, the Palestinian folk dance is made up of some steps and stomps.

Dabke represents an identity of their country home and land lost, they perform it to mark a sense of belonging to Palestine.

It is driven by a memory, a performance of resistance and hope that refuses to bow down to the reality.

Dabke dance is performed at weddings, ceremonies and national events to represent a markable part of their culture.

It is considered a language of beauty used to communicate both within the society, with visitors and societies abroad.

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-DABKE



CUISINE

The Palestinian culinary traits share their great diversity of food with their neighborhood middle eastern and east Mediterranean regions.

Palestinian culture revolves around food in everyday life, events, weddings and gatherings. It's about spending time with family and friends and representing their generosity by making an event out of the ordinary.

Their cuisine is diverse from meat, chicken, fish, to rice, vegetables herbs and spices .

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-CUISINE



ARCHITECTURE

Thousands of Palestinians in Israel live in refugee camps that became with time permanent settlements, while others moved away to neighborhood countries and live as refugees in bad housing conditions or even tents and only few of them live in comfortable houses.

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-ARCHITECTURE

In some villages traditionally the houses are one-story made of white. Many of the wealthier families have two-story houses, the upper level usually have a kitchen, a sitting room, bath- used as living spaces and entertaining room, and small bedrooms. Many of those houses have gardens surrounded by a high wall with a gate.



KEFFIYE

The Palestinian keffiyeh is a chequered black and white scarf worn around the neck or head. It has become a symbol of Palestinian identity, culture and solidarity dating back from the early 90s after the conflicts.

EIN EL HELWE CULTURE-KEFIYE

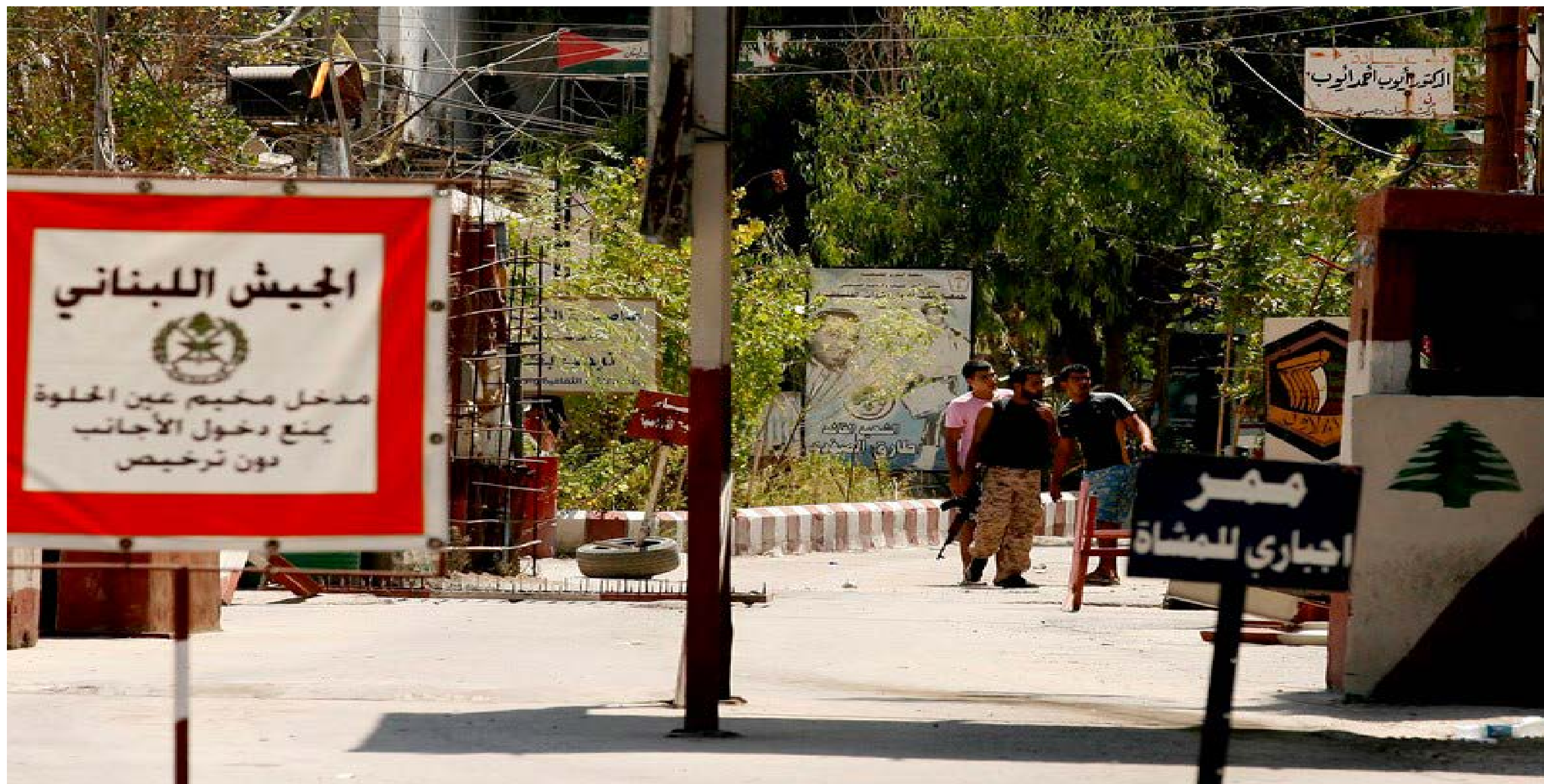


CAMP SECURITY AND ACCESS

Security is a major concern in Ein el helwe.

The camp is model of the Palestinian political world, with early all Liberation Organization (PLO), Pro Syria, extremist, and religious parties in constant conflict seeking power and victory. Those parties are influencing the camp in a negative way creating a tensed environment characterized by lawlessness and a total freedom and liberation within the camp. The frequent violence and conflicts initiated by uneducated range of people, severely threatens the safety and security of the residents and limits their ability to ask the services needed from the NGOs; it prevents kids to frequent school and patients from accessing health services as well as many others vital services and the minimum rights they deserve.

Unfortunately the Lebanese army does not have any presence or access to the camp to maintain safety of the inhabitants but they are trying to maintain a security zone bounding the camp and controls its four main checkpoints entrances.



