

Final Report Youth initiative project

**Sub-grant agreement (R1T2-11-07)
Final report
Youth initiative project**

Project start date: 13/9/2007

Project end date: 13/1/2008

Reporting period : from 13/9/2007 to 13/1/2008

1. Introduction:

Through SHAMS' studies and meetings with the youth in the many localities, it was clear that the youth are hesitant to participate in the decision making process due to some reasons like; lack of knowledge of their political rights and their needs; ambiguity about some concepts of the democratic process, and the youth are uncertain about the importance of their participation in elections, and their ability to create a change through their votes, and the candidates for political positions are not attracted by youth and not concerned about their needs.

Furthermore, the Palestinian society suffered through the last decade a decline in the value of voluntary work that used to be a dominant value for a prolonged time.

The project aimed at focusing on the youth participation in the political and development issues in their communities and comes to renovate the culture of voluntary work as a positive social value that must prolong for successive generations. In addition, the project target was enhancing the feeling of loyalty and social participation and enforcing the positive citizenship among youth through their participation in the development activities in their localities.

Through the implementation of the project, SHAMS tried to support the local youth initiatives. The youth in the target areas played a vital role in the planning, coordinating, and evaluating the project activities.

2. Planned project goals and objectives:

Goals:

- a. Enhance the values of tolerance and accepting the others among the target group and their families and friends.
- b. Educate the youth about the good governance concepts to maintain good future political and social leaders.
- c. Enhance the youth participation in the decision – making process.
- d. Spread the value of voluntary work among the youth in the target areas as a positive human value

Objectives:

- a. Training the participants on building positive personality through dialogue, accepting the others and their views, and strengthen the tolerance spirit amongst the participants.
- b. Raising the awareness of civic, political, and constitutional rights of the youth among the target group.
- c. Enforcing and motivating the youth political participation by training them on accountability and transparency concepts and their practical implementation.
- d. Enhance the role of the youth in the public and local development through voluntary activities to raise their feeling of loyalty.
- e. Reduce the psychological effects of the bad political and economic environment that the society passed during the last seven years.
- f. Explore new promising leaders who can lead the local institutions and bodies towards sustainable development, and give them the opportunity to practice leadership.
- g. Creating fundamental change in the youth conduct through acquiring a new ideal set of values and customs

3. Summary of activities completed:

A. Preparation

1. Project staff were selected and contracted. One project coordinator (Omar Rahhal), two field coordinators, one for Jenin district localities (Mohammad Abu Farha) and one for Salfit district localities (Bashar Al-Deek), the project accountant (Amal Al-Faqeeh), the project secretary (Mira Salameh), and Civic Education consultant (Yaser Malaysheh).
2. The field coordinators contacted municipalities and village councils, youth clubs, women centers, and local institutions in there areas to discuss the project and nominate candidates to participate in the project.
3. Contracts were signed with 4 trainers who produced the training material.
4. The training material was revised by the civic education consultant and approved by the project team.

B. Training courses on civic education issues:

1. 5 Training courses in 5 target areas were conducted from 20/10/2007 until 1/11/2007. Each training course included 4 sessions. Each training session included 4 training hours.
2. 3 training courses took place in Jenin district from 21/10/2007 to 24/10/2007 in at the village council in both Jalbun and Jalameh and from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. In Faqu'a it took place at the women center training hall from 21/10/2007 to 25/10/2007 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The average number of the participants was 22.
3. 2 training courses took place in Salfit district. In Kufr Al-Deek from 27/10/2007 to 30/10/2007 and in Bruqin from 28/10/2007 to 1/11/2007 both from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The training took place at the municipal council in both localities. The average number of the participants was 23 members.
4. The training issues where: Voluntary work and youth, communication skills, youth leadership, citizenship and youth.
5. The field Project Team (project coordinator and field coordinators) supervised the training by attending most of the training sessions.

C. Painting the wall Paints:

1. Each target group agreed the topics and suitable places for the wall paints after a deep discussion and a close coordination with the local councils.
2. 10 wall paints were painted in five localities, two in each locality, representing the topics of: "hope, optimism, love of life, Palestinian weddings, and the wonderful nature of Palestine.

