

Project Status Report for Month Ending August 2017

Project Name:	Community Resilience and Development Programme (CRDP)	Donor (for 2017):	1. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) 2. Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
Project Manager:	Jamal Al Aref	Project Number:	00084013
Project Start Date:	30.09.2012	Project End Date:	31.03.2018 (as per Amendment # 4)
Project Status:	Ongoing	Project Completion ¹ :	70% ⁽¹⁾

Brief Summary

CRDP was designed to strengthen the resilience of Palestinians living in Area C and East Jerusalem to enable them to remain on their land. The project empowers local stakeholders, through the most suitable partners, to respond with resilience to threats that affect their sustenance on the land. To this end, the programme will contribute to the following:

- Preventing the erosion of living conditions of Palestinians in Area C and East Jerusalem that undermine their development capital
- Protecting Palestinian land and property in Area C and East Jerusalem; and
- Mitigating and ideally reversing migration flow from Area C and East Jerusalem by enhancing human security and livelihood of Palestinians.

The CRDP, in its fifth year, is the result of a fruitful partnership led by the Palestinian Government, funded by the Governments of Sweden, Austria and Norway since its inception and implemented by UNDP's Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (UNDP/PAPP). So far, the project targeted more than 80,490 Palestinians residing in Area C and East Jerusalem through the implementation of multi sectoral activities based on thorough community assessments and in coordination with projects' stakeholders. In Area C, the project has targeted 112 communities. Since April 2016, the project moved to the geographical cluster approach and two clusters i.e. Qalqiliya and Tubas Area C were approved by the CRDP Project Review Board. In East Jerusalem, a number of activities were designed to support Palestinians living in the 15 neighbourhoods (including Old City).

In 2017, 56 projects were ongoing (17 in Qalqiliya, 15 in Tubas, 22 in East Jerusalem, in addition to Area C Coordination Office (ACCO) and the Local Economic Development (LED)). As of the end of August 2017, 23 of the projects have been completed. Due to the context of Area C and East Jerusalem; e.g. their legal status, lack of access and outreach of the Government of Palestine, there are more risks unique to the areas and thus risk management is an integral part of project management.

UNDP closely monitors and updates the risks analysis to mitigate and manage risks. Some of the approaches for mitigation and management of risks are as follows: supporting initiatives not needing permits, community involvement, enhancing ownership and leadership of the Government of Palestine.

¹ 77 projects have been completed out of 110 projects. Progress from still ongoing projects (33 projects) is not reflected in this achievement rate.

Progress and Challenges (if any)

Since the start of the CRDP, a total of 110 agreements have been signed with various implementing partners. Out of these, 33 projects are still ongoing in July 2017: 14 in East Jerusalem, 16 in Tubas and Qalqiliya clusters as well as ACCO, assessment of CBOs and LAs and the Youth Sports League. So far, progress against each output is as follows:

Output 1: Public and social infrastructure in Area C and East Jerusalem improved.

There is no update under output 1 from the July 2017 report.

Output 2: Improved access to sustainable livelihood and business opportunities.

- **Land reclamation:** A total of 80 dunums of land were rehabilitated in Jinsafut and Qufr Qaddum in Qalqilia cluster. The total number of beneficiaries is 27 farmers.

Output 3: Strengthened governance including human capital knowledge management and public participation.

There is no update under output 3 from the July 2017 report.

Output 4: Supported nationally led developmental role in Area C and East Jerusalem

Area C Coordination Office (ACCO) was established in June 2016 and its capacity development continues in 2017, while specific deliverables have to be developed for the remainder of 2017. Amendment # 1 was agreed in principle with the Prime minister's Office extending the Letter of Agreement (LoA) for ACCO until 31 January 2018. The amendment was prepared in order to reflect the additional funding received by UNDP for the benefit of ACCO (USD 100,000 from the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) and USD 80,000 from CRDP). During the reporting period, ACCO was able to complete the Land Registry Study for the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and has been engaged in the contracting of two local consultants for Area C action plan and sector strategy consolidations.

Ongoing projects as of August 2017 are on track except for the following projects:

▪ Ard Al Immeem Project

Activating Jerusalemite youth as agents of positive change in their community, including utilization of a Waqf space; through a project implemented in East Jerusalem in partnership with Burj Al Luq Luq society with a total budget of USD100,000. The project implementation has been facing increasing difficulties imposed by the Municipality of Jerusalem which will make it almost impossible to implement within the timeframe of the CRDP, i.e. by the end of December 2017. Hence, the Burj Al Luqluq society submitted a request to substitute this project with shading of internal spaces within the existing premises, for the same total amount, to be implemented by end of November 2017. The proposal was put forward to the CRDP Review Board meeting for consideration, expected to take place on 13 September 2017.

▪ Yarza Connecting Dirt Track

This project was originally planned for the rehabilitation / construction of 3 km of existing access paths (dirt track) to improve mobility of residents of Yarza, a small village close to Al Aqaba village, in Area C within the Tubas Governorate. The total budget for this activity is USD 80,000. This is a high-risk project where the local community is finding it difficult to acquire the services of a local contractor willing to carry out the risk and implement this project. The advance money that was administered has been recalled. An alternative proposal was put forward to the CRDP Review Board for the installation of a water network to irrigate an area of 200

dunums in the Northern Jordan Valley area (Bardala, Kardala and Ein Al Beida). The proposal was put forward to the CRDP Review Board meeting for consideration, expected to take place on 13 September 2017.

▪ **Silwan and Beit Hanina Public Parks**

This project is being implemented in East Jerusalem by IPCC as part of the 2017 AWP. The project has been facing some delays in the process of the design development for the two parks due to the need for the local partners to clarify issues related to operational aspects of both parks, clarification of roles and responsibilities and agreeing on the final setup. The issues have now been cleared with the local partners and IPCC is being requested by the CRDP team to move with the implementation on several tracks simultaneously in order to compensate for lost time. The CRDP will continue to closely monitor the progress and has set 15 September 2017 as a milestone date for a satisfactory progress. If the progress remains to be slow, the PMU may resort to terminating the agreement with IPCC and proposing to the Review Board to utilize the funds in an alternative activity in East Jerusalem.

▪ **Al Himmeh Spring Project**

This project, although completed early 2016, has yet faced an incident in July 2017, whereby the Israeli authorities confiscated equipment that were installed at the spring. *Note that a court injunction was earlier issued in June preventing any action to be taken at the project site; a full incident report was sent to all donors outlining the full course of events.* UNDP is closely communicating with the community to support their actions. So far, the Israelis are claiming that they have not confiscated but are holding them in their custody until the court issue sits final verdict on 15 September 2017 (if the court hearing does not get postponed further). UNDP will report on any developments in this case in the September update report.

On the final evaluation of the CRDP, UNDP is working closely with the consultant to finalize the final draft report, based on the comments received. UNDP received the final evaluation report from the consultant on 31 August 2017. The report will be shared and discussed with all stakeholders mid-September 2017.

Photos related to the programme activities are uploaded on the UNDP Flickr account under the [CRDP Album](#) for online access.

Risk Register (if any)

There is no update from the July 2017 report.