

PROFILE FOR THE STATE OF

Palestine

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE





FOREWORD

Governments at the 19th Session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council in 2003 adopted by consensus resolution 19/18 calling on UN-Habitat to establish a Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian People (SHSPPP). The long-term development objective of the programme is to improve the human settlements conditions of the Palestinian people and in so doing contribute in a modest way to reaching peace, security and stability in the region. During the 23rd Governing Council in 2011, a new resolution 23/2 was adopted, requesting UN-Habitat “to further focus its operations on planning, land and housing issues in view of improving the housing and human settlement conditions of Palestinians, addressing the urbanization challenges, supporting the building of a Palestinian state, humanitarian action and peace-building, in the areas where there are acute humanitarian and development needs”.

Broadly speaking effective urbanisation is a choice, a human choice that is not achieved by chance but by design and political will. The positive outcomes of urbanisation depend largely on the quality of that design. And so there is the potential for urbanization to be a driver for sustainable development in the State of Palestine. But at the same time, there are well known challenges to doing so. It is hard to see how urbanization can foster development in Palestine where over 60% of the West Bank, known as Area C, is under a restrictive planning process that is discriminatory and not in conformity with international humanitarian and human rights law. Or in Gaza, where recurrent conflict has killed thousands of people, devastated the urban space, destroyed and damaged thousands of homes, and where reconstruction is proceeding too slowly. Or Jerusalem, where one city is divided by multiple growing inequalities.

Urbanization, as a positive force for development in Palestine, is a phenomenon significantly interrupted by the occupation. Yet, there is no development without urbanization, a fact we have to acknowledge against the long process of final political settlement leading to two States living side by side in peace and security. To be clear, the UN seeks a just resolution to issues including the demarcation of borders, Israeli settlements, the status of Jerusalem, water and natural resources, the Gaza blockade, and Palestinian refugees, together with affirmative actions to cease the destruction of Palestinian property. UN-Habitat – as articulated through its recent analysis on East Jerusalem, Area C, and Gaza, and as echoed in the One UN Position Paper on Spatial Planning in Area C - believes there are practical measures that can be taken to foster sustainable urbanization for the State of Palestine, which in turn can improve the conditions for peace.

Central to UN Habitat’s perspective on urbanization is that spatial and urban planning must be used as a means for delivering human rights, not denying them. Hence, UN-Habitat considers the approval of the Master Plans that have been submitted by Palestinian communities for Area C to be an imperative step for implementation of an inclusive planning and zoning regime that will enable Palestinians’ residential and community development needs to be met across the entirety of the State of Palestine. For Gaza specifically, Israel must end the blockade to allow the cities to build back better through innovative and participatory urban planning approaches.

UN-Habitat is now playing a more substantive role in Palestine - leading debate on urbanization issues, supporting NGOs, government and private sector firms on planning, and informing advocacy efforts by the international community on planning and building rights for Palestinian communities in Area C and East Jerusalem. Its engagement in the occupied Palestinian territories is in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goal 11, “Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” and it is mobilizing the territories towards the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) which will take place 2016 in Quito, Ecuador.



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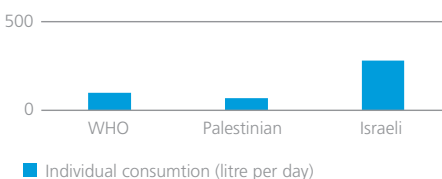
URBAN ISSUES

GDP Growth	1,5% (2014) ¹
IHDI Rank	101/187 (2013) ²
Population	4,68 Million (2015) ³
Urban Population	73.9% (2015) ⁴
Youth Population (15-29)	30% (2015) ⁵
Refugees population as a percentage of urban population	9.40% (2015) ⁶
Urbanization Growth Rate	3.3% (2014) ⁷
Population Growth Rate	3.0% (2014) ⁸

Population of Major Cities (2015)⁹:

Governorate	Area (km2)	Population	Density (person/km2)
Nablus	605	372,600	615.87
Ramallah and al-Bireh	855	338,400	395.78
Jerusalem	335	411,600	1228.66
Jericho	593	50,800	85.66
Bethlehem	659	210,500	319.42
Hebron	997	684,200	686.3
Gaza	74	606,700	8198.64

