



**NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
AND EMPOWERMENT
IN EAST JERUSALEM**

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This report describes the process and outcome of a *Needs Assessment on Youth Development and Empowerment in East Jerusalem*, which PASSIA implemented in partnership with Taawon (Welfare Association). The goal was to conduct a comprehensive stocktaking of existing resources and opportunities for youth in East Jerusalem and to survey the opinions of youth themselves in order to provide a solid foundation for Taawon's further strategizing, planning and programming in Jerusalem.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This needs assessment focuses on identifying the needs of Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem across six sectors (education, employment, heritage/identity, culture/arts, community development and sports/leisure) and proposing recommendations to address those needs. Its rationale is to ensure that future interventions or solutions implemented are evidence-based and informed by the actual needs and challenges faced by the target group.

The needs assessment was conducted using a mixed-methods approach that included desk research, focus group discussions and questionnaires. The desk research involved a review of existing literature, reports and studies, and analyzing available data. It revealed the many challenges that Palestinian youth face in Jerusalem, including a range of occupation-related restrictions and development obstacles. It also identified existing programs and resources that are already available in the six examined sectors at the time of conducting this study from November 2022 to March 2023.

PASSIA designed two questionnaires (see Annexes), one to gather information directly from youth residing in the various neighborhoods of East Jerusalem with a sample of 151 respondents. The other to gain insights from 19 selected key informants on the main problems facing youth in East Jerusalem and the priority areas on which future resources and support should focus. This was supported by three focus group discussions involving East Jerusalem youth from a range of backgrounds.

Based on the findings of this assessment, it can be concluded that existing resources and programs are insufficient and often do not meet youths' needs. Part of the problem is that most interventions are short-term and do not allow organizations to ensure continuity. In most cases, projects end when funding ends, a cycle which is widely perceived as a waste of experience and resources and as being counterproductive to achieving sustainable and lasting effects.

This, along with the Israeli occupation and the lack of Palestinian leadership in Jerusalem, which are causal factors in many of the current problems faced by youth in East Jerusalem, makes the efforts to strengthen their resilience and to offer them future perspectives a great challenge. The issue of (un)employment, which was the main thematic concern overall, whether emphasized in existing reports and studies or stressed throughout by the participants in this study, is a good example: while there are many programs that aim to counteract this and improve youths' employability, they cannot change the underlying structural problems of the labor market.

Cross-sectoral findings include the need to reach out to the city's outskirts and the most vulnerable population groups as well as to address the persistent exclusion of youth from decision-making processes, which was described by interviewees as a serious gap that requires attention. The same goes for the problem of donor-drivenness in project design and implementation, which is often seen as resulting in interventions that are detrimental to the real

needs on the ground. Partnerships, synergies and coordination among the different youth-serving sectors were a frequently mentioned desire.

The study concludes with a number of general and sector-specific recommendations. PAS-SIA's research team has chosen not to emphasize certain recommendations over others as this is highly dependent on programmatic priorities and availability of resources.

Recommendations for the **education** sector revolved around the need to place a strong focus on innovative curricula and teaching methods to improve diversity and quality, as well as for teacher training. In terms of **employability**, there were calls for increased and appropriate career counseling, designing TVET programs suiting 21st century labor market needs, and improved access to and quality of TVET programs to better promote it as an alternative to often unpromising university study. With regard to **community development**, there is need for an increase in supportive, enabling and safe environments for youth and in opportunities for them to participate and engage. Recommendations in the field of **arts and culture** called for more diversified and affordable classes and courses to promote creativity, art skills as well as Palestinian culture. Efforts should also be made to develop a comprehensive curriculum and educational materials that help raise awareness and preserve Palestinian **identity and heritage** in Jerusalem. There is also need to improve access and quality of **sports and leisure** opportunities and increase participation of underrepresented groups.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The reality of life in East Jerusalem is a continued deterioration of socio-political and economic trends caused by discriminatory policies, insufficient and unbalanced investment in community services, minimal municipal public services, high poverty rates, low labor force participation, limited opportunities especially for vulnerable groups, low private investment and minimal economic development.

As “permanent residents”, Palestinians from East Jerusalem are entitled to the same services, infrastructure maintenance and rights granted to Israeli citizens, but since 1967, their neighborhoods have been neglected; on average, the Israeli Jerusalem municipality spends only about 10-12% of its budget on these areas although Palestinian Jerusalemites constitute close to 40% of the population. The resources spent in East Jerusalem are geared to further Israeli interests rather than addressing actual development needs and social and economic gaps in East Jerusalem. This has become very evident in the fact that the five-year plan to allegedly reduce social and economic disparities in East Jerusalem (Government Decision 3790 of 2018) does not deal at all with the severe shortage of housing or the issue of planning and preparing outline plans. Instead, it promotes the “settlement of title procedures” which Palestinians see as yet another attempt to seize more of their land for future settlement expansion.¹

¹ Ir Amim & WAAC-Maan, *Three Years Since the Implementation of Government Decision 3790 for Socio-Economic Investment in East Jerusalem*, Monitor Report, 2022

Restrictive allocation of housing and issuance of building permits along with land confiscation and demolition of houses “built without permits” have led to a high rise in land prices and rents, severe over-crowdedness and, subsequently, migration into neighborhoods that are within the municipal border but cut off from the city by the separation barrier (Kufr Aqab, Shu’fat Refugee Camp). While those neighborhoods, where now a third of the Palestinian Jerusalemite population lives (some 120,000-140,000 people) offer affordable housing, they offer few services and no law enforcement. An estimated 20,000 East Jerusalem housing units have been built without permits², putting tens of thousands of Palestinians at risk of demolition and displacement.

Palestinians are not allowed to move into the neighboring, much cheaper West Bank as they, unlike Jews, must prove that their “center of life” is in Jerusalem in order to reside there legally and receive benefits from the National Insurance Institute (health insurance, wage substitution, child allowances, pensions, maternity benefits, rehabilitation, etc.). In addition, West Bank spouses of Palestinian Jerusalemites are ineligible for social rights such as unemployment or disability benefits, health insurance and social security – even if they manage to acquire permits to stay in the city. On 30 August 2022, the NII revoked the health rights of 20 families of Palestinian activists based on information passed by the Shin Bet.

As of 2021, Israel had revoked at least 14,727 ID cards from Palestinian Jerusalem residents since 1967.³ In addition, West Bank Palestinians who marry Palestinians from Israel or Jerusalem are effectively barred from gaining citizenship or residency.⁴

Despite the socioeconomic disparities, which are clearly reflected in the fact that 57.3% of Palestinian families, 61.4% of Palestinian individuals and 70.3% of Palestinian children in Jerusalem live below the Israeli poverty line⁵, Palestinians must pay the same tax rates as Israelis whose income is much higher. In particular, the Arnona property tax, which accounts for most of the municipality’s self-generated income, is a huge burden for Palestinians and has forced many businesses and institutions to close or move to the West Bank.

On top of everything else, Israeli authorities deprive Palestinians in Jerusalem of any form of self-representation or “address”. They regularly and repeatedly order Palestinian institutions to close, claiming they operate under the auspices of the PA in a bid to gain a foothold in the city. On the same grounds, referring to a 1994 law barring the PA from “operating offices and holding meetings in the State of Israel unless (...) allow[ed] to do so,” Palestinian events are often prevented from taking place in the city. In April 2022, the Israeli government extended its long-standing prohibition on working within municipal limits on the Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce and 27 other civil society organizations.

² Ir Amim, *Planned Negligence*, 2021.

³ Interior Ministry Data provided to HaMoked: https://hamoked.org/files/2022/1665741_eng.pdf.

⁴ The Knesset passed a new version of the respective Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law on 10 March 2022.

⁵ JIPR, *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2022*.

Meanwhile, PA funds for Jerusalem (allocated for the Ministry of Jerusalem Affairs) are very limited, amounting to a mere 0.53% (NIS 43,533,000) of the total budget, and of this only 1.2% went toward development.⁶

Within this grim “setting”, youth make up the majority of the population, with some 21% in the 15-24 age group alone.⁷ Given the living conditions that prevail in the city, their economic and social resilience is consistently challenged. While this applies to all youth and young adults in general, marginalized groups such as school dropouts and unemployed youth are especially vulnerable and prone to resort to drugs and crime. The lack of hope and perspective for many poses a serious threat and may lead to further disintegration of the social fabric.

2. OBJECTIVES AND RATIONALE

The current socio-economic and political situation in East Jerusalem is dire and leaves little perspective for Palestinians in general and youth in particular to exist in dignity. Youth make up a significant portion of the population in East Jerusalem, and it is important to ensure that they have the necessary support and resources to reach their full potential.

This needs assessment was designed to gather and analyze information on the current state and needs of youth in East Jerusalem. Based on their ideas and desires, it identifies entry points to make sound strategic decisions for future program planning and implementation aimed at strengthening the steadfastness and resilience of the Palestinian Jerusalemite youth.

The assessment has three objectives:

1. To collect information that describe the general situation of and program options for Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem.
2. To identify strategic priorities and concrete interventions on youth development needs in Jerusalem.
3. To provide programmatic recommendations for sustainable programs focusing on youth steadfastness, resilience and empowerment.

In providing a solid fundament for further planning, this assessment can serve as a valuable resource for those responsible on the donor side to design support programs or devise future strategies that take into consideration youth’s real development needs on the ground. Thus, they assist in finding ways to improve the current situation, create potential synergies and contribute to strengthening the resilience of youth in East Jerusalem.

⁶ PA Ministry of Finance, monthly report for December 2021.

⁷ JIPR, *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2022*.

3. METHODOLOGY

In order to gather comprehensive and accurate information about youth empowerment in East Jerusalem, a mixed-methods approach was used. This included both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, such as literature review, desk research, interviews, focus group discussions, and survey of relevant organizations.

- (a) As part of the **literature review** relevant materials such as reports and studies related to the investigated sectors – including education, employment, heritage/identity, culture/arts, community development, sports/leisure – of the past 4 years (2018 onwards) were collected and screened.
- (b) **Desk research** gathered background data and statistics about East Jerusalem (demographics, poverty, dropout rates, etc.) and identified relevant actors (local and international organizations) and existing programs in the sectors under assessment.
- (c) **Field research:** further data to assess needs was gathered from **interviews** (based on **questionnaires** developed by PASSIA and conducted with 20 local and international key informants as well as 151 youth). The questionnaires were administered both online and in-person (individual telephone or face-to-face interviews). Data was collected between November 2022 and March 2023. Before being completed by the respondents, the questionnaires were tested with a number of random people to check the questions for clarity and relevance.
- (d) Three **focus group** discussions with young people were held in February 2023 to collect their take of existing interventions and current and future needs. The total number of participants in these meetings was 37 people.

4. NEEDS ASSESSMENT – OVERVIEW

In the following, an overall analysis of the findings from this needs assessment is presented, providing a comprehensive picture of the current situation on the ground. The first section gives an overview of the gathered data and the challenges and limitations of this assessment. The second section summarizes the findings from the desk research and literature review and reviews and analyzes the results of the two sets of questionnaires – one for key informants and another for youth themselves – describing the particular youth-relevant situation of the six examined sectors. The third section presents the conclusions drawn from the collected data and the fourth section lists recommendations based on both the general situation analysis and the results from the questionnaires.

4.1 GATHERED DATA

The desk research and literature review provided a comprehensive insight into the current situation of the six examined sectors.

The interviews/questionnaires gathered data on the following⁸:

- Key Informants: Interviews analyzed the perceptions of KIs regarding the needs of youth and the effectiveness of existing youth programs and policies. Interviews with KIs also gauged satisfaction with the scope of available programs for youth, programmatic problems, awareness level of existing programs, organizations providing useful programs and services, consideration of the needs of youth in existing programs, duplications and assessment of most urgently needed interventions and suitable implementing partners.
- Youth: Interviews assessed perceptions of biggest problems for youth in Jerusalem, awareness of existing programs, areas requiring most urgent attention, successful organizations addressing youth needs, and key themes for policy and development interventions.
- Three focus group meetings⁹ were held to highlight what young people see as their priority goals, opportunities and risks, and what their key aspirations are. This also included additional feedback from youth on the effectiveness of existing youth programs and/or on the design for new programs.

4.2 CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- The limitations of the needs assessment include its small sample size, which may not be representative of the entire target population. However, as the results basically confirm general observations and results of similar studies, this should not be a major concern.
- Due to data being collected mainly in the center of Jerusalem, voices from the outskirts and more marginalized communities are not adequately represented.
- For the focus groups, as they centered around needs in Jerusalem in general and with regard to the six selected sectors, and as participants came from a range of backgrounds, discussions did not go into specific details, for example, by talking in-depth only to students from TVET programs.
- With regard to statistics and figures, data for East Jerusalem is at times integrated with West Bank data when disaggregation of that data is not available. In addition, data does not exist equally for the various sectors in terms of amount and reliability. For example, while there is a wealth of studies and reporting regarding TVET, little to no written material is available on sports and leisure and identity/heritage.

⁸ See Annex for the full questionnaires.

⁹ On 6 February 2023 at Al-Quds University, on 27 February at PYALARA, and on 28 February in Shu'fat Refugee Camp.

- Participation in filling the questionnaires proved to be a challenge with both key informants and youth. Several key informants who are known in their respective fields and whom the research team sought their input were contacted repeatedly to no avail. Many youths, on the other hand, were either too shy, reluctant or disinterested to participate in the questionnaires. Other youth seem to lack clear awareness of their reality, needs and relevant programs around them.

5. NEEDS ASSESSMENT – FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

5.1 DESK RESEARCH

The following situation analysis is based on a wide range of international, regional and local studies as well as research in local organizations. It highlights the extremely challenging political and socioeconomic conditions faced by Palestinian youth in Jerusalem, divided into the six areas studied.

■ Education

- Generally, education has a **high priority** for Palestinians and thus there is a commitment to invest in education and there are many teachers' and parents' associations.
- Israeli occupation authorities systematically target the Palestinian education sector in Jerusalem in an attempt to produce generations that are unaware of their own history and have a minimal sense of belonging to their land and thus dissipate into the Israeli society and labor market. This is done by attempts (or efforts) to impose the Israeli curriculum (i.e., studying towards the Israeli **bagrut** rather than the Palestinian **tawjihi** matriculation exam) and eliminating, if not criminalizing, anything related to Palestinian narrative and heritage.¹⁰ Many Palestinians are worried at the growing trend to study the Israeli curriculum, spurred by millions of NIS in spending as part of “**Government Decision 3790**” – 83% of the budget for education under this decision was allocated to schools that exclusively teach the Israeli curriculum and priority was given to opening new elementary schools that will do so (although prior to the Decision's implementation, less than 7% of Palestinian students studied the Israeli curriculum).¹¹
- Between 2012/13 and 2019/20 the number of schools teaching the **Israeli curriculum** increased from 3 to 50, and according to a February 2022 report by Israel's Jerusalem and Heritage Ministry, the number of Palestinian students in Jerusalem taking the *bagrut*

¹⁰ See, for example, *Israel's Apartheid-Colonial Education: Subjugating Palestinian Minds and Rights*, BADIL Working Paper No. 26, December 2020; available at <https://www.badil.org/phocadownloadpap/badil-new/publications/research/working-papers/WP26-right2education.pdf>.

¹¹ The total amount to be invested in education under Decision 3790 is NIS 445 million over the course of five years. Spending in institutions that teach the Israeli curriculum amounts to 43.4% of the total budget. WAC-MAAN & Ir Amim, *Three Years Since the Implementation of Government Decision 3790*, *op. cit.*

has increased by 34% since 2018 to about 51%¹². In 2021/22, 16.2% of Palestinian students in Arab educational institutions in Jerusalem (excluding kindergarten) studied for Israeli matriculation.¹³ The percentage of 1st grade students in the Israeli track increased from 9% in 2018/19 to 16.5% in 2020/21 and the rate of 12th graders from 15% to 24%.¹⁴

- In contrast to the Israeli curriculum promotion, the funds allocated in Decision 3790 to special needs and dropout prevention is minimal although investment needs in both are large. The **dropout rate** among secondary school students is very high – about 32% of Palestinians over the age of 18 have not completed 12 years of schooling (compared to only 1.5% in West Jerusalem).¹⁵
- East Jerusalem lacks at least 242 **daycare center** and **nursery** classrooms¹⁶ and over 2,000 **classrooms**¹⁷, with many other classrooms being overcrowded and substandard. According to municipal officials, the main reason that prevents the construction of the missing classrooms is the lack of plots designated for public buildings.
- The Palestinian education sector struggles with **financial constraints**,¹⁸ poor preparation and training of **teachers**, low salaries (=low motivation), **poor infrastructure** at schools, **lack of health and safety** conditions and competition with educational services provided by the Israeli municipality.
- As part of Israel's Decision 3790, four programs were launched to induce Palestinians to study in **Israeli academic institutions**: the Rawad Program – study guidance for middle school pupils; a program of pre-academic preparatory courses for East Jerusalem high-school graduates; an extracurricular guidance program for BA students; and the Al-Bashair Program to prepare excellent high-school students (grades 10-12) for higher education in Israel.¹⁹ The 2022-23 budget for these programs was increased due to high demand.
- On 28 July 2022, Israeli Education Minister Shasha Biton **revoked the licenses** of six schools in East Jerusalem (Ibrahimieh College, the Al-Eman Schools), replacing them with conditional temporary licenses on the grounds that textbooks they use include materials inciting against Israel.
- The education system was one of the hardest hit national systems by the **COVID** pandemic, which led to periodic partial or total shutdown of schools.

¹² "Report: 51% of schools in east J'lem use Israeli curriculum," *Israel Hayom*, 25 February 2022.

¹³ Ir Amim, *The State of Education in East Jerusalem 2021-2022*, September 2022.

¹⁴ WAC-MAAN & Ir Amim, *Three Years Since the Implementation of Government Decision 3790*, *op. cit.*

¹⁵ ACRI, *East Jerusalem: Facts & Figures 2019*, May 2019.

¹⁶ WAC-MAAN & Ir Amim, *Three Years Since the Implementation of Government Decision 3790*, *op. cit.*

¹⁷ Ir Amim, *The State of Education in East Jerusalem 2021-2022*, September 2022. According to the WAC-MAAN & Ir Amim Report 2,840 classrooms are lacking.

¹⁸ *Preserving East Jerusalem in the Context of the Two-State Solution: Short- and Medium-Term Sectoral Development Agenda for East Jerusalem (SMSDA-EJ) (2019-2023)*, Ramallah: The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS), 2018.

¹⁹ WAC-MAAN & Ir Amim, *Three Years Since the Implementation of Government Decision 3790*, *op. cit.*

- The advancement of the **separation barrier** has isolated tens of thousands of Palestinian residents of Jerusalem from the city, forcing their children to cross checkpoints on their way to school or not to attend schools in the city.
- **Informal education** (activities that help improve academic achievement, resilience, community relationships and skills for the labor market) by local civil society organizations constitutes an important complementary parameter in the education process. Extracurricular activities for students are as important as the formal educational process in contributing to widening children's horizons and experiences. A recent study²⁰ found that most municipal informal education programs go to schools teaching the Israeli curriculum and that while there is nevertheless a large number of informal education activities in East Jerusalem, there was still great need for sufficient and adequate programs that address the need for sports and other recreational activities, improving students' achievements, dropout prevention, preparing children for today's world and labor market, and involving school principals and parents in respective decision-making (for example regarding cultural and social content, transportation, and budgeting for nutritious meals, etc.). Another study on informal education, which was commissioned under Decision 3790 to look into means to substantially increase the number of students participating in informal educational activities,²¹ indicated the following main problems that prevent widespread participation:
 - lack of a strategy, including qualitative goals and objectives, on how to utilize informal education to reduce socio-economic gaps in East Jerusalem;
 - structural challenges regarding a small number of programs and youth organizations;
 - lack of continuity among programs;
 - lack of physical infrastructure;
 - cultural barriers regarding content (cultural and political sensitivities);
 - insufficient participation of parents, teachers and schools in formulating programs.

²⁰ Alayan, Samira & Shada Kashkoush, *Informal Education in East Jerusalem - Study of Needs and Recommendations*, Ir Amim, July 2020; <https://www.ir-amim.org.il/sites/default/files/Informal%20Education%20in%20East%20Jerusalem%20-%20Study%20of%20Needs%20and%20Recommendations.pdf>.

²¹ Zugair, Maliha & Elisheva Milikowsky, *Informal Education as a Means of Reducing Gaps in East Jerusalem*, Jerusalem: JIPR, 2020; https://jerusalemstitute.org.il/en/publications/non_formal_education/.

Key Challenges in the Education Sector:

- Limited budgets, dependence on external funding and agendas
- Lack of a long-term vision for the East Jerusalemites' human capital development
- Poor extracurricular activities
- Lack of research on schooling
- Limited teachers' training
- Lack of a unified supervisory umbrella for the system
- Weak use of modern technology
- Limited programs for weak students, dropouts and children with special needs
- High dropout rates
- Shortage of schools and classrooms/substandard facilities
- Israeli plans and incentives towards Israelization of the curriculum
- Distorting Israeli occupation's impact on children and youth
- Negative image of vocational education

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection²²):

- There are numerous **donors** supporting education, such as UNESCO, UNICEF, UNWRA, the Norwegian Representative Office/Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation.
- **Faisal Hussein Foundation** works to upgrade schools – infrastructure and teaching methodologies – to enhance the educational learning process. This includes renovation and maintenance of buildings, classrooms, libraries, etc., teachers and school management training, teacher training and activities for students, such as science clubs, reading contests, extracurricular activities, and educational trips as well as programs for children with learning disabilities (<https://www.fhfpal.org/en#header>).
- **Saraya Center for Community Services** offers a social-educational program in the Old City that targets school students with poor academic performance aged 6-12, teachers, parents and students from Palestinian universities in an attempt to reduce the dropout rate from schools and promote volunteerism (<https://www.alsaraya-center.org/>).
- **Al-Nayzak** specializes in education, mentoring and research in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and runs a number of participatory and hands-on educational programs to stimulate learning and build competencies (<https://alnayzak.org/>).
- **Enabel's RiSE** project runs till 31 July 2023 and aims to strengthen the resilience of the Palestinian community by improving access to education, school infrastructure and public spaces. This includes improving both the physical school environment and wellbeing in the schools, and an integral educational approach to foster life skills amongst students

²² For a more comprehensive list see Annex 3.

in East Jerusalem (<https://open.enabel.be/fr/PSE/2308/p/resilience-in-schools-of-east-jerusalem.html>).

