LAC

SECRETARIAT

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Local Aid Coordination 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 Upcoming Meetings

- **Wednesday, 21 February 2018:** Education Sector Working Group Meeting at 09:30 at the Main Meeting Hall at MoEHE.

Documents & Reports

United Nations

❖ OCHA

Humanitarian Bulletin – January 2018, 8 February 2018
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34080

Protection of Civilians, 16 – 29 January 2018
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34067

❖ WHO

Health Access for Referral Patients from the Gaza Strip – December 2017, 7 February 2018
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34075

Association of International Development Agencies (AIDA)

50 Years of Occupation: Dispossession, Deprivation and De-development, October 2017
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34090 (Full report)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34091 (Summary)

Press Releases and Formal Statements

Prime Minister's Office

PM Hamdallah condemns Israel's demolition of Abu Nawwar school building and warns against increased attacks on Palestinian education, 5 February 2018

Ramallah-Office of the Prime Minister: Prime Minister Dr. Rami Hamdallah condemned today in the strongest possible terms the demolition of two classrooms in the Bedouin community of Abu Nawwar by Israeli forces. "Besides the fact that such a demolition contravenes international humanitarian law, this latest attack is directed against Palestinian schoolchildren, and is simply immoral. The right to education is universal and enshrined in several treaties, such as the Conventions of the Right of the Child, of which Israel is a signatory."

Earlier this morning, Israeli forces bulldozed the classrooms, which had been built with public European funds in October 2017. Prior to its construction, the community's children were forced to walk several kilometres to reach the closest school.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34071

UN

Statement by acting Humanitarian Coordinator for the oPt, Roberto Valent, on the Israeli authorities' destruction of donor-funded classrooms in the Palestinian community of Abu Nuwar, 4 February 2018

I am deeply concerned by the Israeli authorities' demolition this morning of two donor-funded classrooms (3rd and 4th grade), serving 26 Palestinian school children in the Bedouin and refugee community of Abu Nuwar, located in Area C on the outskirts of Jerusalem. The demolition was carried out on grounds of lack of Israeli-issued permits, which are nearly impossible to obtain.

Abu Nuwar is one of the most vulnerable communities in need of humanitarian assistance in the occupied West Bank. The conditions it faces also represent those of many Palestinian communities, where a combination of Israeli policies and practices –including demolitions and restricted access to basic services, such as education – have created a coercive environment that violates the human rights of residents and generates a risk of forcible transfer. This is the sixth demolition or confiscation incident in Abu Nuwar school by the Israeli authorities since February 2016.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34068

OCHA

UN: Electricity crisis brings Gaza to verge of disaster, 6 February 2018

Emergency fuel for critical facilities in Gaza will become exhausted within the next ten days, the United Nations warned today, noting an urgent need for donor support to avoid a humanitarian catastrophe driven by the energy crisis.

Supported by donors, the UN coordinates the delivery of emergency fuel to run back-up generators and vehicles in order to ensure that a minimum level of life-saving health, water and sanitation services are maintained in the midst of the dire electricity shortage facing the blockaded Strip. At present, the nearly two million Palestinian residents of Gaza, over half of whom are children, receive electricity for no more than eight hours each day.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34072

UNESCO – UN Women

Joint-Message from Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO and Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women on the occasion of the International Day for Women and Girls in Science, 11 February 2018

Our future will be marked by scientific and technological progress, just like our past. That future progress will be the greatest when it draws on the full talent, creativity and ideas of women and girls in science.

Most countries, industrialized or not, are far from achieving gender parity in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics subjects (STEM) at every level of the education system. That deficit feeds the employment gap. According to estimates by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, women currently represent less than 30 per cent of the research and development workforce worldwide.

