



Y.W.C.A.

Annual Report | 2023

YWCA Palestine
“Leading Change, Building Future”



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2023

► MESSAGE FROM YWCA Palestine

Throughout 2023, the YWCA of Palestine, through its member associations, stayed the course towards development and achievement. This reflected positively on the quality of the implemented programs that aimed to bring about change and sow hope in the lives of our direct beneficiaries (most of whom are women and youth) in addition to making an indirect positive impact on our Palestinian society at large.

Despite the dreadful political and economic conditions of our Palestinian people, and which deteriorated in the last quarter of 2023, we have succeeded in developing multiple partnerships with new donors and local grassroots institutions. This has been crucial to accomplish our goals, implement our programs and achieve the best results and outputs at the local level.

At the international level, we have worked to highlight the rights of our people to freedom and independence through advocacy campaigns that we launched or participated in. We have harnessed the various platforms available to communicate the suffering of our people to the world, and raise the voice of women, young women and men in Palestine who are eager to build a better future for themselves and their society.

Internally, 2023 represented a paradigm shift in enhancing the institutional environment and developing the staff. This was in cooperation with the Board of Directors, which contributed to mobilizing resources, improving workflow and achieving sustainability. This was also in line with our strategic plan of 2022-2026, the goals of which focus on economic empowerment for women and young women (to help them access economic opportunities and decent work), social innovation (to contribute to youth building and developing local communities), and realizing a Palestinian society that exercises an approach based on respect for human rights, in addition to preserving the historical legacy of the YWCA, its member associations, and their administrative and financial sustainability.



In terms of programs, we were able to overcome various challenges. We completed several projects on the ground and launched new ones that touched the lives of thousands of women and youth in various Palestinian governorates within the West Bank and Gaza Strip, especially in marginalized areas and refugee camps.

We signed memorandums of understanding and cooperation agreements with international and local partners, including institutions, community centers, youth clubs and women's associations for joint cooperation within programs we invest in. We have also worked to enhance the YWCA identity and media presence through social media platforms and local media.

Our pride in what we offer to our Palestinian society is our motivation; it steers us to enhance our partnerships with all components and groups of people, wherever they are.

We are grateful for all friends, partners, and donors (both institutions and individuals, at the local and international levels), who believe in the mission of the YWCA and its great role. Without you, we would not have been able to achieve our goals.

We also thank the heads and members of the boards of directors of the associations, the administrative and executive bodies, and the volunteers, both men and women, who carry the message and continue to work towards achieve the noble goals of enhancing of our human resources and influencing society at large, wishing them all luck and continued success.



We will continue our interventions for amplifying effective membership of young women in our member associations to ensure their representation and engagement in decision-making. We will also proceed to enhance the sustainability of our associations in Ramallah, Jericho, and Bethlehem, and the East Jerusalem YWCA, through programs and projects that contribute to resource development and which preserve their historical heritage and particularity.

We look forward to continuing our work and accomplishments during the remaining of the year 2024. We remain dedicated to achieve our strategic goals, and to realize a Palestinian society that enjoys equality, freedom, dignity and justice, and exercises all its rights.

YWCA Palestine at a Glance

In 2023, the YWCA celebrated the 130th anniversary of its establishment in Palestine. To this moment, the association continues to build on its legacy that extends throughout history of serving the country and society at various levels.

The YWCA is a Palestinian, non-profit, membership-based organization that was initiated in Jaffa in 1893, and formally established in Jerusalem in 1918. It includes four grassroots associations in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Jericho, and Bethlehem.



We aspire to establish a free, democratic civil society that enables women and youth to exercise and protect their political, economic and social rights. Our work is mainly focused in three areas: leadership and civic engagement, economic justice, and just peace. We adopt the human rights-based approach, as all our programs and work in the field of lobbying and advocacy are based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The YWCA of Palestine is affiliated with the World YWCA, which works for the empowerment of women, young women and girls in more than 100 countries around the world and has a special advisory status in the United Nations Social and Economic Council. YWCAs around the world share one goal: "By 2035, 100 million young women and girls will transform power structures to create justice, gender equality and a world without violence and war; leading a sustainable YWCA movement, inclusive of all women."

Our Vision: Women and youth, particularly young women, are leading society towards change and development to help attain a Palestinian civil society where equality, freedom and social justice prevail.

Our Mission: The YWCA is a national women's association that seeks to enhance and promote the role of women and youth, especially young women, in decision-making processes, leadership and entrepreneurship positions in society by strengthening their leadership initiative capacities, enhancing opportunities for their participation and gender equality in civic life, and creating a society that embodies equality, freedom, tolerance, justice, peace and human dignity.

► Principles and Values

The following values and principles guide the work of the YWCA of Palestine:



Participation

Participation in decision-making



Transparency and Accountability

Transparency in accessing information



Ownership

Adopting an approach based on the target group's needs



Sustainability

Establishing community partnerships that are capable of leading activities



Nationalism

Adopting national concepts of belonging, loyalty and commitment to national unity

► Our Theory of Change

The YWCA's theory of change is based on the firm belief that our young Palestinian women - if they are given the opportunities and necessary support - can build a better future for all, filled with freedom and justice. Thus, we aim to empower women and young women by enhancing their participation in cultural, educational and economic activities and increasing awareness of their individual and national rights so they can defend these rights in a manner that promotes the principles of equality and active participation between them and young men in the various areas and fields.

► Impact of Our Interventions

- The role of 4,000 young people was enhanced and their abilities, skills, knowledge, and orientations as male and female leaders in society were developed.
- The human rights and legal awareness of 100,000 women and young women was raised through various means and media tools.
- More than 10,000 people benefited from the various activities organized by the YWCA: conferences, workshops, and establishing safe spaces.
- More than 40 young men and women were empowered to establish their income-generating economic projects in the northern and southern governorates.

- The level of social and economic well-being of 1,500 people, including young women, men and children, was improved.
- More than 5,000 people, including 2,700 women and young women, exerted efforts for a just peace in Palestine.
- The capacities of 100 grassroots institutions were built, and their societal and developmental role of building a better situation for Palestinian youth was strengthened, to serve as safe spaces to enable young people to freely express their opinions and beliefs without restrictions or threats.
- About 300 boys and girls in refugee camps have access to safe health and educational environments. We also provided psychological and social support services to 300 children.
- Mobilization and organization of 1,000 young men and women as volunteers at the YWCA.
- More than 20 international partners have supported our activities and programs that are aimed at achieving a free and democratic civil society.

Impact of Our Programs

We are working to make all our programs and interventions compatible in order to be developmental and more inclusive, balancing social, economic and environmental sustainability, and complying with national and international best practices within the various frameworks of international conventions. We have worked to include all the global development goals adopted by the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the various interventions and activities to reduce poverty, achieve justice and equality, build the capacity of institutions, enable and strengthen them to achieve a just peace, quality education, decent work and economic growth.

Continuous Development

On the internal level, and with the support and funding of the YWCA-YMCA of Sweden, we continued to build the capabilities of the work team and strengthened our overall structure, based on the principles of transparency, good governance, professionalism, and sustainability standards. We also worked towards digital transformation and growth in line with global changes.

We held several workshops in strategic planning for programs and projects, and had periodic meetings to follow up on and exchange ideas on work processes towards achieving the desired success.

We designed and published the 2022 annual report, and continue to work on developing and updating policies, including the financial procedures' manual, gender policies, communications, visibility and social media platforms.

The generous funding and support provided by the YWCA-YMCA of Sweden contributed to overcoming all obstacles to the achievement of these various activities, both internally as well as in cooperation with specialized consultants.

► **Advocacy, International Representation and Youth Exchange**

The YWCA of Palestine has strengthened its role in highlighting the Palestinian cause and the rights of its people, especially in what relates to women and youth.