The average individual consumption of water per day:¹⁰



Urbanization

Rapid urbanization, high population growth rates, scarcity of land and territorial fragmentation resulting from the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories are considered the main challenges facing the Palestinian urban areas. High population growth rates are among the main challenges affecting the Palestinian urban environment. The growth rate in the occupied Palestinian territories is estimated to be 3%, which is among the highest in the world.¹¹ In 2013, the population of the occupied Palestinian territories was estimated to number 4.4 million people, 2.7 million are in the West Bank and the rest 1.7 million are in the Gaza Strip.¹² The gross population density has reached 468 capita per square kilometer in the West Bank and 4,505 capita per square kilometer in the highly crowded Gaza Strip¹³. This high population growth rate is accompanied by rapid urbanization - currently, around 74% of the population are located in urban areas¹⁴ - creating growing pressure on land, infrastructure and resources. The urbanization rate in the Palestinian territories is estimated to be

3.3% compared to the 1.98% world average.¹⁵ As a result, random and uncontrolled developments have expanded in the cities and around the fringes of towns, encroaching on surrounding agricultural land and poor infrastructure. Moreover, there is an increasing demand for job opportunities, services and housing.

Spatial Fragmentation

The political instability and the territorial fragmentation caused by the Israeli occupation and illegal confiscation of Palestinian land as well as the illegal annexation of East Jerusalem was - and still is - the main challenge affecting the Palestinian territories. In addition to the restrictions on the Palestinian economy, borders and people, the Israeli policy in the occupied Palestinian territories has many physical consequences that affect the Palestinian urban environment. The division of the West Bank into areas A, B, and C as part of the Oslo Accords allowed Israel to maintain full control over Area C - which comprises 61% of the West Bank and accommodates only 4% of the Palestinian population¹⁶ - and gave the Palestinians control over area A and partially over area B, which are mainly the urban areas. These restrictions have negatively impacted the Palestinian physical environment and led to unbalanced urban development. Moreover, Israel has control over the water resources, especially in Area C. Palestinians receive only a small margin of the water that Israel controls¹⁷ and as a result

1 World Bank: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/westbankandgaza>

2 UNDP: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/inequality-adjusted-hdi>

3 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics: <http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/site/512/default.aspx?tabID=512&lang=en&itemID=1441&mid=3171&wversion=Staging>

4 Ibid.

5 Ibid.

6 Ibid.

7 World Bank: http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW?cid=GPD_2

8 Ibid.

9 <http://www.citypopulation.de/Palestine.html> and the Ministry of Local Government GIS System Report

10 "WHO" indicates the amount recommended by the WHO

11 World Bank Population growth (annual %), 2014

12 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Estimated Population in the Palestinian Territory 1997-2016

13 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), Summary of Demographic Indicators in the Palestinian Territory, 2012

14 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS), 2012

15 United Nations World Urbanization Prospects, the 2009 Revision

17 PASSIA. Settlements - Special Bulletin. Jerusalem, March 2001

18 UNICEF, 2004

Palestinians suffer from shortage in water supply, especially during summer time, and cannot utilize water for agriculture or industry efficiently.

Urban Economy

The fragile economy is another challenge facing the Palestinian urban areas. The Palestinian economy is largely dependent on Israel and very vulnerable to Israeli policies and decisions. In 2011, the GDP was estimated 9,775 USD¹⁸, and the poverty rate reached 25.8 percent¹⁹. The concentration of the economic activities in the main urban centers and the lack of investments in rural areas have led to an high level of rural-urban migration creating an additional pressure on the existing infrastructure and urban services.



Beneficiaries of King Abdullah Housing Project

Consequently, all these challenges had lead to rapid physical development, increasing pressure on the already deteriorated infrastructure, encroachment of agricultural land, deterioration of the urban environment, and accordingly rapid and unbalanced urbanization.

