

مؤسسة
التعاون
WELFARE ASSOCIATION

**A Continued Commitment to Sustainable Development
& Humanitarian Assistance in Palestine**



WA at a glance

A young girl with brown hair and a blue star on her forehead is smiling and holding a blue perforated metal fence. She is wearing a white shirt with black polka dots. The background is slightly blurred, showing a red structure and a blue wall.

Who we are

Founded in 1983, the Welfare Association (WA) is a non-profit civil society organization dedicated to the progress of Palestinians by preserving their heritage and identity, supporting their living culture and building civil society. We work in partnership with local communities and support them as they strive to realize their full potential. We create better opportunities by supporting sustainable development initiatives.

Registered in Switzerland, the Welfare Association is one of the largest development organizations working in the occupied Palestinian territory, with offices in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Gaza, Amman, and Geneva, with a branch in Beirut and a sister organization in London. We employ a team of highly qualified staff throughout our areas of operations.

Our track record during the past 30 years reveals a journey of accomplishments and learning. Enriched by strong partnerships, we brought to fruition creative and innovative solutions despite dire conditions and adverse restrictions. Over this period, we have become more capable to assess, monitor and evaluate, to change, adapt and innovate, and to make our programs responsive to the precarious social and economic structures that have evolved throughout 67 years of occupation and dispossession.

What we do

We work with Palestinians to break through aid dependency by empowering them to take control of their lives and become drivers of change, building a civil society and a viable economy, thereby supporting their struggle to end occupation and achieve independent statehood.

We offer smart solutions to complex problems. We concentrate our efforts on tackling symptoms of marginalization and poverty by working in partnership with our beneficiaries and in collaboration with local and international development organizations and government aid agencies. We leverage resources and bring about transformative change through cost effective programs with measurable social and economic returns.

We are committed to advancing creativity, gender equity, a green and sustainable environment, and high standards of governance. All of these factors are crosscutting themes within our impact areas in education, culture, community development, and emergency and humanitarian assistance.

Where we work

Our work touches the lives of an estimated 1 million Palestinians every year in urban and rural areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in the refugee camps in Lebanon, and in the 1948 areas where Palestinians are marginalized. We work with all segments of Palestinian society, especially children, youth, women, people with special needs and the underprivileged.

WA won several international awards including the Agha Khan Award for Architectural Renovation of Historic Building and the Campden Charity & Philanthropy Award.



Our Governance

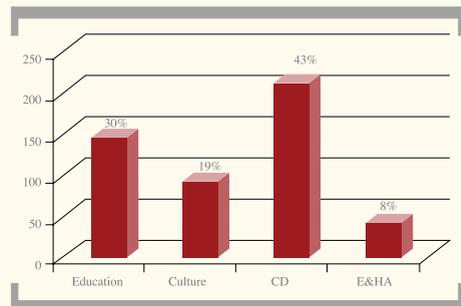
The WA has a General Assembly of 170 members entrusted with shaping its strategic direction and policies. The Assembly elects 45 of its members every three years to serve on the Board of Trustees, which oversees the Association's overall performance through an elected Board of Directors. Members contribute directly by serving on committees that expand outreach and enrich impact.

The WA has been recognized for its rigorous performance, transparency, and accountability. WA has won several international awards, including the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program, 2004) and Campden Wealth's Middle East Philanthropy Award (Best Local Foundation, 2012). In the USA, WA accepts tax-exempt contributions through the King Baudouin Foundation United States (KBFUS) an American 501(c)(3) public charity. In 2014, we were granted the Equivalency Determination ("ED") certificate, we gained the Global Reporting Initiative Level A, and our ISO 9001:200 was renewed.

Our Investments

Over the past 30 years, the Welfare Association has invested US\$550 million into programming that improves the lives of Palestinians. Our next financial goal (for 2014-2016) is to raise US\$150 million to scale-up our current programs and achieve a greater impact. We rely on our own resources and the returns of our \$60 million endowment. Our funding comes from donations from individuals including members, corporations, regional and international organizations, and government aid agencies with whom we share a common vision and commitment towards a better future for the Palestinians.

