



Annual Report 2007



NGO Development Center

Building a More Capable & Responsive NGO Sector

Table of Contents

1	Joint message
3	Building a More Capable & Responsive NGO Sector
7	Grant Making
8	Health & Alleviation
9	Community Building
10	Mentorships
11	Local Government Involvement
12	Emergency Assistance
13	Grant Allocations
15	Good Governance
16	Health Insurance for NGOs
16	Information Exchange
17	NDC's Financial Review
18	Donors, Board of Directors & Staff

How to contact us:

Head Office
Mujahid Building, Al Ram
P O Box 2173, Ramallah, Palestine
Tel: 02 234 7771-5
Fax: 02 234 7776

Gaza Office:

Al Haitham Building, 3
Rashid Street,
Al Rimal, Gaza
Tel: 972 8 282 8999
Fax: 972 8 284 9921

www.ndc.ps
Email: info@ndc.ps

Joint message

from NDC Chairman & Director

Another year has quickly passed by. As we are looking forward to reaching out to civil society and to as many poor and vulnerable groups of the community as possible, NDC has proved, once again, that it is the perfect paradigm for channeling funds to local NGOs and in helping them become sustainable and self-reliant. Indeed, the World Bank has chosen, for the third time, this structure to manage the Palestinian NGO Project III. Many might consider this phase as a mere extension to the preceding ones. However, this phase in itself is unique; it will strive to improve access of vulnerable groups to quality services provided by NGOs, through the various types of grants. It also aspires to strengthen the NGO sector as a whole through good governance, including transparency and accountability.

There is no doubt that the year 2008 will constitute a challenge for us all. Trying to lend a helping hand to the needy is no easy matter, when the ebb and flow of political and social unrest seem to drown the nation's prime goal of obtaining its freedom. From Jenin upper north to Rafah deeper south, an iniquitous divide hovers over the once prevailing relative homogeneous nature, and it is under these dire conditions that NDC operates.

Our team at NDC is proud of its work and proud to contribute toward the alleviation of human suffering. The most difficult part of our role is to see quick and tangible results while working on a long-term strategy of institution building in a democratic state. We are indeed working on relief and development in parallel hence lies the challenge.

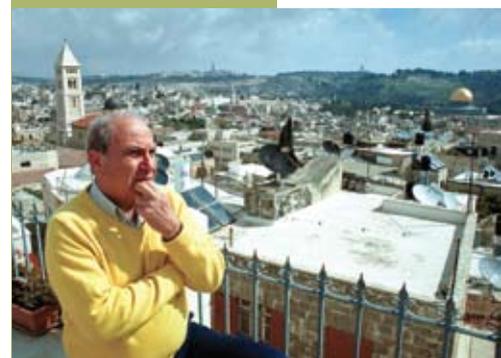
We accept this challenge, and are pleased to share with you our main achievements for the year 2007. During this busy year, we have committed more than six million dollars of funds to more than 90 NGOs, and look forward to committing more. Work is also underway in signing a Palestine NGO code of conduct, where participating NGOs would comply with international standards of performance in good governance. This alone elevates Palestine to a higher level of performance regarding the NGO sector.

A special thank you goes to our stakeholders. A guiding principle for our donors' confidence is our clear procedures and operations. A guiding principle of our current board members is their genuine concern for the Palestinian individual. Finally, the essence of any successful project or institution is to have an operational, energetic and professional team, who also deserve to be thanked.

NDC is considered one of the leading pillars in development in Palestine, and strives to continue this role. With your help, we can contribute towards building a stronger, democratic, civil society in a democratic Palestine.

Zahi Khouri
Chairman

Ghassan Kasabreh
Director



Zahi Khouri Chairman



Ghassan Kasabreh Director



Building a More Capable & Responsive NGO Sector

Who We Are

The NGO Development Center (NDC) is the largest Palestinian organization of its kind working hand-in-hand with Palestinian NGOs, local cooperatives, and community development organizations to enhance their service delivery and build a more capable, responsive Palestinian civil society. NDC's programs and grants empower Palestinians to help Palestinians by providing NGOs the skills, tools and funds they require to address social needs and promote self-reliance amidst adversity. The organization advocates greater NGO transparency and accountability through the adoption of professional financial and management practices, and promotes sector-wide coordination and sharing of best practice experiences.

