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The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy
MIFTAH

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

GIZ

Support Women Active Leadership Roles at Local Government Units

(November 2105-April 2016)

The project seeks to:

Enhance the abilities of local council members (males and females) and potential women and young women candidates for the upcoming elections to reflect gender-awareness in decision making processes, more specifically in planning and management of LGUs from gender-lens.

Objectives:

1. Provide local governments with the tools to better understand the importance of gender in the decision-making process and to reach better solutions for the communities they serve (in four main areas: a) urban planning, b) gender-sensitive decision making, c) laws, regulations and procedures, and d) gender-responsive strategic development and planning
2. Raise the capacities of local council members (males and females) and potential female candidates for the 'upcoming elections' on decision-making processes and procedures in local governance.
3. Promote networking and sharing of experiences/successes between current female local council members and potential female candidates.

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Produce four user-friendly source guides on four major topics: 1. Participatory Strategy Development and Gender-Responsive Planning; 2. Local Government Law, Regulations and Procedures; 3. Gender-Sensitive Decision-Making Mechanisms in Local Governance; and 4. Urban Planning Guidebook (already

developed by MIFTAH and GIZ). These manuals will be collated in a tool kit and provided to local council members to ease and facilitate their activism in tackling technical local governance issues.

Training for local council members on Decision Making Mechanisms

Organize 3-day training sessions / cluster in the West Bank (in three clusters: North, South and Middle) on Gender –responsive decisions –making mechanisms in local governors for 25 local council member (females and males) / cluster.

Organize a six-day capacity development workshop for 25 female local council members from local government units in Ramallah and Al-Bireh district. The workshop entails delivering a training package (report writing, computer skills that is developed based on a need assessment as identified by the female local council members themselves

Training for potential young political Leaders

Organize 3-day centralized training in the west Bank for 25 potential female candidates for upcoming elections on “gender- responsive decision – making mechanisms in local governance”.

Organize 3-day centralized training in the Gaza Strip for 25 potential female candidates for upcoming elections on “gender- responsive decision – making mechanisms in local governance”.

Produce a documentary to echo successful experiences of female local council members which will be used for advocacy and awareness-raising on the importance of integrating gender-sensitive approach in local governance decision-making. The documentary will be used as a tool to promote networking and sharing of experiences between local council members themselves and with potential female candidates whose leadership and decision-making roles will be promoted by the project.

Organize 6 seminars at 6 universities in the West Bank: namely in: Birzeit University, Bethlehem University, Al Najjah University, Arab American –Jenin, Hebron University, Al Quds University, where accomplish female council members can speak to young student about their success, therefore inspiring the younger generation to carry on in their footsteps and motivate young leaders to call for their political rights and advocate with civil society to influence policy formulation that ensure youth political participation and support the advocacy efforts in decreasing the candidacy age to 21 to be adopted in the election laws.

Hold one policy dialogue session to bring together political leaders, government official with trained female council members and young women leaders. The former will present their positions to influence policies and strategies that promote women and youth representation in the electoral lists, address their demands to enable legal framework that guarantee gender-sensitive constitutional provision.

The Project Target areas:

The project targets different areas within 16 governorates in the West Bank and Gaza strip;

West Bank districts: namely, Tulkarm, Nablus, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Jericho and Jordan Valley, Jenin, Bethlehem, Hebron, Tubas, Salfit and Qalquilia,

Gaza Strip districts; Gaza, the North, Middle, Rafah, and Khan Yunis.