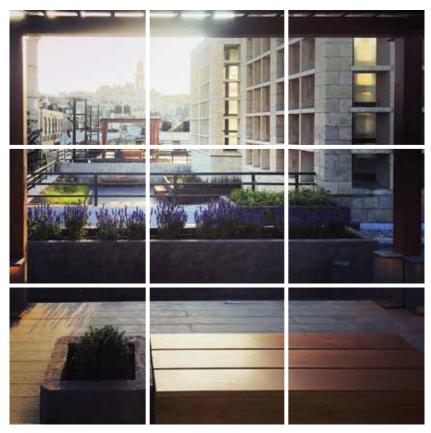
BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

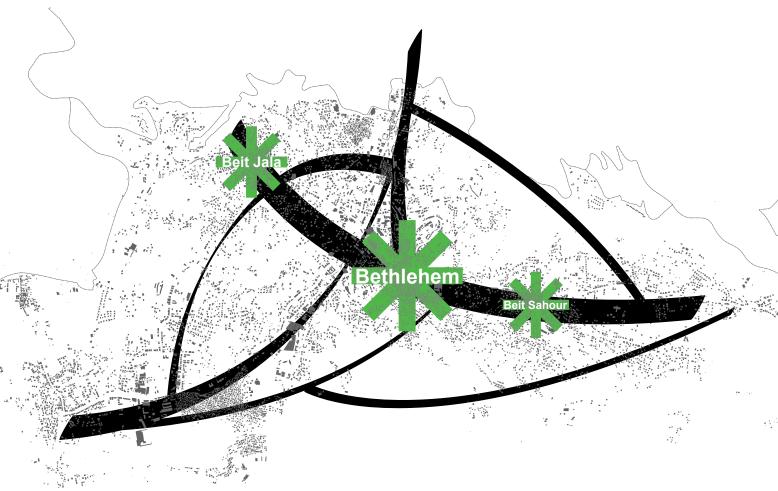
A NON - PROFIT ORGANIZATION



BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION BDF DELIVERS 2016



Bethlehem Development Initiative Arcs of Spirituality



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Board of Trustees Message





The Bethlehem Development Foundation (BDF) has sealed its third year of operation, moving closer to realizing its core vision to regenerate and revitalize the Bethlehem Governorate and transform it into a vibrant international tourist destination.

Since its establishment in May 2012, the Bethlehem Development Foundation has been keen on achieving the goals set for the Bethlehem Development Initiative launched by the late Said Khoury. The initiative aims to create a sustainable economy and infrastructure for Bethlehem, to enable this Holy City to sparkle as the peaceful beacon and unique spiritual center of the world for pilgrims.

Throughout 2016, BDF has utilized great efforts to build fruitful cooperation bridges with local governmental units, donor agencies and international bodies. The Foundation is constantly progressing through our three identified set tracks; private sector investments, public infrastructure projects and philanthropic work to realize its goals of achieving a series of sustainable projects to enable further economic growth, development and prosperity throughout the Governorate.

We are proud to announce that by the end of 2016 BDF has delivered eight projects bringing it closer to realizing the vision of the late Mr. Said Khoury, RIP, who dedicated the last three years of his life to implement his Development Initiative.



Samer S. Khoury Chairman, BoT



2016 in Retrospect





For The Bethlehem Governorate

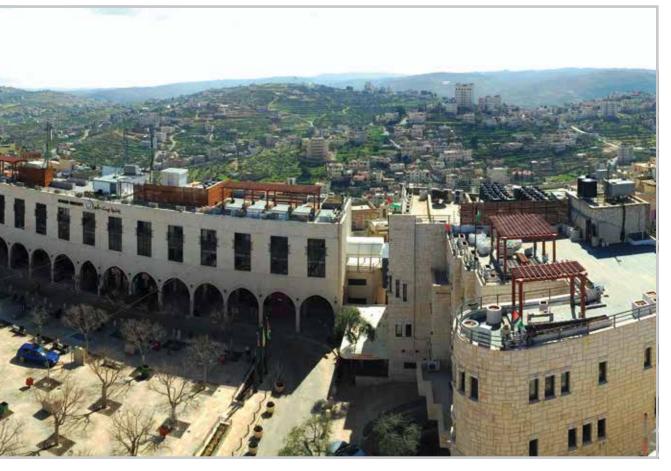
As part of the late Muallem Said Khoury Grant for the Creation of Community Sports and Children's Playgrounds, BDF helped to fill the shortage of sports and children's playgrounds in the Bethlehem Governorate. Creating such amenities helped improve the quality of life by increasing the open spaces that provide youth with the opportunity to enjoy sports and increase social interaction.

Up to date, BDF has completed two unfinished playgrounds in the governorate. A 7x7 Mini Soccer Community Playground in Beit Sahour and a 5x5 Mini Soccer Community Playground in Doha.