Although only recently institutionalized in March of 2006, NDC has served as the main mechanism rendering support to the Palestinian NGO sector for the last ten years. Prior to 2006, NDC functioned through two consecutive phases of The Palestinian NGO Project PNGO I/II of the Welfare Association Consortium which successfully invested more than US \$50 million from the World Bank and other donors into the Palestinian NGO sector. The overwhelming success of PNGO I/II, combined with the increasing Palestinian demand for reliable and sustainable NGO service delivery, made it clear that there was a strong need for a permanent mechanism to institutionalize support to the Palestinian NGO sector beyond the life of PNGO II.

As a result, the NGO Development Center was registered with the Ministry of Interior in March 2006 as a Palestinian NGO. The Welfare Association Consortium and its Project Management Organization (PMO), which had implemented PNGO I/II, ceased to exist as a legal entity and its assets, systems and staff were transferred from Welfare Association to NDC, capturing ten years of valuable experience and knowledge in the new permanent Palestinian organization.

Our Vision

Internally, we strive to be a pioneering institution specialized and exemplary at developing and empowering Palestinian civil society institutions. Externally, our vision is to see our people achieve all our national goals.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build the capacity of the NGO sector and increase its self-reliance and sustainability; and to develop participation and cooperation levels among institutions, networks and unions. We also strive to provide accurate, comprehensive studies and information on Civil Society, its programs and activities that will be available for all.

Our Objectives

- Enhance the capacity, sustainability and self-reliance of NGOs.
- Develop the ability and preparedness of NGOs in responding to the needs of the poor and marginalized
- Enhance levels of cooperation, coordination and participation among NGOs and umbrella organizations and their cooperation and complementarities with the private and public sectors.
- Contribute towards the efforts of local organizations to build and develop a Palestinian democratic and strong civil society based on political pluralism, respect of human rights, and rule of law.
- Provide precise and thorough information and research papers on NGOs and render them accessible to all.
- Identify, in cooperation with umbrella organizations, sets of criteria for and contribute towards developing policies related to NGOs
- Advocate supporting the work of NGOs in Palestine



Our Core Values

We view the development and empowerment of civil society institutions in carrying out their pioneering roles and responsibilities as the starting point on the continuum of stabilizing, developing, and enriching Palestinian society.



Who We Help

We helped Saint Luke's Hospital of Nablus, along with six other Palestinian NGO hospitals in the West Bank and Gaza, by rendering it the needed funds and capacity building to both improve and continue to providing otherwise unavailable specialized health care services.

We helped the Association of Visually Impaired Graduates League in Gaza provide 750 visually impaired persons a variety of services; from providing job opportunities and cultural and educational training to providing the chance for the blind to read by making audio books.

We helped the Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange, the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music, and 22 other experienced NGOs in continuing to provide innovative community programs.

We helped 32 Kindergartens in the southern and middle parts of the Gaza Strip to improve their hygienic and safety conditions.

What We Do

We provide the skills, tools and funds needed to strengthen the civil society institutions in terms of effectiveness, financial self-reliance, and sustainability in rendering vital services to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. We likewise promote the adoption of accountable and transparent financial and management practices and partner with NGOs and NGO networks to facilitate knowledge sharing and coordination.



Grant Making

Empowering Palestinians to Help Palestinians

NDC took great strides towards building a more capable and responsive NGO Sector this past year. On February 2, 2007, during a formal signing ceremony held under the patronage of President Mahmoud Abbas, Dr. Atalah Kuttab/Welfare Association Director General, and Mr. Juan Jose Daboub/World Bank Signatory, NDC was delegated the responsibility of implementing the Palestinian NGOIII Project (PNGO III) on behalf of the Welfare Association. Through PNGO III, NDC will mobilize \$18.7 million in donor funding (\$10 million from the World Bank and \$8.7 million (equivalent to € 6 million) from the Agence Française de Développement (AFD) (over the course of three years) towards the NGO sector in the form of granting schemes and capacity building aimed at improving the effectiveness, self-reliance and sustainability of civil society. NDC has also received funds from the Welfare Association, the mother organization, to help incur running costs, along with a grant from the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) for an amount of \$ 280,000.