ADJACENT AREAS



EIN EL HELWE CAMP

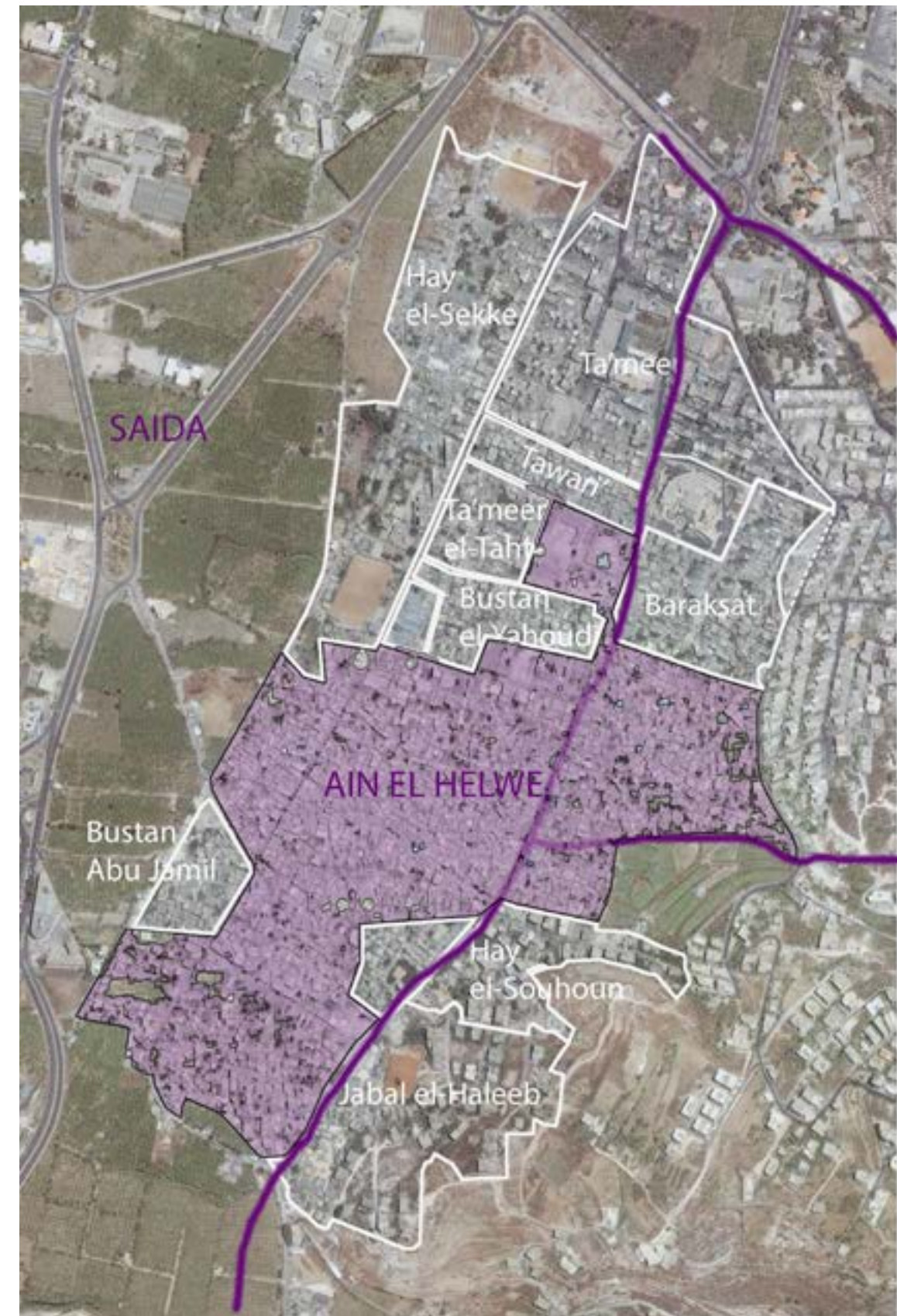
ADJACENT AREAS

The neighborhoods surrounding the main region of Ein el helwe camp are composed by 8 adjacent areas. They host around 12,500 refugees included in the 80,000 of the camp whom are Palestinian and Syrian.

Most of the NGO's can not provide the basic urban services needed by the inhabitants of those neighborhoods since their responsibilities are limited only inside the physical boundaries of the camp. Moreover, since most of the residents are living informally in the camp any intervention of providing some services by the municipality is difficult due to political restrictions.

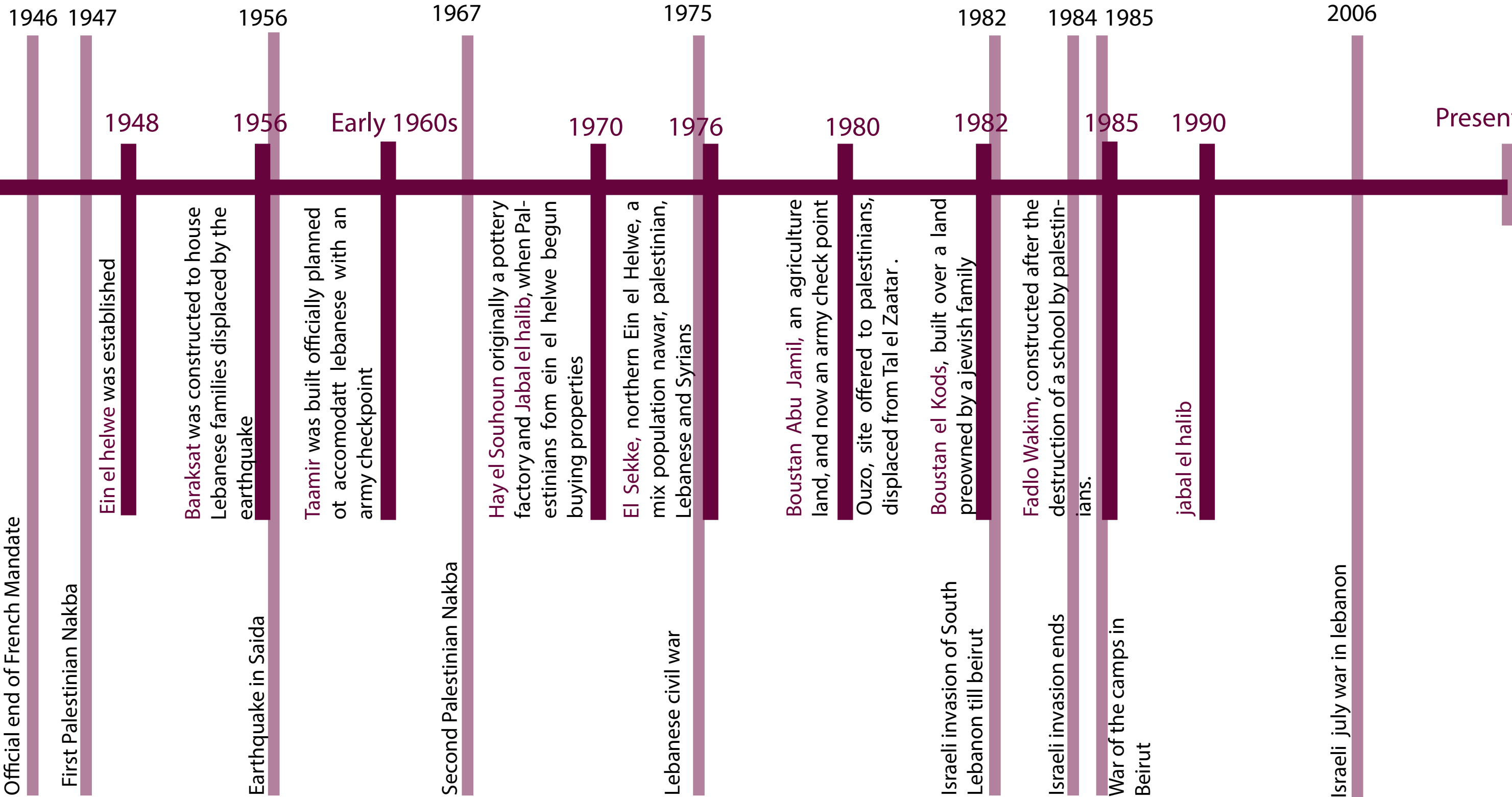
The needs of those neighborhoods are illimited from Sewage system as a top priority to infrastructure, they need upgrades and rehabilitation of water and electricity buildings and road-paving.

Indeterminate managerial and administrative oversight over these regions has now and again brought about the execution of lacking projects coherence; or sometimes the inhabitants are left to manage on their own the leftovers and unfinished works.



EIN EL HELWE CAMP

ADJACENT AREAS



PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

Palestinians in Lebanon PRL
Palestinians from Syria PRS

The palestinian refugees in Lebanon and from Syria (PRL and PRS) live in severe poverty and bad life conditions in terms of health, education and social system.