The Municipality of Beit Sahour received a generous donation from Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC) to complete The Muallem Said Sports Complex in Beit Sahour In memory and honour of the late Muallem Said Khoury. The donation was administered by BDF and supervised by Beit Sahour Municipality. Works included landscaping of the promenade and parking areas, wood flooring and sound attenuation of the indoor basketball court, and installation of appropriate lighting and perimeter walls.

The Solid Waste Management Project, funded by the Arab Monetary Fund and administrated by the Islamic Development Bank, was completed. A master plan was developed to optimize waste collection and disposal in the Bethlehem area up to the year of 2034. A total of 2833 different types and sizes of solid waste containers were supplied. In addition, 12 solid waste vehicles were delivered to the Joint Services Council. At Central Maintenance and Administration Facility for the Bethlehem Joint Service Council for Solid Waste Management was completed at the Bethlehem Multidisciplinary Industrial Park.

2016 in Retrospect



For The City Of Bethlehem

Nativity Church Restoration Works: Through a generous donation of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), BDF administrative Wall Mosaic and Plaster restoration works at the Holy Church of Nativity. The Manger Square Beautification and Rehabilitation Project donated by the late Muallem Said Khoury was completed in July 2016. The square and nearby buildings facades and roofs have undergone tremendous improvements in terms of rehabilitation, landscaping, greening and lighting.

The project included enhancements of the municipal buildings surrounding Manger Square with all facades restored back to their original condition. The roofs of the buildings where greened and equipped with exterior furnishings and power sources and lighting to accommodate media crews, in addition to cleaning and rehabilitating Manger Square and surrounding streets.

The power network was rehabilitated to handle the shortage in power needs during major events.

BDF Showcase Visitors 2015



Since its official opening on 22 April 2015, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees Mr. Samer S. Khoury, Chairman BoT, throughout 2016 the BDF Exhibition Hall received visitors.

• Visit of the Governor of Bethlehem Mr. Jibreen Albakri

The Governor of Bethlehem, his office manager and a group consultants visited the Showcase in October 2015.

The Governor supported the use of the Showcase to support their strategic development plan for Bethlehem Governorate in the coming years.





Visit of the Welfare Association

Eng. Faisal Alami, Chairman of Board of Trustees of the Welfare Association, visited BDF office on Friday 27 November 2015, accompanied by the immediate past Chairman Dr. Nabil Qaddoumi and Executive Director Dr. Tafeeda Jarbawi.

• Visit of the World Economic Forum

Mr. Mirek Dusek from the World Economic Forum with his fiancé and Mr. Kamel Husseini from Portland Trust visited the BDF Showcase on 30 December 2015.

BDF Showcase Visitors 2016



• Chilean-Palestinian Delegation Visit

BDF welcomed His Excellency Mr. Manuel Lara, Chilean Consul General to Palestine, with a delegation of Chilean Palestinians. The delegation was accompanied by representatives from the local community.

The visiting delegation showed great interest in the Manger Square Village Project. A commitment was made by the group for future cooperation to make it happen.

• Visit of the Head of Ministry of Education Mr. Sami Mruah

On 10 January 2017 Mr. Mruah, former BDF BoD member, and a group of heads of public schools in Bethlehem visited the showcase and "Along the path "art exhibition that is being hosted by Bank of Palestine/Bethlehem as well as BDF showcase.

Mr. Sami Mruah encouraged the head of Schools of the Bethlehem Governorate to organize educational visits to the showcase for the students.



General Assembly Meeting in Bethlehem



GENERAL ASSEMBLY



The Bethlehem Development Foundation held its 2015 general assembly meeting in the presence of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Samer Khoury, Vice Chairman Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, members of the Board of Trustees, Chairman of the Board of Directors Eng. Ziad Bandak, members of the Board of Directors, Managing Director/CEO Mr. Mazen Karam, BDF staff, and members of the General Assembly.



General Assembly Meeting in Bethlehem

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD AND HONORING DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS

The Ministry of Interior was represented by Mrs. Lutfia Mashny.

After confirmation of the quorum, financial and the administrative reports were presented, and the Board of Directors submitted its resignation to the General Assembly subsequently, a new board of directors was elected.

This was followed by the new board meeting which management positions were distributed as follows:



- Eng. Ziad Al Bandak Chairman
- Mrs. Hind Khoury Vice Chairman
- Mr. Nafez Husseini Secretary
- Dr. Victor Batarseh Member
- Dr. Fadi Kattan Treasurer
- Mr. Hani Abu Dayyeh Head of Public Relations and BDF friends
- Dr. Mohammad Rizek Head of Strategic Planning and Projects Committee
- Dr. Saleh Jallad Head of Governance Committee
- Dr. Kifah Manasra Member
- Dr. Nael Abdel Rahman Member
- Mrs. Rana Khoury Member

A few days later, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bethlehem Development Foundation (BDF) honored the former members of the Board of Directors for the efforts they extended during their membership in the First Board 2013-2015.





