LAC

SECRETARIAT

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LACS Newsletter

Local Aid Coordination Secretariat

Shared Calendar of Events

Please click on link to see a full calendar of aid coordination meetings:
http://www.ldf.ps/EventCalendarEndUser.aspx

List of Recent Meetings

- **Wednesday, 22 November 2017**: Education Sector Working Group meeting at 10:30 in the main meeting hall at Al Quds Open University in Gaza. A video link will be set up with Yasser Arafat Hall at MoEHE in Ramallah.

Documents & Reports

United Nations

❖ OCHA

- Gaza crossings: movement of people and goods, 28 November 2017
  https://www.ochaopt.org/page/gaza-crossings-movement-people-and-goods
- Protection of Civilians, 7 – 20 November 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32939
- Gaza crisis: early warning indicators – October 2017, 20 November 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32935
- Humanitarian Bulletin, October 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32912

❖ WFP

- State of Palestine Country Brief, October 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32942
- State of Palestine Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022), 31 October 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32943

FAO – Ministry of Agriculture

- Brief – Multi-donor Agribusiness Programme (MAP), 20 November 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32929 (in English)
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32930 (in Arabic)

World Bank

- Summary Report – Securing Energy for Development in the West Bank and Gaza, 17 November 2017 http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32923 (Summary Report)
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32921 (Annexes)
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMU_MEZWkAc (Video)
- Brief on "Securing Energy for Development in West Bank and Gaza", 14 November 2017
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32922

Press Releases and Formal Statements

UN

Briefing by Nickolay Mladenov, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, to the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East, 20 November 2017

I brief you today as critical intra-Palestinian talks are scheduled to open in Cairo tomorrow. The United Nations, the Middle East Quartet and the international community continue our support for Egyptian efforts to sustainably implement the recent intra-Palestinian agreement and return Gaza under the control of the legitimate Palestinian Authority.

By signing the Cairo agreement on 12 October, Palestinians embarked on a long road that could lead to reconciliation. First, however, they must solve the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and return the Strip under the full civilian and security control of the Palestinian Authority.

The full briefing is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32932

FAO - Ministry of Agriculture

Ambitious Multi-donor Agribusiness Programme launched for Palestine, 20 November 2017

20 November 2017, Ramallah – Today a new direction for coordinated support to agribusiness in Palestine was unveiled at the launch of the Multi-donor Agribusiness Programme "Reform and Development of Markets, Value Chains and Producers' Organizations" (MAP) in Ramallah. Denmark, the Netherlands, EU, Switzerland and Spain are joining forces with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to support this four-year, USD 30 million programme to accelerate the market-based development of Palestinian agribusiness.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32926 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32927 (in Arabic)

UNESCO

Education Stakeholders in Palestine gather for the first time in Gaza City for the Education Sector Working Group Meeting, 22 November 2017

Gaza City – On 22 November 2017, the Education Sector Working Group (ESWG) met, for the first time since its establishment within the Local Aid Coordination Mechanism (LACS), in Gaza, after the recent and on-going political reconciliation process. The meeting in Gaza brought together all main education stakeholders in Palestine, to take stock of developments in the education sector since the last meeting in September, but also and mainly to address pressing needs of Education in Gaza for future action by all partners involved.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32938

UNESCO completes Phase II of open dialogue between Palestinian security forces and journalists on freedom of expression, 16 November 2017

A 3-day open dialogue between law enforcement actors and journalists was concluded on Wednesday at the Ministry of Interior in Ramallah, Palestine. The event was organized following a successful first experience supported by UNESCO in September of this year.
Altogether, over 50 members of police and security forces have been trained on how they can contribute to an environment that is conducive to freedom of expression and ensure safer working conditions for journalists.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32918 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32919 (in Arabic)

EU

Local EU statement on the continuing threat of demolitions and seizures of Palestinian structures in the occupied West Bank, 24 November 2017

The European Union Representative and the EU Heads of Mission in Jerusalem and Ramallah issue the following statement:
The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah deplore the continuing threat of demolitions and seizures of Palestinian structures in the occupied West Bank. The recent military orders against Palestinians in the communities of Ein al-Hilweh and Umm Jamal in the Northern Jordan valley and the community of Jabal al-Baba are leaving properties of up to 400 persons at risk of seizure and demolition.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32945 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32946 (in Arabic)

Consulate General of France

70th anniversary of the adoption of resolution 181 by the UN General Assembly, 29 November 2017

During her press briefing today, the spokesperson of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs made the following statement:
On the 70th anniversary of the adoption of resolution 181 by the UN General Assembly providing for a partition plan and the creation of two states in Palestine, France reaffirms its commitment to the two-state solution, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in security within internationally recognized borders, with Jerusalem as the capital of both states.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32958

Signature of a budgetary aid convention, 20 November 2017

The Consul General was received this Monday, 20 November 2017 in Ramallah by the Palestinian Minister of Finance, Shukri Bishara. This very cordial meeting was the occasion to discuss bilateral relations. It was followed by the signing, by M. Bishara and the Consul General, of a budgetary aid convention totaling 8 million Euros. This new aid, granted by the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs in order to contribute to the funding of the national plan of Palestinian development and to the resolution of the current financial crisis, aims to reinforce Palestinian national institutions as part of the budget for 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32933

Consulate General of Italy – Italian Agency for Development Cooperation/ UN Women

The Italian Government and UN Women sign an agreement to support women's economic empowerment in Palestine, 21 November 2017

Jerusalem, 21 November 2017 – The Italian Government and UN Women signed an agreement today at the Italian Consulate in Jerusalem for a new programme to promote women's equal access to economic opportunities and decent work in Palestine.