UN-HABITAT PROGRAMMES IN PALESTINE

Urban Land, Legislation and Governance

With funding from multiple sources UN-Habitat Palestine is providing technical advice and support for community-led local planning for Palestinian communities in Israeli occupied and controlled Area C, East Jerusalem and Gaza. Area C is where Israel remains with full authority for planning issues, whereas the Palestinian Authority is authorized for planning in Area A and B. According to a recent survey conducted by UNOCHA, more than 300.000 Palestinians live partially or totally in land designated as Area C of which development is tightly restricted by the Israeli authorities through limiting the number and scope of land use plans prepared for new development rights, blocking the number of permits issued for construction and issuing demolition orders for buildings that are constructed without permission. The Spatial Planning Support Programme for Palestinian

Communities in Area C of the West Bank assists Palestinians in Area C to plan according to their real needs and resist displacement through the use of outline and other plans to prevent demolition of property. In contrast, the Israeli population living in settlements and outposts in Area C has substantially expanded over the last 20 years, with now an estimated 325,000 Israelis living in some 135 settlements and outposts. Many of the Palestinian communities are severely restricted if not threatened by displacement because of proximity to these settlements.

The planning support by UN-Habitat, in partnership with the Palestinian Authority (Ministry of Local Government) and local NGO's, has three strategic objectives: (1) planning in Area C is made more effective by ensuring that the planning systems applied is technically coherent and in line with Palestinian needs, (2) Palestinian capacity for planning and local governance is enhanced in Area C, and (3) coordinated advocacy for changes in the restrictive planning system of Area C is strengthened and based on a comprehensive information and monitoring system.

While the basic strategy is centred around using statutory local outline planning as a tool for both the recognition of the affected communities and for adding or restoring planning and building rights, a complementary strategy of deploying non-statutory tools (such as place-making and city-region plans) is added to address the right to development and implement the local plans for a well-planned improvement of the living conditions in these communities, often remote or deprived. Underpinning these initiatives is the

18 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Major National Accounts Variables by Region for the Years 1994-2011

19 Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Poverty Rates Among Individuals According to Household Monthly Consumption 2011



East Jerusalem Rehabilitation Project

utilization of spatial planning as a tool to improve participatory local governance.

Urban Planning and Design

In terms of planning, UN-Habitat is not only aiming at improving the planning standards and quality of the statutory local outline planning – often referred to as masterplans – but also aims at broadening and deepening the planning agenda, by drafting pilot planning schemes for hinterland areas, for clusters of villages, for more regional sections of Area C, as well by developing design schemes for capital investment projects – all with substantial participation of the affected communities.

UN-Habitat also supports the Palestinian Authority initiative to draft a comprehensive National Spatial Plan (NSP), which will integrate the previously drafted regional plans for the West Bank and Gaza (back in the nineties). Meanwhile UN-Habitat pledged its own contribution from its Trust Fund to provide seed funding to the start-up of the project, e.g. by recruiting consultants to draft sectorial territorial forecast for the long term. A part of this seed-funding is specifically

allocated to develop an urbanization Strategy, capitalizing upon the conclusions of the First Palestinian Urban Forum (March 2012), also supported by UN-Habitat Palestine or occupied Palestinian territories, while additional funds are made available to compile the first Palestinian Cities Report.

Urban Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem:

UN-Habitat together with the International Peace and Cooperation Centre (IPCC), Bimkom (Planners for Planning Rights) and the Centre for Advancement of Peace Initiatives (CAPI) with funding from the European Union are currently implementing a 3-year “Urban Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem” which effectively aims to facilitate the immediate improvement of the living conditions and easing displacement pressures, while securing growth opportunities for Palestinian communities. More specifically, the programme is designed to assist Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem in terms of securing tangible development and building opportunities as well as obtaining planning rights. In addition, the programme is

intended to generate planning solutions in order to address the various urban challenges faced by Palestinians and moreover, to increase their awareness in terms of their planning and building rights with the hope to find a collective planning solution which addresses their immediate needs and aspirations. Thus, the Urban Planning Support Programme encourages a participatory planning approach, giving Palestinian communities a voice in the planning process.

The key focus of the programme is on preparing the ground to legalize the maximum number of buildings, to create public space and to create opportunities for investment in housing and services. Currently, more than 210 hectares in six communities in East Jerusalem are being planned by the programme. The plans cater for extra space to allow for expansion and growth of the concerned neighbourhoods. In addition, planning is helping to freeze the demolitions of more than 750 buildings constructed without a permit. It will also enable permit issuance and will facilitate the possible legalization of these buildings. In addition, demolition orders were frozen for more than 44 buildings in the neighbourhoods where planning is taking place since the beginning of the programme. In addition, surveys in 28 Palestinian sub-neighbourhoods are being carried out, coupled with continuous close monitoring of plans affecting Palestinians neighbourhoods.