About BDF

PATRONS

H.H. Pope Tawadros II Pope of Alexandria and Patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church

Sheikh Muhammad A. Hussein The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem

H.B. Patriarch Theophilos III Patriarch of the Orthodox Church of Jerusalem

H.B. Nourhan Manougian Patriarch of the Armenian Orthodox Church of Jerusalem

H. B. Michel Sabbah Patriarch Emeritus of Jerusalem

Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick | Archbishop Emeritus of Washington

H.R.H Prince Talal Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

H.R.H. Prince Hassan Bin Talal of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

H.H. Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan of The United Arab Emirates

H.B Patriarch Ilia II Patriarch of All Georgia

H.E Bishop Munib Younan President Lutheran World Federation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Samer Khoury, Chairman Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, Vice Chairman

Mr. Abdel Salaam Al Majali Mr. Nicola Khamis (ex officio, Mayor of Beit Jala)

Mr. Basel Aql Mr. Odeh Aburdene

Mr. Faisal Al Alami | Mr. Ramez Jaraisy

Mr. Fouad Kattan Mr. Riad Al Sadek

Mr. Hamid Jaafar Mr. Sabih Al Masri

Mr. Hani Hayek (ex officio, Mayor of Beit Sahour) Mr. Salah Al Dabbagh

Mr. Ibrahim Dabdoub | Ms. Varsen Aghabekian (Secretary)

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb | Ms. Vera Baboun (ex officio, Mayor of Bethlehem)

Dr. Saleh Jallad Mr. Walid Al Khalidi

Mr. Munir Anastas | Mr. Walid Salman

Dr. Nabeel Kassis | Mr. Zuhair Al Alami

Dr. Nabil Qaddumi Mr. Ziad Al Bandak

Att. Mitri Abu Aita Mr. Zahi Khouri

Eng. Akram Bader | Dr. Samir Hazboun

Mr. Sami Mroua Mr. Salah Al-Tamari

About BDF



The Board of Trustees as well as the Board of Directors is comprised of highly reputable and knowledgeable individuals who are responsible for overseeing the management of the Foundation. Additionally, a group of exceptionally reputable international patrons have been appointed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Eng. Ziad Al Bandak Chairman

Eng. Al Bandak served in the PA Government as Minister of Tourism, Minister of Local Governments, and Minister of Labor. Currently he is the advisor to the Palestinian President for Christian Affairs, and head of the Presidential Committee for the restoration of the Church of Nativity.



Mrs. Hind Khoury Vice Chairman

With an educational background in economics and business management, Mrs. Khoury had a rich and diverse professional life and held responsible positions. She also served as the Ambassador of Palestine in France from 2006-2010 and Minister of Jerusalem Affairs in 2005-2006



Mr. Nafez Husseini

Secretary

Nafez Husseini is the VP of ICT & Digital Business of the Greece based Consolidated Contractors Company. Holds a Bachelor's degree from the American University of Beirut and a Masters from California State University - Sacramento specializing in Management & Information Technology. Active in promoting Knowledge-Based economies. Board member of The Middle East Investment Initiative (MEII), Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute (MAS), Partners for Sustainable Development, Education for Employment, ArabAmeriCare Foundation.



Dr. Victor Batarseh

Dr. Batarseh was the Mayor of Bethlehem from May 2005 to November 2012, and Chairman of Bethlehem joint services council, and a former chairman/member of many medical institutions such as Health works committees in the West Bank, currently he is the director of Beit Sahour Medical Center.



Dr. Fadi Kattan

Treasurer

Dr. Kattan is the Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration at Bethlehem University and Founder/ Director of the Master of International Cooperation and Development program (MICAD).



Mr. Hani Abu Dayyeh

Head of Public Relations and BDF Friends

Mr. Abu Dayyeh is the Vice President of Netours and the General Manager of Net Transport. He serves in the board of Bethlehem University and chair of the Bethlehem University Institute for Trade and Tourism.

About BDF



Dr. Mohammad Rizek

Head of Strategic Planning & Projects Committee

Dr. Rizek is the Director General of Bethlehem Health Department. He served as Director of Community and Health Department at MoH. Beside his duties, he teaches Primary Health care, Public Health and Emergency Health Care) in Palestine Ahliya University College.



Dr. Saleh Jallad

Head of Governance Committee

Dr. Jallad is a financial consultant at Consolidated Contractors Group CCC, Athens. He is holding a Ph.D. in Economics and Banking from University of Notre Dame USA, and a B.A. in Economics from the American University of Cairo.



Dr. Kifah Mohammad Manasra

Ph.D. from Moutha University, Jordan, College of Social Sciences, full-time lecturer at college of human sciences, Istiqlal University (Palestinian academy for security sciences).



Dr. Nael Abdel Rahman

Ph.D. from the Jordanian University, Jordan, College of Educational Sciences, full-time lecturer at college of educational sciences, Jerusalem Open University (Palestinian Public University). Dr. Abdel Rahman is the Director of Orphan Care Association in Bethlehem, and the representative of the Palestinian Academic Council.



