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عاما في
خدمة
فلسطين

مؤسسة
التعاون
WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Annual Report | 2008

A Continued Commitment to Sustainable
Development & Humanitarian Assistance in Palestine



Cover Photo: Gaza Seashore

•• **Our Vision** ••

The Welfare Association envisions an Arab Palestinian State which is independent, free and democratic, and in which its citizens live in prosperity, advancement, and self-fulfillment.

•• **Our Mission** ••

As a leading Palestinian non-governmental development organization, the Welfare Association is dedicated to making a distinguished contribution toward furthering the progress of the Palestinians, preserving their heritage and identity, supporting their living culture and building civil society.

“The Association is entrusted to us. We will continue the endeavour of the founding colleagues and maintain the Association's vision and goals. Our decision making will be guided by open dialogue and democratic participation.”

Dr. Nabil Hani Qaddumi
Board of Trustees, Chairman



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School Children, Gaza

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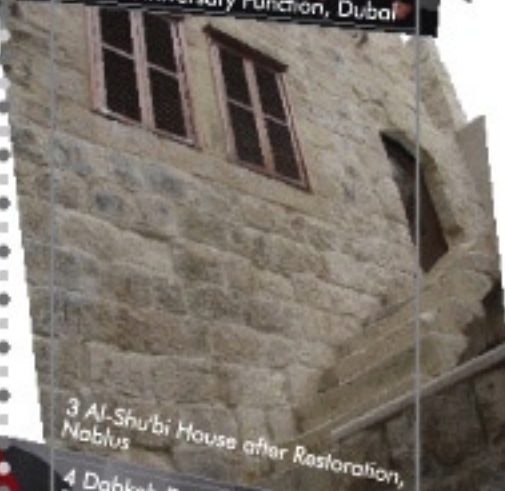
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The year 2008 was the 25th anniversary of Welfare Association's establishment. These years have been characterized by numerous challenges and obstacles due to the special and very sensitive political conditions prevailing in Palestine and the region. WA's achievements serve as the best proof of its success in contributing to the development process in Palestine and to building the capacity of Palestinians, preserving their heritage and identity, supporting their living culture and promoting civil society. This would not have been possible without all of the supporters of WA so it is with deep gratitude that we recognize them for trusting us throughout a quarter of a century.

The year 2008 witnessed a number of crisis situations, most notably the global financial crisis with its negative repercussions on all societies in the world, particularly for the poor. This has led to new and urgent challenges, requiring WA to demonstrate heightened attention and professionalism in order to overcome all challenges and maintain movement towards the ambitious developmental plans set out in the third Strategic Plan of 2008-2011. In this plan, WA focused its activities on expediting the development process in Palestine through innovative practical initiatives in all national sectors to raise the living standards of Palestinians, protect their rights and provide them with the best possible services. This plan, the result of thorough study and consultations involving WA members and staff, sets the vision and direction of the new younger leadership that took over responsibility of WA management in May 2008. This leadership is committed to building on the legacy of the founding generation and to maintaining the strong basis laid by the founders, which has been so instrumental for WA's reputation, credibility and transparency at the local, regional and international levels.

To give credit to those who most deserve it, WA decided to combine the celebration of its 25th anniversary with the celebration of a group of its founders; they were honoured in the main ceremony organized in November 2008 in Dubai under the auspices of HE Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan to celebrate 25 years of service to Palestine.

When reviewing the year 2008, we cannot forget the tragic events that dominated the year's end --- the aggression by the Israeli occupation forces against our people in the Gaza Strip. From the beginning of the violence, WA launched an urgent appeal calling for support to relieve our people in Gaza and respond to the humanitarian and medical needs arising from the offensive in Gaza. In the first stage, our efforts were divided into two channels: to respond to the basic humanitarian needs in order to relieve those directly affected, and to support the hospitals and medical centers. These efforts were launched immediately: food packages were distributed to affected families and fuel was provided to some hospitals and health NGOs. Work is still being undertaken to identify all of the needs arising from injuries and damages and to distribute aid materials. In addition to WA's emergency projects and programs in the current situation in the Gaza Strip, WA continues to provide comprehensive assistance to 2,000 of the most disadvantaged children and their families for one year, including the provision of food, clothing, health care and psychosocial support.



While recognizing the long and difficult path ahead of us, we value the achievements of WA during this past year. The total expenditure on programs and projects during 2008 was USD26.5 million, with 78% spent on projects in the West Bank, 10% on projects in Gaza Strip, 5% on projects in Lebanon, 3% in projects in the 1948 areas and 4% on projects covering two or more areas. In terms of sector disbursements, the Economic and Community Development Sector ranked first, absorbing 48% of total disbursements during the reporting period, followed by the Culture and the Arts Sector (16%), Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance (15%), and then the sectors of Education (9%), Health (6%), Agriculture and Environment (4%), and Policy and Advocacy (2%). Support to a number of vital projects in Jerusalem remains a major concern and priority. During the past year, WA disbursed about USD3 million on 77 projects under the Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program (OCJRP). These projects provided at least 18,000 work days for a large number of Jerusalemite professionals, practitioners, workers, and craftsmen. In 2008, the Jerusalem Community Fund, which offers grants to Jerusalem-based institutions, focused on projects benefiting youth in response to the pressure and marginalization facing this social group.

As part of its focus in promoting and supporting social responsibility among Arab philanthropic organizations, WA continued to actively support the initiative of the Arab Foundations Forum (AFF) to turn philanthropic efforts in the region into a reality. Through several meetings, the AFF members jointly developed by-laws specifying the Forum's vision, mission, objectives, activities and membership requirements.

In the framework of WA's vision for the year 2009, WA will magnify its efforts towards the realization of its mission of being the leading Palestinian developmental NGO. Obviously, any developmental course needs to be well-planned, implemented in the most effective and cost-efficient way, and monitored on an ongoing basis and according to the most up-to-date technical standards. Therefore, WA has focused on recruiting competent professionals and using information management systems in all aspects of its work.

Finally, I extend gratitude to all WA staff members, who have exerted relentless and creative efforts to achieve admirable accomplishments in spite of the many challenges. This is in large part due to the guidance, supervision and dedication on part of the leadership and members of the Board of Trustees and the members of the General Assembly, who have effectively invested their time, efforts and funds in steering the course of WA.



Dr. Atallah Shafiq Kuttab
Director General

INTRODUCTION

Welfare Association is a private, non-profit foundation established in Geneva in 1983 to support the Palestinian society in sustainable development. As a pioneering development Palestinian organization, WA dedicates its work to provide a unique contribution to support development efforts of Palestinians, help preserve their heritage and identity, support their living culture and develop their civil society.

1. Culture and Identity: to preserve the Palestinian culture and enrich the Palestinian heritage and identity.

2. Human Resource Development: to build the capacity of Palestinians in order to become empowered, productive, professional and capable of realizing their targets and aspirations and leading a process of productive social and economic change.

3. Institution Capacity Building: To build capacity of Palestinian NGOs in order to ensure effective and efficient service provision based on their own capacity and potential.

4. Emergency Assistance: To respond to emergencies affecting the Palestinian people and posing serious threats to their lives and wellbeing.

To enhance WA operations and upgrade its contribution to the Palestinian development process within the aforementioned tracks, WA activities are categorized according to 7 main sectors as follows:

Education: Aiming to contribute to ensuring universal access to and equal and expanded utilization of quality education for all Palestinians, especially for vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Culture and the Arts: Aiming to foster independent, dynamic and creative artistic and cultural expression in contemporary Palestinian society, rooted in Palestinian identity and heritage.

Economic and Community Development: Aiming to improve economic opportunities and social conditions of marginalized groups.

Health: Aiming to contribute to improving the health status of all, especially marginalized groups, while ensuring rapid response to emergency needs.

Legislation, Policy and Advocacy: Aiming to contribute to the development, implementation and enforcement of policies and legislations to ensure political, civil, social, economic and cultural rights of all Palestinians.

Agriculture and Environment: Aiming to contribute to the development of the agricultural sector and encourage and rationalize the utilization of natural resources to ensure food security and healthy and safe environment for the present and future generations.

Emergency Assistance: Aiming to ensure rapid and effective response and contribute to the relief and survival of Palestinians and ensure their decent living during emergencies.

Every sector includes a wide array of programs and projects that feed into the tracks of WA work and serve all social groups in the Palestinian society, particularly children, youth, the poor, students and persons with special needs.



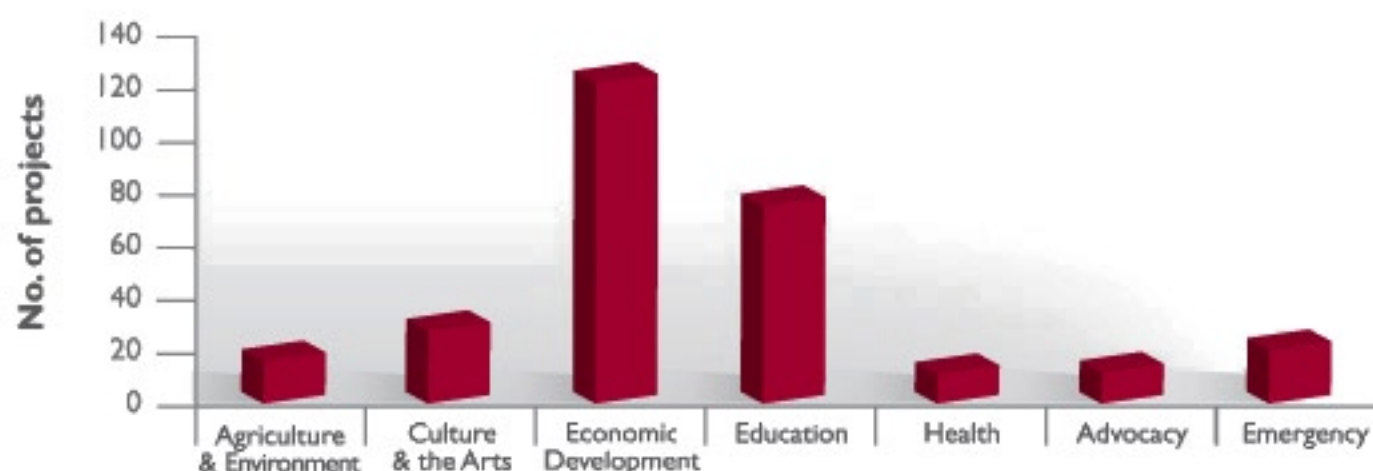
2008 AT A GLANCE

In 2008, WA supported the implementation of a number of developmental and emergency programs and projects that contributed to improve the lives of over one million Palestinians of all age groups, with a focus on children and youth. More than USD26.5 million was spent on the implementation of more than 298 projects in the various areas of operation. Total revenue mobilized in 2008 exceeded USD28 million.

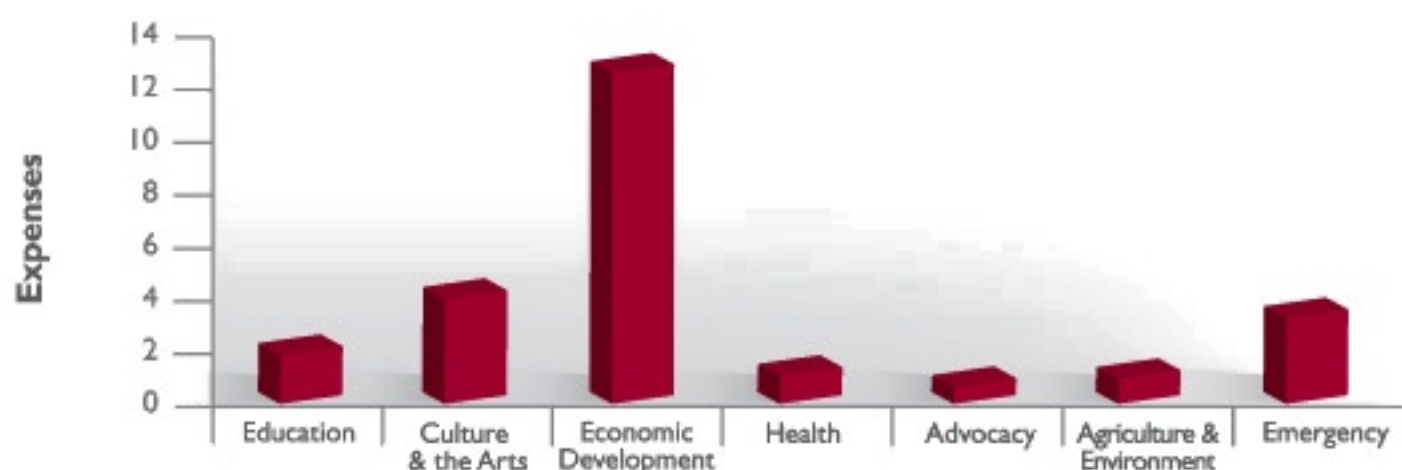
Projects per Sector

WA projects in 2008 were distributed to seven sectors, with three sectors consuming more than 79% of the total programme expenses. The largest proportion of expenditure was in the Economic and Community Development Sector (USD13 million), followed by Culture and the Arts (USD4.3 million), and Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance (USD3.8 million). The remaining 21% (equal to USD5.6 million) was spent on the remaining four sectors.

Number of implemented projects by sector



Expenditure by sector (USD million)



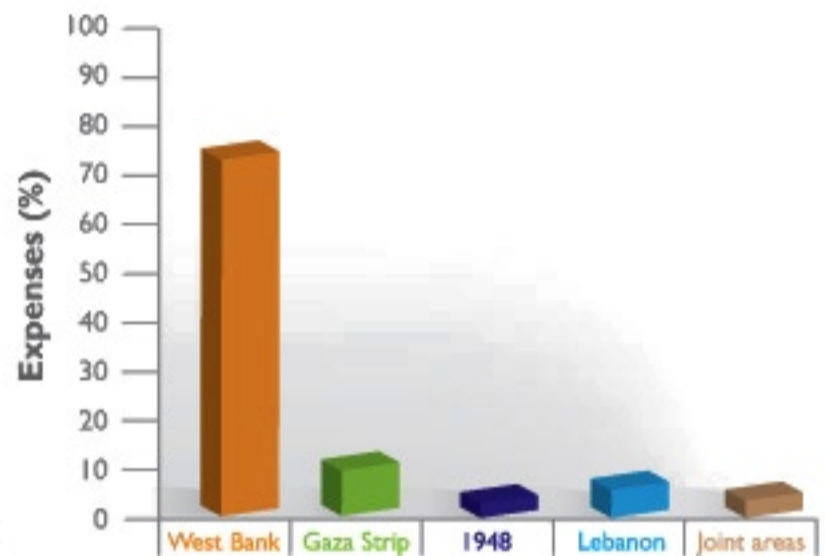
Projects According to Regions

Expenditure on projects implemented by WA varied from one area to another. The West Bank had the largest share at 78% (equal to USD20.8 million), followed by Gaza Strip at 10% (about USD2.6 million). The remaining 12%, or about USD3.18 million) was spent on projects in Lebanon, 1948 areas and other areas.

