Press Release
Jerusalem
20th of June 2019

EU, France and the Palestinian Authority launch the Nexus North Project

The European Union, France and the Palestinian Government launched today a new innovative project linking renewable energies and water infrastructures in the North of Palestine. This project will include the first ever windmills that will be constructed in Tubas and Jenin Governorates. These windmills will provide clean energy for the water pumps in the area thus reducing significantly the costs for water delivery.

Tomas Niklasson, the Deputy EU Representative in Jerusalem, with Pierre Cochard, the Consul General of France in Jerusalem and Nicolas Gury, AFD deputy Country Director joined the Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh, Mazen Ghunaim, the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority, Zafer Milhem the Chairman of the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority and officials from Jenin and Tubas to celebrate the official start of the Nexus North Project. They laid the cornerstone of the first windmill ever in Tubas that will serve the project.

The Nexus North Project is one of a kind in Palestine but could pave the way to a whole new sector for the wind energy. Along with solar panels, the two foreseen wind turbines in Tubas governorate will directly be connected to the water infrastructures in a symbiotic way in order to supply the energy in the most efficient way, while being a contribution to Palestine climate change.

The Consul General of France in Jerusalem Pierre Cochard thanked all the Palestinian stakeholders for their involvement and declared that while climate change effects are starting to be felt in Palestine, it is heartwarming to see this kind of project that represents a step in the right direction. According to him, this project is a crucial initiative that will contribute to fulfill the people's right to water, and the long lasting commitment of France and the European Union in Palestine to implement the water reforms.

The Deputy EU Representative Tomas Niklasson said: "The EU considers access to water a primary human need and a fundamental human right. Under occupation, the Palestinians continue to face major challenges in both the water and the energy sector. This project addresses such challenges creatively by relying on renewable energy to improve the water situation in the north of the West Bank. Our support to