

Progress Report

1. Report Summary

- (1) **Title of the project:** Emergency Employment Generation Through Upgrading Educational & Vocational Training Facilities in the West Bank (#38745)
- (2) **Date of the approval:** March 2004
- (3) **Project budget:** US\$1,620,000
- (4) **Scheme of the Project:** Emergency Grant
- (5) **Period covered by the report:** 1 May 2012 – 30 June 2012
- (6) **Names of UNDP Officer in charge, and Project Manager with their contact address:**
Nader Atta, Program Analyst, UNDP/PAPP Jerusalem – 054-817-3956
- (7) **Name of PA counterpart:**
 - Hamdallah Jaber, Ministry of Labor, Ramallah
 - Multiple Heads of Local Authorities

2. Contents

(1) Summary of the project

In order to alleviate the situation of overcrowded Palestinian public schools, this project focuses on the construction of additional classrooms in ten (10) schools. All schools were identified by the Ministry of Education as priority schools, for the reason that they are overcrowded and/or on double shift system. One school per district was selected by the Ministry.

In addition to that, in order to provide training in new non-formal vocations for the unemployed and those who did not complete their primary or secondary schooling, and also for those who depended on agriculture for their economic well-being, a new 1,000 square meter vocational training facility was constructed in the town of Qalqiliya. This new facility is the first of its kind. In the past, all vocational training centers were run out of rented garages or spaces that were not conducive to educational purposes.

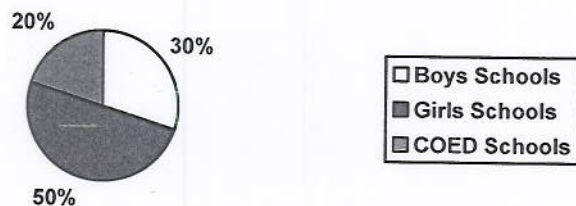
Additional Classrooms:

Ten schools benefited from the construction of additional classrooms through this project. All works at the 10 schools are completed and the schools are utilizing the additional classrooms and other support facilities. As a result of this project, In total, over 40 classrooms have been constructed through this project which will serve more than 1,400 pupils and created a number of employment opportunities for unemployed teachers; in particular females. The additional classrooms included libraries, computer and science labs, teachers' rooms, and bathrooms. All completed projects are functional and are running at full capacity. In addition, the schools will be maintained and operated as part of the Ministry of Education's network of schools.

An example of one of the implemented schools is located in Dahr Al Abed which is in the Jenin District and was located in area C. This location was on hold for approximately two years because the Israeli authorities had not provided us with the necessary permits. Considering the urgent nature of this project, and the Ministry of Education's request that the project not be cancelled, UNDP continued to correspond with the Israeli authorities in order to get the necessary clearance to begin the works.

In December 2007, the Israeli authorities gave UNDP the authorization to begin works at the site. All works related to the project have been completed and UNDP has conducted an initial inspection and handover of the project. The finalized 200 square meter facility included two classrooms, six sanitary units, a staircase for future expansion, and teachers' room. Six new employees will run the co-educational primary school with a capacity of approximately 100 pupils.

Additional Classrooms by Type of School



Vocational Training Center:

The first new and modern Vocational Training Center (VTC) for the Palestinian Authority has been constructed in the town of Qalqiliya. The location of the project was chosen by the Ministry of Labor as their priority project. The justification for the choice was that the wall and closure encompassing the city and district has resulted in high unemployment and has stifled the ability of laborers to work in the Israeli market. In addition, the agricultural sector, which has long been the major industry of the district, has suffered from the impeded access and mobility to the Israeli and foreign markets. This has resulted for a need to provide the laborers in the area and those who work in the agricultural sector with a facility which would provide vocational training for alternative career opportunities.

The facility, which is over 1,300 square meters, contains classrooms, workshops, a library, administrative offices, and garages. The construction works also included landscaping works. In addition, essential equipment and furniture have been purchased. Furthermore, tools and heavy equipment to be utilized for workshops and training courses have been identified and will be procured.

The remaining balance from the original Vocational Training Center allocation is being utilized for additional equipment for the VTC. The list of equipment was shared numerous times with UNDP and had to be adjusted to ensure they are fully compliant with our tendering procedures. The tools and equipment were originally tendered in November 2011 through the UNDP procurement unit. Unfortunately, the prices received were too high and the bids were rejected. UNDP has requested that the Ministry of Labor to separate the Bill of Quantities into similar items and this task has been completed and will be tendered in July 2012.

The items to be purchased include:

- Office IT equipment
- Raw Materials
- Tools & Equipment for the workshops

To date, the following items have been purchased for an office in the Qalqiliya VTC:

- Fax Machine for the center.
- Optical Mouse
- USB Keyboard
- LCD Monitor
- Docking Station
- Laptop computer
- Desk

The facility is currently functioning and conducts at least 18 certified courses in various fields, such as auto repair, air conditioning, computer software training, electricity workshops, computer maintenance, fashion design and sewing, aluminum works, etc.