Number of implemented projects by geographic location



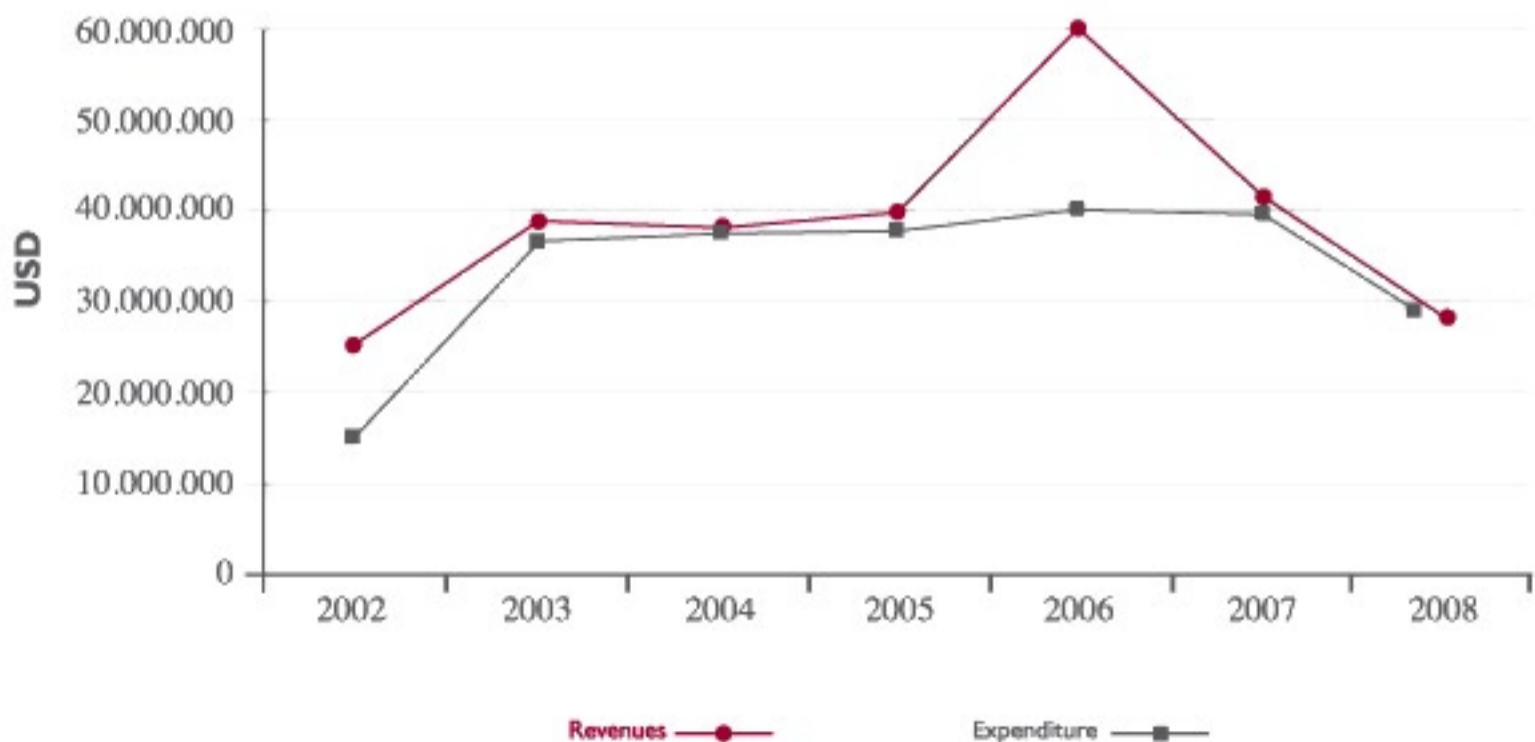
Expenditure by geographic location



Revenues

In 2008 revenues exceeded USD28 million, 68% donations and grants for programs, 25% for endowment, and 7% profits from investments.

Revenues and Expenditure Since 2002



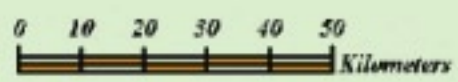
WELFARE ASSOCIATION AREAS OF OPERATION

Legend

- Areas Of Operation
- Areas Of Operation WBG



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EDUCATION



Overall Aim: To secure expanded and equitable opportunities to quality education for all Palestinians, particularly the most vulnerable.



Dar Al-Huda, Gaza



Overview

Despite decades of systematic attempts by the Israeli occupation to undermine Palestinian education, Palestinians have demonstrated determination to overcome the challenges and barriers imposed by the conflict on education – a major developmental sector in Palestine. The net enrolment rate in basic education in the Palestinian territories remains among the highest in the region, with remarkably high attainment rates in literacy, basic and higher education.

Since its establishment in 1993, the PA has been responsible for educational services for 1.1 million students in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Currently, it employs around 54,000 teachers and administrators and operates 3,300 schools. The Palestinian Ministry of Education was able to make significant gains in literacy levels, school enrolment and retention rates over the first decade of its operations. However, some of these gains have been eroded by the continued movement restrictions, and particularly Israel's construction of the Apartheid Wall, making going to school difficult for many students and teachers, particularly in the northern West Bank and around Jerusalem.

Quality education is a major focus and a challenge across all geographic regions of WA's work and at all educational levels, especially in view of the inability to provide an adequate sense of security and continuity. At the pre-school level, services have not been able to keep up with the growing population and observers are increasingly concerned about a decline in quality of Early Childhood Education and Development (ECED) services, not only in the West Bank and Gaza Strip but also within Palestinian communities in Lebanon and in the 1948 areas. Main reasons for this decline are attributed to the shortage of appropriate educational aids and materials, the decline in the number of qualified teachers, in addition to the low salary, forcing many employees in this sector to search for other jobs to help them earn a living for their families. Experts also cite a significant decline in the quality of Palestinian higher education over the past decade due to the prevailing political situation and the associated economic crisis. Palestinian universities and colleges are in need to search for sources of significant financial support in order to maintain operations. Continued provision of student financial support is likewise critical to ensuring that thousands of economically disadvantaged students in good academic standing are able to continue their higher education in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and in Lebanon.



School Girls, Jerusalem

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Education has been a principal area of intervention for WA since its establishment in 1983. The WA has administered over USD100 million in support of a wide range of projects and programs in ECED, basic and secondary education, vocational education and training (VET), higher education and non-formal education. WA's work in the education sector aims to facilitate expanded and equitable access to quality education for all Palestinians, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalized. WA strategy in the education program is based on four guiding principles: focus on quality education, inclusiveness, giving priority to improving access to education and opportunities for its availability and attainment among the most vulnerable and marginalized in structural terms. Within this framework, WA seeks to support programs and projects which contribute to the following key results in the education sector:

1. Trained and qualified educators contribute to improvements in the quality of education from a perspective of comprehensive development.
2. Exchange of experiences, dialogue and creativity amongst those active in the Palestinian education sector lead to improved quality of school education.
3. A quality education environment in Jerusalem.
4. Palestinian children between the ages of 4-6 years enjoy quality early childhood programs.

•• Main Achievements in 2008 ••

Early Childhood Education and Development (ECED):

WA supported a series of programs and projects in the ECED field, including the renovation of 6 kindergartens (KGs) and provision of equipment to 9 others in Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates. WA also supported the organization of a number of workshops, programs and training courses for ECED teachers, administrators and mothers, involving 155 participants. WA also supported the launch of a project to upgrade the childhood centre at Atta Charitable Society in Beit Hanoun and provided support to the organization of an educational conference in Gaza Strip to discuss ECED educational status and further development, with the participation of about 200 researchers and academics. Additionally, WA supported the provision of pre-school education and development of intellectual abilities of 387 KG children (males and females) in Al-Burj As-Shamali, Ein Al-Hilwah, Burj Al-Barajneh, Mar Elias and Baalbek refugee camps in Lebanon and funded the salaries of KG teachers and transport cost of children to three KGs in Burj Al-Barajneh, Mar Elias and Baalbek camps, thus allowing the provision of ECED and awareness programs benefiting 301 children and 81 mothers.



Ein Al-Helweh KG, Lebanon 16

Formal Education: WA supported various teacher training courses in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and the 1948 areas, benefiting more than 150 persons, in addition to training courses for students, benefiting 300 male and female students in the West Bank and Naqab, and covering topics such as research and

language skills and internet use. The science lab in Kufr Ni'meh secondary girls school was renovated and equipped. Support also covered the production of an educational manual accompanied with a set of educational materials and teaching aids. About 600 female students and 25 teachers benefited from this project. WA also supported the upgrading and equipping of computer labs in a number of schools in Nablus and Khanyounes and the construction of 10 classrooms and a sanitary unit in a school in Hebron under the Emergency Program to Support the Palestinian People funded by the Arab Fund. A number of UNRWA schools were provided with internet access and computer networks were installed in 30 school labs benefiting 38 secondary and middle schools accommodating more than 17,000 students. WA entered into contract with Nablus Municipality to construct a primary girls school with 15 classrooms funded by Mr. Mahmoud Abu Ghazaleh.



Hiwar Association, Haifa 17

Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Non-Formal Education: WA participated in several VET-related activities, including courses in ICT benefiting 42 young men and women in the West Bank and 100 teachers in 31 schools in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. WA also supported equipping a number of NGOs with educational aids and tools and the training of 54 female teachers in the 'mother school' society to upgrade their competence. The finishing and equipping of the carpentry department at the vocational centre of Al-Amal Charitable Association for the deaf in Qalqilya was completed, as well as a flat designated for training hearing-impaired girls in sewing and cosmetician skills under the Emergency Program to Support the Palestinian People funded by the Arab Fund. Within the same project, 35 young women started their training in sewing and 25 young men started training in carpentry and aluminium works. On the other hand, 15 male and female teachers received training to improve their skills in adult education; literacy classes were organized and 300 participants graduated from the literacy program at the Red Crescent Society in Gaza Strip, with funding from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. In 2008, WA supported a number of cultural and educational recreational activities in Lebanon, such as screening of documentaries, cultural contests, and environmental awareness activities, in addition to the organization of two festivals: the first titled 'Palestine Renews Inside Us' and composed of arts and cultural presentations for children in Nahr Al-Bared camp, and the second was 'Janana 2008' festival in support of children's libraries with the participation of around 3,250 children and 48 societies, centres and libraries. A youth summer camp was also organized with the participation of 140 young people from 40 NGOs.



Electronics Course, Gaza 18

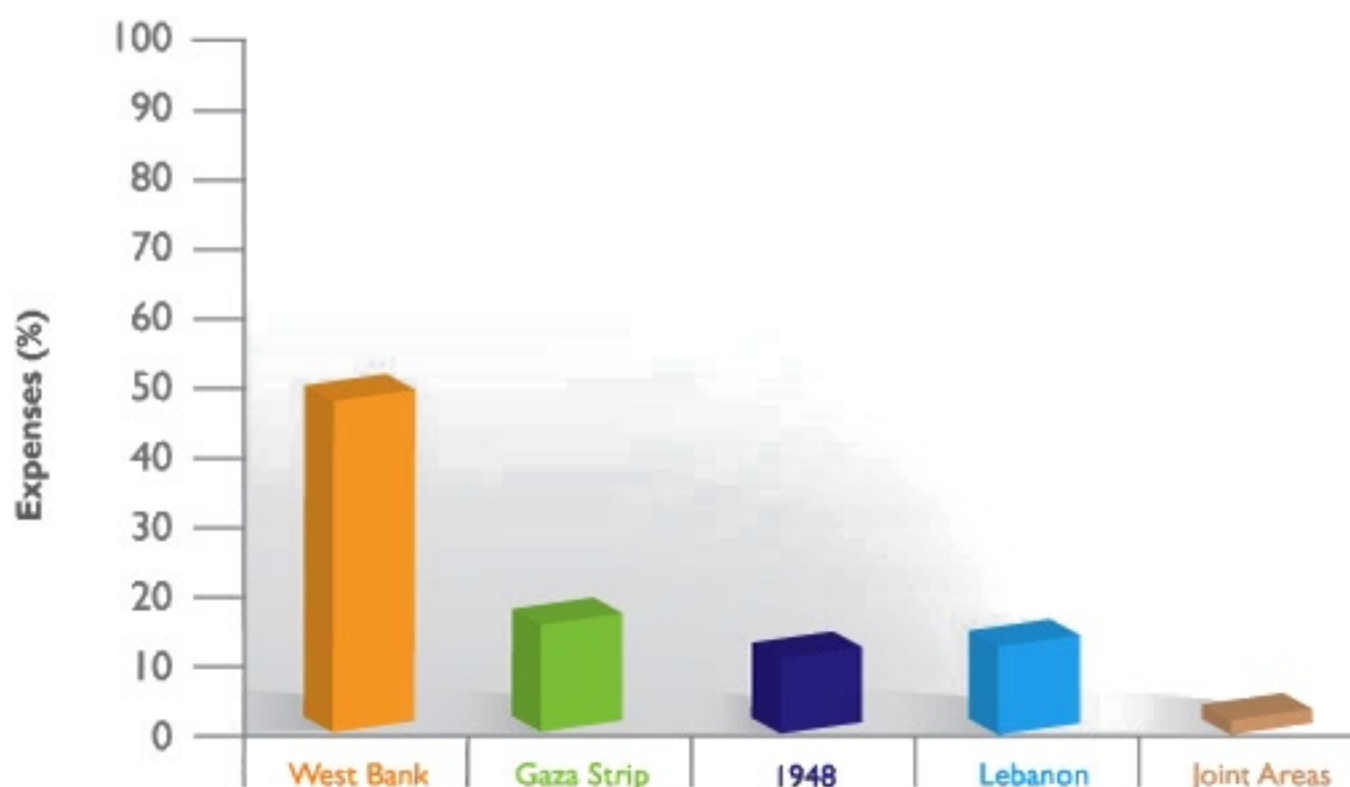
Higher Education: In 2008, WA supported a number of higher education institutions, including the provision of equipment for the hall in Al-Bahrain Institute for Women's Studies at Birzeit University and the Technical Aids Centre for the Blind at the Islamic University, benefiting 86 students. In addition, WA supported partial coverage of tuition fees and some university costs for 31 female students at Birzeit University who have outstanding achievement and face economic hardship preventing them from completing their education. Loans were also offered to 36 Palestinian students in Lebanon to help them complete their university education in the fields of engineering, science and commerce.



Students of Birzeit University 19

Expenditure by Region

Expenditure on projects within the education sector in 2008 was around USD 2.3 million, with 51% spent on projects in the West Bank, 19% in Gaza Strip, 12% in the 1948 areas, 15% in Lebanon and 3% on projects shared by two or more regions.



❖❖ List of Program Partners for 2008 ❖❖

West Bank:

A.M. Qattan Foundation, Al Amal Association for the Deaf - Qalqalia, Al Quds University, Alnayzak for Extracurricular Education & Scientific Innovation, Anata Center for Culture and Education, Arab Counseling Center for Education (ACCE), Birzeit University, Committee for School Development / Kufer Naama Secondary Girls School, De La Salle Club – Jerusalem, Early Childhood Resource Center, Foundation for Health & Social Development – Juzoor Society, Mothers School – Nablus, Nablus Municipality, Palestine Red Crescent Society- ALBireh, Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange (PACE), Palestinian Future Society for Democracy & Development, Rawdat El-Zuhur, Spafford Children Center, Tamer Institute for Community Education, The Arab Evangelical Episcopal School, The Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center, The Palestinian Charitable Creative Society, Union of the Charitable Societies – Jerusalem, Unit for Learning Innovation- Birzet University Continuing Education, Universal Education Foundation.

Gaza:

Afaq Jadeeda Association, Al-Ata Benevolent Association - Biet Hanon, Al-Fadeela Association, Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children, Community College of Applied Science & Technology, Culture and Free Thought Association, Deir Al-Balah Rehabilitation Society, Kannan Association for Community Development, Maghazi Cultural Center, National Association of Moderation & Development, Palestinian Theater Association, Society of Physically Handicapped People, The Palestinian Early Childhood Programmes, Tomooh Association for Skills Development.

1948 Areas:

Al-Laz - Mazen Ghattas Theatre, Amir Challenges Association R.A, Arab Cultural Society – Nazareth, Hewar - The Arab Association for Alternative Education, Ibn Khaldun -The Association for Research & Development, Masar - Institute for Education, The Factory - Arab Centre for Culture and Arts, The League for Arabs of Jaffa.

Lebanon:

Al- Najdeh Association, Arab Center for Popular Arts, Association for the Development of Palestine Camps, Development Action Without Borders – NABA'A, Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation, Nabila Breir Educational Foundation, National Foundation for Health Social and Educational Services, National Institute for Social Care and Vocational Training, Palestinian Student Fund (PSF)-Beirut, The Association for the Revival of Palestinian Camps (INA'ACH), World Links - Arab Region.

Other Partners:

Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Overall Aim: To foster independent, dynamic and creative artistic and cultural expression in contemporary Palestinian society, rooted in Palestinian identity and heritage.