EIN EL HELWE

PALESTINIAN IN LEBANON PRL



Poverty

Source: unrwa.org

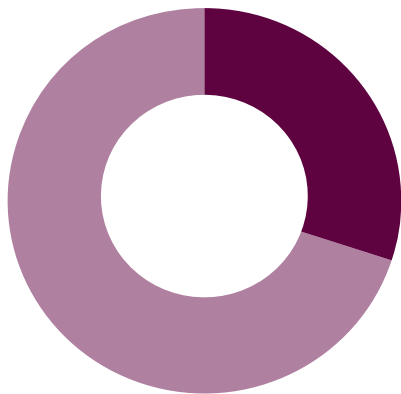
- 65 % Under poverty line
- 35 % Moderate Poverty



Employment

Source: unrwa.org

- 56 % Jobless
- 44% Others



Monthly expenditures

- 30% Food
- Other

The highest priority needed is Employment followed by Security and Roads.

EIN EL HELWE

PALESTINIAN FROM SYRIA PRS



Poverty

Source: unrwa.org

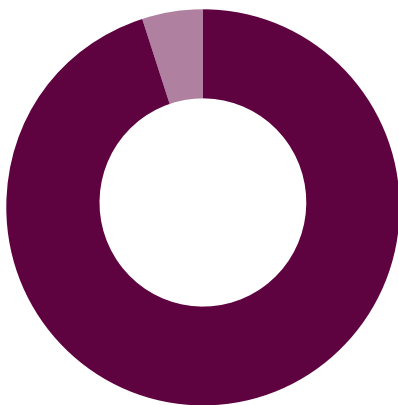
- 89 % Under poverty line
- 11% others



Employment

Source: unrwa.org

- 52 % Unemployed
- 48% Others



Consommation

- 95% Food insecure
- Healthy food

The highest priority needed is Employment followed by Provision of non food item and then Shelter Rehabilitation.

EIN EL HELWE PRL AND PRS



EIN EL HELWE PRL AND PRS

“Lebanon is not a signatory of the 1951 U.N. Refugee Convention”

Moreover, The basic rights and obligations of refugees are not recognized by its 1967 protocol.

Palestinians are deprived from the basic human rights of the Lebanese. They can not also enjoy the rights given to other foreigners from another country. Palestinians are prohibited to attend Lebanese public schools or even own property. They do not have access to national health services and the social security system. The restrictions on the Checkpoints prevent commerce with neighboring communities.

This leaves the majority of the camps' population hopeless and completely dependent on the associations and organizations locals or international especially UNRWA that provide many services in the camp from health , education to humanitarian assistance.

“The government does not provide a social safety net for Palestinians living in Lebanon”.

In the camps and gatherings, refugees are suffering from environmental , health , housing and infrastructure conditions. And this needs a solution.



SERVICES

Education
Health
Economy
Infrastructure

EIN EL HEWE SERVICES

“UNRWA is the main provider of assistance and protection services to Palestine refugees across Lebanon, covering both PRL and PRS with its assistance which includes health, education, and social and relief services, as well as camp improvement efforts.”

358 UNRWA staff operate services in the camp – including **Eight UNRWA schools, Two primary health centers and Two relief and social services offices** – and approximately 150 UNRWA staff reside with their families in the camp. The refugees living in the adjacent areas of the camp can enter the camp and enjoy some basics services provided like education and healthcare less frequently. UNRWA is facing funding shortfalls problems and as they need financial support frequently to manage the services.

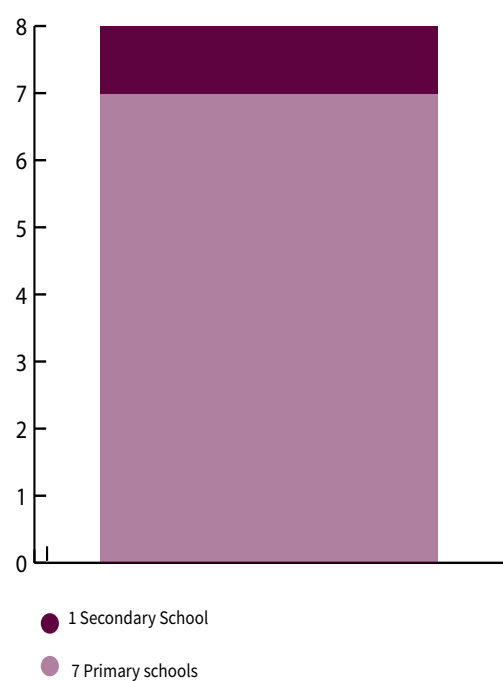
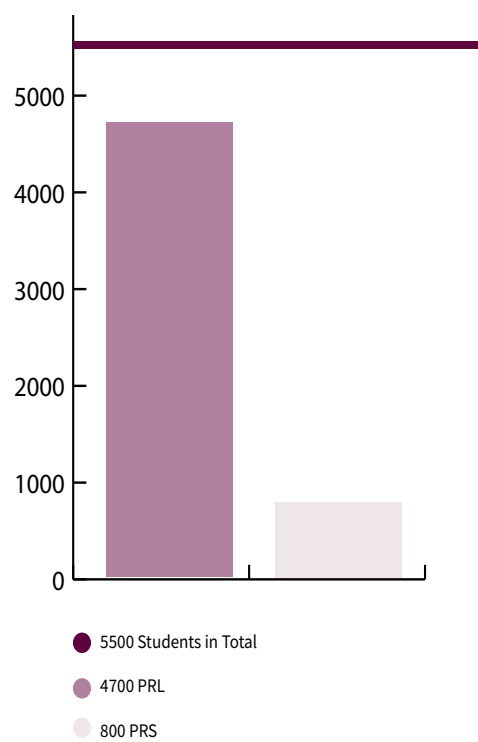




EIN EL HEWE EDUCATION

Palestinians cannot access the public school system in Lebanon. UNRWA runs 8 schools in the camp.

It is estimates that half of Palestinian teenagers leave school before their education is complete. When they know that they are prohibited to work outside the camp in 71 professions and it is quasi impossible to find a decent job, children feel that it is not worth the effort and the continuity of their studies. Unfortunately A high percentage of male drop-outs resort to working in temporary jobs or they feel obliged to quit and find work within the camp to help support their families. Others quit school out of despair and lack of money .





EIN EL HELWE HEALTH



EIN EL HELWE HEALTH

“As a result of years of conflict, poverty and poor environmental conditions, refugees suffer from a multitude of disabilities, mental health problems and malnutrition.”

“One out of three refugees suffers from a chronic illness such as hypertension, cancer and diabetes.”

“Palestinian refugees do not have access to Lebanon’s public health system; their only one is through UNRWA.”

UNRWA manages in the camp just two primary health centers (PHCs) and one radiology unit . Those centers can serve just 1 % of the population per day . The services cover dentistry, maternal health, laboratory analysis, x-ray, and provision of medications.

Those services operates only the primary health care needs of the inhabitants but UNRWA tries to organize a connection with some private and public hospitals in Saida in order to respond to the patients needs for secondary and tertiary healthcare services.



EIN EL HELWE ECOONOMY



EIN EL HELWE ECOONOMY



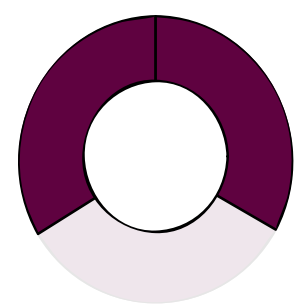
EIN EL HELWE ECOONOMY

“Palestinian refugees face discrimination in the labor market.” Even if they do hold a degree or any educational background or capability, they are restricted from all but menial jobs.

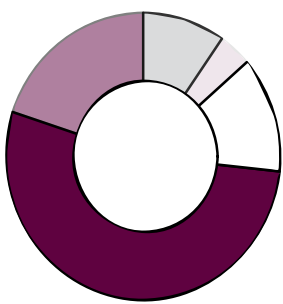
“Lebanon has the highest percentage of Palestinian refugees living in extreme poverty. ”

“Forty percent of employed refugees living in camps and gatherings represent the lowest national income group in Lebanon.”