The full message is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34083 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34084 (in Arabic)

UNESCO

Message from Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of World Radio Day, 13 February 2018

In 2018, UNESCO is dedicating World Radio Day to the theme of radio and sports.
The radio is a powerful means to transmit the enthusiasm of sport events. It is also a means to convey the values of fair play, teamwork and equality in sport.
Radio can help combat racist and xenophobic stereotypes that are, alas, expressed both on and off the field. It allows a broad range of traditional sports to be covered, far beyond the elite teams. It provides the opportunity to nurture diversity, as a force for dialogue and tolerance.
The full message is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34085 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34086 (in Arabic)

Launch of Arabic version of the Executive Summary of the World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development Report, 6 February 2018

Nablus, 6 February 2018- UNESCO launched yesterday the Arabic version of the executive summary of the 2017/2018 World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development Report. The launch was hosted by AnNajah University in Nablus, in cooperation with Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences and the UNESCO Ramallah Office. It received high attendance, with about 300 participants, including representatives of different civil society organizations, universities and ministries as well as university students.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34076 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34077 (in Arabic)

FAO

New Livestock Market set to boost trade in Hebron, 14 February 2018

14 February 2018, Hebron – Today a new livestock market was officially opened in Al Dahrieh, Hebron to serve directly 2 000 herders in addition to the consumers living in the area. The livestock market was established by the Al Dahrieh Municipality with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Ministry of Agriculture as part of a USD 2.9 million project to provide emergency support to vulnerable herders. The project was financed by the Government of Canada.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34100 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34101 (in Arabic)

EU

Local EU statement on the demolition by Israeli authorities of parts of the school of the Bedouin community of Abu Nuwar, 6 February 2018

The EU missions in Jerusalem and Ramallah express strong concern about demolition by the Israeli authorities of two donor-funded classrooms (3rd and 4th grade), serving 26 Palestinian school children in the Bedouin and refugee community of Abu Nuwar, located in Area C on the outskirts of Jerusalem, on 4 February. The classrooms were funded by the EU and EU Member States.
Every child has the right to access to education and States have an obligation to protect, respect and fulfil this right, by ensuring that schools are inviolable safe spaces for children.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34073 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34074 (in Arabic)

The European Union provides nearly €317,000 to support farmers in the West Bank, 2 February 2018

The European Union made its contribution to the Palestinian Authority (PA) to support Palestinian farmers and agro-businesses in the West Bank. The contribution was channelled to the PA's programme "Assistance to Agriculture in the West Bank - AAWB"amounts to €317,000.
The eligible beneficiaries are farmers and agro-businesses in the West Bank directly affected by Israeli occupation, and particularly farmers in Area B and C. This support will help the farmers to restart, repair or replace their damaged businesses through different activities including acquisition of agricultural supplies, rehabilitation of land and other small infrastructure works.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34065 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34066 (in Arabic)

Italian Agency For Development Cooperation

AICS Jerusalem granted around 500,000 euro of medical equipment for Palestinian hospitals, 7 February 2018

Jerusalem, February 7th, 2018 – The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation in Jerusalem signed this morning a contract for the supply of medical equipment with Medipharm, that won the tender published last August. Through a grant by 469.473.00 euro, Medipharm will provide first level Health Centers and Palestinian hospitals with 9 computed radiography and 6 ultrasounds, three of them including special equipment and three more special kit for core biopsy. This supply will strengthen mammographic screening service for the secondary prevention of the breast cancer.
The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34078

Spanish Cooperation Office

Spain grants 200.000 € to the PCBS, 9 February 2018

On 7th January, the Consul General of Spain in Jerusalem, Rafael Matos and the President of the Palestinian Centre Bureau of Statistics, Ola Awad, signed the agreement of the official Spanish Government donation in favor of the PCBS, as contribution for the ongoing updating Palestinian Census.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34081

Enable

Enabel, a new name for the Belgian development agency, 8 February 2018

On 1 January 2018, the Belgian Technical Cooperation (BTC) changed name. The Belgian development agency is now called Enabel. The renewed agency's mission is to implement and coordinate the Belgian development policy. The name change and the broadened mission of the Belgian development agency are part of a major reform of the Belgian Development Cooperation, which strongly aligns the Belgian development policy with the Sustainable Development Goals.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34079

Representative Office of Japan

Completion Project for Replacing Electricity Network in Sarta Village, funded by Japan, 14 February 2018

