United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

Ramallah Office

PRESS RELEASE
2018/6
Ramallah, 10 May 2018

UNESCO, Consulate General of Sweden in Jerusalem and the Municipality of Hebron, celebrated the rehabilitation of Khan Shahin Street in the Old Town of Hebron





On 10 May 2018, UNESCO and Consulate General of Sweden in Jerusalem celebrated the finalization of the infrastructural rehabilitation of Khan Shahin Street in the Old Town of Hebron with the residents of the city and its institutions including the Municipality of Hebron and the Hebron Rehabilitation Committee.

Khan Shahin Street was rehabilitated within the framework of the project "*Local development through* the Rehabilitation and Revitalization of Historic Environment in Palestine", funded by the Government of Sweden through UNESCO. The rehabilitation works extended for two years with a total cost of USD 708,000 with the aim of enhancing the living conditions of the residents of the Old Town by providing a solution for the successive winter flooding in the area exacerbated due to the poor infrastructure.

In her remarks, Ms. Christina Etzell, Consul, Head of the Swedish Development Cooperation said, "*through our cooperation, we support the efforts to help the residents of the Old Town of Hebron, to remain in your land. We do this for example by improving the infrastructure and the rehabilitation of houses for public services. I would like to thank the people of Hebron for their continuous efforts for keeping the Old Town of Hebron a viable place for Palestinians*".

The Head of Culture Unit at UNESCO Ramallah Office, Mr. Ahmad Junaid Sorosh-Wali emphasized "*the importance of the project in enhancing the living conditions in this beautiful area by improving the capacity of the infrastructure to solve the winter floods that affected the daily life of inhabitants, shop owners and visitors alike*." He added, "*This intervention is part of a series of 65 rehabilitation projects carried out by UNESCO and its partners since 2013 in Palestine, which are considered a concrete translation of UNESCO's goals and*

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization
منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

Ramallah Office

PRESS RELEASE
2018/6
Ramallah, 10 May 2018

mandate in protecting, managing and promoting heritage of humanity for future generations".

Mr. Ezzat Lehroub, a shop owner in Al Qasaba Street in the Old Town expressed his gratitude for the government of Sweden and the project partners for enabling him to stay in his shop without fearing the floods every winter. He said, "*I am now able to come and work during winter time after I was blocking the doors of my shops to prevent the water leak into the shops and damage my goods as the water would reach up to a level of 1.5 meters high in the street*".

Hebron/Al-Khalil Old Town on UNESCO's World Heritage List in July 2017. More information about the site is available at http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1565

For more information on UNESCO's activities in Palestine, please visit www.unesco.org/ramallah and visit us on : Unesco Ramallah Office

For more information on this event, please contact: Majd Beltaji, Public Information Officer of the UNESCO Ramallah Office, at m.beltaji@unesco.org