



التعاون  
Taawon



Every Gesture Leaves an Impact

Annual Report

2020



Every Gesture Leaves an Impact

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## Message from the Chairman

### Bisher Jardaneh

Taawon's record of more than 37 years of work reflects an extensive journey full of achievements, reinforced by strong partnerships and an accumulation of expertise that enabled it to overcome obstacles and the difficult circumstances facing the country. Despite the challenges, Taawon has been able to find innovative and creative solutions to bolster its expertise, particularly during crisis; thus, making its programs more responsive to the needs of the precarious social and economic structures.

Since its establishment in 1983, Taawon has become one of the largest organizations working in Palestine and the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, touching the lives of more than a million Palestinians on an annual basis, with half of these beneficiaries being women. Over this time, Taawon invested an estimated \$ 800 million in implementing development and relief programs in its various areas of work. Taawon maintains a presence in Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Switzerland and in Great Britain through its sister organization.

Despite the extraordinary circumstances imposed by the "COVID-19" pandemic since the beginning of 2020, Taawon maintained its long-established standards of high national and professional commitment and succeeded in conducting virtual general institutional elections for the 2020-2023 term where a new Board of Directors was established; Chairs of Specialized Committees were elected to serve over the next three years and a General Assembly President was elected.

Based on its pursuit of continuous growth and development in accordance with its three-year plan-based approach, Taawon developed the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan. On one hand, the plan aims to continue consolidating the foundations Taawon was built on, supported by its administrative, financial and program components; while on the one hand, it seeks to build on cumulative achievements and taking new leaps in organizational excellence by adopting new strategic trends that are smart solutions based to effectively address institutional governance and make a greater programmatic impact on the ground.

Despite political, public health and economic challenges, in 2020, Taawon succeeded in continuing to carry out its mission that focuses on strengthening the resilience of Palestinians, empowering, developing their capabilities, preserving their heritage and identity, supporting the living culture, and building civil society. Taawon carried out this work by methodically identifying the needs and priorities of the Palestinian people and working to find appropriate mechanisms to maximize benefits from the available funding sources.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of developing certain sectors and areas of intervention that can help absorb tremors and reduce their severity (within the available means) to ensure that at least minimum basic services are provided to citizens, which is a key pillar to developing the standard of living as well as economic and service capacity. The pandemic placed additional responsibility on our shoulders to be responsive to the needs of our people and to continue the path forward as a leading development institution making a positive impact on the ground.

In 2021, we will continue Taawon's legacy of supporting humanitarian and development work in Palestine, with a focus on education, community development, culture, old city revitalization and youth empowerment. We will continue to support Palestinians to strengthen their resilience and empowering them to overcome obstacles.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all our friends, partners, and donors for believing in Taawon's mission and its significant role, who, if not for their support, we would not have been able to achieve our goals. I would also like to thank members of the Board of Trustees, Board of Directors, institutional committees, task groups, and the executive team for their tireless and outstanding work. Their efforts contributed to accomplishing Taawon's strategies, policies and plans in 2020, in hopes that in 2021, the world will be able to overcome this pandemic and recover from its impact.



## Message from the Director General

### Yara Salem

2020 was an extraordinary year not only for the Palestinians, but for the world at large. The outbreak of the “COVID-19” virus across the globe imposed abnormal conditions never witnessed by mankind in the public health, social and economic spheres. Developed countries stood powerless in the face of this pandemic and these challenges were further exacerbated in poor and developing countries.

As for Palestinians, whose life circumstances have never been ordinary, these challenges intensified last year, placing additional responsibilities on Taawon to respond to the emergency situation through a development lens by creating sustainable partnerships and undertake a rapid relief response to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on the public health and humanitarian sectors. This effort required adapting to present demands and continuous adaption and improvement to ensure the continuity of the interventions through implementation of development projects utilizing proper tools and means.

The pandemic posed numerous challenges on the geopolitical, funding, and strategic levels as well as on the ability to effectively deliver results. We did not sit idly. Rather, we quickly responded to the state of emergency by intensifying our efforts to support our people and, we had a significant impact, particularly in strengthening the preparedness of the Palestinian health sector. Our teams worked as one family through a performance that demonstrates true professionalism, creativity, innovation, and adaptation to ever-changing circumstances.

Taawon also launched a joint initiative with the public and private sectors as well as with civil society organizations to establish a platform for in-depth strategic dialogue. The purpose of this initiative is to provide a hub for public, private and civil society institutions within each sector to promote dialogue among themselves in order to support each other and to formulate a common vision for action, sharing experiences and information, and sharing studies and research that can be built upon to support the development of these sectors at this current time and in the future.

Our hard work culminated in winning, for the third consecutive year, the 2020 Annual Mahatma Gandhi Award for Humanitarian work for our efforts in facing the “COVID-19” pandemic.

On the strategic level, we developed the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan under the theme “Resilience and Empowerment” focusing on programs, communication and outreach, engagement, human resources, digital transformation, and fundraising.

On the programmatic level, we completed many projects on the ground and we were able to launch new ones despite the difficulties we faced due to the state of emergency, closures, and the over-stretched donor capacity. Our projects touched the lives of more than one million Palestinians in both Palestine and in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

In terms of funding, we succeeded in mobilizing \$ 40 million from various Arab and foreign sources, and we were able to attract new individual and institutional donors despite the difficult circumstances. We signed memorandums of understanding and cooperation agreements with local and international partners. We were also successful in achieving 85% of our spending targets and we are pleased to have secured the 2021 budget valued at \$ 40 million to implement our projects that focus on agriculture, health, culture, youth, education, and the revitalization of old cities, including Jerusalem.

In terms of engagement and outreach, we strengthened Taawon’s presence on social media platforms and through various media outlets. We conducted weekly discussion panels to highlight the impact of various interventions that we implement and manage. We also celebrated the announcement of winners of the 2019 Taawon Awards for Excellence and Creativity and kicked-off the 2020 Awards.

While we look forward to the new year with much promise and hope, we are eager and highly motivated to continue working towards achieving our strategic objectives. We are proud of our 2020 achievements in spite of all the challenges. We thank everyone that supported us including our donors, partners, and the Taawon team, as these achievements would not have been possible without their efforts.

## About US

Taawon was founded in 1983 with the aim of becoming the leading non-governmental development organization in Palestine. The word 'Taawon' embodies our core values of working together, hand in hand, for a more prosperous and humane region.

At Taawon, we are dedicated to investing in the development of Palestine and Palestinians, protecting Palestine's heritage and identity, and maintaining its sense of community. We take pride in improving the lives of many Palestinians by allowing individuals to enrich their communities.

Taawon is headquartered in Ramallah, and has offices in London, Geneva, Beirut, Amman, Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. Our work is served by 64 employees; our programs and interventions cover the West Bank including Jerusalem, Gaza Strip, 1948 areas, and refugee camps in Lebanon.

## Vision, mission, values

### Vision

Taawon seeks to strengthen resilience of Palestinian people as citizens in an Arab Palestine enjoying independence, freedom, and where they can live in dignity, prosperity, and self-fulfillment, with equitable access to opportunities to realize their full potential with distinction and creativity.

### Mission

Taawon strives to become the leading Palestinian non-governmental development organization, that makes a distinguished contribution towards furthering the progress of Palestinians, preserving their heritage and identity, supporting their living culture and building civil society by methodically identifying the Palestinian people's needs and priorities and establishing the soundest mechanisms to maximize the benefits from the available funding resources.

### Values

National commitment, independence, and professionalism.

Part of the training under the "Technologically -empowered Teacher" project implemented by Al Nayzak Organization for Supportive Education & Scientific Innovation, funded by the Arab Fund.



## Institutional Elections

In 2020, Taawon held its general institutional elections for the 2020-2023 term. The elections were held virtually due to health precautions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board of Trustees unanimously elected Bisher Jardaneh as Chairman with Omar Abdulhadi and Samer Khouri as Vice Chairs, Abdulaziz Al Mulla as Treasurer and Misha'l Abu Shukhaidem to serve as Secretary General.

A new Board of Directors was established with Luay Khoury serving as Chair and Bassam Kanaan as Vice Chair. Elections were also held for Chairs of Specialized Committees that will serve over the next three years. The General Assembly elected Sa'd Abdul Hadi as its Chair and Dr. Saleh Jallad as his Deputy, while Taghrid Nafeisi was elected as Secretary.

In conjunction with the elections, Taawon held its General Assembly, Board of Trustees, Board of Directors and the institutional committee meetings, in the presence of Board of Trustees Chairman, Faisal Alami; General Assembly Chairman, Tayseer Barakat; Board of Directors Chairman, Luay Khoury; members of the Board of Directors; Taawon's Director General, Yara Salem, and a wide range of General Assembly members.

The meetings reviewed the performance of the Board of Trustees for the (2017-2020) term, which was marked by clear achievements on programmatic and institutional levels. Notable growth also took place in Taawon's programs and strategic direction. Taawon invested \$ 166 million across seven core programs and was successful in fundraising more than \$ 162 million from donors, thanks to the commitment and dedication of the team and the generous support of members, the specialized committees, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Directors.

This term witnessed Taawon's recognition for several international awards including the Mahatma Gandhi Award for Social work in New York for the year 2018; "Asia's Best Sustainability Report with Stakeholders" as part of the Asia Sustainability Reporting Award in Singapore for 2018; Ockendon Prize for best project (LIFE project in Lebanon), 2018; Mahatma Gandhi Award for Social Work in New York, 2019; the "Agha Khan Award for Architectural" for the Palestinian Museum 2019; in addition to the ISO9001:2015 certification that includes the entire organization and its operations; the Green environment certification for the Palestinian Museum, 2017 and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) certification- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Mapping Certificate for 2016.

In terms of media, Taawon continued to work on developing its institutional identity and improving media products. Taawon adopted a policy of publishing content on social media platforms and in the media in general as well as strengthening relationships with the media by conducting meetings and site-visits to Taawon projects.

A crowdfunding campaign was launched to solicit funding, specifically the "Ramadan Campaign to Support Jerusalem Hospitals" and the "Emergency Campaign to Face the COVID-19 Pandemic" in addition to expanding fundraising activities to solicit new donors and geographic locations.

In their meeting, the Board of Directors adopted the revised 2020 budget and the 2020-2022 IT Strategic Plan. Following elections, the newly elected Board of Trustees convened, followed by a meeting of the new Board of Directors. In 2020, Taawon's institutional committees continued to meet and work on Taawon's Development Initiative.

## Strategic Plan "Resilience and Empowerment"

Based on its continuous pursuit for development and growth and in line with the three-year plan- approach, Taawon launched its strategic plan 2020-2022 under the theme "resilience and empowerment" with a budget of \$130.5 million dispersed on four main programs: education, culture, community development including orphan support, revitalization of old cities and cross-cutting themes of youth empowerment and civil society development.

The plan was developed with the aim of continuing to consolidate the foundations Taawon was built on, supported by its administrative, financial and program pillars on the one hand, while on the other, building on cumulative achievements and making advances in organizational excellence by adopting new strategic trends that are smart-solutions based to effectively address institutional governance issues and make a programmatic impact on the ground.

The plan sets a strategic goal of empowering Palestinian citizens and civil society organizations, socially and economically in Palestine and Lebanon through strengthening Palestinian resilience and preserving the living culture based on Taawon's mandate as well as Palestinian national plans, the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan and international human rights principles.

