

Improvement and Development for Communities Center (IDCO)

United Nations Global Compact Communication on Engagement 2017-19



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“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 Abbas
President

1. Legal Status & Registration

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.

2. Background & Brief History

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. They have been initiated as a civil society organization.

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.

3. Mission Statement

“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.

Actually, we in IDCO are prioritizing its interventions and projects for the 2017-2019 into four main categories (programs) which form the IDCO’s endorsed strategy as follow:

1. Contribute to the promotion of community reconciliation and unity.
2. Strengthen capacities of the developmental sectors.
3. Effective participation in the community development issues specially for women and Youth.
4. Support the IDCO’s Sustainable Role and Impacts.

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 IDCO staff consisting of 7 individuals (4 females & 3 Males), 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 five 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 main donors for IDCO are the Presbyterian Hunger Program (USA), Muslim Aid Australia (MAA International), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) OPIC Fund for International Development (Austria), Norwegian People's Aid (Norway) , Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization, Muslim Charitable Foundation (Australia), Arab Fund for economic and Social Development (Kuwait), GIZ and OCHA.

5. List of Membership in Networks :

Network Name	Acronym	Type of Network	Address	Join Date	Web address
United Nation Economic and Social Council	ECOSOC	International	New York , USA	10/28/2014	http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/showProfileDetail.do?method=showProfileDetails&profileCode=645068
United Nation Global Compact	UNGC	International	New York , USA	12/29/2010	https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/participants/12965
The Global Youth Service Network	GYSN	International	Washington, USA	2/6/2017	http://ysa.org/about/partners/
Mediterranean Protected Areas Managers Network	MedPAN	International	Marseille - France	9/5/2011	http://medpan.org/fr/a-propos-de/medpan/
Energy Global Network	EG	International	Neukirchen-Austria	9/11/2013	http://www.energyglobalobe.info/

6. Main Achievements Since the Start-up of IDCO :

The main accomplished projects and donors are illustrated in the following table:

#	Scope of Study/Intervention
1.	Enhancing the Resilience and Livelihoods of Gazans Households by Distributing and Planting Income Generating Olive and Date Palm Seedlings for Disadvantaged farmers and Food Insecure Households – TOBA Qurban Funding.
2.	Training Program on How to Start your Own Livelihood and Income Generating Project – IDCO/MAA Funding.
3.	Technical Training Program on Planting Olive and Palm Seedlings – IDCO/TOBA Funding.
4.	Community Engagement Activities for the Project of Capture and Reuse of Urban Storm Water Project in Gaza Strip – NRC/GIZ funding.
5.	Support overcoming malnutrition in Gaza Strip Governorate by delivering Fresh Red-meats for Vulnerable Households – MAA Qurban Funding.
6.	Support Distributing Food Parcels on the Most Disadvantaged Households in Palestine- JHCO/KSR Funding
7.	Enhancing the Resilience and Livelihoods of Gazans Farmers by Rehabilitating Income Generating Greenhouses and Supporting Food Insecure Households in Gaza Strip Governorates- MAA Ramadan Funding.
8.	Livelihood Protection and Poverty Alleviation of Small Scale Farmers in Gaza Middle Governorate - PHP/PCUSA Funding.
9.	Enhancing the Resilience and Livelihoods of the Financially Vulnerable Households in Gaza Strip Governorates - MAA Funding.
10.	Improving Access to Durable Shelter/WASH Solutions and Enhancing Security of Tenure for Most Vulnerable Palestinians in the Gaza Strip - NRC/AECID Funding

11.	Published Paper on Food Intake and Nutritional Status in Gaza Strip- IDCO Funding .
12.	Farm Production Assessment for Food sufficiency and Poverty Reduction in Gaza Governorate – PHP/PCUSA Funding.
13.	Training Seminar on Water Scarcity and Water Saving in Gaza Strip - IDCO Funding
14.	Integrated Approach to Support Vulnerable Palestinians in the Gaza Strip (Hygiene Promotion for Vulnerable Households) - NRC/ECHO Funding
15.	Support the Financially Vulnerable Households in Gaza Strip Governorates – MAA Ramadan 2017 Funding
16.	Training Program on Business “Economic” Journalism, in partnership with the Ministry of Information.
17.	Food Insecurity Assessment for Quick High Impact Poverty Alleviation in the Gaza Strip – PHP/PCUSA Funding.
18.	One-Day seminar on “Water Scarcity & Maintenance”- IDCO Funding.
19.	Humanitarian Response to Food Security & Protection Needs in Palestine - NPA Funding.
20.	Assessment Study on the Humanitarian and Economic Crisis in Gaza Strip- IDCO Funding .
21.	Enhanced WASH Preparedness and Response Capacity of Vulnerable Communities to Winter Floods- NRC/OCHA Funding
22.	Gaza Winterization Preparedness Project. MAA Funding
23.	Economic study and responses to affected and displaced families after the last war2014 in the Gaza Strip. MAA Finding

24.	Humanitarian Response to Food Security & Livelihood Needs in Palestine - NPA Funding
25.	Economic and humanitarian study on the current situation in the Gazans populations. IDCO Funding
26.	Integrated Approach to Safeguarding Food Supply through Boosted Agricultural Inputs and Oriented Services in the Gaza Strip - PHP/PCUSA Funding
27.	Quick Need Assessment and Response to Food Insecurity and Vulnerable Communities in Gaza District. MAA Funding
28.	Safeguarding Food Supply through Boosted Agricultural Inputs and Oriented Services in the Gaza Strip. OFID Funding
29.	Auditing Mission for the Palestine (Gaza) Orphan Aid Project. IDCO Funding
30.	Gaza Protection and Emergency preparedness intervention for conflict affected households. MAA Funding
31.	Capacity Building and Promotes Agricultural Productivity and Water Saving-Techniques. IDCO Funding
32.	Responses to conflict affected and displaced families in the Gaza Strip. NPA Funding
33.	Help Providing Equitable Funding Assistance for Undergraduate Gazan Students. MCF Funding
34.	Training Program on Revitalizing the Olive production in the Damaged Areas and Home Gardens. IDCO Funding
35.	Training Program on Maintaining and Replacing Damaged Irrigation Systems in Citrus Farms in the Gaza Strip. IDCO Funding

36.	Gazan Women Handcrafts Project – Sponsored by the Higher National Committee for al-Quds Capital of Arab Culture.
37.	Gaza Culture and Heritage Preservation Project. NGL Funding
38.	Helping Reduce H1N1 and the PKU'S Patients in the Gaza Strip/ Nutrition Program – sponsored by IDCO in partnership with local NGO's.
39.	International Environmental and Clean-up Events in coordination with PADI foundation.
40.	Protect the Gaza Strip Beaches and Prevent its Deterioration – Sponsored by the project AWARE foundation (international).

Furthermore and within its efforts to strengthen the capacity in the fields of studies and researches, IDCO have developed 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 :
 - ✓ Hygiene Promotion Manuals, Booklets and Leaflets.
 - ✓ 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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