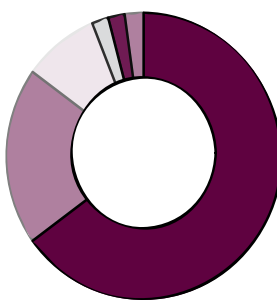
Most refugees lucky enough to work end up in menial labor jobs in the construction, electrical, sanitation, agricultural and textile fields. They also find work as servants, cooks or nannies.



2/3 of the Palestinian subsist on < 6\$/Day



4% technicians, associate professionals, clerks
10% Professionals, senior officials and managers
13% Service workers, sale workers
20% Elementary occupations
54% Craft and related trade workers



2% Gov and NGO
2% Industry
2% Agriculture
9% SEducation and health c
20% Construction
65% Other services



EIN EL HELWE INFRASTRUCTURE



EIN EL HELWE INFRASTRUCTURE

Ein el helwe camp is notoriously overcrowded, squeezing an ever-increasing population into a finite area. The primary structures built as temporary shelters first have deteriorated in time from lack of funding and maintenance.

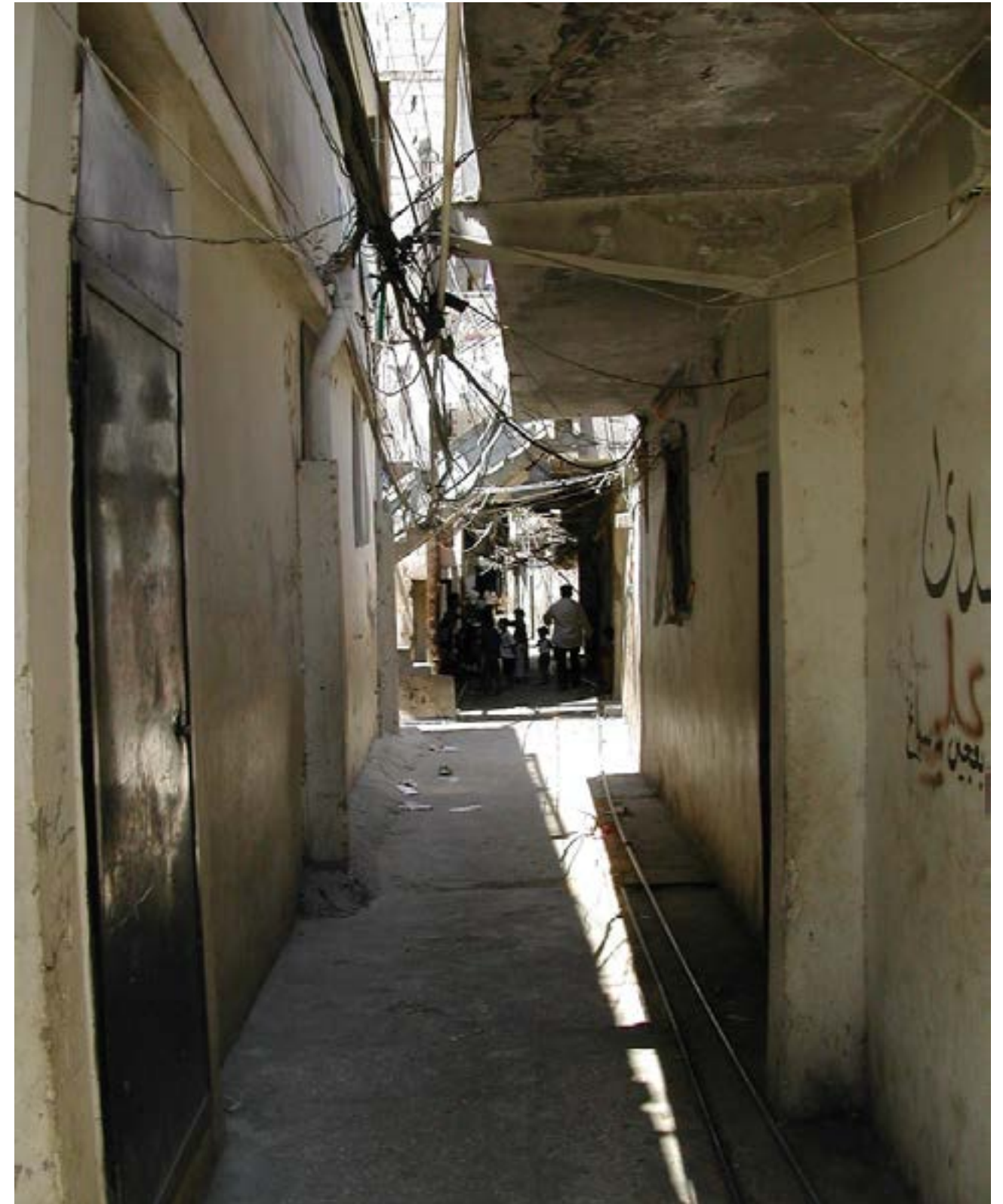
Poor housing conditions, leaky pipes, deteriorated water and sewage treatment systems, contaminated water, absence of insulation system and jerry-rigged electrical connections all contribute to sub-standard living conditions. Pollution and garbage permeates the air causing serious problems.

The camp lacks open spaces or areas where kids can play and spend times such as playgrounds or parks. They can only play in the streets where there is presence of cars and deteriorated pipes and electricity cables. They spend times in dark alleyways between damaged buildings, and this what increases the risk of injury and illness.

Expansion of the camp is prohibited by the law and so the rehabilitation, repairs, entry of materials and renovation of the camp so the population is increasing everyday reaching the quadrupled capacity since it was established in very bad conditions. This Over-crowding that results pollution increases health risks from respiratory infections to mental health disorders which is getting worse with the social tensions among the residents.



EIN EL HELWE NFRUSTRUCTURE



EIN EL HELWE NFRUSTRUCTURE



CHALLENGE



EIN EL HELWE CHALLENGE

UNRWA international foundations, institutions, non-government organizations and local community-based organizations take all the responsibility of taking care of the Palestinian families in Lebanon's camps until the situation will be resolved. However, they suffer from restricted fundings and low budget that make it impossible to meet all the inhabitants never ending needs.

The list of needs is long and illimited. Priorities range from managing water and sewage system, to machines and medicines for camp clinics, pharmacies and hospitals, as well as improving health care and health education, expanding social services and vocational education centers, improving early childhood development programs, creating employment opportunities, supporting child care and women's development programs, building infrastructure and more and more.



EIN EL HELWE CHALLENGE



VII.CASE STUDIES

Mini Living / Bureau v

Urban nest/ Penda architects

Playscapes/ Abdul & Hiari

Growmore/ Husum & Lindholm Architects

Cabin Library/ Natter & Jacob

Minima Moralia/ Boano & Prišmontas

CASE STUDIES

MINI LIVING / BUREAU V

In A/D/O venue in Greenpoint, Brooklyn New York



MINI living urban cabin is a tiny living space, a prototype of a new experience room that can be implemented in many cities for either emigrants or tourists .

This shared house concept is designed by Bureau V architects and installed in a courtyard in Brooklyn aiming to house up to two people challenging a new modern solution to the urban living in the form of Mini Living and Shared housing concept.

The reason behind the concept was the compact living spaces in New York City and the increase in the population and its diversity.

This prototype is represented by a whimsical kitchen area blue and metallic , A library of books, a bright yellow metallic from the outside experience room, and a hammock place to rest and chill.

This place of urbanization and inspiration respond to the needs of the young urbanites in adding a humor to a stressful experience by the materials used in the construction; The shell from metal yellow spikes, the soft blue plush fabric, silver vinyl roof and the iridescent panels.

The features I liked in this project are the sharing housing concept, the flexible educational/cultural space and specially the colors added to take the aggression out from the problem.