Towards this end, NDC team witnessed a very active and challenging year. The NDC team successfully completed preparation of the grant applications and guidelines for the available grant schemes, called for proposals in local press, assessed submitted applications, conducted field visits to verify the validity of provided information, recruited consultants to assist in the appraisal process, and signed a number of Grant Implementation Agreements (GIAs). This year alone, NDC committed over \$6 million of the donor funding towards specialized health services, empowerment grants and mentoring grants. In addition, NDC has made efforts towards building the capacities of the selected specialized health services and empowerment grants' beneficiary NGOs in terms of procurement. Procurement workshops were held in November of 2007 in both the West Bank and Gaza Strip to better inform and familiarize beneficiary NGOs with project procurement procedures and guidelines and assist them in developing individualized procurement plans.

Grant schemes launched by NDC in 2007;

- a. Specialized Health Service Providers Grants
- b. Empowerment Grants
- c. Mentoring Grants
- d. NGO- Local Government Partnership Grants
- e. Emergency Grants

Health & Alleviation

Specialized Health Service Providers Grants

NGO Hospitals play a vital role in rendering Palestinians specialized health services, which are currently unavailable, or insufficiently provided for in the public health system. Such services range from the treatment of pediatric cardiac cases to brain and spinal cord injuries. Without needed funding, such critical services lay at risk. Echoing this concern is NDC's Specialized Health Service Providers Granting scheme which aims to contribute towards the improvement and continuation of critical health services to Palestinians. In total, NDC has committed \$1,440,000 in funds to 7 local NGO hospitals (4 in WB and 3 in Gaza).

Through this granting scheme, NDC will help;

Makassed Islamic Charitable Hospital to upgrade its Neurosurgical Department in Jerusalem by making available the needed funding to upgrade and rehabilitate department laboratories, ICU equipment, and an operating room, as well as, to transfer knowledge and experience to department staff vis-à-vis hosting specialized neurosurgeons.

Children's Relief Bethlehem - Caritas Baby Hospital (CBH) in Bethlehem to better diagnose and treat pediatric cardiac cases through the purchase of an echocardiograph and the provision of staff capacity building and training.

The Public Aid Society in Gaza to develop the capacity of the NGO to conduct new advanced eye surgical procedures through hosting 3 visiting ophthalmology physician-experts from Spain for the duration of 9 months.

Specialized Health Services Grants beneficiary NGOs

West Bank

1. Makassed Islamic Charitable Hospital-Jerusalem; Upgrade of Neurosurgical Department
2. Patients Friends Society- Jenin; Development of X Ray Services
3. Children's Relief Bethlehem, Caritas Baby- Bethlehem; Diagnosis and Treatment of Pediatric Cardiac Cases
4. Saint Luke's Hospital-Nablus; Development of Neurosurgery Department

Gaza

1. Public Aid Society- Gaza; Providing Services in Advanced Eye Surgery
2. El-Wafa Medical Rehab. Hospital-Gaza; Establishment of a Brain and Spinal Cord Injuries Clinic and a Specialized Orthopedic Surgeries Operating Room
3. Union Of Health Work Committees, Gaza-Gaza; Development of Specialized Surgical Services

Community Building

Empowerment Grants

The Empowerment Granting scheme is designed to support experienced NGOs in providing innovative social services. Programs are designed on a demand-driven basis reflecting community needs, using participatory approaches. The Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange is among this granting scheme's beneficiary NGOs. NDC is helping the association to finance the development and promotion of traditional Palestinian handicrafts produced in the rural outskirts of Ramallah. Such an undertaking will involve the interjection on new skills, design, marketing concepts. Ultimately, the rural men and women artisans will be equipped with the skills and employment opportunities needed to lift themselves out of poverty and become self-sustaining generators of income.