At the local level, we had various advocacy activities aimed at influencing policies and legislation, as we remain dedicated to raising awareness of human rights and addressing various aspects of violence and discrimination of which both sexes are victims.



Meanwhile, advocacy at the international level has presented a unique opportunity for the YWCA of Palestine to highlight the status of Palestinian women and youth, as well as raise voices and demands, while shedding light on the challenges they face – particularly those due to the Occupation and the patriarchal society practices that limit their participation. We thus

worked to strengthen and expand partnerships nationally, regionally, and internationally as supporters and donors of the YWCA in its vision and goals. We also proceeded to call the international community to take the necessary measures to protect, support and empower Palestinian women by strengthening the human rights system in Palestine and adhering to the international agreements to which it has joined.

Adoption of two resolutions by the World YWCA Council

The YWCA of Palestine participated virtually in the 30th World Council, which took place from November 27 to December 1, 2023.

During the global meeting, the World YWCA Council adopted a resolution on just peace, which was prepared by the YWCA of Palestine in cooperation with Y-Global Norway, and presentation of the YMCA-YWCA Denmark, with the support of YWCAs in 13 countries.

The Council also adopted a resolution submitted by the YWCA of Palestine on behalf of the YWCAs in the Middle East (Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt) on promoting the human rights in and ensuring the sustainability of these YWCAs, after obtaining the support of YWCAs in 17 countries.

The Palestinian delegation to the 30th World Council was led by the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Luma Tarazi, and included the General Secretary Amal Tarazi, along with members Lana Rabadi, Sandrine Amer, Selina Abdallah, and Dana Qassis. An observer delegation also participated, including members Vera Pano, Rabab Musleh, Arda Aghazarian, Ruba Odeh, Mayadah Tarazi, Lara Khammash, Nidal Abu Al-Zuluf, Manar Sharouf, Yara Abd Rabbo, Juliana Majrouh, Ekhlās Abu Zir, Lina Rabadi, and Shereen Ajrab.



Palestinian Jerusalemite Mira Rizeq was re-elected as the President of the World YWCA for a new term (2023-2027). Rizeq, who previously served as the General Secretary of the YWCA of Palestine from April 2006 until her election as the World YWCA president in 2019, secured the majority of votes in the elections. Her re-election reaffirms the success she achieved during her four years as head of the World Board, making her the first Palestinian to hold this position in the association's history. In addition to Mira Rizeq's re-election, Selina Abdallah, also from Palestine, was elected as a young woman member for the World Board, representing the Middle East. The board comprises 20 women representing eight geographical regions.

Participation in the CSW67 in New York

The YWCA of Palestine participated in the 67th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) in New York, which had the theme: “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”.

Three delegates attended the NGO CSW67 from the YWCA of Palestine, headed by the General Secretary Amal Tarazi and two youth members representing the local associations Zeina Ayyad and Dalia Shomaly from March 5-12, 2023.

The delegates organized an in-person parallel event titled: “The Palestinian Young Women Practices of Their Digital Rights, Challenges and Aspiration”. It shed light on the suffering of women in Palestine (including those under the Israeli occupation), and the social and economic challenges facing young women in exercising their rights, maintaining their digital security, and protecting themselves from cybercrimes.

We also organized a parallel webinar in partnership with the World YWCA and within the YW4A programme, which highlighted the reality of women and young women in the Gaza Strip, especially in the field of technology, digitalization, and gender-based violence (GBV) in the Palestinian context.

Training Program in Ethiopia

Program Manager Sireen Hosro represented the YWCA of Palestine in a specialized training for YGLOBAL Norway partners, which was held in March in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. The training included many important topics about safe spaces for youth and women, sustainable development goals, justice and equality, institutional capabilities, and climate change.



Ecumenical Meetings in South Korea and Kenya



Operations and Human Resources Manager Mayadah Tarazi represented the YWCA of Palestine in two meetings organized by the Council of World Missions and the Center for Ecumenical Studies, with the participation of 22 international institutions and associations in South Korea and Kenya.

YW4A Advocacy Training in Jordan

The YWCA of Palestine took part in a regional training workshop within the Young Women's Awareness, Agency, Advocacy and Accountability Project YW4A, which was held at the Dead Sea in Jordan from May 29 until June 1, 2023.

The training focused on digital advocacy pertaining to public and legal advocacy in cooperation with the project partners in Egypt and under the supervision of Equality Now. This was within the fourth thematic area of the project, which works to support lobbying and advocacy campaigns within the framework of legal advocacy towards adopting, amending or repealing laws and policies in order to enhance the rights of youth women to lead, participate and end sexual and gender-based violence.

Book Launching Event in Jordan

General Secretary Amal Tarazi participated in the launching ceremony of the book "The Distribution of Marital Property after the End of a Marriage under International and Islamic Law" authored by lawyer Nasser El-Rayes, organized by Equality Now in cooperation with The Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC), at the Dead Sea in Jordan.

The YWCA Ramallah Welcomes Delegation of Global Ministries

The YWCA Ramallah welcomed a youth delegation of university students and their leaders who are part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) higher education leadership cohort headed by Dr. Peter Makari, Global Relations Minister for the Middle East and Europe, at the Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ.

The delegation visited YWCA Ramallah community center at al-Jalazoun refugee camp and was briefed about the services that the center provides for children and women in the camp.



The delegation also participated in the graduation ceremony for kindergarten students for the academic year 2022-2023, before visiting YWCA Jerusalem to know more about their projects and activities.

The YWCA Ramallah Welcomes an International Youth Delegation

In July 2023, the YWCA of Ramallah welcomed an international youth delegation visiting Palestine as part of the "Journey for Justice" program (organized by the JAI).



The delegation was briefed on the history of YWCA Palestine and its member associations, the political, social and economic reality that the Palestinian people live through and the challenges they face. They were also introduced to the YWCA programs which aim to empower women and youth and improve their reality at various levels.

Regional workshop in Jordan

The YWCA of Palestine, represented by its General Secretary Amal Tarazi, participated in the regional workshop held in Amman, Jordan in July 2023. The two-day workshop focused on enhancing coordination, exchanging experiences, and implementing the convention to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.



YWCA Palestine Participates in the WACC Partner's Consultation Meeting

Rabab Musleh, YWCA Bethlehem Board President and Vice President of the National Board represented the YWCA of Palestine at the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) partners' Consultation Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, from August 1-3, 2023 under the theme "Communication Rights: Towards Digital Justice".

Almost 30 project partners and allies from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East attended this meeting; they shared the space for learning, exchanging ideas, and networking on the theme of communication rights, with particular focus on digital rights.



The objective of this consultation was to learn about WACC project partner organizations, gain knowledge and tools to secure and protect the human rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups on digital platforms, as well as connect and strengthen relations between organizations and individuals engaged in this thematic area.

Towards the end of this consultation meeting, the group developed an advocacy initiative with an agenda set towards the 20th Anniversary of the World Summit for the information society (WSIS+20) in 2025.