Scaling Up and Deepening Planning Support to Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem:

Funded by the Government of Belgium, UN-Habitat along with its partners - the International Peace and Cooperation Centre (IPCC), Bimkom and the Centre for Advancement of Peace



Neighbourhood in Jerusalem

Initiatives (CAPI) - is implementing a 2-year project to deepen and scale up the activities of the “Urban planning support to Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem” programme mentioned above. The project aims at supporting the Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem in securing concrete development and building opportunities and rights through planning. Moreover it looks for advanced solutions to address critical dysfunctions in the planning and development of Palestinian neighbourhoods, and works on enhancing urban awareness and integration among the residents and professionals as well as on increasing the Palestinian capacity to plan. The main focus of this action is to strengthen the management and technical support capacity, to substantially increase the amount of plans developed and to expand the

capacity development component, including other key areas like housing and land, and ensure long term sustainability of training modules developed.

Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in Area C of the West Bank:

Funded by multiple donors, UN-Habitat together with the International Peace and Cooperation Centre (IPCC), the Ministry of Local Government, and Local Councils is implementing a set of projects in Area C of the West Bank that aim to improve the housing and human settlement conditions of Palestinians, address the urbanization challenges and support the building of a Palestinian State. The projects aim also to improve the resilience of Palestinian communities in Area C through sustainable local development,

building rights and access to basic services. More specifically the projects aim to make planning in Area C more effective by ensuring that the planning system applied is technically coherent and in line with Palestinian needs, enhancing Palestinian capacity for planning in Area C and by ensuring coordinated advocacy for changes in the restrictive planning system of Area C based on comprehensive information and monitoring system.

The project’s strategy has four aspects: (i) scaling up planning support to Palestinian communities in Area C by providing a framework for investments in basic infrastructure and services and reducing the risk of demolitions; (ii) ensuring that Palestinian Village Councils in Area C have the capacity to engage their inhabitants in the

elaboration of the plan and to follow up on its implementation by recreating, amongst others, de-facto local planning committees where appropriate; (iii) supporting all initiatives aimed at making planning more effective in Area C by ensuring that the planning system applied is in line with the Palestinian needs and the reality on the ground; (iv) facilitate Palestinian Authority coordination in Area C planning procedures with existing line ministries.

Building Blocks - Supporting State Building through Neighbourhood Planning in Gaza:

UN-Habitat, together with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, the Ministry of Local Government, the Municipal Development and Lending Fund, Gaza municipality technical staff, community members and representatives, the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Palestinian Housing Council and the Shelter Cluster in Gaza is currently implementing the 8-month project 'Building Blocks – Supporting State Building through Neighbourhood Planning in Gaza'. The project is under the umbrella of an existing project being implemented by UN-Habitat together with the DFID "Support to Palestinians at Risk of Displacement in Israeli Controlled Area C of the West Bank" which has the overall objective to improve resilience of Palestinian communities in Area C through sustainable local development, greater building rights and access to basic services.

Gaza Participatory Spatial Planning Support Programme:

UN-Habitat, together with Palestinian Housing Council and the Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution, are currently implementing a project entitled



Area C planning project

"Gaza Participatory Spatial Planning Support Programme" funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The project aims at strengthening the participatory governance in Gaza through the utilization of municipality and neighbourhood participatory spatial planning processes in at least five municipalities. It also aims to enhance the capacity of planners working at the municipality through the provision of individual technical training on one hand, and on the other hand to strengthen the municipality's institutional level for it to be able to internally develop and enforce a plan through a cross-departmental business process.

Grassroots Mobilization towards Improved Emergency Responsiveness and Slum Upgrading in East Jerusalem:

UN-Habitat together with Arab Thought Forum are currently implementing a 15 months project in the four targeted areas, Al Ram, Kufur Aqab, Anata and Al Zaiem that were cut out from the borders of Jerusalem Municipality after the construction of the Separation Wall in 2002. Currently these areas are left outside the legal responsibility of the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank, which has no mandate over these areas and the Municipality of Jerusalem has neglected these neighbourhoods, although they are located within its municipal borders resulting in a huge gap between supply and demand. These neighbourhoods are currently suffering

from increased informality, poor infrastructure, lack of services, random urban development, and high built up density. The available data about the urban conditions in these areas are neither sufficient nor accurate, therefore, this project is aiming at collecting and establishing a data base which will enable the local communities in these areas to use factual data as an advocacy tool to proactively engage decision makers and donors towards responsive action to the identified emergency and developmental community.