The 5th Ramallah Festival "Safa"

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•• **Overview** ••

Palestinian society's rich artistic and cultural heritage continues to flourish despite systematic efforts by the Israeli occupation to suppress it. Palestinian contemporary artistic production in the visual, plastic and expressive arts remains dynamic and diverse. Civil society institutions play the primary role in supporting individual and collective artistic production and overall development of the sector. Recent years have witnessed a plethora of artistic and cultural activities developed for children and young people. However, these activities have in large part been designed as crisis interventions to respond to the chronic emergency and to support children who are facing experiences of violence and trauma from the Israeli occupation. Funding has favoured support for single or ad hoc recreational activities aimed primarily at providing essential psychological relief through entertainment and/or self-expression.

School programs supporting students' cultural and artistic potentials, already limited, have suffered further cutbacks under the national financial crisis. Emergency conditions have also severely affected

NGOs working in the sector with 57% of these NGOs reporting cutbacks in activities due to lack of funds. Opportunities are relatively few for broader creative exploration and expression and the development of artistic talent amongst children and youth through solid programs providing the necessary continuity, skills development and support. Institutions providing such programs and the broader infrastructure required to support and nurture the sectors' continued development are limited in number and capacity and frequently lack competent management and program staff. Moreover, most cultural activities are focused in the major cities of the central West Bank with significantly fewer opportunities available in other regions in general and in villages, refugee camps and other marginalized communities in particular.



Pottery, Gaza 21

•• **Main Achievements in 2008** ••

Development of Cultural Establishments: WA supported the development and finishing of the children's library of the Child Care Charitable Society in Tulkarem with an area of about 250 sq. meters. Once operational, the number of beneficiaries of this library is expected to be around 10,000 children. This project was implemented under the Emergency Program to Support the Palestinian People funded by the Arab Fund. In the Gaza Strip, WA financed the resumption of the project renovating Sayed Hashem Mosque following a long suspension due to lack of building materials required for the renovation and expansion works due to the siege imposed by Israel on Gaza Strip.

Training and Awareness Activities: WA supported a number of training courses and awareness raising activities benefiting about 500 participants in projects in the fields of art direction, development of musical and artistic talents, expressional and popular dance and drama in the West Bank and the 1948 areas. In addition, training was given to 20 young men and 20 women in Gaza Strip in some handicrafts, such as manual carpet weaving, embroidery and clay engraving under a project for the development of popular arts and handicraft creativity implemented by the Cultural Society for Heritage Preservation in Beit Lahya. WA also financed the second Heritage Week in Birzeit, held by Rozana Society during July 2008, which included several artistic heritage activities and aimed at encouraging traditional crafts and products. WA also sponsored the fifth Saffa festival for Culture and Arts, held by Handala Cultural Centre in Saffa village, Ramallah district, during August.



Tarshiha Orchestra, 1948 Areas 22

Artistic and Cultural Productions: WA supported the publication of the book "Roots Witness" developed by the Arab Culture Society in Nazareth. Maps and photos were also prepared to be included in the book and posted on a special website. WA also supported the production of a book entitled "60 Terms in Nakba" developed by Ibn Khaldoun Society with the participation of 130 students from different Palestinian areas and from refugee camps in Syria and Lebanon. Additionally, WA supported the production of a documentary film entitled "Shadow of Absence" – a 86-minute film about the graves of Palestinians in the diaspora and at home. This film was received with considerable acclaim at the international level, winning several awards in a number of festivals in Dubai, Morocco, Italy and the USA and receiving wide media coverage.

60 Years of Nakba:

"Return of the Soul": An exhibition reflecting the story of displacement of 750,000 Palestinians

"Return of the Soul" is an art exhibition developed by Al-Hoash Arts Court in the occupied East Jerusalem, reflecting the individual and group story of the Nakba aiming at highlighting a period of the human history that has been overlooked by many.

This exhibit is part of an international project primarily sponsored by WA in addition to other sponsors and partners. The work on the exhibit started in Spring 2007 by an initiative from Jane Frere, a Scottish artist, who dedicated her efforts over two years to develop an artistic vision exploring the human experience of displacement suffered by 750,000 Palestinians in 1948.

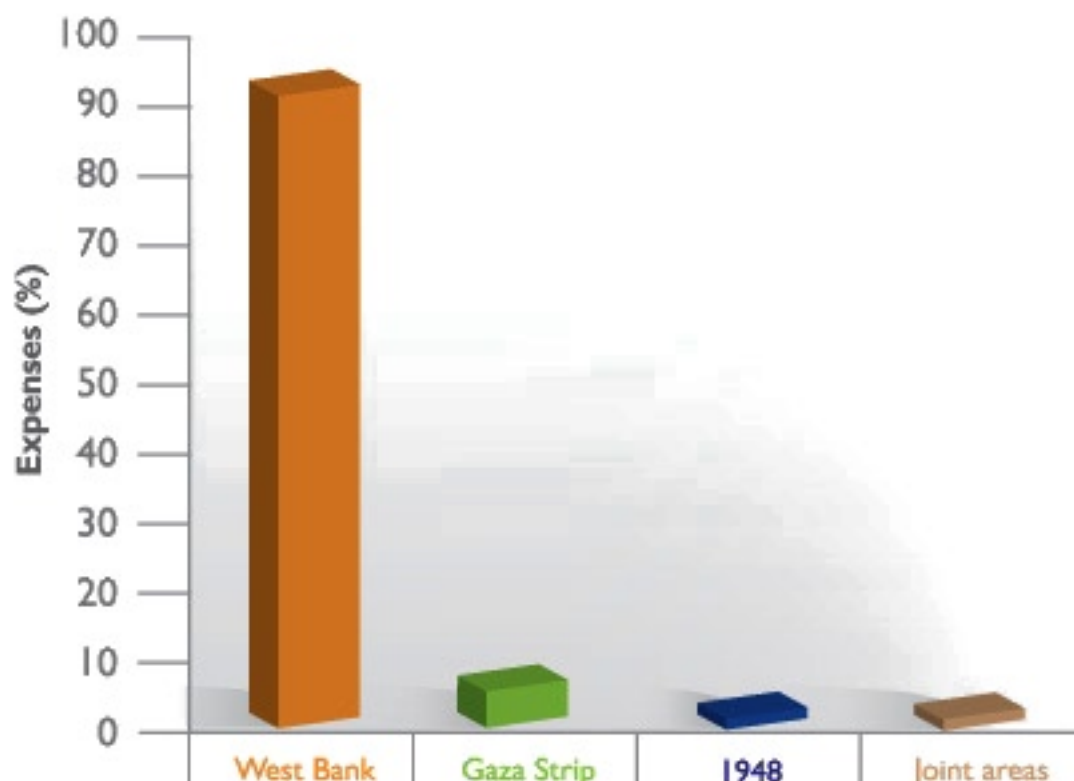
The exhibit consists of a multi-dimensional installation of over 3000 wax figures hanging by transparent, thin threads from the ceiling of the exhibit hall in an acute angle that gives them a deep dimension of a fading crowd representing the scenes of the forced group displacement in 1948. These figures are accompanied by written or recorded testimonies of Palestinians from various generations giving the figures an identity of people displaced from their homes in an atmosphere of horror and grief.



Return of the Soul 23

❖❖ **Expenditure by Region** ❖❖

Expenditure on projects within the Culture and the Arts sector was around USD4.3 million, with 94% spent on projects in the West Bank, 5% in Gaza Strip, 0.5% in the 1948 areas, and 0.5% on projects shared by two or more regions.



❖❖ **List of Program Partners for 2008** ❖❖

West Bank:

Al-Awqaf, Al-Mirsat Association, Ashtar for Theatre Productions & Training, Birzeit University, Families and Institutions in Jerusalem and Nablus, Families and Institutions in the Old City, Handalah Cultural Center, Infrastructure, Nablus Emergency Restoration, Oushaq Society for Arts, Palestinian Art Court - Al-Hoash, Palestinian People and Heritage, Palestinian Vision – Jerusalem, Rozana Association, Several Families, Several Houses in Old City – Jerusalem, Society of Dar Al Eman For the Care of Orphans – Qalqilia, Yaffa Center & Several NGO's, Youth Development Association.

Gaza:

Cultural Association for Heritage Protection, Ministry of Waqf & Religious Affairs- Gaza.

1948 Areas:

Ittijah- Union of Arab Community Based Associations.



OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (OCJRP)

Overview

In 1994, WA established a comprehensive program for the revitalization of the Old City of Jerusalem with a founding grant from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development. The OCJRP launched its Technical Office in 1995 and since then the program has developed into the most comprehensive heritage restoration program in Palestine, encompassing restoration projects, GIS documentation, community outreach and development of relevant technical capacity. The program aims to preserve the religious and cultural heritage of the Old City by respecting the architectural and historical value of buildings and architectural monuments while adapting them for use by community and cultural organizations. The project seeks also to renovate houses and service networks to improve the living conditions of local residents. It also provides training to architects and contractors on restoration techniques, manages a documentation centre and a program for public awareness, and publishes special documents and brochures on architectural heritage.

Thanks to continued donor support and professional efforts and experience within the project, the Program was awarded the prestigious Aga Khan Foundation's Architectural Award in 2004. In 2007, building on the previous successes of OCJRP, WA launched a 3-year project for establishing an institute for the preservation of architectural heritage in Jerusalem in partnership with UNESCO and through EU funding.

Activities in 2008:

In 2008, the OCJRP implemented 77 projects with a total expenditure of around \$ 2.85 million. Restoration works were completed on 45 projects funded by various donors, including several carried over from the last quarter in 2007 (24 residential projects benefiting 51 Jerusalemite families and 21 institutional projects).

Main Achievements of the Program in 2008:

I. Restoration and Rehabilitation Projects:

Arab Fund grant for infrastructure development in the Old City of Jerusalem (first phase) at a value of \$400,000: The infrastructure project for Spafford Centre for Children was completed in parallel with the completion of the third phase of restoration of several buildings of the Spafford Centre funded by SIDA.

Arab Fund grant for restoration and maintenance of the Islamic Museum in the Haram Al-Sharif Compound and revitalization of the area around Al-Aqsa Mosque at a total value of 300,000 Kuwaiti Dinars: The restoration of a residential building was completed in 2008 at a value of \$58,000.

Arab Fund grant for emergency restoration of Arab neighbourhoods and renovation of historical buildings in the Old City of Nablus (second phase) at a total value of \$500,000: The second phase of the project for rebuilding Shu'bi neighbourhood is underway at a value of around \$270,000. 18 families will benefit from this project.

Project grant for the development and revitalization of the Old City of Nablus as part of support to the Palestinian people (first phase) at a value of \$400,000: Restoration works were completed on the premises for a technical unit in the Old City of Nablus at an approximate value of \$100,000.

Arab Fund grant for emergency restoration of residential buildings and neighbourhoods in Jerusalem (third and fourth phases) at a value of \$2 million: Renovation works were completed on 23 projects, including 9 institutions, and work is ongoing on the implementation of restoration of the Armenian Museum, scheduled to be completed during the first quarter of 2009.

Swedish Government grant of about \$1.25 million (10 million Swedish Kronas) for rehabilitation projects benefiting youth and children: Work was completed on 9 projects benefiting institutions working with youth inside the Old City of Jerusalem. Thus all restoration works related to this grant were completed in 2008; the community awareness component will be completed in 2009.

Arab Monetary Fund grant administered by the Islamic Development Bank for the Old City of Jerusalem at a value of \$1.5 million: Work was completed on 9 residential projects in addition to a project to restore the Ass'adi Corner (the Shrine of Rabi'a Al-'Adawiyeh). Work is also ongoing on two renovation projects of residential buildings, scheduled to be completed during the first quarter of next year.

Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development grant administered by the Islamic Development Bank for the Old City of Jerusalem and Nablus at a value of \$4 million: Work started on a project to renovate Al-Ansari library at a value of \$110,000 and four other residential projects in Jerusalem at a value of \$375,000.

2. Training Program: Three new graduate engineers have completed training in the internship program funded by SIDA. In addition, a training program started in June on restoration works targeted at the young labour force in Jerusalem and Nablus through a grant for an apprenticeship program. Under this project, 12 young people from Jerusalem and 8 from Nablus are receiving training by working with contractors implementing projects in Jerusalem and Nablus under the sustainable employment of Palestinian youth project.

3. Public Awareness Activities: Agreements were signed with three Jerusalem-based institutions to support public awareness activities and activate cultural life in the Old City of Jerusalem. Additionally, an agreement was signed with a fourth institution in order to evaluate all restoration projects implemented by all stakeholders and in all target areas, as well as to archive the implemented restoration projects and train a group of technicians in the field of restoration and development of films and publications on restoration and preservation of architectural heritage.

4. Database and Documentation: The fifth phase of ownership documentation project in the Old City of Jerusalem was completed, documenting 6 lots. This project is being implemented with the Arab Studies Society and preparations are underway to fund the sixth phase.

5. Old City of Nablus Development and Revitalization Project: The draft preliminary studies for all sectors were delivered in February 2008. Periodic meetings were also held between the consultants working on the studies in order to coordinate and exchange information. The task forces completed forms to document data on buildings in the Old City of Nablus and the data was computerized and fed into a developed database linked to the GIS.

6. Project for Establishing a Heritage Preservation Institute in Jerusalem: In February 2008, the first mission was sent to assess the needs of stakeholders concerned with restoration and heritage preservation, including institutions and individual engineers working in this field. Several meetings were held in OCJRP office in Jerusalem and WA office in Ramallah with OCJRP Technical Office, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, contractors and representatives of other stakeholders. Furthermore, a training course titled "Restoration and Management of Historical Sites in Jerusalem" was organized in the period October-December with the participation of 18 specialists as trainees. Trainers included a number of local and international lecturers and experts. The 3-year project is funded by the EU in partnership with UNESCO, and implemented by the OCJRP.



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Overall Aim: To improve economic opportunities and social conditions of marginalized groups.



Summer Camp Activity, Nablus 28

• • Overview • •

Eight years of severe economic crisis has severely undermined living standards and developmental prospects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israeli-imposed movement restrictions, facilitated by over 500 military checkpoints and barriers and the continued construction of the 700-kilometre-long Wall inside the West Bank in contravention of international law, have seriously disrupted routine economic activities and community life. Transport and production costs continue to escalate; vital social and economic links between the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and the rest of the West Bank, and between villages and urban areas within the West Bank have been severed. In Gaza, residents live under siege with Israeli military strikes from land, air and sea an almost daily event. At the end of the year, Gaza Strip suffered a major military attack that cost the lives of around 1,400 persons and caused injuries to thousands, in addition to devastating destruction affecting all developmental sectors.

According to a report issued by UNRWA in 2008, the number of Palestinians living under the poverty line has more than tripled since the beginning of the Intifada in September 2000. Unemployment rates have also increased at the same levels and are now

among the highest in the world. Severe restrictions on the movement of goods and people in and out of Gaza have led to critical and chronic shortages of food and other basic supplies and services. In Lebanon, the already volatile socio-economic conditions of Palestinian refugee communities were exacerbated by the Israeli war in mid 2006 and then the siege of Nahr Al-Bared Refugee Camp in 2007, resulting in the displacement of some 32,000 residents.

The ability of the PA to deliver basic social services in the West Bank and Gaza Strip has been seriously undermined by financial restrictions imposed by Israel and the international community as a result of the outcome of the national elections in 2006. The Ministry of Social Affairs has been able to make only marginal increases in the number of recipients of assistance since 2000 despite the significant rise in poverty. Within this context, civil society organizations continue to play a critical role in economic and community development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as in Palestinian communities in Lebanon and in 1948 areas. Responding to the specific priorities and needs of women, youth and persons with disabilities, key priorities for this sector are the strengthening of inclusive approaches to development, enhancing employment and income generation opportunities and improving the quality of programs and services.