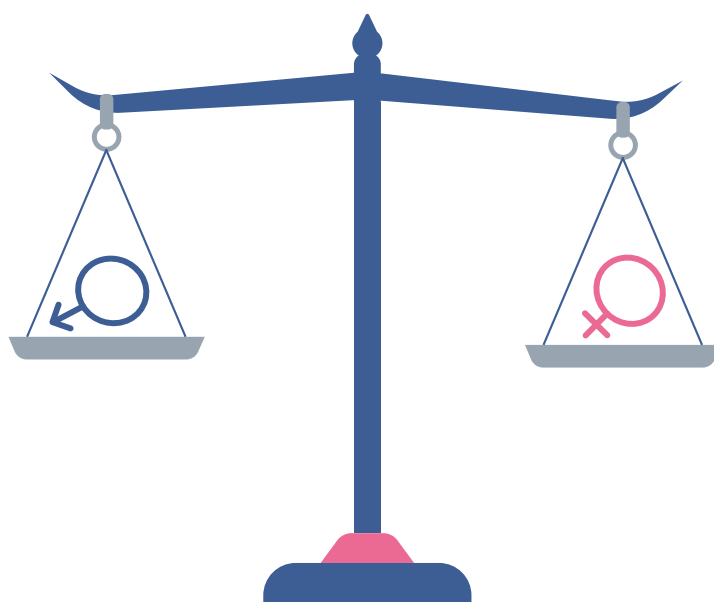
Advocating for the Rights of Women and Youth in Palestine and Mobilizing International Solidarity with the Palestinian People

Within the framework of international advocacy for the Palestinian people and local advocacy for youth and women's issues and rights, the YWCA of Palestine issued several position papers, statements and messages on various topics. These included a position paper on the [War on Gaza](#), a position paper on the [International Youth Day](#), a position paper on [International Women's Day](#), and a [joint statement \[with World YWCA\] on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People](#). We also issued two messages on [Easter](#) and [Christmas](#).

These papers and statements were distributed to a list of various international and local partners, with the aim of mobilizing solidarity with the Palestinian people, as well as calling on them to exert pressure and work to implement UN resolutions related to the Palestinian cause and all laws related to human rights.

Advocacy campaign "The Distribution of Marital Property after the End of a Marriage"

We implemented a community advocacy and awareness campaign on the "The Distribution of Marital Property after the End of a Marriage" issue, in partnership with the Legal Clinic at Birzeit University and Equality Now. This aimed to support the economic rights of women, in a continuous effort to promote human rights and expand access to justice.



The campaign also aimed to deliver joint activities that enable women to obtain their rights in accordance with the rules of justice, based on their realistic participation in building and developing joint funds within the framework of marital relations, and preserving these gains after marriage.

In this context, the YWCA of Palestine signed a memorandum of understanding with the Legal Clinic at the Faculty of Law and Public Administration at Birzeit University, aiming to establish a mutual cooperation between both parties, as well as design and implement joint activities that promote the role of women and youth in society.

As part of the campaign, a roundtable meeting was held, which –in addition to preparing a legal paper on the issue– included presentations and discussions attended by representatives of official bodies and civil society institutions, in addition to the staff of the Legal Clinic and the Association.

Membership and Active Participation

Throughout 2023, the YWCA continued its active participation in forums, alliances, partnerships, and local and international committees of which it is a member.

Within the framework of its membership in the Palestinian NGO Forum to Combat Violence Against Women (Al Muntada), the YWCA had an active role in preparing position papers issued by the Forum on political developments and issues of violence against women in Palestine. We also organized the annual “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence” campaign in partnership with the Forum.

Joint Advocacy Initiative

The YWCA in Palestine together with the East Jerusalem YMCA established the Joint Advocacy Initiative (JAI) in 2001, with the role of advocating for just peace through different advocacy campaigns and tools.

Among other things, the program organizes annual visits to Palestine under “Journey for Justice” for YWCAs and YMCAs from around the world, especially youth, and carries out student exchange programs with schools in Denmark and Norway. The JAI had also launched a solidarity campaign, “Keep Hope Alive,” targeting Palestinian farmers, as inspired by the olive tree; a symbol of peace, prosperity and wisdom. ([Read more](#))

Over the years, the YWCA of Palestine hosted various groups through these visits and introduced them to our work. In 2023, we proceeded with our international advocacy through

the formulation of resolutions and proposals in various associations and councils towards creating a space for strengthening solidarity with community members and participating in seminars and meetings to mobilize programmatic support and highlight the crimes committed by Israel against the Palestinian people.

The “Journey for Justice” program continued its activities throughout the year, hosting international youth delegations and briefing them on the situation of Palestinians living under occupation.

The JAI also organized planting activities at threatened fields in the Bethlehem area, with various international visiting delegations, during the spring of 2023. Three partner Danish Efterskoles’s classes took part in the programs in Palestine, and each of them participated in the olive planting: Together with the Palestinian JAI students, almost 300 olive trees were planted in each activity, which were sponsored by the Danish schools themselves.

Two other planting activities were organized with two Dutch delegations, where a total of 350 olive trees were planted. The groups had previously fundraised and sponsored the trees.

Another planting activity was organized (through the Palestine Network of YMCA-YWCA Denmark) for a visiting Danish delegation, where 150 of olive trees were planted.

Story of a Beneficiary Farmer of the Olive Tree Campaign:

Minwir Dawabsha, Duma, Nablus:

Minwir, a 40-year-old Palestinian farmer with a family of eight members, owns land in Duma, a village within the Nablus district. He depends on farming and olive trees to support his family.

As a Palestinian farmer, Minwir understands the crucial role that land and olive trees play in his community, as they are not only a source of income but also an important aspect of their cultural and social identity.



Unfortunately, in 2022, Minwir's land was attacked by Israeli settlers who cut down 65 of his olive trees, causing significant damage to his and his community's livelihood.

In early 2023, the Olive Tree Campaign provided Minwir with 150 olive trees, to help him continue farming on his land. He highly appreciated it, and remains committed to his land and community, despite all challenges.

Reflection from a Campaign Sponsor

Huda Bakboord, the Netherlands:

In 2022, children of the Al Yaqoet primary school in Amsterdam did a sponsor run for Palestine. With the money they raised, 325 olive trees were planted. Plant een Olijfboom (Plant an Olive Tree), our partner in the Netherlands, visited every classroom of this school with kids aged from 4 to 12 years old, to raise awareness about Palestine. By planting these trees, the new generation took action, and planted hope for the future.

Huda Bakboord is a teacher at Al Yaqoet school. She had visited Palestine in 2022, took part in the Olive Picking Program, and also visited a field where the sponsored trees were planted.

'We will always do our best to teach children in the Netherlands about the injustice that our Palestinian friends and sisters face on a daily basis,' she said. Planting olive trees, she added, is the best way to resist the Israeli occupation. It is a holy tree, as mentioned in the Qur'an.



Campaign Accomplishment for 2022-2023 Season:

- During the 2022/2023 season, the Olive Tree Campaign distributed 46,825 olive trees, sponsored by 25,493 internationals.
- These trees were planted at 682 fields in 47 villages within the Bethlehem, Hebron, Salfit, Tubas, Jerusalem, Nablus and Ramallah areas.
- 35% of the plots that received olive trees are new areas targeted by the campaign. Some 700 Palestinian families (3,500 members) benefited from the olive planting and picking activities.

► Enhancement of the empowerment of women and young women



800
Number of participants



800
Total number of women/
young women



500
Indirect beneficiaries



60
Number of businesses
established

The YWCA believes that **“the economic empowerment of women and young women helps them access economic opportunities and decent work.”** This is reflected in a set of programs and projects that empower women and young women to claim their economic, social and political rights, while developing entrepreneurship skills for women and young women and creating job opportunities through vocational training programs so that they can live a decent life.

During 2023, we finalized the **“Cash for Work”** employment project, which aimed to provide short-term job opportunities for a period of six months for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the unemployed, in the framework of combating the scourges of poverty and unemployment.

We signed a grant agreement to implement the project within the “Cash for Work” component in the West Bank, which was part of the emergency social protection project to confront the COVID-19 pandemic, implemented by the Palestinian Employment Fund, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance within the framework of the emergency response plan announced by the Ministry of Labor, and funded by the World Bank.