Urban Economy

Technical and Vocational Training Centre for Underprivileged Women in Hebron:

Funded by the Saudi Committee for the Palestinian People Relief UN-Habitat, in partnership with Hebron Municipality and the Ministry of Social Affairs have established a Technical and Vocational Training Centre (TVTC) to empower

underprivileged women and their families and improve their living standards through the provision of vocational training, urban entrepreneurship development and economic training programs and initiatives. The TVTC is targeting urban women-led families recognized as hardship cases in the city of Hebron.

Since January 2015 UN Habitat (in cooperation with the Hebron municipality) has been running training activities for women within the TVTC.

Rehabilitation of Dar Al Consul into a Residential and Civic Complex:

Funded by the European Union, this project focused on the rehabilitation of the Dar Al Consul complex, which is located in the Muslim quarter of the Old City and owned by the Custody of the Holy Land. The project seeks to explore a neighbourhood development approach in a historical complex that

has the potential of providing an integrated living environment inclusive to open space provision, social, and commercial and urban services for the benefit of the residents of the Old City and its visitors and the wider community of Jerusalem. The project contributes to the reclamation of the civic and cultural diversity of the Old City by integrating historic preservation with community needs. While doing so, it focuses on achieving quality housing and open space rehabilitation, and quality social and commercial programming delivery by Palestinian institutions and individuals that enjoy financial sustainability. In addition, it aims at promoting knowledge gaining, continuity of education and entrepreneurship among Palestinian youth, residents of the Old City in particular. The project also introduces principles of eco-friendly and energy efficient models of rehabilitation. Additionally, the project is expected to illustrate the Palestinian cultural identity and its resilience to the pressures of marginalization.

Housing and Slum Upgrading

Housing Policy Advice Ministry of Public Works and Housing, occupied Palestinian territories:

Following the development of the Strategic Framework for the Housing Sector in the occupied Palestinian territory that was developed by UN-Habitat in 2009 in partnership with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH) and the development of a National Housing strategy paper by the MoPWH, there was an urgent need to further the development of an overarching Palestinian National Housing Policy. UN-Habitat, based on its previous work in the sector, has been asked by the World Bank to contribute to further assessments in the housing sector and key housing policy issues. Two main components



Area C planning project

were at the focus of UN-Habitats contribution: the development of Housing Sector Profiles, and the drafting of a National Housing Policy. The main goal of the project was to ensure that the Ministry of Public Works and Housing has a clear housing strategy and policy for the occupied Palestinian territory, developed through a broad-based inclusive process and prioritizing key issues, including a policy framework for public-private partnerships, large scale housing initiatives and pro-poor housing solutions. This work on the Housing Sector Profile benefited from a number of pilot efforts led by UN-Habitat (e.g. Nepal, Uganda) to develop comprehensive Housing Sector Profiles. The intent was to focus on those elements identified as priorities in the Strategic Framework for the Housing Sector (2009) and the National Housing Sector Strategy (2010), bringing together all relevant studies and surveys done so far and filling gaps where needed. The work on the draft Housing Policy drew lessons from supporting Housing Policy development in other countries. Specific attention was paid on ensuring a participatory and inclusive process, involving also as much as possible the key private sector actors, civil society and municipalities. The focus was on those elements that will further enable the private sector in housing production within a clearly defined framework, and on promoting more pro-poor and inclusive housing developments.