- The **Israeli Jerusalem municipality** offers a variety of after-school enrichment and leisure programs (e.g., swimming, robotics, photography, basketball, and taekwondo, leadership programs, study programs, learning centers, extra-curricular activities, etc.) in their community centers.
- Section 2(a)(7) of Israel's **Government Decision 3790** focuses on the development and expansion of welfare and employment services in East Jerusalem, with a budget of NIS 75 million (as of February 2022). It includes dropout prevention, special needs education, women's employment, aid for at-risk children and youth, and poverty alleviation.

■ **Employability and TVET**

- The **economy** of Jerusalem primarily depends on tourism and trade, which are the sectors most importantly to be supported and developed for job creation.
- In East Jerusalem, employment and **income opportunities** at levels adequate to sustain a living in the city are often hard to come by for Palestinians. Palestinian businesses are effectively cut off from their hinterland and traditional markets. In April 2022, the Israeli government extended its long-standing prohibition on the Jerusalem Chamber of Commerce working within municipal limits (along with the prohibition on 27 other civil society organizations).
- **Poverty rates** (Israeli poverty line equals an income level equivalent to 50% of the median disposable income per person) among Palestinians in Jerusalem are much higher than among Jews. In 2020, 57.3% of Palestinian families in Jerusalem, 61.4% of individuals and 70.3% of children were below the poverty line (in comparison: the poverty rate among Israel's Arab population was 39%).²³
- Jerusalemites suffer from heavy **Israeli taxes** and from policies of separating East Jerusalem from the rest of the West Bank though its economy is historically and structurally linked to the influx of people from West Bank cities for shopping and worshipping.
- In 2020, 86,400 Palestinians from East Jerusalem aged 15+ were in the **labor force**, accounting for 36% of the total labor force in Jerusalem. The **participation rate** of Palestinian **women** increased from 17% in 2019 to 22.4%, but remained low compared to 63% for Jewish women.²⁴ This is attributed to a low level of education, cultural constraints, and lack of daycare centers. The labor force participation rate among Palestinian **men** on the other hand almost equaled that of Jewish men: 54% versus 57%²⁵, which is due to the high percentage of Ultra-Orthodox men who often study in yeshivas instead of going to work. However, it should be mentioned that East Jerusalemite men tend to be employed in jobs with low wages and no career growth prospects.

²³ JIPR, *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2022*.

²⁴ JIPR, *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2022*, Table 7/1.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

- Another striking distortion in the labor market is the inverse correlation between education and employment as increased levels of education among Palestinian East Jerusalemites tend to lead to higher unemployment rates. This is primarily attributed to a huge **mismatch** between Palestinian East Jerusalemites' higher education/graduates' skills and Israeli labor market needs. While there are numerous programs offered to improve the "employability" of young people, there is reasonable doubt about their efficiency.
- Another issue that requires further elaboration is the fact that higher education in Palestinian universities generally prepares graduates for the Palestinian West Bank labor market and offers adequate employability skills for today's economy. The mismatch in skills is aggravated by the existence of two structurally different labor markets and two distinct educational systems.
- The percentage of Palestinian **youth not in education, employment or training** (NEETs) reached an alarming 50% in 2021²⁶ – 14% more than 2012 – which is mainly attributed to discouragement due to poor employment prospects, which also points towards difficulties in the school to work transition.
- There is also a dire need for continuous **development** for **university and TVET programs** to keep pace with the needs of the labor market and to increase employability.
- Research about skills gaps and development in the occupied Palestinian territories suggested that the **main problems of TVET** lie in management, lack of financial resources, non-availability of qualified teachers and "social stigma" (the societal impression that TVET is not a respectable choice as students and families overwhelmingly prefer to pursue higher education at the university level).²⁷
- Due to the fragmented **TVET system**, it is difficult to say with certainty what VET enrolment rates are. For a long time, VET enrolment figures have included only formal secondary vocational education and were lingering around 2-3% (excluding the commercial stream).²⁸ The ETF estimates that some 15% of students in the upper secondary education age cohort (16-18 years) pursue TVET paths, including all forms of both formal and non-formal VET training programs (except for the commercial stream).²⁹ While enrolment of students is slowly increasing in all TVET tracks, women are still significantly underrepresented.³⁰ The TVET sector in East Jerusalem faces particularly challenging circumstances owing to the restrictive and continuously deteriorating situation in the city.
- There is an increase in people with high education (from 31.5 % in 2015 to 36.8 % in 2020). Although higher educational attainment corresponds to **higher unemployment**

²⁶ PCBS, *Press Release on International Youth Day, 2022*.

²⁷ AWRAD & CARE International (2015). *Skills Gaps and Development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*, available at: <http://www.awrad.org/files/server/care%20english%20report%20%202015.pdf>.

²⁸ ETF (2020). *Palestine: Education, Training and Employment Developments 2020*; p. 8-9; available at https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/Country%20Fiche%202020%20Palestine%20-%20Education_%20Training%20and%20Employment%20Developments.pdf

²⁹ *Ibid.*; ETF (2021). *National Qualifications Framework – Palestine*; p. 4; available at: <https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/Palestine.pdf>.

³⁰ ETF (2021). *Palestine: Education, Training and Employment Developments*, p. 3; available at: https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/CFI_Palestine_2021.pdf.

rates, Palestinians continue to prioritize it, especially women (79.5 % of whom had a higher education degree in 2020).³¹

- A recent study conducted by COOPI related to the attitudes of students towards TVET in Jerusalem pointed to the limited opportunities and vocations available, especially for women, in addition to the **negative perception** towards TVET that still affects the decision of students and parents.³²
- TVET institutes in Jerusalem (LWF, YWCA and Jerusalem Industrial Secondary School) face high **competition** from Israeli government-supported institutes, which provide scholarships or even full exemptions when possible. Those institutes tried to add market-relevant courses but offerings remain limited and continue to be challenged by the high spectrum of specializations offered by Israeli institutes.³³
- Employment in TVET-related fields is in **high demand** by the private sector in the West Bank and Jerusalem. Recent studies identified the following market demand for East Jerusalem: Tourism, services and ICT sectors, including tour guides, chefs, other hotel and restaurant service professions, crafts, graphic design and e-marketing requested by tourist and services establishments. The vocations requested for ICT included mobile app development, computer networks and security system installations and maintenance.³⁴
- Many TVET training providers and training institutions conduct their own tracer studies using different methodologies, which makes it impossible to compare results and measure real impact. In 2017, Enabel, GIZ and the European Training Foundation (ETF) established a national **monitoring framework** to measure the effectiveness of their TVET interventions and in 2018, a joint tracer study was done (six months after graduation). Findings: 16% of TVET graduates continued their studies, almost 38% were employed and 5% more were self-employed, almost 35% were unemployed and an extra 7% not working nor looking for a job. More than 30% of the graduates found employment directly after completing their training, around 10% needed 3-6 months and almost 12% needed more than 6 months.³⁵ Transition to work is most diverse in East Jerusalem, where only 35% of respondents found employment directly after graduating. Of the East Jerusalemites who found employment, 94% had paid jobs while 6% opened businesses.³⁶ It is assumed that the number of trained TVET graduates finding work in Israel is high.³⁷

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² Hilal, Randa (2019). *KAP Survey of School Students Towards VET*, Jerusalem: COOPI. The COOPI project focused on Curricula development, TVET awareness in Schools, market assessments, skills development and training, career guidance and support to employment Others Infrastructures and resources for TVET institutes.

³³ USAID (2019). *Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Gender Assessment: Full Findings Report*, p. 19; available at https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00ZBPF.pdf.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 36.

³⁵ Frech, B., Mostinckx, L., Rubal Maseda, M., Van den Eynde K. (2018). *Tracing, Technical and Vocational Education Graduates in Palestine*, p. 12 & 14; available at: https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2019-12/tracer_study_palestine.pdf.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 15, p. 19.

³⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

- Various **tracer studies** highlighted the high participation and employment rates of TVET graduates compared to their peers who had not participated in TVET: 89% participation in the labor force compared to 32.7%.³⁸
- Until recently, most **TVET programs in East Jerusalem** have been provided by NGOs and CBOs (e.g., Dar Al-Aytam, Dar Al-Yateem Al-Arabi and Lutheran World Federation). Nowadays, the PA Ministry of Education started to pilot the integration of TVET streams through establishing TVET units in four schools (Abu Baker Girls' School in Sur Baher; Al-Nahda Girls' School and Dar Al-Aytam Boys' School in the Old City; and Tala' Al-Quds Secondary School for Boys in Beit Hanina). The number of TVET offerings in East Jerusalem is growing, but TVET institutions are still characterized by limited subject varieties.³⁹
- A 2017 rapid needs assessment for the **local market** in East Jerusalem (ICT, tourism, trade and service sectors) found a great interest in hiring TVET graduates. The assessment found that the highest market demands were in sales/marketing/PR, E-marketing, tour guiding/organizing, and graphic design.⁴⁰
- A recent Israeli study⁴¹ using a representative sample of 1,500 young men and women (aged 18-35) from all Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem found a number of **barriers to integration of Palestinians into the Israeli labor market**: mainly non-recognition of Palestinian certificates and lack of knowledge of Hebrew, but also including racism and discrimination of Jewish employers, gender and cultural barriers/difficulty to work outside the home/neighborhood, inaccessibility of working places/lack of transportation, and lack of relevant work experience. For women, housekeeping and child care left little time to work elsewhere, which demonstrated the urgent need for additional and more affordable preschool daycare centers as close to 80% of Palestinian women 18-35 years were parents with children under the age of 3. The study also showed that of the employed young Palestinians with higher education, 92% had attended Israeli academic institutions and 47% attended Palestinian academic institutions.
- Based on interviews with ten Palestinians from East Jerusalem who are successfully employed in Israel, another Israeli study addressed and examined the challenges facing East Jerusalem residents when seeking to integrate into the Israeli labor market and society, their **coping strategies**, their outlooks and the considerations that guided their personal

³⁸ Hilal, Randa (2019). "TVET and decent work in Palestine: lessons learned for fragile states," *International Journal of Training Research*, 17:sup1:, 159-169, p. 163; available at: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/14480220.2019.1641293>.

³⁹ Dawabsheh, M. & Nabris, N. (2022). "Learning and Working. TVET – An Educational Route Leading to Prosperity." *This Week in Palestine*. Issue 293. p. 11-13; <https://thisweekinpalestine.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/293-002.pdf>; UNDP, *Support to Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in East Jerusalem*, November 2020, https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/PAL/124511-PD_Support%20to%20TVET%20in%20East%20Jerusalem%20Nov.%202020.pdf.

⁴⁰ COOPI (2017). *Rapid Needs Assessment for the East Jerusalem Local Market - Final Report*, p. 19; available at: <https://www.tvet.ps/files/file/files%202017/RNA%20Report%20FINAL.pdf>

⁴¹ Porzycki, Netta, *Mapping Human Capital among Young Men and Women from East Jerusalem*, JIPR, 2022; https://jerusalemstitute.org.il/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Pub_588_human-capital_en_2022.pdf, p. 5-6.

and professional decision making.⁴² *Inter alia*, the study found that learning Hebrew was the crucial step in transitioning to the Israeli market and that Palestinian school graduates lacked knowledge of the possibilities offered by the Israeli arena. It concluded that there is a tremendous potential among Palestinian school graduates in East Jerusalem to integrate into quality employment in the Israeli market.

- Israel's five-year plan for East Jerusalem (**Government Decision 3790**) allotted NIS 232 million total direct investment for **employment**. The plan intended to raise the employment rate for **Palestinian women** (25–64 years) to 30% by 2023 at least 75% of the rate of employment of Arab women in Israel, which is 40%), which, however seems unlikely.
- Section 2(a)(1) of Israel's **Government Decision 3790** allocated NIS 35 million for the operation of an **employment counseling** center ("Rayan Center"), which has offered study programs and vocational training since 2014 with reported high demand. Section 2(a)(2) of the Decision allocated NIS 10.5 million for the Israel Employment Service's Employment Circles program, which has also been operating since 2014 and whose set goal is engaging 1,200 residents of East Jerusalem annually, 70% of whom are women. Figures for 2019 indicated a two-third participation of the target population, of whom 65% were women, and a 58% placement rate (though there is no information about the quality of placements, job conditions and their suitability for participants). Section 2(a)(3) of the Decision allocated an additional NIS 26.5 million for Employment Encouragement Plans, offering, for example, preparatory Hebrew language courses.
- There is general agreement that the TVET sector should be expanded and should play a much larger role than it currently does.⁴³ Current problems include weak counseling for TVET, **poor image of TVET** as "second-class" education, weak infrastructure to accommodate new programs and to keep up with modern technology, and unsatisfactory links between TVET institutions and potential employers (for practical experiences such as on-the-job training, apprenticeship, etc.).⁴⁴
- While TVET is considered a significant means of addressing high dropouts, high unemployment and low labor force participation amongst Palestinians in East Jerusalem, **enrolment remains low** (5.9% in the Jerusalem Governorate in 2019 – boys: 14%, girls: 0.4%).⁴⁵ Some TVET providers offer courses for those 18 years (e.g., YWCA, LWF) and

⁴² Saar, Efrat, *The Integration of East Jerusalem Residents into the Israeli Employment Market: Learning from Success*, Jerusalem: JIPR, 2022, available at: <https://jerusalemstitute.org.il/en/publications/the-integration-of-east-jerusalem-residents-into-the-israeli-employment-market-learning-from-success/>.

⁴³ See for example, chapter 11 in: Reimers, F. M., T. A. Budler et al., *Advancing a New Social Contract for Education: Collaborations to Reimagine our Futures Together*, 2022, pp. 301-328. <https://en.unesco.org/futuresofeducation/sites/default/files/2022-02/Reimers-et-al-2022-Advancing-a-New-Social-Contract-for-Education.pdf>.

⁴⁴ See *Preserving East Jerusalem in the Context of the Two-State Solution: Short- and Medium-Term Sectoral Development Agenda for East Jerusalem (SMSDA-EJ) (2019-2023)*, Ramallah: The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS), 2018; ETF, *Torino Process 2018-2020 Palestine - National Report*, 2020, available at: https://opensepace.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2020-11/TRPreport_2020_Palestine_EN.pdf; ETF, *Policies for Human Capital Development Palestine - an ETF Torino Process Assessment*, European Training Foundation, 2021, https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2021-03/03_trp_etf_assessment_2020_palestine.pdf.

⁴⁵ Ministry of Local Governance, *National Report on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in the State of Palestine*, October 2021, p. 28.

above while others cater for 11th and 12th graders, leading to a vocational high school certificate known as Tawjihi Mihani (e.g., Al-Yateem Al-Arabi, Dar Al-Aytam Al-Islamiya).

- **Main TVET providers in Jerusalem** are: **LWF**, Beit Hanina, which offers carpentry, metalwork, auto mechanics, electronics, telecommunications, and plumbing and central heating. On-site boarding is possible and a scholarship programme exists.⁴⁶ **YWCA**, Sheikh Jarrah, which targets high school graduates aged 18-25 who do not have the qualifications or cannot afford to go to university, housewives over 25 years, university graduates without the needed qualifications to compete in the labour market, and employees who want to build capacities in specialized fields. It offers short courses as well as diplomas (1-year programs) in Office Management, Photography and Filmmaking, Graphic Design, and Modern Kitchen.⁴⁷ The **Industrial School in Jerusalem**, Beit Hanina, which is a secondary school offering various majors (Academic education, Mechatronics, Electricity, Central Heating, Communications, Carpentry, Computer, Turning and adjustment).⁴⁸
- **Vocational training is still stigmatized** as the last option for dropouts and young people are expected to obtain a university degree.⁴⁹ However, over the last decade, there have been major efforts to expand the number of professions available and to include more female students in the TVET programs.
- As the **education system prioritizes general education** at the expense of VET, the share of upper secondary students attending VET programs is small. Low levels of qualifications and enrolment in VET and a preference for humanities subjects in higher education still pose a major challenge to the employability of large numbers of young people and make transition to the labor market more difficult.⁵⁰
- In 2020, there were 17 **TVET schools or TVET units** at schools in East Jerusalem, of which 6 were run by the Waqf and Palestinian NGOs and 11 were Israeli affiliated schools.⁵¹

⁴⁶ <https://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org/content/vocational-training-program-91>.

⁴⁷ <https://ywca.ps/projects/topic/96>.

⁴⁸ <http://araborphan.org/en/the-industrial-school-in-jerusalem/>.

⁴⁹ Over 90% of the students who finish secondary school pursue an academic career – even if they have no aptitude for academia; see LWF, “Palestine: Vocational Training for Women”, September 2022, available at: <https://www.lutheranworld.org/news/palestine-vocational-training-women>.

⁵⁰ https://www.etf.europa.eu/sites/default/files/m/4C4059A5BA350653C1257E5200453377_Youth%20employability%20AMCs.pdf.

⁵¹ *ibid.*

Key Challenges in the Employment/TVET Sector:

- The occupation has negative impact on enrolment in TVET in Jerusalem due to barriers/ access restrictions and difficulty in obtaining permits to expand and update TVET institutes in Jerusalem.
- Keeping up with modern technology and up-to-date teaching materials (education and training systems are not yet able to fully respond to the rapidly evolving technological needs of the labor market).
- Attracting highly qualified trainers / low trainer to trainee ratio.
- Relatively high dropout rates.
- Poor advertisement and counseling regarding availability, programs and future potential for work.
- Poor image as an alternative to university studies although the market is saturated for many academic fields (so it is very important to change people's mindset).
- Difficulty in obtaining building licenses for additional schools.
- Accreditation of programs by Israel.

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection):

Main supporters of the VET sector are ENABEL (Belgium) and GIZ (Germany). In addition to those listed below, there is a range of centers and organizations offering TVET courses and measures (see list in Annex 3).

- The **Youth Economic Empowerment in Palestine (YEP)** aims to address the lack of economic prospects for Palestinian youth, including vulnerable youth and young women, by empowering them to access decent employment opportunities. It is part of the larger EU-funded "Palestinian Youth Empowerment Programme", and implemented through complementary actions led by UNFPA, Sharek Youth Forum in partnership with the Centre for Youth Economic Empowerment, and **Enabel**.⁵²
- **Business Development and Entrepreneurs Support Center** works on the economic cycle of Jerusalemites starting from school through to the provision of suitable employment opportunities as follows⁵³:
The ***Unit for Professional and Academic Guidance*** aims to provide vocational and academic guidance services to school students to help them choose their professional career, whether academic or vocational, as well as specialization e.g., literary, scientific, industrial, hotel, etc. which will help the students to make their future career choices.
The ***Academy for Labor Market Qualification*** specializes in preparing and qualifying university students who are about to graduate or graduated for the labor market in Jerusalem (capacity building programs in areas related to both their university studies and the needs of the labor market).

⁵² <https://open.enabel.be/fr/PSE/2502/p/palestinian-youth-empowerment-programme.html>.

⁵³ <https://www.alqudsfund.org/en/projects-programs/economic-empowerment-sector.html>

Al-Quds Technology and Business Development Incubator: develops areas of economic empowerment in Jerusalem, including work areas, supporting projects, providing funding, offering technical and legal support for commercial shops (in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce).

- In 2022, **Irex** launched a \$30 million TVET activity (which will run until 2027) to develop new technical training and improve the quality of existing programs in order to meet labor market demands and provide Palestinians with meaningful, well-paying employment and income-generating opportunities. It works with around 12 TVET institutions to build their capacity and connect them with private sector employers in order to link participants to employment opportunities or help them start their own business, especially in in-demand technical sectors. It is estimated that some 2,230 students will benefit from the new/modernized TVET programs, of which the majority is expected to find employment upon graduation. The program will also enhance employment opportunities for 400 women and provide training scholarships for 500 of the most marginalized youth for employment and entrepreneurship.
- Section 2(a)(7) of Israel's **Government Decision 3790** focuses on the development and expansion of welfare and employment services in East Jerusalem, with a budget of NIS 75 million (as of February 2022).⁵⁴ It includes women's employment, aid for at-risk children and youth, poverty alleviation.
- **Dual Studies Program at Al-Quds University:** The dual educational program is divided equally between on-campus learning and practical application and training in more than 200 partner companies and enterprises in the Palestinian private sector. The 4-year study cycle is comprised of 8 semesters, half of which take place on campus (theoretical phase), while the other half in a professional work environment (practical phase). It was launched in 2015 and is sponsored by the GIZ. General admission requirements include a *Tawjihi* score of 75 or higher, good command of English and a signed contract with a partner company. Programs currently offered are: Electrical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, IT, Business and Digital Business Admin. (<https://ds.alquds.edu/en/about-dual-studies/>).
- Strengthening a **demand-oriented Vocational Education and Training (DoTVET)** (2021-2024), financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD). DoTVET focuses on capacity development for TVET personnel and in-company trainers, cooperation between schools and workplaces as learning spaces and raising the attractiveness of TVET programs.
- **GRIT Project:** Gender-Responsive and Inclusive Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the West Bank (2019-2024), financed by Global Affairs Canada and implemented by the Lutheran World Federation. The focus is on integrating more women and women with disabilities in VET.

⁵⁴ Ir Amim, *Three-Year Monitor Project: Government Decision 3790*, op. cit..

- Under the umbrella of **ENABEL's** project '**Skilled Young Palestine**', a blueprint to establish a new Skills Development Fund was drafted and discussions were conducted with all key stakeholders. The Skills Development Fund would become the primary financial pillar providing sustainable financing and technical support for skills development for Palestine. With the approval of the new TVET Commission in 2021 and the strong involvement of the private sector in the design phase, the Skills Development Fund came to life.
- **StationJ** runs programs that target bridging the workforce gap for Palestinians in Jerusalem. **Jerusalem Innovates**, funded by Enabel, aims to develop skills that recent graduates are struggling with in their transition into their future careers, with a focus on teaching 21st century skills, gaining access to investment, and filling market niches to maximize the potential of innovators. The target group is at least 230 young adults between the ages of 18-29.
- **Hisn** is another **StationJ** 2-phase program for 16-27-year-olds (including with no *tawjihi* or with special needs) providing the following: 1.) Self-identification, knowledge of professional and practical tendencies, and building a training portfolio through 4 workshops; 2.) 20 training hours – to be determined according to the results of the workshops and the orientation and inclination examination tests, and what is appropriate for the labor market. Station J also runs programs for young graduates, entrepreneurs, start-ups, etc.
- **Smile project** "Supporting and Improving Basic Livelihoods in East Jerusalem" – an EU-funded project also involving efe, Al-Quds University, and the LWF – provides 70 training hours in the field of entrepreneurship in Jerusalem for those who have an idea for an existing project and have the desire to develop it. It also provides courses on make-up, digital marketing, etc.
- **America House** Jerusalem offers a fully-funded training opportunity to support and empower women aspiring to turn their ideas into viable sources of income. This fully-funded opportunity "**From Business Idea to the Market**" is designed for women ages 22-30 who are residents of East Jerusalem. The program started on February 22, 2023, with a 20-hour training course. To obtain a training certificate, participants must attend the classes in-person and work with a trainer to create a personal project.
- East Jerusalem **YMCA**: Established the **Career Advancement Center** in 2020 to create a safe workspace for Jerusalemite youth, 15-35 years old, aiming to enhance their professional identity and develop their job skills to be able to compete in the job market and to attain better opportunities in their careers (<https://www.ej-ymca.org/en/>).
- **Diyafa Academy for Hospitality and Culinary Art** in cooperation with YMCA provides vocational and academic education for Palestinian youth in the tourism sector in general, through the management and implementation of specialized training programs in the fields of hotels, tourism and gastronomy. (<https://diyafaacademy.com/>).
- **UNDP/PAPP** is supporting infrastructure improvements to accommodate the TVET courses and related equipment.