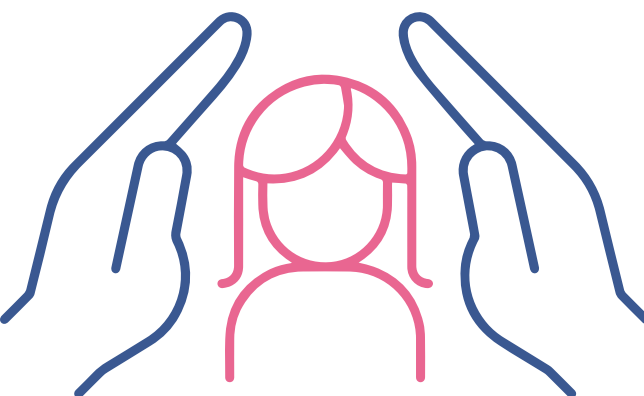
Within the framework of the project, we signed memorandums of understanding with 50 partner institutions to provide them with job opportunities. Introductory meetings were held about the project and its implementation mechanisms with the partners, before allowing for the receipt of applications from job seekers through the Palestinian Employment Portal.

The project also included a training program for female and male beneficiaries in the governorates of: Hebron, Ramallah and al-Bireh, Bethlehem, Jericho and the Jordan Valley, with a total of 300 training hours, with the aim of building their capabilities and developing their practical skills to meet the needs of the labor market in Palestine. The training program included various topics, most notably: Resume/CV writing, job interviews, job searches and their mechanisms, communication in the work environment, teamwork, time management and leadership.

A closing workshop for the project was held in May, which reviewed the achievements and the challenges we faced during the project's implementation. The project's general coordinator, Doaa Suleiman, reviewed the project's achievements and final evaluation results, identified the most prominent outputs, all the while opening the space to listen to the beneficiaries as they shared their experiences and successes they achieved in the project.

The Project's Achievements Included:

- Providing **134** job opportunities for **134** beneficiaries (**80%** of whom are women) affected by the pandemic at grassroots partner institutions.
- Strengthening grassroots institutions by **equipping them with competent qualifications and skills.**
- Supporting economic resilience by **creating job opportunities.**



Entrepreneurship and Small Projects for Women Survivors of Violence

We implemented the “Entrepreneurship and Small Projects for Women Survivors of Violence” project, with funding from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) within the HAYA joint program.

The project targeted Palestinian women and young women, especially survivors of gender-based violence, from four governorates (Ramallah and al-Bireh, Jerusalem, Nablus, and Hebron), who participated in intensive training to enhance their skills and knowledge in developing entrepreneurial ideas and implementing small projects.

The project succeeded in empowering beneficiaries who are survivors of violence, through networking with community institutions that provide protection services and legal, social and psychological support. They also attended an intensive capacity building program (of 50 training hours) in business development and project management, which proved suitable to their needs and enhanced their skills and knowledge in conducting a simplified economic feasibility study and managing small projects financially. They then had a specialized program for follow-up, guidance and counseling by the consultant, which enabled them to prepare an actual workplan for the project and apply it on the ground.

The women presented their project ideas through a group competition, evaluated by a specialized committee of the association and advisors, during which the women received small financial grants to establish and start their own project.

Strengthening Women's Economic Independence

During 2023, the YWCA of Jericho continued to implement the Jericho Food Project (JFP) of producing food and seasonal products, which provides job opportunities for 16 female and two male workers.

In May, the JFP succeeded in exporting two tons of Maftoul (a type of flour traditionally made from semolina) to Italy. The project also cooperated with the Palestine Heritage Trail to prepare 120 packages of honey, thyme, and sumac for distribution.



The project's female employees participated in a meeting about leadership methods and techniques in cooperation with the Bible Society, in addition to organizing a trip for female employees to Bethlehem.

The project received a grant from the Bank of Palestine worth \$10,000 to develop the work, perform maintenance on the building, and provide the project with new equipment.

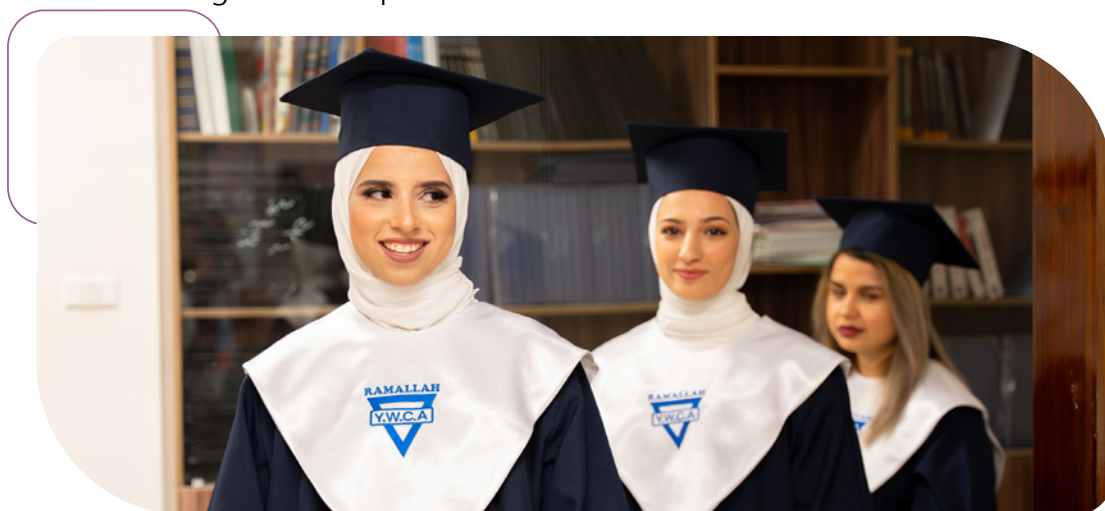
During 2023, a committee was formed consisting of the General Secretary of YWCA Palestine, the Board President of the YWCA Jericho, the Treasurer, members of the administrative body, Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, and a business development consultant, to conduct an evaluation of the project and study the needs in order to develop it, increase sales, and reduce expenses.

Watch a report by Palestine TV about the project [here](#).

Vocational Training: An Important Path to the Economic Empowerment of Young Women and Men

Based on our belief in the importance of vocational training as a means for economic empowerment, the YWCA had established two vocational training centers in Ramallah and Jerusalem. These centers, which had been our oldest projects in Palestine, continue to enable women and youth with the needed resources and opportunities to compete in the labor market.

The Ramallah Vocational Training Center (VTC) continued to offer the Office Management Diploma, which provides the administrative, technical and technology skills necessary for achieving the best service for working in institutions and companies. The center also provided short and diverse professional courses, targeting university graduates, staff in several institutions, and those wishing to develop their skills to increase their chances in the labor market.



The YWCA Ramallah celebrated the graduation of a new cohort of students who completed the diploma requirements and received training in the labor market. Thanks to its efforts and partnerships with employers, the association was able to provide job opportunities for more than half of the graduates in 2023, which reflects the success of the training program and the students' readiness for the labor market.

The association also succeeded in developing a new computer laboratory, which allows diploma students and participants in short courses to access modern technologies and develop their skills in various areas. The new lab has improved the educational environment for young women and men, enabling them with the latest tools that would enhance their educational opportunities and develop their capacities in computer techniques and information technology, thus contributing to the comprehensive development of the local community.

The YWCA continues its efforts to empower young women and men and develop their skills and to prepare for the labor market. The diploma program for the academic year 2023-2024 has been opened, despite the difficult and exceptional circumstances witnessed in the last quarter of 2023.

The Hebrew language was added as a new course in the diploma, as required by the labor market and in response to the surrounding circumstances. Also added are psychological support meetings for students.

Furthermore, the YWCA Ramallah signed an agreement with Wattan Media Network to develop a marketing plan for the VTC and produce introductory materials that managed to identify marketing and promotional strategies towards enhancing awareness and attracting more potential trainees to the center and its services.

The association also organized, in cooperation with al-Am'ari Refugee Camp Women's Center, specialized training courses in food processing. These training courses, which were designed to provide the necessary skills and knowledge to manufacture a variety of food products, targeted 50 women from different age groups, reflecting the program's diversity, inclusivity, and persistence to provide educational opportunities for all groups. Through this training, participants were able to develop their skills in food processing, acquired new skills and identified means to increase their job opportunities and income.