A second beneficiary NGO is Basma Society for Culture and Arts. NDC is supporting the society in its efforts to extend cultural, recreational and psychological support to the most deprived youth in Gaza through financing the continuation of the Theater for Children initiative established and financed by the Welfare Association Consortium (WAC). The Basma Society intends to present over 120 theatrical performances to children at their schools, sport clubs, and NGOs over the next two years, each of which will be followed by a workshop with the children concerning the play. NDC will likewise support Basma Society in offering psychological support for children through engaging them in drama workshops. Through the medium of theater, the Basma society will serve to not only reinforce the culture of drama and theater in Palestinian society but, to evoke thought and promote self-expression. Most importantly, the Theater for Children initiative will paint smiles on otherwise quite solemn faces.

In total, 16 NGOs in the West Bank and 12 in the Gaza Strip were awarded \$1,375,000 and \$1,250,500, respectively. The NGOs selected have at least 5 years of experience and a solid track record of achievements in their respective sectors and have undergone a stringent appraisal process. Currently, program officers are maintaining continuous contact with the beneficiary NGOs to ensure proper project implementation,

Empowerment Grants beneficiary NGOs

West Bank

- 1.The Four Homes of Mercy- Jerusalem
2. Spafford Children's Center, Old City- Jerusalem
- 3.The Saraya Center for Community Services- Jerusalem
- 4.Selat Al- Harthiah Charitable Society- Jenin
- 5.Union of Charitable Societies Northern Governorates of WB- Nablus
- 6.Al-Khader Charitable Child Care Society- Bethlehem
- 7.The Regional Committee for Rehabilitation/ Central Area- Ramallah
- 8.Elderly Home Charitable- Jenin
9. Palestinian Association for Cultural Exchange- Ramallah
- 10.Tarqumia Charitable Society- Hebron
- 11.The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music- Ramallah
- 12.Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development- Ramallah
- 13.The Arab Thought Forum (ATF)- Jerusalem
- 14.The Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation (PYALARA)- Ramallah

15. Taffouh Center for Culture & Arts- Hebron
16. Islah Charitable Social Society(ICS)- Jericho

Gaza

- 1.The Palestinian Farmers Association- Middle & South of Gaza
- 2.Basma Society for Culture and Arts- Gaza
3. Albait Assamed Society- Gaza
- 4.El-Amal Rehabilitation Society – Rafah
- 5.Palestinian Environmental Friends Association- Rafah
- 6.Fekra Arts Institute- Gaza City
- 7.Palestinian Alnakheel association for progress and development- Rafah & Khan Younis
- 8.Al-Mawassi Agricultural Cooperative Association- Rafah & Khan Younis
- 9.Association of Visually Impaired Graduates League- Gaza
- 10.Ard El Insan Palestinian Benevolent- Khan Younis
11. Al-Muntada-The Young Scientists Club- Khan Younis
- 12.Agricultural Engineering Association- Gaza

Mentorships

Mentoring Grants

NDC believes that 'learning from example' is an awesome medium for improving the efficiency of small and less experienced NGOs. Toward this end, NDC offers the Mentoring Grants scheme to create partnerships between community-based NGOs of limited experience with leading NGOs. The community-based NGOs will be able to improve the quality and effectiveness of their services by learning from the mentor NGO in such areas as project management. The value added of this type of grant is the transfer of knowledge and skills in the areas of intervention and expertise.

The Palestinian Hydrology Group is among the beneficiary NGOs of this granting scheme. NDC will help them in their initiative to promote water and sanitation conditions in various rural villages of the West Bank by strengthening the service provision capabilities of the community based organizations operating within them.

NDC, with the no objection of the World Bank, has approved 6 NGOs in the West Bank and 2 in the Gaza Strip a total amount of \$2,173,000 to manage mentoring grant schemes.