The one-year programme aims to enhance women's economic empowerment in Palestine through promoting women's equal access to decent work opportunities. Funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), the programme will be implemented in close partnership between UN Women and ILO starting from January 2018.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32934

Consulate General of Italy – Italian Agency for Development Cooperation

Conference "Healthy food – better health: from producer to consumer", 23 November 2017

Ramallah, November 23rd 2017. HE the Minister of Health, Jawad Awad, opened today the Conference "Healthy food – better health: from producer to consumer", held in Ramallah under the auspices of the Consulate General of Italy in Jerusalem represented by the Consul General, Fabio Sokolowicz. At the event, funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), HE the Deputy Minister of Health, Asad Ramlawi, intervened together with the Representative of the AICS in Jerusalem, Cristina Natoli, and representatives of various ministries, international missions and organizations.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32944

Representative Office of Japan

Grant Signing Ceremony for Rehabilitation of Water Network in Kharbatha Bani Harith, funded by Japan, 22 November 2017

Grant Contracts for one Grassroots Human Security Project (GGP) was signed today by Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and representative of Kharbatha Bani Harith village council at the Representative Office of Japan in Ramallah for a total amount of US$ 82,300.

Kharbatha Bani Harith village council will use the fund to replace 2000m of water pipes with new galvanized steel pipes. This project aims at securing sufficient water supply of tap water for, about 800 direct beneficiaries.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32940 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32941 (in Arabic)

Representative Office of Germany/ KFW – UNDP

Germany and UNDP Support the Livelihoods of Children with Disabilities in East Jerusalem, 29 November 2017

The Federal Republic of Germany, through its German Development Bank KfW, the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre (JPBC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP/PAPP), marked the opening of a new kitchen unit and dining hall that meet health and safety standards to enable the continuation of services provided by the Princess Basma Centre in East Jerusalem.

The Representative of Germany in Ramallah, Mr Peter Beerwerth stressed: "We are very proud that with the support of the German government the closure of these much needed facilities could be prevented. The rehabilitated kitchen and dining hall now meet global health and security standards and enable the continuation of services the Center provides for people with disabilities in East Jerusalem."

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32957

Representative Office of Finland

Finland's centenary of independence is being celebrated in an epic way throughout the world, 27 November 2017

The centenary of Finland's independence culminates on Finland's Independence Day, 6 December 2017. The story of the 100-year-old Finland is extraordinary and rests on the values cherished by the Finns: democracy, education, equality and freedom of speech. The climax of the centenary will be a joint effort, and the programme will be rich and memorable. The celebrations will take place throughout Finland as well as in more than 100 countries on all the continents.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32955 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32956 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Under the slogan "Hand in hand to build our homeland" – Ola Awad announces the launching of the actual population count in Palestine, 29 November 2017

H.E. Ms. Ola Awad, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics "PCBS" / National Director of the Census, announced on Wednesday 29/11/2017, the launching of the third phase of the Population, Housing and Establishments Census 2017 in the State of Palestine, which represents the actual count of the population which will go on during 01 – 24/12/2017, under the slogan "Hand in hand to build our homeland".

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32951 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32952 (in Arabic)

Palestinian Producer Price Index – October, 28 November 2017

The overall Producer Price Index (PPI) for Palestine with its base month (December 2015=100) reached 101.63 in October 2017, as it increased by 1.62% compared to September 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32949 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32950 (in Arabic)

Construction Cost Index (CCI), Road Cost Index (RCI), Water Networks Cost Index (WNCI) and Sewage Networks Cost Index (SNCI) in the West Bank during October, 26 November 2017

Increase in the Construction Cost Index (CCI) for Residential Buildings

The Construction Cost Index (CCI) for residential buildings reached 105.08 with an increase of 0.35% in the West Bank* during October 2017 compared with September 2017 (base year 2013=100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32947 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32948 (in Arabic)

Preliminary Results of the Palestinian Registered External Trade in Goods of September 2017, 23 November 2017

Exports decreased in September, 2017 by 19.8% compared to August, 2017. It also decreased by 2.5% compared to September, 2016 and reached USD 73.5 million.

Exports to Israel decreased in September, 2017 by 21.9% compared to August, 2017 and represented 90.5% of total exports in September, 2017.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32936 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32937 (in Arabic)

PCBS press release on the Occasion of World Children's Day, 20 November 2017

The number of children under the age of 18 was estimated at about 2,250,809 in the State Palestine in mid-2017, of whom 1,149,410 males and 1,101,399 females; where the percentage of children in Palestine reached about 45.6% of the population (43.0% in the West Bank and 49.3% in Gaza Strip). The number of male children in the West Bank reached 660,087 and the number of females reached 633,334, while in Gaza Strip, the number of males reached 489,323 and the number of females reached 468,065.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32924 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32925 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **The Portland Trust Palestinian Economic Bulletin, November 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32959
- **EUPOL COPPS Newsletter, October 2017**

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=31899

- **MoLG – JICA Project Team, October 2017**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32953 (in English)
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=32954 (in Arabic)

Job vacancy

- **Swiss Cooperation Office (SDC) – National Programme Officer for Local Governance**
  For further details, please see attachment

- **Representative Office of Brazil – Administrative Assistant**
  For further details, please see attachment