- **LWF Vocational Training Program** in Beit Hanina trains over 150 students each year in two-year educational programs in the fields of carpentry, metalwork, auto mechanics, electronics, tele-communications, and plumbing and central heating. It also offers on-site boarding to trainees who come from far-flung areas of Palestine or who are unable to easily access the school because of the Separation Wall and military checkpoints (<https://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org/content/vocational-training-program-91>).
- There are approximately 60 **innovation hubs** and support organizations in the West Bank and Gaza where expertise and technology can be exchanged (e.g., incubators and accelerators, innovation centers, entrepreneurship programs, training centers, and working spaces). However, they often lack the ability to reach marginalized areas. There are also accelerators based in Jerusalem that focus on the Palestinian market. Most of the organizations target youth ages 18-30 years.⁵⁵
- The Israeli Jerusalem municipality runs the **Ryan Center for the Arab Population** in Shu'fat, which offers training, courses, counseling and guidance for Palestinians.

■ Heritage and Identity

- Jerusalem has been a site of **religious and cultural significance** for thousands of years, and it is home to many historic and cultural landmarks that are important to the three monotheistic religions, including the Dome of the Rock, the Western/AI-Buraq Wall, and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. Since 1967, Israel has claimed Jerusalem as its eternal undivided capital, and has been employing various kinds of policies and exerting huge efforts to Judaize the city and tilt its demographic balance in its favor.
- As a result of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Palestinian **heritage and identity** in Jerusalem are **under threat**. Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem face discrimination and limited access to resources, and there have been efforts by the Israeli government to erase or diminish Palestinian cultural heritage and presence in the city. Israeli measures include restricting access to sites such as Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and renaming and rebranding Palestinian landmarks and neighborhoods with Hebrew names and symbols.
- Of special concern is the issue of the **status quo** and Israeli violations of it regarding the religious and cultural heritage sites, especially in the Old City and especially vis-à-vis Al-Aqsa Mosque/Haram Al-Sharif.
- Another threat is the **erosion of the Christian community** as thousands have left the city.
- The Old City and its walls are both a **UNESCO World Heritage** site and a World Heritage site at risk.

⁵⁵ World Bank, *Palestinian Digital Economy Assessment*, 2021.

- The sector has suffered **lack of care** for the historical and architectural monuments of Jerusalem and **poor awareness** of these monuments' importance, despite their significance for strengthening Palestinian identity, creating a sense of belonging and pride in their heritage, and reinforcing resistance to Israel's Judaization policies and practices in violation of international law.
- The **Palestinian Authority is prohibited** from operating in the city and civil society organizations are targeted by the Israeli occupation authorities. In April 2022, the Israeli government extended prohibition on 28 civil society organizations working within municipal limits.
- Palestinian Jerusalemites struggle on a daily basis to **preserve their national identity** and cultural heritage as well as their existence and right to stay in their city. Israel's attempts to eliminate Palestinian narrative and identity include revocation of residency rights and confiscation of ID cards, distortion of the school curriculum or replacing it with the Israeli curriculum, denying permits for or closure of cultural activities, arbitrary **high taxation** and financial hardships leading to loss of Palestinian ownership of old historic buildings, and criminalizing anything related to the Palestinian historical narratives and identity (e.g., Palestinian flags, Nakba commemorations).
- Nevertheless, Palestinian cultural heritage is rich and **deeply rooted** and Palestinians in Jerusalem continue to assert their cultural heritage and identity through various forms of resistance and activism including protests, art, and cultural events, and there have been successful initiatives in conservation/rehabilitation and protection (e.g., by Riwaq, Welfare Association, UNDP, etc.).
- However, **coordination** with other sectors (such as education and tourism) is rather **weak** and there is a need to support training/capacity building, awareness raising, renovation, rehabilitation, documentation, maintenance, and protection of heritage as well as subsidizing operating costs of organizations active in this field.⁵⁶

Key Challenges in the Heritage and Identity Sector:

- Intensive Judaization drive in East Jerusalem aiming at erasing the Old City's Palestinian heritage, identity and narrative;
- Restrictive and discriminatory measures forcing artists and organizations to move outside the Old City or Jerusalem altogether;
- Theft and transfer of artifacts to Israelis and foreigners;
- Israel's criminalization for heritage and history related events (e.g., Nakba activities);
- Lack of political will to impose international law and hold Israel accountable for its violations;
- Lack of unified leadership in steering the protection of religious and cultural heritage.
- Limited space for large activities.

⁵⁶ *Preserving East Jerusalem in the Context of the Two-State Solution: Short- and Medium-Term Sectoral Development Agenda for East Jerusalem (SMSDA-EJ) (2019-2023)*, Ramallah: The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS), 2018.

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection):

- A **range of organizations** funded under the EU East Jerusalem Program are or were working on heritage issues, including PalVision, PASSIA, the Palestinian Heritage Trail, Burj Al-Luqluq, Enabel, Terre des Hommes Italy, Waqf schools, Terra Santa School and Museum/Pro Terra Santa, Dan Church Aid/Norwegian Church Aid.
- **Palestinian Heritage Museum** at Dar Al-Tifl.
- The **NDC's Action for East Jerusalem's Identity and Resilience (AJIR): 2020-2024, \$8 million** – <https://www.ndc.ps/en/project/action-east-jerusalem%E2%80%99s-identity-and-resilience-ajir>.

■ **Culture and Arts**

- The situation and problems confronting Palestinian culture and art in Jerusalem are complex and multifaceted. Jerusalem has long been a center of cultural and religious significance for Palestinians, but since the Israeli occupation of East Jerusalem in 1967, the cultural and artistic landscape has been **impacted by political, social, and economic factors**.
- One of the main challenges facing Palestinian culture and art in Jerusalem is the **lack of resources and infrastructure** to support cultural activities. The Israeli government has restricted funding for Palestinian cultural projects and institutions, making it difficult for Palestinian artists and cultural workers to sustain their work.
- There is also a **lack of care** for the historical and architectural monuments of Jerusalem and poor awareness of their importance, value and role in developing identity and a sense of belonging.
- The ongoing Israeli occupation has led to the **fragmentation and displacement** of Palestinian communities in Jerusalem, making it difficult for artists and cultural workers to connect and collaborate with each other. The physical separation of communities also makes it challenging to preserve cultural heritage and transmit cultural knowledge to future generations.
- The Israeli government has imposed **restrictions on Palestinian cultural activities**, including limiting access to cultural venues and events. This has had a chilling effect on cultural expression as Palestinian artists and cultural workers are often subject to surveillance, harassment, and censorship.⁵⁷
- **Israelization** – renaming, taking over of historical and religious buildings, excavations.
- Due to the severe **shortage of funding**, museums, youth clubs and libraries lack infrastructure and qualified administrative personnel.
- Israeli regulations and the **separation barrier** have cut off Jerusalemites from the West Bank.

⁵⁷ See, for example, <https://www.newarab.com/opinion/music-studio-and-destruction-palestinian-jerusalem>.

- Despite these challenges, Palestinian artists and cultural workers in Jerusalem continue to create and innovate. They use their art and cultural practices to **resist the occupation**, assert their identity and reclaim their cultural heritage. Organizations such as the Al-Quds Cultural and Arts Society and the Palestinian Art Court – Al-Hoash provide important resources and support for Palestinian artists and cultural workers.
- The **Jerusalem Arts Network** “Shafaq” – five art centers in Jerusalem who agreed to a Jerusalem Cultural Strategy: Al Ma’mal Foundation for Contemporary Art; the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music; the Palestinian Art Court-Al Hoash; the Palestinian National Theatre; and Yabous Cultural Centre – was formed in 2017 to better coordinate and promote the cultural and artistic life in Jerusalem, but dissolved during the Corona pandemic, mainly due to the end of the funding cycle and the refusal of network members to accept the EU’s conditional funding.
- Overall, the situation of Palestinian culture and art in Jerusalem is one of **resilience** in the face of adversity. Despite the challenges, Palestinian artists and cultural workers continue to make meaningful contributions to the cultural life of Jerusalem and beyond.

Key Challenges:

- Restrictive and discriminatory measures forcing artists and organizations to move outside Jerusalem.
- Lack of political will to impose international law on Israel and hold it accountable for its violations.
- Lack of unified leadership in steering the protection of arts and culture.
- Limited opportunities for artistic and talent development and cultural expression.

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection⁵⁸):

- **Jerusalem Academy for Youth Creativity:** A specialized project that was launched in partnership with Al-Quds University dedicated to capacity building for youth living in the city of Jerusalem, preparation of leaders, and sponsoring talents in the fields of arts, sports, science, technology and literature within a specialized academic program, through outsourcing the potentials of experts and university professors. (<https://www.alqudsfund.org/en/projects-programs/community-development-sector.html>).
- From 2016-2020, **NDC** provided grants to partner NGOs in the “Core Funding to East Jerusalem Based Cultural Organisations” project which aimed to establish a network of cultural CSOs in Jerusalem: the Jerusalem Arts Network (Shafaq), which has, however, meanwhile ceased to exist.

⁵⁸ For a more comprehensive list see Annex 3.

- A **range of organizations** funded under the EU East Jerusalem Program is or was working on cultural and artistic projects, including Sabreen, ARTLAB, Nakhleh Esheber Institute, CISP, and Collège des Frères Jerusalem.
- East Jerusalem is home to several **art galleries and cultural centers** running regular programs and exhibits, such as – most prominently – Al-Ma’mal Foundation for Contemporary Art, Al-Hoash Art Court, Yabous, Edward Said Conservatory for Music.
- International organizations, such as the **British Council** and the **French Institute** offer a range of programs supporting young Palestinian artists to pave a career through skills development, opportunities to showcase work, and networking. The British Council’s Masarat projects provides grants to support local emerging artists (e.g., in cooperation with Al-Ma’mal).

■ Community Development and Public Space

- Palestinian community development in Jerusalem is a complex issue, with various political, social, and economic factors impacting the community's growth and well-being. One of the most significant challenges facing the Palestinian community in Jerusalem is the ongoing **Israeli occupation** and annexation of Palestinian land, which limits **public space** and significantly shrinks the civic space and thus the potential for development. Israeli authorities, particularly Jerusalem municipality as the party responsible for land allocation, funding public services, and social infrastructure, have not done so on a just basis guaranteeing equal access to services.
- The lack of economic opportunities and resources for the Palestinian community in Jerusalem is also a major issue. Palestinian businesses and organizations often face **restrictions on their operations**, and Palestinians in Jerusalem have limited access to public services, including education and healthcare.
- The fact that the **PA is not allowed to operate** in Jerusalem aggravates the situation.
- In the **absence of official and unified leadership** in East Jerusalem, Palestinian institutions are virtually left on their own. As the PA is prohibited from operating in the city, civil society organizations play a crucial role in implementing projects and activities. However, they have been targeted by the Israeli authorities, which in April 2022 extended a prohibition on 28 civil society organizations to work within municipal limits.
- **High costs of living** and maintaining an office along with the separation barrier around Jerusalem, which cuts the city off from its natural hinterland, have led many CSOs from Jerusalem to move to the West Bank (mainly to Ramallah).
- Many Palestinian neighborhoods **lack sufficient public space, parks, and playgrounds**, which negatively affects the quality of life for residents.
- Nevertheless, there have been **efforts** to support Palestinian community development in Jerusalem, including through the work of NGOs/CBOs, through promoting economic development and providing social and cultural opportunities. However, there is a great need for funding and further advocacy and support.

Key Challenges:

- Lack of resources.
- Lack of public space and buildings.
- Lack of Palestinian control over Palestinians' own community development initiatives due to Israel's monopolization of control.
- Maintaining and strengthening NGOs and CBOs which provide welfare related services to youth, disabled, elderly, combat drug abuse, etc.
- Discrimination, social exclusion, and marginalization have resulted in a lack of social cohesion and community involvement in decision-making processes.

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection):

- **Abna Al-Quds** is located in the Old City and organizes community (including sport, cultural and social) activities for 13-18-year-olds and “seeks to create a free space to enable youth and women, to enhance their status in the community” (<https://aaquds.weebly.com>).
- **Burj Al-Luqluq** is a community center in the Old City whose mission is “Empowering the Jerusalemite community through the implementation of targeted development programs” (<https://www.burjalluqluq.org/home/>).
- **Al-Saraya Center for Community Services** runs an after-school program for children aged 6-17 (drama, literature, painting and storytelling) and a Community Development Program to develop and build youth abilities for those aged 16 and above, enriching their knowledge through continuous education (<https://www.alsaraya-center.org/>).
- East Jerusalem **YMCA Youth Department** works, *inter alia*, to enhance youths' participation in the socio-economic and political life, providing trainings on different skills to support their daily life and promoting and fostering the concept of volunteering (<http://www.ej-ymca.org/>).
- The **Qudsuna Endowment Foundation** runs a range of programs in the field of community development in Jerusalem, including humanitarian and relief assistance, economic empowerment promotion, social welfare, and improving the housing situation (<https://qudsuna.org/>).
- The **NGO Development Center's** Action for East Jerusalem's Identity and Resilience (AJIR) program, which aims at consolidating social cohesion between populations and territories through support to youth and vulnerable communities, improving services to them and enhancing their capacities (<https://www.ndc.ps/en>).
- There are over a dozen **women's organizations** and even more **charitable organizations** in Jerusalem, which have – in one way or another – a community development component.

- Mercy Corps implements the USAID **Positive Youth Engagement (PYE)** project, a five-year (2021-2026) multi-sectoral youth activity designed to improve education, health, access to employment opportunities and community involvement for some 50,000 vulnerable and marginalized youth aged 10-19 with three interventions: (1) psycho-social, career guidance, life skills, and civic education activities; (2) technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programs, internships, and entrepreneurship support; and (3) youth-led clubs and councils, community and social media advocacy campaigns, and mentorship opportunities.
- USAID’s **Active Citizenry Activity** project is implemented by Global Communities (\$28.78 million – 2022-2027) and aims at increasing citizen’s civic participation, improving advocacy for positive change as well as overall living conditions, fostering inclusion of women and youth, and enhancing civil society organizations’ (CSOs) institutional capacity.
- The British Council’s community leadership program “**Active Citizens**” aims to increase women’s representation in public life

■ **Sports and Leisure**

- Palestinian neighborhoods in East Jerusalem face a significant **lack of sports and leisure facilities**, which in contrast, are readily available to Jewish residents of the city, including sports fields, swimming pools, public parks, indoor activity halls and playgrounds.⁵⁹ This makes it more difficult for Palestinian youth to engage in healthy and constructive activities, and can contribute to feelings of frustration and marginalization.
- Palestinian residents of Jerusalem face a number of **restrictions and challenges** when it comes to accessing sports and leisure facilities. The Israeli government controls much of the land and resources in Jerusalem, including many of the public parks and sports facilities. As a result, Palestinians often face difficulties in obtaining permits to use these facilities, and may be subjected to arbitrary restrictions and closures.
- Sports clubs and organizations offering sports activities in East Jerusalem are often subjected to **attacks by Israel** mainly under the pretext of the “illegal” involvement of the Palestinian Authority.
- In mid-2022, the **Israeli municipality** announced plans for building a **new facility** in Beit Hanina, at an estimated cost of US\$20 million, which will be the first community sports center in East Jerusalem with swimming pools, gyms, and fitness studios.⁶⁰ Another new sports center is planned in Sur Baher.⁶¹

⁵⁹ As reflected, *inter alia*, in a series of publications on Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem published by the Jerusalem Institute for Policy Research, see <https://jerusalem-institute.org.il/en/projects/mapping-east-jerusalem-neighborhoods/>.

⁶⁰ <https://www.mandelfoundation.org.il/english/About/News/Pages/Mandel-sports-center-2022.aspx>;
<https://galpaz-arch.com/2021/11/23/>.

⁶¹ <https://jerusalemfoundation.org/project/building-east-jerusalem-first-ever-community-sports-fitness-swimming-centers/>.

- Despite these challenges, there are many **grassroots initiatives** and organizations working to promote sports and leisure activities for Palestinians in Jerusalem. These include community sports clubs, youth centers and cultural associations that provide opportunities for children and adults to participate in sports, music, art and other activities. Many of these organizations operate on a shoestring budget and rely on volunteers, but they play an important role in building community resilience and promoting social cohesion.
- There are **very few playgrounds** in East Jerusalem. For example, in the new addition of Ramat Shlomo settlement, there are 4 or 5 huge modern playgrounds on a stretch of maybe 2 km only, while there is not a single playground in all of adjacent Shu'fat.

Key Challenges:

- Clear lack of scientific studies and reports/statistics about the sports and leisure sector.
- Need to increase the supply and accessibility of public land;
- Need to increase resources

Existing Programs and Organizations (selection⁶²):

- There are a number of **sports centers**, including gyms and football pitches in Jerusalem. In addition, there are many **youth organizations** and **community centers** offering sports and leisure activities (see list in Annex 1).
- The **East Jerusalem YMCA** has a swimming pool, fitness studio and rooms for gymnastics and other sports activities (<https://www.ej-ymca.org/en/centers/jerusalem-community-center>).
- There are two larger sports fields: one on the **Mount of Olives** (run by the LWF: <https://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org/content/mount-olives-sports-field-91-1>) and one in **Sheikh Jarrah**, although neither is open to the public but space is rented out to clubs and teams.
- In the Old City, there are larger sports facilities at **Burj Al-Luqluq** for football, basketball, taekwondo, judo, Muay Thai, table tennis, etc. (www.burjalluqluq.org/home/pillar3/) and at **Abna Al-Quds** (<https://aaquds.weebly.com/>).

⁶² For a more comprehensive list see Annex 3.

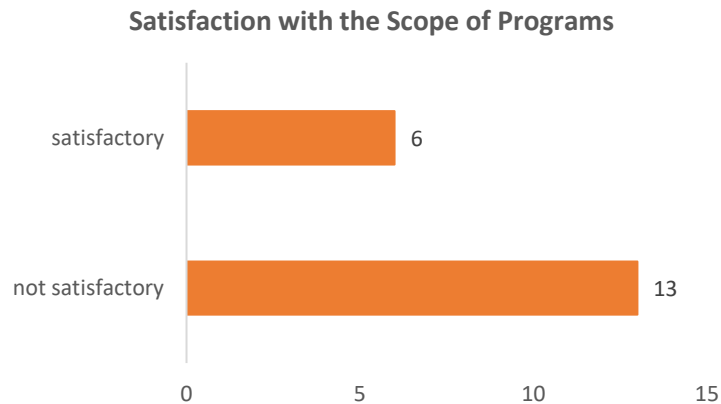
5.2 QUESTIONNAIRES

In the following, findings from the questionnaires/interviews and focus groups are summarized and analyzed.

■ Key Informants

In total, 19 key informants gave their inputs to this needs assessment. Of these, 6 were from donor organizations in which they are involved with the sectors that were examined here, 6 were engaged in one way or another with youth-serving organizations in Jerusalem, and the remaining 7 represented views from the wider NGO/CSO community or were professionals with relevant knowledge and background.

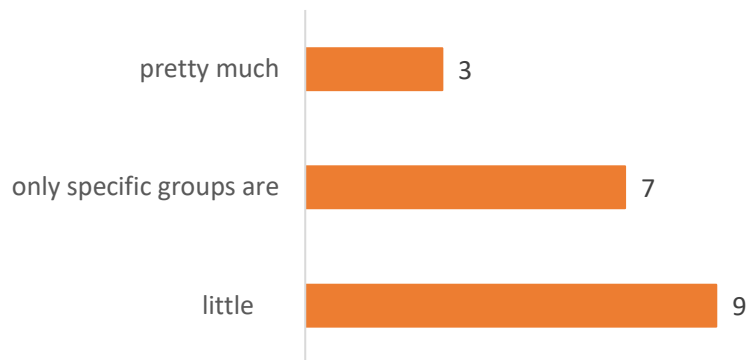
The majority of the KI respondents were not satisfied with the scope of programs offered for youth in East Jerusalem and believed that only specific groups of youth were aware of the programs and services available, or that most programs were only intended for specific beneficiary groups rather than youth in East Jerusalem at large.



Programmatic Problems, Availability and Awareness of Programs

Besides the obvious – Israeli occupation with all its ramifications and shortage of funding – the main programmatic problems (Q8 & 9) seen by the KIs included the fact that “existing projects are very limited and don’t cover the needs of youth”, that most programs are intended for specific people, that they lack outreach as only youth with relevant connections (family members, certain circles) are aware of them (with “the same people participating in the projects of different organizations again and again”), and that “the majority of these projects are concentrated in and around the Old City but leave many in the outskirts of the city marginalized.” Or in the words of another KI: “there is a wide segment of young people in Jerusalem’s neighborhoods, especially in the Old City and the suburbs, who need programs that empower and develop them, so we must search for them, support them, and adopt programs to empower them.”

Awareness of Existing Programs and Services



Other main programmatic problems mentioned are that “needs of Jerusalem require programs of continuity and permanence” but “projects come within specific financial grants with a specific time frame, which ends with the completion of the project,” and that there are insufficient “attractive”, innovative and specialized programs that address the concerns of youth (especially with regard to unemployment). A related problem mentioned was the “lack of professional staff in institutions and weak infrastructure”. Particular points raised also included that many sport options were for boys only and that many youths were unable to participate in programs because they were not available in their area of residence. Here it was urged to consider access (safety and transport) issues to better integrate youth in marginalized and vulnerable communities within the city.