CASE STUDIES

URBAN NEST / PENDA

ARCHITECTS

Implementation in a event in Shanghai



The architecture studio Penda proposes a concept of “radical future -MINI living with recyclable modular dwellings”

The proposal is a shared housing solution consisting of recyclable modular units of 3x3.

Its aim was a response to the overpopulation of cities, the cramped living conditions, expensive rents and dense urban environment.

The flexible modular and usable spaces can be on constant change of function by being assembled together in different ways depends on the needs of the occupants to form micro homes.

The prototype functions are many, from cafe, dining area to workshop rooms, book stores, studio and gym.

The structure of the modules is a self supported metal framing, easy to assemble and re assemble on the site, with perforated louvres that can be fixed depends on the level of privacy needed.

The sustainability in the construction is represented also in the planters and greenery incorporated on the roofs of the dwellers. They can also reduce pollution and be a potential of food source and generate electricity if implemented by solar panels.

The project positive impact is the ability to live better and joyful in future cities.



CASE STUDIES

PLAYSCAPES / ABDUL & HIARI ARCHITECTS

In Amman, Jordan



Two jordanian architects built a playscapes system in their hometown by transforming empty lots into playgrounds.

Sarah Abdul Majid and Sandra Hiari; the architects decided to create a public park by street furniture system.

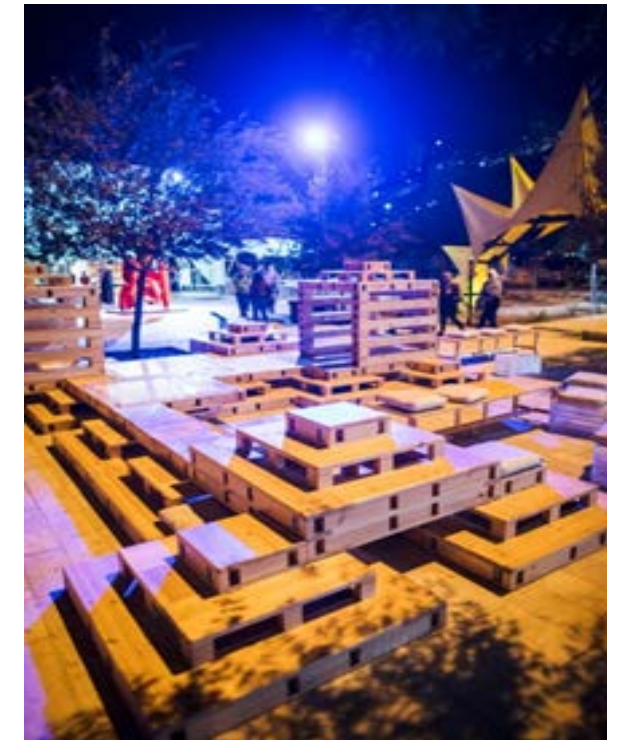
An easy to assemble modular system designed to create a playground in an empty lot in cities to create a joyful environment.

The project aim is a gathering space for communities nearby, as well as it can be for refugees as it is a temporary system that can be easily assembled on site. It can be implemented in many ways depends on the imagination and space.

This urban intervention needs only two person to be constructed. It is made from low cost wooden boxes and joint together with wooden rods.

This configuration can be suitable for any age from small kids who can climb to older who can just sit and socialize.

Although the project is an informal intervention but it responds to many needs and provide an important urban element to the city and especially for the desperate kids who cannot find a place to play and gather.



CASE STUDIES

GROWMORE / HUSUM & LINDHOLM ARCHITECTS

In Seoule, Korea Biennale of Architecture



Growmore is an urban gardening concept to enhance the idea of planting in cities.

Husum and Lindholm architects designed an MINI urban farming intervention a city.

This system gives an idea for people living in a city about planting and using the leftovers places and empty space to plant a mini garden and purify th environment.

The structure can be built by plywood planters . The installation is made by planters, shelving units and sitting space.

The function of the place is aiming food production in the planters, a shelter and refugee from a crowded city .

The flexible configuration of the planters made it an installation that can be implemented in many places and can be done in many shapes depends on the context given.

The occupants and the designers can reflect their needs and adapted to the deisgn.

This place add a sustainable touch to the environment given and that's what's important adding to it a place also that can be used to be a sociable area for people to meet.



CASE STUDIES

CABIN LIBRARY / ATTER & JACOB ARCHITECTS

In London deisgn festival



This urban cabin library is an example of an cultural exposure that shows an interaction between public and private.

The architects Corianna natter and Sam Jacobs together with MINI living designed a small house with an attached library that can be built in any city .

The reason behind building this project was to explore the culture of every city implemented in and how people can live in the future.

This is a solution to the expensive big cities nowadays and the crowded ones . The project is aiming to merge public and private by exchanging resources , interact together and share knowledge.

The function of the house is inspired by the London life, tiny residence; small foldable table as dining area, a small kitchen, an area to chill where a hammock ins hanged and not to forget the library the main part of the installation.

The library is made from stackable layers of foam , translucent acrylic, terrazo to shape bookshelves form.

The other materials used in the exterior facade of the cabin are copper panels and copper mesh to provide a reflection of the surroundings .

The project is a great solution for integration and social interaction with people from different culture, it can also enhance the acceptance of diversity .



CASE STUDIES

MINIMA MORALIA BOANO & PRIŠMONTAS ARCHITECTS

In London architecture festival



Minima Moralia is modern installation, a cellular pop up idea proposed as a “social experiment” in London.

This design piece is created by the architects Tomaso Boano and Jonas Prišmontas as a response to the “damaged lives” in London and aiming to shelter the creative minds of people who can afford the expensive rents of the city.

They name it a “Manifesto of social hope”, dedicated to young artists by giving them opportunities to practice their professions in affordable studios. The studios can be installed in empty lots of the cities, roofs of buildings, parks, abandoned backyards to bring back life to those places.

Each artist can bring their own tools and implement their own workspaces in those framework spaces that can be customized differently depending on the function.

To be able to interpret the idea of interconnection between private and public, the architects designed the spaces in a “minimalistic structure”, steel framework skeleton and translucent walls. This communication and relation with outside is also shown by the wide openings and the canopy and the canopy.

The configuration of this design piece is a great opportunity to refresh the future living idea by the flexibility and openness of the place as well as the integration and connection between private and public.

