# Together for our Rights



ADVANCING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN JERUSALEM



HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG PALESTINE & JORDAN





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Together with the five partner organizations, **Right to Play** (RTP), War Child Holland (WCH), Sawa, Arab Center for Agricultural Development (ACAD) and ArtLab, the Heinrich Böll Foundation Palestine & Jordan office has launched the EU-funded

project **"Advancing the Rights of Vulnerable Palestinian Women and Children in East Jerusalem"** on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. The project runs until August 2017 and is, on a long-term basis, designed to strengthen the target group's capacity to defend their own human and political rights, through improved social, psychosocial, economic and cultural opportunities and well-being for vulnerable children, youth and women in occupied East Jerusalem. Project activities include, amongst other things, youth trainings on visual arts, support for female entrepreneurs and micro-businesses, awareness raising on violence against women and women's rights, psychological relief and support for children, as well as support for youth clubs and small community based organizations.

Project website: https://ps.boell.org/en/advancing-rightsvulnerable-palestinian-women-and-children-east-jerusalem

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ WomenRightsJerusalem.hbs/?fref=ts



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## ABOUT THE PARTNERS

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#### **Heinrich Böll Stiftung**

hbs has a longstanding experience in managing, financing and coordinating large projects and is the lead organization of the EU funded project **"Advancing the Rights** of Vulnerable Palestinian Women and Children in East Jerusalem". hbs works in

close coordination with its five project partners to ensure successful implementation of the activities and the attainment of all the project goals and objectives. Moreover, the lead organization issues a bi-annual Newsletter with all the updates on the EU project and conducts a study on the situation of vulnerable groups in East Jerusalem, focusing on women and children.

As part of its activities, hbs also supports small actions of community based organizations that joined the EU project recently through the award of sub-grants. The objective of this component is to strengthen the capacities of small CBOs/ NGOs in East Jerusalem, who have to perform under extraordinarily difficult circumstances and whose work is crucial for the well-being and protection of human rights of marginalized local communities. Seven organizations were selected to join the project network: Jerusalem Center for Women, Al Mortaqa Women organization, Al Razi Cultural and Social Association, Old City Youth Association, Nibras Al Quds Society for Individuals with Special Needs, Sabreen Association of Artistic Development and Spafford Children Center. The actions that they implement cover a wide range of topics, themes and target groups, such as campaigns against gender based violence, integration of disabled people, women empowerment, artistic trainings and much more.

HBS website: https://ps.boell.org/en

For more information on HBS work please contact: Maria Fraskou, maria. fraskou@ps.boell.org



# ARAB CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (ACAD)



Within the framework of our EU project, ACAD provides women entrepreneurs with the necessary business skills and confidence to develop sustainable cooperative microenterprises and access local markets to sell their services/products. This is mainly achieved through various life skills and vocational trainings, as well as financial support.

ACAD works together with several community based organizations, including Burj Al-luqluq Social Center Society in the Old City, The Domari Society of Gypsies in Jerusalem in Shuafat and Abu Tur-Silwan Women's organization. The women are provided with counseling on economic feasibility of income generating projects and sub-grants are provided to the partner organizations with the objective to develop small business units, such as food processing and catering, beauty salons, small urban agricultural businesses and others. ACAD supports initiatives that encourage generation of job opportunities, capacity building and development of the Palestinian women business sector and facilitates finance opportunities to establish small enterprises.

ACAD website: http://www.acad.ps/index.php For more information on ACAD's work please contact: info@acad.ps

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Unlabeled: First Year Youth Start Up project by Artlab students

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# ARTĽAB

ArtLab is a newly established organization based in East Jerusalem. It began as an experiment among artists and professionals who wanted to share a common workspace and develop new pathways of communication for creative exchange.

As part of the EU funded project, ArtLab assists young students to develop artistic skills, focusing among others on photography, moviemaking and storytelling, as well as cultural awareness and be introduced and networked with the local and international professional artistic community. This support will enable them to apply for various technical and artistic job opportunities and assist them in ensuring a sustainable economic development. Therefore, by increasing their professional capability over a period of 3 years, the young artists will increase their economic marketability not only on a local level, but also on a regional level. Specific attention is dedicated to the participation of young women living in East Jerusalem due to the recognized need for increased economic and professional training options for them, as well as the goal of bringing out the female voice in the city.

