

Improvement and Development for
Communities Center (IDCO)

**2014-16 United Nations Global Compact
Communication on Engagement (COE)**



2014-16 United Nations Global Compact Communication on Engagement

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Gaza – Palestine

“IDCO as an active participant in the United Nations-Global Compact (UNGC) is committed to generalize and achieving the strategic policy of the UNGC throughout the Palestinian territories as an initiative in order to aligning its operations and strategies with universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption”

Rajeh A. Abbas
Founder & CEO

1. Background & Brief Description

The idea of Improvement and Development for Communities Center (IDCO) was born in 2004 when an independent group of experts have decided to work together to provide an integrated solutions , studies and consultancies solving challenges facing the Palestinian communities and responding to their needs in the fields of human and natural resources development, capacity building , vocational training , community empowerment and welfare, improving food and agriculture security, health and environment conservation, water management and advocacy.

In early 2014, IDCO was re-registered as a center of strategic studies, researches and development by the Palestinian Ministry of Information in Ramallah under license number 21/148/MA, with its mission to stimulate community's improvement and development as one of the most outstanding careers serving generations and their resources.

Working on the facts that "practice preceded theory" and "people have the right to participate in decisions that have an effect upon their well-being", IDCO has adopted a developmental framework taking into consideration, the variety in communities, the variety in needs and the variations in circumstances from place to place and time to time.

IDCO as an active participant in the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) is working to generalize and achieve the principles of this compact through its programs and interventions .

2. Vision & Mission

“Developed and pioneer communities with high capability to invest the human and natural resources in order to achieve sustainability”.

Working on the vision, IDCO philosophy is adopting a multi- developmental programs aiming at contribute in solving the community's challenges, especially, the challenges related to community development, sustainability, food security, health, advocacy and environment conservation. IDCO will seek to achieve these programs through the implementation of consultancies, studies, researches, activities and projects as well as to stimulate positive community's initiatives. The five IDCO's programs are :

- Environment & Natural Resources.
- Capacity Building & Vocational Training .
- Health & Maternity.
- Social & Human Development.
- Agriculture & Food Security

3. Main Features of IDCO Goals

- a. Contributes in elaborating effective and appropriate strategies and policies in the areas of culture, environment, health and disability. Particularly responsive to the needs of most disadvantaged and marginalized community groups in a developmental perspective, through lobbying and disseminating information and issuing bulletins, studies, flyers, brochures and documentary Audios/Videos.
- b. To help the community institutions as well as the decision makers in preparing and adopting all types of studies, researches and consultancies in the fields of human rights development, gendering, culture conservation and institutional networking as well as improving the quality of service and encouraging the use of safe environmental alternatives.

- c. Establishing and consolidating of relations and exchange of technical expertise, technologies and scientific researches among all interested individuals and institutions in the fields of culture, youth, health and natural resources at country level and abroad.
- d. Build and strengthening the participation of Palestinians in the process of integrated development for communities through involving them in all planning stages and programs related to the organization's scope and objectives.

4. Organizational Structure & Administrative Manuals :

IDCO is overseen by board of directors (executive board) consisting of 5 individuals from different backgrounds and expertise (2 females and 3 males); all are leaders in their field with success in the development and studies aspects as well as environment, health, education, development, and social responsibility sectors.

The last formulation of IDCO board was on 15.04.2014 for two years, they cooperate with the IDCO's management team and program officers which consist of 7 individuals (3 females and 4 males).