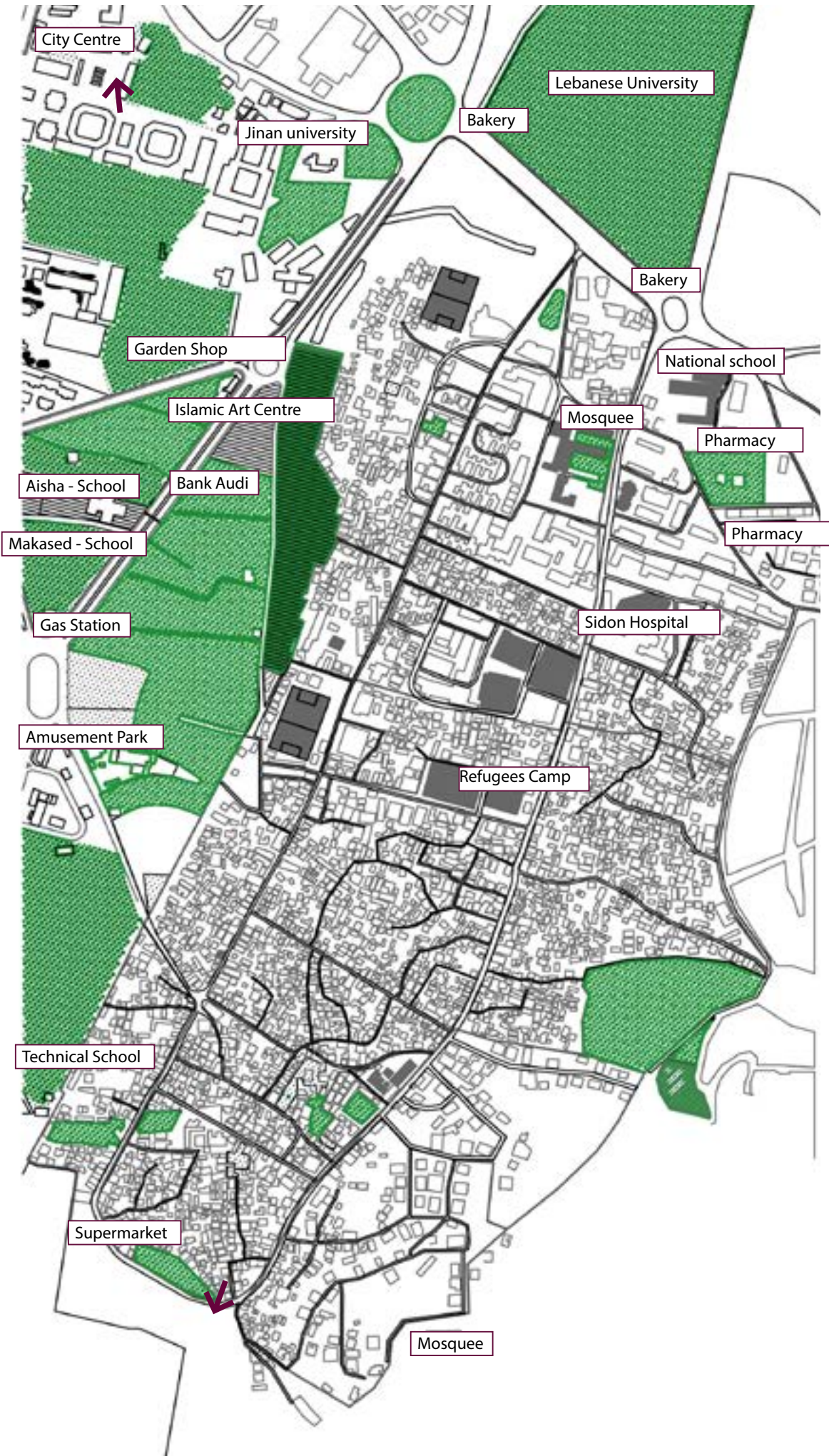


VIII.POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

EIN EL HELWE CAMP

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

SITE CONTEXT



CONCEPT



*A critical installation, a manifesto of social
hope with no political intention*

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

CONCEPT

The project can form a **Window of connection** between the LGA project (the ecosystem journey) and the refugee camp and will take the typology of an **Installation** within the Ein el helwe camp .

Trying to promote the integration of the refugees with the local communities, this project cwan be integrated and spread all over the camp, on the roofs, dead end narrow roads following the typology of their buildings and Saida archeology.

This **framework structure** will form a tiny **cellular pop up spaces** with different function each inhabited by the refugees to share and manage activities that enhance their education, cultural exposure, social integration, economical status and awarness.

My target is giving hope to Women and children of the camp ; the future and stability of the upcoming generations.

Hoping that they will be able to feel a sense of ownership and attachment to the project.

Flexibility, openness and sustainability are the status of this green project.



CONSTRUCTION METHODOLOGY



This window of connection is a modular, grid system giving providing an open and flexible space .

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

CONSTRUCTION METHODOLOGY

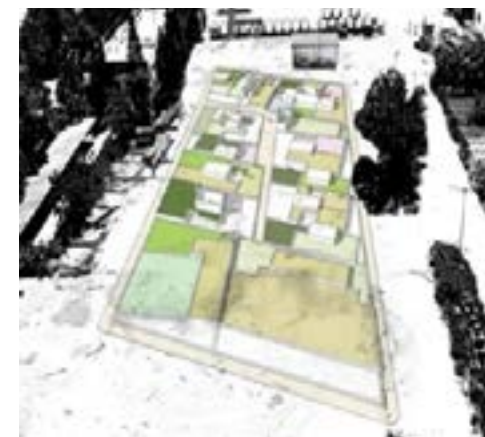
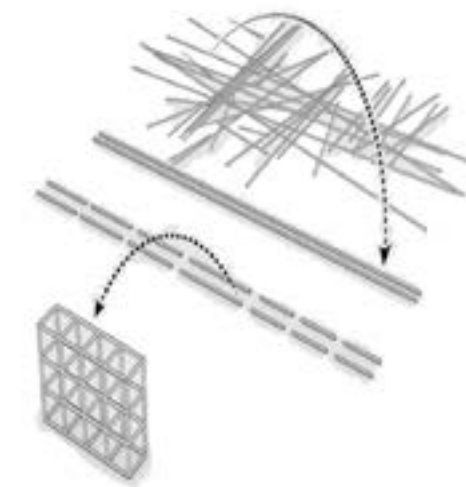
The **modular units** can be combined , easy to assemble, disassemble and reassemble in order to meet the changing needs of he occupants.

This **Naked minimalistic structure**, comprises a structural skeleton , and a translucent cover and facade that can be able to communicate the outside with the inside, to establish a relation and an interaction with the outside and surroundings.

Adding to this, modular wooden urban-furniture is combined to create informal seating areas and gardens demonstrated the flexibility nd continuity with the environment and the structure as a whole.

The units featured wooden frames with louvers that can create different levels of privacy depending on the function of the space.

The typology of the installations will follow the space built in, taking into consideration the configuration and the characteristics of this complex random urban system; the narrow and dark alleys, difference in buildings heights and form, no open areas, orientation , dimensions, ...



MATERIALS AND TECHNICALITIES



This window of connection is a modular, grid system giving providing an open and flexible space .

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

MATERIALS AND TECHNICALITIES

Using **wood** since it is a local resource and found in abundance in Lebanon. The installation can be made from- **Light wood framed construction** built entirely on site, piece by piece by the intervention of the inhabitants since all components are not heavy so they can be easily carried by hand and allows then quick construction program.

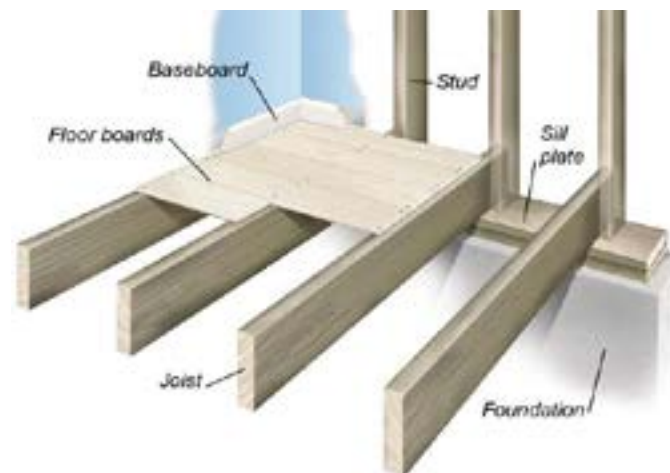
Wooden structure can be clad or associated with a variety of materials. Joints can be the interlocking wooden bars together with specific cuts or even using simple screws.

With this building method the platform or foundation is built first, followed by the walls of the first level of the space and created with vertical pieces of laminated veneer lumber LVL, and then an additional platform for the roof and floor that can be from oriented strand board OSB.

