



Country: The State of Palestine
Initiation Plan

Project Title: Gazan Teacher Delegation to Japan

Expected UNDAF Outcome(s): Outcome 4-1: More Palestinians, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from safe, inclusive, equitable and quality services

Initiation Plan Start Date: 1 January 2019

Initiation Plan End Date: 31 May 2019

Implementing Partner: Ministry of Education and Higher Education

Brief Description

The proposed project aims at supporting teachers in the Gaza Strip by providing an opportunity to exchange experiences and difficulties they face in daily life with Japanese teachers and education specialists, expecting them to be leading educators for fostering a culture of peace among the new generation of the Strip. The participant teachers will learn and discuss in Japan the path of peacebuilding that has been taken as a sample case, and incorporate the tips into their educational practices on the ground. The project particularly expects to focus its agenda on the areas of aesthetic education which tends to be neglected in Gaza, in respect of the importance of the subject, how to programme and implement in a challenging condition.

Programme Period: 5 months

UNDAF and PPF Programme Component:
Strategic Priority 4 – Leaving No One Behind:
Social Development and Protection

Atlas Award ID: PAL10-00087840
 (Output ID: PAL10-00113503)

PAC Meeting Date 11 December 2018

Total resources required 93,500 USD

Total allocated resources: _____

- Regular _____
- Other: _____
 - Government of Japan _____

93,500 USD

Unfunded budget: _____

In-kind Contributions _____

Agreed by UNDP:

Robert Volz

01.03.2019



I. PURPOSE

Since 2007, Palestine has experienced a state of internal division between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, resulting in a split in the executive, legislative and judicial institutions. This adds to the challenges faced by Gaza, which remain under Israeli military blockade and consecutive attacks, with the horrifying fact that the majority of indicators for sustainable development have declined significantly. In 2017, a reconciliation agreement was signed between Fatah and Hamas to end the division to rebuild and unify the political and institutional structures of the Palestinian society. Despite these efforts, however, the National Reconciliation Government has not yet assumed its functions and responsibilities in the Gaza Strip; a clear failure in the implementation of the terms of the agreement, which threatens the process of reconciliation and the return to division.

The ongoing blockade for more than 10 years in the past and three consecutive military aggressions have devastated socio-economic conditions through heavily restricted imports and exports, blocking the construction of vital infrastructure and denying Palestinians in Gaza access to economic resources. The siege has isolated Gaza from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the world. Socio-economic conditions have deteriorated further into unlivable conditions with poor access to clean water, an interrupted electricity supply, nearly 50% unemployment, substandard housing, and widespread food insecurity. With a total population of approximately 1.89 million, where nearly 40% of the population is under the age of 14, the siege is disproportionately affecting Gazan children. The 2014 Israeli aggression on Gaza caused vast damage to public and private infrastructure, destroying and seriously damaging schools, hospitals, water and power plants, industrial infrastructure and agricultural land. Consequently, Gaza's contribution to the overall economy has fallen considerably since.

2018 has not yet been a year to improve the situation, but rather deteriorated by many causes particularly by the announcement of the move of US Embassy to Jerusalem, which provoked the regular demonstration with more than 100 casualties since March due to live ammunitions fired by Israeli Forces. Palestinians' sense of ordinary life and peace have deprived and damaged.

The efforts exerted by the Palestinian government and its partners, quality education and the ability of the government to create safe and conducive learning space also remains threatened. Schools in Gaza are particularly suffering from over-crowdedness, dilapidated infrastructure, and a poor learning environment. The acute shortage of classrooms in Gaza has led to more than 85% of schools functioning on a double-shift basis, which creates tremendous difficulty for teachers to control the quality of education and school environment. Notwithstanding, the Palestinian government has prioritized education as a mean for supporting resilience in the face of the Israeli occupation. In 2014, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) launched an inclusive education policy in order to integrate all students, regardless of their disabilities. To ensure achieving high enrolment rates and quality education, the Palestinian government is also committed to training its teachers and developing their professional capacities; thus, 57% of teachers are qualified in accordance to the national Teacher Education Strategy, while 65% are enrolled in continuing professional development.

Taking such critical environment for children and schools into consideration, the proposed project aims at supporting teachers in the Gaza Strip by providing an opportunity to exchange experiences and difficulties they face in daily life with Japanese teachers and education specialists, expecting them to be leading educators for fostering a culture of peace among the new generation of the Strip.

Since the experiences of the Second World War and the atomic bombs which were first ever used on the planet, Japan has been developed as a leading state to promote the culture of peace with marvelous social and economic growth. Japanese schools provide students with opportunities to learn about their history of the past war, and promote basic sense of importance of life and peace. Hiroshima is especially considered as a symbol city of peace where over 13 million visitors from inside and outside of the country to visit the Peace Memorial as well as its beautiful nature.

The participant teachers will learn and discuss in Japan the path of peacebuilding that has been taken as a sample case, and incorporate the tips into their educational practices on the ground. The project particularly expects to focus its agenda on the areas of aesthetic education which tends to be neglected in Gaza, in respect of the importance of the subject, how to programme and implement in a challenging condition.

II. EXPECTED OUTPUT

Output: 10 primary and/or secondary teachers in the Gaza Strip are invited to Japan to exchange the experiences of teaching for the purpose of support to education for next generations under the conflict

Proposed Date: 3-9 March 2019 (7 days), excluding travel time

Selection of teachers: 6 teachers will be selected by the governmental schools, and 4 from UNRWA schools in the Gaza Strip. The selection criteria will be consulted and developed with MoEHE and UNRWA in order to fit in the purpose and maximize the outcomes of the activity. The delegation composition will expect to be gender balanced, from different age groups including fresh graduate teachers, and equal area distribution. The disaggregated data of the teacher composition will be recorded once selected.