The plan focuses on four main program areas: education, culture, community development and revitalization of old cities in addition to prioritizing financial sustainability to empower Palestinian society and its institutions. The plan also addresses developing and strengthening strategic partners and working within new horizons; strengthening relationships and partnerships with the public and private sectors, civil society organizations and respective UN agencies to establish Taawon as a hub for empowering community work, a platform for ideas, a center for program initiatives, a catalyst for civil society organizations, and a strategic partner in the social development process. The plan also focuses on digital transformation mechanisms and utilizing technology in all operations.

In addition to building on results of previous assessment studies and consultative meetings, Taawon discussed the strategic plan with a number of partners and civil society organizations through dialogue platforms that Taawon established during the COVID-19 pandemic. These platforms aim to strengthen dialogue; to formulate a vision for joint work and to exchange expertise and information to support the development of various sectors at this current time and in the future.

Taawon pursues a development vision in designing and implementing various interventions and programs based on its mission to strengthen the resilience of Palestinian citizens while enabling them to achieve self-reliance amid the difficult circumstances. Taawon takes into account the standards of continuity and sustainability at various levels and within multiple areas, including financial and environmental sustainability, impact sustainability, in addition to the sustained delivery of services.

Taawon also delivers basic humanitarian aid in cases of disaster and emergencies to citizens living in areas of its presence while augmenting this with a clear development track. Taawon's modus operandi aims to link relief, recovery, empowerment, and development efforts.

### The 2022-2020 Strategic Plan focuses on the following:

1. Adopting a more integrated programmatic approach, grouped into the four following programs:
  - Education
  - Culture
  - Old Cities of Jerusalem Revitalization
  - Community Development
2. Infusing all four programs with key strategies for transformation that also ensures sustainable change.
3. Empowering civil society organizations through strategic partnerships and capacity development efforts in governance, digitization, and other key capacity areas.
4. The digitization of all internal and external operations with our stakeholders.

## Governance

Taawon's three governing bodies include: the General Assembly, Board of Trustees, and the Board of Directors.



Khalidiya Library Annex Renovation in Jerusalem - Old Cities of Jerusalem Revitalization Program (OCJRP)



## Governance Framework

Our General Assembly is composed of 109 members (22% are women); the Board of Directors consists of 12 members (17% are women) and the Board of Trustees consists of 43 members (28% are women). All members serving in Taawon's three governing bodies are over 30 years in age; 26 are between the ages of 30 and 50, and 173 are over 50 years in age (87%). We have a clear policy targeting increasing youth representation within the institutional bodies over the course of the coming five years.

## Organizational Excellence

We continuously strive to adopt world-class systems to ensure an efficient executive management framework. This includes adopting a series of quality management systems, adopting reporting standards for the purpose of continuously monitoring and developing our performance and evaluating our work.

## Quality Certifications

Taawon is currently ISO 9001:2015 certified, which is a testament to our outstanding management efforts. Our significant focus on the targeted groups, the motivation of senior management and consistent improvements have earned us this accreditation. In parallel, we adopted an Environmental Quality System and obtained the ISO 14001:2015 certification.



## Digitization

Taawon continued to fully implement the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to increase work efficiency and facilitate the reporting and decision-making processes. We also developed an Information Technology (IT) Strategy in preparation for the smooth and successful implementation of the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan. The IT Strategy was developed in line with directives from the Board of Trustees to pursue a full shift to digital operations with all relevant stakeholders, commensurate with global developments and to embrace digital transformation and growth.

Finally, we upgraded the "Taawon" Application and look forward to launching a fully revamped and more interactive version in 2021. We also expanded our online fundraising campaigns, giving our donors around the world the opportunity to make contributions of any value.

## Awards and Recognitions



For the third consecutive year, Taawon won the "Mahatma Gandhi" Annual Award. The award committee in India announced Taawon as the winner of the "Mahatma Award" 2020 for humanitarian work in facing the "COVID-19" pandemic.

## Taawon in the COVID-19 Era



In response to the new reality created by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Taawon swiftly acted to launch the “Palestine is Calling” campaign, to support our people and strength the preparedness of the health sector in facing the pandemic. The campaign targeted the West Bank including Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip. On a parallel track, the “We Are All One Hand” campaign was launched to support Palestinians in refugee camps in Lebanon that suffer from poor living conditions by providing them with support to access basic food necessities and sanitary items.

These two campaigns were successful in raising \$ 6,700,000 million (six million for the Palestine is Calling campaign and \$ 700,000 for the We Are All One Hand campaign), exceeding expected targets.

The “Palestine is Calling” campaign was based on four main themes: supporting the preparedness of the public health sector by providing medical equipment and consumables; providing emergency humanitarian and health needs to marginalized groups; providing emergency food needs to marginalized families in the Gaza Strip during Ramadan, as well as providing preventive and safety supplies to nursing homes and orphanages. The campaign targeted 160 institutions and reached approximately 238,000 direct beneficiaries and 850,000 indirect beneficiaries. Taawon provided consumables and medical equipment valued at \$ 1.5 million in addition to supporting 500 small producers, helping to boost the Palestinian economy.

The “We Are All One Hand” campaign provided basic food necessities and sanitary items to more than 8,500 Palestinian refugee families living below the poverty line. The campaign covered 40% of all Palestinian families living in refugee camps in Lebanon, specifically targeting the Baddawi, Nahr Al-Bared, Dbayeh, Rashidiya, Al-Bass, Burj Al-Shemali, and Wadi Al-Zeina camps.

Funding sources for these two campaigns varied between Arab and foreign institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, as well as Taawon members and supporters from all over the world. Taawon also succeeded in restoring a number of previous funding partnerships in addition to forming new partnerships.

Over the course of an extraordinary 2020, Taawon, through its Board of Trustees, management, institutional committees, and executive management structures in all its areas of work, closely followed the COVID-19 pandemic developments and acted in coordination with the Palestinian Ministry of Health, the World Health Organization, and relevant institutions to maximize the impact of its interventions.

Taawon utilized all its resources to serve our country and our people, helping them to overcome this crisis and providing needs based on the available resources.

## Continuity of work despite the circumstances

In times of crises, the ability of institutions to adapt and carry-on their work with flexibility shines through. Taawon continued to be highly effective despite the pandemic. This was not the first experience in which the institution operated under exceptional circumstances; however, this is the longest period of remote work. The various teams of Taawon developed action plans and follow-up mechanisms, particularly for emergency intervention projects addressing the pandemic. Daily and weekly online meetings were conducted virtually in addition to regular meetings with staff in the Ramallah, Jerusalem, Gaza, Lebanon, and Jordan offices to coordinate and follow-up on new developments and their potential programming impact.

Taawon played a pioneering role in establishing various platforms focusing on in-depth strategic dialogue, in partnership with the public and private sector as well as civil society. These platforms aim to provide joint support in light of the crisis, and to formulate a vision for joint work as well as exchange expertise and information to support and develop various sectors at this current time and in the future.

Five coordination meetings were organized for Taawon’s key engagement sectors including: education, youth empowerment, health, agriculture, and culture. Discussions focused on the role each sector can play in social and economic empowerment in the post COVID-19 era and how these platforms can develop emergency and future interventions within each sector.

To help publicize this pioneering experience, Taawon produced a booklet containing five publications that highlight the most important strategies addressed to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the institutional and programmatic level through Taawon’s development and relief interventions as well as relationships with partners and donors.

**Link to the Publications  
of Taawon in the time  
of corona:**





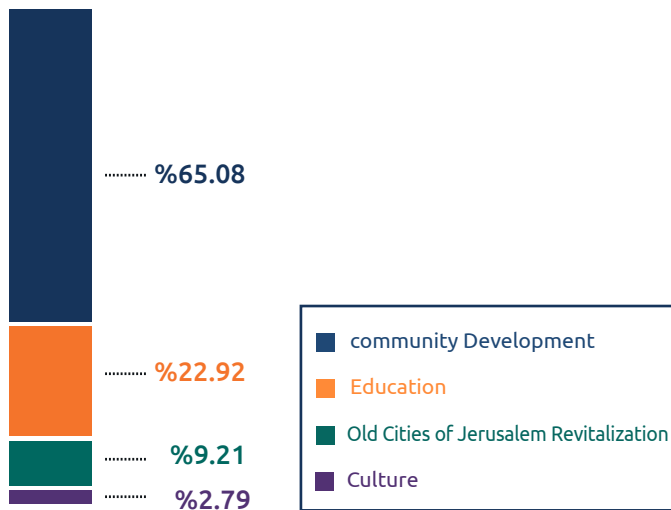


## 2020 Financial Indicators

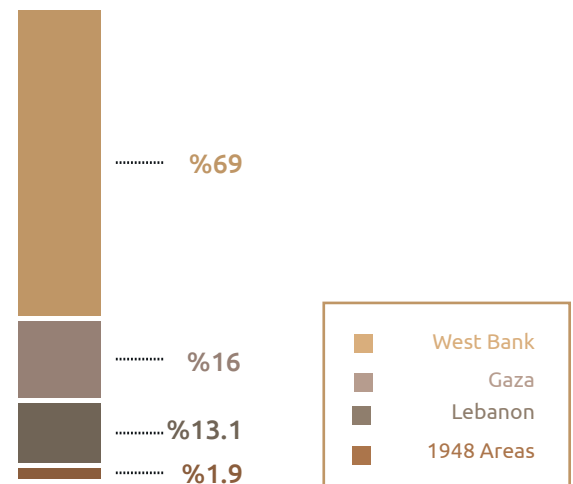
### Spending

The total disbursements in 2020 were about 45.1 M\$, of which 41 M\$ were invested in our programs, as shown in the following charts:

Expenditure by Program



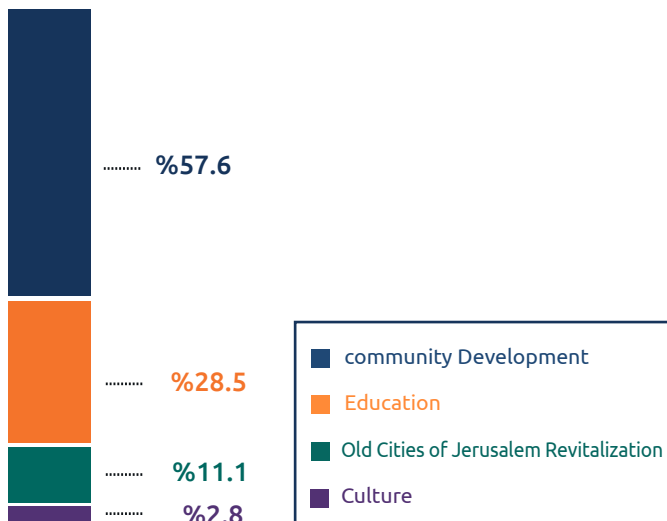
Expenditure by Location



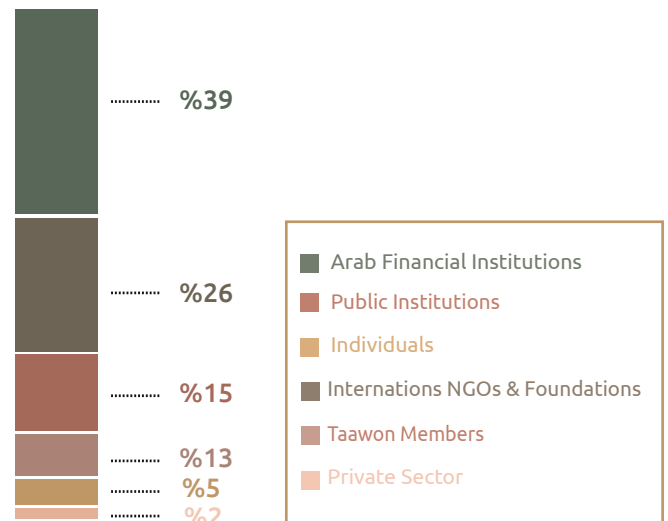
### Revenues

Total revenues in 2020 amounted to 38.1 M\$, while program revenues amounted to 35.9 M\$, distributed as follows:

Revenues by Program



Revenues by Source



M\$ Million Dollar

## Diversification of Resources

At Taawon, we continuously work towards diversifying our partners and supporters to guarantee financial sustainability. Over the past year, we expanded our donor base by reaching out to more funding partners in new geographical areas in order to attract new members and increase funding levels. Our communication and outreach efforts succeeded in expanding the base of potential partners in the United States and Europe, where we reached out to many Palestinians that live in these areas, in addition to other individuals that are committed to supporting the Palestinian people. We also conducted several crowd-funding campaigns to diversify our resources and to fundraise from the public. Our efforts in this sphere included:

“Palestine Calling” and “Together We Can” campaigns succeeded in raising nearly \$ 6,700,000 million, exceeding targets.