We are also working diligently to expand our collaboration with private sector corporations committed to social investment. We understand that engaging more stakeholders leads to greater impact.



30 years of investments for Palestinians

CD: Community Development

E&HA: Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance

Our Impact

Preserving Life and Dignity:

Humanitarian Relief

WA's oldest program reflects the organization's core value that all individuals are entitled to the basic human needs of food security, water, shelter, education, sanitation, and healthcare. Our interventions in these areas vary in size and scale and are based on rigorous evaluations to ensure that they are making a difference, saving lives, and providing our beneficiaries with dignified living.

An Innovative Model of Investing in Youth, Investing in the Future:

Youth Empowerment Services (YES)

This range of initiatives aims to empower youth by enhancing their personal growth and social skills to become "leaders of social change" and integrating them into the labor market through job placement, training and help with entrepreneurship and business startups.

An Innovative Model, and a Holistic Approach from Relief to Development:

Mustaqbali Program

Mustaqbali (Arabic for "my future") is our most ambitious intervention to date in which the WA, through its benefactors, has pledged responsibility for the welfare of 1,804 Palestinian children orphaned during the Israeli assault on Gaza in 2008. The program provides for the wellbeing of the children and will continue to support them until they become independent young women and men capable of providing for themselves and positively contributing to their community.

Working for a Better Future:

Early Childhood Development Program

This program aims to improve Palestinian children's access to quality early childhood care and education, to nurture their cognitive, social, and emotional development and to facilitate their successful transition to formal schooling. The program focuses on establishing local and regional partnerships and networks aiming for policy development and change at the ground level.

Supporting a Nation, Preserving an Identity:

The Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Program

This program implements comprehensive revitalization targeting run-down neighborhoods in urban and rural areas. It covers the restoration of old buildings and preserving architectural heritage, the rehabilitation of residential housing and infrastructure, and the creation of spaces for cultural, social, and economic activities to empower the communities and improve their living conditions. The work initially focused on the old city of Jerusalem but has now expanded to other old cities in Palestine, such as Nablus (<http://ocjrp.welfare-association.org>).

Supporting a Nation, Preserving an Identity:

The Palestinian Museum

The Museum comes as a culmination of the achievements of the WA during its 30-year journey engaging Palestinians in the homeland and the diaspora. The Museum aims to preserve Palestinian history and identity and to serve as a platform for hosting exchanges between Palestinians and the international community (www.palmuseum.org).

Contact us

Jerusalem	Tel. +972-2 627-2127 Fax: +972-2 627-2125 E-mail: welfare@jwelfare.org	P.O.Box 25204 Shu'fat, Jerusalem
Ramallah	Tel. +970-2 241-5130 Fax: +970-2 297-5984 E-mail: welfare@jwelfare.org	Al Nahda Square, Canada St, Ramallah-Palestine P.O. Box 658, Ramallah
Gaza	Tel. +970-8286-9881 Fax: +970-8283-7757 E-mail: welfare@jwelfare.org	El-Mena, Behind Monetary Authority P.O. Box 5018 Gaza
Amman	Tel. +962-6 585-0600 Fax: +962-6 585-5050 E-mail: welfare@jwelfare.org	Zahran St, Bld. No. 127 P.O. Box 840888 Amman 11184 Jordan
Beirut	Tel. +961-1 303218 Fax: +961-1 319218 E-mail: welfareb@jwelfare.org	Wata Mousseitbeh, Gabriel El Morr Street Nasseeb Zouheiry, 5th floor P.O.Box 113-7275 Beirut – Lebanon
London	Tel. +44-20 7259-2454 Fax: +44-20 7244 0584 E-mail: info@welfareassociation.org.uk	Tower House 226 Cromwell Road London SW5 OSW
Geneva	P.O.Box 3765 CH-1211Geneva 3, Switzerland	

For donations, contact us:
email: rdcteam@jwelfare.org,
Palestine Tel: +97022415130 ext. 301
Jordan Tel: +96265850600 ext. 21

 WelfarePalestine

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www.welfareassociation.org