Urgent Housing Rehabilitation for the Poor and Marginalized Palestinian Families in East Jerusalem:

UN-Habitat in close collaboration with the Palestinian National Authority and the Palestinian Housing Council (PHC) recently completed the implementation of “The Urgent Housing

Rehabilitation for the Poor and Marginalized Palestinian Families in East Jerusalem” project. The overall aim of the programme was to improve the living conditions of low-income families and disabled people who live in deteriorated housing conditions in need of immediate maintenance, through the rehabilitation of their houses and the improvement of their livelihood conditions. It is estimated that over 2,000 poor families in Jerusalem governorate are in need of immediate assistance. In response to this, an initial phase of the programme was originated by a 500,000 EUR contribution from the French government. It involved a selection process of beneficiaries based upon a number of field surveys which assessed the physical conditions of houses, poverty and income levels of the most vulnerable families residing in East Jerusalem. Accordingly, 56 families (319 beneficiaries) were selected and received financial assistance as well as technical and management support through this initiative. It is noteworthy to point out that 27% of the selected beneficiaries are female headed households and 16% of the beneficiaries are people suffering from chronic diseases or disability. The targeted housing units were suffering from many technical problems such as: leaking roofs, lack of ventilation, unhygienic kitchens and bathrooms, faulty electricity etc. Basic green building principles were applied to improve the overall situation. Better insulation and ventilation, rainwater harvesting and solar energy system for hot water were used. In addition, the lay-out and landscape of the housing units and its surrounding were improved. The project has adopted a consultative approach with community leaders and relevant stakeholders, including direct community participation. A second phase of the programme has been completed with an additional 400,000 EUR fund from the



TVTC in Hebron (King Abdullah)

French government. The second stage entailed on the rehabilitation of 45 selected houses. This new phase adopted the same principles of self-help construction, capacity building and livelihood support, where on the job training in rehabilitation work for the benefiting families and local labour workers. In addition, technical and financial assistance were provided to selected women headed households to set up small home based businesses.

Reconstruction of 100 Housing Units for Non-Refugees in the Gaza Strip, Occupied Palestinian Territory:

Since 2011, UN-Habitat with its partner, the Palestinian Housing Council, is implementing a project which supports self-help reconstruction of 100 new housing units for affected non-refugee families in the Gaza Strip whose houses were completely destroyed during the December 2008-January 2009 conflict. These housing units are reconstructed on the same private lands where the destroyed buildings were located. This provides the affected families with shelter and prevents them from being displaced from their home area. Beneficiaries are trained to organize the reconstruction works by themselves directly (procure building materials and use own labour) or sub-contract them to a local contractor through the use of a self-help reconstruction booklet that contains methods in which families affected by demolitions can reconstruct and rebuild their houses based on the available resources and based on their needs as well and “green measures²⁰” previously produced by UN-Habitat and Palestinian Housing Council and beneficiaries.

This way, families are empowered to reconstruct their houses according to their own ideas, possibilities and needs. Cash is transferred to the beneficiaries in instalments that are bound to the actual construction progress. The outcomes were establishing a Technical Support Centre and Mobile Units to support families targeted by the project, and to provide (i) practical technical advice for the use of cash grants, (ii) technical support and guidance in the preparation and supervision of the plans and implementation of the works, (iii) assistance with obtaining the required permits, and (iv) to raise general awareness on good practices and relevant norms and standards.



King Abdullah Bin AbdulAziz Housing Project in Hebron

King Abdullah Bin Abdul-Aziz City for Charity Housing in Hebron:

In 2007 UN-Habitat, in partnership with the Hebron municipality and the ministry of social affairs, initiated a social housing and economic empowerment project for urban poor women-headed households in Hebron city in the West Bank. Contributing to the alleviation of urban poverty among women in Hebron through improving their livelihoods and social conditions has been the overall objective. The project has the following main streams: 1) construction of 100 housing units; 2) empowering those families through providing training and income generating projects (small-scale enterprises and cooperatives); and 3) promoting neighbourhood development planning and local economic

²⁰ Green measures: measures that consider environment through the use of processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient from siting to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation, and demolition.

development practices and green initiatives. This has been enhanced with the establishment and strengthening of a Women's Cooperative that manages the housing complex, and the income generating initiatives within the housing complex.

In February 2013, one hundred marginalized women-headed households from Hebron city were publicly selected as project beneficiaries. Construction works have been completed in May 2014. In September, 100 marginalized women-headed households (about 700 individuals)

moved to their new apartments constructed under the project. Since then, training and income generating and cooperative activities have been ongoing.