## Together We Can

To support Palestinian refugees families in Lebanon

“Solidarity with Beirut” campaign, succeeded in raising \$ 250,000, which was dedicated to rehabilitating the Beirut Government Hospital, Al-Karantina and providing a wide-range of new equipment and supplies to safeguard the continuity of hospital work after it was almost completely destroyed in the Beirut explosion of August 2020.

in Solidarity with  
**BEIRUT**



# 3800

is not merely a number  
behind each number there  
is a story of a patient



A campaign supporting the Dunya Women’s Cancer Clinic, to procure new medical equipment to increase early breast cancer detection by providing advanced diagnostic services in Palestine.



## Education Program

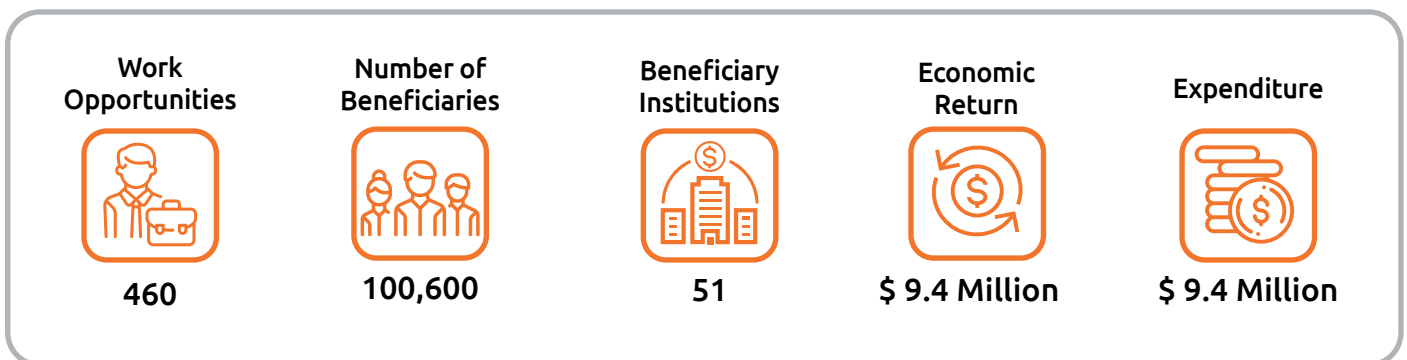


### Investing in People

#### Overview

The Taawon Education Program strives towards strengthening Palestine’s educational system, and in turn graduating healthy students that can lead productive and fulfilling lives. Our interventions in the education sphere span the essential stages of early-childhood education, basic education, and university education. We adopt an integrated approach that addresses physical infrastructure, educator capacity building, inclusivity of children with disabilities, as well as financial aid and support at all levels. Specifically, our interventions across these different stages include:

- Early-Childhood Education, inclusive interventions for improving kindergarten infrastructure, educational environment, and services.
- Basic Education, includes a series of interventions addressing school infrastructure (renovation, infrastructure enhancements, labs establishment), student support (enhancing schools’ accessibility), teacher training programs, support programs for children at risk of dropping out, counseling and guidance programs, scholarships, creative and technology-based interventions.
- University Education, a series of scholarships and fellowships targeting both students and faculty, in addition to infrastructure renovation and enhancement including equipping modern interactive labs.



Training under the project “Empowering Early Childhood Education in the Gaza Strip”, implemented by: A.M. Qattan Foundation, funded by the Arab Fund.





**Aida Al-Hussein, teacher at the Azraq Zahr Kindergarten, Beirut, Lebanon**

### **Box of Wonders- We Put a Smile on their Faces with the Simplest of Matters**

The "HAPPY" Project focuses on developing behavioral, social and cognitive skills of 300 children from kindergartens in the Beirut, Sidon and Wadi Zeina areas. The project offers them extracurricular activities to inspire innovative learning techniques and helps shape their personality by allowing the children to express themselves outside their normal environment through play, drawing, singing, music, and animal husbandry. The project also offers them the opportunity to play in open space which is rare within the confines of the camp.

"What is most beautiful about this project, is the large open areas it offers children which is something they miss out on in our camps; therefore, as soon as they arrive at the center they head straight to the playground. The HAPPY Project activities are complementary to our kindergarten activities where we adopt the foundations of active learning but in a bright new atmosphere and with new animators.

### **Jad and Julia of the Ghassan Kanafani Kindergarten in the Ain El-Hilweh Camp**

Jad persistently asks his mother if he can take this odd bag home with him and every time he hears her answer, he jumps up with joy.

Jad, 5, and his sister Julia, 3, enthusiastically inspect the contents of the bag they just received containing stationary items as if it were a box of wonders. This is one of the few occasions the siblings actually left their home since the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus pandemic. It is also the first time in more than two months that they visited their kindergarten (Ghassan Kanafani Kindergarten in Ain El-Hilweh Camp).



### **Despite all the Circumstance, Children of Khirbet Abdallah Younis will Learn**

The Khirbet Abdullah Younis Elementary School (co-ed) was built and fully-equipped for use of the Palestinian Ministry of Education with funding from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, management of the Islamic Development Bank, Taawon implementation and joint supervision with the Khirbet Abdullah Al-Younis Council. The school serves a population of about 400 residents and is located between the Segregation Wall and the 1967 borders. To enter the Khirbet (a small rural village), visitors need a permit as there is a checkpoint separating the Khirbet from other areas of the West Bank, making it difficult for its students to transfer to neighboring schools with the exception of the Barta'a School. The school consists of 11 classrooms spanning two floors, in addition to two administrative rooms and health facilities, encompassing a total area of 800 square meters. The school also includes outdoor health facilities, green space and a large yard.



## Media Education Project

**“Adopting a media education methodology enhances students’ skills in the areas of critical thinking, argument, problem solving, etc.”**  
**Anwar Abu Amash, Director of Taawon’s Education Program.**

The Beit Ijza Elementary Girls School is known for its media education project, which is part of the Media and Information Education Project in Jerusalem “Think... Express... Participate” implemented by the Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation (PYALARA) with funding from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and managed by Taawon. Through this project, the school has become immersed in the spirit of media education. Teachers supervising the project developed additional plans to integrate media education into all school activities, which helped engage students with the project by working on media materials and visual media products via social media platforms.



## “Waves of Happiness” Project

During months of learning and educating youth to become active members of society, students from the “Waves of Happiness” Project implemented by Injaz Palestine, managed by Taawon and funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, invested their energy in advancing society by researching social issues they can examine and then working together to find solutions to these issues in line with meeting the aspirations of youth. The project aims to empower young people and provide them with the necessary resources and skills to become active and socially responsible members of the community.



Some of the most important initiatives include



### Secret Friend Initiative

Students at the Rosary Sisters School in Jerusalem launched an initiative under the supervision of advisor and volunteer Laith Tahboub of Akram Sbitany and Sons and a number of civil society organizations to integrate children and youth with disabilities with others experiencing learning difficulties. Through this initiative, the youth worked under the supervision of experts and counselors in this field to create artistic sculptures using sculpting tools in order to develop the skills and capacities of the youth with disabilities and helping them integrate with other community members.

### Marah Initiative

Students at the St. George’s School in Jerusalem carried out the “Marah Initiative” under the supervision of volunteer Mr. Munib Kalbona of PADICO Holding, where a classroom was rehabilitated and fully-equipped with all the necessary needs from the Marah Center, which specializes in the treatment of speech, language and learning difficulties.

### We Are a Family of “Innovators” Initiative

As part of the “Innovators” initiative, students participating in the project rehabilitated a classroom at the Jeel Al-Amal Orphans Society in the town of Ezeriya, east of Jerusalem, where some 58 orphans reside. Twenty students from Al-Nizamiyeh School in Jerusalem rehabilitated the classroom to serve as an incubator for self-expression and creativity. The students took advantage of the large spaces and stocked the classroom with the necessary tools and materials so that it can serve as an actual “art room” where children can unleash their talents and creativity.



"In my first years at the uni-



## Medicine at Al-Najah National University

versity, all of my attempts to secure a scholarship from donor institutions here at home were met with failure. I even contemplated changing my major due to the financial burden before I was able to receive a Taawon scholarship that helped me continue my studies. Now, I finally reached the last chapters of my education in the field of medicine. I want to thank all those that supported me to reach this phase in my education."

**Majd Rashid Abu Issa is a student at the Faculty of**



## Ahmad Abu Jamee' /23 years old/Nahr Al-Bared Refugee Camp

"I completed the most important phase in any student's life and obtained a degree in civil engineering from the Lebanese American University in Beirut through a university scholarship from the Unite Lebanon Youth Project with support from Taawon. Frankly, I felt very nervous when my graduation date approached in May 2020 as the economy in Lebanon and the world at large is experiencing a major shakeup, which decreases the chances for new graduates to enter the job market. However, the road took me once again to the institution that supported my education. Today, I work as part of Taawon's specialized team that oversees the renovation of three kindergartens in northern Beirut through the Supporting Early Childhood Education Program. I am filled with hope that tomorrow new doors will open, and that engineering will pave the path to building my future and that of my community."



## Our 2020-2022 Plan

The newly approved strategic plan will mobilize and save \$31 million for the education program. We will focus primarily on ensuring that Palestinian children remain in the education system, despite the challenges posed by the occupation and limited resources. We have set priorities to include improving the technological infrastructure of educational systems and establishing more robust vocational education programs. Our new strategy also identified the following areas as priorities:

- Building capacity and developing the infrastructure of educational institutions.
- Develop students' skills in critical thinking and problem solving.
- Embrace innovations that will promote and transform education systems in Palestine.
- Vocational training that opens up new horizons for students and more skills and job opportunities focusing on new technical disciplines.