Summer Camp Activity, Lebanon

29



•• Main Achievements in 2008 ••

Apprenticeship Program: The apprenticeship program in automotive mechatronics, implemented by the Hebron Chamber of Commerce and Industry in cooperation with Deir Dibwan and Hebron Vocational Schools, was completed benefiting 46 students from Ramallah and Hebron areas. The program included theoretical instruction and field practice to develop the trainees as skilled workers and allow them the chance to complete their study and training as specialized technicians.



Car Mechatronics Course, Hebron

30

Small-scale Income-generating Projects: Twelve small-scale income-generating projects received support with a grant of USD1,000 per project in the villages of Nahaleen, Al-Khader and Wadi Fokin in Bethlehem district through Al-Hares Association. Twelve women benefited from these grants in initiating projects in sheep breeding, cosmetics, rehabilitation of agricultural lands, creation of greenhouses and others.

Services for External Agencies: Within a project to establish an electronic translation system in Palestine, 45 translators were trained to be able to compete in the local and international labour market. The training assisted in the provision of job opportunities for professional translators in Palestine and allowed the unqualified and unemployed translators and graduates in Palestine a chance to compete in the labour market, while providing quality services to firms and institutions abroad.

Training and Awareness Raising: Training courses were conducted with the participation of more than 1,700 persons in fields such as: scientific and practical principles of renovation of old buildings, the role of media in the society and freedom of expression, media laws in political regimes, oratory and debate skills and mechanisms, ethics and proposal writing, sewing and tailoring, management of small-scale projects and marketing of products, food processing, traditional industries, and executive secretary and office management.



Embroidery Course- Beit Dakko, Jerusalem

31

Educational and Recreational Programs: Twelve summer camps were held in Gaza Strip and four in Nablus governorate in partnership with more than 16 local institutions and with participation of more than 1,200 boys and girls in the age group 6-17 years. In partnership with the Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages in Naqab, several educational activities were organized to enhance students' attainment and raise youth awareness of their rights and role in the development of their communities. In Lebanon, WA supported projects to improve the learning skills of 40 boys and girls with disabilities in Tyre area. In addition, three recreational trips were organized for 120 disabled and non-disabled children. An educational contest was also held on the occasion of the Week for the Hearing Impaired, involving 225 students from eight UNRWA schools, as well as continuing development of personnel working with these children. A summer camp entitled "Tomorrow is More Beautiful" was held for 150 children (105 non-disabled and 45 disabled), including educational and awareness raising activities, as well as field trips and recreational games to promote the concept of social inclusion of children with disabilities.



Educational Activity- Beddawi Camp, Lebanon

32

NGO Development: The office of Businesswomen's Forum in Ramallah was furnished and one year's rent was paid. A special vehicle for transporting persons with special needs, the first of a kind in Jenin governorate, was purchased to help improve the services of the Elderly and Disability Home Charitable Society. In addition, a home for elderly women run by the Cultural Social Charitable Society in Nablus was supplied with four physiotherapy devices. Raw materials for various textile products were procured for Sidra Society and 300 sq. meters of woven rugs were produced by 57 women. As part of the marketing of the Society's products, more than 2,350 tourists visited the Society's hospitality centre. WA also supported a number of publications by NGOs in the 1948 areas, including magazines, manuals, and websites. In addition, WA supported the enhancement and expansion of services offered by the CBR Association in Tripoli refugee camps, Nahr Al-Bared and Biddawi, in Lebanon. Administrative expenses were covered for the technical unit overseeing the microcredit program at the Palestinian Arab Women Union Society to facilitate the continuity of their technical services and enhance their role in five Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Cultural Programs: A country-level meeting was held for the groups of the youth al-Haq movement in the 1948 areas with the participation of about 250 young men and women. Participants visited some depopulated villages and listened to a presentation on displacement and another on human rights. Several activities were held for children and youth from villages in 1948 areas, including workshops, film screening, lectures, solidarity visits, theatre shows addressing rights-related issues, and other recreational activities benefiting more than 800 persons.

Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Projects: Hearing tests were conducted in 15 communities in the West Bank for about 1,000 boys and girls. More than 5,224 physiotherapy sessions and 1,100 speech therapy and special education sessions were performed for children with disabilities in the Gaza Strip. Group and individual psychosocial support sessions were conducted for more than 870 children in Gaza and Lebanon. A total of 608 home visits were made to 74 persons with special needs, 27 group counselling sessions were held for 230 male and female persons with disability, and 18 awareness sessions were held for 426 members of families with persons with disability. In Lebanon, needs assessment workshops were held for more than 2,300 children in 13 KGs in Sidon area to provide them with the required assistive devices. Vision and hearing screening was also conducted for 41,000 students in UNRWA schools in order to provide hearing aids and eyeglasses to those in need. In addition, support was offered for home-based rehabilitation services, assistive devices and surgeries for 150 disabled persons. Workshops were also held to promote inclusion of children with special needs in the age group 2-5 years.



Physiotherapy Session, Gaza

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Jerusalem Community Fund

In 2007, WA established a special social fund for Jerusalem to respond to the urgent needs to fund developmental projects in the city. Jerusalem has been completely isolated from its Arab and Palestinian surroundings for over 16 years and subjected to an intense policy of Judaization aiming to marginalize the Palestinians and gradually force them to leave the city through house demolitions, withdrawal of ID cards and restrictions on land purchasing and building. Jerusalem has also suffered significantly from marginalization following the Oslo accords, with local institutions suffering from an almost total suspension of financial support from international donors due to immense pressures by Israel. As a result, the situation of the city has worsened as the largest portion of its institutions used to receive funds from international donors, while only a small part continued to receive support from Arab donors and funds or from local sources or managed to ensure self-financing. The establishment by WA of the Jerusalem Community Fund at this point in time provides a compromise that ensures some degree of stability and sustainability for local institutions. The Fund represents the development of a transparent mechanism of fundraising from different segments of the local community into a special fund/account at WA, which match these funds with an equal or larger amount. This mechanism encourages the Jerusalem community to actively participate in self-development, not only through fundraising, but also in decision-making in regard to areas of expenditure through a local advisory council chaired by businessmen.

The starting point in the Fund's work in 2008 was to identify sectors and segments mostly suffering from marginalization in order to offer grants to institutions working in these sectors and with these segments. Youth, as the most marginalized group, came at the top of the list, followed by the education and culture sectors. Therefore, the main priority of the Fund in 2008 was to support projects of youth institutions or those working with youth. Applications by newly established youth institutions in need for administrative and financial support were also approved, in addition to institutions working with youth in marginalized areas in the Jerusalem governorate. In 2008, Mr. Munir Kaloti, WA Board of Trustees member, donated an amount of USD 300,000, which was fully used to upgrade youth clubs in Jerusalem. In late October, the Fund received Mr. Massimo Lanza, executive director of Venice Community Fund in Italy, who met with a number of businessmen in Jerusalem and discussed the role played by business in leading charitable and philanthropic work to develop the local community. The Fund also received a team of US experts in comprehensive planning to combat substance abuse and discussed the potential for WA to take the lead in developing a national strategy to combat drug abuse in Jerusalem in particular and in Palestine in general.

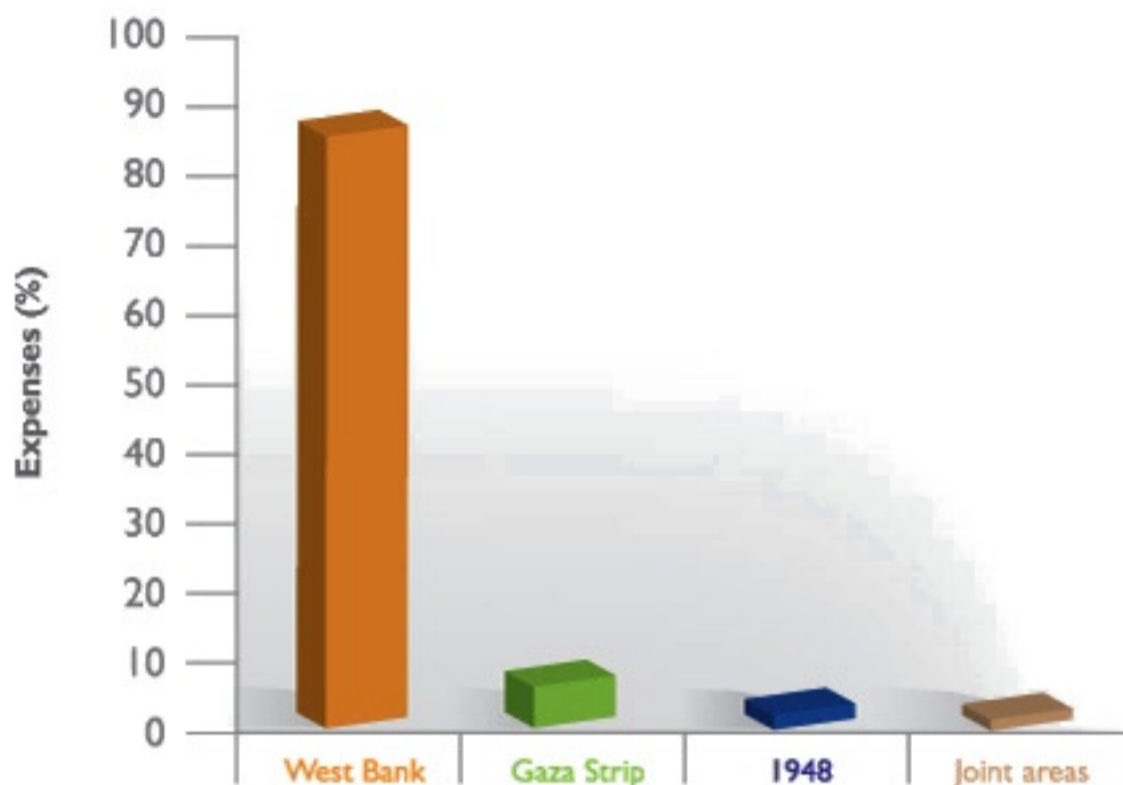
In 2008, the Fund distributed 10 grants in the amount of USD275,000 to youth institutions and institutions working with youth to fund projects such as: writing short stories and turning them into digital films, a project entitled "Jerusalem Youth Say No to Drugs" and implemented by Caritas, summer camps in the Old City, opening of a football school for girls, and a number of artistic and cultural activities in preparation for the celebration of Jerusalem as the Capital of Arab Culture in 2009. In the field of education, the Fund facilitated the formation of a committee from Frères School, Qattan Association, Al-Naizak Association, Faisal Al-Husseini Association, Ajyal Amina Association, Injaz Association and the Palestinian Counselling Centre to identify major needs in the education sector in Jerusalem. A program was developed to enhance teaching of Arabic language, math and social sciences for grades 14- in six schools in Jerusalem.



Dome of the
Rock, Jerusalem 34

Expenditure by Region

Expenditure on projects within the economic and community development sector in 2008 was around USD 13 million, with 86% spent on projects in the West Bank, 7% in Gaza Strip, 3% in the 1948 areas and 1% in joint regions.



List of Program Partners for 2008

West Bank:

Arab Society For Orphans – Tulkarem, Central National Committee for Rehabilitation- Jerusalem, Agricultural Engineering Home Society – AEHS, Ahli Alquds Club, Al Amal Association for the Deaf - Qalqalia, Al-Dahreyeh Society for Rural Development, Al-Hares Center for Studies & Media, Al-Kamandjati Association, Al-Quds Club, Al-Sadiq AL-Taieb Association, Arab Counseling Center for Education (ACCE), Arab Studies Society, Arab Thought Forum, Arabeh Municipality – Arabeh, Ashtar for Theatre Productions & Training, Beit Doqu Development Society, Beit Fajar Ladies Association, Beit Reema Cultural Center - Beit Reema Women Center, Birzeit University, Blind Rehabilitation Society – Jenin, Burj AL-Luqluq Social Center Society, Burqa Club Sports - Social Cultural, Care for Children with Special Needs Society, Centre for Jerusalem Studies - Al-Quds University, Charitable Association for Elderly and the Handicapped, Dier Ibzai Cultural Association, East Jerusalem Young Men Christian Association – YMCA, Ein Al-Beidah Society for Handicraft, El-Nuzha El-Hakawati / Palestinian National Theatre –Jerusalem, Foundation for Health & Social Development – Juzoor, Future Youth Institute, Hawwa Society Center for Culture& Arts, Hayat Society for Rehabilitation and Relief of Disabled, Hebron Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jasmine Charitable Society, Joint Community Services Council for Regional IT Center, Kharas Municipality – Hebron, Leaders Organization – Ramallah, Local Committee for Rehabilitation of the Disabled – AlDheesheh, Love & Peace Home for Childhood & Motherhood- Ramallah, Ministry of National Economy,

Mount of Olives Club, NGO Development Center (NDC), Old City Counseling Center - Caritas Jerusalem, Palestine Polytechnic University – Hebron, Palestine Red Crescent Society/Alssawia Branch, Palestinian Academic and Cultural Project (PACP)-PNGO, Palestinian Art Court - Al-Hoash, Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange (PACE), Palestinian Banking Corporation, Palestinian Vision – Jerusalem, Palestinian Women Development Center (PWDC), Palestinian Youth, Patient's Friends Society-Jenin, Regional Committee for Community Based Rehabilitation- South West Bank, Salfet Municipality, Salfet Zakaat Committee – Salfet, Save The Children, Sawa - All the Women Together Today & Tomorrow, Sharek Youth Forum, Society for Rehab Handicapped/ Al Aroub, Spafford Children Center, Tammon Sport Club – Nablus, The Popular Community for Refugees Services – Qalqilia, Women Business Forum (BWF), Women Charitable Society/ Sanour, Women's Studies Centre (WSC).

Gaza:

Al-Bait Assamed Society, Al-Wafa Rehabilitation Society, AL-Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation, Association of Women Committees for Social Work, Bunian Association for Training, Evaluation & Community Studies Women Unit, Coordination Committee of the Community Rehabilitation Center, Gaza Immediate Voluntary Relief Effort, Gaza Mental Program, Islamic University, Khan Younis Zakat Committee, National Association of Moderation & Development, National Society for Rehabilitation, Norwegian People's Aid, Palestinian Center for Human Rights – PCHR, Right to Live Society – Gaza, Several NGO's, The Mercy Association for Children, Women College Graduates Society in Gaza Strip.

1948 Areas:

Adalah - The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Ahali Center for Community Development, Altufula: Pedagogical Centre – Nazareth Nurseries Institute, Arab Association for Human Rights - Nazareth, Association for Arab Youth - Baladna- Hifa, Dar Eltefel Al-Arabi, District Council for Unrecognized Villages in the Naqab Area – Naqab, House of Fine Arts Cognition & Culture, Ittijah- Union of Arab Community Based Associations, Several NGO's, Step Forward for the Promotion of Education in Rahat, The Arab Council For Education & Culture in the Nagev, The Association for Educational & Social Initiatives in the Negev, The Nazareth Committee of Art - Mawwal Center for Arts.

Lebanon:

Bila Hudood Association, Community Based Rehabilitation Association, Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation, Health Care Society –Beirut, Nabeel Badran Handicapped Center, National Institute for Social Care and Vocational Training,

National Institute for Social Care and Vocational Training, Norwegian People's Aid,

Palestine Disability Forum, Palestinian Arab Women League, Social Association for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped.

NGO DEVELOPMENT CENTER (NDC)

Overview

NGO Development Centre (NDC) is a Palestinian nongovernmental organization working to empower NGOs to be in a position to provide better essential services to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, particularly poor and marginalized groups. The Centre raises funds from local and international donors to provide direct grants and contribute to capacity building programs for NGOs to ensure higher effectiveness in the provision of NGO services, to reach larger numbers of beneficiaries and to increase NGOs sustainability and self-reliance.

NDC started functioning in October 2006, 10 years after the establishment of the PNGO Project funded primarily by the World Bank. The Centre builds on achievements accomplished under the umbrella of Welfare Consortium through the first two phases of the NGO support project, which have played an important role in securing economic and social services for poor and marginalized groups in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Since its establishment and by 31 December 2008, NDC total cumulative expenditure was around USD 7.796 million out of total budget of USD 25.4 million.