D. Planting trees:

1. 500 trees were purchased from tree nursery after a bidding process.
2. Trees were transported by a contracted truck to the target areas.
3. Participants in five localities planted the trees as agreed in their meetings and as agreed with the municipal council.

E. voluntary activities (cleaning public areas):

1. The participants in each target area selected the areas to be cleaned in coordination with the local councils.
2. The participants cleaned at least one place in each locality by collecting garbage or cleaning walls from electoral campaign posters in the selected areas.

F. Project Evaluation:

1. The project staff conducted several meetings to evaluate the project activities, during and after the implementation of the project activities.
2. The project staff conducted meetings with the advisory committee of SHAMS to evaluate the project.

4. Comparison of actual work accomplished with planned activities according to the agreement:

The activities were successfully implemented in the same planned timeframe in compliance with the agreement. In some target areas the number of participants exceeded the agreement.

5. Target areas:

The target areas were: Al-Jalameh, Jalbun, Faqu'a, in Jenin district and Kafr Al-Deek, Bruqin in Salfit district

These areas were selected for these reasons:

- a. The people of target area are considered to be marginalized and neglected by other developmental projects.
- b. The target areas are adjacent to the separation wall and its people are directly affected by its negative consequences.
- c. All target areas recently had local elections
- b. 4- All local organizations in the target areas urged SHAMS to conduct programs and activities in their communities.

6. Participants:

Broqeen

Number	name	town	gender	age
1	Bara'a Aref Abdurrahman	Broqeen	Female	25
2	Wala' Farouq Abdurrahman	Broqeen	Female	24
3	Marwa Omar Abdurrahman	Broqeen	Female	22
4	Hanan Abu Zed Barakat	Broqeen	Female	25
5	Shayma' kamel abed abd allah	Broqeen	Female	20
6	Yusra Yasser Abdurrahman	Broqeen	Female	21
7	Sa'adi As'ad Samara	Broqeen	male	22
8	Mohammed Abdurrahman Yousef Abdallah	Broqeen	male	19
9	Nabeel Tawfiq Salem Abdurrahman	Broqeen	male	23
10	Sameer Ata Abdallah	Broqeen	male	22
11	Hamdan Mohammed Hamdan baker	Broqeen	male	20
12	Ashraf Abdul Fattah	Broqeen	male	26
13	Murad Abdulmen'em	Broqeen	male	19
14	Nor Hilal Shehadeh Khater	Broqeen	male	25
15	Mo'taz Jamal Ata Abdurrahman	Broqeen	Female	26
16	Ammar Jamal Yousef Samara	Broqeen	male	22
17	Abdulmen'em Jawad Mohammed Abdallah	Broqeen	male	20
18	Othman Hatem Al Hajj	Broqeen	male	21
19	Mosa Farouq Mosa Abdurrahman	Broqeen	male	18
20	Ibrahim Falah Salem Abdallah	Broqeen	male	20
21	Ala' Ahmed Abdulkareem Samara	Broqeen	male	25
22	Ahmed Tayseer Al Hajj	Broqeen	male	24

Jalboun

Number	Name	Town	Gender	Age
1	Ilham Farouq Ahmed Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	20
2	Laila Abdallah Nafe' Abu Alharb	Jalboun	female	25
3	Kefah Talal Abdallah	Jalboun	male	25
4	Hala Adel Mohammed Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	20
5	Afaf Fayez Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	21
6	Su'ad Radi Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	30
7	Sana' Radi Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	21
8	Aamer Mohammed Abu Alrob	Jalboun	male	24
9	Ahmed Sameer Mustafa Abu Alrob	Jalboun	male	26
10	Ibtessam Ahmed Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	18
11	Imtethal Khalil Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	20
12	Khaireyyeh Yaseen Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	19
13	Fade Abu Alrob	Jalboun	male	21
14	Laila Abdallah Nafe'	Jalboun	female	23
15	Huda Nagy Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	25
16	Jihad Nagy Abu Alrob	Jalboun	male	22
17	Zahera Mohammed Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	20
18	Rasha Hussein Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	24
19	Inas Mustafa Abu Alrob	Jalboun	female	22