Mrs. Rana Khoury

M.A., Modern Middle Eastern and North African Studies; the University of Michigan, 1995. Vice President for Development & Outreach, DIYAR Bethlehem, Palestine.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Eng. Mazen Karam

Eng. Mazen Karam is a Managing Director at Consolidated Contractors Company with over 40 years of experience in engineering, construction and management of civil, water, environmental, petrochemical and general building programs throughout the Middle East. He serves on the boards of Trustees of the Friends Schools, Bethlehem Business Incubator, This Week in Palestine, and Hasib Sabbagh IT center at The American University of Jenin.



PRESIDENT OF THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY MAHMOUD ABBAS



الأخ العزيز سعيد خوري رئيس مجلس أمناء مؤسسة تطوير بيت لحم المحترم الإخوة الأعزاء في مؤسسة تطوير بيت لحم المحترمين

تحية طيبة وبعد،

تأتى مبادرتكم لتطوير بيت لحم في مرحلة هامة، حيث نبذل جميعاً كل جهد ممكن وعلى الصُعد الوطنية والإقليمية والدولية كافة، من أجل تجسيد إقامة الدولة الفلسطينية المستقلة على التراب الوطنى الفلسطيني، وفي الوقت الذي نسعى فيه ونعمل بكل السبل على مد جسور النَّقة والتعاون وفتح قنوات اتصال مع المجتمع الدولي في مجال الاقتصاد والنَّمية.

إن مبادرة مؤسسة تطوير بيت لحم، هي مبادرة رائدة تهدف إلى ترسيخ وتعميق البعد الروحي للمدينة المقدسة على مستوى العالم، وذلك استناداً إلى خطة إستراتيجية ورؤيا واضحة، تتناول العديد من المجالات التي ستدفع بعجلة النتمية وبالسياحة في المدينة إلى الأمام؛ مستندة إلى خطة السلطة الوطنية الفلسطينية الاقتصادية في خلق بيئة استثمارية في كافة قطاعات الاقتصاد الفلسطيني.

إنني أشكركم على هذه الجهود الرامية إلى خلق وبناء بيئة تتموية سياسية اقتصادية، داعيا جميع المانحين وجميع أصدقاء الشعب الفلسطيني لدعم مؤسستكم، معرباً لكم في هذه المناسبة، عن ترحيبنا بكم جميعاً في وطنكم فلسطين، هذا الوطن الذي يحتاج إلى كل الجهود وبشكل دؤوب لتحقيق التتمية وتوفير الأمن والاستقرار لمواطنينا وزوارنا وكل من يرغب مشاركتنا في هذه المسيرة لشعب مثابر ومصمم على بناء مستقبل أفضل للأجيال القادمة.

رام الله في: 2013/04/08م



PRIME MINISTER RAMI HAMDALLAH



دولة فلسطين رئيس الوزراء

April 21, 2014

Esteemed Bethlehem Development Foundation,

The Bethlehem Development Foundation is an inspiring model and pioneer in hard work which encompasses all sectors of the Palestinian society, institutions, ministries, local government bodies, civil society, and holds a national goal destined for the advancement of the governorate of Bethlehem by preserving its religious character and human civilization while addressing the needs and aspirations of all residents of this province.

The founders of this initiative were determined to mobilize various sectors in pursuit of promoting developmental projects vital for achieving sustainable development and revitalization of the national economy such as promoting tourism, where Bethlehem in particular, has always been a magnet for tourists and pilgrims, thus encouraging investment environment.

The initiative to develop Bethlehem is a natural expansion of the endeavours of all of our governmental institutions as well as the civil society, but also the goal of the Palestinian people in upgrading the city's infrastructure and strengthening its position in the history of mankind, a message to the world to stress the determination of our people to progress, construction and effective contribution to cultural and religious heritage.

I am confident that the successes achieved by this initiative are invaluable. I call upon our friends and investors Palestinians, Arabs and philanthropists from all over the world to grant all support and to assist the Palestinian people to achieve prosperity and progress leading to an independent viable Palestinian State, with full assurance to the right of worship and religious freedom to all its inhabitants and visitors.

Rami Hamdallah Prime Minister

1. Ham del

State of Palestine



MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT HUSSEIN AL ARAJ

State of Palestine Ministry of Local Government Minister's Office



دولـــة فلسطيـــن وزارة الحكــم المحلـــي مكتــب الوزيــر

Date: 18.8.2016

No. 201 6/266/ 143

Palestinian National Authority The Ministry of Local Government, Minister's Office,

The Bethlehem Development Foundation

On behalf of the Ministry of Local Government, I value the great results generated by your organization and appreciate its active role in developing the Governorate of Bethlehem.

I am pleased to endorse the objectives of your foundation and its aim to revitalizing Bethlehem through its development plan that aims to rise the holy city as the religious, spiritual and unique center of the world.

