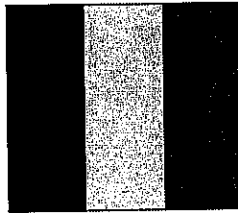




**The Palestinian National Authority  
Ministry of Education (MOE)  
D.G of Buildings**



**Funded by the Kingdom Of Belgium**

**Identification Form**

**Schools Construction, Rehabilitation and  
Equipment in the oPT  
PHASE IV**

**AUGUST 2, 2012**

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**THE PALESTINIAN NATIONAL AUTHORITY  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF SCHOOLS IN THE OCCUPIED  
PALESTINIAN TERRITORY (oPT) -PHASE IV.**

**I) Context and justification of the Project**

The Ministry of Education (MOE) is ruling more than 1,573 governmental schools hosted in 1,560 buildings in the West Bank. These schools host about 536,118 students.

Following elements summarize the current status of the Palestinian Education Sector:

1. It is necessary to absorb the annual natural students population growth in students
2. It is necessary to eliminate the schools operating on double shift basis.
3. Many schools, especially in the urban areas (Hebron and Nablus) are hosted in rented buildings which have not been designed or built to be used as schools; these buildings are not suitable for educational purposes.
4. Many schools suffer from over-crowding, not only in terms of the number of students per classroom but also in term of the allocated space area per student.
5. Many schools are in deep need for prompt maintenance and rehabilitation, as a result of the continuous neglect and lack of preventive maintenance.

The Ministry of Education is suffering from a chronic shortage of classrooms. It has to replace the old, rented and unsuitable classrooms in addition to the absorption of the natural population growth.

From the same perspective, this project is identified to deal with the construction of schools in the oPT.

The Project aims at constructing, furnishing & equipping new schools consisting of classrooms and other specialized rooms & facilities (kindergarten, canteen, ...), with careful consideration to fill in possible gaps at geographical level (school building in Gaza and area C will be considered in function of the security and political situation).

Special attention will be paid to interactions between schools and communities, to gender, and to energy efficiency and other environment-related aspects, as well as to aspects related to children friendliness. Maintenance efficiency of buildings will also be considered in order to minimize future maintenance costs. This component contributes to the education sector specific objective 1 ("Access": increasing access of school-aged children and students to all education levels and improving the ability to retain them).

Thousands of students will directly benefit from the Project. It will be implemented by the Directorate General of Buildings, at the Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOE) within a period of four years.

In the course of the present ICP, the partner committee will study a possible integration of schools building into the Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA) for the next ICP.

Recently the MoE adopted a new policy to add special technical units for female students in the existing or proposed new Industrial Schools. As a result most of the existing Industrial Schools now

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include special units for girls. Funding of TVET schools including such kind of units could also be considered.

## **II) Ministry in Charge of the Preparation and implementation of the Project:**

The Palestinian Authority designates the Ministry of Education (MOE) as the administrative entity responsible for the implementation of the Project.

The proposed Project will be implemented by the MOE through its Directorate General of Buildings (DGB).

## **III) General and specific Objectives of the Project**

The general objective is: "The quality of primary and secondary education in the Palestinian Territory is improved".

The specific objective is: "Access to education in the Palestinian Territory through an improved infrastructure and the creation of a healthy and safe educational environment is increased".

## **IV) Identified Beneficiaries and location of the Project**

The direct beneficiaries of this Project are more than 7,360 students, who are, or will be enrolled in those schools. The indirect beneficiaries are the headmasters, teachers and the whole Palestinian Community.

## **V) Link between the Project and the Palestinian National Development Plan (NDP) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**

Since the provision of a suitable educational environment has a direct impact on the overall educational process, the MOE has located the rehabilitation and development of the physical facilities on the top of its priorities. To identify needs and to assess the existing school buildings the MOE has developed its second Five Year Plan (FYP 2008-2012) which aims at identifying the problems and assessing the needs in this field.

By definition the project will contribute to reach MDG 2 "Achieve universal primary education".

## **VI) Belgian Maximum Budget (contribution) and Approximate Duration of the Intervention**

The total estimated budget of the proposed 4 years project is 16 MEUR.

## **VII) Synergies and coherence with other donors**

At present, a lot of donors are supporting the MOE, especially in constructing new schools and rehabilitating existing ones. The major donors funding the schools construction are Saudi Arabia, European Commission, Japan, Portugal, Brazil, Germany (KfW) in addition to the Joint Financing Partners or JFPs (Germany (KfW), Norway, Ireland & Finland) acting through the JFA.

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Under lead and supervision of the MOE and with the assistance of the Belgian technical expertise, the coordination of the schools construction programme will receive special attention during the meetings of the Education Sector Working Group (ESWG).

### **VIII) Measures to safeguard the sustainability of the intervention after Completion**

The MOE is one of the various ministries of the Palestinian Authority (PA). Each year, the MOE, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, prepares a yearly budget which reflects its needs and expenses. These expenses include teachers' and employees' salaries and future maintenance needs.

#### **a. Teachers' salaries:**

Some classrooms which are to be constructed through this Project are, in fact, replacement of either dilapidated classrooms or very poor rented rooms. This replacement will keep the same teachers to teach in the new facilities and it will also increase the student / teacher ratio which may lead to a decrease in the number of teachers.

This ratio will be increased by providing wider classrooms which can accommodate more students (36 students per classroom). Other facilities will eliminate the double-shift in existing schools. Since different teachers are teaching in every shift, the provision of such facilities will not need to appoint additional teachers. Other schools which are necessary to absorb the natural increase in school population are a must.

The salaries of the new teachers and other administrative employees as well as salaries of the current teachers and employees shall be covered by the budget reserved at the Ministry of Finance for the MOE.

#### **b. Maintenance:**

Maintenance works which will be needed for the new schools in the future will be covered by:

1. The educational tax that is collected by the Municipalities from the public and devoted for maintenance works of schools.
2. The specified percentage (25%) that is allocated for school maintenance from the revenues of schools fees.
3. The local communities' contributions in school maintenance.
4. Donations and grants from different International Organizations & friendly countries.
5. The budget of the MOE.

The implementation of this project is essential to keep the educational system alive and give it the zest which is important for its development.