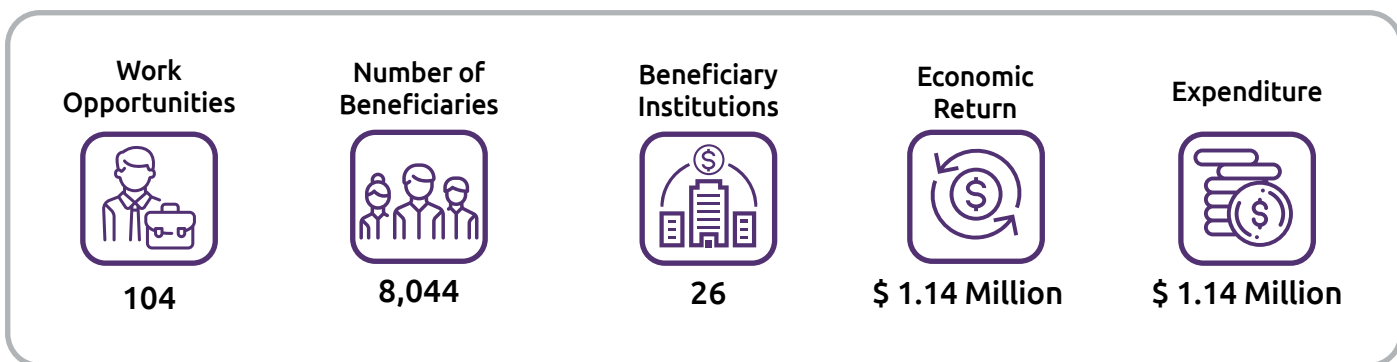
## Supporting a Nation and Preserving an Identity

### Overview

Taawon does its utmost to celebrate and preserve Palestinian living identity and heritage. We work towards enriching the human experience through connecting to previous generations of Palestinian narratives, discourse, literature, music, dance, theater, and visual art, which are essential to healthy and sustainable communities.

The Culture Program’s main objectives are enriching Palestine’s indigenous culture and identity through local world-class artistic productions and providing children and youth access to therapeutic methods of artistic self-expression. We work towards these objectives through a series of interventions, including:

- Public and Shared Arts & Culture Spaces, we have created a network of libraries, produced original movies, organized reading clubs, and developed interactive literary camps.
- Youth Training Programs, we have launched numerous programs that support youth in discovering and expressing their identity, enabling community advocacy and action, using creative writing as a means of expression and self-acceptance, perfecting their research and documentation skills, among many others.
- Public Performances and Art Productions, we have staged film screenings and music productions, sponsored youth-produced documentaries, and made available manuscripts that document the history of Palestine and its geography.



Culture – Performing Arts – Al Kamandjati Festival, Al Kamandjati Association



## “Art Without Borders Platform” Silwan Art School

### Student Sulaf Mohammad Ruweidi, 13, Art School, Jerusalem Youth Cultural Forum

The spread of the Covid-19 virus in Palestine in March of 2020 led to a complete halt in all facets of life and shifted communication from a face-to-face to a virtual format. This shift forced the Art School, which is part of the Jerusalem Youth Cultural Forum to modify the educational process from in-person to education programming via social networking sites. Due to this change, the school noted a substantial increase in the number of followers on their page and an increase in those wishing to enroll in the school during the next academic year.

To address this situation, the idea arose to launch an electronic “platform” to teach the arts to students in their areas of presence to help overcome the health, political and economic situation.

“My dream is to become a professional and famous oud player, participating in performances and festivals and travelling outside Palestine. As I come from a middle-class family like most families in Jerusalem and particularly those in Silwan, over the past few years it was difficult for me to take music classes due to the high cost of professional music institutes and centers in Jerusalem; but, through the Art School in Silwan, I had the opportunity to learn to play the oud so that I can begin the journey of fulfilling my dream.



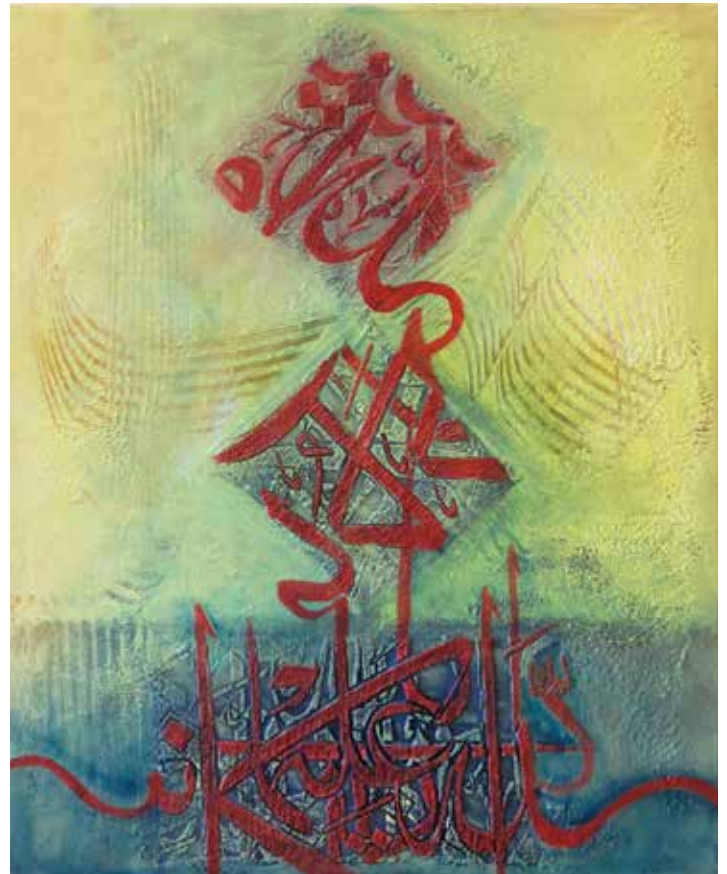
## “Edward Said Studio” Project - Paris

Artists selected to take part in the 2020 Edward Said Studio in Paris postponed their travel due to the worldwide spread of the Covid-19 virus and closures imposed by the French authorities which led to a halt in travel for non-EU citizens and suspension of visas issued by the French Consulate in Jerusalem.

Nevertheless, the opportunity was opened for Palestinian artists living in France or the European Union allowing visual artist Haitham Shamlouni and musician Mohamed Ahmed “Abu Gabi” to benefit from this opening.

Artist Duaa Qashta was able to extend her stay for two additional months until there is more clarity regarding worldwide events. Duaa started her scholarship at the beginning of 2020; however, she was unable to return as scheduled due to the pandemic.

Canvas by Haitham Shamlouni -Arts Studio- Paris-Taawon, Abdel-Mohsen Qattan, French Consulate in Jerusalem and the Palestinian Ministry of Culture



## The Violin is Part of My Life at the Camp

Since a very young age, Ahmed has loved to listen to music. He recalls one day walking with his mother in a Shatila camp neighborhood and by coincidence running into a group of children playing music. Ahmed was very excited to listen to their music and asked his mother if he can enroll in a music program. That was about two years ago. Today Ahmed says, "The violin is the musical instrument that will accompany me throughout my life, because playing music will be my future."

Ahmed continuously practices as he knows that constant practice is the best means to learn how to play correctly. He even tells us that his younger brother joined him in music classes, so the melodies of music are now constantly heard in their house as opposed to the sound of noise and traffic from the camp streets. He says, "Music is a space for joy and pleasure in my life. I have great enthusiasm to play musical concerts in the future. I receive a lot of encouragement from my teachers, and I feel lucky to have the violin which I feel is my voice and expresses who I am."

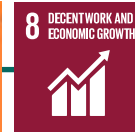


Ahmad Musa/10 years old/Shatilla Camp

### Our 2020-2022 Plan

The newly enacted strategy will mobilize \$ 7.5 million for the Culture Program. Our main emphasis will be on ensuring sufficient resources and avenues for:

- Youth and adults in the Performing Arts
- Creative industries, which are an integral yet underserved sector
- Community-led initiatives that center around culture, heritage, and expression



## Preserving Cultural Heritage

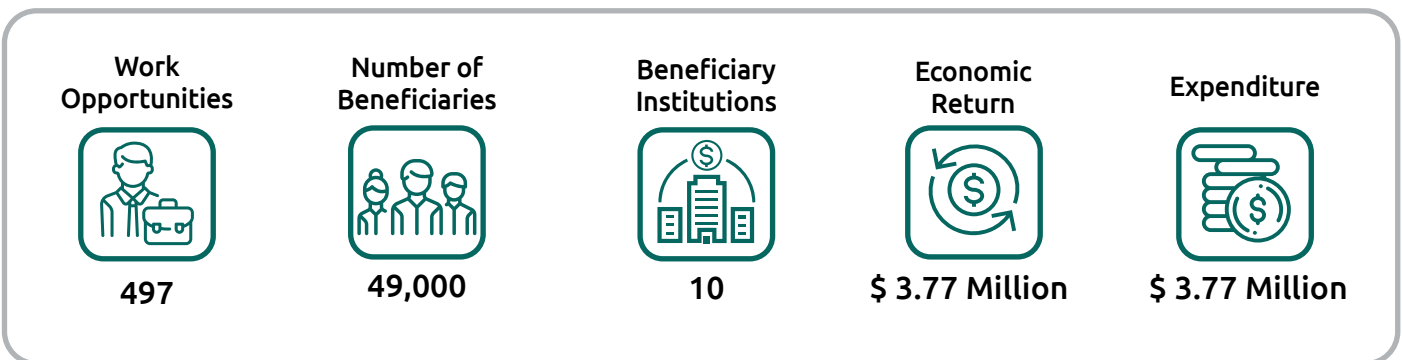
### Overview

Old Cities of Jerusalem Revitalization Program is dedicated to preserving valuable houses and historical centers across Palestine. Jerusalem’s neglected Old City was the original focus of the program, which was initiated in 1994. By 2006, the agenda had expanded to include Nablus. Engineers, technical specialists, and other professionals received training in heritage conservation through the training component embedded within the program. Taawon’s efforts resulted in the renovation of multiple historic buildings in which families in both Jerusalem and Nablus now reside. We also participated in the renovation of schools, community centers and commercial buildings.

We realize that awareness is vital to the perpetuation of these developments. We have thus made significant efforts to increase awareness of our program and the value of cultural heritage preservation. These efforts come in the form of documentary film productions, promotional flyers and brochure distribution, and the circulation of a variety of informative publications.

The scope of work of the Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program also includes:

- Documenting the architectural attributes of historic buildings.
- Training architects, craftsmen, and contractors on traditional architecture preservation techniques.
- Conducting community awareness activities on the importance of preserving architectural heritage.



Renovation of the carpentry of the Industrial Orphans School in Jerusalem - Old Cities of Jerusalem Revitalization Program (OCJRP)



## Al-Silsila Boys Elementary School

School Principal, Kheiri Ma'ali:

**"There is no doubt that the school restoration project was comprehensive, thus, creating a suitable and stimulating environment for education. For the first time, we have a computer lab and a science lab that are very well-suited for student use."**

The Bab al-Silsila Elementary School was restored and rehabilitated with funding from the Swedish Government through the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and implemented by Taawon's Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program. The Bab al-Silsila Elementary School is located only tens of meters away from the Bab al-Silsila (one of the doors of the Al-Aqsa Mosque).

Parts of the school were built dating back to the Ottoman period, while other parts were built in later periods. The school encompasses a total area of 407 square meters. Prior to the renovation, the school accommodated only 40 students and 11 teachers.