Several KIs added that many projects “do not work” since young people “lack the values of responsibility and commitment ... which leads to failure in the end or withdrawal.” KIs further stated that the little awareness of programs among youth stems from their “preoccupation ... with work, or their lack of interest and knowledge of what the training contains,” or because there were not “enough organizations that operate in this area,” which “makes youth less aware of the potential, opportunities and importance of such programs for their future.” It was also pointed out that since the Israeli market is open to East Jerusalemites they have many more opportunities in comparison to Gaza and the West Bank and are therefore “not interested in knowing about programs that they might benefit from in the field of education and capacity building ... they miss on good opportunities.”

Criticism also included the absence of a clear shared (national) vision and strategy within and across institutions as well as the lack of coordination in the design and implementation of youth programs, resulting in a great deal of duplication and repetition. As one KI put it: “Not having a clear strategy and the fact that synergy between working NGOs is close to zero makes the impact of the little number of projects negligible.”

One KI said that even the few great youth-related projects seem to be disconnected from a broader vision, while another concluded that the lack of such a vision has led to scattered

activities that are not necessarily done out of a real need but because funds are available (donor-drivenness vs. strategic response to youth needs). Or in the words of yet another KI: “Nowadays, we are just like an emergency worker who only acts when needed, without any definition of a programmatic national plan that can face the challenges.”

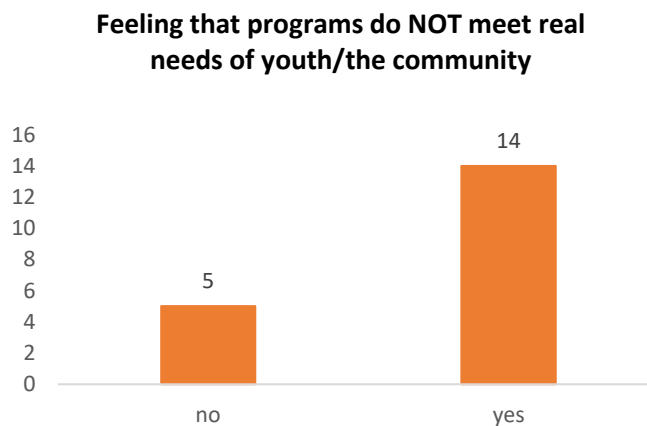
Confused national identity and heritage was also mentioned as a problem that would need utmost attention as was weak community participation and the lack of incentives for youth development due to the dire situation on the ground. One KI stressed the importance of “facilitating the access of Jerusalemite youth to culture and arts education, and enhancing their cultural participation” as a means of protecting themselves (from the risks posed by child labor, drugs, etc.) as well as their city’s identity and social-cultural fabric.

There were also complaints about administrative and financial corruption in some organizations and about funders imposing their agendas with weak attention to the real needs of young people which has contributed to their feeling of insecurity (at best) and hopelessness (at worst) about their future.

Restricted donor funding prevents CBOs from sustaining their services while also constraining them to focus on issues that are out of concern for youth daily needs (innovation, climate change ... etc.). Youth are in need of quality education/TVET, prospects for work, protection and human rights (including cultural rights and identity) and the few available programs cannot absorb the growing percentage of youth in the city. Another problem on the financial side was the high operational costs in Jerusalem: “Due to regulations and restrictions and also high tax rates, etc., operators tend to exhaust many resources.”

Available Programs and Real Needs

The majority of KI respondents felt that there were programs in their field of expertise that did NOT take into account the real needs of the youth and the community (Q13).



Reasons given for this assessment/perception included the following (Q14/Q15):

- Lack of a development plan that addresses the needs of the city and its youth.
- Youth exclusion from participation in the preparation of programs. Youth have little opportunity to contribute to the development of their communities and therefore are viewed as liabilities rather than assets. Or in one KI's words: "youth NGOs are run by middle-aged men who have been repeatedly implementing similar projects since the establishment of the organization and who are becoming irrelevant to the new generation's needs."
- Organizations compete for the limited funding available and tend to prioritize the funders' requirements rather than their real needs ("we are forced to work with anything we get"); thus, interventions are often not based on a study, thus are not suitable and fail to address the need ("poor planning and ... trending donors' funding");
- "Trendy" programs focusing on innovation, climate change, entrepreneurship, etc. do not reflect on the daily needs of youth pertaining to protection, better education, resilience, etc. – As such, they have very low success rates.
- Organizations do not but should work towards achieving an independent Palestinian identity as well as creating jobs and projects with that identity.
- There are no programs that work towards the protection/safety of the youth of Jerusalem.
- Programs don't address the most vulnerable and are usually short-lived. Long-term interventions are missing (and often not foreseen in donor funding schemes) but are crucial.⁶³ As one KI spelled it out: "For example, GIZ, UNDP and UNICEF projects in Jerusalem are short projects (6-12 months) with very limited impact and no strategic plan to follow up with similar projects. Their projects focus on the number of beneficiaries rather than quality and skills to empower youth."
- The lack of coordination and cooperation between organizations results in duplication and repetition ("most of the programs are duplicated and useless"; "programs are repetitive and usually organizations don't even learn from mistakes to improve"; "there are many duplications of projects due to competition among NGOs and personal issues that hinder partnership and result in them copying each other"; "capacity building programs that barely scratch the surface and are all theory based have been repeatedly done ... [they] aren't needed anymore"; "Many of the institutions' projects have become similar to each other, which has affected their added value").

⁶³ In this context it is worth mentioning that a 2021 investigative study by 7amleh - the Arab Center for the Advancement of Social Media titled "The Palestinian Public's' perception of Palestinian Civil Society Organizations," found that only 46% of the respondents said that they can feel the impact of CSOs' interventions on society, 75% stated that they had never engaged in any CSO activity, and a full 82% said they did not benefit at all from any CSO activities and services (p. 23, 27). One main reason attributed to this gap between CSOs and the public was the short-liveness of projects and activities which makes them unsustainable (p. 36). For details see <https://7amleh.org//storage/Palestinian%20public%E2%80%99s%20perceptions%20of%20Palestinian%20civil%20society%20organizations.pdf>.

Recommendations – Most Needed Programs/Services to Improve the Situation for Palestinian Youth in Jerusalem

Asked about the most needed programs and services to improve the situation for Palestinian youth in Jerusalem and strengthen their steadfastness and resilience (Q16, Q18), the KI respondents brought up the need for long-term involvement and investment in beneficiaries (“supporting existing institutions for their empowerment and steadfastness”) as well as the need to involve and consult youth themselves (to avoid “programs that only benefit the organization or the funders views”).

One KI pointed out that “There is a lot that can be done and needs to be done, but not through individual efforts, rather through a holistic, collective approach based on practical and realistic considerations.”

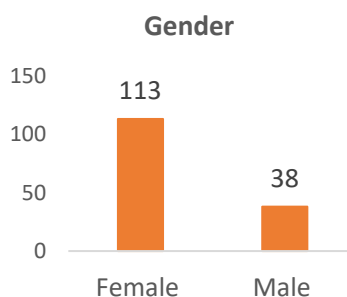
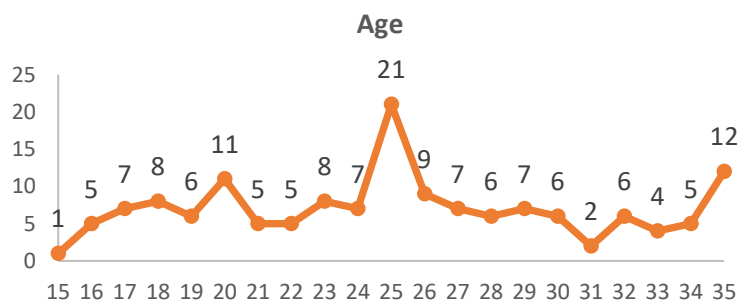
Most KI recommendations to empower the youth revolved around identity/culture, education and entrepreneurship (“youth programs must focus on strengthening the national identity, the concept of citizenship, belonging and community and volunteer work”). More specifically, KIs made the following suggestions:

- Protection and legal-related programs, including countering negative trends such as smoking and drug abuse.
- Programs rebuilding the social structure, fighting individualism, mentoring, promoting mental health and counseling.
- Programs enhancing and preserving the national identity (“We have to better acquaint them with their own history & heritage”; “Let’s not kid ourselves: with the current situation of Jerusalem, any kind of development will be useless. Our main opponent is the occupation and since we don’t have the capacity to fight it, we have to work to immunize our young people” with programs “that preserve their national identity and cultural views”; “A project that installs strategic thinking and political participation concepts among youth combined with identity and cultural heritage elements”; “youth programs must focus on strengthening national identity, the concept of citizenship, belonging”).
- Services related to digital technology that enable young people to advance and work independently and creatively. Creating an independent IT industry led by Palestinian youth, trainings and execution of collective startups funded by local investors.
- Technical training, entrepreneurship and capacity building programs that directly enhance the chance of employment (“development projects for youth employment”) and create job opportunities because “economic empowerment ... will be a lever for strengthening steadfastness and community development”.
- Work-based learning (WBL) projects.
- MSME (micro, small & medium enterprises) support.
- Programs that promote talent and creativity; sports and entertainment programs; more diversified arts classes and courses.

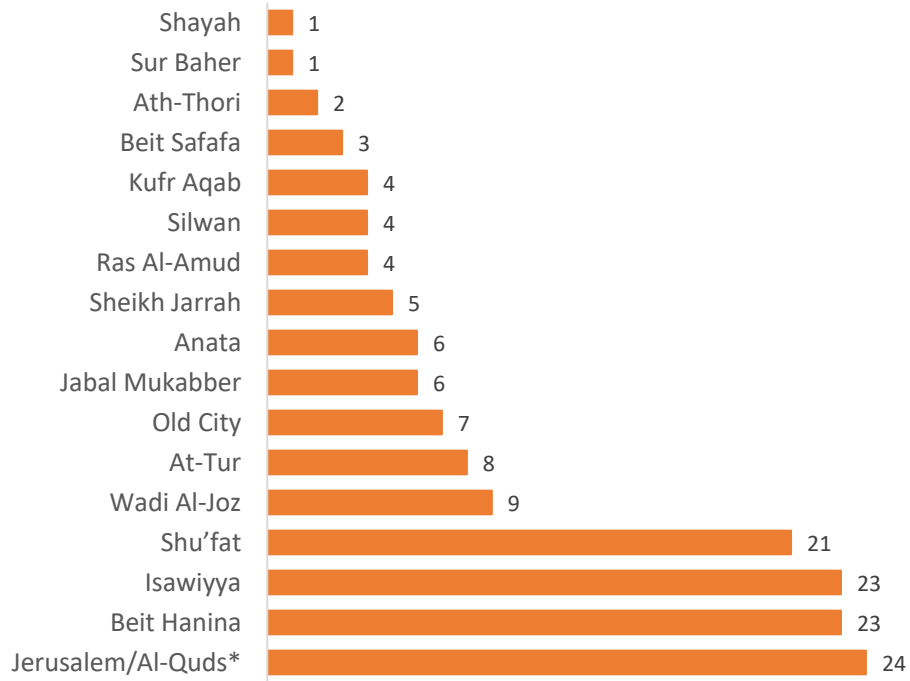
- Specific TVET education, e.g., tourism with community-based approach (tour guides, artisan production, cultural events); recycling; renewable energy; interior design; mechanics; hospitality, etc.
- Programs providing quality school education.
- Supporting youth education in universities with scholarships.
- Projects for preparing young leadership.
- Programs that create a generation of Jerusalemite musicians qualified and able to teach and spread music, facilitate youth's access to music, enhance their cultural participation and protect the cultural identity of Jerusalem.
- Promoting cultural exchange that helps open up to new ideas; Musical exchange travels of the Qanun Group of the Jerusalemite Youth Culture Forum to Europe.

■ Youth

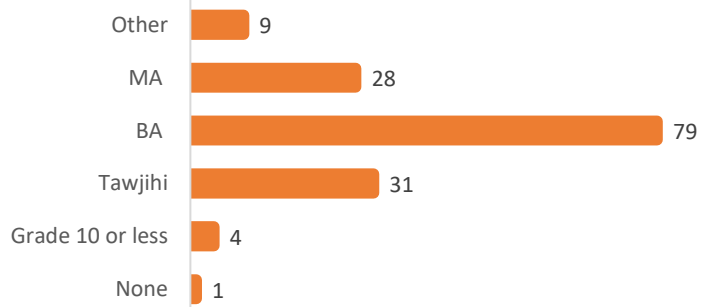
In total, 151 young people participated in the questionnaires/interviews, 74.8% of them female and 25.2% male. Their average age was 25.2 years and the highest educational attainment for the majority was a BA degree (52.3%), followed by *Tawjihi* (20.5%) and MA degree (18.5). They came from 17 different neighborhoods, with 15.9% of the respondents only stating "Jerusalem or Al-Quds" without specifying which part of the city they were from. Of those who did, the majority was from Isawiyya and Beit Hanina (15.2%) each and Shu'fat (13.9%). Of the total, 55% were currently employed, and half of those who were not stated that they had been employed in the past.



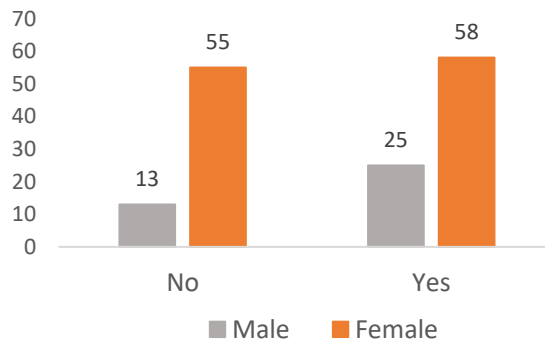
Neighborhoods



Highest Educational Attainment

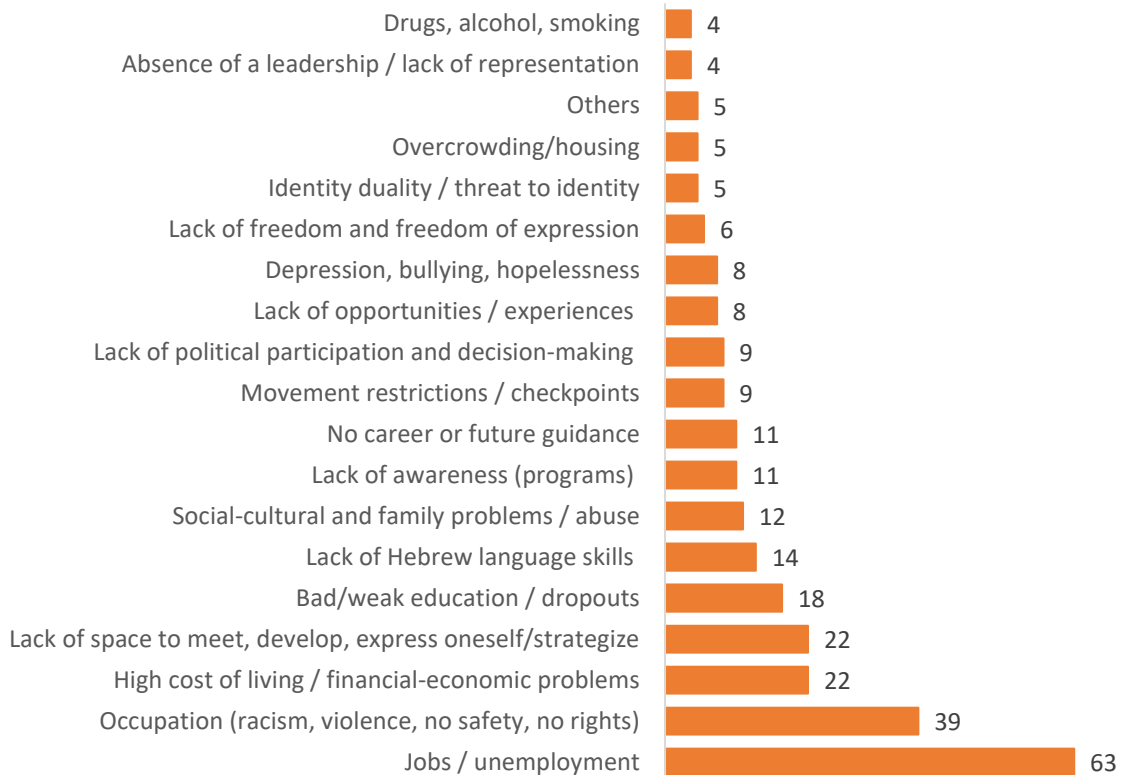


Currently Employed



Asked about the biggest problem Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem face today, the main answer was jobs/unemployment (41.7%), followed by the occupation (15.9%) and financial problems as well as lack of space for youth (14.6% each). Since this question was open, the answers were divided into the categories listed in the following chart:

Main Problems Faced by Palestinian Youth in East Jerusalem



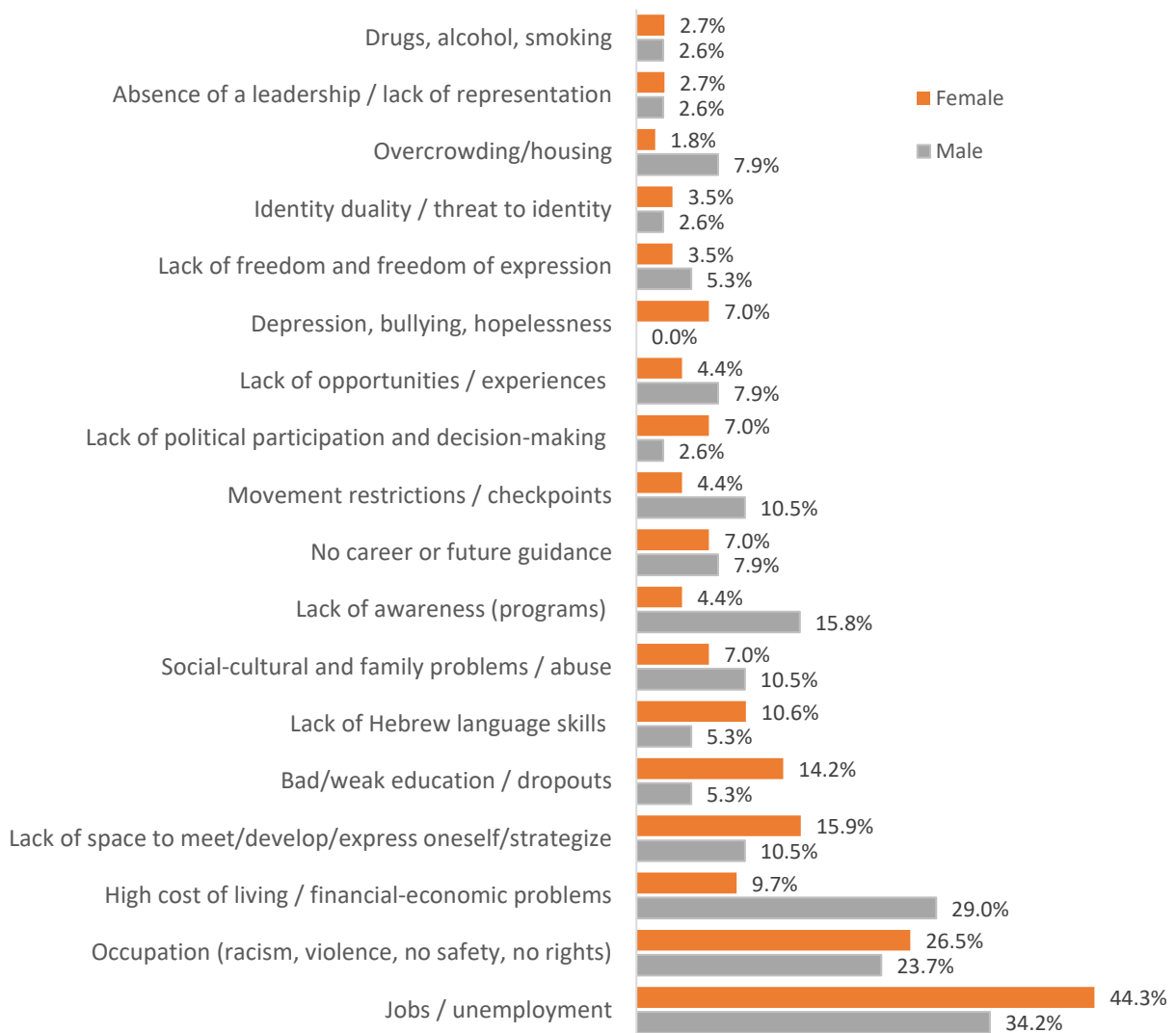
Gender-segregated responses to the above question/graph revealed some significant differences as the following graph shows. More women than men (44.3% vs. 34.2%) cited jobs/unemployment as the main problem for young Palestinians in East Jerusalem, probably reflecting the rather low labor force participation rate of women in East Jerusalem and the fact that more women than men have university degrees for which there are few job openings in the labor market, while men, even with academic degrees, often take the comparatively many, although poorly paid, blue-collar jobs available in West Jerusalem or Israel.

It is also striking that men were much more likely than women to cite problems related to their traditional role as providers, such as high living costs and financial problems (29% men vs. 9.7% women) and overcrowding/housing (7.9% men vs. 1.8% women). Women, on the other hand, complained much more about problems related to the lack of meeting places

(15.9% women vs. 10.5% men), the poor educational system (14.2% women vs. 5.3% men) and "emotional" issues such as depression, bullying or hopelessness (7% women vs. 0% men).

While men see more problems in the lack of awareness programs and the Israeli-imposed movement restrictions (such as checkpoints), more women identified the lack of Hebrew language skills as well as the lack of political participation and decision-making as problematic. Regarding the latter point, it is worth noting that many more women were willing to participate in this study – a circumstance that has also been noted elsewhere.⁶⁴

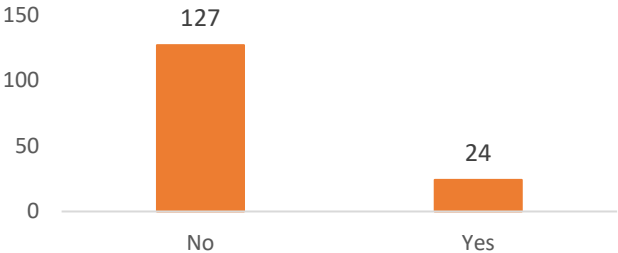
Main Problems Faced by Palestinian Youth in East Jerusalem by Gender



⁶⁴ E.g., in another study that PASSIA is currently conducting on Palestinian youth's active citizenship and political participation.

