

## LEBANON: EMERGENCY RELIEF

In June 1982, Lebanon was again invaded by Israeli military forces. This prolonged and extremely destructive action once more calls for a humanitarian response by the American people. As ANERA's friends are aware, ANERA has long provided relief to victims of conflict and war in Lebanon through local organizations which serve the population irrespective of religion or sect. We are now making a special appeal on an emergency basis to help meet this great emergency need. In these tragic times we urge you to send donations to ANERA earmarked for relief in this war-torn, unfortunate country.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SPECIAL  
DONATION NOW.**

## BUILDING A FUTURE

President Truman, in his 1949 inaugural address, described his vision of the purpose behind a new American involvement in development activities: "Our aim should be to help the free people of the world through their own efforts, to produce more food, more clothing, more materials for housing and more mechanical power to lighten their burdens." Over thirty years have passed since that speech and the term "development" has come to imply a myriad of efforts and perspectives; but the basic goal is still the same. One expert comments that "Development should mean that . . . each individual must have a wider range of choices available for realizing the fullest human potential."

Before the Second World War, humanitarian efforts to help poor people around the world were solely the responsibility of the private sector. Faith in the benefits of industry and capitalism encouraged the hope that improved national economies would naturally lead to better conditions for poorer citizens; and faith in God and the church guided American missionaries to tend to the health and education of the most remote and impoverished. In 1923, Charles Hughes, then U.S. Secretary of State, responded to an inquiry about aid that "It is not the policy of our government to make loans to other governments, and the needed capital if it is to be supplied at all, must be furnished by private organizations."

The transition from this attitude in 1923 to Truman's in 1949 occurred in three rapid stages. Immediately after the Second World War, the U.S. government promoted the creation of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to provide medical supplies, food and clothes to 40 countries that had suffered attacks from the Axis powers. By 1947, American fears about the spread of Communist influence inspired Truman and Congress to bolster and rebuild the European nations through the European Recovery Program, known as the Marshall Plan. This ultimate plan, the "aid to end aid" quickly expanded to encompass the broader goals expressed in Truman's 1949 speech. Aid was extended first to South Korea and Taiwan, then throughout Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

The expansion of relief programs from Europe to the less developed areas of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East forced an immediate reassessment. Within a few years it was obvious that what Europe possessed in skilled manpower, industry, financial and other services, the "underdeveloped" world lacked by definition. Straight forward relief programs that worked well in Europe proved inadequate for even beginning to address the complex of needs confronting developing nations. Thus the distinction evolved between short-term relief programs, designed to alleviate immediate stresses as the result of war or natural catastrophe, and longer-term development projects that attempt to plan and construct the basic channels within a society to provide health and educational services, or improve income through agriculture or industry.

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*BUILDING, continued*

Although the U.S. government has encouraged and funded a great variety of development projects around the world, private agencies, both religious and secular, have a long history of working among the world's poor, greater flexibility, lower overhead, and often function as the workhorses of these development goals. Guarding their independence from U.S. foreign policy priorities, private agencies are free to work wherever they perceive the greatest need, and claim their success is due to "a scrupulous non-involvement in the internal political affairs of host countries."

There may be as many approaches to Third World development as there are agencies involved. Some American agencies export both people and technological know-how to help develop systems for agriculture, roads, water distribution or industry; others bring young people to the U.S. for advanced training in technical fields. The "Green Revolution" promotes new varieties of grains that are healthier and more productive to countries suffering from food shortages. Some programs attempt to improve large scale industries and government bureaucracies to enhance services available to poor people; others focus their attention on community institutions or individuals—"grass roots" programs. The common denominator within all of these efforts is the attempt to identify a few key factors in the society that contribute to the overall distress of the population, and focus on resolving those problems, using available resources. For example, in an agricultural area where the majority of the labor force is moving to the cities to look for work, a development project would attempt to find the key factors that might help enhance farmer income from agriculture and thus halt emigration to overcrowded cities. That may include improved well design for irrigation, new equipment, better seeds and fertilizers and access to rural credit. Equally important is the establishment of locally controlled institutions which can provide needed economic and social services.

