Representative Office
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Ramallah

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Press Release
Government of Germany's Euro 10 million through UNDP to Create Employment Opportunities in West Bank and Gaza Strip

Ramallah, 27 August 2019 – As part of their rigorous effort to tackle unemployment and combat the rising levels of poverty, the Government of Germany, through its Development Bank (KfW), and the United Nations Development Programme signed an agreement in the amount of Euro 10 million. The agreement will complement the tenth phase of the Poverty Oriented Infrastructure through Employment Generation Programme implemented in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip. The programme is part of the German-Palestinian development cooperation in the sector of sustainable economic cooperation.

"We are very happy to continue the strong cooperation with UNDP, intending to provide future prospects for Palestinians in the most vulnerable areas" Michael Herold, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the German Representative Office said on the occasion of the contract signing.

The programme aims to reduce poverty within the Palestinian community by providing labour intensive temporary employment and income generation opportunities through social and economic infrastructure. Targeting several sectors, including health, education, cultural heritage, the programme will give special focus to youth, women, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable.

UNDP Special Representative of the Administrator, Roberto Valent highlighted that with unemployment standing at 26% (70% among youth in Gaza), facilitating job creation is an imperative in the efforts to reverse the trends and support the resilience of the Palestinian population. "UNDP values its strong partnership with the Government of Germany. Innovation has been a key component of this programme and has impacted the lives of tens of thousands of Palestinian men, women and children," he added.

It is estimated that around 70,000 workdays will be generated under the programme, and more than 300 permanent jobs will be created. Approximately 170,000 people will benefit from the implemented interventions.

Since its inception in 2002, the Government of Germany has funded, through KfW and implemented by UNDP, over 731 projects in the West Bank and Gaza Strip through its Euro 91.9 million Employment Generation Programme (EGP), generating over 1.2 million workdays and 2,500 permanent jobs (60% for women). The diverse range of projects have included the rehabilitation and construction of hospitals, centres for vocational training, culture, women and persons with special needs, youth clubs and sports facilities, road, water and sewage networks among others.

التعاون الألماني
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

KfW

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