The project aimed to restore and preserve the school's historic buildings, rehabilitate its infrastructure, provide a stimulating educational environment, support the resilience of the Palestinian educational sector in Jerusalem, in addition to encouraging students to learn in historic buildings that have been restored to meet the demands of contemporary education.

The restoration contributed to improving the educational environment for students and the professional environment for teachers and management staff. The school's infrastructure was rehabilitated and developed to be safer and more accessible for use. The school's capacity was also expanded by providing additional classrooms through the restoration of space that was previously closed or not used. Computer and science labs were added as well as outdoor space which positively reflected on the educational attainment of students.



## Restoration of the Hamdi Kanaan Soap Factory in the Old City of Nablus

The Hamdi Kanaan Soap Factory located on the Sabbanat Street in the Yasmina neighborhood of Nablus' Old City, is an ancient and majestic building that witnessed the first production of a new brand of Nablusi soap in the 1950s. The factory was built in the 18th century by the Nabulsi family and then purchased by the Kanaan family in 1930 during the Golden Age of the Nablusi soap industry when more than 130 tons of soap was produced annually. The 1950s, witnessed the birth of the green Nablusi soap made from olive oil and olive seed extract which contains a high percentage chlorophyll, an antiseptic and disinfectant agent. However, the occupation in 1967 disenfranchised this popular industry. After two decades of occupation, the Kanaan Soap Factory took its last breath and ceased operations after 200 years of work in a booming industry. After that time, the most tragic events occurred.

The factory that was once full of life, bustling with workers and visitors, and where the fragrant smell of olive oil soap



could be detected from every corner of the factory was suddenly neglected, and even worse ....it turned into a garbage dump and a health hazard ...indeed, it was a sad sight with over 800 m2 of garbage piled up everywhere. Thus, the idea was proposed to turn this historic building into a center to serve the local community; thankfully, the owners (Basil, Taher and Basma Kanaan) approved this initiative. Accordingly, the restoration and rehabilitation process of this important site began by Taawon's Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program, commensurate with the history and stature of the site. The sultanic stone steps remained in place and the columns were preserved and supported. The rehabilitation and restoration work transformed this site into an appropriate location to establish a community center for the Social Charitable Center Society that serves the elderly. The center can also be utilized as a club and entertainment area, as well as an electronic library for school children. For more than forty years, the Social Charitable Center Society, founded in 1978 in the Old City of Nablus, has worked with the poor, marginalized, children and women, and relies on social support and sustainable human development. The restoration of this building contributed to the revival of a marginalized neighborhood in the Old City of Nablus in addition to the preservation of a cultural building. This site located in a poor and marginalized neighborhood was altered to a place where elderly men and women can spend their time being productive as well as having fun and being entertained. The digital electronic library provides virtual computerized curriculum services to students in the neighborhood. The center also serves as a cultural center for the Palestinian narrative that produces documentaries regarding Palestine using modern techniques. The restoration took place over three phases. The Swedish Government funded the first phase through UNESCO in 2019. The second phase was funded by a donation from the Hamdi Tahir Kanaan family and Taawon members and supporters in 2019, while the third phase was funded by a donation from Lana and Naeem Abdul-Hadi in 2020.

### The Amina Khalidi Hosh

Just a few steps from Al-Aqsa Mosque, lies the entrance to the Amina al-Khalidi Hosh which is one of a few large hosh's inside Jerusalem's Old City. The history of the hosh probably dates back to the Mamluk era, given that part of the hosh is adjacent to the walls of Al-Aqsa Mosque. Over the years, additions and new construction units were built which currently includes more than 34 housing units.

The hosh has suffered from poor infrastructure, particularly in terms of the mechanical extension work and sewer system. The building also has a series of physical problems including lack of isolation in the residential units, poor ventilation in some rooms, as well as overcrowding and misuse of space. Restoration institutions have not previously intervened due the difficult situation in the hosh. The Jerusalem Program for the Revitalization of Old Cities paid significant attention to this project and a study was conducted to prioritize interventions. Based on this study, the hosh housing units were prioritized.

With generous funding from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through a grant provided by the Saudi Fund for Development, restoration work was carried out based on the grant's objective of ensuring the perseverance of Jerusalemites and improving their living conditions and in accordance with Taawon's objectives of preserving the historical and cultural heritage of old cities and improving the living conditions of its residents, particularly residents of the Old City of Jerusalem.

The restoration work was divided into three key phases, and despite difficult and frustrating circumstances due to continued closures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, this year the first and second phases were implemented. The first phase included the restoration of five housing units serving six families. The second phase included five residential units, the restoration of outside areas, the exterior facade and the infrastructure pertinent to these two phases in addition to some aesthetic touches. It is worth noting that work on the third phase is continuing to take place in accordance with the grant allocated from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



## Al-Khalidiya Library Extension Building

The Khalidiya Library extension is located just a few dozen meters west of Bab al-Silsila or Chain Gate (one of the gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque) and Al-Buraq Wall. The Al-Khalidiya Library extension building is part of the main Al-Khalidiya Library located a few meters to its west. Through the Jerusalem Program for the Revitalization of Old Cities, funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development in 2018, the extension and its main entrance were restored.

The building dates back to the Ottoman period and consists of three floors and a roof. The first floor is used by Al-Khalidiya as an extension to the main library and its services; it consists of five rooms, a kitchen and two bathrooms with a courtyard in the center covered by a glaze metal structure.

The importance of the Al-Khalidiya Library stems not only from its distinctive location and historical importance, but also because it houses the largest collection of significant and exceptional Islamic manuscripts inside the Old City of Jerusalem. The library is located in a sensitive place, next to a police station adjacent to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. It is worth mentioning that the project was implemented in accordance with international restoration standards including the rooms, roof and exterior facades. Construction took place to support the building's infrastructure due to excavation work conducted by the occupation beneath the library which led to some fractures and cracks in the building. All of these issues were thoroughly addressed by the program. The building was renovated with funding from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.



### Our 2020-2022 Plan

We have mobilized an additional USD 18 million for reviving and preserving historical sites across Nablus and Jerusalem extending to other cities and villages. Our growth strategy for this stream of work entails:

- Restoring historic centers, public buildings and housing units in the cities of Jerusalem, Nablus, Arrabah and other historic cities.
- Rehabilitating shop exteriors in markets in the cities of Jerusalem and Nablus.
- Engaging trainees, engineers, professionals, students and specialists in courses related to cultural heritage and vocational training in the field of heritage, thus creating new job opportunities.
- Enhancing community awareness through publishing books and studies related to cultural heritage.



# The Community Development Program



## Preserving Life and Dignity

### Overview

Every person on earth is entitled to basic human rights, which include employment, housing, healthcare, and adequate nutrition. In light of this, Taawon created projects that provide assistance in the sectors of agriculture, infrastructural development, clean energy, emergency response, and health. We also work on enhancing the capacity of local civil society organizations that can enable the delivery and implementation of these types of interventions to Palestinians.

Our community development program includes a series of interventions including:

### Improving Health and Well-Being:

The program strengthens the capacity of the health care system and facilities through training, capacity upgrades and financial support. Our work has enabled the introduction of specialized health units in healthcare facilities, including pediatric surgery, dialysis, and burn treatment, among others. Support is also provided to individuals in need of treatment, surgeries, or prosthetics and visual/hearing aids, and offers a comprehensive rehabilitation program for people with disabilities through NGOs working in rehabilitation.

### Agriculture and Food Security:

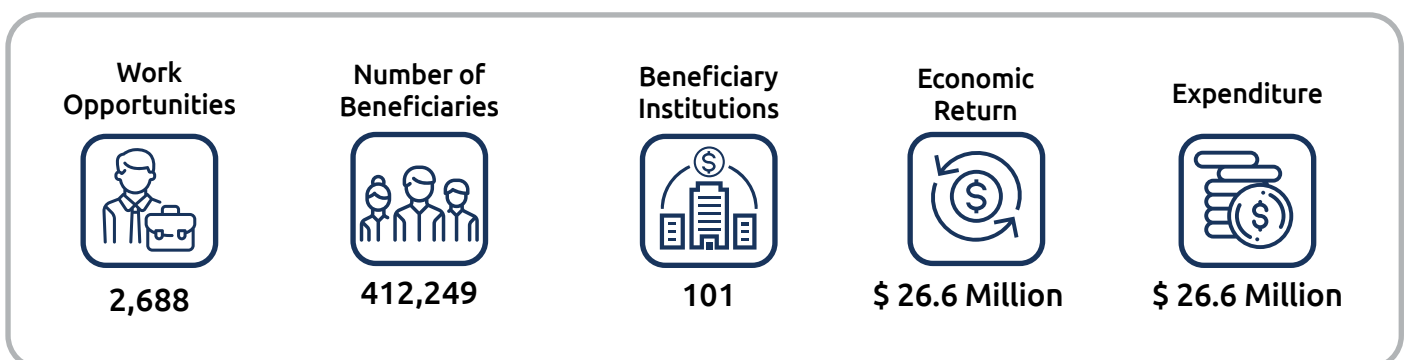
Relative to agriculture and farming, we have initiatives and programs which focus on animal husbandry, land reclamation and cultivation, greenhouse renovation, improving the agricultural transportation services and structures, and improving access to clean water, water networks, and irrigation systems, as well as training and technical support for farmers.

### Developing Civil Society, Community Services, and Infrastructure:

We implement a series of projects that focus on creating public and shared spaces, enhancing community physical infrastructure, and enhancing the capacity of local civil society organizations through training and capacity development interventions.

### Emergency and Humanitarian Aid:

Taawon continues to offer much-needed humanitarian aid to the most at-risk and marginalized communities. Humanitarian aid is usually delivered through well-packaged interventions that uniquely combine humanitarian aid with development.



**Khatam Ghaben, 43, is a widow and breadwinner of six children, including a 19-year-old girl suffering from cancer. Her husband had accumulated debts before his death as he was suffering from chronic illnesses.**

“I cannot describe my happiness when I received a check from the Beit Lahia Development Association (BLDA) to buy my crops. This project is the starting point for a new life. And it gave us a strong push forward.” So Khatam Ghaben expressed her happiness for benefiting from the project to support farmers with the support of the Welfare Association and IDRF. The family owned two dunams of land that it cultivated and sold crops to earn income and cover the household’s expenses. The Israeli forces destroyed it during the 2014 Gaza attack, and the family lived in the Al-Amal area in the Beit Lahia border area. It is adjacent to the border line. Since then, the Khatam family has been forced to abandon their agricultural work as they lost all their crops.

This project enabled Khatam to earn an income for her and her family and provide a decent life and stable job opportunity for her and her children.

“We are struggling under very difficult economic and social conditions; I am responsible for the family. My daughter Rawan is sick. We used to have an income from agriculture, but after the land was destroyed in 2014, we accumulated debts and I could not pay them back. I did my best to pay them off,” Khatam says. Little by little over time. “



### Bar'a can wear her clothes easily

Signs of improvement were evident in the condition of the child Baraa Ahmed Al-Wahidi (12 years old) while she was cleverly and easily dressed with little help from her parents.

What added to the signs of relief on the faces of her family was that she was able to hold a pen and color and pursue her hobby of coloring.

Bara'a, who lives in the Sheikh Zayed area and belongs to a family of seven, suffers from learning difficulty, damage to vocal cords, difficulty speaking, and weakness in the muscles of the hands and fingers. Northern Gaza Strip “as part of the home program that was able to develop appropriate treatment plans for the case of the girl” Baraa “and set goals.