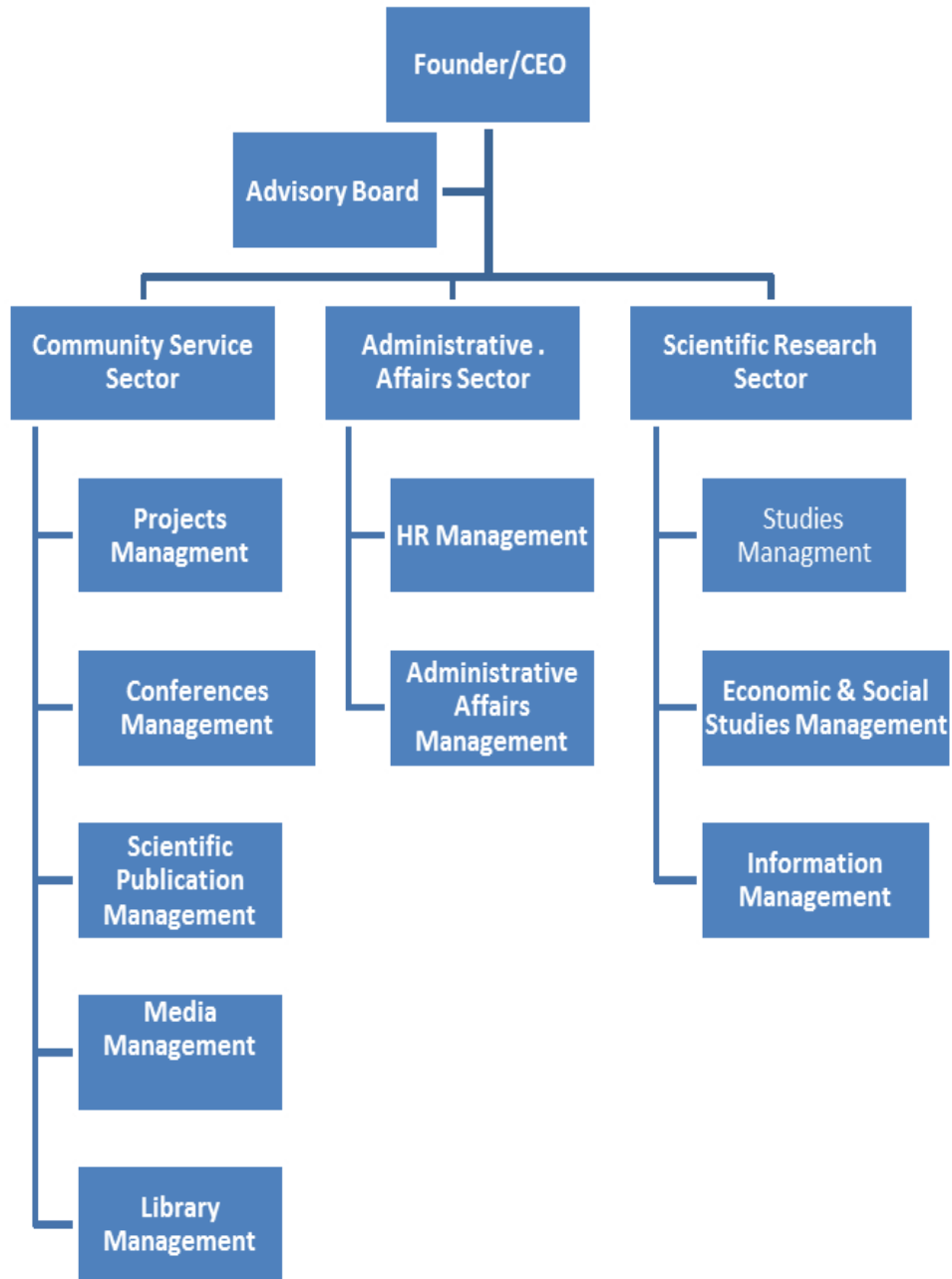
The IDCO group is formulated to give a complementary taskforce and activities; the group is capable to implement the selected topics in cooperation and using the resources and equipment of many other same-scope institutions in term of partnership and networking .

Furthermore IDCO's staff are capable to monitor, execute, and supervise various studies and projects with all different nature.

On the other hand, IDCO is using an auditing and standard financial systems and clear accounting policies. All IDCO's accounts are audited annually by external auditors which submitted to the concern bodies and authorities.