(2) Project component:

Component	Budget	Project site
Construction of Additional Classrooms	\$800,000	Hizma (Jerusalem), Aqraba (Nablus), Dahr Al Abed (Jenin), Attil (Tulkarem), Deir Ballut (Salfeet), Khalet El Dar (Hebron), Nahleen (Bethlehem), Bir Zeit (Ramallah), Al Daba (Qalqiliya), Wad Al Fara (Tubas)
Construction of a Vocational Training Center:	\$644,000	Qalqiliya City

(3) Project timeframe, schedule status, progress of activities, and tasks & measures

Indicated output	Activities	Timeframe								Schedule Status	Activities done in the reporting period	Remaining Work	Tasks & Measures
		2011				2012							
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4				
Output 2: Continuing education. Short term employment opportunities created.	Equipping of Vocational Training Center	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Final stages.	Tendering of Equipment and tools. Purchase of Raw Materials. Procurement of office equipment.	Retendering of tools and equipment. Finalize purchase of office equipment and delivery.	Procure and deliver equipment to VTC.

Project Completion Date: Delays due to multiple reviews and changes by Ministry of Labor in submission. Project will be completed by end of September 2012.

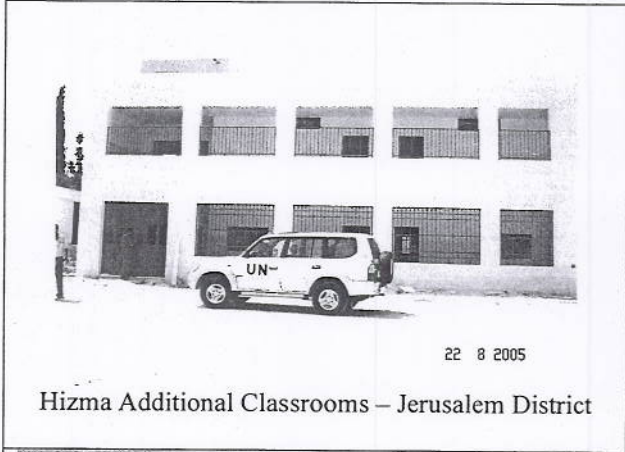
3. Financial report

Budget items (according to the proposal)	A. Original budget (according to the proposal)	B. Revised budget (if the original budget is revised)	C. Disbursement	D. Balance (B-C)	E. Rate of disbursement (%) (C/B*100)
Site Engineer	\$ 50,400.00	\$ 50,400.00	\$ 50,400.00	\$ -	100%
Construction of Additional Classrooms	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ -	100%
Construction and Equipping of a Vocational Training Center	\$ 644,000.00	\$ 644,000.00	\$ 622,418.00	\$ 21,582.00	97%
Miscellaneous:	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 5,512.00	\$ 88.00	98%
Sub-total	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,478,330.00	\$ 21,670.00	99%
GMS (8%)	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 118,266.40	\$ 1,733.60	99%
Total:	\$ 1,620,000.00	\$ 1,620,000.00	\$ 1,596,596.40	\$ 23,403.60	99%

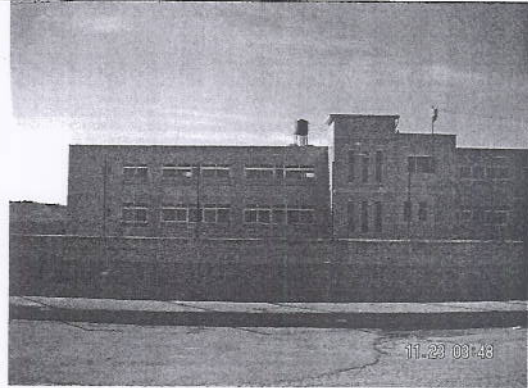
4. Any special notes or comments:

It is important to highlight that the financial figures in this report are temporary figures, and may be corrected at a later stage due to exchange rate fluctuations, realized gain/loss or any other possible corrections. UNDP/PAPP's financial system operates in such a manner that the financial system closes in early December of each year and that final expenditure reports reflecting the disbursements and GMS of the previous year are only published in March of the following year.