I had the opportunity to attend the delivery ceremony of some of the accomplished projects of the foundation, such as the Solid Waste Management Project, and I value your professionalism, high caliber and clear vision that consistent with our vision at the Ministry of Local Government and the Palestinian Government.

Your completed, ongoing and future projects, leads us to fully support this foundation and we are ready to facilitate all needed procedures to reach together our goals to develop Bethlehem Governorate and elevate it globally as spiritual, cultural and historical worldwide center.

We look forward to further collaboration and cooperation to accomplish your vision, and we express our commitment to support the Bethlehem Development Foundation.

Sincerely,,,

Hussein

Minister of Lo

Palestine, Al-Bireh, P.O.Box: 731 Ramallah

Tel.: +970 2 240 1092, Fax: +970 2 240 1091 - Gaza: Tel.: 08 282 0273, Fax: 08 286 7509 www.molg.pna.ps - □/molg.pal - □/molgpalestine - Email: media@molg.pna.ps

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND ANTIQUITIES RULA MA'AYAH

State of Palestine

Ministry of Tourism & Antiquities

Minister's Office



Bethlehem,

Mr. Samer Khoury Chairman of Board of Turstees Bethlehem Development Foundation Bethlehem

Subject: Endorsement for Bethlehem Development Foundation

In my capacity as Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Palestine, I am pleased to endorse the achievements and objectives of the Bethlehem Development Foundation, which aims to improve the quality of living of the local communities in Bethlehem and to enrich the quality of experience for locals and international visitors.

I value the great results of BDF'S highly accomplished project, especially the Manger Square Rehabilitation and Beautification Project as well as the Solid Waste Management Project, which aimed at preserving cultural heritage sites and improving the infrastructure and tourism facilities. These projects have led us to fully support this foundation.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the founders and board members of BDF and highlight my appreciation for the commendable efforts they are making towards Palestine and Bethlehem in particular.

With this endorsement, I therefore expect that all local and international organizations will help support projects and initiatives presented by BDF.

Sincerely

Rula Ma'ayah

Minister of Tourism and Antique



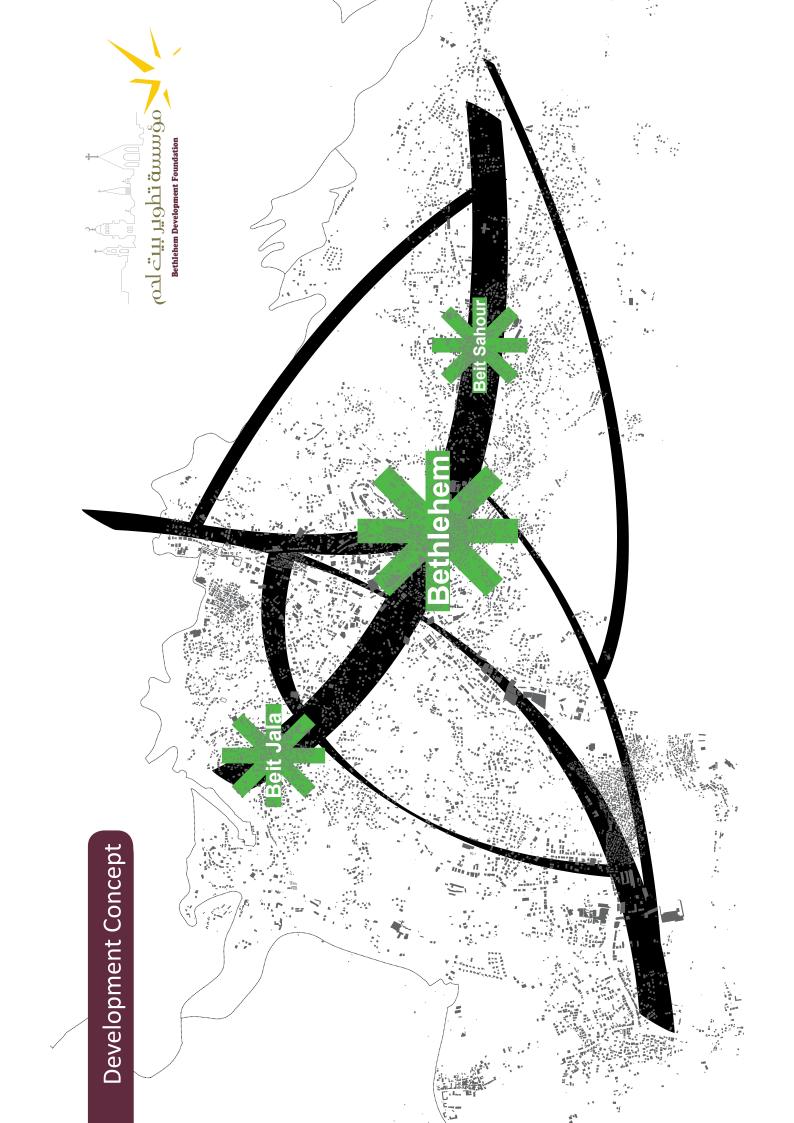
P.O.Box 534 - Bethlehem - Palestine. Tel.: 02-2741581-2-3 , Fax: 02-2743753 ص.ب ۲۳۵ – ببت خمر – فلسطين . هاتف: ۲-۲۷۵۱۵۸۲۲۷۳ ، فاکس: ۲۰۲۷۵۳ ۲۰۰۳ .

