



SHWAYRI RAIIF
(SPELLS ALSO CHOUERI)

CONTACTS

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OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION

- Fluent in French, English, and Arabic.
- Lebanese national. Resident of France.
- Born on 10 December 1968 in Hadath, Lebanon.
- Married to Reina Khoury and father of John (b. 2005), Helena (b. 2007), and Philip (b. 2009).

ABOUT

Specialist in Development and Sustainability, with corporate expertise in conceiving and implementing programs in health and rehabilitation, TVET, higher education, social entrepreneurship, economic development, capacity building and community engagement.

Acted as President & CEO, expert and consultant for twenty-eight years, working in countries at risk in the fields above, while bringing programs to economic sustainability.

Initiated and implemented celebrated models for development that rely on education, industry and community engagement:

- School-Enterprise
- An Education for the Real World
- Learning through Development

<https://raifshwayri.com/#Development-Specialist-Models>

EDUCATION

- MBA from Cardiff University (1993).
- Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering from King's College, University of London (1991).
- French Baccalaureate in Mathematics from Notre-Dame de Jamhour, Lebanon (1986).

AFFILIATIONS AND PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- Holder of the John W. Ryan Fellowship for International Education, bestowed by the State University of New York in 2012
<http://system.suny.edu/global/opportunities/jwr-fellowship/>
- President of the Board of Directors of Al-Kafaàt Foundation (from 2001 until 2007).

PUBLISHED BOOKS

- Nadim. Un Liban généreux. Les 2 Encres. Paris; 2008.
- Beirut on the Bayou. SUNY Press. New York; 2015.
- Beirut on the Bayou (film release). Louisiana Film Festival; 2019.
- Tilting at Windmills. 2019
- Tilting at Windmills (Arabic release). 2019
- Economically Sustainable Development: Practical Models for Long-Term Viability. Emerald Publishing. UK; 2021.

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PERSONAL CAREER

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT EXPERT, CONSULTANT, M&E SPECIALIST

SINCE FEBRUARY 2019

After a long experience of working in Developing Countries, I started my Consulting Firm to deliver doable solutions for development issues encountered by NGOs and development agencies globally.

<https://sagittaireinvest.com>

Keywords: grant-writing and fundraising; M&E; economic development; business startups; incubation; healthcare; TVET; education; capacity building; rural development; sustainability

- Undertook M&E missions in Developing Countries for European NGOs
- Advised international associations on Development initiatives
- Assisted associations in their grant-writing and fundraising endeavors

DEVELOPMENT EXPERT FOR THE HAITI INITIATIVE ENTERED BY THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AND THE KELLOGG FOUNDATION

SEPTEMBER 2015 TILL FEBRUARY 2019

The project brought ten universities and colleges from New York to work with a number of NGOs and Haitian universities to develop, with the local community, a sustainable large-scale campus to offer education and service through nonprofit and business endeavors. The initiative was considered a “big bet” project by the Kellogg Foundation.

<https://system.suny.edu/global/haiti>

Keywords: higher education; economic development; business startups; incubation; healthcare; maritime; agriculture; fisheries; food industries; hotel business; performing arts; heritage & conservation; capacity building; rural development; construction; student engagement; sustainability

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- Co-founded the Learning through Development program, now cornerstone of the SUNY/Kellogg Haiti initiative. The program offers a new paradigm where students in learning become agents of change for development initiatives globally.
- Consulted on the establishment of the Sustainable Village and Learning Community (SVLC) in Haiti. The SVLC offers:
 - Service and learning compound spread over 40 acres in Arcahaie, Haiti.
 - School-Enterprise model in multiple sectors: agriculture, fisheries, maritime shipping and passenger transportation, food processing and industry, hotel business, television and radio production and broadcasting.
 - Support to small enterprise by way of physical and virtual incubation.
 - Social workshops to empower individuals at risk: winery, perfume and soaps, 3-D printed orthotics and prosthetics production and supply, solar panels.
 - Health and rehabilitation center: internal medicine, women's center, pediatrics, emergency medicine, physical therapy, speech and occupational therapies.
 - Rural and community development: distribution of resources and allocation of businesses across the community (cattle, seeds, equipment ...) while centralizing marketing of ensuing products on local and international markets.
 - Performing arts, music, and heritage center.
- Participated in the effort to pool resources from across multiple campuses in New York (SUNY counts 64 campuses, with 80,000 faculty and near half a million students).
- Built the initial budget for the overall plan of action (+\$150 Million; 12 years in three phases). Participated actively in the fundraising efforts and communications strategies.
- Co-managed the start-up and structural developments.

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CEO OF AL-KAFAÀT FOUNDATION, LEBANON

SEPTEMBER 1999 TILL SEPTEMBER 2015

Al-Kafaàt is a large organization in Lebanon, founded in 1957 to serve the underprivileged populations. Endowed with the family wealth of its founder, Nadim Shwayri, Al-Kafaàt Foundation built into an umbrella organization that governs seven institutes, campuses, schools and a University, and delivers quality services to a population of five-thousand daily users.

Keywords: development; university education; training; healthcare; inclusion/integration; capacity building; social entrepreneurship; small-business development; economic sustainability; community engagement; advocacy.

- Managed 7 institutions, employing 600 full-time and 300 part-time staff, serving a population of 5,000 daily users (700 are residents).
- Managed and built the capacity of 12 programs for people with disabilities, serving a total of 1,200 permanent users and 300 out-patients (2015).
- Developed and managed 30 programs in general education and Vocational Training, serving a population of 1,900 students from socially deprived environments (2015).
- Started and managed the AL KAFAAT UNIVERSITY (AKU) which serves 1,500 students in 5 faculties (2015), with a growth of 20% new registrations every year. AKU promoted An Education for the Real World.
- Built the capacity of Al-Kafaàt institutions from 1,000 daily users (in 1999) to 5,000 (in 2015).
- Conceptualized, secured third-party funding, and implemented a large count of Development projects.
- Initiated partnerships with donor-organizations and government agencies in Holland, Belgium, France, Spain, Great Britain, Canada, and USA.
- Founded a Dutch Charity and organized its governance with the object of garnering European support to Al-Kafaàt Foundation in Lebanon.
- Led AL KAFAAT UNIVERSITY (AKU) to enter into an official affiliation with the State University of New York (SUNY) and to prepare for full recognition from a US Accreditation Agency.

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- Organized tailor-made training sessions in Lebanon for regional companies and Gulf-countries.
- Initiated and presided over a nationwide consortium of institutions, associations, and individual experts to advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in Lebanon.
- Managed Government-relations for Al-Kafaàt Foundation and the NCRPD.

DIRECTOR OF THE TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL INSTITUTE AT AL-KAFAÀT FOUNDATION, LEBANON

SEPTEMBER 1992 TILL AUGUST 1999

- Developed the capabilities of the institute from 250 to 1,500 students.
- Entered into partnerships with leading European leading public and private schools (SEPR in Lyon, the Academy of Besançon, the IUT of Belfort-Montbéliard, and the IRTS – Institut Régional du Travail Social), and accreditation bodies (Institute of Motor Industry - IMI, London).
- Implemented in Lebanon the British-awarded National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) since 1996.
- Led Al-Kafaàt Technical Institute (ITK) to partner with the Association of Lebanese Industrialists and to sit as an expert-member in the Association's Commission for Vocational Training (1994).