Activities: The following actions by UNDP are involved;

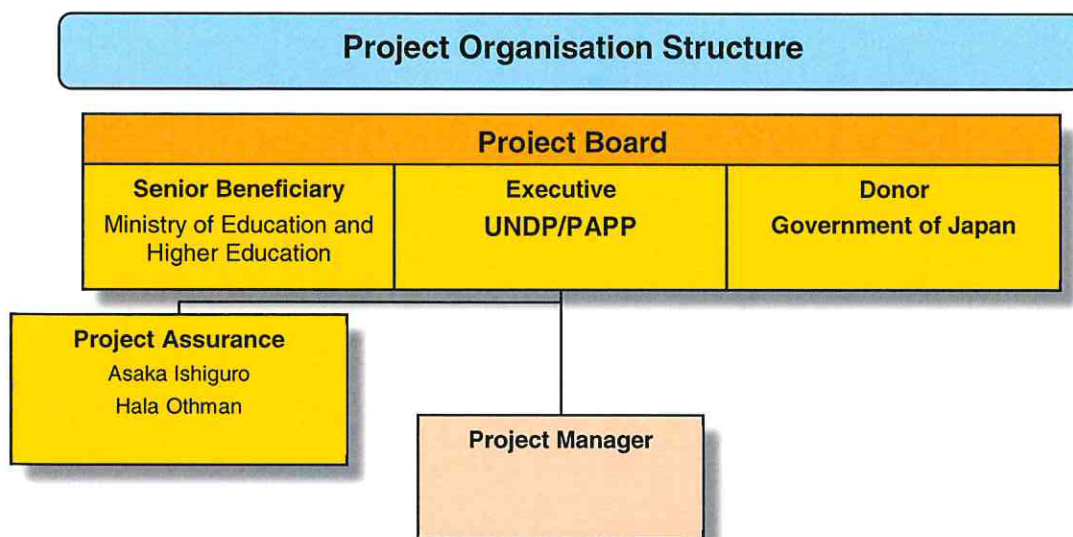
- Selection of invited teachers in collaboration with MoEHE
- Provision of pre-departure training session
- Assistance to securing permits for travel of participants
- Logistical arrangement for the stay in Japan
- Support to developing the agenda
- Follow-up meetings, to support develop the action plans of teachers to apply lessons and skills obtained in Japan to their schools/classrooms

Logistical arrangement: It is suggested by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan to contract International Hospitality and Conference Service Association (IHCSA), a Japanese non-profit organization, certified and authorized by MoFA to public service support for international guests invited by the Government of Japan. The organization will be contracted as a Responsible Party for this project to provide logistical arrangement occurred in Japan on behalf of UNDP/PAPP.

Item	Budget (USD)
Airfare (10 participants, roundtrip tickets between Amman and Tokyo, including terminal expense)	15,000
Accommodation and Meals (6 nights in Japan, 3 nights in Amman, 20% DSA)	27,650
Transportation	13,539
Translator (Arabic to/from Japanese, 7 days)	5,247
Travel Attendant (during the stay in Japan, 7 days)	3,271
Travel Management Fee in Japan	4,224
Contingency	8,643
UNDP Direct Project Cost (Project Manager, transportation)	5,000
UNDP Visibility	4,000
Sub-Total	USD 86,574
GMS (8%)	6,926
Total	USD 93,500

III. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The project will be executed by UNDP Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People, in close consultation with the Government of Japan and Palestinian Authority.



IV. MONITORING

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	Quarterly, or in the frequency required for each indicator.	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	Ad-hoc basis	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk long with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Completion report: at the end of the project	

V. ANNUAL WORK PLAN

Year: 2018-2019

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME		RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET	
		Q4 2018	Q1 2019		Funding Source	Amount (USD)
Output: 10 primary and/or secondary teachers in the Gaza Strip are invited to Japan to exchange the experiences of teaching for the purpose of support to education for next generations under the conflict <i>Baseline: no teachers received training in Japan</i> <i>Indicators: 10</i> Targets: 10 teachers are selected for the delegation to Japan to develop skills that are beneficial to future education in Gaza	1. Criteria for selection of teachers are determined -TOR is to be developed in close consultation with MoEHE and GoJ	X		UNDP/PAPP	Government of Japan	0
	2. Teachers for the delegation are selected -Develop a list of candidates -Conduct interviews -Finalize the delegation members	X		UNDP/PAPP	Government of Japan	0
	3. Pre-departure preparation is finalized - Support to secure the access to/from Japan - Arrange the logistics - Conduct preparatory meetings - Consult with GoJ in terms of the itinerary and agenda, and request the coordination if necessary	X	X	UNDP/PAPP (with support of Government of Japan)	Government of Japan	19,224
	4. Teachers learn, discuss and learn the lessons and skills for their educational - Make sure that the delegation get through a safe and smooth mission		X	UNDP/PAPP (with support of Government of Japan)	Government of Japan	49,707
Contingency						8,643
UNDP Project Direct Cost	Project Manager (USD 3,000 for 5 months) Transportation (USD 500) Air ticket arrangement (USD 500) GOE (USD 1,000) Visibility (USD 4,000)					9,000
Sub-Total						86,574
GMS (8%)						6,926
TOTAL						93,500