Mentoring Grants beneficiary NGOs

West Bank

1. Palestinian Medical Relief Society -Hebron

- 1.1 Halhul Women Charitable Society;
Development of general practitioner clinic and laboratory
- 1.2 Beit Umar Charitable Society;
- 1.3 Kharas Charitable Society
- 1.4 Sair Charitable Society
- 1.5 The Southern Society for Rehabilitation

2. Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees- Hebron

- 2.1 Al-Rihyyeh Cooperative Agricultural Development Society
- 2.2 Al-Samou Agricultural Cooperative Society
- 2.3 Baggar Cooperative Association for Credit and Saving Unlimited
- 2.4 The Commissary Community for Developing the Animal Fortune
- 2.5 Al-Mintar Cooperative Society for Livestock Development
- 2.6 Al-Samou' Cooperative Society for Brooding Animal
- 2.7 Bani Naim Livestock Cooperative

3. Palestinian Hydrology Group- Ramallah

- 3.1 Al-Janya Youth Club
- 3.2 Altheera Charitable Society
- 3.3 Qibbya Women's Cooperative for Rural Development
- 3.4 Kobar Youth Club
- 3.5 Women's Rural Development Center in Qarawat Bani Zeid

4. Ma'an Development Center- Ramallah

- 4.1 Nelien Association for Social Work Development
- 4.2 Youth Development Association-Qibya
- 4.3 Beit Sira Girls and Women Center
- 4.4 Rantis Children Club

- 4.5 Palestinian Youth Union -Aboud
- 4.6 Bodrus Sports Club
- 4.7 Handala Cultural Center

5. Palestinian Counseling Center- Jerusalem;

- 5.1 Abu Dees Youth Club
- 5.2 Al-Quds Club
- 5.3 Anata Youth Club
- 5.4 Youth Development Association
- 5.5 Nur Al-Ain Society

6. Youth Development Department- Jerusalem

- 6.1 African Community Society
- 6.2 Beit Doqqa Development Society
- 6.3 Burj Al Laq Laq Social Center
- 6.4 Eila Association for Youth
- 6.5 Jerusalem Gate Charitable Society

Gaza

7. Foundation-Gaza Middle Area

- 7.1 Rehabilitation & Development Of Palestinian Home's Society
- 7.2 Palestinian Student Care Association
- 7.3 Deir Al Balah Association for Community Development & Childhood
- 7.4 Maghazi Cultural
- 7.5 Nour El Marifa Charitable Societ

8. The Culture & Free Thought Association- Khan Younis and Rafah;

- 8.1 Palestinian Environment Supporters Association
- 8.2 Watan Benevolent Association
- 8.3 Youth without Borders Forum Youth towards creativity
- 8.4 Society for the Care of Disabled Families
- 8.5 Al-Foukhari Association for Culture and Development
- 8.6 Rafah Services Club

Local Government Involvement

Government Partnership Grants

The NGO-Local Government Partnership Grants is a pilot scheme encouraging partnerships between municipalities and locally-based NGOs in addressing community priorities of impoverished governorates, from early childhood development and adult learning to the establishment of water irrigation systems. Such partnerships will be mutually beneficial to both the NGOs and the local governments in that the joint activities they undergo will serve to dually alleviate community concerns and enable and support the NGOs' particular programming activities. Among the joint activities to be carried out is a wildlife conservation initiative by the Palestinian Wild life Society aimed at establishing an Environmental Conservation Center in Beit Sahour. The NGO component of the project will be to develop a strategic plan and intervention methodologies for the center and raise environmental and public health awareness. The Beit Sahour Municipality will have the responsibility of rehabilitating/constructing the center, supervising the center's programs, and developing administrative and technical systems in coordination with the NGO. Other initiatives include the construction of a general library in the remote outskirts of the Hebron District and a Women's Center in the most disenfranchised communities of Gaza. Both undertakings will create a space for locals to attain services otherwise difficult to access.

NDC, jointly with the Municipalities Development and Lending Fund (MDLF), finalized the appraisal process and awarded \$ 1 million in total (\$ 0.3 million contributed by NDC and \$0.7m contributed by MDLF) to 6 NGOs in the West Bank and 4 from the Gaza Strip. The Grant Implementation Agreements are expected to be signed in mid January of 2008.