Combining shelter and municipal land with economic empowerment tools to alleviate urban poverty and promote local economic development has been a pioneering initiative in Hebron city. The lessons learnt under this approach are being reviewed and considered by mayors of other major cities in the West Bank such as Nablus

and Ramallah/Al Bireh. UN-Habitat's partnership and development intervention helped alleviating urban poverty among women in Hebron city. In 2015 the selected families were removed from the income-assistance list of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the number of poor women-headed households in Hebron city will be reduced.

A major impact is that 100 poor women and their families - who used to have no property at all and had been totally dependent on the monthly welfare support within the Ministry of Social



Beneficiaries of King Abdullah Housing Project (before)

Affairs - have now their own housing units and title deeds. Their livelihoods have also improved as they are now shareholders in the cooperative which owns and runs income generating activities. These marginalized families are now gradually integrating into the local economic development process in Hebron city.

KEY PARTNERS

UN-Habitat's main counterparts are the Ministry of Local Government, the National Spatial Plan Office at the Ministry of Planning and Administrative Development, (recently merged with the Ministry of Finance), the Ministry of Public Works and Housing as well as municipalities and local communities. UN-Habitat works closely with other UN Agencies in Palestine as well as local and international NGOs. Key donors are the Saudi Committee for the Palestinian People Relief, the Campaign of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for the Relief of the Palestinian People in Gaza, the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the European Commission, the World Bank, the Government of France, the Government of Belgium, the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

URBAN PLANNING
AND DESIGN

URBAN LEGISLATION, LAND
AND GOVERNANCE

URBAN
ECONOMY

URBAN BASIC
SERVICES

HOUSING AND
SLUM UPGRADING

RISK REDUCTION AND
REHABILITATION

URBAN RESEARCH AND
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

LIST OF PROJECTS

Project Title	Donor or Funding Programme	Duration	Budget (USD)	Objective
Building Blocks-Supporting State Building through Neighbourhood Planning in Gaza	DFID	2015-2016	769,206.00	The overall objective of the project is to contribute to state-building in Palestine by improving national-local government and local government-community collaboration through a neighbourhood spatial planning process. In essence, the project aims to support overall state-building ambitions through a technical entry point of urban planning and provision of a new forum for dialogue and coordination between national government, local government and citizens.
Support to Palestinians at Risk of Displacement in Israeli Controlled Area C of the West Bank	DFID	2014-2015	1,853,210	The overall objective is improved resilience of Palestinian communities in Area C through sustainable local development, greater building rights and access to basic services. The project has three specific objectives: 1. Planning in Area C is made more effective by ensuring that the planning system applied is technically coherent and in line with Palestinian needs. 2. Enhanced Palestinian capacity for planning in Area C. 3 Coordinated advocacy for changes in the restrictive planning system of Area C based on comprehensive information and monitoring system.
Scaling up and Deepening of Planning Support to Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem	Government of Belgium	2013-2015	1,685,633	The project aims at supporting the Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem in securing concrete development and building opportunities and rights through planning, moreover it looks for advanced solutions to address critical dysfunctionalities in the planning and development of Palestinian neighbourhoods, and works on enhancing urban awareness and integration among the residents and professionals and increase the Palestinian capacity to plan.
Rehabilitation of Dar Al Consul into Residential and Civic Complex	European Commission	2014-2016	3,886,000	The overall objective of the action is to improve the living conditions of Palestinian families in the Old City of Jerusalem and enhancing the Palestinian cultural and civic identity. The specific objectives of the action can be summarized by: 1. Achieving sustainable models of residential and urban upgrading with an environmental focus within the Old City. 2. Enhancing the Old City functionality and services offered to its residents and visitors. 3. Promoting education continuity and entrepreneurship among Palestinian youth.