On the following pages of this Newsletter, we will describe how ANERA projects fit into this "development picture". ANERA's philosophical and organizational changes since its creation in 1968 reflect many of the changes in the development world as a whole. Started as a relief program to answer immediate needs of Palestinians made homeless or impoverished by war, ANERA gradually expanded into a development agency to help Palestinian institutions establish and rejuvenate health, education, agricultural and municipal services. Our history as a private agency was also influenced by U.S. policy in the Middle East when the U.S. government first established development funds specifically for the West Bank and Gaza Strip after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. A large part of the credit for ANERA's transition from relief program to development projects goes to our Middle East Representative, Henry Selz, who is described in the following story.



*Henry Selz (left) with Director Fathi Touri of Ramallah Poultry Cooperative, an ANERA-assisted project.*

## **ANERA REP RECEIVES AWARD**

On May 17, 1982, Henry O. Selz, ANERA's Middle East Representative received an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Haverford College in Pennsylvania. In recognition of his lifelong work in Third World Development, the presentation of his degree was introduced with high praise. "A concern for others draws him to the lands of difficulty: beneath contention he finds the common longings for food, peace with justice, and a good joke. His commitment communicates to Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jew. Henry Selz is what we all might be if we had the courage to live our principles."

Born in Illinois in 1923, Mr. Selz completed one year of college at Northwestern University before joining the American Field Service as an ambulance driver in North Africa during the Second World War. He completed a B.A. in English at Harvard in 1948, and travelled to India and Pakistan to work for the American Friends Service Committee assisting the refugee exchange between the two countries. His continued work for the Quakers took him to Calcutta for over two years before he joined the staff of the U.S. AID (then called the International Cooperation Administration) in Washington, East Pakistan and Afghanistan.

In 1957, Mr. Selz began a sixteen year career with CARE, directing relief and development programs in Yugoslavia, Sri Lanka, Guatemala, Pakistan, Iran, Turkey, Bangladesh, Kenya and Nigeria. His experience and sense of humor fill his conversations with entertaining stories. Working in Bangladesh in 1971 at the time of her independence from West Pakistan, Mr. Selz tells the story of planning for the projected six months it would take for the refugee populations to resettle on respective sides of the Bangladesh-India border. In two months, the refugees resettled themselves without using any of the planned crossing facilities. A notice was issued by the new government

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Development, as the term implies, is the process of building and reshaping a society and its economy. In a traditional society, the economy is based on the small farmer, producing just enough for his family's immediate needs. A developed society, on the other hand, has a complex system of agriculture, industry and financial services, each sector interdependent on the others.

As illustrated below, the transformation process itself is complex, requiring a healthy, educated work force as well as capital and appropriate technology. And although methods of development may vary, the final goal remains the same: to help people work for a decent standard of living.

## AGRICULTURE

Malnutrition is common in large parts of the world today, due not only to chronic shortages of food, but also to unbalanced diets. As the population grows, the need for increased and more varied agricultural production becomes more and more crucial. One of the biggest challenges in development is to help farmers improve their production so that they are not only self-sufficient, but yield a surplus, necessary to feed the ever expanding urban populations. This is especially true on the West Bank and Gaza Strip where, although starvation is not prevalent, the quality of life remains poor.

While all farmers share many similar problems in their efforts to improve production, the Palestinians in the Occupied Territories are faced with unique setbacks and restrictions. Much of the best land has been expropriated, leaving them with only hilly fields and rocky soil. They have no control over their water resources, vital to agriculture in an arid climate. Lastly, they have no central government to help in the planning, implementation and financing of the large scale projects necessary if agriculture is to become a profitable occupation in the changing economy. These factors, among others, create a cycle of dependency on international aid—a situation Palestinians are working hard to overcome.

Although the main goal of improved agriculture is to end hunger, increased production benefits small farmers in other ways. More crops mean increased income for farmers and their families, allowing them a better standard of living. The extra cash can be used for further improvements to their farms or for basic necessities—food they can't produce, medicine and schooling for the children. Equally important, the increased income allows people to remain on the land instead of migrating to overcrowded cities in search of jobs.