Al-Saraya Center, Jerusalem

Main Achievements in 2008

Grants Program: Work is underway to implement empowerment grant projects benefiting 16 NGOs in the West Bank and 12 in Gaza Strip. A community assessment system designed to evaluate project impact was applied for the Elderly Home Charitable Society in Jenin and the Palestinian Working Women's Society in Salfit.

Partnership Grants Program: Work is underway in six partner NGOs in the West Bank, working in four sectors (agriculture, environment and water, youth, and health care), to develop the capacity of about 34 community-based organizations in order to improve effective community service delivery. About 70% of the planned activities have been achieved.

Specialist Health Care Grants: About 70% of activities under this grant have been accomplished in the West Bank. Health institutions also contracted specialized companies to procure the necessary medical equipment and instruments, and contracted experts and specialists to train medical and technical staff of benefiting NGOs.

Municipalities and NGOs Partnership Grants Program: Agreements were signed to implement projects with the benefiting NGOs in the West Bank and projects were initiated by five NGOs. In Gaza, four NGOs were targeted in coordination with the municipalities' fund but were cancelled as the severe political and economic conditions in Gaza Strip have made it difficult to implement their projects.



Emergency Grants Funded by the French Development Agency (AFD): Agreements were signed to implement projects with 28 NGOs in the West Bank for a total value of € 2,740,747. In Gaza Strip, a recommendation was made to implement two projects only in the field of agriculture with a value of € 206,000 due to the closure of the crossings and the shortage of input materials in general and building materials in particular. In view of the obstacles facing NDC in implementing some of the activities under this grant, approval was obtained to allocate the remaining amounts of the AFD grant (about € 420,000) to implement NGO projects in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Human Rights and Good Governance Secretariat Program: The NDC was selected by a number of donor countries to establish and manage a secretariat working in the field of human rights and good governance in the Palestinian territories. To this end, a grant was signed with the donors in the amount of USD 6.45 million over a period of 18 months as a first stage. The NDC received 65 applications and 25 NGOs were selected to receive one grant per NGO within the emergency programs for a total value of USD 5.3 million.

Sectoral Support Program: So far, 497 Palestinian NGOs have signed the NGOP code of conduct. In this regard, 59 NGOs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip were trained by the NGO Coalition for Transparency and Integrity (AMAN) on topics and practices related to transparency accountability and integrity. Additionally, work was completed on preparing the resource package for the code of conduct, which will be distributed to the NGOs that signed the code as well as NGOs benefiting from other NDC activities. Contracts were also signed with 50 NGOs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to benefit from the technical assistance program based on a finding by the needs assessment indicating that 90% of NGOs are in need for guidance and training. A grant of a value of € 193,242 was received from the EU to complete the activities related to the code of conduct, leading to an increase in the number of benefiting NGOs to 65, with 15 new NGOs joining.

Grants Offered to Specialized Networks: A recommendation was approved to fund four networks in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with a total value of USD 120,000.

Grants Offered to Umbrella Networks: Agreements were signed with four networks with a total value of USD 160,000.

Information Management and Resource Development Department: As mentioned above, a grant of a value of € 193,242 was received from the EU to complete the activities related to the Palestinian NGO code of conduct. The NDC also held a charity dinner entitled "Meal of Hope" during Ramadan raising a total revenue of USD 12,260, which was allocated to equip eight KGs in Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian NGO Portal "Masader": A coalition composed of the Health, Development, Information and Policy Institute (HDIP) and the Palestine Development portal PS Gateway, supervised by NDC staff, rebuilt and fully redesigned the NGO Portal, using new technologies and making data entry and retrieval a very easy, speedy and accurate process. The Portal staff was trained on how to manage the new contents. Later, the NDC developed a promotional leaflet on the Portal and a user guide to help with using it without the need for more technical expertise. The NDC also signed an agreement with the Palestinian General Union of Charitable Societies in order to integrate all member societies into the Portal and provide them with the required training on how to use it. By the end of the year, the Portal membership included 400 NGOs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and the total number of visits to the Portal during 2008 was around 44,000 visits.

HEALTH

Overall Aim: To contribute to the improvement of Palestinian health conditions across the geographic areas of WA operations in terms of quantity and quality, with a special emphasis on marginalized groups, particularly children.



Makkassed Hospital, Jerusalem 40

Overview

With the continued Israeli occupation and the wide range of destructive, counter-development measures it imposes, the Palestinian health system is at serious risk of collapse, particularly in Gaza Strip, which has witnessed tragic events over the past two years, most prominently at the end of 2008. The Palestinian Ministry of Health (MOH) is the main provider of primary, secondary and tertiary health services for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Starved of adequate resources, the quality of services is being seriously undermined; the MOH has been unable to maintain basic health monitoring tasks and sharp cutbacks have been reported in referrals for specialized treatment. While conflict-related violence has led to increased demand for health care, Israeli-imposed movement restrictions and the high cost of medical care systematically prevent Palestinians from accessing basic health services across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. According to PCBS statistics, immunization rates are on the decline and significant increases have been documented in the prevalence of diseases such as meningitis and hepatitis. Demands on primary health care services have increased significantly. The prolonged violence and instability have had predictable effects on mental health and wellbeing, particularly amongst children and youth. Food insecurity has escalated to some 50% in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and micronutrient insufficiency is a concern.



Nurse Training, Lebanon

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Within this context, WA strives to support health interventions which contribute to the following key results:

1. Improved primary health care services contribute to improved health conditions, particularly for Palestinian children.
2. Secondary health services effectively respond to specialized health needs of Palestinians.
3. Response to emergency health needs is rapid and effective.
4. New areas for health interventions for Palestinians are identified and the quality of interventions in existing areas is enhanced.

Main Achievements in 2008

Construction of Health Facilities: Work was resumed on the construction of clinics for the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Rafah after a long period of suspension due to the lack of building materials resulting from the siege imposed on Gaza Strip. Construction works also started in Halhoul to build a centre to provide care for persons with special needs and the building and finishing of a second floor in Arrabeh health centre was completed, providing an additional area of 290 sq. meters to accommodate 6 examination rooms, a lab, a pharmacy and other services, with funding from the Arab Fund. Work was completed on the ophthalmology hospital in Nablus which will be supplied with the required equipment in order to become a teaching hospital for the medical school at Al-Najah University and a training centre for physicians in Palestine. This project is also funded by the Arab Fund.

Medical Services: Full screening tests were covered for school children in the school health project in partnership with MOH, Medical Relief Society, Health Work Committees, and Palestinian Red Crescent Society, benefiting around 12,000 students. In addition, students were provided with their needs for hearing aids, eyeglasses and others. WA also supported partial costs of treatment and surgeries at Al-Maqassed Hospital in Jerusalem for 47 children from needy and poor families from the different areas of the West Bank. Support was also provided to partially cover the cost of treatment for more than 597 patients with cardiovascular diseases, renal problems, tumours, prolapsed disc and various surgeries among the Palestinians in Lebanon. Monthly cash assistance was distributed to 183 Palestinian patients with chronic illnesses in Lebanon as follows:

- A - 149 patients with renal problems (85 males and 64 females) with an average of USD100 per month
- B - 42 patients with cardiovascular diseases (25 males and 17 females) with an average of USD150 per month
- C - 42 children with cancer (31 males and 11 females) with an average of USD100 per month

Specialized Services: The medical lab at Islah Charitable Society in Jericho was supplied with five medical and lab devices. With funding from the Arab Fund, a special vehicle for transporting persons with special needs was purchased to help improve the services of the Elderly and Disability Home Charitable Society in Jenin and the Cultural Social Charitable Society in Nablus was supplied with three beds to care for elderly patients. In addition, a cardiac catheterization system and ancillaries was installed in Al-Ahli Hospital in Hebron and necessary medical equipment was provided to Al-Muhtaseb Hospital with funds from the Arab Fund. As part of medical services to Palestinians in Lebanon, dialysis services were offered free of charge to 221 patients and the required materials and maintenance were secured for dialysis machines in Al-Hamshari Hospital, along with supporting the work of 4 physicians and 5 nurses in the dialysis section in the hospital.

Training Activities: WA supported the training of 25 school health counsellors and five supervisors in order to improve school health activities in 42 schools in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and provide screening tests for the students in 20 targeted schools. In Lebanon, a project was initiated to improve the performance of medical personnel in the Palestinian Red Crescent Society with a view to help build the human resources of the Society and improve health care provision to Palestinians in Lebanon. WA also continued to support the training costs of specialist physicians from Palestine in the Jordanian University.



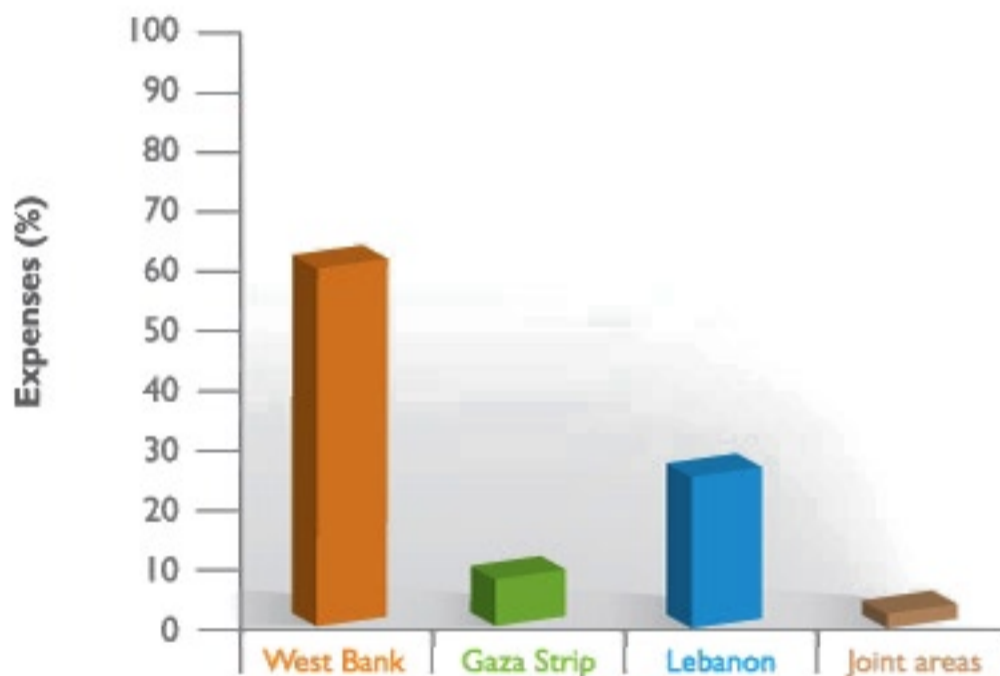
Training on Good Health Practices in Schools

Emergency Medicines: Medicines were distributed free of charge to 40 patients with chronic neurological diseases and mental problems among the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Awareness Raising Activities: Health education activities were conducted during summer vacation within the concept of environmental clubs with involvement of school principals, teachers, counsellors and volunteers from local organizations, and included sports, recreational, cultural and arts activities and field visits. Around 20,800 male and female students from 42 schools in the West Bank and Gaza Strip benefited from activities run by 336 counsellors and volunteers. In addition, a health education program, including six health sessions, was initiated in Shatila camp in Lebanon with the participation of 200 persons.

Expenditure by Region

Expenditure on projects within the health sector in 2008 was around USD 1.5 million, with 63% spent on projects in the West Bank, 8% in Gaza Strip, 27% in Lebanon and 2% on projects in joint regions.



List of Program Partners for 2008

West Bank:

Al Zakah Committee – Nablus, Al-Makassed Hospital, Al-Makassed Islamic Charitable Society, Doctor Union, Hospitals & Medical Clinics, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Health–Nablus.

Gaza:

Ahli Arab Hospital.

Lebanon:

Health Care Society –Beirut, Popular Aid for Relief and Development, Several NGO's.

LEGISLATION, POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Overall Aim: To support the adoption and implementation of developmental policies and legislations, raise Palestinians' awareness of their rights and advocate for efforts to defend them.



Advocacy Activity, Akka 43

Overview

The rule of law has been seriously undermined since 2000 within the general context of the inability of the PA to ensure personal security for residents of the West Bank and Gaza due to the constant military incursions by Israeli occupation forces, settlement expansion and other ongoing violations of international human rights and humanitarian law. In this context, the advances made in the initiation of national policies, legislation and regulations across sectors, the population's compliance with domestic laws and regulations, as well as human rights compliance in Palestinian society have suffered. Particularly, advances in women's rights, children's rights, rights of the disabled, cultural heritage protection and rights of the poor and marginalized



Mass March, 1948 Areas

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face being overwhelmed by the struggle for national as well as individual survival, while donor interest is diverted to addressing the constant emergency humanitarian problems. However, as more and new international donors become ever more involved in humanitarian assistance and development aid and in political efforts to promote durable peace in the area, the international community has become keenly interested in addressing the core problems behind the situation of deteriorating human security. Advocacy for rights of Palestinians in the 1948 areas as well as in Palestinian camps in Lebanon are also included in this work.

Technical assistance and coordination and networking mechanisms are required to empower civil society organizations to advocate for social change within their sectors and across sectors with the local, national and international communities. Donors and international visitors on "fact-finding" missions are important channels for reaching governments to communicate the Palestinian situation. WA also has an important role – and responsibility – in translating and communicating its knowledge and experience for greater impact.

WA focuses its efforts in this sector on supporting interventions that contribute to the following key results:

1. Palestinians are more informed of their political, civil, social, economic and cultural rights and better equipped to advocate for their realization.
2. Palestinian human rights NGOs operate competently and effectively to defend the rights of Palestinians.
3. External societies, organizations and governments are supportive of Palestinian rights.

Main Achievements in 2008

Awareness Raising: Several workshops, lectures and other educational and artistic activities were held to discuss the identity of Palestinians in the 1948 areas, their relations, aspirations and challenges facing them, with the participation of academics and university and school students. Support was also offered for the production of a number of publications to raise awareness among the Palestinians in the 1948 areas of their rights and to shed light on the situation, rights and aspirations of Palestinians in Jerusalem. Many of these activities were focused on the 60-year anniversary of the Nakba in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, 1948 areas, and Palestinian communities in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.



A Workshop on Displacement from Jerusalem

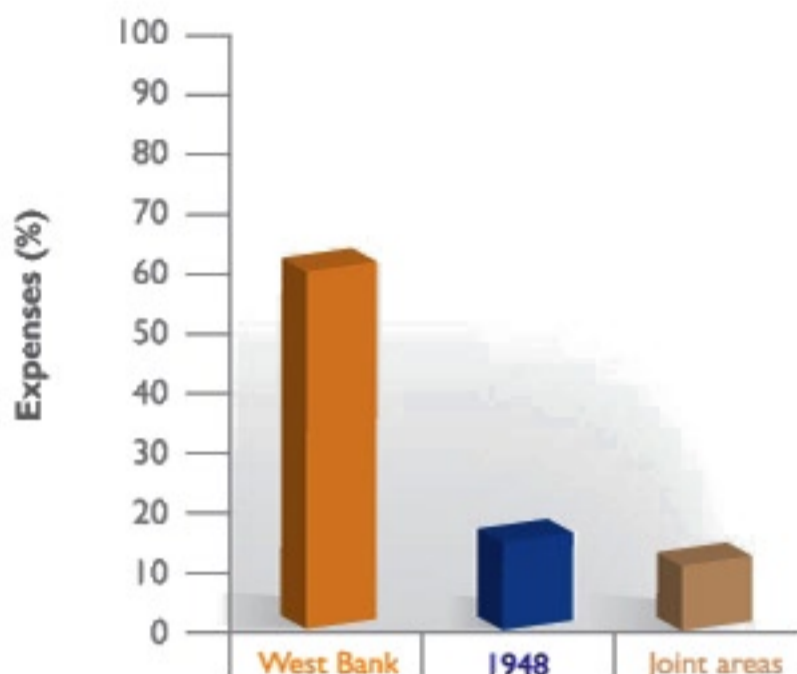
Capacity Building: Training programs were conducted for teachers in 1948 areas on national rights and identity, as well as public seminars on the Nakba and civil service.