Considering the difficult circumstances facing the Palestinian community, the association organized psychological discharge training; a key step in providing mental and emotional support to families undergoing challenges and highlighting their impact on children.



Recognizing the importance of enhancing success and achieving common goals, the YWCA Ramallah worked in 2023 to expand partnerships and build relationships with various local institutions, including the Khalil Sakakini Foundation, Jiffna Club, Ni'lin Municipality, Safa Municipality, Al-Mughayir Municipal Council, and The Quaker Foundation.

The Jerusalem Vocational Training Center also continued to offer the Office Management Diploma, the Multimedia Diploma, Professional Photography, Graphic Design, and Modern Kitchen Program.

With the aim to raise community awareness about vocational training, the YWCA Jerusalem held a group of meetings with female and male students in private schools in Jerusalem, to discuss their academic and professional options, to develop their respect for vocational training, and consider it as a parallel option to other specializations.

Essentially, the association's diploma programs give students the opportunity to train in local market institutions, enrich their theoretical and practical information, and boosts their chances to obtain a job upon graduation. The employment rate for graduates of the 2021/2022 academic year, one year after graduation, was about 69%. In order to attract new students and introduce them to the VTC specializations, the YWCA Jerusalem organized open/introduction days, a graduation ceremony for students of the diploma program, and life skills sessions that aimed to develop the participating students' abilities in dealing with various jobs and life issues.

In addition to the diploma programs, the VTC held short courses targeting specific categories, such as art therapy courses, still photography and photo editing, Brazilian embroidery, crochet, and project planning. It also delivered training and awareness seminars in the areas of: Breast cancer awareness, labor and workers' rights, and alternative plans for projects in emergency situations.

In a related context, the **YWCA Jericho** "Beauty Department" concluded a course in "The Art of Beauty and Hair Cutting", which targeted trainees from the city of Jericho, Aqabat Jabr refugee camp, Ain al-Sultan refugee camp, and the villages of al-Duyuk, al-Nuwai'ma, and al-Auja, under the supervision of the Labor Directorate in the governorate. Certificates for 14 trainees out of 19 were authenticated after taking the ministerial exam. A new course was also opened in October with the participation of 23 trainees.

In addition, the YWCA Jericho held legal awareness and psychological counseling sessions for trainees in the "Beauty Department", in cooperation with the Jericho Women's Association and the Women's Center for Legal Aid and Counselling within the "Together We Rise" project.

It also held a banking awareness meeting in cooperation with the Bank of Palestine, as well as two awareness and psychological discharge sessions for female trainees in the beauty department in cooperation with the Good Shepherd Youth Club at the club's headquarters.

► Leadership and Civic Participation: Our Youth are Our Future



+100
Number of participants



700
Total number of women/
young women



10,000
Indirect beneficiaries



50
Number of businesses
established

Within its strategic vision, the YWCA of Palestine works to empower youth in the State of Palestine and prepare them for active participation in public life and state building.

The YWCAs' programs and projects are adapted to take into account the needs of youth and support them in light of difficult political, economic and social conditions, in addition to providing safe spaces for them to express their opinions and unleash their initiatives that aim to leave a positive impact on their surrounding community.

During 2023, the YWCA concluded the **Young Citizen Project**, which was implemented through its member associations and in partnership with a group of local institutions, with the support of the National Student Council in Norway. The project targeted school students within the age group of 13-19 years in the West Bank regions, and young men and women within the age group of 20-25 years as support groups for the project, so that they have opportunities to develop their skills and competencies and to be effective leaders.



The project's activities included: Lobbying and advocacy campaigns, atypical learning exercises, summer camps, educational and interactive workshops, and the formation of student councils.

The YWCA of Palestine, through its member associations, continued to implement the Youth Forums Project in the governorates of Tulkarem, Jenin, Bethlehem, and Jericho and the Jordan Valley, in cooperation with the YMCA/YWCA of Norway, and in partnership with local grassroots organizations and Palestinian universities. The project (which targets young women and men of the ages of 16-30 years) aims to create safe spaces for young women and men to express their ideas and activate their role in bringing about change in their societies by recognizing their rights and capabilities and improving their lives. It also seeks to enhance the representation of young women and men in decision-making processes.

The project's activities include: Online training on issues of advocacy, gender justice, human rights, and Security Council Resolutions No. 1325 and No. 2250, and creating safe spaces through in-person and virtual meetings, dialogues and national youth campaigns towards the participation of young women and men in local, national, and international platforms.

The focus in 2023 was on delivering digital advocacy campaigns through training and producing videos and designs to mobilize support for specific local issues, such as adapting public transportation for people with disabilities, combating drugs, and reducing the phenomenon of school dropouts.

In 2023, we also concluded **Khatwa (Step)**; a program that was implemented as part of Youth Social Innovation (YSI) project, within the framework of the Economic Empowerment and Community Leadership component funded by Kerk in Actie. Khatwa aimed at supporting ideas for innovative youth entrepreneurial projects that provide valuable solutions to problems faced by society in various sectors, including technology, communications, agriculture, industry, environment, and energy. We opened the door to apply for ideas, and selected a group of distinguished projects that stood out for their originality, societal value, ability to innovatively solve a problem, and sustainability. The applicants were given the chance to take part in a training and mentoring program to present and develop their ideas, after which a number of projects were supported and implemented.

As part of the YSI project, within the framework of the Youth-led Media and Communication component and with the MOU signed with the Secretariat-General of the General Assembly of Christian Youth in Palestine, we established a Community Radio Station led by youth. In its programs and content, Nabad al-Hayah (Pulse of Life) station sheds light on the issues and concerns of Palestinian youth and gives them the space to express their opinions and aspirations. The radio station was provided with the needed equipment and devices, and a website was also created for it.



It is worth adding that the Community Innovation for Youth Project, aimed at capacity building and economic and social empowerment of Palestinian youth, remains at the core of the YWCA strategy.

Within the gender equality and youth civic engagement programs, the YWCA of Jerusalem had an active role in the **“Across borders, strengthening youth volunteering to fight for gender equality and social inclusion (CB4VOL)”** project, which aims to develop the capacity of institutions to develop volunteering programs, promote youth participation, and include a gender equality perspective into the development of youth volunteerism and community work methodology.

This project partners from Belgium, Spain, and Morocco (in addition to Palestine), share the objective to promote youth participation in their local communities, and improve awareness and knowledge about gender equality and inclusion. In Palestine, an experimental group (comprised of ten women) was formed to lead a community initiative on analyzing issues to be highlighted in the local context. In their final study, which included meeting with officials in the Palestinian Ministry of Labor, the group examined the reality of sexual harassment in the workplace, and studied the societal, institutional and legal gaps in order to emulate decision- makers and work in the future to advocate for this issue.

Volunteers received training on digital advocacy campaigns, and conducted a community initiative to raise awareness about the importance of active youth volunteerism and on how to get new volunteers on board. They held meetings with young women from other YWCA programs, and produced three videos (shared at the association’s social media platforms) where they presented voices of young women volunteers about the importance of volunteering.

This initiative is considered an important tool to bring young women’s voices out into the public sphere at a time of increasing societal, political and psychological pressures, to show the significance of individual work, reduce the feeling of helpless, and ultimately highlight that societal change is possible.



Community Initiatives in the Field of “Youth, Peace and Security”

We launched **40 community initiatives during 2023 in the field of “youth, peace and security.”** This was within the program for youth political and civic participation in Palestine (Youth Leads), implemented by the UNFPA.