Faqou'a

Number	Name	Town	Gender	Age
1	Rawan Abdulkarim Abu Al'asal	Faqou'a	female	22
2	Salwa Hussam Reda Abo Salame	Faqou'a	female	25
3	Ala' abd al kareem abo alhassan	Faqou'a	female	26
4	Tahreer Mohammed Taher	Faqou'a	female	18
5	Iman Sa'ed Abu Salama	Faqou'a	female	20
6	Thekra Mohammed Sadeq Abbas	Faqou'a	female	21
7	Hanan Ahmed Sa'eed Salah	Faqou'a	female	22
8	Yasmeen Osama Amen	Faqou'a	female	25
9	Sami Mahmoud Abu Zahra	Faqou'a	male	30
10	Wisal Hafeth Zuhdi	Faqou'a	female	21
11	Nadia Hafeth Zuhdi	Faqou'a	female	22
12	Rasha Ahmed Salah	Faqou'a	female	34
13	Hanan Ahmed sa'ed Salah	Faqou'a	female	25
14	Tareq reyad reda abo farha	Faqou'a	male	22
15	Maher Bassam Alkhateeb	Faqou'a	male	18
16	Wisal Hafeth Zuhdi	Faqou'a	female	20
17	Mohammed Haya Barakat	Faqou'a	male	25
18	Mohammed Khalid Abu Farha	Faqou'a	male	18
19	Abdurrahman Ahmed Salah	Faqou'a	male	20
20	Mohammed Tayseer Salah	Faqou'a	male	21

Kfr Al-Deek

Age	Gender	Town	Name	No.
25	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Mahmood Ahmad Ali Ahmad	1.
26	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Moa'ath Emad Abd -Allah	2.
21	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Abd El Razeq Fayeq Dumrah	3.
21	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Abd Allah Fakhr Odeh hadros	4.
23	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Hussam Al-deen Zahran	5.
24	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Ashraf Abd El-Khaleq Abu Taha	6.
20	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Wael Ebraheem Ali Ahmad	7.
22	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Najat Ahmad Hussein Yaseen	8.
22	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Secelia Qassem Al-Deek	9.
22	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Merfat Ebraheem Ali Ahmad	10.
20	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Farah Nabeil Abd-Allah Ali Ahmad	11.
24	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Mahera Abd-Allah Ali Ahamad	12.
24	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Muhammed Abd Al-ghany Abd Al-hammed	13.
22	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Odeh Fakhr Odeh Hadros	14.
22	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Muhammed Rateb Hamdan	15.
23	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Manar Nazeeh Al-Deek	16.
20	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Neda'a Ebraheem El-Helo	17.
22	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Elyana Tayseer	18.
21	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Shady Naeem Omar Ali	19.
23	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Ghadeer Muhammed Nayef Al-Deek	20.
25	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Taghreed Fa'eq Amer Omar	21.
22	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Mahmood Ahmad Ali Ahmad	22.
29	female	Kfr Al-Deek	Na'ellah Ebraheem Dawood Qassem	23.
20	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Eyass Ahmad Yaseen	24.
22	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Muhammed Ahmad Mahmood Ali Ahmad	25.
22	male	Kfr Al-Deek	Yousef Nayef Ali Ahmad	26.