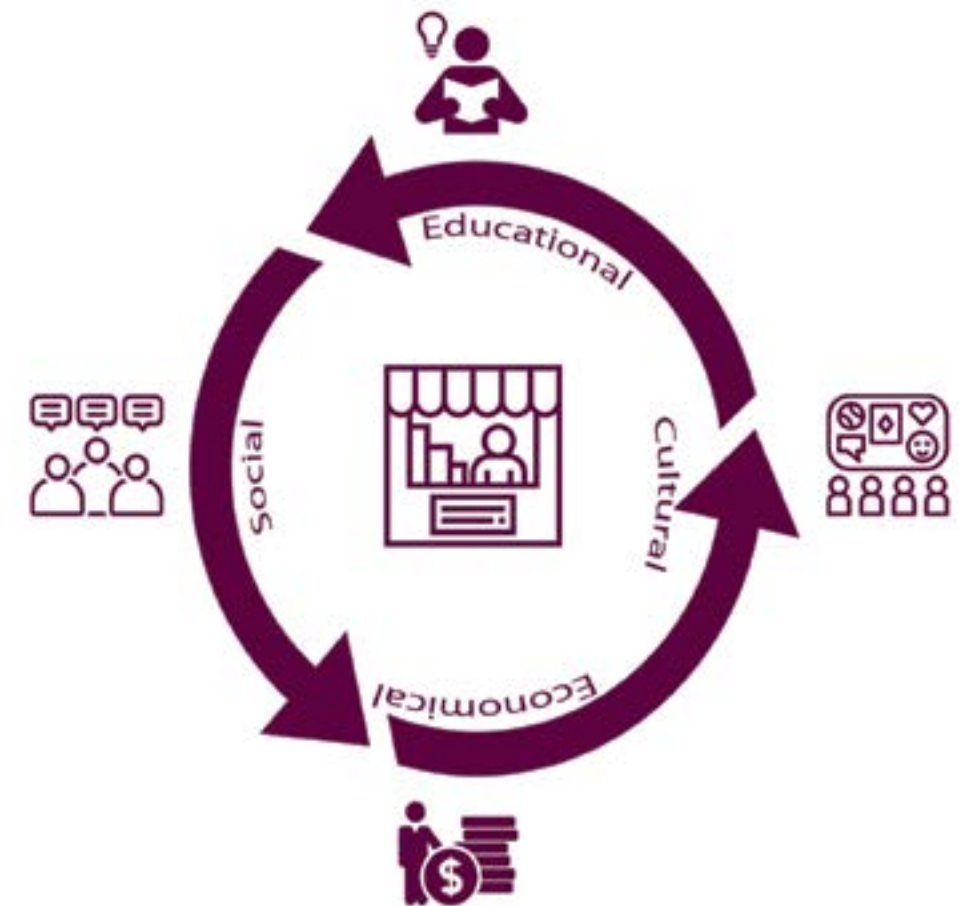
This method reduce waist in site

It reduced risk of delay if any weather condition.

Not a complex treatment needed for maintenance.



PROGRAM



The project represents a cultural, educational, social and entertainment hub .

Where people can meet , socialize, grow plants, where women can learn the essence of their rights, and kids get to know how to create a brighter future.

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE PROGRAM



POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE PROGRAM



POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE PROGRAM

Education area

- Social education, rights awareness, equality, racism, ...
- Language courses
- Cooking classes
- Health (First Aid, safety, security risks)
- Sports training
- Network and innovation
- Design courses
- Library, bookstore

Workshops area

Planting, Hand craft, cooking, First aid,
life coach, awareness

Exhibition space

- Present work done by the refugees to the public
- Exhibition of known artist
- Cinema projection

Playground

Sports facilities
Activities (dance, football, meditation
...)

Bike sharing Service

Agro-Economy

Market place, selling handmade products done by refugees.

Growing plants

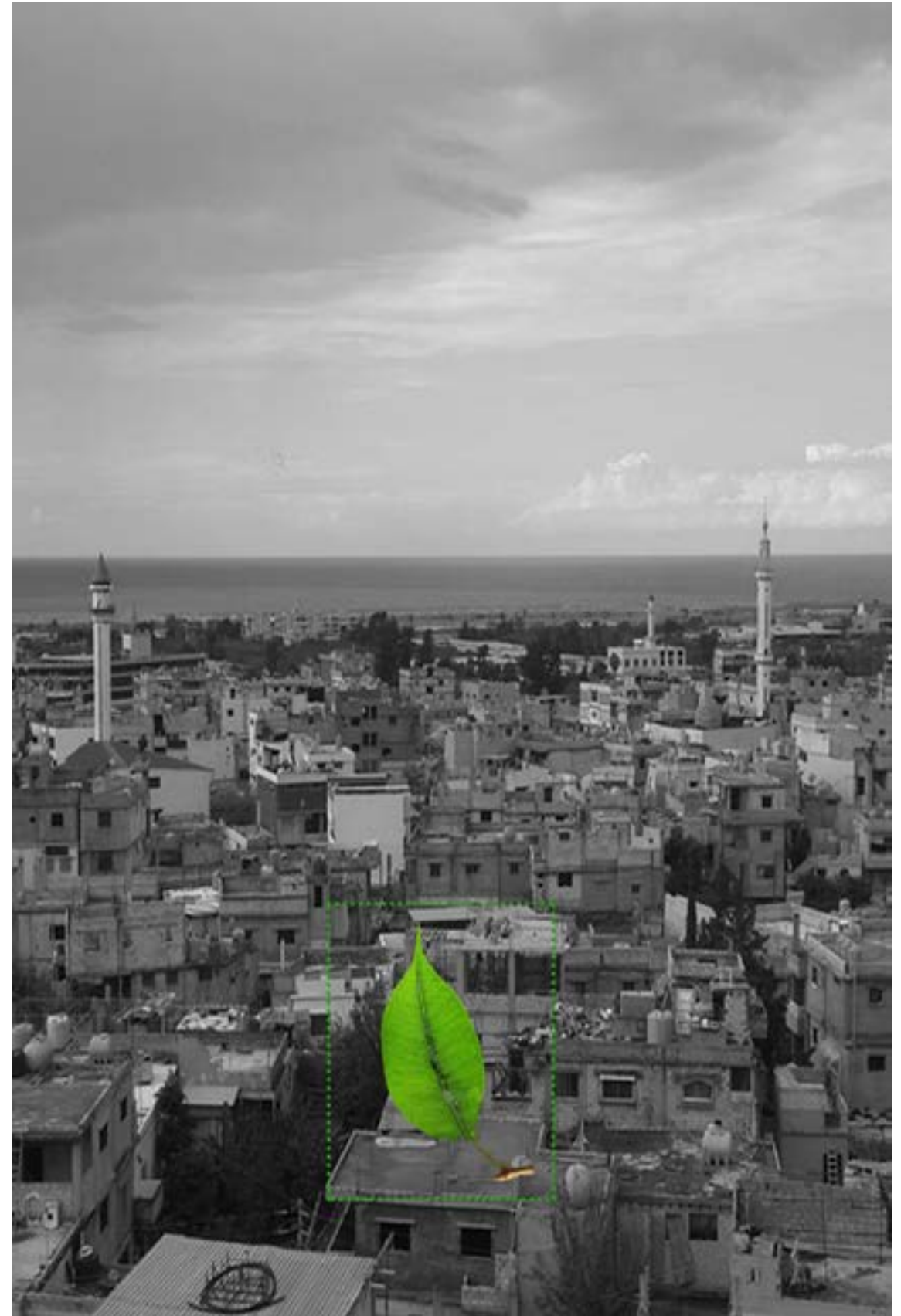
Resto-Café with organic products



POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE PROGRAM



SUSTAINABILITY



A space just to take a breath...

POTENTIAL DESIGN RESPONSE

SUSTAINABILITY

Waste management, collecting garbage.

Green roofs planting that can provide a food source if used for urban farming

Solar panels on the planters to produce electricity for low energy consumption.