Legal Services: A legal support project was initiated with Insan Centre to provide legal services to victims of human rights violations by informing them about their rights and legal steps they can take to defend themselves and by representing them in courts through the Centre's lawyers, as well as coordinating with other institutions working in similar fields. Lawsuits were filed on behalf of 27 families, whose houses are threatened by demolition, four families, whose lands are threatened by confiscation, 11 persons denied the right to travel and 18 humanitarian cases in need to enter Jerusalem for treatment, to visit prisoners or for other humanitarian reasons.

Networking: Activities in this regard are coordinated by the Civic Coalition for Defending the Palestinians Rights in Jerusalem (CCDPRJ), which was established in 2005 with sponsorship from WA and currently includes 18 NGOs working on the issue of human rights for the Jerusalemites. Several events were held, ranging from workshops and meetings to the creation of follow up committees in order to identify and coordinate means and mechanisms to defend the rights of citizens in Jerusalem. Two conferences were held on the right to education and the right to housing aiming to highlight problems facing education and the Israeli policy of ID cards withdrawal in Jerusalem. Other activities addressed the issue of Palestinian properties in the Old City of Jerusalem. WA also supported the creation of four legal clinics in Jerusalem aiming to provide legal services to residents. Since opening in December 2007, these clinics have offered legal consultations and follow-ups to about 306 Jerusalemite families.

Expenditure by Region

Expenditure on projects within the Legislation, Policy and Advocacy Sector in 2008 was around USD0.6 million, with 63% spent on projects in the West Bank, 19% in 1948 areas and 18% on projects in joint regions.



List of Program Partners for 2008

West Bank:

Institute for Jerusalem Studies – Jerusalem, Jerusalem Community, Ensan Center for Democracy & Human Rights- Bethlehem, Al-Kasaba - Theatre & Cinematheque, Palestinian Academic Society for International Affairs (PASSIA), BADIL- Resource Center for Palestinian Residency & Refugee Rights.

1948 Areas:

Arab Association for Human Rights - Nazareth, Ass. for the Defense of the Rights of the Internally Displaced in Israel, Association for Arab Youth - Baladna- Haifa, Ittijah- Union of Arab Community Based Associations, Mada Al-Carmel -The Arab Center for Applied Social Research, Mada Al-Carmel -The Arab Center for Applied Social Research

Other Partners:

Familia Production, Arab Foundations Forum, Palestinian Academic and Cultural Project (PACP)-PNGO

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT



Overall Aim: To support the steadfastness of farmers, especially in areas severely affected by Israeli occupation measures and to ensure food security and sustainable environment for all.



Greenhouses, Toulkarm



Overview

Agriculture is vital to the lives of many of Palestine’s population of 3.9 million. According to Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) data, almost one third of the total area of the West Bank and Gaza is cultivated with field crops, fruit trees, vegetables, and cash crops. Latest national figures put the annual value added of agricultural production of the Palestinian Territory at around USD558 million, indicating the crucial role the agricultural sector plays in ensuring job opportunities and employment, and in achieving food security for Palestinian families who depend on agriculture for small family-supported domestic projects.

However, production and capacities in the sector have been severely compromised by Israeli occupation measures. Israeli settlements in the West Bank, combined with the extensive network of settler roads and restrictions on Palestinians accessing their own land, dominate more than 40



Olive Oil Production and Marketing Project 47

percent of the West Bank. Hundreds of thousands of dunums of productive land now lie behind the Apartheid Wall, inaccessible to farmers. Since September 2000, Israeli military tanks and bulldozers have destroyed agricultural land and uprooted more than 1 million productive trees. In the Gaza Strip, where agriculture employs over 15% of the labour force, closures and Israeli-incurred damage have resulted in losses of more than USD400 million since 2001 according to PCBS estimates.

Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip also face deteriorating environmental conditions and loss of biodiversity. Recent reports from Ministry of Agriculture and PCBS note that 25% of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip do not have sufficient access to water. More than 70% of the population is not connected to a sewerage network, with great variations within the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Given the extent of the crisis in the Agriculture and Environment Sector, the NGO sector plays a critical complementary role to the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment and related governmental agencies in this sector.

Main Achievements in 2008

Food Security: WA supported the rehabilitation of 22 greenhouses and the development of 63 home gardens, supplying them with organic fertilizer, irrigation networks, vegetable seeds and seedlings, in addition to a water cistern with a capacity of 1000 litres for each garden. These activities benefited 75 families and farmers in the south of Gaza Strip. With funds from the Arab Fund, work was also completed on rehabilitating a number of drinking water wells by raising their production capacity, benefiting an estimated number of 7,000 persons in the West Bank. Furthermore, within a pilot project to encourage small-scale farmers to produce and market olive oil, 40 selected farmers were supplied with tools to help in caring for and picking olives. In result, 10,000 litres of virgin olive oil were produced with high quality and acidity below 0.03%. Work is underway on the packaging of 8,000 tons in order to be exported to Switzerland.

Land Reclamation: WA supported the construction of 14 water harvesting wells with a capacity of at least 60 cubic meters per well and the reclamation of 20 dunums of agricultural lands in the West Bank to support farmers and protect lands affected by the apartheid wall. With funds from the Arab Fund, agricultural extension services were offered to around 50 farmers within the land reclamation project to increase their awareness and knowledge of modern horticulture, the rational use of fertilizers and pesticides and complementary irrigation. Assistance was provided to Qalqilia municipality to complete the work on shifting the irrigation systems from diesel-operated pumps to electrical pumps in order to enhance the capacity of farmers in the governorate to preserve their lands and increase their productivity. This project benefited 12 farmers who own irrigation wells.

Sanitation Improvement: A project was launched to build the infrastructure for a central water treatment plant connected to a sewage network to serve Al-Mughraqa area in Gaza Strip. On the other hand, training was offered to a team of 10 educators who started the implementation of a house-to-house awareness campaign. As part of a sanitation improvement project in 9 coastal communities in South Lebanon with an estimated population of more than 10,000, garbage collection in these communities is combined with campaigns for the rational application of pesticides and chemicals to control insects and rodents. Awareness campaigns on environmental and hygiene conditions is also implemented as part of the project, including a number of awareness-raising lectures and workshops targeted at women, youth and children and benefiting over 2,000 women and 900 children and young persons.

Training: A training course was conducted for 40 teachers on environmental issues. A bird watching festival was also held with the participation of 450 students and a winter environmental centre was organized for 6 days with the participation of 31 students. This is in addition to several awareness-raising activities and publications addressing relation of humans to environment, biodiversity in Palestine, water in Palestine and hazards of smoking.



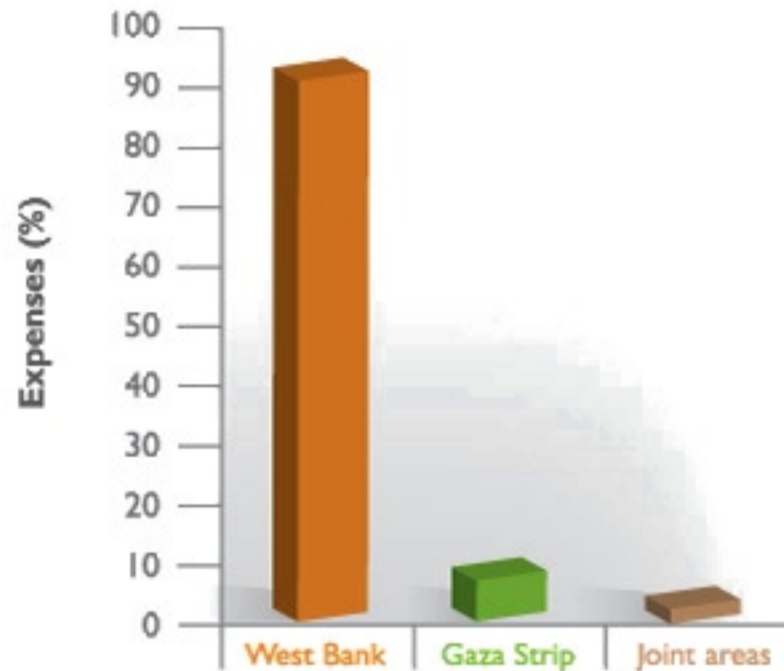
Environmental Activity

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Expenditure by Region

Expenditure on agriculture and environment projects in 2008 was around USD 1.0 million, with 94% spent on projects in the West Bank, 5% in Gaza Strip and 1% on projects in joint regions.



List of Program Partners for 2008

West Bank:

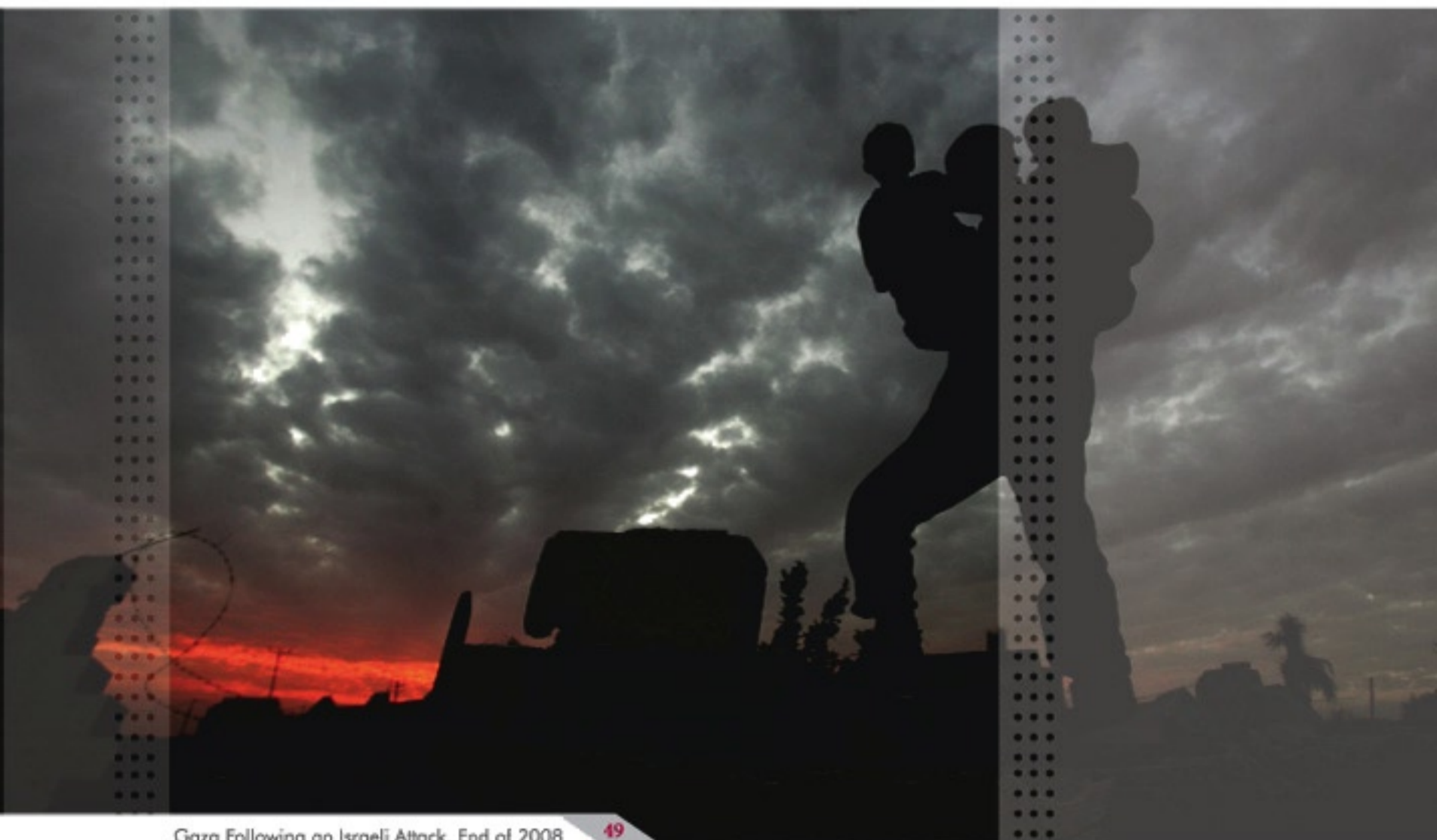
Arab Center for Agricultural Development, Cooperative Society for Development of Livestock, Jenin Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Society, Land Research Center-Arab Studies Society, Ma'an Development Center- Ramallah, Municipality of Qalqilya, Palestine Wildlife Society – Bethlehem, Palestinian Wastewater Engineering Group, Palestinian Water Authority, Several NGO's.

Gaza:

Agricultural Development Association (PARC), Alahleya Society for Development of Palm & Dates, Arab Center for Agricultural Development, Ma'an Development Center, Union of Agricultural Work Committee.

EMERGENCY AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

✦✦✦ **Overall Aim:** To respond rapidly and effectively for the relief of Palestinians facing life-threatening emergency conditions. ✦✦✦



Gaza Following an Israeli Attack, End of 2008

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Overview

As a result of continued Israeli military occupation, Palestinian society lives in a state of chronic emergency where the protection, well-being and survival of individuals, families and communities is continuously at risk. Military incursions, sieges, demolition of houses and public properties, severe shortages in food and medications and other life essentials, loss of livelihoods, skyrocketing unemployment, and deep poverty are a daily reality for Palestinian communities across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In recent years, access for international humanitarian organizations has also deteriorated significantly due to the proliferation of checkpoints, closures and increasingly restrictive procedures at border crossings and checkpoints. In Lebanon, Palestinians also face crisis conditions, most recently due to the latest war with Israel and the siege of Nahr Al-Bared Refugee Camp. Ensuring the survival, protection and dignity of those living in emergency conditions through rapid and effective response remains an overall priority for WA.



Destroyed Buildings, Gaza

Main Achievements in 2008

Support to Needy Families (Family-to-Family) Project Funded by WA Friends Committee– Dubai: This project started in mid 2005, offering direct cash assistance to needy families. In 2008, the project distributed around USD 2 million in monthly cash assistance to 15,000 needy families in the West Bank and Gaza (see figure below).

Geographic distribution of benefiting families



Cash and In-kind Assistance: A value of USD262,000 in cash assistance was distributed to more than 2,500 poor families in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In addition to cash assistance, medications and medical supplies in the value of USD50,000 were procured for Al-Awdeh Hospital in Gaza Strip. The delivery of some of the equipment and surgical instruments began in order to upgrade the pediatric surgery department in the hospital. Provision of medications to Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza continued in order to be distributed free of charge to about 400 cases of women and children per month, in addition to the provision of accessories to operate the mammography machine. This sector also included the provision of daily meals to about 1,000 KG children and the distribution of food packages to 1,000 orphaned children and elderly people in Gaza Strip. Thirteen awareness-raising sessions on child nutrition were held with the participation of 60 KG managers and teachers in Gaza Strip.

Relief Services to People Displaced from Nahr Al-Bared Camp – Lebanon: WA continued to provide assistance to the people of Nahr Al-Bared camp in Lebanon. More than 600 domestic water heaters were installed. The building of Ghassan Karafani Association's KG was renovated and rehabilitated and the KG is now accommodating 155 children in morning and evening shifts within the preschool education program, in addition to 265 students in the refresher lessons program. Renovation and rehabilitation works were also carried out on the premises of the Psychological Support Centre run by the Social Najdeh Society in Nahr Al-Bared camp. The Microcredit Centre run by the Palestinian Arab Women Union was furnished and equipped. Medications were distributed to 600 patients with chronic illnesses in Nahr Al-Bared and Biddawi camps. In addition, milk packs were distributed to 960 families in Nahr Al-Bared camp, as well as 225 gifts in the form of children's pyjamas. Grants were offered to 30 beneficiaries to help them resume their enterprises, in addition to training in bookkeeping and management of small-scale projects.