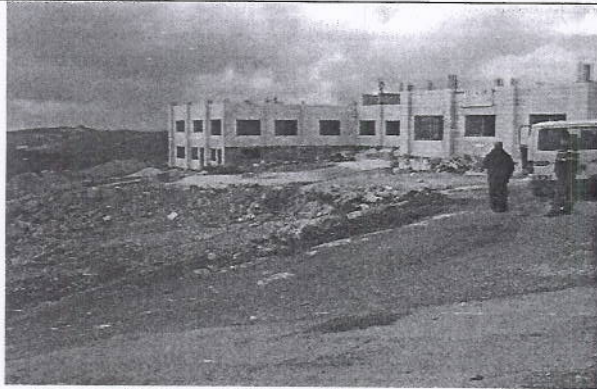
5. Pictures of project indicating before the project and progress of the project



Hizma Additional Classrooms – Jerusalem District



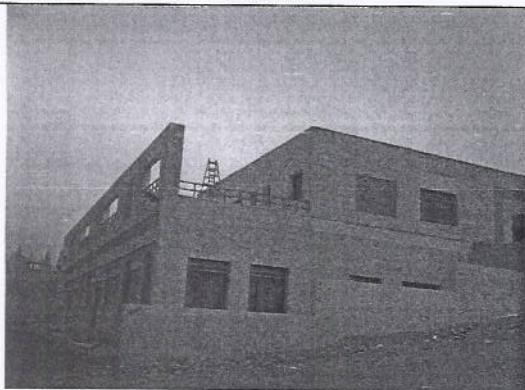
Bir Zeit Additional Classrooms – Ramallah District



Khaled Al Dar Additional Classrooms – Hebron District



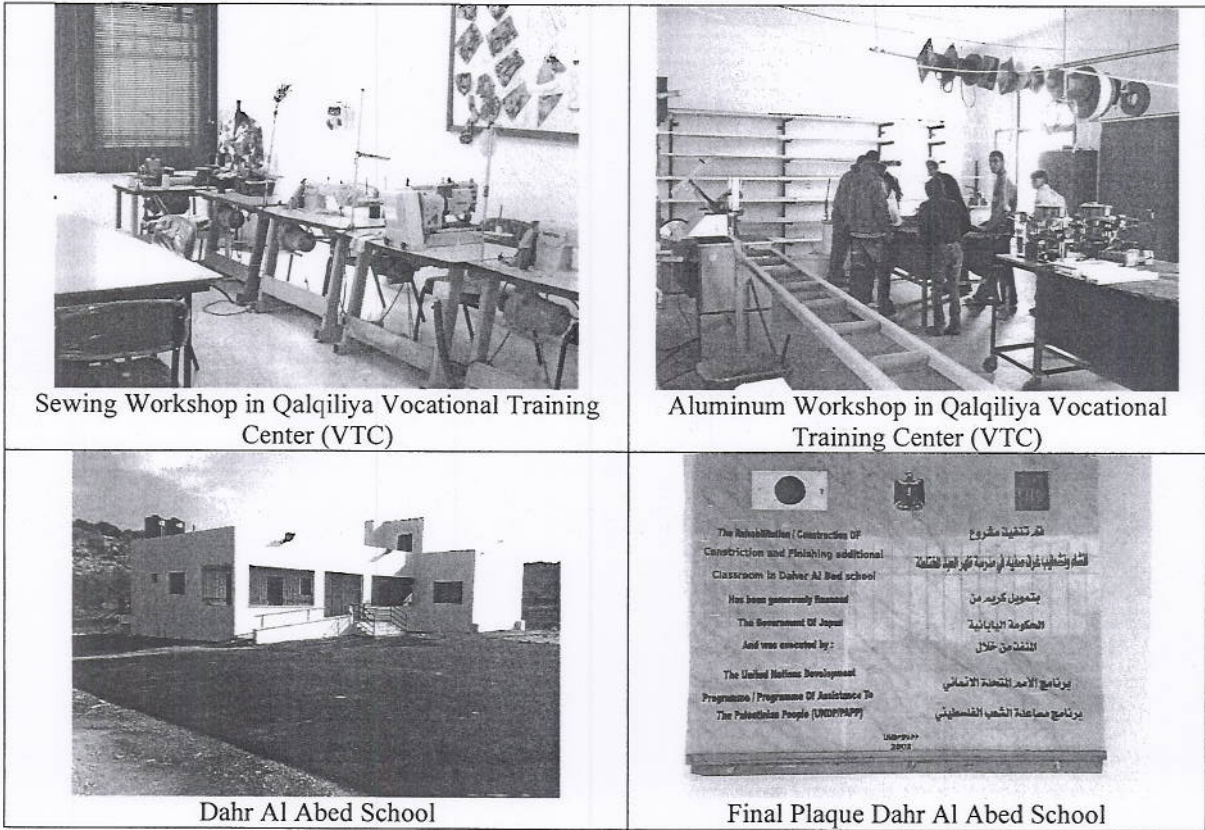
Qalqiliya Vocational Training Center (VTC)



Qalqiliya Vocational Training Center (VTC)



Final Plaque on VTC



Please be advised that additional pictures will be presented at a further stage.

6. Report authorization by UNDP/PAPP

<p>Nader Atta, Program Analyst, Governance & Social Development Unit.</p>
<p>Date of submission: 30 June 2012</p>
<p>Supervisor's name and his/her signature: Abla Amawi, Team Leader</p>