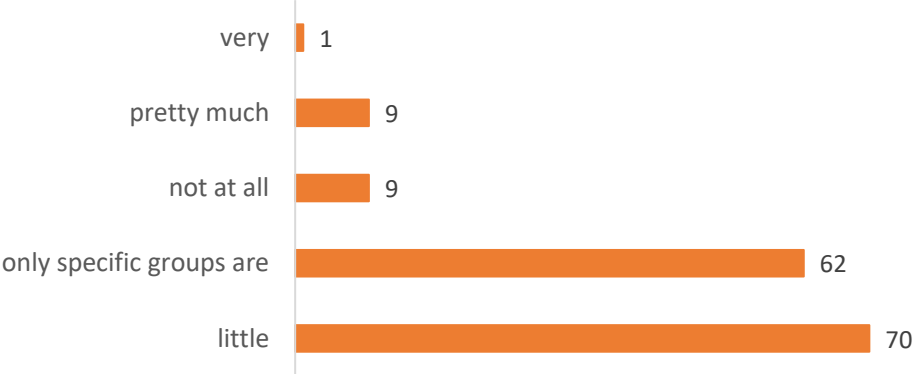
The vast majority of the youth respondents – 127 of 151 (85.8% of the females and 79% of the males) – did not think that there are currently enough programs for Palestinian youth that tackle these problems.

Availability of Enough Programs Tackling Youth Problems



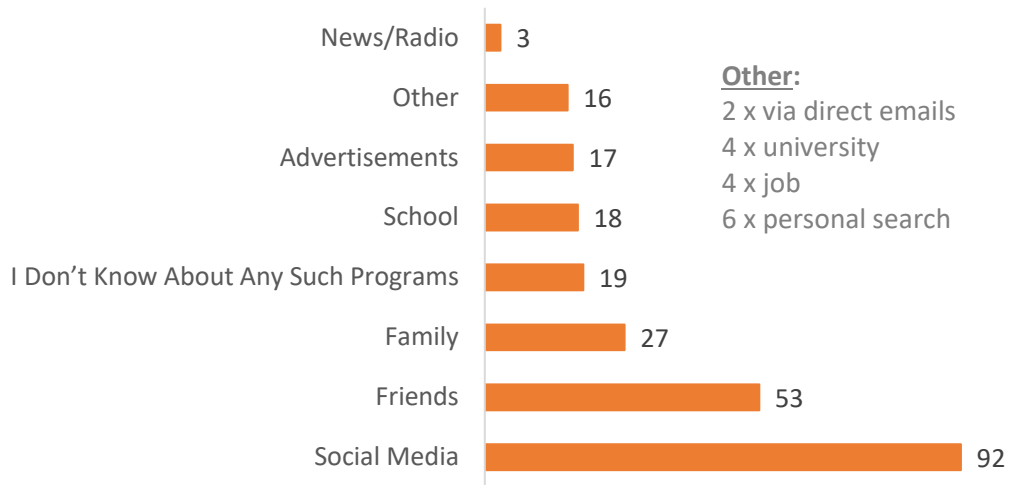
However, most respondents – without significant differences between the genders – also believed that Palestinian youth are only little or not at all familiar with existing program offerings (52.3%) or that only specific groups are (41%), while a mere 10 respondents thought that youth are very or pretty much aware of them.

Familiarity with Existing Programs

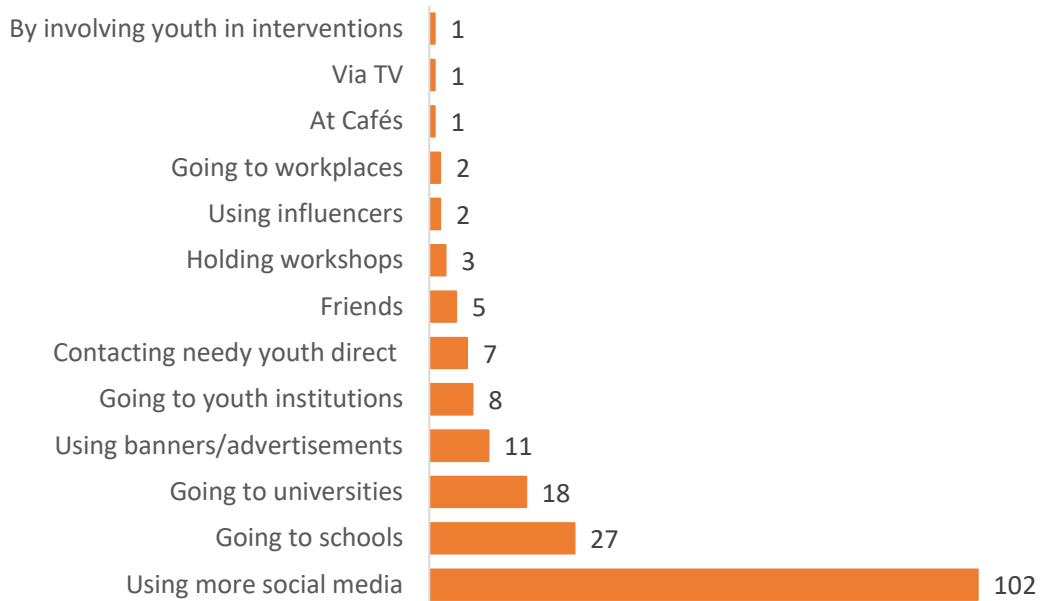


Social media was clearly the main source of information about programs and events for youth (60.9%) and also the main means of better advertising such programs in the future (67.6%). Some respondents felt that there was sufficient advertisement about programs but that social media is not reaching the “underprivileged”, and some said that while there is enough advertisement, attention is lacking due to a general change in the attitudes and interests of young people.

Source of Knowing about Youth Program and Events

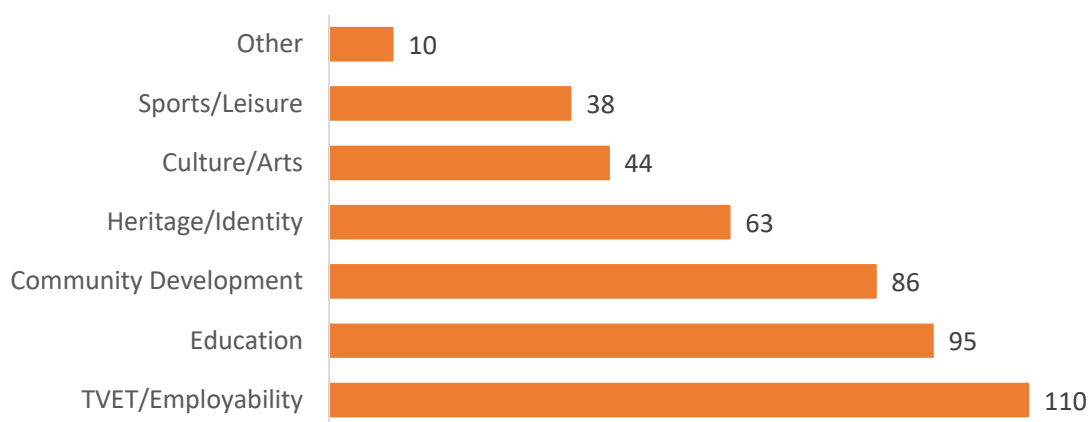


How to Better Advertise



The next question asked about the top three areas (to be picked from a given list – see below the graph) that required the most attention in terms of future development to improve the situation for Palestinian youth.

Area/Field Requiring Most Attention for Development



EDUCATION (e.g., support lessons, educational counseling, language courses, support for drop-outs, teacher training, curriculum development)

HERITAGE/IDENTITY (activities that provide a positive sense of belonging, opportunities to understand and value historic roots & the national narrative; strengthening Palestinian identity, awareness raising about Palestinian heritage)

SPORTS/LEISURE (more facilities to play sports, spaces to gather, etc.)

CULTURE/ARTS (activities related to cultural, creativity and artistic skills development, such as painting, dancing, music, etc.)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (promoting volunteerism, improving the situation in the neighborhoods, after-school programs, creating supportive and safe environments, etc.)

TVET/EMPLOYABILITY (special courses/training to improve job perspectives, redress the mismatch between education and labor market needs, avoid brain drain, offer opportunities to drop outs; career counseling)

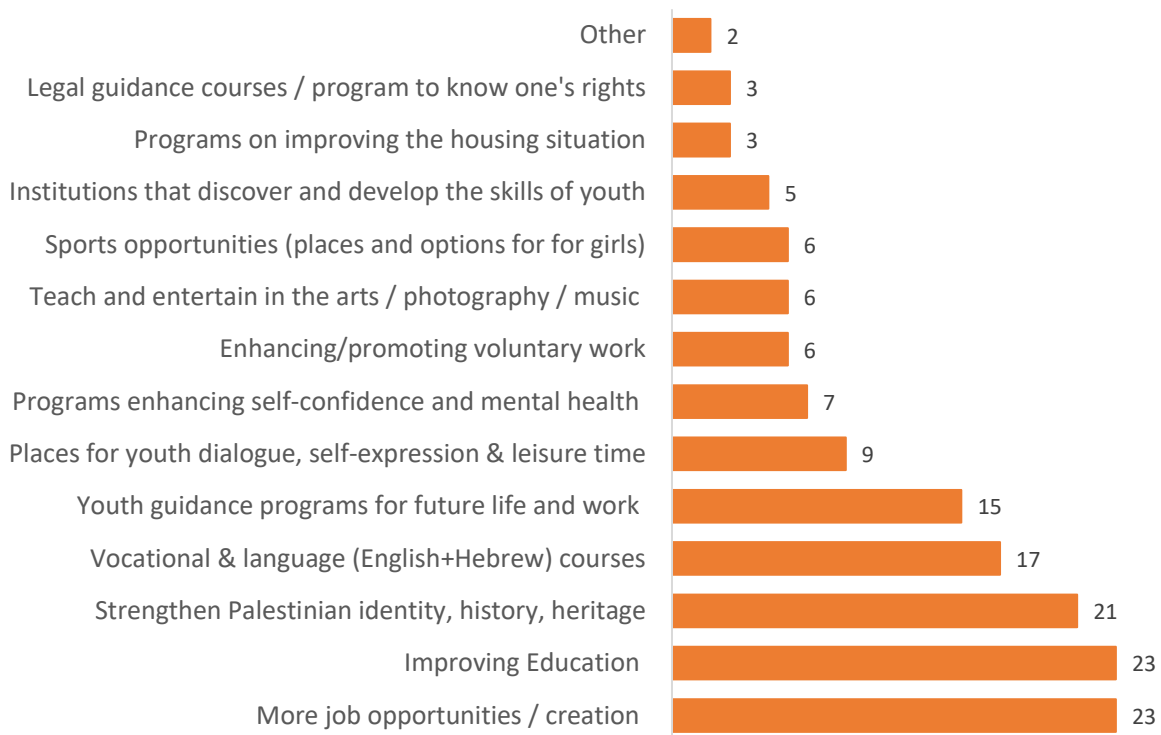
OTHER: Improving religious awareness; Guide how to start a project; Media and documentation digital advertising; Conducting serious studies/evaluating the real situation on the ground; making use of Islamic and Christian endowments; Fighting favoritism and nepotism.

The order of priorities shown in the above graph remained the same, even when considered on gender basis, with the exception of Sports/Leisure, which was given more importance by male youth than Culture/ Arts -- this can possibly be explained by the fact that they are far more engaged in sports clubs than female youths, who tend to be more artistically/culturally active. Again, the issue of employability came up on top with 72.9% of the respondents listing it as a priority (females: 78.2%, males: 63.2%), followed by education with 62.9% (f: 66.4%, m: 55.3%), community development with 57% (f: 59.3%, m: 52.9%), heritage/identity with 41.7% (f: 43.4%, m: 39.5%), culture and arts with 29.1% (f: 30.1%, m: 29%), and sports/leisure with 25.2% (f: 23%, m: 31.6%).

Some youth further elaborated on this question by explaining what they saw as currently unmet needs that should be addressed and what programs they would like to see offered. Their answers were grouped in the categories listed in the graph below. Once more, focus

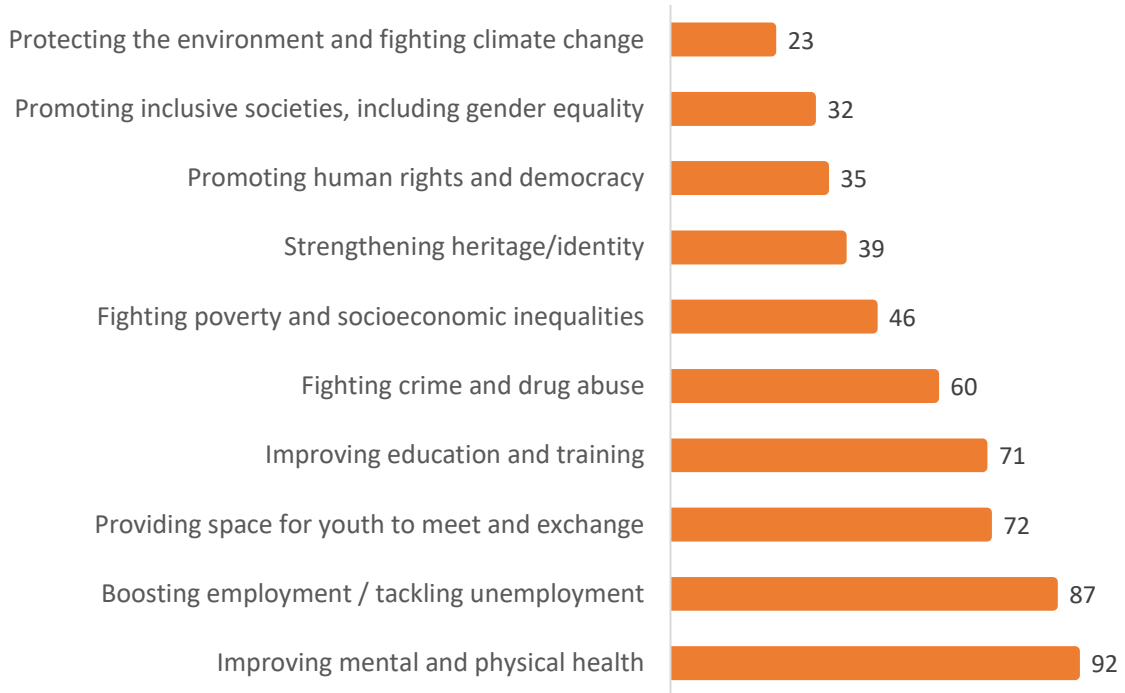
was on the related issues of education and job opportunities (“Education is the solution to all our problems, but it must be effective.” “The most important thing is education – there is no culture without it. We must improve the quality of education and develop technical training – currently Palestinian education does not benefit us in terms of employment.” “When we work on education, it is easy for us to work on the rest, so we need to raise awareness among stakeholders – administration, to the teachers, to the parents”). Interestingly, the third most mentioned issue was the need to strengthen Palestinian identity, history and heritage (“The problem of young people is that they do not belong to the place they are in, so they need to know their identity.” “Our presence in Jerusalem is threatened and there is a war on our identity, so we must focus on it and strengthen it.” “The most important thing is identity, because without it, one will feel lost, so awareness must be raised.” “Palestinian youth must know who they are and be proud of being Palestinian”).

Unmet Needs - Wanted Programs



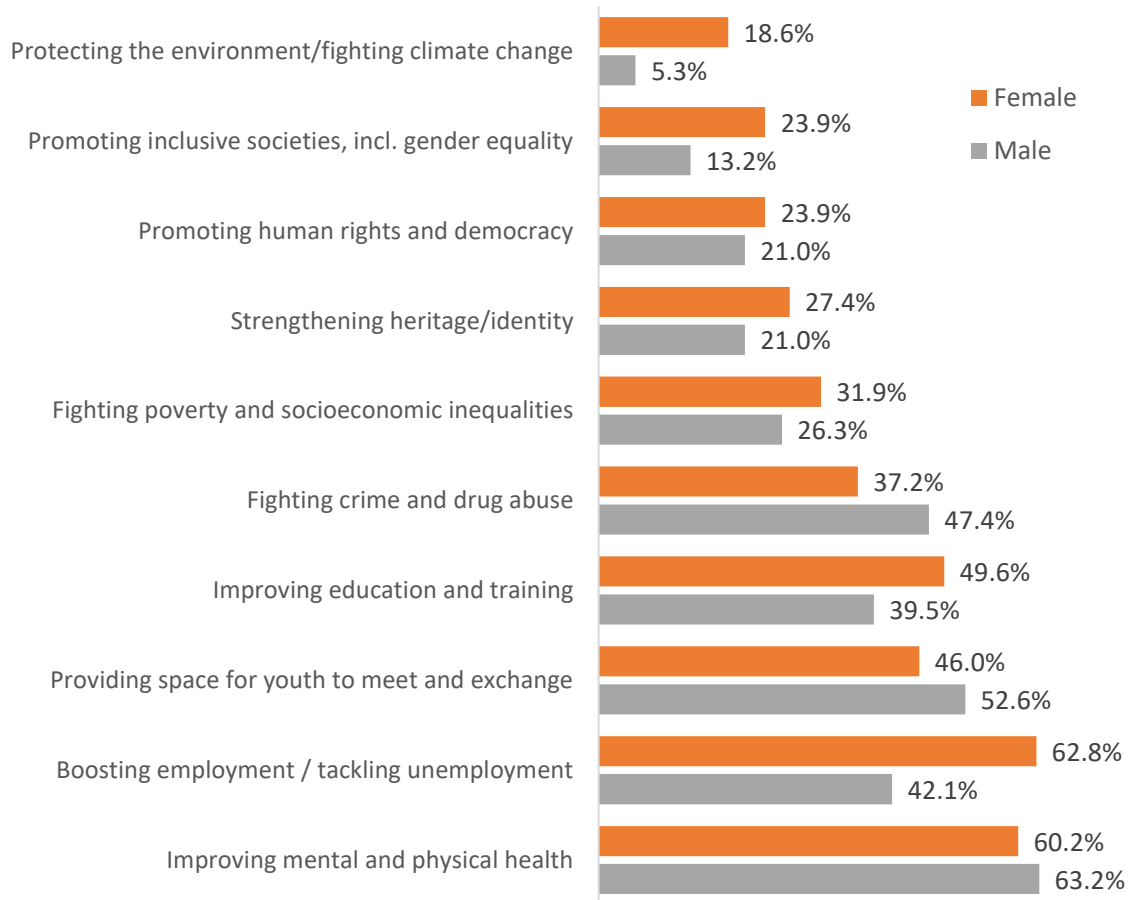
To learn more about the perceived unmet needs, youth were then asked to pick from a given list the top three key themes (with no ranking) they think policy and development interventions should focus on. The most mentioned theme here was – somewhat surprisingly – “improving mental and physical health” (60.9%), closely followed by “boosting employment/tackling unemployment” (57%).

Key Themes for Policy and Development Interventions



When looking at the answers by gender, some differences show up as can be seen in the following graph. While “Improving mental and physical health” remains the top issue for men, it is “boosting employment/tackling unemployment” for women, which somehow reflects the fact that the labor force participation rate of women in Jerusalem is particularly low. Men give more importance to a focus on “Providing space for youth to meet and exchange” and “Fighting crime and drug abuse”, while women give more weight to “Improving education and training”, “Fighting poverty and socioeconomic inequalities”, and “Strengthening heritage/identity”, and significantly more to “Promoting inclusive societies, including gender equality” and “Protecting the environment and fighting climate change”.

Key Themes for Policy and Development Interventions - by gender (%)



In a final open question, youth were asked how they themselves would tackle the problem(s) Palestinian youth are facing in Jerusalem if they were decision-makers, i.e., which programs or initiatives would they promote or prioritize.

While not everyone responded to this question, many of those who did mention funding needs and the occupation, saying that “initiatives will not achieve much as long as the occupier does everything possible to destroy the entity.” Other recurring comments revolved around the fact that many areas beyond the center of the city are very much “underserved with regard to opportunities and facilities” and that this must be changed. There were also repeated mentions that awareness programs should be “entertaining rather than lectures” and that initiatives should be “innovative, attractive and attention-grabbing.” Other common remarks included the need to put Jerusalem and its youth at the top of the agenda and provide massive funding, fight nepotism, and utilize waqf assets.

The majority of more concrete suggestions offered by those who responded to this question dealt with awareness/counseling/guidance programs that help young people improve their situation, increase their confidence and develop and determine their future. This was closely followed by awareness/guidance programs for better employability, i.e., a better understanding of the labor market and how to choose the right field to study (including internships for school-age youth, establishing suitable guidance centers, etc.).

The following graph shows the youth’s answers in detail (categorized by PASSIA):

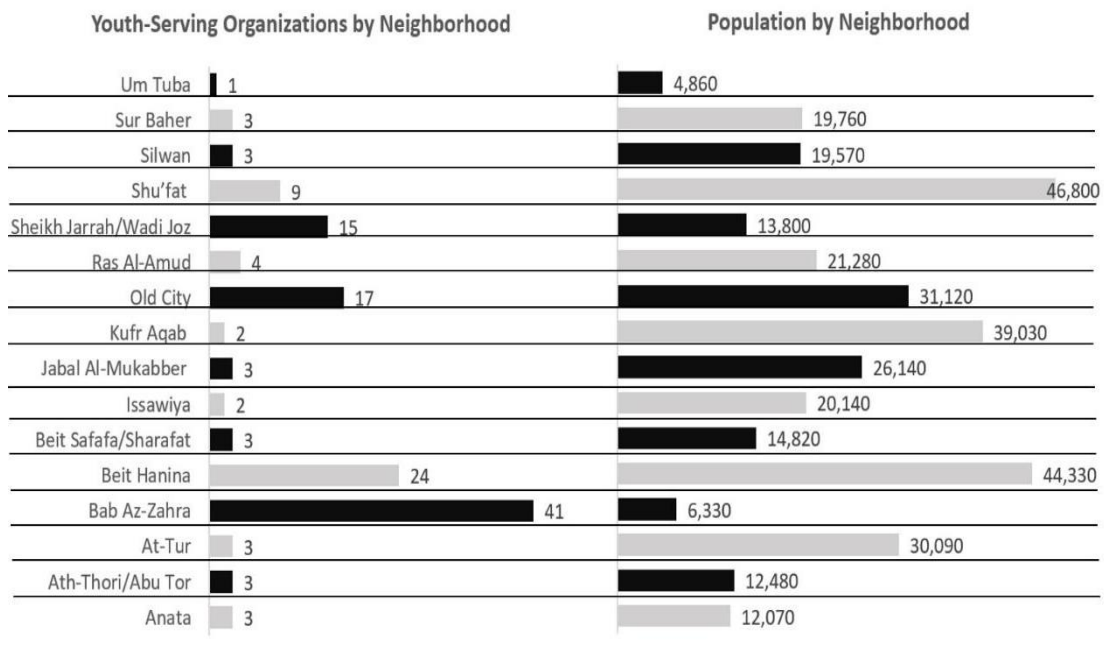
Suggested Programs or Initiatives to Tackle the Problems of Palestinian Youth in Jerusalem



6. CONCLUSION

Is there a solid rationale for a new youth program in East Jerusalem? Given the overall situation, the answer is a clear yes. There is an urgent need to cater for youth in Jerusalem and as young people make up the largest part of the population, it is also clear that this is not a task that can be accomplished in the short-term. Interventions should take into consideration which of the core issues concerning youth are already addressed by others satisfactorily, and where there are gaps that should be filled.