The initiatives, which targeted youth groups in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, corresponded to the YWCA strategy aimed at empowering young men and women to play an engaged, active and contributing role in society by enhancing their skills and capacities through training, and involving them in community planning so that they are able to examine and evaluate society’s needs and challenges, and identify the correct course of action in the process of selecting issues.

As noted, 40 initiatives were selected out of the applications that were open for young women and men to present their ideas, and which fit the specific criteria. Emphasis was placed on the initiatives’ compatibility with the sustainable development goals, such as economic empowerment, clean environment, and inclusion of persons with disabilities. The selected initiatives underwent a series of workshops and training courses before receiving financial support for their implementation.



► Women's Rights and Just Peace

The YWCA and its member associations are dedicated to gender equality and promote women's access to decision-making positions and participation in local and national advocacy that support the rights of women and young women.

In 2023, we continued to implement the **Young Women for Awareness, Agency, Advocacy, and Accountability (YW4A) project**, in partnership with the World YWCA, and in cooperation with the East Jerusalem YWCA, the Psychosocial Counseling Center for Women (PSCCW), Al-Harah Theatre, AISHA Association for Women and Child Protection, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

We also strengthened partnerships with local institutions, and delivered knowledge transfer workshops and training courses for youth groups in the targeted areas of Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Hebron, Salfit, and Gaza.



The YWCA also launched campaigns on "The Role of Women in Political Participation in Palestine," "Sexual Harassment in the Work Environment," "Family Protection from Violence Draft Law," and "Child Girls Marriage."

In this context, a theatrical performance entitled Matab (Bump) was performed in Bethlehem, in cooperation with Al-Harah Theater and the Psychosocial Counseling Center for Women (PSCCW), on the topic of harassment in the work environment. The performance was followed by a dialogue session on the issue.

Training was also held on "Positive Masculinity" which aimed to raise awareness (especially among young men) about the division of labor and social identities and their impact on human and gender rights. The training emphasized on developing an analytical lens at the values and norms affecting women, and examining men's significant role in empowering women and raising their voices with the aim of combating gender-based violence, achieving gender equality, bringing about positive change and achieving a violence-free society in which justice, dignity and physical safety prevail, all the while enhancing the role of men as influencers capable of achieving and spreading the values of equality and social justice.

“She Leads” Academy

During 2023, we launched the second cohort of the Leadership Academy for Young Women (She Leads), with the participation of 31 young women from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as part of accumulating the success achieved in the first cohort of 2022.

The academy was developed as part of the program for youth political and civic participation in Palestine (Youth Leads), implemented by the UNFPA and funded by the European Union.

The academy aims to empower young women to become active participants and contributors to the Palestinian society and develop their knowledge and understanding of concepts relating to contemporary social issues, political participation and leadership. It also works to assess needs and analyze obstacles in policies and programs concerning youth leadership, enhance skills, and strengthen connections with governmental and non-governmental opportunities for young women through organizing training courses and dialogues with institutions.



What distinguished the program in its second year was the broad participation of young women leaders from various Palestinian areas. We received more than 235 applications from young women wishing to participate in the academy. 18 participants were selected from the northern governorates, and 13 participants from the southern governorates, according to specific criteria. The training program was implemented under the supervision of a group of experts and specialists with the aim of building the participants' capabilities in leadership and providing them with various necessary skills. Activities included networking visits and exchange meetings to build connections, as well as expert lectures on topics related to leadership, excellence and entrepreneurship at the local and international levels. Participants had the opportunity to develop ideas for community initiatives, participated in study tours, attended knowledge transfer workshops, and received job training.

Eman Sheikh Amer

At (She Leads Academy), my vision was transformed into reality, as the academy provided me with a supportive environment to explore my skills and prepare myself for new opportunities. It was a comprehensive transformational journey that contributed to building my capabilities and self-confidence, opened the doors to job opportunities for me, and shaping my leadership and influential personality in society.



Claudia Odeh

Through my journey in the academy, I gained a lot of experience, skills, capacity building, networking visits and relationship building, in addition to participating in some important activities such as the youth summit.



“Musharaka” Project

During 2023, we concluded “Enhancing the Political Participation of Young Women in Refugee Camps” project, funded by YWCA/YMCA Sweden, and in partnership with the popular committees, women’s centers, and community institutions in the Dheisheh, Aida, and al-Aroub refugee camps.



The project included an 18-hour training program for 30 young women in the targeted camps, with the aim of capacity-building and skills-development for implementing community initiatives and launching advocacy and lobbying campaigns that would enhance the participation of women, especially young women, in political life.

Moreover, nine awareness workshops were carried out using the “Rise Up!” guide (for young women’s transformative leadership), reaching approximately 200 women and young women. Also included were roundtable meetings aiming to hold decision makers accountable and enhance women’s political participation, as we reached all refugee camps in the West Bank.

Six community initiatives were also implemented with the aim of creating safe spaces for women in the three targeted camps.

The project also delivered a strategy for digital lobbying and advocacy – using various online media tools and producing a position paper on women and political participation - towards enhancing young women’s political participation, increasing their representation, and raising the quota percentage.



The project included a digital advocacy campaign in cooperation with Ma'an News Network, and Palestine TV, focusing on Palestinian women's political participation in general, and in refugee camps in particular, while highlighting their weak representation in popular committees. Ma'an News Network was contracted to carry out the radio spots, dialogue interviews, and social media posts. Meanwhile, Palestine TV was contracted to produce and broadcast a TV episode discussing the issue. The campaign reached more than 50,000 people within the Palestinian society.

Nibal Al-Hasanat

(Volunteer at Musharaka Project)



I was very fortunate to be the coordinator of the young women's group within the project at the Ibdaa Foundation/Dheisheh Refugee Camp. The experience I gained and the opportunity that the YWCA of Palestine offered me makes me proud of myself. I made a distinctive shift, through the project's implementation period, from being a volunteer to managing the young women's group. I was able to express my opinions and take decisions through my active participation in the popular committee and meetings concerning women. Being a coordinator of the young women's groups made me part of the Ibdaa Foundation work team, and this enabled me to mobilize and form a young women's team consisting of 30 young women. We'd meet weekly to discuss our issues as a sustainable group, even after the end of the project.



“Basmah” Project

During 2023, we proceeded with the “Basmah” project, supported by the African Women’s Development Fund. This three-year (2021-2024) project targets women (between the ages of 22-40) from 12 rural areas in the governorates of Tubas and the northern Jordan Valley, Tulkarem, Ramallah and al-Bireh, and Hebron, who are looking for opportunities and leadership roles related to decision-making. The project aims to empower women and young women by creating safe spaces and offering them leadership opportunities towards implementing community initiatives that meet their needs.



Memorandums of understanding were signed with several institutions in the targeted governorates, giving room for interventions to combat gender-based violence while ensuring the participation of women and young women in community initiatives and dialogue meetings with decision-makers to exert pressure and advocate for changing societal practices that reduce the roles of women. Efforts were also made assure sharing knowledge among beneficiaries in the targeted locations in order to expand, grow and enhance the leadership spirit of women and young women in these initiatives.

Among the successes noted was the creation of safe spaces in partner associations and centers, training in leadership, and carrying out community initiatives, with 12 initiatives currently being developed while adapting them to the current circumstances.



Saja Al-Faroukh

“ (Volunteer at Basmah project)

The Basmah project was the start of a success story; it paved the path to decision-making. I provided facilitation services for workshops that dealt with women's issues in Sa'ir [a town in the Hebron governorate], and I was able to change and bring about new concepts and ideas for the women of the town in terms of social and active participation. On the personal level, my self-confidence increased, and my abilities and knowledge were strengthened. I became more courageous to participate in events and to express any decision-making positions at the town level. I realize that I managed to mark my fingerprint; I made an impact on those around me.