Artlab website: http://www.artlabjerusalem.org/ ArtLab facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/artlabjerusalem For more information on ArtLab's work please contact: info@artlabjerusalem.org



# RIGHT TO PLAY

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# **RIGHT**

As a partner in the EU project, Right to Play provides children and young people with creative psychosocial support services and leisure activities, in order to increase their opportunities of learning and developing through playing spaces, accessible for children with disabilities and girls. The increase of quality and access is mainly achieved through the capacity building of the main stakeholders involved at civil society level, such as community based organizations, schools and teachers. Yearly meticulous assessments are conducted to choose the right partners. Right to Play selects each year a great number of schools and youth/sports clubs to support, in close cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education, including Al- Azariya Youth Club, Abu Dees Youth Club, Al Azarayia Cultural Centre-Hamawi Centre, Jeel Al Amal – Al Azariya, Shufat Youth Club, The Arab Association for the Physically Handicapped, Silwan Youth Club, Princess Basma Association and many others.

Moreover, access to all children and youth and inclusion of people with disabilities is guaranteed by the renovation of facilities and spaces that is so much needed in East Jerusalem. The increase of rights awareness both of the children and the communities in issues related to children rights is of special importance in the action, as to guarantee sustainability and long term impacts.

Right to Play website: http://www.righttoplay.com/Pages/default.aspx

For more information on Right to Play's work please contact: Diana Makhlouf, dmakhlouf@righttoplay.com



Play and Fun Day by Right to Play

# SAWA - ALL THE WOMEN TOGETHER TODAY AND TOMORROW

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Sawa's role in the EU project is to provide women and young girls victims of GBV or at risk of suffering from GBV with psychological support and information. This is part of an effort to establish protection mechanisms and to generate an increase of rights awareness regarding women human rights and GVB identification and prevention. Sawa's Mobile Clinic program brings awareness-raising and support activities to distant and marginalized areas where sources of psycho-social support and of information are rare or difficult to access.

Moreover, since 1998, Sawa has offered psychological support to violence victims and those suffering from psycho-social problems, through a Call Center system using the latest in communication technologies to ensure efficient service and thorough documentation of cases. The call center is supported by the project, with the objective to raise the number of the calls and ensure support for those who need it. The 121HotLine service is offered to callers free of charge. In the framework of its project activities, Sawa reaches a considerable number of women, but also men, including bus drivers in East Jerusalem, that participate in women's rights awareness sessions and are sensitized in preventing and addressing violence against women and girls.

Sawa website: http://www.sawa.ps/en/ For more information on Sawa's work please contact: Lina Saleh, lina@sawa.ps

Awareness raising sessions for tribal mediators by SAWA





War Child Holland (WCH) has long experience in implementing communitybased interventions in the Palestinian Territories, using a unique methodology that builds on the resilience and strengths of children in conflict affected areas.

In the framework of the EU project, WCH focuses on life skills sessions for children, where they learn to deal with their emotions, develop relations with peers and adults and plan for the future. To successfully accomplish this farreaching goal and ensure a long term impact, each year WCH partners and builds the capacity of meticulously selected community based organizations (CBOs) in marginalized neighborhoods of East Jerusalem. For instance, throughout the second year of project implementation, WCH has been working with three local community structures: Athori-Silwan Women Center, Mada Creative Centre and Al Bustan Center, to build on the resilience and strength of children and their communities. A Child Safety Policy, developed by WCH, guarantees high level safety standards during the project activities and together with the renovation works that take place every year in the partner CBOs, assure an appropriate and safe environment for the Palestinian children.

War Child Holland website: http://www.warchildholland.org/occupied-palestinianterritory

For more information on War Child's work please contact: Sahar Smoom, Sahar. Smoom@warchild.nl

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## OUR PROJECT RESULTS AND MILES TONES

- The project has reached thousands of Palestinian women, children and families from vulnerable and marginalized communities of East Jerusalem.
- Through the project, more children and young people, including girls and children with disabilities, have access to psychosocial support services and child safe spaces and facilities.
- Thousands of women and young girls have received support in terms of health and safety.
- Hundreds of women have acquired social empowerment and self-confidence skills.
- Many Jerusalemite women entrepreneurs improved their living conditions through the opening of collective micro-businesses.
- A great number of youth have acquired professional artistic skills and found studying and employment opportunities in the artistic field.

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