Taawon, as a Palestinian organization, does not have the “constraints” INGOs/donors may face (with regard to NGO Monitor and the likes or with funding priorities set by their headquarters) and thus has the ability to use a different approach effectively addressing the current gaps to meet specific needs of targeted youth and the contextual realities within which they live. Kinds of program models to support should, for example, be long-term, target the most vulnerable, and prioritize the remoter areas/neighborhoods of Jerusalem (the current distributional inequality is clearly illustrated by the following chart). Longer-term programs and projects are important because they help organizations align their activities with their long-term goals, optimize their use of resources, engage stakeholders, mitigate risks and contribute to a more sustainable future. Good opportunities for young people mainly exist in the city center, but there should be a significantly greater decentralization of activities.



Sources: left: PASSIA, *Mapping Youth-Serving Organizations in East Jerusalem*, 2020; right: JIPR, *Statistical Yearbook of Jerusalem 2022* (figures for 2020).

Taawon could position itself to implement such new youth programs by establishing a holistic strategic objective (e.g., strengthening resilience of youth) that will be applied across different sectors and with the help of strategic implementing partners in order to help reach this objective. Each sector program would monitor the impact of its efforts in relation to a set of indicators associated with that sector, e.g., a project on enhancing identity would target stronger sense of belonging and social cohesion, while a project on community development would aim at increased civic engagement and one on education at training youth in marginalized areas. A monitoring and evaluation framework should track the impact of the different sector-specific programs on a common set of indicators for achieving the overall objective of strengthening resilience of youth.

Israeli policy vis-a-vis East Jerusalem and its residents is a major obstacle in any development effort. Israel has been devising plans and spending millions of dollars toward "bridging the social and economic gaps" within the city with the aim of integrating and making use of the residents of East Jerusalem, not least to contribute to the Israeli economy. As such, Israel has its own programs for young people, but contrary to the intention of Israel's funding/ investment/programs, Palestinian East Jerusalemites are using them not out of a desire for "inclusion" or "assimilation" but for pragmatic reasons, i.e., to serve their own interests and support their own resilience. To this date, there has been no study or closer look into the questions of whether and how these Israeli programs benefit the Palestinian youth, contribute to improving their living conditions, and/or negatively influence Palestinian social cohesion.

Key informants gave valuable insights into the different sectors, indicating core needs and problems. As mentioned before, the one topic that stood out was unemployment/lack of job opportunities with some KIs and youth pointing to the fact that there are many courses and trainings in over-saturated subjects intending to increase employability without addressing the limitations of the market and the Palestinian economy, or even which labor market and economy should be targeted. The dire Palestinian labor market situation is characterized by a number of structural challenges that are deeply rooted in the Israeli occupation and therefore difficult to overcome, including severely constrained economic development that discourages investment and hinders private sector development, which in turn prevents job creation. Employability schemes are unlikely to address the fundamental changes required in the political and economic system (e.g., investments in education and infrastructure), and while they may help some youth find permanent employment, many others reported in focus group discussions that they have gone through 10 and more such employability initiatives (e.g., internships, specialized trainings, and other work-based learning programs) and are still at "Square No. 1" in their journey for earning a living because suitable jobs are simply not available. This may be one of the reasons why, as one KI pointed out, "many youths are not interested in capacity upskilling and reskilling, they lack commitment."

There are two main cross-sectoral challenges remaining, for which future strategic implementing partners should try to find practical solutions: First, the question of how sustainability of results and impacts of potentially successful projects and interventions can be ensured or even reinforced in the face of the ongoing occupation and the problematic funding situation (limited funding, lack of long-term and core funding). And second, how to deal with

Israeli restrictions that increasingly shrink Palestinians' civil space while "competing" in various programmatic sectors such as employability and community development, into which Israeli authorities pour huge amounts of money to attract Palestinian Jerusalemite youth. While young Palestinians are aware that such programs are not to serve them but rather to control Palestinian activities and utilize Palestinian manpower, many still attend them. Palestinian organizations often cannot keep up with municipal centers and programs due to their own difficult and unstable funding situation.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations below are based on a mix of the gathered data, i.e., answers provided by the respondents to the questionnaires (youth and KIs), participants' inputs from the focus group meetings and results from the general evaluation of the current situation on the ground. Some of the recommendations were derived directly from questions asking about what people would like to see implemented in the future in terms of youth empowerment initiatives, and partly formulated by us based on our conclusions from this assessment of what seems to be particularly important to consider.

For a better overview, we have divided these recommendations according to the six assessed sectors, preceded by a set of general recommendations that are relevant across the sectors. We have tried to rank the sectoral recommendations to the best of our knowledge, assessment and understanding of the overall challenges for youth in Jerusalem.

Some of the following recommendations are easier to implement than others, but all of them should serve as food for thought.

General Recommendations

Asked about the most needed programs and services to improve the situation for Palestinian youth in Jerusalem and strengthen their steadfastness and resilience, the main issues brought up by the KIs were the need for long-term involvement and investment in beneficiaries as well as the need to involve and consult youth themselves (as opposed to "programs that only benefit the organization or the funders' views"). One KI pointed out that "there is a lot that can be done and needs to be done, not through individual efforts, but rather through a holistic, collective approach based on practical and realistic considerations."

In general, there are a number of cross-sectoral issues that were repeatedly mentioned by both youth and KIs and that are highly recommended to be given serious consideration:

- Offering longer-/long-term interventions to ensure continuity and avoid that projects end when funding ends, which is a waste of experience gained and prevents lasting effects.

- Providing core-funding as the key to stability and sustainability.
- Establishing a funding model that could differentiate between small local initiatives and larger grants for strategic partners. For example, the creation of a “NGO Small Project Support Fund”, which would provide easy, fast and unbureaucratic access to small scale grants with administrative conditions that can be fulfilled by all. Such a fund would help finance the low-cost, urgent and concrete needs of those smaller, but often community-based/grassroots organizations that currently feel marginalized and left out in the shadow of the larger and well-established CSOs/NGOs without having to create an entire project around it as is common practice.

Such a support fund could also provide subsidies for youth who otherwise could not afford to participate in certain programs, thus contributing to reducing inequality of opportunity. In addition, a second tier could represent larger initiatives with a broader impact and could be awarded to strategic partners who have demonstrated a proven track record of success and have the capacity to execute more complex projects. Implementing such tiered funding model would allow supporting a variety of initiatives at different levels while also providing strategic partners with the resources they need to execute larger, more impactful projects. This model can help ensure that resources are allocated in a way that is both effective and equitable.

- Addressing the most vulnerable population groups and ensuring that programs are tailored to their specific needs in order to be sustainable in the long term. In this regard, ways of subsidizing the costs for needy youth and low-income families in youth-serving programs should be seriously looked into. Most sport, art, educational and after-school-programs cost monthly fees (plus, possibly, transportation) so offering financial assistance to those who cannot afford their participation otherwise would help create a more equitable and inclusive community by ensuring that all young people have access to the same opportunities and experiences and no one is left behind because of his/her socio-economic status. This would require the development of both a transparent process for determining eligibility for awarding subsidies and a fundraising plan to support such subsidies.
- Reaching out to the city’s outskirts. Programs that provide a safe and supportive space for youth to learn, grow, develop critical life skills and have opportunities for social, emotional, and academic growth should target marginalized communities and not only focus on the neighborhoods in and around the Old City.
- Involving youth (and their families) in program design and implementation to ensure that programs are culturally responsive and meet the unique needs of the community. Additionally, involving families in programs and program implementation can increase community support for the youth.

Recommendations for the Education Sector

1. Interventions must be distinguished by level, e.g., elementary school (e.g., support lessons), 4-6th graders (e.g., hobbies, dropout prevention and extracurricular activities), 9-12th graders (e.g., reintegrating dropouts, early career counseling, citizenship/civic education and volunteering), post high-schoolers (career counseling – TVETs and university), post-graduates, etc.
2. The quality of educational resources must be improved, taking into consideration future job market needs and preparing youth for the 21st century economy (e.g., promoting STEM, coding, etc.). It would be worthwhile to examine available resources, create an “inventory” of useful resources and then develop new resources as deemed required (tailored curriculum development).
3. Financial support for after school activities and summer camps etc. with a greater but “playful” focus on needed skills (so as to instill these earlier).
4. Equally, access to the informal educational system should be improved with a variety of programs designed for different age groups and needs, including after-school enrichment and leisure programs that give youth a safe, enriching place to fill their free time, thus reducing the rate of risky behaviors.
5. Access to adequate facilities should be improved in marginalized neighborhoods – i.e., to after-school programs, technology, and programs supporting the social-emotional well-being of youth. This should also include training programs for youth outreach workers in those areas.
6. Targeted support should be provided for youth with special needs, dropouts, drug addicts and children from low-income families. Such targeted support may include innovative educational and awareness programs in evening/afternoon classes and financially subsidized activities and courses. Some target groups’ courses of a relatively short duration should be designed to minimize dropout risks and facilitate rapid skills development/success feelings.
7. Teacher qualification programs should be supported to improve pedagogical skills and modernize classroom learning.
8. The lack of a unified educational vision should be addressed.
9. Investment in research and studies must be promoted as this is currently very weak in most fields, hindering development and resulting in brain-drain.
10. Civil society-school synergies should be fostered to tap into existing CSOs resources, e.g., for life skills training, student and career counseling, and avoiding duplication.

Recommendations for the Employability and TVET Sector

1. Since there is already a large number of employability schemes and programs for high schoolers and new graduates aimed at improving the skills and qualifications of individuals, there is currently no urgent need to tap more into these, unless a more specific yet disadvantaged target group is served (e.g., dropouts, less centrally located neighborhoods). However, what is needed is educational/career counseling aimed at changing perceptions and existing stereotypes of TVET among parents and youth, and highlighting various available TVET tracks and their potentials for helping participants pursue respectable careers and earning a decent living. In this regard, the establishment of a “mobile counseling and information center” would be helpful to reach the geographically and culturally marginalized population groups, including girls and disabled, and make services accessible to them as well.
2. The mismatch between education and labor market needs must be put high on the agenda and include awareness raising social media campaigns and support for tailored TVET programs corresponding to the demand for specific skills. This should include a specialized rapid survey among TVET students and 11/12th graders to detect gaps and interests and feasibility studies to test different suggested interventions.
3. Career counseling and guidance services to assist youth in identifying and pursuing job opportunities should be provided broadly and also in remoter areas, and facilitating the recognition of vocational training qualifications and certifications.
4. Action is required to enhance the status and standing of TVET and the occupations it serves. A comprehensive campaign should be developed to promote the TVET sector, including encouraging the participation of women and other underrepresented groups.
5. The access, quality and relevance of TVET programs in East Jerusalem should be improved, including more specialized programs (e.g., tourism with community-based approach – tour guides, artisan production, cultural events; recycling; renewable energy; interior design; mechanics; hospitality, etc.), financing options for students to pursue TVET education (scholarships, loans), and upgrading TVET teacher qualification programs.
6. The establishment of some kind of portal would be useful where best practices, initiatives and knowledge resources could be shared to guide young people and help them connect with relevant and available skills development opportunities and employability frameworks.
7. Commission of a detailed study to identify options and prospects for labor market development/job creation in East Jerusalem to reduce dependence on and exploitation in the Israeli labor market (e.g., “establishing an independent IT sector”).

Recommendations for the Community Development Sector

In face of the occupation and the absence of a Palestinian leadership in Jerusalem, the resilience and resources of the organizations which provide services to vulnerable groups (children, youth, women, elderly and disabled) must be enhanced, maintained, and strengthened. Programmatic recommendations include:

1. Supportive, empowering and safe environments for youth to thrive, including public spaces and venues to come together, discuss, exchange views and experiences and spend time together, must be increased. A first step could be to make better use of available spaces such as school facilities in the afternoons/evenings/on weekends and during school holidays, which are available in all neighborhoods, and hold “rotating activities” and events there targeting neighborhood youth (e.g., lectures/discussions on issues of their concern, career counseling, guidance in all aspects of future planning). This would significantly improve access to community-based events and activities.
2. Activities to enhance the sense of community and social cohesion in East Jerusalem; this includes volunteer opportunities to participate in community activities; civic engagement projects; community-based education programs such as adult education classes, awareness programs (legal issues, anti-drug, mental health etc.), and workshops encouraging dialogue and cooperation between different community groups. Preliminary results from another study that PASSIA is currently working on, concerning active citizenship and meaningful political participation of young Palestinian Jerusalemites, show a majority of youth (71%) could imagine participating (more) in the future. Asked about the barriers to youth participation, the main issues named were lack of information on possibilities, lack of opportunities, limited civic education and lack of interesting programs.
3. A volunteer program that focuses on building capacity and training of trainers in after-school activities should be sponsored. It would offer an excellent opportunity for individuals who are passionate about education and youth development to make a positive impact in their communities by providing volunteers with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively train and mentor youth in after-school activities. Volunteers in this program could work with local schools and community organizations to provide high-quality after-school programs. These programs may include a variety of activities such as sports, arts and crafts, music and academic tutoring. Volunteers could be trained to develop and implement engaging and age-appropriate curricula that align with the needs and interests of the students. Through this program, volunteers could also develop leadership and communication skills that are essential for working with diverse groups of people. Ideally, they will learn to collaborate with community members, educators and other stakeholders to ensure success of the program. By providing safe and structured after-school activities, volunteers would help promote academic success, physical health and social-emotional well-being among youth.
4. Participation of youth in local decision-making and planning processes must be promoted and encouraged. This could take the shape of a cross-sectoral youth council or “parliament” which would facilitate the exchange of views, expertise, knowledge and

resources, as well as strengthen inclusion and ownership of the community. In the aforementioned PASSIA study on active citizenship and political participation of youth, more than three-quarters (76.4%) of respondents said that they did not know an organization or group representing young people and 87.3% did not personally feel represented by any body. The majority (56.4%) did not think that young people are involved in decisions that impact the community's future. When asked about what should be done to increase the participation of young people the two top answers (over 63% each) were "Create space for youth ('youth labs') to have their work featured and engage others" and "Create a young leaders' program to advise organizations etc. on youth-related matters." With regard to the needed resources/support to get youth engaged or motivated to participate, the top two answers were "Training (in skills that enable me to better participate)" and "Safe space (to regularly meet and organize)".

Recommendations for the Arts and Culture Sector

1. Targeted support and resources for certain groups such as women and children should be increased to promote creativity, art skills as well as the Palestinian culture.
2. Partnerships with other sectors, such as education and tourism, should be developed to promote and support Palestinian culture.
3. The use of traditional Palestinian arts and crafts should be promoted in the community as a means of preserving cultural heritage.
4. More diversified art classes and courses – also in remoter areas where there are few chances for talent discovery and development.
5. Exchange with art/music/cultural groups in the region and Europe.
6. Reviving the Shafaq art network (or establishing a similar network) to strategize for the sector, conduct local and international advocacy and manage scarce resources.

Recommendations for the Heritage and Identity Sector

1. To counter Israel's Judaization efforts, a comprehensive curriculum along with relevant educational and teaching materials should be developed to raise awareness of and focus on preserving and promoting Palestinian identity and heritage in East Jerusalem.
2. Educational programs, activities and events that promote the understanding and appreciation of Palestinian culture, identity and history should be increased. ("We have to better acquaint youth with their own history & heritage"; "Let's not kid ourselves: with the current situation of Jerusalem, any kind of development will be useless. Our main opponent is the occupation and since we don't have the capacity to fight it, we have to work

to immunize our young people” with programs “that preserve their national identity and cultural views”).

3. Partnership and coordination with other sectors such as education and tourism should be developed to promote and support Palestinian heritage and identity.
4. Skills such as story-telling, digital tools, etc. should be developed and utilized to promote and value historic roots, the national narrative and Palestinian heritage.

Recommendations for the Sports and Leisure Sector

1. Improve access and quality of sports and leisure opportunities in East Jerusalem, including facilities, parks, playgrounds and community centers.
2. Promote the development of youth sports programs and recreational activities in East Jerusalem to encourage physical activity and promote healthy lifestyles.
3. Increase access to sports and leisure activities for low-income families by providing subsidies or financial assistance.
4. Increase the participation of underrepresented groups such as people with disabilities, women and children in sports and leisure activities by providing targeted support and resources.
5. Develop partnerships with other sectors, such as education and health, to promote and support physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: KEY INFORMANTS QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL INFORMATION				
1.	Date of interview:			
2.	Organization:			
3.	Telephone:		Email:	
4.	Name of Interviewee:			
5.	Role, function, background:			
6.	Sector(s)/field(s) of expertise:			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> TVET/Employability	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Leisure
	<input type="checkbox"/> Culture/Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Heritage/Identity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
7.	For how long have you been active in the field?			
ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS & INTERESTS				
8.	Please describe <u>main</u> programs regarding Palestinian youth in Jerusalem you are involved in or aware of.			
9.	How satisfactory do you consider the scope of programs offered for youth in East Jerusalem? <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> not satisfactory			
10.	Which programmatic problems do you see with regard to Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem, if any?			
11.	Please explain your answer in #10:			
12.	Do you feel that people in general and youth in particular are aware of the existing programs and services? <input type="checkbox"/> Very <input type="checkbox"/> pretty much <input type="checkbox"/> little <input type="checkbox"/> not at all <input type="checkbox"/> only specific groups are			
13.	Please explain your answer in #12:			

14.	What local and international organizations in your field of expertise are currently providing <u>useful</u> programs and services in Jerusalem, which address the key development problems related to the situation of Palestinian youth in the city?
15.	Do you feel that there are programs in your field of expertise that do NOT take into account the real needs of the youth and the community at large? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
16.	If yes, please explain why and what components are missing in those programs:
17.	Do you think that there are projects/interventions that are too often duplicated or even counterproductive? Which ones and why?
18.	What programs and services within and beyond your field of expertise do you think are needed most in the future to improve the situation for Palestinian youth in Jerusalem and strengthen their steadfastness and resilience? And what is required for future interventions to move in the right direction?
19.	Which local organizations are suitable implementing partners in your field of expertise and why? (What relevant skills and experience do they have?)
20.	If you had the means, which kind of youth development and empowerment project serving youth in East Jerusalem would you like to see realized most?
21.	Any additional comments?

ANNEX 2: YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE

GENERAL INFORMATION			
22.	Date of interview:	Place of living (neighborhood):	
23.	What is your name? (optional)	How old are you? (16-25)	What is your gender? <input type="checkbox"/> m <input type="checkbox"/> f
24.	What was your highest educational attainment to date? <input type="checkbox"/> none <input type="checkbox"/> grade _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Tawjihi <input type="checkbox"/> BA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
25.	Are you currently employed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
26.	If yes, what kind of work do you do?		
27.	If no, were you employed before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
28.	If yes, what did you work? If no, why not?		
ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS			
29.	What do you think is the biggest problem Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem face today? (You can name more than one)		
30.	Do you think there are enough programs for Palestinian youth that tackle these problems? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
31.	How familiar do you think Palestinian youth are with existing program offerings? <input type="checkbox"/> Very <input type="checkbox"/> pretty much <input type="checkbox"/> little <input type="checkbox"/> not at all <input type="checkbox"/> only specific groups are		
32.	How do you know about programs and events for youth? <input type="checkbox"/> family <input type="checkbox"/> friends <input type="checkbox"/> news/radio <input type="checkbox"/> social media <input type="checkbox"/> advertisements <input type="checkbox"/> school <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know about any such programs <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):		
33.	In your opinion, how could such programs be better advertised?		

34.	Which area/field do you think requires most attention in terms of development and future funding to improve the situation for Palestinian youth? (Select the top three)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Education (e.g., support lessons, educational counseling, language courses, support for drop-outs, teacher training, curriculum development)	<input type="checkbox"/> Heritage/Identity (activities that provide positive sense of belonging, opportunities to understand and value historic roots & the national narrative; strengthening Palestinian identity, awareness raising about Palestinian heritage)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports/Leisure (more facilities to play sports, spaces to gather, etc.)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Culture/Arts (activities related to cultural, creativity and artistic skills development, such as painting, dancing, music, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Development (promoting volunteerism, improving the situation in the neighborhood, after-school programs, creating supportive and safe environments, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> TVET/Employability (special courses/training to improve job perspectives, redress the mismatch between education and labor market needs, avoid brain drain, offer opportunities to drop outs; career counseling)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):		
35.	Please elaborate on your answer in #13 (explain what are the currently unmet needs that should be addressed, what needs to be improved, what programs would you want to see):		
36.	Are there any organizations or groups that you would say are successful in their work in the above fields? Which ones are they?		
37.	What are the key themes you think policy and development interventions for youth should focus on? (Select the top three)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improving mental and physical health	<input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening heritage/identity	<input type="checkbox"/> Protecting the environment/fighting climate change
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improving education and training	<input type="checkbox"/> Fighting poverty and socioeconomic inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/> Fighting crime and drug abuse
	<input type="checkbox"/> Boosting employment / tackling unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/> Promoting human rights and democracy	<input type="checkbox"/> Promoting inclusive societies, incl. gender equality
	<input type="checkbox"/> Providing space for youth to meet and exchange	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):	
38.	If you were a decision-maker, how would YOU tackle the problem(s) Palestinian youth are facing in Jerusalem? Which programs or initiatives would you like to see being offered?		

ANNEX 3: LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS BY SECTORS⁶⁵

1. Education (extracurricular)

Armaa Organization

Dir.: Wafa' Asfour
T: 02-6507934/M: 0525-585151
E: Info@armaa.org
www.armaa.org
23, Khallet Mishal St., Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
MFW: Improve socioeconomic & cultural needs; education, alternative tourism, children's rights, youth & women empowerment.

Al-Bahaa Youth Group Company

Dir.: Husam Alayan
M: 0542-112007
E: info@albhaagroup.com
Az-Zahra' St., Al-Tazziz Bldg., Jerusalem
MFW: Extracurricular, recreational, educational & awareness-raising activities; photocopy & montage; marketing & promotion; design, audio services & platforms; "Preventing Dropout", "Survivor 2020"; outdoor training for schools.