To meet the problem of improving agricultural production, new, uncultivated lands must be brought into use. In addition, farming methods and equipment must be modernized to increase production on cultivated lands. One way Palestinians are attempting to realize the most from their land is through membership in a cooperative. Farmers pool their resources and share the costs of mechanization. In return they have access to bulldozers, irrigation equipment and other modern machinery that they could not afford individually. Unlike the agricultural sector in many parts of the world, land and manpower are in short supply on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Therefore, instead of relying on labor-intensive projects, development in the Occupied Territories tends to be capital-intensive, concentrating on obtaining the maximum yield from the available land and limited personnel.

ANERA has traditionally supported self-help projects in which Palestinian farmers, through their cooperatives, are actively involved in all phases of the work and are responsible for at least half of the financing. A series of projects proposed by the Tarqumiya Agricultural Cooperative illustrate how well-planned development projects reinforce one another and become building blocks for further, more complex projects. The first step involved purchasing a bulldozer and tractors to reclaim unused land and improve land only marginally productive. A revolving loan fund was set up enabling farmers to borrow money at low interest rates for improvements to their fields, including planting of the newly reclaimed lands. As the major crop is olives, which take 6-7 years to begin producing, most farmers would be unable to tie up their money for that long without

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Ellen F. Toomey

From growing olives ...



Ellen F. Toomey

... To making soap

## EDUCATION

**If you plan for a year, sow the seed  
If you plan for a decade, plant a tree  
If you plan for a century, educate the people  
(Chinese Proverb)**

Education is the first step toward development. While industry, agriculture, financial services and the basic infrastructure of government are all important factors in developing a society, they cannot be accomplished successfully without an educated people. The complex tasks demanded by such development can only be fulfilled by an equally diverse educational system, which can prepare farmers as well as administrators, bankers as well as mechanics, for their jobs. Developed countries have an elaborate educational system which encompasses universal public education as well as advanced training for technical jobs. For those who, for any number of reasons, cannot pursue a formal education, non-formal educational programs answer some demands for literacy or vocational training. For example, rural communities with small populations dispersed over large areas benefit from the experience and technical "know-how" of an agricultural expert who travels to their farms for on-site training. Or, a young child's future is enhanced because his uneducated mother has attended outreach classes in nutrition and hygiene.

Whereas the majority in developed countries complete some formal education, in underdeveloped countries the majority do not. Non-formal education in developing countries, therefore, takes on even greater importance, because it may be the only access a woman, rural resident, or poverty-stricken urbanite has to education.

Development issues in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are aggravated by the absence of a central, popular government. The physical and economic limitations of military occupation constrain the development of the institutions which should both educate and employ an educated population. As in all developing areas, in the Occupied Territories the need for skilled or highly educated manpower is greater than the opportunities available for employment. This lack of opportunity increases the "brain drain", which in turn, slows down future development of vital institutions.

In this sense, education has become the biggest "industry" in the Occupied Territories. Students who are trained near home are less likely to go abroad in search of employment. For this reason, ANERA supports indigenous educational institutions ranging from primary and secondary schools to vocational training institutes to colleges and universities.

A developed society needs more than college-educated leaders. The Industrial Islamic Orphanage, for example, trains 300 young men in five areas: upholstery, bookbinding, printing, carpentry, and furniture making. The quality of the items produced during their training is so high that families sign waiting lists to purchase the school's furniture. All of the graduates are masters in their trades on completion of the program, and are universally employed in the Occupied Territories.

The largest proportion of those who emigrate from the West Bank and Gaza Strip are men, leaving behind an unusually high percentage of families headed by women. However, a great many of these women are uneducated or

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AGRICULTURE, *(continued)*

this credit. (However, farmers do make some money during this time by planting vegetables in between the olive seedlings, serving to improve the general quality of nutrition as well.) In addition, an olive seedling nursery was established to provide farmers with a constant supply of healthy seedlings at a reasonable cost. These projects have been in successful operation for several years now, benefitting Palestinians through increased production, income and jobs.