## Young Ayman Kashkou - one of the workers benefiting from the job opportunities provided by the Palestine is Calling You campaign

Ayman Kashkou, a young Gazan from the Zeitoun neighborhood, suffers and his family from the lack of a stable source of income to enable himself and his family economically ... and he does not know how to face the requirements of life. The Palestine is Calling You campaign, through the food parcel distribution project, was able to provide Ayman with a job opportunity for about 45 days. Ayman says: "I consider myself lucky to have the opportunity to work that was available to me in light of the difficult economic situation in the Gaza Strip, as I was able to provide for the needs of my family and children, as well as acquired some relationships that I hope will enable me to continue working."



## Taawon stands in solidarity with Beirut and its people after the port explosion

"In a few moments, we lost everything, even the new department for children with Covid-19 that we were preparing to open. Then I heard suggestions to close the hospital, and I heard promises to provide assistance to restore it, and the work team and I immediately decided to determine the damage and the cost of restoration and equipment to ensure the hospital's continuity."

Since the first days that followed the terrible explosion in the Beirut port in August, the Welfare Association contacted us and expressed its willingness to contribute to the provision of some equipment for the hospital. I learned at the time that it was a Palestinian institution that deals with Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, and I implicitly asked whether their interest would reach its conclusion, especially since many of the institutions that contacted us have never heard of them. Quite frankly, I say that there are few entities that have pledged, in word and deed, to help the hospital, such as the cooperation that was provided through the fundraising campaign launched by modern equipment that we did not dream of having on the hospital campus. It is a qualitative support that helps us to continue providing our services. All thanks to the cooperation that really translates its commitment to humanitarian work for the sake of humanity. You are really a name after my name."



Karen Saqr - Director of the Beirut Governmental Hospital in Karantina

## The stadium of Dbayeh camp is a meeting center and a space for joy

Very quickly, the stadium has turned into a meeting point, and a center that brings together adults and children from the camp residents. Whoever lives inside the camps appreciates what it means to have a public space for movement and outdoor play, says Elias Habib of the Churches Complex for Social Service in Lebanon, which overlooks the playground and garden of Dbayeh camp.

The rehabilitation of this stadium found its way to light thanks to the support of Munir Al Kalouti, and with him the camp residents found themselves gathering in teams to play football.

What is joyful, Elias says, is the ability of this stadium to gather the camp residents in enthusiastic sports activities that gave us the joy we needed.



## Second: Youth Empowerment

### Success Story in the COVID-19 Era (every cloud has a silver lining)

Kifaya Shehadeh “Um Hamza” and her husband are among the participants in the agro-ecological training conducted by the “Empowering Jerusalem Women” Project in village of Jadeerah. The project is implemented by the YMCA-Jerusalem with the support of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and management of the Islamic Bank. Um Hamza and her husband were among the most enthusiastic participants in the training, embracing the idea of agro-ecological farming and receiving a grant to produce an agro-ecological farm. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic circumstances which led to a complete paralysis in all facets of life, implementation of the agro-ecological farms planned for the summer had to be postponed. To take advantage of the summer crops, the majority of farmers either cultivated their land in the traditional manner or otherwise left it in uncultivated.

But ,Um Hamza and her family didn't want not to lose out on the season so they decided to apply the knowledge they gained through the agro-ecological training on their own. The family took advantage of the closure that led to a complete halt in work and education and created an opportunity for the whole family to work together to cultivate the land.

Agro-ecological farming takes time, effort, and expenses that are considerably higher than traditional farming, particularly at the start. Kifaya says, “during the closure and over the course of a month, our family spent most of the time on the land. We went almost every day from 10 a.m. until sunset. It was an exhausting month, but at the same time, we enjoyed working as a family and we spent our time productively.

Although the land is no more than a dunum, through agro-ecological techniques we were able to grow more than 15 varieties of vegetables such as peppers, tomatoes, eggplants, string beans, lima beans, pumpkins, okra, arcuate cucumbers, zucchini, onions and watercress in addition to medicinal plants such as thyme, sage and even fruits such as watermelons and strawberries.” Um Hamza also confirms that the family's happiest moments were witnessed when they started picking fruits from the land, enabling the family to completely rely on their seasonal crops instead of purchasing them from the markets as the family previously did. Um Hamza and her family are proud of their small agro-ecological farm and told us that the vegetables taste much better. Um Hamza wants to plant more varieties in the coming season in order to provide her family with healthy chemical-free food.



### Empowerment of Jerusalem Women

The Kalandia Protection Team, under the auspices of the “Empowerment of Jerusalem Women” Project, implemented by the YMCA and supported by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development under the supervision of the Islamic Bank, replaced old classroom boards (that use chalk) with new modern boards in all classes at the Qalandia Elementary School. This upgrade will help reduce the symptoms that many students and teachers face such as coughing and sneezing caused by chalk allergies.



### Third: The Orphan Support Program

#### Aroosa Al-Rahal...and a Dream Comes True

**“The Mustaqbali Project guided me since my childhood. It had a significant impact on my life and gave me so much.”**

These are Aroosa’s words, who was one of the most committed and dedicated children in Mustaqbali activities. Since a very young age, Aroosa has been a program beneficiary. The project clearly had a positive impact on her educational attainment. She also made gained acquaintances and life skills that helped her with her schoolwork. This year she received a grade point average of 96.7%, allowing her to enter medical school and fulfill her dream.



#### Together Towards Excellence- Yasmin Tafish- Wajd Program Gaza

**“My happiness at receiving a 92.1% average in school cannot be described. I consider this to be the biggest joy of my life. I want to thank the Wajd Program for everything they gave me from education to training.”**

Yasmin’s mother, Mrs. Hanadi says, “Due to the Wajd Program’s educational support services, my daughter Yasmin achieved the highest levels of success, and I am very proud of her. Over the years, the program helped Yasmin gain plenty of basic information and taught her effective learning techniques through the program’s psychological support expert.”



#### Mohammad Abdeen/Solar Energy Project

“I opened a business to sell and install solar panels (with the help of the Wajd Program). Thank God the business worked out well, which significantly improved my economic situation. I can now work with complete independence and provide for my family’s needs from my own hard work. I would like to thank the key donor the Qatar Fund and all other Wajd supporters that helped us achieve this success.”

Mohammed Abedin, 22, from the southern Gaza Strip city of Khan Younis is the primary provider for his family that consists of eight members. He is one of the beneficiaries of the project focusing on improving the economic outlook of orphans from the 2014 Gaza aggression and their families - the fourth year.



#### Ahmed Nashwan/ From job training to full-time employment

Ahmed is one of the Mustaqbali program beneficiaries. The program supported him since he was a young student in school. Ahmed has now graduated from Business School with a degree in Accounting. The program provided him with a job-training opportunity at the Mazaj Company (one of the largest companies in the Gaza Strip) where he was able to prove his skills and in turn, the company offered him full-time employment.



## Our 2020-2022 Plan

In the approved strategic plan, the community development program constitutes an umbrella for many of the components associated with the topic of social and economic empowerment. The Foundation will allocate an amount of \$ 74 million to add multiple interventions within the following components and axes:

- Implementation of various interventions in the fields of health, agriculture, humanitarian aid, orphan care, and economic empowerment.
- Developing the capacity of partner NGOs through ASAS interventions and strengthening and expanding strategic financing partnerships.
- Developing opportunities for “remote work” and the concept of “entrepreneurship” and providing basic funding for entrepreneurs.
- Training young people and recent graduates on soft and professional skills and specialized subjects.
- Empowering orphans through education, employment, provision of health care services and professional training (TEVET), and providing opportunities for start-up projects.
- Using modern technology, including digital media and interactive platforms, to activate communication between partners.



Khaled Jundieh, one of the beneficiaries of Wajd program, as he pursues a professional diploma specializing in the maintenance of smartphones - Natuf Organization for Environment & Community Development.

## Taawon for Youth- WAY

Youth united by their love for Palestine and their determination for change. They worked together and presented their ideas to elevate Palestinian society and all its sectors.

In 2009, Taawon established the Welfare Association for Youth to unite and inspire the youth of Palestine by encouraging them to embrace their Palestinian identity. Moreover, involving youth worldwide increases global awareness of their plight. Since 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding between Taawon and WAY was carried to provide more support to WAY for growth and expansion.

### 2020 Activities in Photos



**WAY** | 

مؤسسة التعاون للشباب  
**Taawon for Youth**

A special Taawon “podcast” meeting with the “Kerning Cultures Network” and the Jamil Center for the Arts entitled “Do you See the Sea?” This is a poignant story of a journey to the near yet far sea with those, who for years were deprived from sea waves and the sound of the ocean, even though they are just a few hours away. The podcast discusses the relationship Palestinians have with the sea through stories about their first encounter with the sea after years of deprivation.

Private tour of Palestinian art in cooperation with the Zawiya Gallery, “Between Resilience and Inspiration” including several pieces by Palestinian artists Khaled Hourani, Nabil Anani, Suleiman Mansour, Tayseer Barakat and Wafa Hourani.



A meeting with the ‘guardian of memories’ Tarek Al Bakri, who takes us on a fascinating trip to visit Palestine, its homes, and displaced villages and cities to learn more about them and to live their stories through photos and tales of its people.



## Taawon Work in 2020 at a Glance

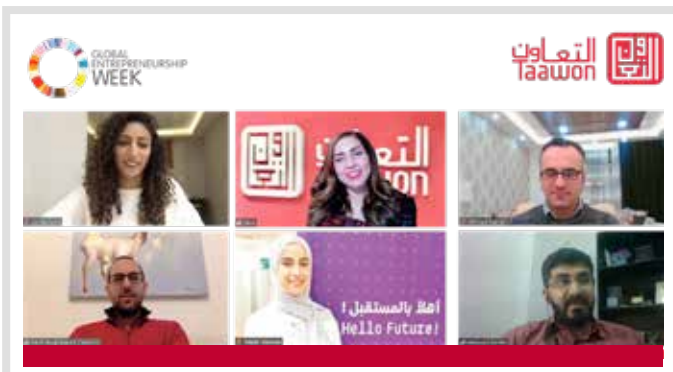
### Ten Year of "Gaza Monologue"

To celebrate the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, and on the 10th anniversary of the launching of the "Gaza World Monologue" Project, the Ashtar Theatre, in partnership with Taawon organized an artistic evening that included the participation of more than 1,500 children and youth from around the world, representing 36 countries. The event included a screening of a documentary film that followed monologue performances at the United Nations Headquarters in 2010 that took place with the participation of 22 youth and in 14 international languages, in addition to presentations and monologue readings accompanied by music.



### Celebrating World Entrepreneurship Week

Taawon celebrated World Entrepreneurship Week, November 16-22 by shining the spotlight on young Palestinian entrepreneurs that were recipients of Taawon awards for excellence and creativity in previous years, or that benefited from youth program projects in the development of their projects and businesses. Taawon organized a dialogue meeting with four young entrepreneurs, who spoke about their experience in the field of entrepreneurship and the challenges they faced on their way to achieving success.



### Tour of Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon

A Taawon delegation concluded a tour of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon where they were briefed on the projects implemented by Taawon in partnership with institutions and associations working in Palestinian refugee camps and communities. In the Dbayeh Camp, east of Beirut, the delegation participated in the opening celebration of the first fully-equipped sports field, which was rehabilitated with Taawon- Lebanon support and Mr. Munir Al-Kaloti; the field will be managed and supervised by the Joint Christian Committee for Social Services in Lebanon. The Dbayeh Public Library was also opened after completion of restoration and rehabilitation work and will serve as an active community center for camp residents of all ages.



