Education for Refugees in Lebanon

Background
In the early months of the 2012 Syrian crisis and the consequent influx of refugees, AVSI Foundation, active in various parts of Lebanon since 1966, set up a program to address the basic needs of the children and families who found refuge in makeshift shelters and tents in Southern Lebanon. AVSI has always adopted a “person-centered” approach, trying to focus on the most vulnerable refugees, like those living in Informal Tented Settlements (ITS), and particularly children.

Ongoing Crisis
Today in Lebanon, there are over 1 million refugees, more than one third of the total number of displaced people in the region. The continued influx of refugees has resulted in a crisis situation. Emergency and development responses need to work together to better support the needs of Syrian, Iraqi, Palestinian and Lebanese refugees. AVSI currently works in more than 85 ITS in the districts of Marjayoun and Hasbaya, Southern Lebanon, reaching 6,000 people and providing education support to children and youth and basic needs to families.
AVSI’s Interventions

Thanks to donations made to AVSI-USA and AVSI Foundation, around 1,107 vulnerable children living in the region of Marjayoun have improved their social, health and economic conditions and those of their families.

With the support of the European Union and other international donors, Early Childhood Education sessions are offered to children aged 3-5 years who have no access to kindergarten, in 11 tents installed in different camps. In addition, children can enroll in Basic Literacy and Numeracy courses accompanied by recreational and psychosocial awareness activities for their age and needs. Meanwhile, parents are encouraged to attend awareness sessions held by our specialized teams, covering a range of critical topics.

AVSI is supporting vulnerable youth aged 14-24 living in ITSs by offering vocational training and programs that include educational activities in a range of technical working skills for more than 30 specializations, in addition to Basic Literacy and Numeracy and Life Skills sessions.

AVSI, in partnership with the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS) and Lebanese municipalities, is implementing projects offering vulnerable people Cash for Work: refugees receive a financial recognition for their work after helping with tasks like the rehabilitation of public buildings and land-use/green spaces management.

AVSI regularly distributes food kits, mattresses, blankets, kitchen kits, hygiene kits, drinking water, plastic sheets. AVSI also installs water tanks and makes site improvements in a number of ITS throughout Lebanon.