In addition, the YWCA of Jerusalem implemented the project: **“Strengthening community mechanisms in providing multiple and comprehensive protection services in various sectors to reduce gender-based violence in areas (C) and (H2) in East Jerusalem and Hebron.”** The aim of this project was to raise community awareness on GBV protection, and to conduct support groups for women survivors or those exposed to GBV. Also included were recreational activities targeted for the women participants, social and psychological support sessions, and an entertainment day for the participating men. The social workers of the community centers, with the support of the association's psychologist, carried out (as part of this project) a case management for survivors, providing them with individual counselling and home visits in cases of emergency. By and large, this project provided survivors of gender-based violence with various vocational training to improve livelihoods and provide income opportunities.

The YWCA of Jerusalem also implemented the **“Ladies of the Sun”** project, which focused on supporting Palestinian women, enhance their rights, and empower them economically with the aim to build a life free from violence against women. Among the activities provided were vocational and technical awareness courses and services to enable and prepare women to enter the labor market, regain control of their lives and support themselves and their children. The project included a rehabilitation program in simple income-generating crafts and industries.

The association also implemented the “Yalla Leadership Program,” in cooperation with Injaz Palestine Foundation, and carried out a specific course in youth leadership that included various activities, means and directives for working groups from the youth category.

► Our Community Centers: An incubator to Care for Children and Enhance their Cognitive Development

During 2023, the two kindergartens in the refugee camps of Aqabat Jaber (in the Jericho and Jordan Valley governorate) and Jalazoun (in Ramallah and al-Bireh governorate), as well as the nursery and kindergarten in Jerusalem, continued to provide their services to the local community despite the challenges and difficult economic conditions.

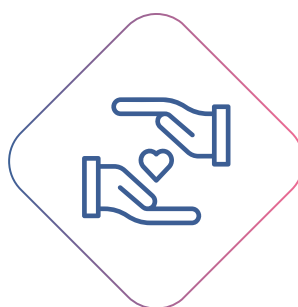
Essentially, the YWCA kindergartens use the methodology of activating learning and teaching that helps develop dialogue and communication skills (including social, psychological and mental skills). They focus on the distinct personality of each child from the moment they enter the nursery, bearing in mind their different physical, emotional, social, and mental needs, and work towards developing their inherent creativity and expanding their areas of interest.

Aqabat Jaber Kindergarten:

53 children benefited from the kindergarten's services during the school year 2022-2023, and 69 children were registered during the school year 2023-2024.



53 children benefited



69 children registered

Many extracurricular educational activities were organized, including celebrations, national events, and religious holidays. The kindergarten held the graduation ceremony for the 68th cohort at the YMCA of Jericho hall, in the presence of the governorate representatives, the director of social development, a number of governorate institutions, the children's families, and the president and members of the association's administrative body.

The kindergarten followed up on children with developmental issues, such as hyperactivity, learning difficulties, speech problems, as well as those with disabilities. We worked to treat these cases by helping children develop their awareness of the world around them, forming friendships, and giving them a sense of belonging to the kindergarten and classroom. We also had activities to help them play their roles in their family and become active members in the society, and which taught them how to bear responsibility abide by the codes of conduct, and get along with others,

In cooperation with the VIP Center for Training and Human Development, the English Language Club hosted the children for a course that lasted several months.

The Directorate of Social Development honored the association for its role in community development and supporting the vulnerable groups in the governorate.

Throughout the year, the YWCA Jericho and its center and kindergarten received several visitors. These included a delegation from Christian Aid, and a representative of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, who visited the center and kindergarten to discuss the proposed new construction project for the association and the food production unit. The association also received several delegations to discuss ways of cooperation and learn about its interventions and role in developing the local community. Visiting delegations included: The American University of Berkeley students; Jericho Municipality; St. John Paul II Foundation; the Oak of Galilee Association; the World Council of Churches; YWCA/YMCA Sweden; Joint Advocacy Initiative; the Lutheran World Federation (within the “Thabari” project); the Roya Foundation for Development, Training and Consulting; and Al-Quds Open University.

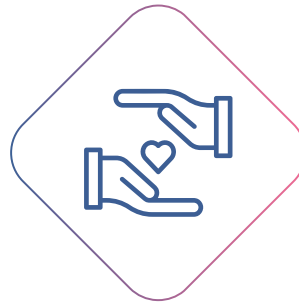


We also participated in a training course organized by the Palestine Heritage Path in Ramallah, and in a meeting with the Jericho Governorate in the presence of the Munib and Angela Masri Foundation, and in a meeting with Jericho Municipality in the presence of an Italian delegation and the St. John Paul II Foundation to include Jericho within the Creative City Network, and other meetings with local institutions.

Al-Jalazoun Kindergarten:



**+80 children
benefited**



**70 children
registered**

More than 80 children benefited from the kindergarten's services during the school year 2022-2023, and 70 children were registered during the school year 2023-2024.

The kindergarten also implemented many extracurricular educational activities, including celebrations, national events, and religious holidays.

Among the kindergarten's visitors was the Foot and Ideal Body Center, which conducted a free examination of the children's feet and diagnosed congenital foot conditions and problems. In cooperation with the center, follow-up was carried out with the families of the children who needed to visit a specialist doctor.

The kindergarten director Diala Nwesser, and teacher Amani al-Khalidi, participated in training exercises carried out by the Early childhood Resource Center, with funding from Save the Children, and in coordination with the Directorate of Education in Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate. The training focused on improving the kindergarten's curriculum and its internal and external environments, in addition to paying field and evaluation visits to provide playground equipment, educational media, and PVC classroom floor mats to improve the kindergarten within the project.



The kindergarten staff also implemented a two-day event on expressive arts for children, under the supervision of the Early Childhood Resource Center.

Our center in the Jalazoun refugee camp also implemented a mental health project in its first and second sessions, with funding from the United Church of Christ (UCC). This included 60 psychosocial support sessions for children, as well as for the children's families – who also received guidance sessions, and training workshops for the kindergarten teachers' staff. Activities also included rehabilitating and developing the kindergarten's external courtyard, and painting the kindergarten's building. Air conditioners were also installed in the classrooms as part of a YWCA-Japan grant.

In cooperation with the Charity Association for Disabled Rehabilitation and Family Counseling (Al-Karamah) in al-Jalazoun Camp, the kindergarten evaluated and diagnosed cases of children with speech problems and learning difficulties. These children were referred to free therapeutic sessions in cooperation with al-Karamah Rehabilitation Center.

A British delegation from the ABCD Foundation, which cares for people with disabilities, paid a visit to the kindergarten (during the organization's annual visit to the Karamah Rehabilitation Center), where they donated a children's play equipment for the kindergarten's outdoor courtyard. A generous donation was also made from the British delegation to install a wooden fence at the entrance and the front outer courtyard.

YWCA Jerusalem Nursery and Kindergarten:

Within the "Cognitive Learning for Children" program, the YWCA Jerusalem while planning educational goals for the early childhood generation and ways to achieve them, has relied on the integrative approach. In this sense, it addresses all areas of development and considers the multidirectional relationships within the child's personality and the environment they live in.

Over the past years, the association has been holding extracurricular courses for children from 4 to 17 years old, focusing on ballet, gymnastics, and some martial arts. These courses are aimed to develop children's skills, as they provide the space that allows for children's creative expression in a healthy and sound manner under professional and committed supervision.

These courses run parallel to the kindergarten's school year; the courses for the 2022/2023 ended in July 2023, and new courses for the 2023/2024 were launched. Meanwhile, the YWCA organized a summer camp offering a variety of artistic and practical talents for children, such as drawing, photography, sports, and cooking.