Strategic Objectives



In line with our vision, the Bethlehem Development Initiative has developed key strategic objectives for the development of the Bethlehem Governorate.

- 1. Transform the Bethlehem Governorate into a vibrant spiritual center of Christianity.
- 2. Development of Basic Infrastructure for:
 - a. **Energy:** enhance the efficiency of energy usage and utilization of low carbon energy.
 - b. Water: increase water consumption efficiency and develop wastewater networks to secure water resourcing.
 - c. Waste: reduce waste land filling and increase the recovery of waste materials, whilst improving the collection and transport of solid waste.
 - d. Access of Movement: enhance connectivity between various vital areas and sites through a more efficient network that supports pedestrian routes as well as sustainable transport.
- 3. Enhance Quality of Living: provision of improved education, security, safety and air quality in order to actively support social inclusion.
- 4. Enhance Economic Development and Employment: creating job opportunities, diversifying economic base, increasing private sector role in local economy and increasing contribution of the tourism sector to GDP.
- 5. Improve Tourist Experiences: preserving and improving cultural and heritage sites.
- 6. **Public Realm:** creation of sports and children's playgrounds, a district park near Solomon Pools and developing appropriate signage in historic sites and along heritage trails.



BDF Interventions



		BETHLEHEM DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION Awaiting		
SECTOR	PROJECT	LOCATION		
Access & Movement	Armenian parking Commercial Center	Bethlehem		
Cultural Heritage	Restoration of Nativity Church	Bethlehem Old Core		
Education	Bethlehem Preschools For All	Bethlehem Governorate		
Enormy	Bethlehem Solar Farms	Bethlehem rural area		
Energy	Biomass to Energy	Bethlehem rural area		
Hospitality	Solomon Pools Hotel	Solomon Pools in Artas		
Hospitality	Convention Palace Hotel	Solomon Pools in Artas		
	Rehabilitation of Yasser Arafat Street	Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Doha and Al Khader		
Infrastructure	Southern Ring Road	Bethlehem & Beit Sahour Bethlehem & Beit Sahour		
inirastructure	Northern Ring Road			
	Christmas Procession Routes	Bethlehem & Beit Sahour		
	Bethlehem Youth Empowerment Services	Bethlehem Governorate		
Job Creation	Artisans De Bethlehem	Bethlehem Governorate		
Manufacturing	Fish Farm And Packaging Factory	Solomon Pools & Bethlehem Industrial Park		
Manufacturing	Olives Rake Factory	Bethlehem Industrial Park		
Quality of Life	Creation of a District Park	Solomon Pools in Artas		
	Hop-On, Hop-Off Tours	Bethlehem, Beit Jala & Beit Sahour		
Tourism	Cable Cars Project	Bethlehem, Beit Jala & Beit Sahour		
nourism	Herodion Park Village Resort	Bethlehem rural area		
	Osh Ghorab Multipurpose Resort	Beit Sahour		



- STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN Donor Funding

PROJECT DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE US \$
This Investment project will help alleviate traffic congestions at Manger square by providing an automated parking for 300 plus cars, cafes, landscaped areas and community centers with a total of 16,500m ² of combined built-up area. (estimated cost \$17M. At 70/30 equity needed \$5M)	\$16,500,000
The projects aims at completing the ongoing restoration works by the year 2020 in which Bethlehem will be the capital of the Arab culture	\$5,400,000
Creates 258 preschool classrooms 3,870+ children. 130 teachers own/operate their own preschools as franchisees	\$1,000,000
A Solar Energy Power Generation System using a series of solar farms with total capacity of 42 MW to produce around 10% district annual demand.	\$67,000,000
Converting Solid waste to energy at Menya landfill which serves the governments of Bethlehem and Hebron.	\$100,000,000
"4-star hotel, 158 rooms and 12 chalets. Strategically positioned within the Solomon Pools Resort grounds, free access to the ancient 2000 year old Solomon Pools Complete with business and multipurpose halls, restaurants, a health club and various outdoor activity facilities."	\$17,000,000
"3-star business hotel and Hotel Management teaching facility. The hotel will complement the micro-economics of the profit and non-profit sectors (MICE Industries) and tourism in conjunction with the Convention Palace 200 rooms and luxury chalets 24-hour full service, a health club and banqueting facilities"	\$17,000,000
Rehabilitation and enhancement of the walkside net work of the historical streets which links Jerusalem with Hebron via Bethlehem	\$2,500,000
Ring road to relieve inner city traffic in Bethlehem and Beit Sahour	\$15,000,000
Ring road to relieve inner city traffic in Bethlehem and Beit Sahour	\$10,000,000
Under Evaluation by AFD. Engineering studies pledged by AFD who will also assist in seeking funding for construction	\$11,000,000
Improve income opportunities of young Palestinians in Bethlehem area, through the establishment of micro and small business enterprises	\$6,000,000
Establishment of Artisan d' Bethlehem for training as well as provide sustainable and fair development for arts and crafts in Bethlehem area. This center will provide young artists a job-on site, to learn this profession.	\$500,000
Create two units of fish farms in parallel with preservation and packaging unit at Bethlehem Multidisciplinary Industrial Park. The project aims at adding affordable fish to the Palestinian food basket.	\$1,000,000
Produce the first electrical harvester and create 50 monthly jobs at Bethlehem's Multidiscipline Industrial Park. It will help increase olives production by harvesting far to reach areas. It will reduce harvesting high cost by 40% and time by 50% per/dunum	\$1,400,000
Creation of a district park in the forested area around Solomon Pools of 200,000 m2 to serve Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Beit Jala, Doha, Al Khadr, Artas and Dheisha Refugee camp.	\$3,000,000
A Fleet of two tourist coach buses and two electric or diesel powered trollies for the old Towns will enhance the touristic scene in Bethlehem	\$489,000
Mayor of Beit Jala is spearheading an effort to construct a cable car from the highest point in Beit Jala through Bethlehem and ending in Beit Sahour in collaboration with all three municipalities and potential investors.	\$15,000,000
Touristic Trails, bungalows, recreation and historic tours	\$20,000,000
Biet Sahour Municipality would like to partner with developers for a multidisciplinary park at "Osh Ghorab" to include Weddings and conventions facilities, aqua park, swimming pools, 3-star hotel in the form of a biblical village	\$35,000,000



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORÅTE

1. Executive Summary

Currently, solid waste management (SWM) is a challenging issue that is facing Bethlehem governorate. It contributes to many pollution problems in the governorate in spite of its gradually improvement by time. There are some serious shortfalls in solid waste management in Bethlehem governorate, which is potentially causing a significant impact on the environment and public health. Wide improvements should be planned and implemented urgently to the solid waste management system. This project consisted of two components: the first component is related to the preparation of a solid waste master plan for serving the Bethlehem Governorate up to 2034, while the second component is the preparation of tender documents for the projects and realize them on the ground.

The master plan presents important issues of current and future SWM in the Bethlehem district- Palestine. Focus group discussions, surveys for household residents' and SWM program operators, on-site waste characterizations and field investigations, were conducted. Per capita waste generation rates varied between different localities with a mean value of 0.74 kg person_1 day 1 for Bethlehem governorate. Overall, the average percentage of waste was organic (40.9% by weight), suggesting a strong resource recovery potential in terms of animal feed or compost. Recyclable waste (plastic, paper and card, glass and metals) made up 40% by weight of the waste composition suggesting an incentive to introduce source separation. Most of the localities (91.4%) in Bethlehem governorate have a solid waste collection service.

A public awareness campaign has been implemented during this Project. Four central workshops under the title "Towards a clean and beautiful environment in Bethlehem" that targeted related groups and individuals in Bethlehem governorate have been conducted. They were designed as part of the awareness campaign. All workshops have been evaluated and most of results ranged between excellent and very good. At the end of the project, also 10 theatrical awareness sessions



were implemented in schools targeting all malpractices and encouraging good practices with a central final show was conducted by Al-Hara theatre in cooperation with Al-Asbah Company-Volvo Dealer.

Different options for improving the efficiency of the existing SW routing system in Bethlehem have been studied, and the optimum one has been recommended. The core change to waste collection is a proposed new system to be implemented in 18 waste catchment areas.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORATE

Efficient routing of solid waste collection vehicles has been designed which will decrease costs by reducing the distances to be travelled, laborers expended for collection and the number of collection vehicles. Forty eight dumping sites have been surveyed in Bethlehem governorate and detailed recommendations for their rehabilitation and control have been presented.



A detailed financial analysis of two scenarios

to have a transfer station (TS) or not in Bethlehem governorate has been investigated. The analysis shows that the mean direct and in-direct operating costs for the collection and transporting of one ton from Bethlehem governorate to Al Minya landfill with a Transfer station will be at a higher cost. So, the final decision was not to establish a TS, and re-evaluating the need for it every 5 years.

The solid waste collection system for Bethlehem governorate should include construction and demolition waste in addition to the planning and construction of a sanitary landfill for these wastes as results of the master plan study. In order to reach a sustainable situation of SWM at Bethlehem governorate, different issues should be enhanced such as expertise, funding, public awareness and facilities and equipment that are currently lacking or inappropriate. SW recycling should be considered as an important option and a priority to reduce degradation of the environment.