NGO-Local Government Partnership Grants beneficiary NGOs

West Bank

1. Palestinian Wild Life Society -Beit Sahour; Environmental Conservation Center
2. Janata Woman Center- Janata; Social Service Center
3. Al- Samou Youth Club- AL-Samou; Rehabilitation & Upgrading works in the Stadium
4. Sourif Charitable Association- Sourif ; Construction of General Library
5. Shyoukh Zakat Committee- Al-Shyoukh; Pre-paid Metering System
6. Beit Awwa Charitable Society- Beit Awwa; Beit Awwa Center Social Services

Gaza

7. Al Zahra Athletic Culb - Al Zahra; Constructing El Zahra Sports Club and El Zahar KG
8. Qarara Social Development Center- El Qarara; Construction of Women Social Center
9. Bait El-Mustaqbal Association- Khaza'a ; Preparing Multi-Service Hall & Computer Center
10. Palestinian Center for Organic Agriculture- Al Shuka; Al Shuka Environment & Plenteous Garden

Emergency Assistance

Emergency Grants

Offering Employment Opportunities & Improving Public Assets

This year tested the limits of the already overwhelming poverty and unemployment faced by Palestinians. Wishing to alleviate the financial burdens of the most poor and marginalized families in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, NDC offers Emergency Grants to NGOs (funded by the French Agency for Development). The Emergency Grants will finance temporary employment generation projects through the development of NGO-operated community assets. The financing agreement was signed between AFD and the Welfare Association in April 2007 and a management agreement was signed between the Welfare Association and NDC in May 2007. NDC expects to offer assistance to 50 NGOs in WBGS, and create approximately 140,000 working man-days.

Kindergarten Rehabilitations

Creating Safe and Healthy Environments

NDC was granted an additional fund, provided generously by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), for an amount of \$280,000. This past year has rendered funding to 21 NGOs to improve the hygienic and safety conditions of 31 Kindergartens in the southern and middle parts of the Gaza Strip. NDC is currently working on completing these projects.

The state of Almahaba Kindergarten prior to NDC's rehabilitation efforts was quite unhealthy. The premise was old and lacked sewage lines and hygienic bathrooms. Today, the kindergarten is completely renovated with new and closer bathrooms constructed, sewage lines directly connected to the municipality's main sewage line, and newly installed outdoor play equipment. The kindergarten has reported, that as a result of parent and child satisfaction, enrollment has increased by 20% increase and has reached total allowable capacity. Kindergarten rehabilitation projects, such as that of Almahaba's likewise serve to generate temporary employment opportunities for local unemployed construction workers.

Kindergarten Rehabilitations Beneficiary NGOs

1. Al-Awda Charitable Society- Gaza
2. Al-Foukhary Association for Development & Culture- Khan Yunis
3. Al-Najda Social Association- Rafah
4. Ahalai El Mawasy Charity Society- Gaza
5. General Union of Palestinian Woman- Deir al Balah
6. Baraem Alamal and Almahba- Al Maghazi Camp
7. Bonat El-Mostaqbal Association- Rafah
8. Deir Balah Service Club- Deir al Balah
9. Muslim Girls Society- Rafah
10. Palestinian Woman Development Society- Al Burj
11. Rural woman empowerment society- Gaza
12. The Palestinian Early childhood Education Programs- Rafah
13. The Kind Mother Charitable Association- Rafah
14. The Palestinian Association for Motherhood and Childhood-Rafah
15. Association of Women Committees for Social Work- Rafah
16. El-Takafol for Society Development- Rafah
17. Palestine Women's Union- Khan Yunis
18. Palestinian Child Loving Association- 'Abasan al Kabira
19. El Mabara Charity Association-Gaza
20. Shoma'a Al Amal Association for child development and culture- Gaza
21. Maghazi Community Rehabilitation Society – Gaza

Grants Allocations

Allocations & Commitments by Sub-Grant

	Amounts Allocated \$	Amounts Committed \$
Empowerment Grants	2,625,500	2,625,500
Health Grants	1,440,000	1,440,000
Mentoring Grants	2,238,000	2,238,000
LGU/NGO Partnerships	286,000	286,000
Emergency Grants	7,476,000	-----
Total	14,065,500	6,589,500