Low cost materials

The timber construction industry works using **environmentally-friendly and sustainable raw materials** which provide a good ecological balance.

Reduce waist while building on site.

Low CO2 emissions, by a simple design, local materials.



IV.DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

A city structure, depends on two fundamental factors, first the physical skeleton of the city which means the buildings, the planning, the urban furniture and the services and then the social structure by that the system of human activities based on the interaction.

The interaction between those two features provides a better living space.

A refugee camp is supposed to be a temporary settlement that accommodate displaced people from their home country. But what if? there is no home left to be back to? Well actually this temporary accommodation become a permanent one and respecting to that it can be transformed to an actual city.

This is what happened in Ein el helwe camp, the case study taken in my research.

The physical structure is deteriorated before being built, but what can we do if there is no cover , no funding , no care or importance given to those residents. The camp lack of the basic conditions needed for a decent living space .The project proposed in the thesis isn't directed for the amelioration of this skeleton neither the improvement into the planning of the camp or the roads network .

In fact the project is trying to create an intervention full of hope to their existing bad living conditions. The activities and programs provided in the cellular spaces can improve their acceptance to the situation so by that improvement in their **social structure**.

This interaction among the refugees can enhance their interconnection with the world outside.

A woman 's role in camps is important.

Her presence usually there, isn't safe, the norms about violence aren't well indicated. Are Women able to challenge this situation in an environment where men dominate by the lack of education and openness?

The programs proposed for women in terms of education entertainment and disciplines in camps can help them in re-building their lives. In camps women are the ones responsible to feed their families, to educate and take care of their kids. These programs have an aim of empowering women , developing their roles and teach them to be aware of their demands and rights and their ability to be breadwinners in their family beyond the classic knowledge of motherhood and being a submitted wife .

Children under age represent the future , the generation that can hold hope for the society . Children in camps should grow up in a peaceful environment , one that can educate and provide them with the essentials of a success life. Activities like design courses can develop their creativity and imagination and by drawings and paintings they can translate their dreams and needs.

Planting activities for example can teach them responsibility and respect.

But can activities and programs alone build a new productive educated extrovert generation?

DISCUSSION

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

It is known that the urban form and structure of a city or a physical structure is a major focus on how it is socially stable or not, this creates a socio- spatial segregation relationship. The social structure and the physical separation of different social classes or groups in the same city define how the urban form of the city is shaped. The camp spatial integration and urban configuration in the city tend to provide opportunities for the refugees on many levels. The programs and activities provided in spaces in the camp can have an impact and sense of awareness for them, the experience people enjoy there reflects the qualitative spatial form of the city which is a powerful tool for inhabitants to be satisfied and well integrated.

Accessibility, Legibility and intelligibility are the key concepts to the urban growth of a settlement.

They assure an easy comprehension and navigation in a space for a better interconnection of spaces in a way to create a social spatial integration.

Common areas in a city or public spaces represent the living room for the inhabitants, there where people can meet, socialize, listen, understand and participate in the society.

Providing an improvement in the spatial configuration of the camps and by the cultural, educational social programs. It can improve the socio-economic life of the residents and can limit the social segregation starting from a small scale.

The main aim of those programs proposed is trying to create places that gather citizens together for various reasons and activities. It is a symbolic meaning of “coexistence” where individuals and groups learn to respect and tolerate “others”. Thus, we can limit negativity, decrease conflicts among inhabitants of the camps as well as eliminate ignorance and introversion.

The acceptance of their situation is pushing them down and making them losing hope in their future.

Some of them always try to develop their abilities and ambitions but they are only achieved with external help and intervention.



X.CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

The world undergoes the process of “Rapid urbanization”, a major concern that confronts our globe today, together with other developments, like climate change, environmental degradation, economic and financial instability, an increase of the world’s population is happening. “Around 250 million migrants currently live outside their countries of birth, making up approximately 3.5 percent of the world population.”

In this context, it is important to consider the case of refugees in urban areas. “According to UNHCR’s most recent statistics, almost half of the world’s 10.5 million refugees now reside in cities and towns, compared to one third who live in camps.”

This increase does not cover only the change in size but it is also a change in the composition of the refugees. Refugees back in the 1950s were mostly young men who are able to work and be productive in the society and survive by their own.

However, Nowadays refugees are mainly women and children. This part of the society who confronts major issues, like violence, gender inequality, protection risks and many others. In fact despite all the problems that refugees can bring to the hosting country socially, they can cause job losses and higher unemployment for locals, causing change in the socio-economic stability of the country.

But we can never deny the benefits behind this flow of immigration to the hosting country.

Immigrants are Nobel prize winners, they are champions in sports and football teams. They are chief executive officers of some well known high tech firms like McDonalds, Microsoft, Google. Talking business, immigrants tend to accept labor works that natives will never accept with lower wages.

They fill the gap on different levels and occupations. Whether they are a load or a benefit to the society, refugees act and deal with their life depending on the opportunities presented to them; economically, socially, educationally or employment ...After all, what matters in short is the **integration between refugees and local communities**. European cities face mostly this challenge. In 2016 a framework of urban inclusion was settled in order to find new solutions.

Cities were asked to add new solutions to their migration policies involving NGOs, organizations, citizens, politicians and financial departments in order to adapt to the new changes and situations happening around.

Kilian Kleinshmidt, is a great example, one of the world’s leading person on humanitarian aid. He founded “Switxboard; a connectivity project to “democratize access to global knowhow”, a project that can liberate refugees from the idea that if they are poor financially so they only have to survive, but in fact they can contribute to the innovation, they can access the high tech world and find solutions for their own problems and be more integrated with the world. “We have to look at camps as living places and we have to stop looking at refugees as helpless victims.”

CONCLUSION

Taking Germany as an example, it is considered the main destination country for refugees.

Germany is following nowadays a new strategy of integration. One where refugees can feel home in their hosting country. After the Syrian war they tried not to repeat the same mistake they did in 1960s with the Turkish guests.

The integration policy taken covers; language learning, job training and good urban integration of the camps. With around "600 hours of language lessons " and fast work permits it has been shown success directly through filling the gap in the labor market. The combination of professional, practical work and language barriers initiates a great integration together with the acceptance of the "other" culture diversity .

Germany now is in the top and strongest cities list in Europe concerning the economy. The unemployment percentage is at lowest since 1990s and if it stays constant 7 years a row it, "Germany can put a side a budget of 10 billions euro a year dedicated only for refugees."

Austria and Sweden are also two main hosting cities where the Asylum applications percentage reached 3.5% and 3.3% respectively in 2017 in the EU member state. In Sweden 50% of the arrivals were below 18 and 22 % of unaccompanied minors registered in Austria. This is an important problem facing the integration process since this part of the society needs the most education and training programs.

The mandatory integration courses required by all hosting countries is improving the socio-spatial integration as well as labor market integration and thus decreasing the conflicts caused by the refugees. This process, the inter-cultural awareness and openness is an approach made by the two parties, the refugees from one part and the government or citizens in the second part. The recognition of the refugees qualifications, the fast track process, the opportunities they offer, improving the quality of living and good accommodation conditions all this measures the interconnection level in a city. In some cases, situations are totally different. Refugees of Ein el helwe don't need for example to learn the Lebanese language since they know Arabic although they would need French and English to feel more integrated.

The prohibition of working outside the camp and the social segregation they are facing with the Lebanese is a major concern that can't be solved in a day or two.

How much can the cultural, educational programs and the future living spaces proposed above answer the refugees needs? Till when they will still be considered refugees devoided from their basic human rights. and till when they will still be called "refugees"? If 70 years weren't enough how much do they have to wait? Anti immigration policies are they considered racism, xenophobia or they are because of a fear , a fear of changing demographics configuration and civic identity.

What is life between two worlds?

CONCLUSION



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