Educational Center

Dir.: Saed Al-Khateeb
T & F: 02-6272667/M: 0504-388998
E: markaz1968@gmail.com
14, Az-Zahra St., Tazziz Bldg., POB 19311, Jerusalem
MFW: Computer, English, Hebrew, mechanics, electrical engineering, typing, translation courses.

Faisal Hussein Foundation

Abed Al-Qader & Fadwa Al-Husseini
T: 02-2342686
E: info@fhfpal.org
www.fhfpal.org
Al-Ram
MFW: Jerusalem's Arab-Palestinian identity & culture.

General Secretariat for Christian Education Institutions Jerusalem

Sec. Gen.: Fr. Yacob Rafidi
T: 02-2957362
E: gd.lpsp@lpj.org
35, Rukab St., Ramallah, POB 47, Jerusalem

Injaz Center

Dir.: Mohammed Eweis
M: 0548-833679/0585777316
E: injaz.center33@gmail.com
Al-Hayat Center, Ras Al-Amud, Jerusalem
MFW: Languages; camps for children; courses in: project management, electronics; children's activation; different school subjects; after-school activities.

Insan - Hope Ambassadors Association

Dir.: Raed Abu Saleh
T: 02-6554549/M: 0532-373462
E: huumansociety@gmail.com
2, Az-Zahra St., Jerusalem
MFW: Courses in young leadership, computer skills, first aid, drama & music; trips.

Al-Nayzak Organization for Supportive Education & Scientific Innovation (R.A.)

Chairman: Eng. Aref F. Hussein
T: 02-6285387
E: info@alnayzak.org
www.alnayzak.org
9, Ali Bin Abi Taleb St., Jerusalem
MFW: Education, science, technology & engineering, 'Made in Palestine' programs, 'Talented Students Incubators', scientific entrepreneurship program, summer camps.

Nuran

Dir.: Eng. Shawkat I'waisat
T: 02-6733664/M: 0506-775075/0505-757101
E: info@nuranassociation.org
27, Al-Sal'a St., Jabal Al-Mukabber, POB 20998, Jerusalem 91209
MFW: Assistance in times of hardship, public education, society welfare.

2. TVET - Employment

Afaak College

Dir.: Hani Na'aji
T: 02-6252227/ M: 0523-150088
E: affak.college@hotmail.com
12, Nablus St., opp. American House, Jerusalem

⁶⁵ The following organizations have been divided into six categories, although it must be said that many have diverse activities and would fit into different categories accordingly.

MFW: Early childhood education, Medical and General Secretary, Accounting, CISCO, "Optics technician".

Anwar Jerusalem College

Gen. Dir.: Adel Ghaith

T: 02-6281818

E: Anwar.sec1@gmail.com

Az-Zahra St., Jerusalem

MFW: 1-year courses in: administration, accounting, early childhood education, hairdressing, computer engineering & technology, graphic design; repair courses for phones for school students; event planning; marketing; 3D Epoxy imaging; creating figures for professionals; vehicles repair; preparatory courses in Hebrew & for the Israeli exams for Arab lawyers.

Arab Blind Association

Dir.: Nadira Bazbaz

T: 02-6273535

E: arab_blind_association@hotmail.com

25, Al-Wad St./Via Dolorosa, Aqabet Al-Mufti, Old City, Jerusalem

MFW: Professional training & rehabilitation for the blind, making all kinds of brooms & brushes.

Atid Biran College

Man.: Khaldoun Hammouri

T: 02-5816467/0523-215476

E: info@atidbiran.co.il or: reg@atidbiran.co.il

www.atidbiran.co.il

Shu'fat, opp. Ibn Sina Medical Center, Jerusalem

MFW: Vocational training courses: medical admin. & secretary; early childhood education; accounting; repair of electrical appliances & ACs; electricians; electronic monitoring systems & alarms; computer & network maintenance; etc.

Coding Academy of Jerusalem (CAJ)

Dir.: Hafeth Zughayer

M: 0522-201922

E: info@codingaj.com

www.codingaj.com

Beit Hanina, Jerusalem

MFW: Courses with Polytechnic University: 2D animation, photoshop, robotics, graphic design, Facebook store, websites; computer; programming; start-up & entrepreneurial training.

Community Care Institution

Dir.: Mohammad Elayyan

T: 02-6285451/72811

E: wadijoz@matnasim.org.il

7, Baha'a Eddin St., Wadi Al-Joz, POB 20345, Jerusalem

MFW: Kindergarten, children's activities, summer camps, volunteers, youth, extra-curricular activities, leadership & vocational training, health, sport, computer & cultural programs, women & disabled empowerment, elderly care, popular services.

Continuing Education and Community Service Center c/o Al-Quds Open University

Dir.: Mahmoud Hawamdeh

T: 02-2964571 Ext. 230

E: cont_edu@qou.edu

<https://cec.qou.edu>

MFW: Professional diploma (secretary, admin., knowledge management), professional & technical training (ICT, finance, admin. & languages), e-training, testing center (TOEFL, VUE), consultation & project management.

Founder Institute Palestine

Prog. Dir.: Yousef Al-Khatib

M: 0598-876876

E: yousef@umake.ps

<https://fi.co/>

MFW: Pre-seed startup accelerator (helped launch over 4,500 companies globally); empowering people to build technology businesses that positively impact the world.

Future Builders Forum (FBF)

Dir.: Dina Fer'oun

T: 02-2791060

E: fbf.pal@gmail.com

Main St, Abu Dis, Jerusalem

MFW: Competitions in Arabic reading, memorizing the Qur'an, and in teaching aids; capacity-building; cultural program; empowering young people; Young Entrepreneur training; summer camps; relief program.

Geniuses Institute

CEO: Ali Kamel

M: 0527-441105

E: office@geniuses.co.il

<http://geniuses.co.il/>

98, Nablus St., Jerusalem

MFW: Preparation courses university enrollment, incl. medicine & nursing; Hebrew; assists with the registration at Israeli universities.

i-Learn Languages & Training Center

Dir.: Inas Abu Asab

T: 02-6263322/0522-825555

E: ilearn4learning@gmail.com

www.ilearnjerusalem.com

Abraj Al-Quds, Shu'fat, POB 20582, Jerusalem

MFW: Language courses.

Industrial Islamic Orphanage School

Principal: Bassam Hamed
T: 02-6272920
Aqabet As-Saraya St., Old City, Jerusalem
MFW: Professional training in graphic design, sewing/detailing, carpentry, air-conditioning & refrigeration, electrical, sanitary installations, bamboo furniture industry, computer.

International Center for Culture and Public Relations

Dir.: Majd Al-Maqdisi
T: 02-2796341/M: 0522-492190/0584-104447
E: inopr@hotmail.com
Al-Izzariyya-Abu Dis St., Sheikh Khalil Mohsen Bldg., POB 17143, Jerusalem
MFW: Cultural, educational & training activities, job search assistance; capacity building for youth & children.

International Orthodox Christian Charities

Country Rep.: Dr. George Elias Malki
T: 02-5811041
E: jerusalem@iocc.org
www.iocc.org
10, Al-Farabi St., Shufat, POB 44073, Jerusalem 9144001

Ishraka for Training & Excellence Skills

Gen. Dir.: Taleb Idkeidek
T: 02-5826331/M: 0544-551601/0598-347774
E: info@ishraka.net
www.ishraka.net
Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
MFW: Leadership training for managers; smart selling (products & services); public speaking; private coaching for senior managers; Arabic, English and Hebrew.

Jerusalem Hi-Tech Forum

Dir.: Hazem Khattab
E: info@jhfoundry.org
MFW: Tech training, career guidance (schools & universities), tech talks and meet-ups, advanced technology forum. sustainable and growth of the high-tech sector and tech entrepreneurship, mentoring program, tech employment.

JEST- Jerusalem Entrepreneurs Society & Technology

Founder: Hani Alami
M: 0544-721536
E: info@jesthub.org
www.jesthub.org
1, Biabars Road, Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

MFW: Technology, culture of innovation & women, services to help create a rich & effective entrepreneurial/ startup ecosystem in East Jerusalem.

The Lutheran World Federation Vocational Training Program

Dir.: Yousef Shalian
T: 02-6282289/979/5854102
E: info.jerusalem@lutheranworld.org
https://jerusalem.lutheranworld.org
May Ziadeh St., Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
MFW: Vocational education & training for school students; 1-year and short-term vocational courses; consultation; assistance in finding jobs or starting own projects/business.

Melia (Art & Training Center)

Contact: Haifa Issa
T: 02-6277333/M: 0506-010039
Arab Orthodox Society, Casa Nova Rd., New Gate, Old City, Jerusalem

Al-Mirsat

Dir.: Amal Nashashibi
M: 0544-280229
E: Al.mirsat@alqudsnet.com
2 B, Ibn Khaldoun St., POB 17402, Jerusalem
MFW: Vocational counseling & training in IT & craft development, production and promotion.

M.S. Academy

T: 02-6579911/M: 0529-017727
E: info@academy-ms.com
www.academy-ms.com
4, Al Hariri St., Jerusalem
MFW: Curriculum activities such as Tawjih exams; other courses; extra-curriculum activities such as Intelligence Mental Arithmetic (IMA), Rubik's Cube, Hebrew & English courses.

New Vision Ltd.

Dir.: Shawqi Jweiles
T: 02-5666733
E: info@newvision-learn.com
www.newvision-learn.com
18, Al-Zahra' St., Jerusalem
MFW: Hebrew language, "Thinking out of the Box", Psychometric preparation.

Omega Academy

Dir.: Khaled Salhab
T: 02-5326484/0508-862715
E: omega.academy.jerusalem@gmail.com
www.omega-academy.net
Sheikh Jarrah, POB 24184, Jerusalem 9124101

MFW: Courses for the Psychometric Entrance Test, *Bagrut*, *Tawjihi*, Hebrew & English languages, scientific writing.

Palestinian Intellectual Forum

Exec. Dir.: Dr. Amjad Shihab
T & F: 02-9965322/M: 0587-477286/0523-183616
E: shihabmaqdisi@gmail.com
22, Salah Eddin St., Jerusalem
MFW: Vocational rehabilitation, human development and awareness courses; political meetings, seminars.

Al-Quds Academy -Anta Maa'na

Dir.: Obeida Ghanem
T: 02-6271181
E: obidah_80@live.com
Az-Zahra St., Al-Quds Cinema Bldg., Jerusalem
MFW: Bagrut, Psychometric Entrance Test, and Hebrew language courses.

Rayan College of Complementary Medicine

Dir.: Hazam Joulani
T: 02-6263941
E: rayancollege0@gmail.com
Al-Zahra St., Jerusalem
MFW: Education in the field of complementary medicine, Chinese medicine, natural medicine, medical massages, skin treatment, herbalists, herbal oils, & multidisciplinary courses.

Riyadah Academy

Dir.: Wala' Kayyal
M: 0546-277450
E: Riyadhah.academy@gmail.com
96, Nablus Rd., Jerusalem
MFW: Degree in arts & music; courses in journalism, photography, nursing, Hebrew & English; qualified paramedics; Incubators.

Al-Shihab Al-Maqdisi College

Gen. Man.: Dr. Amjad Shihab
T: 02-9965322/0523-183616
E: shihabmaqdisi@gmail.com
22, Salah Al-Din St., POB 55148, Jerusalem
MFW: Vocational rehabilitation, human development and awareness courses.

Station J

Dir.: Majd Froukh
T: 02-6461741
E: info@stationj.ps
Isaaf Al-Nashashibi St., Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

MFW: Venue for entrepreneurial growth in business, research & academia; start-up lab; capacity development for better employability; guiding innovators & entrepreneurs; meetings, workshops, courses on technological topics; co-working space (office, training halls).

TALK Training Center

Dir.: Alaa Orabi
T: 02-6543434/M: 0507-636677
E: talk.training1@gmail.com
www.talk-training.org
22, Nablus St., Nuzha Bldg., Jerusalem
MFW: Programs for school students (e.g., the global Al-Khwarizmi program); Hebrew, English, French, Turkish language; Psychometric exam preparation.

Women's Center Al-Thori/Silwan

Exec. Dir.: Abeer Zayyad
T: 02-5650077/M: 0542-296602/4
E: awc-jerusalem@hotmail.com
http://acjerusalem.org/portal/
84, Abu-Tor St., Al-Thori, Jerusalem
MFW: Advancing gender equality & social justice through education, vocational training, advocacy, leadership, & humanitarian aid for women in Silwan and Al-Thori.

Young Women's Christian Association of Palestine (Palestine YWCA)

Exec. Dir.: Sandrine Amer
T: 02-6282593
E: sandrine@ywca-jerusalem.org
4, Ibn Jubeir St., Sheikh Jarrah, POB 20044, Jerusalem
MFW: Youth & women awareness, leadership & empowerment programs; civic engagement; economic justice; vocational training center (kitchen skills, photography, graphic design, office & project management, Excel, accounting, Microsoft).

Young Women's Muslim Association (YWMA)

Program Dir.: Samah Jaber
T: 02-5819148
E: info@muslim-woman.org
http://muslim-woman.org/
Imam Al-Hanbali St., Wadi Al-Joz, POB 21730, Jerusalem
MFW: Economic & social empowerment, vocational training, women awareness & education, culture preservation, child & community development, education, philanthropy & voluntarism

UNRWA

T: 02-5890400

www.unrwa.org

UNRWA-Jerusalem

MFW: Education (schools, vocational, technical & teacher training) health care, relief & welfare, social services, income-generating activities.

3. Heritage/Identity

Dar Al-Tifel Al-Arabi Museum for Palestinian Heritage

Dir.: Khaled Khatib

T: 02-6272531/0522-698089

E: dar.iltfel.museum@gmail.com

or: info@dta-museum.org

www.dta-museum.org

c/o Dar Al-Tifel Al-Arabi Organization, Abu Obaidah Al-Jarrah St., POB 19377, Jerusalem

MFW: Palestinian folklore & heritage, displays, multimedia, library and workshops.

Islamic Museum (Al-Aqsa Mosque)

Dir.: Arafat Amro

T: 02-6283286/M: 0548-085849

E: jerusalem.museum@gmail.com

Al-Haram Al-Sharif, Old City, Jerusalem

4. Culture/Arts

AlElieh for Art Science and the Environment

Founder & Dir.: Samar Kirresh

M: 0588-212020/0534-343414

E: info@elieh.space

<http://elieh.space>

Jerusalem

MFW: Educational & cultural maker space.

ARTLAB

Dir.: Ahed Izhiman

M: 0544-343798

E: ahedizhiman@gmail.com

www.artlabjerusalem.org

Dar Isaaf Nashashibi Bldg., 2nd fl., Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

MFW: Creative platform hosting trainings & cultural events; produces in-house multimedia outputs; services to organizations/businesses.

Anata Cultural Center

Head: Eng. Shireen Allam

M: 0595-537909

E: Anata_academy@yahoo.com

www.anata.ps

Al-Rifa'e Courtyard, Anata, Jerusalem

Ansan Association for Culture and Development

T: 02-6554549/M: 0532-373462

E: humansociety@gmail.com

2, Al-Zahra St., Jerusalem

MFW: Developmental, educational & fun activities for children, youth and elderly, incl. the disabled: e.g., trainings, summer camps, tours, visits to elderly & orphanage homes, etc.

Dar Isaaf Nashashibi for Culture, Arts and Literature

Dir.: Khaled Khatib

T: 02-5829038

E: info@dta-isaaf.org

www.dta-isaaf.org

1, Issaf Nashashibi St., Sheikh Jarrah, POB 19377, Jerusalem

MFW: Library, films, electronic database, manuscripts, exhibitions, poetry evenings, lectures.

Douban Professional Dance

Artistic Dir.: Hanna Tams

M: 0504-534800

E: info@doubanprofessionaldance.com

<https://doubanprofessionaldance.com>

Orthodox Club Bldg., next to Bank of Palestine, Dahiat Al-Barid, Beit Hanina, Jerusalem 67666

MFW: Produces & presents visual arts that tackle social community issues; aims to enhance society through arts; creative space for artist and talents.

The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music (ESNCM)

Jerusalem: T: 02-6263230

E: info@ncm.birzeit.edu

<http://ncm.birzeit.edu>

MFW: Music education, orchestras, festivals, productions and concerts.

Ibdaa School for Music & Art

Dir.: Milhem Bader

T: 02-5828318

E: ibdaa.school@gmail.com

Nablus St., Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

MFW: Academic curriculum (Bagrut); visiting educational and cultural institutions, an out-of-school education system; musical and artistic creativity.

Jerusalem Center for Arabic Music

T: 02-6274774/0522-915847

E: samidarwishkurd@gmail.com

Salah Eddin St., POB 20334, Jerusalem 91999

MFW: Arabic music ensembles, courses (vocals & instruments), concerts, lectures, library.

Jerusalemite Artists Forum

Dir.: Maha Idais
M: 0546-454019
E: jwafwomen@gmail.com
Shu'fat, Jerusalem

Jerusalemite Youth Cultural Forum

Gen. Dir.: Mohammad Al-Awar
T: 02-9972232/0543-083300
E: Silwan.spring@gmail.com or: Jer.youth-forum@gmail.com
<https://jycforum.com/>
Wadi Hilweh, Silwan, Jerusalem

Magnificat Institute - School of Music

Dir.: Fr. Alberto Joan Pari
T: 02-6266609
E: magnificatjerusalem@gmail.com
www.magnificat.custodia.org
Monastery of St. Saviour, inside New Gate, Old City, POB 186, Jerusalem 9100101
MFW: Pre-academic & academic musical education, classical performances.

Nakhleh Esheber Institute

Dir.: Yacoub Abu Arafah
T & F: 02-5321634
E: contact@nakhlehesheber.org
2, Ibn Khaldoun St., POB 19290, Jerusalem
MFW: Children arts activities, theater, music and drama workshop.

Oushaq Arts Center

M: 0525-300038
E: info@oushaq.ps
Union of Arab Orthodox Club Bldg., Wadi Al-Joz, Jerusalem
MFW: Traditional, classical & contemporary dance, folkloric arts, summer camps.

Palestinian Art Court – Al-Hoash

Chair: Tarek Bakri
T: 02-6273501
E: alhoash@alhoashgallery.org
www.alhoashgallery.org
7, Az-Zahra St., Az-Zaituna Bldg., POB 20460, Jerusalem

Palestinian National Theater (Al-Hakawati)

Dir.: Amer Khalil
T: 02-6280957/M: 0522-894454
E: info@pnt-pal.org
or: amer.khalil@pnt-pal.org

4, Abu Obeida St., Nuzha Bldg., POB 20462, Jerusalem
MFW: Promoting art in general and theatre in particular.

Pontifical Mission Educational and Cultural Center

Head: Monnitte Velasco Monana
T & F: 02-2743077
E: pmecc@pmp.co.il
Frere St., corner University St., POB 219, Bethlehem, POB 19256, Jerusalem

QAFILAH Movingstage Theater-Caravan

Gen. Dir.: Imad Mitwalli
T: 02-6272080/M: 0547-265453/6-684382
E: qafilah@yahoo.com
www.qafilah.org
Isa'f Al-Nashashibi St., Sheikh Jarrah, POB 67560, Jerusalem
MFW: Mobile stage on a long truck equipped with all technical facilities needed; aims to reach a wide range of Palestinian audience.

Al-Ruwah Theater

Gen. Dir.: Raul Abu Anor
M: 0522-279607
E: alruwahtheatre@gmail.com
www.alruwahtheatre.weebly.com
8, Old City, POB 54171, Jerusalem

Sabreen Association for Artistic Development

Gen. Dir.: Said Murad
T: 050-5566993
E: sabreen@sabreen.org
www.sabreen.org
Dar Issaf Nashashibi, Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem
MFW: Music production & education; teacher training; community cultural development; technical training & sound engineering.

Sanabel Culture & Arts Theatre

Artistic Dir.: Ahmad Abu Saloum
T: 02-6714338/0522-286188
E: sanabel_theater@yahoo.com
22, Al-Thori, POB 51865, Jerusalem
MFW: Theatre, drama teaching, puppet production, workshops, community awareness, heritage, training puppet theatre & music (Oud).

Siwar for Culture & Arts

Head: Mahmoud Baidoun
T: 02-6278996/0546-806678
E: info@siwar.org
www.siwar.org
15, Al-Asfahani St., Qutub Bldg., Jerusalem

Terra Sancta Museum

T: 02-6270467/66208
 E: info@terrasanctamuseum.org
 www.terrasanctamuseum.org
 Monastery of the Flagellation, Via Dolorosa St. 1, Old City, Jerusalem

Theatre Day Productions - Ayyam Al-Masrah

Artistic Dir.: Jan Willems
 T: 02-5854513/0522-750030
 E: tdp@theatreday.org
 www.theatreday.org
 POB 18669, Jerusalem 9118502

Vision Association for Culture & Arts – VACA (House of Hope)

Manar Wahhab, Milad Vosgueritchian
 T & F: 02-2794274
 E: info@supportinghouseofhope.org
 https://houseofhope.vision
 Ras Kubsa, Bethany, Jerusalem
 MFW: Informal & Waldorf education, peace building & encounters for youth, women empowerment, vision school & kindergarten, art & music programs.

Yabous Cultural Centre

T: 02-6261045
 E: admin@yabous.org
 http://yabous.org
 10, Az-Zahra St., POB 54874, Jerusalem
 MFW: Producing & organizing arts & cultural programs, events & festivals; promoting Palestinian artists; book launches; children art programs & summer camps, cinema screenings art exhibitions.

Yunus Emre Turkish Cultural Center

Dir.: Reha Ermumcu
 T: 02-5794934/5176
 E: kodus@yee.org.tr
 16, Az-Zahra St., Jerusalem
 MFW: Turkish language courses; artistic and cultural events.

5. Community Development**Abnaa Al-Quds Club**

Dir.: Alaa' Jamjoum
 M: 0528-986877
 E: abnaalquds@hotmail.com
 Old City, As-Sadieh neighborhood, Jerusalem
 MFW: Empowerment & capacity-building programs for disadvantaged children, youth and women.

ACT for Alternative Dispute Resolution and Studies

Dir.: Mohammed Hadieh
 T: 02-2353861
 E: info@actconflictresolution.org
 https://actconflictresolution.org
 Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
 MFW: Consolidate the values of citizenship and civil peace, maintain & resolve conflicts; arbitration, mediation, and legal services.

African Community Society

Exec. Dir.: Mousa Qous
 T & F: 02-6288711
 E: african.1983@gmail.com
 www.afropalestinians.org
 Al-Wad St., Ala' Al-Din Rd., Old City, POB 66970, Jerusalem

Aswar Al-Quds

Dir.: Bashar Abu Shamsieh
 M: 0523-522199
 E: aswaralquds@gmail.com
 Jerusalem
 MFW: Publishing magazines, research and articles, tourist guides, extracurricular teaching of history for school students.