## INDUSTRY

Another area vital to the development of any economy is industry. To be fully successful, industrial development must be integrated into the overall development scheme, laying the foundation for continuing economic growth. Typically, such development focuses on small scale industries using readily available resources. Thus, industries involved in transforming agricultural produce into refined goods are especially important.

In the Occupied Territories, industry remains very limited, due in large part to the lack of a central body to coordinate a general development plan and the lack of locally controlled financial institutions to provide capital for new industries. Palestinians must then turn to outside organizations (such as private agencies) for these vitally needed funds, forcing an even greater reliance on international aid. However, as with agriculture, Palestinians are organizing cooperatives to help build the industrial sector; often these are extensions of the agricultural cooperatives themselves.

On one level, farmers benefit directly from such small scale industries. Refined goods have a higher selling price than raw agricultural produce so farmers receive a greater return—if they have access to a processing plant. One example is the yet-to-be-built Tubas Regional Cooperative Flour Mill. Currently, farmers are forced to sell their wheat on the open market at cheap prices. They, and the rest of the population, must then buy flour milled from imported wheat at a higher cost. With the construction of the flour mill, farmers will receive the additional income. The local mill will also create a greater demand for their wheat (of higher nutritional value and generally preferred), allowing farmers to increase their production and raise their incomes even more.

The increased production of olives resulting from agricultural improvements in Tarqumiya and from similar cooperative projects throughout the West Bank led the way for further development on an industrial level. Initially, a series of olive presses were set up, allowing farmers to convert their crops directly into olive oil. Part of this oil satisfies local demand and the surplus can be exported at a higher price than unprocessed olives. However, with the building of a bottling plant, such as the ANERA-assisted project at Ein Sinyeh, farmers have another alternative. These facilities serve not only to bottle oil; here, quality is controlled and packaging is standardized in more convenient containers, making West Bank olive oil competitive in outside consumer markets. The last step on this development ladder is the Beit Jala soap factory, now in full operation. This factory makes soap from the previously poorly utilized byproduct of the olive oil pressing. This residue, called jift, can be pressed again; the resulting oil is suitable for industrial purposes, including the making of soap. Thus, the opening of the Beit Jala factory has changed an ill-used byproduct into both a source of extra farmer income and an important resource.

Well planned development provides benefits to the entire community. Increased income for farmers means they have more money to spend on other non-agricultural goods. This, in turn, raises the income of producers of these items. With the establishment of industry, new jobs are created running the plants and in the transport and marketing of the goods. Because demand for farm produce grows, industry also helps create jobs in the agricultural sector and provides additional incentives for people to remain on the land. Local industries increase the supply of necessary goods (i.e. flour, olive oil and soap), reducing the dependency on more expensive imports while better meeting the people's tastes and needs.

### EDUCATION, *continued*

have received only a few years of school. They must cope with the challenges of raising a family without the benefit of a formal education. Several outreach programs through local women's unions have been established which offer literacy programs, instruction in nutrition and hygiene, and short-term vocational training programs in embroidery and sewing; all of which are designed to help Palestinian women provide better care to their young and bring in much-needed additional income.

Women have an important role not only as the heads of households while their men are away, but also as the bread winners and leaders in their communities. A once male-dominated field, nursing, is now attracting women to its ranks because of the establishment of the ANERA-supported Arab College of Nursing five years ago, which offers a B.S. degree in nursing. Women nurses fulfill a two fold need in the Occupied Territories by providing improved health care services for all, and secondly, employing the potential heads of households and enhancing the quality of life.

## HEALTH

Try to imagine children playing next to an open sewer that runs down the middle of a busy, dusty street; or a young pregnant mother living in a shack that has no running water or electricity; or an agricultural worker dying from cholera because he drank contaminated water. Think of a child lying listless on his bed suffering from malnutrition and dehydration. As difficult as these scenes are to believe in our country, they are tragically familiar in the underdeveloped world. The lack of adequate health and community services do not only adversely affect the health of all concerned, but also the development of all sectors in such countries.

