

MR. ELIE AARAJ

Founder and Director of the SIDC Association (Soins Infirmiers et Développement Communautaire), which was established in 1987. Elie Aaraj completed his Masters degree in Community Health at the St Joseph's University, Lebanon after going on to complete a License in Nursing at the Lebanese University in 1982. Having qualified as a nurse, he worked in 2 hospitals in Lebanon, before becoming the Director of the Nurse-Aid Technical School at Hayek Hospital, Beirut, a post which he held for 2 years, then founded the SIDC.

Today, Mr. Aaraj is one of the founders and the Director of the Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRRA) Network, a regional corporate organization working towards promoting and advocating for harm reduction within the region. Mr. Aaraj is currently serving as the President of the Regional Network of NGOS working on HIV/AIDS in the Middle East and North Africa Region – RANAA.

Alongside his employment, Mr. Al Aaraj undertakes many other professional activities, many focusing on the prevention of substance misuse, harm reduction and HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Aaraj has undertaken three major pieces of research on drug use and prevention, and has published many resources for practitioners in this field.