Sub-Grants Committed by Region

Location	No. of Sub-Grants	Amounts Committed	Percentage
Jerusalem	16	1,121,000	17%
West Bank	50	3,095,000	47%
Gaza Strip	32	2,373,500	36%
Total	98	6,589,500	100%





Good Governance

Ensuring Ethics and Professionalism

Palestinian NGO Code of Conduct

NDC underwent a very productive year, mainly developing further the Palestine NGO Code of Conduct, which as initially based on the Code of Ethics developed through the second phase of the Palestinian NGO Project. The NGO Code of Conduct is the standard for the ethical and work behavioral patterns within the framework of the functioning of NGOs. It specifies the ground rules needed to be observed by the board, administration, and staff while fulfilling their tasks.

In order to build consensus regarding the NGO Code of Conduct, NDC facilitated the establishment of a coalition of the four major Umbrella NGO Networks ; the Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO), the Palestinian National Institute of NGOs (PNIN), the Palestinian General Union of Charitable Societies, and the General Palestinian Union for NGOs in Gaza. In September 2007, the roles and responsibilities of the coalition were agreed upon, and each coalition member held individual consultations with their various member organizations, ultimately, reaching over 200 NGOs in the process which saw an agreement on the final draft. This draft was revised by the program partner-organization- the coalition for Integrity and Transparency (AMAN). The NGO Code of Conduct reflects international standards of good governance including transparency and accountability. NDC will hold a conference to officially present to, ratify, and sign the Code of Conduct by attending NGOs (note; adherence to the code is voluntary).

NDC will also conduct an evaluation for all the NGOs who signed the Code and have submitted applications for technical assistance and will offer the needed technical assistance to a select 50 NGOs to enhance their organizational capacities in attaining compliance with the Code.

NGO Networks Performance Standards

With the aim of increasing the effectiveness of the Palestinian networks, NDC will provide two kinds of grants: the first relates to the thematic networks and the second to umbrella networks, In regards to the thematic networks, NDC has pre-qualified a number of networks, and this process was carried out through defining a set of criteria advertised in the local press.

In October of 2007, NDC conducted workshops in Gaza and the West Bank aimed at discussing performance standards for NGO Networks. The

workshop served as a platform for participant networks and unions to discuss issues of concern, their current status and role in the Palestinian community, in addition to formulating a unified Palestinian perspective regarding networks' performance standards. In addition, the results of the workshop has enabled NDC to design a tool for measuring and enhancing networks' effectiveness, and list it as a prerequisite for the networks grants.

Health Insurance for NGOs

UNIFIED Program

NDC offers a first-of-its-kind health insurance program (UNIFIED) for NGO employees and their families which affords accessibility to all health service providers, with no exceptions. NDC has established as a Third Party Administration (TPA) to design, monitor, evaluate and develop health insurance policies available to the NGO sector. By early 2008, NDC anticipates the selection of a new service provider that meets members and NGOs expectations. Currently, around 21,000 members (employees and families) from 73 different NGOs have joined the program.



Information Exchange

Masader Portal

In an effort to facilitate information exchange among civil society institutions, NDC established the Palestinian NGO portal, Masader. Masader offers an NGO directory, learning resources, networking opportunities, and on-line information sharing, through the provision of usernames and passwords to its members for accessing their pages and uploading and downloading data. Total membership has currently reached 297 civil society institutions throughout the West Bank and Gaza. NDC is currently working on upgrading the portal, which can be visited at www.masader.ps.