In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinians suffer from many of the health problems noted above, but must face these difficulties without the aid of a central government. ANERA supports a large number of women's unions, medical clinics and hospitals, as well as educational institutions which provide a wide spectrum of health services:

- Maternal and child health care
- Immunization against the major infectious diseases
- Prevention and control of locally endemic diseases
- Education concerning prevailing health problems
- Medical personnel (from laboratory technicians to nurses)
- Appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries
- Provision of essential drugs
- Proper nutrition
- Safe drinking water
- Basic sanitation

In the West Bank town of Nablus, the Arab Women's Union founded the Ittehad Hospital in 1971 to help meet the medical needs of the 70,000 residents. This hospital is considered to be the best in the area because it offers complete and exemplary medical services including facilities for surgery, mother/child health care, medical tests, and outpatient clinics. With partial funding from ANERA, Ittehad recently expanded its facilities and services to include a new operating room and an intensive care unit. In addition, a training course for practical nurses was introduced in 1976 to help address the critical shortage of nurses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Institutions like Ittehad Hospital are important not only for the obvious benefits of improved health care. They have what developers refer to as a "social benefit"—it is a benefit to the community to realize a successful example of self-improvement, of quality health care provided by and for Palestinians.

## ANERA'S AID TO LEBANON

Ambulances, first aid, blood banks, and training for nurses and technicians are all supported by ANERA's aid to clinics and hospitals in Lebanon. Distributed by the Palestine Red Crescent and Lebanese Red Cross Societies, ANERA's aid reaches 12 hospitals and 41 clinics which provide emergency care in war time and routine health maintenance in peace.

In past emergencies, ANERA has helped provide food, clothing and tents for displaced people. Medical teams visit the camps twice daily. The AMER medical division provides valuable contributions in the form of pharmaceutical and medical supplies; and rehabilitation centers provide artificial limbs and therapy for the wounded and handicapped.

The current statistics in Lebanon estimate 600,000 homeless and 40,000 casualties. By the time this Newsletter reaches you, the figures may be higher. Your help is crucial.

If you wish to express your concern about Lebanon, do not hesitate to write your Senators and Representatives:  
Addresses are:  
Your Senator, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Your Representative, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.



ANERA REP, continued

of Bangladesh encouraging citizen responsibility. "Independence isn't something that happens every day," it read, "This is only our second in 25 years."

Pursuing a lifelong proclivity for war zones, Mr. Selz began his work for the AFSC as the Middle East International Affairs Representative just before the 1973 Arab-Israeli war. During his two year assignment with the Quakers, his office and apartment in Cyprus shifted from Greek nationality to Turkish as a result of fighting between the two countries in 1974. (As you read this, Mr. Selz is again visiting a war-torn country, this time Lebanon, for ANERA's relief efforts.)

His work for ANERA began in 1976 when he established the ANERA office in Jerusalem. Summarizing his view of development work in the Occupied Territories, as well as everywhere else he has worked, Mr. Selz explained: "The critical thing is to undertake projects whereby people secure some measurable control over their existence—either they produce something that wasn't produced before or they acquire a skill they didn't possess before."



Sara Gentry

ANERA has received special gifts in memory of the following people:

Walter Baggaley ■ The Bliss Family ■ Anna Christy ■ G. Drury ■ Najati Kabbani ■ Paul and Viola Kincher ■ Bishop Raphael ■ The Mother of H. Gerard F. Siems, II ■ Andree Vanalest

In addition, ANERA has received gifts in honor of the following people:

Hattie Lilly ■ Mrs. H. Gerard F. Siems, II.

Enclosed is a special gift for ANERA's Emergency Relief to Lebanon.

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Contributions to ANERA are tax-deductible and should be sent with this form to the ANERA office. Thank you for your help.

*This issue of the ANERA Newsletter was written by ANERA staff members Ann Barhoum, Lucy Brown, and Alison Kelly.*

# ANERA

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## AMERICAN NEAR EAST REFUGEE AID

### BUILDING A FUTURE

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