Atta'a Center

Dir.: Daoud Alayan
 M: 0506-968800
 E: info@attaacenter.org
 www.attaacenter.org
 Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
 MFW: Awareness of rights; workshops, lectures for high school students and adults; services to the Arab population of Jerusalem; ongoing one-on-one work with residents.

Burj Al-Luqluq Social Center Society

Exec. Dir.: Muntaser Edkaidek
 T: 02-6277626
 E: info@burjalluqluq.org
 www.burjalluqluq.org
 Bab Hutta, Old City, POB 20894, Jerusalem
 MFW: Youth initiatives, sports facilities & programs, volunteering, computer lab, life skills development.

Al-Bustan Association Silwan

Coord.: Naheel Bazbazat
 T: 02-6286615
 M: 0503-046767
 E: al-bustan@bas.ps
 www.bas.ps
 17, Main St., Silwan, Jerusalem

MFW: Provide a safe environment for children, youth and families to be aware, empowered and active with regard to their rights and duties; promote volunteerism.

The Center for Democracy & Community Development (CDCD)

Gen. Dir.: Walid Salem
M: 0547-652907
E: walidsociety@gmail.com
Jerusalem

MFW: Promoting democracy & citizenship, national existence preservation & community development studies and practices.

Civic Forum Institute (CFI)

Exec. Dir.: Mohammed Abu Diab
T: 02-6441300/M: 0593-821443/0545-451784
E: Muhammad@cfips.org
3, Al-Firdaws St., Shufat Rd., Alley 3, Shu'fat, Jerusalem 9119700

MFW: Works on building & strengthening the foundations of democracy in Palestine and developing Palestinian civil society organizations.

Community Action Centre (CAC)

Dir.: Dr. Munir Nuseibah
T: 02-6273352/60782
E: cac@cac.alquds.edu
<http://cac.alquds.edu>
37, A'qabet Al-Khaldiyeh, Old City, POB 38706, Jerusalem

MFW: Legal services for addressing the discriminatory policies affecting Palestinian residents of Jerusalem; documentation; community & international advocacy.

Community Care Institution

Dir.: Mohammad Elayyan
T: 02-6285451/72811
E: wadijoz@matnasim.org.il
7, Baha'a Eddin St., Wadi Al-Joz, POB 20345, Jerusalem
MFW: Kindergarten, kids & extracurricular activities, summer camps, volunteering, leadership & vocational training, health, sport, computer & cultural programs, women & disabled empowerment, elderly care.

Domari Society of Gypsies in Jerusalem

Dir.: Amoun Sleem
T: 02-5324510/0528-022895
E: domarisociety@gmail.com
<http://domarisociety.com/>
10 Shu'fat Rd., Qudumi House, Shu'fat, Jerusalem

Grassroots Al-Quds

Dir.: Khaled Farrag
T: 02-9665655
E: info@grassrootsalquds.org
www.grassrootsalquds.net
9, Harun Al-Rashid St., Qutub Bldg., 3rd fl., POB 49379, Jerusalem
MFW: Research, mapping, mobilizing, networking, political tours & analysis.

International Peace and Cooperation Center (IPCC)

Chairman: Dr. Rami Nasrallah
T: 073-3346320
E: info@ipcc-jerusalem.org
www.ipcc-jerusalem.org
21, Ard Al-Samar, Issawiya Rd., Sheikh Jarrah, POB 24162, Jerusalem
MFW: Urbanism, community engagement, training for an informed, competent & active society, able of defending its social, economic & political rights; participatory democracy.

Jerusalem House Center

Dir.: Ibtisam Sbeitan Kiswani
T: 02-6264435
E: jerusalem.housa@gmail.com
Al-Asfahani St., Jerusalem
MFW: Developing civil society; youth & women empowerment; legal & psychosocial counseling; skills development; voluntary work; training courses; educational assistance.

Library on Wheels for Non-violence & Peace

Project Coord.: Nafez Assaily
M: 0599-291627/0522-229897
E: narahmeh@gmail.com
POB 20961, Jerusalem 9120803
MFW: Peace & nonviolence education, house of non-violence, democracy, and tolerance.

Al-Maqdese for Society Developing (MSD)

Dir.: Moaz Za'tari
T: 02-6285918/6278997/M: 0547-520249
E: info@al-maqdese.org
Al-Maqdese St., Wadi Al-Joz, POB 20735, Jerusalem

Mariam Association for Society Development

Dir.: Malek Zablah
M: 0544-430309
E: Miriam.association@gmail.com
Nablus Rd., Jerusalem
MFW: Cultural, youth, social & psychological programs; 'Bader' initiative (young meets old at elderly homes).

Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy

Dir.: Lucy Nusseibeh

T: 02-6567310

E: lucy@mendonline.org

www.mendonline.org

16, Salah Eddin St., Jerusalem

MFW: Nonviolence training; youth & women empowerment projects; participatory video; summer camps; human security.

Mubaderon Foundation for Social Development

Dir.: Mousa Abbasi

M: 0527-751045

E.: Mubaderron.ps@gmail.com

Ras Al-Amud, near Panorama Hotel, Jerusalem

MFW: Heritage, educational & operational activities & festivals; activities for the elderly & orphans; community-based initiatives.

**Nidal Center for Community Development
(closed by Israel)**

Dir.: Mahmoud Jaddeh

T: 0529-581009

E: jivvah101@yahoo.com

Churches St., Old City, Jerusalem

Old City Counseling Center – Caritas Jerusalem

Sec. Gen.: Sr. Bridget Tighe FMDM

T: 02-6287574

E: caritas@caritasjr.org

www.caritasjr.org

c/o Notre Dame Center, 3, Paratroopers Rd.,
POB 31426, Jerusalem 91204

MFW: Social & psychological (individual, group & family) counseling; women's awareness & education; prevention programs.

One Hand for Issawiya

Dir.: Yousef Obeid

M: 0537-310215

E: maramdweik1996@hotmail.com

Issawiya

Sada Movement

E: heraksada@gmail.com

Jerusalem

MFW: Student initiative to document & raise awareness on marginalized Palestinian issues through artistic tools.

Saraya Center for Community Services

Head: Ruqaya Idkeidek

T: 02-6260017/02-6283374

E: admin@alsaraya-center.org

www.alsaraya-center.org

POB 09436 Jerusalem, 91193

MFW: Improving life skills for women, children & youth; awareness & development programs.

Sinsila Center

M: 0546-433288

E: sinsilaproject@gmail.com

MFW: Environmental projects (roof-top gardening, irrigation systems, beekeeping); sustainability/nature-preserving projects.

Spafford Children's Center

Head: Shahd Sourì

T: 02-6284875/74586/61897

E: spafford.jerusalem@gmail.com

www.spaffordcenter.org

Hart Sa'adiyah, Old City, POB 19991, Jerusalem

MFW: Remedial teaching & psychosocial depts., education, occupational & speech therapy, art, music, psychodrama; women empowerment.

Sumud (Steadfastness) Camp

Spokesman: Mahfouz Abu Turk

T & F: 02-6726346/M: 0537-748932

E: abuturk@hotmail.com

POB 69170, East Jerusalem

**The Trust of Programs for Early Childhood
Family & Community Education**

Dir.: Farid Abu-Ghosh

T: 02-6260836/5829842

E: trust@trust-programs.org

www.trust-programs.org

Abraj Al-Quds, Main St., Shu'fat, Jerusalem

MFW: Community empowerment; improving the quality of life of the Palestinians through education & leadership development; programs for volunteers, mothers, teachers and women.

Volunteer for Hope

Head: Sylvia Abu Laban

M: 0549-499679/0593-089322

E: volunteerforhope2018@gmail.com

Dahyat Al-Salam, Jerusalem

MFW: Support to people with special needs; family building, protection and self-empowerment; volunteering.

Wadi Hilweh Information Center – Silwan

Dir.: Jawad Siyam

T: 02-6278003/M: 0546-880302/0549-272506

E: info@silwanic.net

www.silwanic.net

Silwan, near the Mosque, opp. sport field,
Wadi Hilweh, Jerusalem

MFW: Revealing the facts, history of Silwan & Israeli violations and settler actions.

6. Sports/Leisure

Abnaa Al-Quds Club

T: 0543-884681

E: abnaalquds@hotmail.com

www.aaquds.weebly.com

Al-Saadiya neighborhood, Old City, Jerusalem

MFW: Cultural, social, educational and sports activities for youth.

Alfa Gym

Owner: Rania Khweis

M: 0543-994269

E: rkhweis14@hotmail.com

Main St., Al-Nur Bldg., 3rd fl., Beit Hanina

MFW: Fitness exercises; aerobics; belly dance; zumba; body sculpt; Capoeira for children.

Al-Ansar Al-Maqdese Club

Pres.: Ramadan Taha

M: 0587-873608

80, Wadi Qaddoum St., Ras Al-Amud, Wadi

Qaddoum, Jerusalem

MFW: Sports & educational activities, summer camps.

Arab Orthodox Union Club- Jerusalem

Dir.: Musa Jarjou'i

T: 02-2340808/0509-667888

E: Aocj1942@gmail.com

Dahiet Al-Barid Junction, Hanina or Al-Hariri

St., Wadi Joz, Jerusalem

MFW: Sports & scout activities.

The Arab Sport Center

Gen. Man.: Fuad Obeidi

T: 02-6288512/M: 0547-672483

E: arabsportcenter@yahoo.com

6, Al-Hariri St., POB 51892, Jerusalem

MFW: Martial arts & physical fitness.

Al-Arabi Beit Safafa Sports Club

Dir.: Fadi Abed Rabbo

M: 0507-391829/0505-649254

E: Alarabe1969@hotmail.com

Beit Safafa, Jerusalem

MFW: Professional qualification, individual & team sport, young leadership, volunteering.

Awlad Haretna

Contact: Mahran Salman

M: 0525-904091/0545-672976

E: awlad.haretna@hotmail.com

<https://awladharetnablog.wordpress.com/>

Beit Safafa

MFW: Social activities; guidance for youth, mothers & parents; activating the role of youth; karate, Dabkeh.

Beat Fitness & Dance Studio

Co-Dir.: Ola Assali & Sari Hussein

T: 0548-378477/0546-300833

E: bfitness.dance@gmail.com

108, Shufat, Al-Sahel, Jerusalem

MFW: Aerobic; Zumba; Pilates; Yoga; Boxing; Dance Fitness courses.

Beit Hanina Youth Club

Sec.: Mohammad Sbeih

M: 0547-282627

E: beithaninayouthclub@gmail.com

14, Khalil Al-Sakakini St., Beit Hanina

MFW: Football, basketball, fighting games, female sports.

Butterfly Swimming Academy

Dir.: Majed Abu Rmaileh

M: 0549-497373

E: butterfly_swimming@hotmail.com

Jerusalem

MFW: Swimming courses.

The Capital Club

Head: Firas Abu Mayaleh

M: 0522-990097

E: info@pat.ps

www.pat.ps

Az-Zahra St., Tazziz Bldg., Jerusalem

MFW: Sports academy offering football and basketball; awareness & community courses.

The Capital Equestrian Club

M: 0523-311992

Beit Hanina, Jerusalem

MFW: Horseback riding; horse boarding.

De La Salle Club - Jerusalem

Exec Dir.: Wisam Zou'mot

T: 02-6281040/M: 0505-234758

E: delasalle@bezeqint.net

New Gate, Old City, Jerusalem

MFW: Summer camps; training of mentoring, coaching, basketball & fitness training, social programs.

Eastern Sawahreh Club

Exec. Dir.: Shawqi Shqairat

M: 0524-524557

E: Sawa7raclub@gmail.com

Eastern Sawahreh, Jerusalem

MFW: Sports activities; educational programs for school & university students; monitoring accounting courses; young leadership course.

Elite Sports Academy

Dir.: Ahmad Qandil
T: 052-2957910
E: ahmad.kandeel23@gmail.com
Lerner Family Sports Center, French Hill, Jerusalem
MFW: Basketball, football, dancing, summer camps.

Hammer Gym

T: 02-5959072/M: 0543-574784
Beit Hanina, Jerusalem

Hilal Al-Quds Club

Head: Daa Shweiki
Exec. Dir.: Jamal Ghosheh
T: 02-6274192/0522-407792
E: hilalalquds@gmail.com
Al-Idresi St., POB 51036, Jerusalem
MFW: Football, table tennis, boxing, Scouts, Karate, swimming, computer; summer camps.

Al-Issawiya Sports Club

Dir.: Aziz Ebeib
T: 02-6228322/M: 0568-786324/0546-947335
E: esaweyyahclub@gmail.com
1, Zaki Obaid St., Al-Basateen, Al-Issawiya
MFW: Sport (football, basketball, self-defense, swimming, fencing, bodybuilding); scouting; various youth courses; awareness raising; program for people with learning difficulties.

Husseini Youth Committee

Contact: Khaled Jamal Al-Husseini
M: 0525-577570
E: khaledjhusseini@gmail.com
Sheikh Jarrah, POB 21750, Jerusalem

Jabal Al-Zaitoun Sports Club

Exec Dir.: Musa Abu Ghannam
T.: 02-6642552/M: 0546-694018
E: nadijalzeton@hotmail.com
Sulaiman Al-Farisi St., At-Tur, Jerusalem
MFW: Sports activity; football; scout band; artistic band for both sexes.

Jerusalem Association of Youth Welfare

Chairman.: Rudain Shehadeh
M: 0595-099518 /0523-839896
E: t.shabab@hotmail.com
Jerusalem

MFW: Enhance the creative abilities of youth, strengthening their role; coexistence camps with security services; non-violence, young leadership programs; summer camps; awareness & after-school activities; Dabkeh for girls.

Jerusalem Basketball Academy

Dir.: Khaled Barakat
M: 0525-690083
E: Khaleddaw1@gmail.com
Rab'a Adawieah St., At-Tur, Jerusalem
MFW: Basketball activities for Girls.

Jerusalem Clubs Federation

Head: Ahmad Srour
T: 02-582364/M: 0522-407792/0505-937109
Contact: Jamal Ghosheh: M: 0522-407792
E: clubsfederation@gmail.com
www.clubsfederation.wixsite.com/jer-clubs-federation
Al-Masoudi St., POB 67127, Jerusalem
MFW: Sports; athletics & single championships.

Jerusalem Girls' Association

Head: Inaam Shakhshir
T: 02-6554540/M: 0587-066998
E: j.g.as@hotmail.com
www.arb-art.org
Al-Qarami neighborhood, Old City, Jerusalem
MFW: Courses: fruit shaping art; wax shaping; soap making; stone & ceramics; hairstyling/coiffure.

Jerusalem Swimming Academy

Head: Ibrahim Al-Tawil
T: 02-6261414/M: 0505-258144/0505-935852
E: Mohmtdawil1986@gmail.com
YMCA Bldg., West Jerusalem
MFW: Swimming teaching & rescue qualification of swimming coaches.

Kana'an Youth Association

Dir.: Fadi Alayan
T: 02-6501712/M: 0543-008927
E: elia.youth@yahoo.com
Al-Sharif Bldg., Salah Eddin St., Jerusalem
MFW: Youth events in Jerusalem; media skills training, seminars, researches, media services.

Kufr Aqab Sports Club

Pres.: Hani Al-Bashiti
M: 0598-345297/0504-402084
Schools St., Zughayyar area, Kufr Aqab
MFW: Scout training, Dabkeh, awareness-raising courses for children & youth.

Life Makers

Coord.: Mohammad Salah
M: 0547-855674
E: life.makers.alquds@gmail.com
Jerusalem

MFW: Capacity building, cultural & social community serving activities for youth; Ambassadors of Palestine program.

Menino Bom Academy- Al-Tifl Al-Jayed

Head: Muhannad Shehadeh
M: 0549-062585
E: capoeira-jerusalem.m-b@hotmail.com
Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
MFW: Gymnastics, music & capoeira; educational & sports program; summer camps.

Muazapheen (Employees) Sport Club-Jerusalem

Pres.: Mousa Al-Khurs
M: 0522-517709
E: Muazapheen_club@yahoo.com
www.muazapheenclub.com
Aqbet Hab Ruman, Old City, Jerusalem
MFW: Football, chess, ping pong, judo & karate; cultural & social activities, visits/heritage tours.

Old City Youth Association (OCYA)

Dir.: Sameer Amro
T & F: 02-6262023/M: 0523-720608
E: oldcityay1990@yahoo.com
Al-Wad St., Suq Al-Qatannin, Old City, Jerusalem
MFW: Awareness workshops, Dabkeh training, cultural exchanges, youth and summer camps.

PALDivers Diving Club

Dir.: Samir Sharif
M: 0507-727884
E: info@paldivers.com
27, Salah Eddin St., POB 20461, Jerusalem
MFW: Diving; marine environmental protection project in schools; public swimming & safety.

Palestinian Council of Young Political Leaders (PCYPL)

Head of Board: Waleed Wahdan
T & F: 02-2966093 /M: 0562-001738
E: ahmad_safi@windowslive.com
Ramallah downtown, POB 67460 Jerusalem

Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation - PYALARA

Dir. Gen.: Hania Al-Bitar
T: 02-2346710
E: pyalara@pyalara.org
www.pyalara.org

Jaba' Village, Old City, next to Atqiya' Old Mosque, POB 54065, Jerusalem
MFW: Specialized youth media, youth empowerment, involvement, leadership & participation; online web magazine.

PalVision (Ru'ya)

Dir.: Rami Naser Eddin
T & F: 02-6285080
E: info@palvision.ps
www.palvision.ps
Rashid St., Chamber of Commerce Bldg., 5th fl., POB 69111, Jerusalem
MFW: Mobilize & empower youth, preserve their collective identity; initiate youth-led sustainable development through voluntarism, social activism, entrepreneurship, lobbying & advocacy.

Al-Quds Al-Ahli Club

Dir.: Dr. Abdul Latif Al-Husseini
M: 0535-214655
E: ahliqudsclub@yahoo.com
Ibn Al-Zubeir St., Wadi Al-Joz, Jerusalem
MFW: Basketball and a table tennis school.

Al-Quds Sports Club

T: 02-626-2607
E: alqudsclub@hotmail.com
20, Haroun Al-Rashid St., Jerusalem
MFW: Cultural, sports & social activities.

Al-Rajaa Academy for Development & Sports

T: 02-6733144/M: 0546-000502
E: info@alrajaa.org
www.alrajaa.org
5, Ramallah Rd., Beit Hanina, Jerusalem
MFW: Sports (gymnastics, football, karate, yoga); arts/drawing; music; life skills; summer camps; thinking skills; Dialogue & Positive Behavior Support Program for schools.

Right to Movement- Jerusalem

Contact: Mahmoud Lafi
www.facebook.com/rtmjerusalem
MFW: Increase focus on the right of freedom of movement; sports and fitness activities.

Sharafat Sports Club

Dir.: Saleh Abdel Nabi
M: 0525-555089
E: saleh.mohh69@gmail.com
Sharafat, Jerusalem
MFW: sports and social activities.

Shu'fat Sports Club

Dep. Pres.: Eyad Oudetallah
M: 0546-259657
E: shufatclub@hotmail.com
Shu'fat, Jerusalem
MFW: Football Academy; sports & scout program, women's programs.

Shu'fat Youth Activities Center

Dir.: Mohammad Al-Bahari
M: 0522-262227
T: 02-6723445 (Popular Committee)
E: shufatyac12@gmail.com
c/o Palestinian Child Center, Shu'fat Camp, Jerusalem
MFW Athletic training, football, advocacy & awareness-raising human rights workshops.

Silwan Athletic Club

Dir.: Marwan Bashiti
M: 0537-627294/0527-751045
E: info@silwanclub.ps
Ras Al-Amud, Jerusalem

Spartans Fitness & Health Club

Founder: Mahmoud Sharaf
T: 02-6281616/M: 0504-870050/0504-900170/0525-528850
E: sharafmah17@gmail.com or: Sharaf@thespartans.club
35, Hayotstk, Atarot
MFW: Functional training, body workout cardio.

Sur Baher Islamic Club

Exec.: Iyad Attoun
T: 02-9918205/M: 0505-374982/0599-758070
Wadi Al-Hummus, Sur Baher, Jerusalem
MFW: Sports activities; seminars.

Sur Baher Sports Club

Dir.: Ashraf Amara
M: 0505-502204/0502-787855
Makaffa St., Sur Baher, Jerusalem
MFW: Football, table tennis, scouts.

Terra Sancta Parish Center

Exec. Dir.: Khaled Yousef Naber
T: 02-5834302/M: 0507-942548
E: terrasactcenter@gmail.com
www.tspcenter.org
Beit Hanina, POB 20089, Jerusalem
MFW: Cultural, sport & social activities.

Al-Thouri Youth Club

Deputy Club Pres.: Khaled Shweiki
M: 0526-007113/0543-265193
E: althouriclub@gmail.com
Islamic Orphans School, Ath-Thori, Jerusalem
MFW: Al-Samoud group building identity awareness; culture & academic strengthening; scout program.

Um Tuba Club

Exec.: Nour Abu Tair
T: 02-6716122/0503-138702
E: noorabutair@gmail.com
12, Al-Bara' St., Um Tuba, Jerusalem
MFW: Sport, social & cultural activities.

YMCA - Fitness & Sports Department

Dir.: Michel Asfour
T: 02-6286888
E: masfour@ej-ymca.org
Jerusalem

Youth Development Department (YDD)

Exec. Dir.: Mazen Jabari
T: 02-2343352/5899366
E: ydd@orienthouse.org
c/o Arab Studies Society, Bab Al-Hawa St., Shuqair Bldg., 1st fl., Dahiet Al-Barid, POB 54374, Jerusalem
MFW: Help in job search; placements for graduates (paying their salaries for a period); tours to Palestinian locations in the country.

Youth for Jerusalem Association for Culture & Arts (YFJA)

Exec. Dir.: Khalil Qabani
T: 02-6518580/M: 0559-692529
E: yfja.jerusalem@gmail.com
Al-Zahra' St., Al-Cinema Bldg., 1st fl., Jerusalem
MFW: Promoting cultural identity; encouraging creativity, creating a more scientific, literary & artistic society, educational/technical classes; Dabkeh; theater; film-making; art exhibitions.

Y-Peer Palestine

(Operates under UNFPA)
Contact: Farah Jibreen
M: 0544-430551
E: jibreen@unfpa.org
MFW: Education, training, workshops related to gender equality, gender-based violence, social stigma, sexual & reproductive health, to empower young people to empower each other.

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