Salam Ya Sghar Campaign: With support from the "Salam Ya Sghar Fund– Sharjeh Initiative in Support of Palestine Children," which was launched by HE Sheikha Jawaher Bint Mohammed Al-Qasimi, the Wife of the Ruler of Sharjeh and the Chairperson of the Supreme Council for Family Affairs in Sharjeh, aiming at creating smiles and happiness on the face of every Palestinian orphan that can be reached in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, recreational events and group fast-breaking meals were organized in the month of Ramadan for orphan children in all West Bank and Gaza governorates. Orphan children also received presents in the form of packages containing candy, stationery, educational games, wool blankets or winter pullover, in the value of USD42 per package. This activity was carried out in cooperation and coordination with 36 NGOs in the West Bank and 17 in Gaza Strip, which are concerned with caring for orphaned children. Over 9,000 orphan children benefited from this activity.

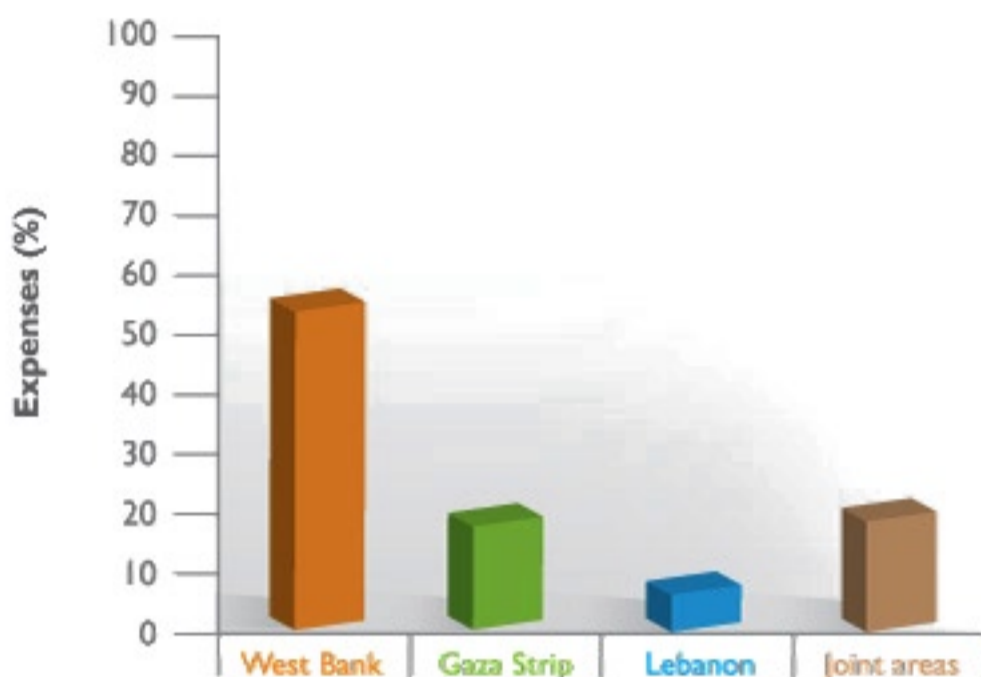


Children's Activity, Salam Ya Sghar Campaign

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✦✦ Expenditure by Region ✦✦

Expenditure on projects within the Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance Sector in 2008 was around USD3.8 million, with 56% spent on projects in the West Bank, 20% in Gaza Strip, 5% in Lebanon and 19% on projects in joint regions.



✦✦ List of Program Partners for 2008 ✦✦

West Bank:

Civil Committee of Nablus Governorate– Nablus, WA Friends Committee (Dubai), Palestinian Counseling Center.

Gaza:

Affected Families, Al-Ata Benevolent Association - Biet Hanon, Al-Bait Assamed Society, American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA), Deir Al-Balah Rehabilitation Society, Future Society for Deaf Adults, Jabalia Rehabilitation Society, Orphan Children In Gaza, Poor Families, Union of Health Work Committees.

Lebanon:

Several NGO's.

Other Partners:

Palestinian Orphan Children, Several NGO's.

MEDIA AND RESEARCH

In 2008, WA activities were widely publicized in the media, attracting the attention of most major media outlets and public interest:

Press

102 news articles on WA were published in local, regional and international media in 2008. These can be accessed from the [website: http://welfare-association.org/ar/content/blogcategory/1477/](http://welfare-association.org/ar/content/blogcategory/1477/)

Website

Welfare Association website was restructured and totally redesigned to reflect the new strategic plan

- 81,956 visitors browsed the WA website: www.welfareassociation.org
- 2136 searches were conducted on WA's website
- 26 updates were added to the WA website

Publications and Media

1. A flash about Welfare Association since its inception.
2. TV ad to announce the call for nominations for the WA Achievement Award
3. A booklet that described the history of WA in the past 25 years.
4. A booklet that contains the names of all individuals and organizations that supported WA since its inception.
5. Posters highlighting the milestones in the history of WA



WA Function, Dubai

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Research, Studies & Documentations

- Production of a book "For Palestine, People and Land"
- Implementation of a number studies:
 - The impact of Welfare Association Early Childhood Program
 - The impact of Welfare Association interventions in the Health Sector 2005 - 2007
 - Needs assessment for youth in Jerusalem
 - Needs assessment for Gaza Strip
 - Evaluating the implementation of the strategic plan in 2008
 - Developing the 2008-2011 strategy baseline.

THE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2008 (THE LATE ABDULAZIZ AL SHAKHASHIR AWARD)

Overview

In 2003, based on an initiative by a group of Board of Trustees members, WA developed an annual award system to recognize major donor agencies, Palestinian NGOs and individuals, who have made outstanding achievements in their fields while serving the welfare of the Palestinian society.

Award Categories

Philanthropy

in recognition of distinctive contributions by institutions and personalities over the years thus enabling the Association, as a leading Palestinian non-governmental development and humanitarian organization, to achieve its aims and carry out its mission.

Achievement

presented to civil society institutions that have achieved distinguished accomplishments in various developmental fields in service delivery and capacity building.

Excellence

presented to prominent individuals world-wide who have shown distinction in promoting the Palestinian development process in human, cultural, and science fields.

Award Committee for 2008 – 2011

Mrs. Rana Sadik – Chair
Dr. Mamdouh Aker
Mrs. Sawsan Al Fahoum Jafar

2008 Jury Committee

Ms. Fadwa Khadr
Dr. Khaled Abdel Shafi
Dr. Khaled Kawasmi
Dr. Samir Baidoon
Dr. Suleiman Al-Khalil

Winner of the 2008 Achievement Award Coalition for Integrity and Accountability-Aman

Coalition for Integrity and Accountability-Aman was announced as the winner of WA's 2008 Achievement Award at a reception organized during the Board of Trustees meeting. Aman was established in 2000 as a non-governmental institution by a number of Palestinian civil society organizations working in the fields of democracy, human rights, and good governance to promote the values of integrity, principles of transparency and systems of accountability in the various Palestinian sectors in the West Bank, Jerusalem, Gaza, 48 Areas and refugee camps in Lebanon. The Award was received by the organization deputy Mr. Azmi Al Shuaibi, in the presence of Mrs. Rana Sadik the Chairperson of the Award Committee, and the presence of a representative of Al-Shakhshir family. The cash prize of \$50,000 was donated by Mr. Akram Abdul Aziz Al-Shakhashir.



One of Aman's Activities 53

FINANCIAL REPORT

Overview

In 2008, WA maintained the disbursement of financial resources in accordance with the "Strategic Plan". Despite the financial crisis in the Arab region in particular and the world at large, expenditure in 2008 was over \$26.5 million. In addition, \$20 million has been paid this year directly to Palestinian universities to support higher education. WA has been successful in attracting funding from new institutions in order to achieve diversification of funds. Direct and indirect administrative costs reached about 13.5% of total disbursements in 2008.

In 2008, WA endowment decreased by about \$25 million (from \$73.4 million to \$48.78 million) which is 34% of its value at the beginning of 2008.



Financial Report Team- WA

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Revenues

For this fiscal year total revenues amounted to \$28.2 million, categorized into: \$19.0 million restricted donations, \$7.1 million to the endowment, \$2.1 million profits from investments and other income. This constitutes a decline (18%) from last year revenues which totaled \$34.5 million. This decline is due to the fact that the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Arab Monetary Fund, and OPEC Fund donated \$20 million directly to the Palestinian Universities rather than channeling the funds through Welfare Association, as in 2007.

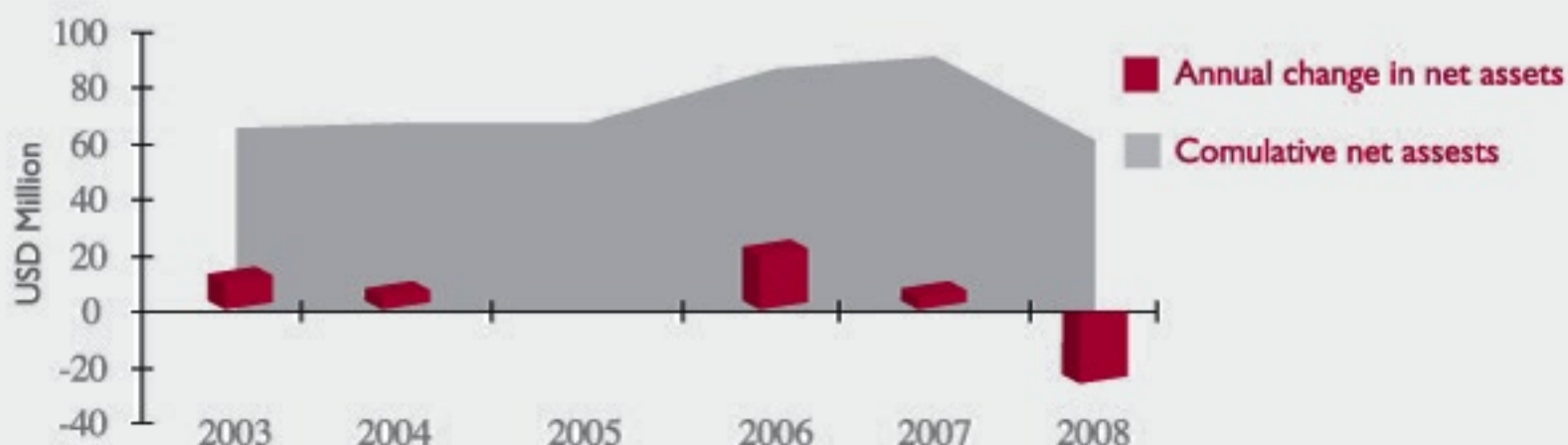
Expenses

Program and project expenditures for 2008 exceeded \$26.5 million, with a \$10.5 million decline from 2007 due to direct funding to the universities. These expenses were distributed to seven sectors. As mentioned before, this decrease related to the education sector.

Sector	Expenses \$
Education	2,301,916
Culture and the Arts	4,292,210
Economic and Community Development	12,796,391
Health	1,499,420
Legislation, Policy and Advocacy	597,831
Agriculture and Environment	1,183,236
Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance	3,869,596
Total	26,540,600

Net Assets

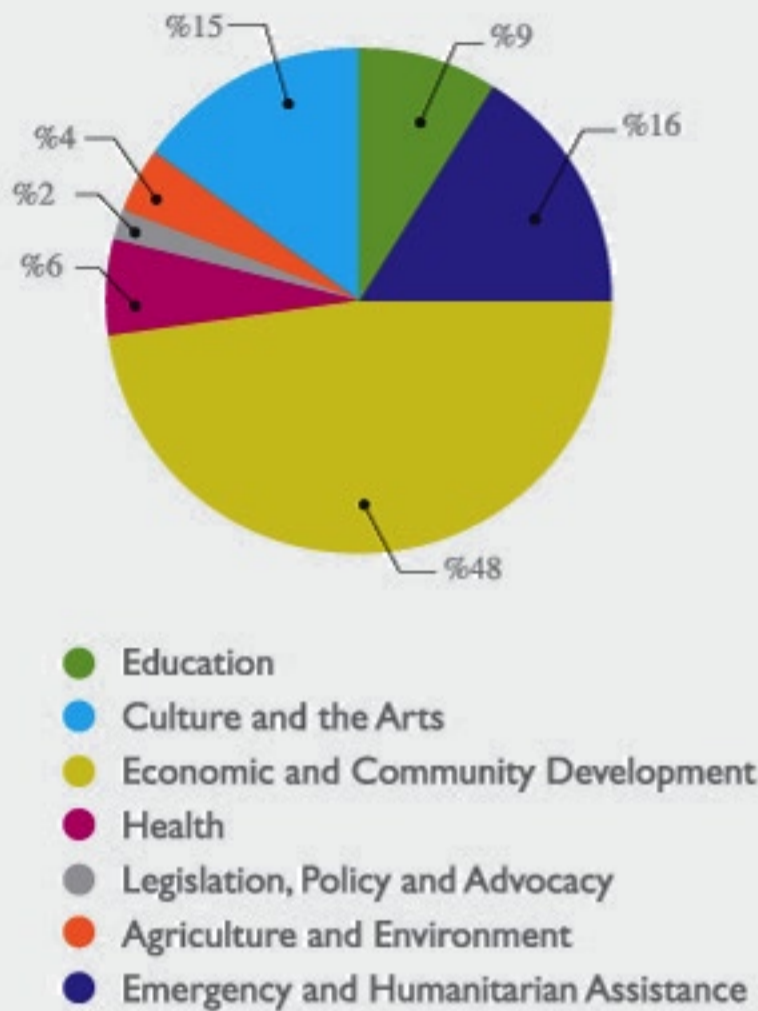
WA total net assets in 2008 decreased by about \$30 million to reach \$61.73 million. WA's endowment reached about \$48.78 million, representing 79% of the total net assets. The following figure demonstrates cumulative and annual changes in WA's net assets over the past 6 years.



