Press Release
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Working Together to Eradicate Poverty: The EU provides €1.5 million for the Social Protection System in Palestine

The European Union and Palestinian Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) launched a new 1.5 million capacity building programme for the improvement of social protection systems in Palestine. The launching of the support also marks the International Day of Eradication of Poverty which acknowledges the right of all people to fully exercise their human rights. This day was designated by the United Nation General Assembly and is observed worldwide.

The new EU funded programme has been designed in support of the upcoming Palestinian Social Protection Sector Strategy and the National Policy Agenda 2017-2022. The new programme focuses, in particular, on the effectiveness and coherence of Palestine's social protection system through focusing on improving the social services that in turn will contribute to the goal of ending poverty in all its forms in Palestine, in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

"The EU supports the Ministry of Social Development to operate in the highest capacity to better serve vulnerable families through an inclusive and equitable social protection system. Ending poverty means: better education, better health, higher employment rates, and a growing economy. All these components are the building stones of a future Palestinian State," said **EU Representative Ralph Tarraf** on the occasion. "Today, we observe the International Day of Eradication of Poverty while acknowledging the efforts and struggles of people living in poverty. It is a collective obligation for all of us to fulfil the needs and aspirations of everyone for this and future generations," he added.

The EU-funded programme aims to support the MoSD to improve and develop the strategic and management capacity of the institution to better serve vulnerable families and groups in Palestine. It is intended to support the MoSD's Regional Directorates in delivering services to vulnerable groups. It also aims to enhance the multi-stakeholder partnerships coordination for local social protection planning and service delivery. The programme will be implemented in parallel to the Cash Transfer programme.

To watch a video about the joint work of the EU and the Ministry of Social Development, click here

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