► Diversifying Partners to Ensure Financial Sustainability

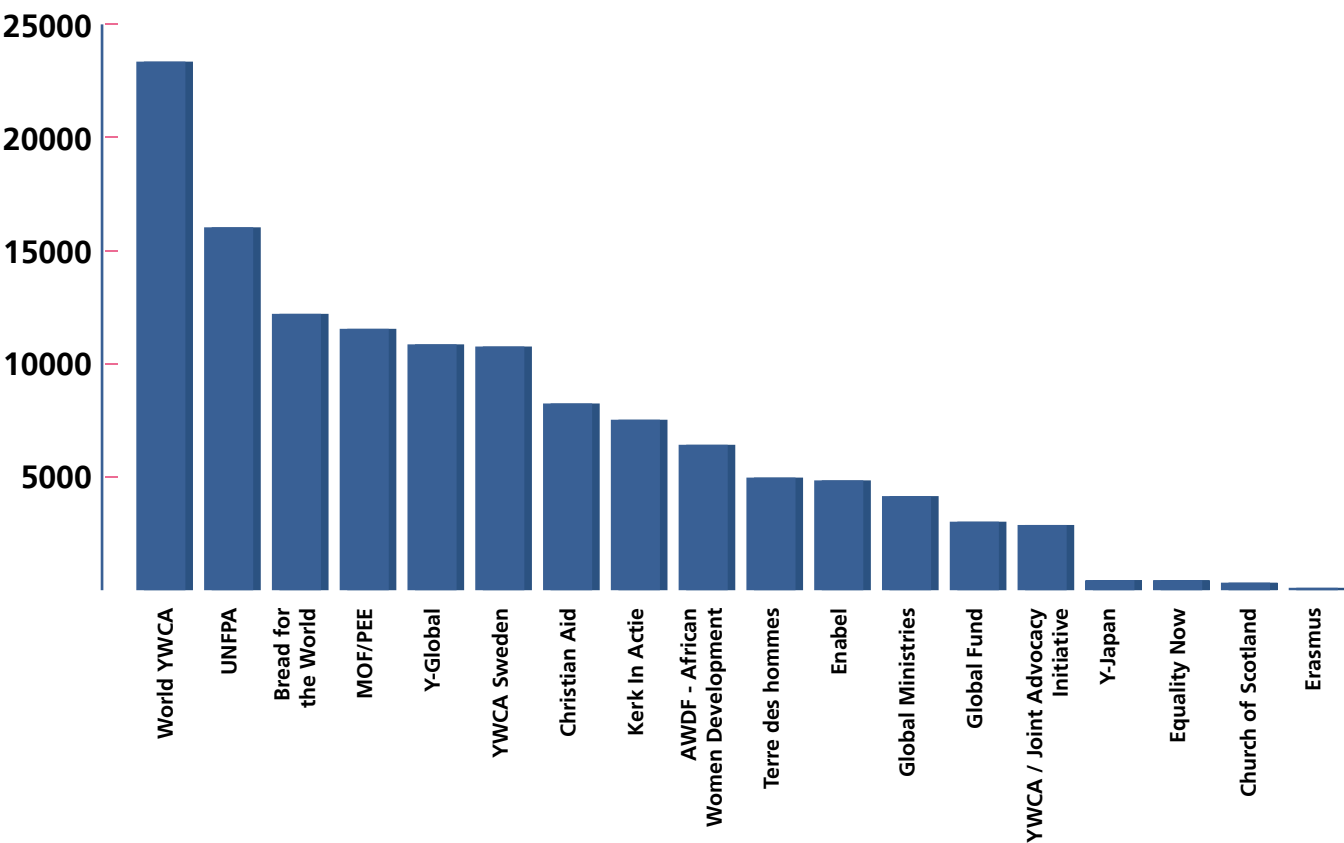
During 2023, we continued to work diligently towards diversifying partners and supporters to ensure financial sustainability. We have succeeded in expanding the YWCA's donor base by communicating with a larger number of partners, and initiated a few crowdfunding campaigns by which to raise funds from the public.



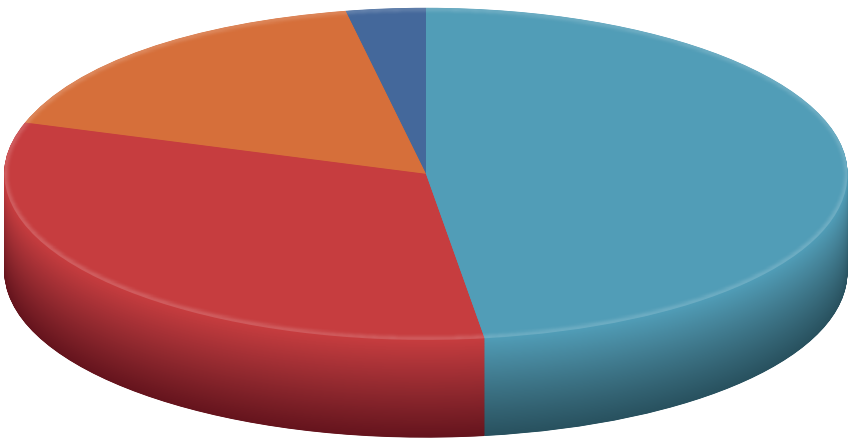
The YWCA managed to build new strategic partnerships while strengthening existing partnerships with institutions, donors and international friends. This contributed to opening new financing channels and increased resource mobilization by developing innovative project proposals that are in line with the needs of the groups benefiting from our programs.



2023 Grants By Donor



Expenses by thematic areas



- Just Peace & Promoting Women's Rights
- Youth Leadership Training and Civic Engagement
- Economic Justice
- Organizational Development
- Advocacy

We are Grateful for Our Partners

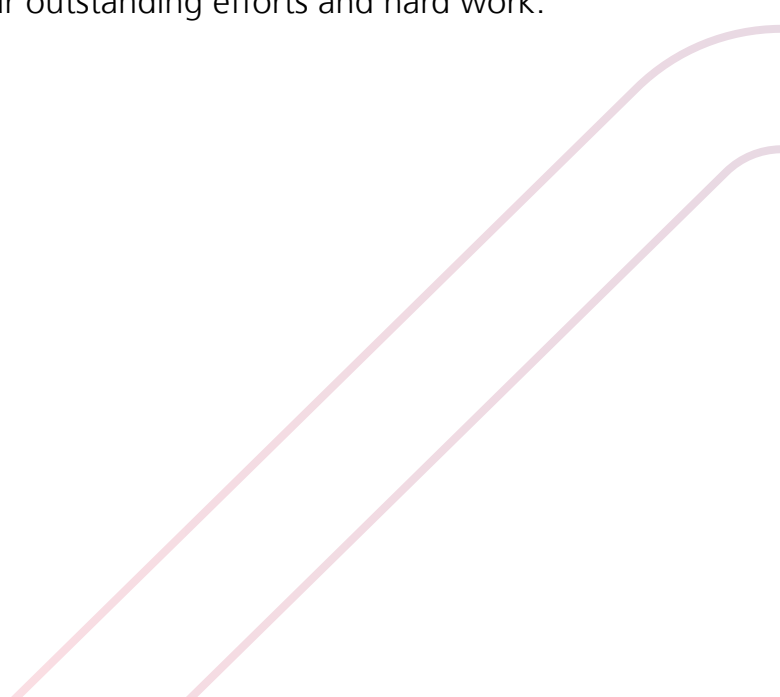
We extend all appreciation and gratitude to all our partners, and we thank you for your trust. You are the architects of this success that was achieved because of your support and partnerships with us. We are determined to continue our efforts in working together to pursue further achievements with a keen eye on service to our people and our beloved homeland.

Donors: With your Support, Their Lives Blossom

We thank you all for your continuing efforts and for your belief in our ability to support the Palestinian people. Your contribution enables us to realize achievements.

YWCA Team and Volunteers

For your work dedication despite all circumstances, and for your high sense of responsibility and professionalism in carrying out the duties in order to serve our people. We extend all thanks, appreciation and praise for your outstanding efforts and hard work.



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