Today, February 14th,2018, Mr. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, visited Sarta in Salfit Governorate to celebrate the completion of the project funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The grant of US $76,290 was extended to Sarta Village Council to replace 2km of existing electricity cables with 95mm ABC cables. This project aims at improving the electricity provision and the residential environment in Sarta by rehabilitating the old naked electricity network.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34102 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34103 (in Arabic)

Representative Office of Japan – Grant Signing Ceremony – The Project for Construction of Cisterns for Seven Basic and Secondly Schools in Hebron and Bethlehem funded by Japan, 13 February 2018

Grant Contract 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 Palestinian Hydrology Group at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah for a total amount of US$86,000.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34096 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34097 (in Arabic)

Grant Signing Ceremony Replacing the Compost Production Plant in Beit Duqqu Village funded by Japan, 13 February 2018

Grant Contract 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 the Palestinian Farmers Union (PFU) at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah for a total amount of US$87,500.

The Palestinian Farmers Union will use the fund to replace the old compost production machines and reconstruct the current compost production plant of Beit Al-Karma Farmers Union in Beit Duqqu.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34094 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34095 (in Arabic)

Grant Signing Ceremony - Construction of New Building for the Disability Center in Al-Amari Refugee Camp funded by Japan, 13 February 2018

Grant Contract 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 Palestinian Society for Care and Development at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah for a total amount of US$79,266.

Palestinian Society for Care and Development will use the fund to establish a new building with three classrooms in the Center of the disabled in Al-Amari refugee camp.

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34092 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34093 (in Arabic)

PCBS

Decrease in the Consumer Price Index during January 2018, 14 February 2018

The overall CPI for Palestine during January 2018 decreased by 0.13% compared with December 2017 (by 0.27% in Jerusalem J1, while it increased by 0.37% in Gaza Strip, and by 0.16% in the West Bank).

The full press release is available at the following link:
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34098 (in English)
http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34099 (in Arabic)

The Labour Force Survey Results during 2017, 13 February 2018

The labour force participation rate of individuals aged 15 years and above was 45.5% in the year 2017

The number of individuals participating in the labour force in Palestine was 1,374,600 in 2017; 870,000 in the West Bank and 504,600 in Gaza Strip.

The labour force participation rate in the West Bank was 45.6% and 45.2% in Gaza Strip, the gap in the participation rate between males and females in Palestine still very big where it reached 71.2% for males compared with 19.0% for females.

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34087 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34088 (in Arabic)

Increase in the Industrial Production Index (IPI) in Palestine during 2017 & during December 2017, 5 February 2018

Increase in the Industrial Production Index (IPI) in Palestine during 2017

The overall IPI in Palestine reached 107.84 during the year of 2017 with an increase of 4.11% compared to the previous year (Base Month December 2015 = 100).

The full press release is available at the following link:

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34069 (in English)

http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34070 (in Arabic)

Newsletters

- **PCBS Electronic Monthly Bulletin, 5 February 2018**
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_137/Monthly%20bulletin_e.htm
  (in English)
  http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_PCBS/Documents/Monthly%20bulletin_137/Monthly%20bulletin_a.htm
  (in Arabic)

- **EUPOL COPPS Newsletter, February 2018**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34082

- **UNRWA Gender Bulletin, January 2018**
  http://www.ldf.ps/documentsShow.aspx?ATT_ID=34062

Job Vacancies

- **The Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS) – Fundraising Officer**
  For further details, please see attachment.

Announcements

- **The Consulate General of Belgium in Jerusalem** is pleased to inform you that the Belgian Development Cooperation's Special Evaluation Office and the Institute of Development Policy

at the University of Antwerp, are organizing a seminar on "Evaluation Capacity development" from 8 -19 October 2018.
For further details, please see attachment.

- **The UNFPA Office moved to a new premises. Please find below the new address:**
  UNFPA - Mount Scopus Building, fourth floor: 26 Nablus Road - Jerusalem 91196
  For directions, please see attached.