### Opening of the Vocational Unit at the Toubas Girls' School

Taawon celebrated the opening of the vocational education unit at the Toubas Girls High School. The unit includes four classrooms to teach fashion design, beauty and hairdressing. This project was funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and managed by the Islamic Development Bank, in cooperation with the Toubas Municipality, which oversaw the implementation, in coordination with the Ministry of Education Directorate in the governorate.



### Signing Agreement to Support Establishment of Children's Intensive Care Unit

The Palestine Children's Relief Foundation (PCRF) signed an agreement to support a project establishing the "Children's Intensive Care Unit at the Palestine Medical Complex in Ramallah," which is implemented by PCRF, under the joint supervision and management of PCRF and Taawon, with funding from the Kuwait Red Crescent Society valued at more than USD 3 million.



## Awarding Winners of the 2019 "Taawon" Awards

Taawon awarded winners of the 2019 Awards in a ceremony held at the Ramallah Municipality Theater in the city of Ramallah, and simultaneously in Gaza City. Award funders and Taawon members also participated via Zoom and a live social media broadcast. The prizes were disbursed over six categories worth \$280,000, with \$50,000 for each award, with the exception of the teacher's award which was valued at \$30,000.



### Project to Support Employment of 181 Injured and Disabled Individuals in the Gaza Strip

With support from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the management of the Islamic Development Bank, the vocational employment training project was conducted for the disabled and injured in Gaza. Taawon in partnership with the Bunian Society for Community Development was able to create employment opportunities in various professional fields for 181 individuals with special needs as well as those injured. The participants were also enrolled in a paid on-the-job training program which contributed to their livelihood and the development of their practical skills so they can ably join the labor market.



### Taawon Agreements

Taawon and the Palestinian NGOs Network signed a cooperation agreement to share and exchange information and networks to strengthen the resilience and perseverance of the Palestinian people. It also signed a memorandum of understanding with UNDP to strengthen their development efforts to support the Palestinian people and improve their economic and social conditions.



### Opening Four Main Units at Al-Makassed Hospital

Taawon and the Makassed Islamic Charitable Society in Jerusalem opened four key units in the hospital, as part of a project to expand and equip these units with the latest specialized medical devices.

The pediatric cardiology surgery unit was expanded and equipped; the neurosurgery and brain surgery room was equipped, and the unit was connected to the hospital's main building; the cardiac catheterization section was developed and provided with the latest medical equipment; in addition, the outpatient clinics were connected to the emergency unit through a bridge between the two buildings. This project was implemented with support from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development at a total cost of approximately USD 2 million.

**Launching the “Empowering Early Childhood Education in the Jordan Valley” Project**

Taawon launched the “Empowering Early Childhood Education in the Jordan Valley” Project, in partnership with the Palestinian Advisory Board for the Development of Non-Governmental Institutions, and with funding from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development valued at \$350,000. A signing ceremony for the project agreement was hosted by the village of Bardla in the Toubas governorate and the Northern Jordan Valley. The project aims to provide high quality “pre-school education” services to children in the Jordan Valley, by creating a model network of kindergartens to share knowledge and experiences. The network will accommodate approximately 2,000-2,500 children.



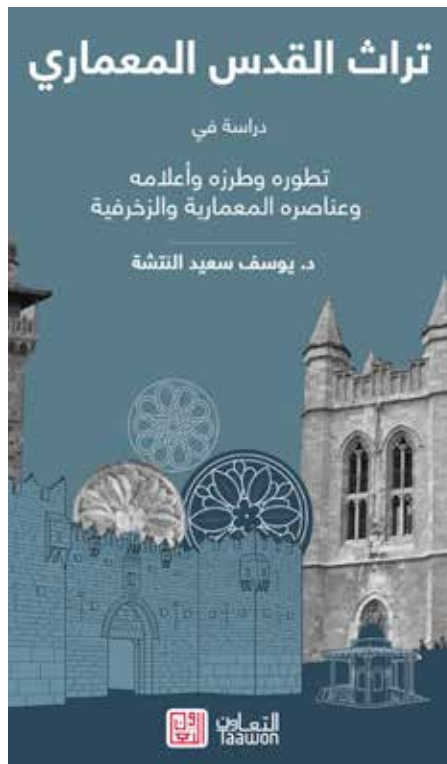
**Opening Pharmaceutical Lab at Al-Quds University**

Al-Quds University and Taawon celebrated the opening of the pharmaceutical laboratory after rehabilitation; the university’s technical staff implemented this work under Taawon’s supervision and with a generous \$60,000 contribution from Dr. Ibrahim Jalal. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding to conduct a specialized course in the field of restoration, heritage management and historical sites, to contribute to developing the capacity of students in the Department of Architecture at the university. An agreement was also signed extending the “Dr. Samir Abdul-Hadi Scholarship” to cover university tuition for a number of university students, in addition to a grant agreement for “empowering and developing technology entrepreneurship” valued at \$45,000 to facilitate economic empowerment of youth in Jerusalem, create jobs and establish entrepreneurship projects in the technology sector.



**Publication of Two Books on “Jerusalem’s Architectural Heritage” and “Archeological Sites in Nablus”**

The Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program, one of the Taawon programs, published a book on “Jerusalem’s Architectural Heritage” a study of its development, models, signs and architectural and decorative elements written by Dr. Youssef Saeed Natsheh. A book was also published on the “Archaeological Sites and Historic Buildings in the City of Nablus” by Prof. Abdullah Kalbouna. These publications were developed under Taawon’s supervision and management and funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.



### Grant Agreement Signed to Establish the Istiqlal Park in Nablus

Taawon and Sheikh Amr Arafat signed a grant agreement valued at \$65,000 to help build the Al-Bayara Park in the Saryya Al-Alam area in the Ebal Mountain, which will carry the name "Istiqlal Park."



### Supporting Palestinian Children's Institute Activities at Al-Najah University

Taawon and the Palestinian Children's Institute at Al-Najah National University signed a grant agreement to support activities of the center which opened in 2014 with a donation from Al-Nour Charitable Foundation and the Fadhl Al-Jadida Endowment, under Taawon's direct supervision.



### Opening of the Children's Cultural Center in Jenin

The Jenin Municipality and Taawon celebrated the opening of the Children's Cultural Center, which is affiliated to the municipality. The center seeks to develop cultural life in Jenin and to create an environment for children to enhance their cultural knowledge and creativity.



### Equipping Two Isolation Rooms at Al-Hamshari Hospital in Sidon

Taawon provided the Palestine Red Crescent Society with two specialized air purification devices used in hospital isolation rooms, intensive care units or operating rooms. The two devices were installed at Al-Hamshari Hospital in Sidon in order to support the hospital's readiness to deal with COVID cases, in addition to providing preventive supplies for medical staff.



### Participation in Olive Harvesting

Based on its strategic goal of empowering the Palestinian individual, promoting resilience on their land and encouraging community initiatives and volunteerism, a Taawon team along with a team of volunteers took part in olive harvesting in the village of Safa, west of Ramallah.



### Building and Equipping Two Classrooms at the Noor Al-Quds School

Taawon completed building and equipping two classrooms at the Noor Al-Quds School in Jerusalem, with generous support from the Palestine Islamic Bank. The project aims to increase the school's capacity to accommodate ninth-grade students thereby deterring students from transferring to other schools. This work also comes within the framework of strengthening the resilience of Palestinians in Jerusalem and contributing to improving the quality of education in the Holy City. The addition of two classrooms will help alleviate classroom overcrowding and will assist them in practicing social distancing as part of efforts to combat the COVID-19 virus.

## Taawon Awards for Achievement and Excellence 2020

Taawon awards come to complement the mission of the organization, emulate its identity and values, and encourage Palestinian institutions to excel and innovate in their work, empower Palestinian individuals, and enhance their role and involvement in building a future for Palestine, to preserve its heritage, originality, and roots.



### **Taawon Jerusalem Award 2020 “The late Ragheb Kalouti Award for Community Development in Jerusalem - For Jerusalem we work”**

**Objective:** The award comes in support and encouragement of work and development of Jerusalem, with funding from Mr. Mounir Al Kalouti.

**Value:** \$50,000.

**The Winning Organization:** The Jerusalem Heritage Youth Forum - Silwan, Jerusalem.

**Project:** (Sanad) project to empower and support people with special needs and marginalized groups through arts.

**The jury:** Dr. Safaa Nasser Aldin, Dr. Samah Abu Assab, Mrs. Manal Jubeh, Mr. Louay Alhusseini and Mr. Ahmed Shurafa.



### **Taawon Youth Award 2020 “Munir Kalouti Award for Palestinian Young Entrepreneurs - For a Better Tomorrow .... We Create”**

**Objective:** This award comes with a donation from Mr. Munir Kalouti to support and motivate young people to achieve their aspirations and entrepreneurial initiatives.

**Value:** \$50,000 (up to \$ 10,000 per winner).

#### **Winners:**

- 1. The initiative “Smart Chair for People with Mobility Disabilities”** - Jamal Khaled Salem Shakhtour - Bethlehem - West Bank
- 2. The initiative “Dr. Sila”** - Nael Talal Gomaa Alqatati, Gaza
- 3. The initiative “Sawaed 19”** - Leen Fawaz Abubakr, Hiba Awaysa, Nablus - the West Bank
- 4. The initiative “Zeno Food” for Gluten Free Products** - Zainab Jamel Abed - Rafah, Gaza
- 5. The initiative “Jusoor Platform”** - Ameen Riyad Ameen Aou Diak, Jenin

**The jury:** Mrs. Doa Wadi, Dr. Maysoon Ibrahim, Eng. Basel Qandeel, Eng. Ashraf Al-Yazouri and Eng. Abdullah Al-Tahrawi.



### **Taawon’s Innovation in Culture Award 2020 - The late Naim Abdul Hadi Award - “We will Get There Someday”**

**Objective:** The award comes with a donation from the sons of the late Naim Abdul Hadi, in appreciation of the institutions that made distinguished achievements in the field of culture and contributed to the process of social, economic, and cultural growth of the Palestinian people.

**Value:** \$50,000.

**The Winning Organization:** Baladna - Association for Arab Youth

**Project:** Nazareth Cultural Club

**The jury:** Ms. Nisreen Naffa, Ms. Suha Khuffash, Mr. Nader Jalal, Mr. Habib Shehadeh and Mr. Amer Shomali.



**Taawon Distinguished Teacher Award 2020 - Munir Kaloti Award “Teacher Innovation ... Renaissance of the Homeland”.**

**Objective:** The award is centered around supporting creativity and excellence in education through the teacher’s adoption of creative, non-traditional, modern and advanced methods, methods and tools in teaching and learning.

**Value:** \$50,000.

**The Winners:**

**1. Wesal Basim Abdelrahman Karaz** - Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children in Gaza, Gaza Strip

The use of a modern scientific method (kirogami, Urugami, and Animation) in all academic subjects.

**2. Maha Jamal Salah-Aldeen Abumonshar** - Yasser Amro Secondary School for Girls, Hebron - West Bank

Innovative educational systems using educational platforms and tools.