Project Title	Donor or Funding Programme	Duration	Budget (USD)	Objective
Spatial Planning Support to Palestinian Communities in Area C	European Commission	2013-2015	1,226,733	The project aims at improved resilience of Palestinian communities in Area C through sustainable local development, building rights and access to basic services.
Planning Support to Palestinian Communities in Area C, West Bank	French Government	2012-2015	647,603	The implementation strategy is to set up a dedicated Area C Planning Support Facility under the supervision of the Ministry of Local Government, in close coordination with other partners supporting the Strategic Action Plan. The project will aim at both scaling up planning activities, improve planning methodologies used, build local capacity and strengthen monitoring and advocacy.
Housing Policy Advice Ministry of Public works and Housing, occupied Palestinian territories	World Bank	2011-2013	175,000	The project aims at drafting (1) Housing Sector Profile (incl. detailed housing needs assessment and housing market analysis), and (2) Housing Policy formulated through a participatory and inclusive process.
Urban Planning Support Programme for Palestinian Communities in East Jerusalem	European Commission	2011-2014	2,992,000	The goal of the project is to facilitate the immediate improvement of living conditions and easing displacement pressures, while securing growth opportunities for Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem.
Urgent Housing Rehabilitation for the Poor and Marginalized Palestinian Families in East Jerusalem	Government of France	2010-2014	1,229,948	The project aims at improving the living conditions of poor families in the Palestinian neighbourhoods of East Jerusalem through the rehabilitation of their houses and the improvement of their livelihood conditions through building their capacity and facilitating their access to permanent jobs.

Project Title	Donor or Funding Programme	Duration	Budget (USD)	Objective
Reconstruction of 100 Housing Units for Non-Refugees in the Gaza Strip, occupied Palestinian territory	The Saudi Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Campaign for Relief of the Palestinian People in Gaza	2009-2014	7,600,000	The main objective of the project is to re-house non-refugee families whose houses were completely destroyed during the December 2008-January 2009 conflict. The project aims at (i) supporting reconstruction of 100 housing units, and (ii) rebuilding basic social infrastructure.
Technical and Vocational Training Centre for Underprivileged Women in Hebron	The Saudi Committee for the Palestinian People Relief	2008-2014	1,590,000	The main objective of the project is to establish a Technical and Vocational Training Centre (TVTC) in Hebron governorate of the West Bank to help in empowering underprivileged women and their families to improve their economic conditions and living standards through the provision of vocational and urban entrepreneurship development and economic training programmes and initiatives.
Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian People/Technical Cooperation Trust Fund)	Government of Bahrain, VNG international	2007-2013	2,054,526	In an unprecedented move, governments at the 19th Session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council, adopted by consensus resolution 19/18 calling on UN-Habitat to establish a Special Human Settlements Programme in the occupied Palestinian territories and a Technical Cooperation Trust Fund (TCTF) to address the urgent need to resolve the long-term deterioration in human settlements conditions in the occupied Palestinian territories. During the recent 23rd Governing Council held in April 2011, a new resolution was adopted (GC23/2), providing a clearer and more focused mandate for UN-Habitat. UN-Habitat's Governing Council, during its twenty-third session, adopted by consensus a new resolution on the occupied Palestinian territory (GC23/2), calling upon UN-Habitat "to further focus its operations on planning, land and housing issues in view of improving the housing and human settlement conditions of Palestinians, addressing the urbanization challenges, supporting the building of a Palestinian state, humanitarian action and peace-building, in the areas where there are acute humanitarian and development needs, identified through technical assessments by UN-Habitat in coordination with all concerned parties".

Project Title	Donor or Funding Programme	Duration	Budget (USD)	Objective
Empowering Marginalized Women-Headed Families Through Construction of Housing Units and Establishing Income Generating Activities (Livelihood Initiatives)	The Saudi Committee for the Palestinian People Relief	2007-2014	7,657,650	The overall objective is to improve the livelihoods of marginalized women and their families in Hebron city through the provision of suitable housing units (100 units) and integrating them and their families into the process of local economic development through promoting more productive neighbourhoods and implementing small-scale economic income generating projects and co-operatives.
Grassroots Mobilization Towards Improved Emergency Responsiveness and Slum Upgrading in East Jerusalem	Cities Alliance	2015-2017	170,505	The main objective of this project is to support enhancing the quality of the living environment of Palestinian communities in the emerging neighbourhoods behind the Separation Wall around Jerusalem through providing more accurate and reliable data that will help in advocating for better provision of social and physical infrastructure.
Gaza Participatory Spatial Planning Support Programme	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)	2016-2018	729,167	The project aims to strengthen participatory governance in Gaza through the utilization of municipality and neighbourhood participatory spatial planning processes in at least five municipalities. Secondary objectives include the individual technical training of planners within the municipality, and the institutional strengthening of the municipality to internally develop and enforce a plan through a cross-departmental business process.



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