Al Jalameh

Age	Gender	Town	Name	No.
20	male	Al Jalameh	Ahmad Muhammed Hussein Zedan	1.
22	female	Al Jalameh	Duhha Assem Abu Farha	2.
22	female	Al Jalameh	Maysoon Ali Rasheed Juma'a	3.
25	female	Al Jalameh	Omayma Ali Rasheed Juma'a	4.
26	female	Al Jalameh	Nahed Khaled Abu Farha	5.
22	male	Al Jalameh	Ehab Fathy Sufyan	6.
23	female	Al Jalameh	Ekram Essam Abu Farha	7.
22	male	Al Jalameh	Makram Khaled Dawood Sufyan	8.
21	male	Al Jalameh	Manar Jalal Sha'aban	9.
25	female	Al Jalameh	Heba Khaled Abu Farha	10.
28	female	Al Jalameh	Khadeja Ali Shalaby	11.
25	female	Al Jalameh	Basemah Muhammed Taqwa	12.
22	female	Al Jalameh	Ezdehar Saleem	13.
25	female	Al Jalameh	Suheir Khalid Sha'aban	14.
30	female	Al Jalameh	Baheya Hassan Amer	15.
25	male	Al Jalameh	Sameer Muhammed Abu Essa	16.
22	male	Al Jalameh	Tariq Qassem Mahmood	17.
24	male	Al Jalameh	Abd-Allah Suheil Abu Farha	18.
21	male	Al Jalameh	Muhammed Ameen	19.
20	male	Al Jalameh	Jamal Sufyan	20.
19	male	Al Jalameh	Muhammed Saleem Qassem Abu Farha	21.
18	male	Al Jalameh	Omar Abd Al-Raheem Shaker	22.
25	male	Al Jalameh	Hussam Muhammed	23.

7. Assessment of results:

- a. The participants digested the new concepts learned in the training course, and started thinking in a positive way. That was illustrated through their interaction during the course. At the beginning of the training course they were cautious, shy and conservative; by the end of the course they were able to establish work groups composed of both sexes.
- b. Through the course sessions, the participants managed to hold a democratic and tolerant manner.
- c. The participants started planning for their own initiatives to serve their local communities. Some of them contacted RUWWAD to apply for youth grants.
- d. Any independent observer can touch the effect of the volunteer activities by comparing the selected areas within the target areas before and after the activity, whether planting trees or cleaning.

8. Output achieved:

- a. 5 Training courses in 5 target areas were conducted from 20/10/2007 until 1/11/2007. Each training course included 4 sessions. Each training session included 4 training hours. The training issues were: Voluntary work and youth, communication skills, youth leadership, citizenship and youth.
- b. 10 wall paints were painted in five localities, two in each target area representing the topics of: "hope, optimism, love of life, Palestinian weddings, and the wonderful nature of Palestine.
- c. Participants in five localities planted 500 trees in there locales, 100 in each.
- d. The participants cleaned at least one place in each locality by collecting garbage or cleaning walls from electoral campaign posters in the selected areas.

9. Impact on participants/ beneficiaries:

- a. The participants digested the new concepts learned in the training course, and started thinking in a positive way and that was reflected on their attitude toward their political participation at the local level by attending the local council sessions.
- b. Some participants are became trainers with SHAMS on some topics discussed through the training course.

- c. The people in the target areas could feel the importance of the voluntary work value. Some younger groups are trying to imitate the activities conducted by the participants.

10. Beneficiaries reaction:

- a. At the beginning of the training course they were cautious, shy and conservative; by the end of the course they were able to establish work groups composed of both sexes.
- b. Through the course sessions, the participants managed to hold a democratic and tolerant manner.
- c. The participants started planning for their own initiatives to serve their local communities. Some of them contacted RUWWAD directly to apply for youth grants.
- d. The participants of both sexes contributed to the voluntary activities enthusiastically. The project team was admired to observe female participants painting walls, planting trees, or cleaning public areas in such conservative communities.

11. General problems faced and lessons learned:

- a. At the time that the project is being executed; the Palestinian central Bureau of statistics is implementing a population count; so our beneficial are called to participate in this operation. Because of these particular situation we organized the training sessions during day offs and after work.
- b. Although SHAMS managed to conduct the training courses, but the selected timetable was problematic in terms of bringing people to such long sessions during the olive harvest season. Any activity that would be implemented in the countryside areas should take into consideration that the people depend highly on agriculture and should avoid agricultural seasons.
- c. The budget constraints prevented SHAMS from conducting extra activities for the participants as a kind of reward for their participation in the voluntary activities.