Furthermore and along the last two years, partnerships and letters of agreements have been signed with a lot of international donors to implement and perform successfully distinguished studies , researches, interventions and projects included capacity building , economic empowerment , families support programs and income generating projects, agricultural and water infrastructures schemes as well as community training.

The Organizational Structure of IDCO Center



5. Main achievements Since the Start-up of IDCO

#	Scope of Study/Intervention	Total Number of Direct Beneficiaries
1.	Assessment study on the humanitarian and economic crisis in Gaza Strip. IDCO Center	N/A
2.	Baseline survey study and humanitarian response to Food Security & Livelihoods in Palestine – NPA Fund	142
3.	Economic study and responses to affected and displaced families after the last war 2014 in the Gaza Strip. MAA-Australia Fund	2246
4.	Economic and humanitarian study on the current situation in the Gazans populations. IDCO Center	N/A
5.	Quick Need Assessment and response to Food Insecurity and vulnerable communities in Gaza district. MCF & MAA Fund	359
6.	Safeguarding Food Supply through Boosted Agricultural Inputs and Oriented Services in the Gaza Strip. PHP/PCUSA - USA Fund	50
7.	Auditing Mission for the Palestine (Gaza) Orphan Aid Project. IDCO Fund	70
8.	Gaza Protection and Emergency preparedness intervention for conflict affected households. NPA Fund	1200

9.	Capacity Building and Promotes Agricultural Productivity and Water Saving-Techniques. OFID Fund	250
10.	Responses to conflict affected and displaced families in the Gaza Strip. MAA-Australia Fund	5000
11.	Help Providing Equitable Funding Assistance for Undergraduate Gazan Students. MCF Fund	100
12.	Training Program on Revitalizing the Olive production in the Damaged Areas and Home Gardens. IDCO Fund	400
13.	Training Program on Maintaining and Replacing Damaged Irrigation Systems in Citrus Farms in the Gaza Strip. IDCO Funding	400
14.	Organizational Support Program – Sponsored by the Oman Charity Organization (OCO).	150
15.	Gazan Women Handcrafts Project – Sponsored by the Higher National Committee for al-Quds Capital of Arab Culture.	100
16.	Gaza Culture and Heritage Preservation Project – Sponsored by the National Geographic Fund (GLF).	100
17.	Helping Reduce H1N1 and the PKU'S Patients in the Gaza Strip/ Nutrition Program – sponsored by IDCO in partnership with local NGO's.	200
18.	International Environmental and Clean-up Events in coordination with PADI foundation.	600
19.	Protect the Gaza Strip Beaches and Prevent its Deterioration – Sponsored by the project AWARE foundation (international).	450

Furthermore and within its efforts to strengthen the capacity in the fields of studies and researches, IDCO have produced a lot of publications and pamphlets such as:

- Petroleum Possibilities in Palestine.
- Traditional Embroideries for Indigenous Women.
- Environmental Education for Kindergarten teachers.
- Many papers concerning the climate change , water and environmental situation in the region.
- Moreover, through years of work, IDCO experts have participated in designing and developing a lot of publications and pamphlets such as :
 - ✓ Booklet on the Maintenance and Operating of the Irrigation Networks.
 - ✓ Protection Handbook in War Conditions.
 - ✓ The Usage of Treated Wastewater and Sludge in Agriculture.
 - ✓ The Usage of Organic Solid Waste as Fertilizers.
 - ✓ Domestic and Irrigation Water Saving.
 - ✓ Hazards Rural Solid Wastes.
 - ✓ Composting of Sludge.
 - ✓ Mosquitoes Fighting.
 - ✓ Food Safety and Preservation.
 - ✓ Nutrition and Maternity.
 - ✓ Water Borne Disease.
 - ✓ Olive and Citrus Production.
 - ✓ First aid for Pesticides and Chemicals.
 - ✓ Fighting H1N1 Flu.

Main Addresses

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