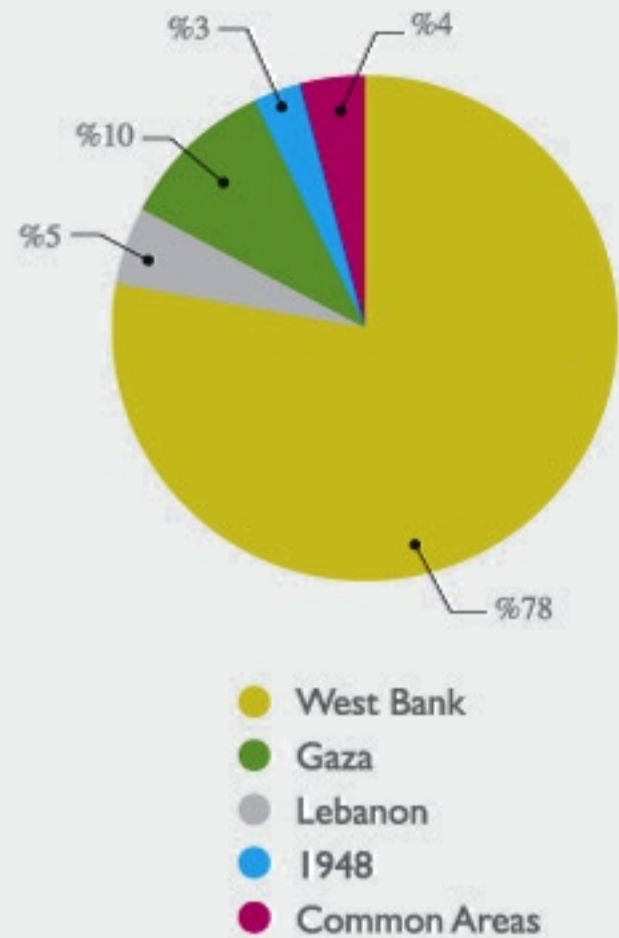
Activities as of 31/12/ 2008

:: Items ::	:: (\$Thousand) 2007 ::	:: (\$Thousand) 2008 ::
Revenues and Profits		
Donations to the Endowment	7,191	7,106
Donations and Grants	25,935	18,987
Earned Interests	882	356
Other Revenues	74	64
Profits from Investments	462	1,684
Total Revenues and Donations	34,544	28,197
Profits (Losses) Endowment	9,319	(28,266)
Program and Administrative Expenses		
Program Expenses		
Education		2,302
Culture and the Arts		4,292
Economic and Community Development		12,796
Health		1,500
Legislation, Policy and Advocacy		598
Agriculture and Environment		1,183
Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance		3,870
Total Program Expenses	37,088	26,541
Total Administrative Costs	2,478	2,832
Total Program & Administrative Expenses	39,566	29,373
Devaluations	197	88
Foreign Currency Estimation	(235)	(54)
Interest	256	0
Investment Fund Management Costs	115	135
Change in Net Assets	3,964	(29,611)

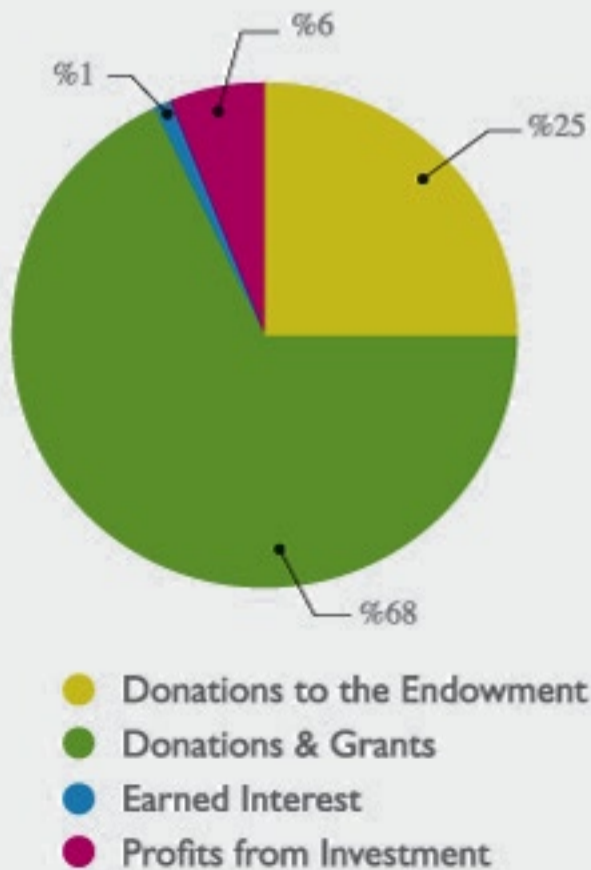
:: Program Expenses ::



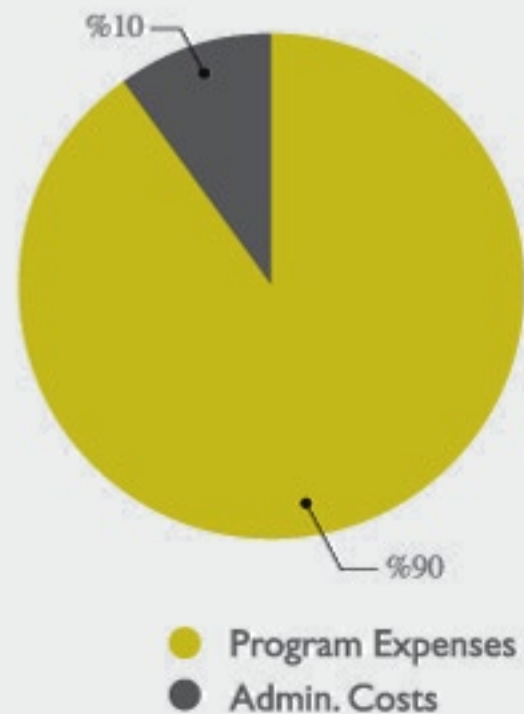
:: Expenditure by Region ::



:: Revenues & Donations ::



:: Resource Uses ::



Grateful for Your Partnership

The Welfare Association's work is made possible by those who generously share their resources and expertise. Listed here are a few of the many individuals, corporations, institutions and government agencies that are partnering with us to support sustainable development.

NGO's, Institutions and Target Groups

- :: A.M. Qattan Foundation- WB
- :: Adalah-The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel- 48
- :: Afaq Jadeeda Association- Gaza
- :: Affected Families- Gaza
- :: Agricultural Development Association (PARC)- Gaza
- :: Agricultural Engineering Home Society- AEHS- WB
- :: Ahali Center for Community Development- 48
- :: Ahali Alquds Club- WB
- :: Ahli Arab Hospital- Gaza
- :: Al- Amal Association for the Deaf- Qalqalia- WB
- :: Al- Najdeh Association- Lebanon
- :: Al- Quds University- WB
- :: Al- Zakah Committee- Nablus- WB
- :: Al-Ahleya Society for Development of Palm & Dates- Gaza
- :: Al-Ata Benevolent Association- Biet Hanon- Gaza
- :: Al-Awqaf, Al-Mirsat Association- WB
- :: Al-Bait Assamed Society- Gaza
- :: Al-Dahreyyeh Society for Rural Development- WB
- :: Al-Fadeela Association- Gaza
- :: Al-Hares Center for Studies & Media- WB
- :: Al-Kamandjati Association, Al-Quds Club- WB
- :: Al-Kasaba-Theatre & Cinematheque- WB
- :: Al-Laz- Mazen Ghattas Theatre- 48
- :: Al-Makassed Hospital- WB
- :: Al-Makassed Islamic Charitable Society- Jerusalem
- :: Al-Nayzak for Extracurricular Education & Scientific Innovation- WB
- :: Al-Sadiq AL-Taieb Association- WB
- :: Al-Tufula: Pedagogical Centre- Nazareth Nurseries Institute- 48
- :: Al-Wafa Rehabilitation Society- Gaza
- :: Al-Wedad Society for Community Rehabilitation- Gaza
- :: American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) - Gaza
- :: Amir Challenges Association R.A- 48
- :: Anata Center for Culture and Education - WB
- :: Arab Association for Human Rights- Nazareth- 48
- :: Arab Center for Agricultural Development- Gaza
- :: Arab Center for Agricultural Development- WB
- :: Arab Center for Popular Arts- Lebanon
- :: Arab Counseling Center for Education (ACCE)- WB
- :: Arab Cultural Society- Nazareth- 48
- :: Arab Foundation Forum- Common Areas
- :: Arab Society For Orphans- Tulkarem- WB
- :: Arab Studies Society- WB
- :: Arab Thought Forum- WB
- :: Arabeh Municipality- Arabeh- WB
- :: Ashtar for Theatre Productions & Training- WB
- :: Ass. for the Defense of the Rights of the Internally Displaced in Israel- 48
- :: Association for Arab Youth- Baladna- Hifa- 48
- :: Association for the Development of Palestine
- :: Camps- Lebanon
- :: Association of Women Committees for Social Work- Gaza
- :: Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children- Gaza
- :: BADIL- Resource Center for Palestinian Residency & Refugee Rights- WB
- :: Beit Doqu Development Society- WB
- :: Beit Fajar Ladies Association- WB
- :: Beit Reema Cultural Center- Beit Reema Women Center- WB
- :: Bila Hudood Association- Lebanon
- :: Birzeit University- WB
- :: Blind Rehabilitation Society- Jenin- WB
- :: Bunian Association for Training- Gaza
- :: Burj AL-Luqluq Social Center Society- WB
- :: Burqa Club Sports- Social Cultural- WB
- :: Care for Children with Special Needs Society- WB
- :: Central National Committee for Rehabilitation- Jerusalem- WB
- :: Centre for Jerusalem Studies- Al-Quds University- WB
- :: Charitable Association for Elderly and the Handicapped- WB
- :: Civil Committee of Nablus Governorate- Nablus- WB
- :: Committee for School Development / Kofar Neama
- :: Secondary Girls School- WB
- :: Community Based Rehabilitation Association- Lebanon
- :: Community College of Applied Science & Technology- Gaza
- :: Cooperative Society for Development of Livestock- WB
- :: Coordination Committee of the Community

Grateful for Your Partnership

- Rehabilitation Center,
- :: Cultural Association for Heritage Protection- Gaza
- :: Culture and Free Thought Association- Gaza
- :: Dar Eltefel Al-Arabi- 48
- :: De La Salle Club- Jerusalem-WB
- :: Deir Al-Balah Rehabilitation Society- Gaza
- :: Development Action Without Borders- NABA'A- Lebanon
- :: Dier Ibzai Cultural Association- WB
- :: District Council for Unrecognized Villages in the Naqab Area- Naqab- 48
- :: Doctor Union-WB
- :: Early Childhood Resource Center-WB
- :: East Jerusalem Young Men Christian Association-YMCA-WB
- :: Ein Al-Beidah Society for Handicraft- WB
- :: El-Nuzha El-Hakawati / Palestinian National Theatre- Jerusalem-WB
- :: Ensan Center for Democracy & Human Rights- Bethlehem -WB
- :: Evaluation & Community Studies Women Unit,
- :: Familia Production- Common Areas
- :: Families and Institutions in Jerusalem and Nablus- WB
- :: Foundation for Health & Social Development- Juzoor-WB
- :: Future Society for Deaf Adults- Gaza
- :: Future Youth Institute- WB
- :: Gaza Immediate Voluntary Relief Effort- Gaza
- :: Gaza Mental Program, Islamic University- Gaza
- :: Ghassan Kanafani Cultural Foundation- Lebanon
- :: Handalah Cultural Center, Infrastructure - WB
- :: Hawwa Society Center for Culture& Arts- WB
- :: Hayat Society for Rehabilitation and Relief of Disabled-WB
- :: Health Care Society- Beirut- Lebanon
- :: Health Care Society- Beirut, Popular Aid for Relief and Development- Lebanon Several NGO's- Lebanon
- :: Hebron Chamber of Commerce and Industry-WB
- :: Hewart - The Arab Association for Alternative Education- 48
- :: Hospitals & Medical Clinics-WB
- :: House of Fine Arts Cognition & Culture- 48
- :: Ibn Khaldun -The Association for Research & Development- 48
- :: Institute for Jerusalem Studies- Jerusalem- WB
- :: Ittijah- Union of Arab Community Based Associations- 48
- :: Jabalia Rehabilitation Society- Gaza
- :: Jasmine Charitable Society-WB
- :: Jenin Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Society- WB
- :: Jerusalem Community-WB
- :: Joint Community Services Council for Regional IT Center-WB
- :: Kannan Association for Community Development- Gaza
- :: Khan Younis Zakat Committee- Gaza
- :: Kharas Municipality- Hebron-WB
- :: Local Committee for Rehabilitation of the Disabled- AIDheesheh- WB
- :: Love & Peace Home for Childhood & Motherhood- Ramallah- WB
- :: Ma'an Development Center- Gaza
- :: Ma'an Development Center- Ramallah-WB
- :: Mada Al-Carmel-The Arab Center for Applied Social Research- 48
- :: Maghazi Cultural Center- Gaza
- :: Masar- Institute for Education- 48
- :: Ministry of Education and Higher Education Common Areas
- :: Ministry of Education and Higher Education- WB
- :: Ministry of Health- Nablus-WB
- :: Ministry of National Economy-WB
- :: Ministry of Waqf & Religious Affairs- Gaza
- :: Mothers School Society- Nablus- WB
- :: Mount of Olives Club- WB
- :: Municipality of Qalqilya- WB
- :: Nabeel Badran Handicapped Center- Lebanon
- :: Nabila Breir Educational Foundation- Lebanon
- :: Nablus Emergency Restoration- WB
- :: Nablus Municipality- WB
- :: National Association of Moderation & Development- Gaza
- :: National Foundation for Health Social and Educational Services- Lebanon
- :: National Institute for Social Care and Vocational Training- Lebanon
- :: National Society for Rehabilitation- Gaza
- :: NGO Development Center (NDC)- WB
- :: Norwegian People's Aid- Gaza
- :: Norwegian People's Aid- Lebanon
- :: Old City Counseling Center- Caritas Jerusalem-WB
- :: Orphan Children In Gaza- Gaza
- :: Oushaq Society for Arts- WB
- :: Palestine Disability Forum- Lebanon
- :: Palestine Polytechnic University- Hebron-WB
- :: Palestine Red Crescent Society- ALBireh- WB
- :: Palestine Red Crescent Society/Alssawia Branch -WB
- :: Palestine Wildlife Society- Bethlehem- WB
- :: Palestinian Arab Women League- Lebanon
- :: Palestinian Academic and Cultural Project (PACP)-PNGO- Common Areas
- :: Palestinian Academic and Cultural Project (PACP)-PNGO-WB
- :: Palestinian Academic Society for International Affairs (PASSIA)- WB
- :: Palestinian Art Court- Al-Hoash- WB
- :: Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange (PACE)- WB
- :: Palestinian Banking Corporation- WB
- :: Palestinian Center for Human Rights- PCHR- Gaza
- :: Palestinian Counseling Center- WB
- :: Palestinian Future Society for Democracy & Development- WB
- :: Palestinian Orphan Childrens- Common Areas



Grateful for Your Partnership

Arab Financial Institutions

- Arab Gulf Program for UN Development Organizations (AGFUND)
- Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development
- Islamic Development Bank
- Salam Ya Seghar Fund

European, American and International Funds

- World Bank
- ACD (Anonymous Corporate Donor)
- AFD - Agency Francaise De Development
- Austrian Development Agency
- British Lottery Fund
- ECHO
- Norwegian Representative Office
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- WA-UK

Companies and Firms

- Fortune International Trading Co. LLC (LG)
- Korn/ Ferry
- Zami Enterprises SAL (Offshore)

Donors for Campaigns

Endowment

- Abdul Halim Muwahid
- Abdul Muhsin Al-Qattan
- Ali Radwan
- Amjad Dweik
- Azmi Abdul Hadi
- Bisher Jardaneh
- Faisal Alami
- Hashem Hashem
- Khaldoun Tabari
- Marwan AlSayeh
- Mohamed Abu Issa
- Mohammad Al-Hudhud
- Munib Rashid Masri
- Munir Kaloti
- Munzer Khalidi
- Sheikh Nahayan Al Nahyan
- Rana Abdul Halim Muwahid
- Riad Kamal
- Sa'd Abdul Hadi on behalf of late Faisal Abdul Hadi
- Said Khoury
- Samer Khoury
- Samira Bayram
- Sawsan Jafar
- UBS
- Yusuf Alami
- Yousef As'ad

Gaza 2008 Campaign

- Abdul Khaliq Natour
- Advanced Engineering Group
- Arab International Company for Agricultural Development
- Abdul Muhsin Al-Qattan
- Abdul-Kareem Al-Mahmoud
- Abdul-Muhsen Al Fawazan
- Aida Najjar
- Akram Sheik Yassin
- Al Ansari Exchange
- Alia Hammad
- Amman Ladies / Jordan
- Anis Kassim
- Arabtech Jardaneh
- ARAMEX
- Basel Naqib
- Consolidated Contractors Company
- Donors by Rana Sadik
- Donors during the Gala Lunch which was held by Sahar Khoury & Nadia Al Shawwa
- Donors from Kuwait by Anis Kassim
- Families in Lebanon in Solidarity with Families in Palestine
- Fatima Karram
- Fouad Oweis
- Ghassan Najatee
- Haidar Shihabi
- Hala Hammad
- Hala Zawati
- Hanan Arafat
- Hasan Al Alami
- Hiyam Dajani Sharif
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- :: St. Mary & St. Peter the Boltons
- :: Widad Al Ati

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Calendar 2008 Campaign

- :: United Engineering Const. (UNEC)
- :: Arab Center for Commerce & Real Estate
- :: Arabia Insurance Company
- :: Arabtech Jardaneh
- :: ARAMEX
- :: Gezairi Transport
- :: HBK Investments Advisory

Calendar 2009 Campaign

- :: Al Hani Construction & Trading Co.
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- :: Consolidated Contractors Company (C.C.C)
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- :: PADICO- Palestine Development & Investment Ltd.
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