**3. Mai Ibrahim Hassan Darabee** - Fawwar Girls First School, Hebron - West Bank

The initiative is about understanding the scientific implications in a way of humor and fun, moving away from the common traditional methods of education and trying to embody these concepts with caricature images.

**The jury:** Dr. Saidah Affouneh, Ms. Tharwat Nashashibi, Mr. Ayman Hamamra, Dr. Mohammad Abu OWda and Dr. Nazmi Al-Masri.



**Taawon Health Services Distinction Award 2020 - The late Al-Haj Ahmed Abu Ghazaleh Award “Towards Distinct Health Initiatives”.**

**Objective:** The award aims to promote best health practices and improve the quality of life for individuals by rewarding advanced health initiatives in the areas of prevention, care, diagnosis and treatment.

**Value:** \$50,000.

**Winning Organization:** QADER for Community Development

**Project:** Qadir Center for Entrepreneurship and Skills Development for People with Disabilities (Q-HUB) affiliated to the Program for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Labor Market.

**The jury:** Dr. Hadeel Halaweh, Ms. Ghada Ahwal, Mr. Ibrahim Al-Shatali, Dr. Feletcia Adeeb and Dr. Hussein Jabareen.

## We are Proud of Our Partners

We extend gratitude and appreciation to all our partners for your continued trust. You are the architects of the success we achieved through your support and partnership.

We are determined to continue our efforts, working together to pursue further achievements with a keen eye on service to our beloved country.

### **Edward Said National Conservatory of Music (ESNCM) - Jerusalem**

#### **Sima Khoury - Executive Director**

The generous support provided by Taawon to the ESNCM has helped support and empower a group of talented students to continue learning music and to supply the conservatory's groups and orchestras with talented and distinguished musicians.



### **Al Kamandjati Association - Ramallah**

#### **Iyad Stity - Executive Director**

Support received from Taawon was very important to develop music skills of students at various Al Kamandjati centers and to enable Al Kamandjati in remaining in touch with musicians and audiences in Palestine and abroad. We always feel that our partnership with Taawon contributes to enrich our work because of Taawon's staff follow up on the details with care, love, and responsibility – "Thank you Taawon".



**INJAZ Palestine**  
**Rania Qutteineh, General Director**

“ We worked through our strategic relationship with the Ministry of Education, the Arab Fund and Taawon to implement the “Waves of Happiness” project that aims to develop the capacities of youth in Jerusalem and provide them with needed diverse personal skills to become responsible citizens and agents of positive change in their community.”



**Natuf Society for Environment and Community Development - Gaza**  
**Eng. Hatem Hassouna, Chairman of the Board of Directors**

“ Over 6 years of distinguished partnership with Taawon, of which we are very proud, Taawon meaningfully contributed to the success of community development programs provided by the Natuf Association, those related to economic empowerment, education, and youth capacity building programs. In specific, we are very proud of being Taawon’s partner in implementing “Bridge Palestine” Program that had achieved remarkable success at the local, regional, and international levels and had impacted the lives of numerous high school students.”



**Link to Donors’ List**



**Union of Health Work Committees - Gaza**  
**Raafat Al Majdalawi - Executive Director**

“ Through Taawon’s support, we were able to effectively contribute in 2020 to limit the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Gaza considering the weak and deteriorating health system. We raised our preparedness and enhanced our capacity to confront COVID-19 impact through provision of medical consumables, medicines, and protective personal care supplies to the union’s six health centers spread throughout the governorates of the Gaza Strip.”



**Save the Children Association - Palestine**  
**Dr. Ali Mansour, Chairman of the Board of Directors**

“ We have been working with Taawon for ten years as a strategic partner implementing the supportive education project for orphans. We are proud of this partnership that has had a great impact on the lives of orphans in Gaza.”



**Al Saraya Center**

Working in difficult and exceptional circumstances was a great challenge, but the true partnership, the continuous support, and the continuous cooperation we have with Taawon / Old Cities of Jerusalem Revitalization Program (OCJRP) contributed greatly to overcoming all difficulties and in implementing the project efficiently and effectively.

We thank Taawon and OCJRP’s staff for their efforts in strengthening the steadfastness of Jerusalemites and preserving the Arab presence in Jerusalem.

## Donors: With your support, their lives blossom

We thank you all for your support and continued efforts, and for your trust in our ability to support the Palestinian people. Your support allows us to achieve. Thank you to each and every one of you.

### Donors Quotes:

Voluntary organizations operating in Palestine and supporting health, educational and cultural institutions believe that partnership with the Welfare Association shortens distances and adds more credibility and effectiveness to its work, and looks forward to more cooperation and joint work.

#### **Eng. Maher Daa Al-Din Al-Nammari / Chairman of the Administrative Board of the Jerusalem Forum**

Open Society Foundations has been a donor organization to Taawon since 2007 on a variety of areas including healthcare and education. Most recently we supported their important efforts in addressing urgent needs in the West Bank and East Jerusalem related to the Covid-19 pandemic, including testing and medical protective equipment. A valued partner, Taawon has effectively, thoughtfully, and responsibly implemented programming that addresses the needs of the most vulnerable Palestinians, with an eye to empowering local civil society and communities. Taawon's comprehensive network and proven professionalism have made them a valued and trusted partner with whom we are proud to work.

#### **Erin Salokas / Portfolio Analyst, Middle East-North Africa Program - OSF**

Danish Muslim Aid (DM-Aid) has worked with Taawon since 2019, as one of its donor organizations to fund a number of projects. DM-Aid considers Taawon as a strategic partner and holds the work they are doing, in very high regard. Taawon always demonstrated integrity, transparency, and credibility in the implementation of all projects. Taawon has a wide variety of programs, which all ensure a minimum of 50% women beneficiary ratio. They have done exemplary work in the area of alleviating poverty- and building the capacity of small-scale farmers and women's cooperatives in Gaza along with providing lifesaving aid through winterizations projects in Gaza. DM-Aid has also supported Taawon in responding to the victims of the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon. Taawon implements the majority of its programs through empowering community-based organizations, to help in building the state institutions.

#### **Peter Fromberg / Program Coordinator for the Middle East – Danish Muslim Aid**

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**Thank you all**

**Link to Donors' List**





## Executive Management

For your dedication to your work despite all the circumstances, and for your high sense of responsibility in conducting the work with precision and professionalism in order to serve our people. Thanks, appreciation and praise for your outstanding efforts and hard work.

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### Team Quotes:

Despite the humanitarian crises that the Gaza Strip has gone through during the fifteen years of the siege and the attacks on civilians, 2020 was the worst ever in light of an unprecedented deterioration of the humanitarian living conditions. Despite the limited resources, Taawon interventions were quick and on time.

**Fadi Elhindi**

Working closely with the health sector in 2020 has demonstrated the fragility of this sector and the poor health services that citizens receive. Taawon interventions to develop the health sector will show a tangible impact next year.

**Haitham Elkolak**

"As crises intensify, the pressure of field action increases. Choosing between the poor and the poorer doesn't override the fact that everyone needs support, but rather motivates us to work harder to do more."

**Firas Toutounji**

"Our work is a responsibility that goes beyond the concept of a job. When you're practically close to people, you understand the meaning and importance of humanitarian action on their lives, especially in these difficult days."

**Mohammed Zouri**

"Despite the challenges that we faced during the year 2020 and this pandemic that threatened the whole world, we were able to implement many activities, projects, and studies within the Program components, because we believe in Taawon's mission and the aims of the OCJRP in preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the old towns in Palestine, and improving the physical and structural conditions of its historic buildings, as well as supporting the resilience of the residents in the Old City of Jerusalem. "

**Amal Abuelhawa**



Ernst & Young  
P.O. Box 1373  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
PADICO House Bldg.  
Al-Masyoun  
Ramallah-Palestine

Tel: +972 22421011  
Fax: +972 22422324  
www.ey.com

## **Independent Auditor's Report To the General Assembly of Welfare Association (Taawon)**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Welfare Association (Taawon), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, the statement of activities and changes in net assets and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Taawon as at December 31, 2020, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of Taawon in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management and Board of Directors for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing Taawon's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate Taawon or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing Taawon's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Taawon's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Taawon's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Taawon to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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**Abdelkarim Mahmoud**

License # 101/2017

Ramallah - Palestine

April 20, 2021

**Statement of Financial Position**

As at December 31, 2020

	Notes	2020 U.S. \$	2019 U.S. \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non-current Assets:</b>			
Property and equipment	3	564,002	276,011
Property of the Palestinian museum	4	20,791,517	21,385,202
Investment properties	5	3,598,300	4,344,001
		<u>24,953,819</u>	<u>26,005,214</u>
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Contributions receivable	6	37,280,409	43,459,882
Other current assets	7	2,124,519	1,829,147
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	8	65,836,147	64,038,197
Cash and deposits at banks	9	13,719,616	16,429,797
		<u>118,960,691</u>	<u>125,757,023</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>143,914,510</u>	<u>151,762,237</u>
<b>Net Assets and Liabilities</b>			
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
Unrestricted net assets	10	1,685,438	1,699,563
Endowment fund	10	66,286,197	65,191,786
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>67,971,635</u>	<u>66,891,349</u>
<b>Non-current Liabilities:</b>			
Provision for employees' benefits	11	3,486,661	4,092,237
Long term portion of lease liability	12	340,714	-
Deferred revenues	4	11,547,828	12,060,996
		<u>15,375,203</u>	<u>16,153,233</u>
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Current portion of lease liability	12	90,248	30,430
Loans and credit facilities	13	3,114,391	3,325,000
Accounts payables and accruals	14	2,605,720	2,088,872
Deferred contributions	15	54,757,313	63,273,353
		<u>60,567,672</u>	<u>68,717,655</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>75,942,875</u>	<u>84,870,888</u>
<b>Total Net Assets and Liabilities</b>		<u>143,914,510</u>	<u>151,762,237</u>

**Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets**

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	Notes	2020 U.S. \$	2019 U.S. \$
<b>Grants and other revenues</b>			
Deferred contributions recognized	15	39,795,920	50,306,489
Deferred revenue recognized	4	513,168	513,168
Unrestricted contributions	16	2,126,090	3,393,440
		<u>42,435,178</u>	<u>54,213,097</u>
<b>Program costs and administration expenses</b>			
<b>Program costs</b>			
Community development	18	26,635,126	30,360,564
Education	18	9,378,649	13,320,939
Culture	18	1,141,772	1,710,664
Rehabilitation of old cities	18	3,770,869	4,784,385
Palestinian museum	4	3,838,529	3,952,890
Finance cost related to Palestinian museum	4	123,682	286,039
		<u>44,888,627</u>	<u>54,415,481</u>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>			
General and administrative expenses	19	1,789,408	2,520,784
Depreciation of property and equipment	3	185,426	133,466
		<u>46,863,461</u>	<u>57,069,731</u>
<b>Other gains (losses)</b>			
Net investment portfolio gains	20	5,309,596	8,647,020
Finance cost		(11,163)	(1,614)
Currency exchange gain (loss)		130,023	(83,315)
Other, net		80,113	22,552
<b>Net gains</b>		<u>5,508,569</u>	<u>8,584,643</u>
<b>Increase in net assets</b>		1,080,286	5,728,009
Net assets, beginning of the year		<u>66,891,349</u>	<u>61,163,340</u>
<b>Net assets, end of the year</b>		<u>67,971,635</u>	<u>66,891,349</u>



[www.taawon.org](http://www.taawon.org)