NDC's Financial Review

Distribution of NDC's 2007 Functional Expenses (in USD)

Items	IDA	AFD	SDC*	UNIFIED & MASADER	Total
Sub-Grants	307,995		1,324,768		1,632,763
Goods Works and Services	34,369				34,369
Operating Costs	581,619	43,234	97,737	119,765	842,355
Total	923,983	43,234	1,422,505	119,765	2,509,487

* SDC statement includes all functional expenses since 1/7/2006

Statement of NDC 2007 Activities (in USD)

FUND AMOUNT	
FUNDS Received	
IDA	1,500,000
AFD	141,298
SDC (since 1/7/2006)	774,987
UNIFIED AND MASADER	111,036
Interest Income	49,812
Total Revenues	2,577,133
DISBURSEMENTS	
IDA	923,983
AFD	43,234
SDC Since 1/7/2006	1,422,505
UNIFIED AND MASADER	119,765
Total Disbursements	2,509,487
Excess of funds received over Disbursements	67,646

NDC's 2007 Donors

In addition to the support obtained from Welfare Association, our mother organization, NDC currently has the following main donors;



The Welfare Association (WA), which oversaw the Consortium during the implementation of phase I and II of the Palestinian NGO World Bank funded project will continue to support the NGO sector by contributing towards the management costs for NDC. It has also allocated the income of its \$1 million endowment fund to NDC to cover its running costs for the upcoming three years. Additionally, the Welfare Association will utilize the services of NDC to channel donated funds it receives for purposes of grant-making to NGOs.



The World Bank (WB) has been engaged with NDC since 1997, and in February 2007, the Bank signed, for the third time, a Trust Fund Project Agreement for an amount of US \$ ten million dollars, for the implementation of the Palestinian NGO Project III. This project is foreseen to last three years.



The French Agency for Development (AFD), has been engaged with NDC since December 2006 and has provided a second grant of six million Euros for the implementation of an emergency employment generation project in Gaza and the West Bank.



The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) was engaged with NDC since November 2005 for the implementation of the Emergency Employment Generation in the Gaza Strip Program after the Israeli disengagement in Gaza in May 2005. The original SDC contribution to NDC was USD 1,600,000. Currently, it has provided additional funding for the rehabilitation of 32 kindergartens in the middle and southern parts of the Gaza Strip for a total amount of USD 280,000.

NDC's Board of Directors

NDC is governed by a board of directors that provides overall guidance and oversight to NDC. Its current 13 members represent a stratum of economic, academic and civil society representatives. One World Bank representative sits on the board as observer. Board members are the following:

1. Zahi Khouri, Chairman, representing the private sector
2. Abdel Karim Ashour, Deputy Chair, representing civil society
3. Suleiman Al Khalil, Secretary, representing civil society
4. Mohammed Shadid, Treasurer, representing civil society
5. Allam Jarrar, representing PNGO Network
6. Fahmi Shalalkeh, representing the General Union of Charitable Societies
7. Mohammed Munther Al Rayes, representing the General Palestinian Union of NGOs
8. Atalah Kuttah, representing Welfare Association
9. Sufian Mushasha, independent Welfare Association
10. Hisham Qaddumi, representing Welfare Association
11. Rawya Shawa, representing civil society
12. Darwish Abu Sharekh, representing civil society
13. Nahla Assali, representing civil society

NDC's Staff

West Bank Office:

Directorate

Ghassan Kasabreh, Director
Nadia Ghattas, Administrative Assistant
Ilona Kassissieh, Board Affairs

Finance & Administration Unit

Shadi Qara', Manager
Nadera Khatib, Senior Accountant
Bashir Jabr, Procurement Specialist
Ali Al Khatib, MIS Specialist
Qadri Shiha, Office Support
Rizeq Taha, Logistics Officer

Grants Unit

Khaled Khatib, Manager
Rudaina Abu Arafah, Program Assistant
Malak Masri, Program Officer
Naser Shaikh Ali, Program Officer
Mohammed Turshan, Program Officer
Raja Tutanji, Program Officer

Sector Support Unit

Suha Sayegh, Manager
Carol Mukarker, Program Assistant
Hasan Hamarsheh, Portal Content Coordinator
Rasha Salah Eddin, Capacity Building Coordinator
Rasha Musleh, UNIFIED Customer Care Officer
Rami Saleh, UNIFIED Coordinator

Resource Mobilization & Communications Unit

Mai Farsakh, Manager
Rulla Sarras, Information & Communications Officer

Gaza Office:

Alaa Ghalayini, Program Manager
Randa Mikki, Program Assistant
Munther Abdel Hadi, Program Officer
Alaa Shurafa, Program Officer