The second component of the project was the preparation and the realization of three main tenders. The first tender document is a result of comprehensive surveys in Bethlehem localities and represents the real needs of the different types of containers which includes: 1.1m3 steel containers, 1.1m3 plastic containers, 240 litres plastic containers, 4 m3 steel containers, 50 dust bin litres containers, 3 m3 mesh basket containers for solid cardboard waste separation at source, 3m3 containers for plastic waste separation at source, 360 litres containers for butchers' waste separation at source, plastic container 360 litters for compost at household level and steel frames for two steel containers of 1.1m3. The second tender document for the procurement of solid waste vehicles is also based on collected data and a comprehensive investigation of the real needs included the procurement of RotoPress Compactors- capacity 14 m3 and 20 m3, Two compactors- capacity21 m3, one large street sweeper trucks Viajet 6, three mini street sweepers, a skid steer loader, a mini-tipper truck, a roll-on-roll off truck, and a Vaccum Cleaner for street



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORATE

litters. The third tender document that was realized as well was the construction of a central maintenance workshop for the JSCSWM- Bethlehem Governorate. All resources that include manpower, investment in buildings and machinery, and recurrent allocations for the purchase of basic tools and equipment have been specified.

2. Procurement of Solid Waste Containers was awarded to Al Marah Company for Industry and Trading with a Total Price of (\$400,234) with which the following were supplied:

ITEM	QUANTITY
SW collection 1.1m ³ Steel Containers	634
SW collection 1.1m³ Plastic containers	82
SW Collection 240 Liters Plastic containers	1096
SW 10MC container for industrial zone area	2
SW Collection 4m³ Steel containers	50
SW Collection Baskets 50 Liters Containers	500
3m³ Mesh Basket Containers for SW Separation at Source (Cardboard)	60
3m³ containers for Waste Separations at Source of Plastic	60
SW Plastic Containers 360 Liters for Separation at Source of Meat	100
SW Plastic Container 360 Liters for Compost at Household	150
Steel frame for Two Steel Containers of 1.1m ³	50
Total	2833

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORATE

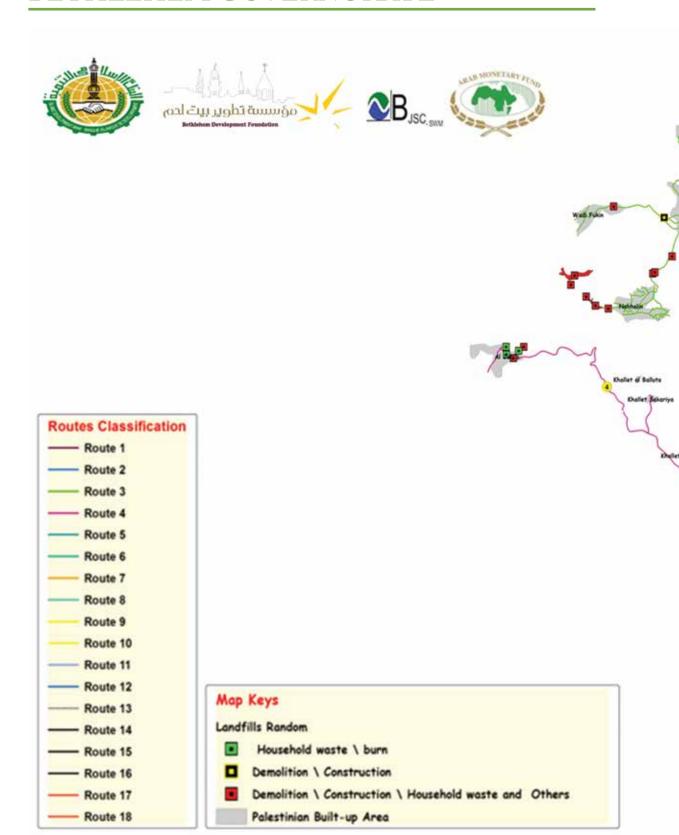
- 3. **Procurement of Solid Waste Vehicles** from the following Suppliers:
 - 1. Al Assbah Company for Heavy Equipment & Trucks (VOLVO), Lot 1 & Lot 4.
 - 2. BOW Equipment Co, Lot 2.
 - 3. Palestinian Tractor & Equipment Co (CATERPILLAR), Lot 3.

	PROCUREMENT OF SOLID WASTE VEHICILES BDF/13-1/3					
FINAL DELIVERY STATUS SCHEDULE						
Item	Description Lot 1	Quantity	Delivery By	Serial Num after Final Delivery		
а	Solid Waste Collection Compactor Truck - 13 m3	0	Volvo/AL Asbah			
b	Solid Waste Collection Compactor Truck - 21 m3	2	Volvo/AL Asbah	FM 64 R-KATMERCILER VV2X922D5FB739500 FM 64 R KATMERCILER VV2X922D1FB739459		
с	Solid Waste Street Sweeper	1	Volvo/AL Asbah	FL 816 / FAUN YV2TOX1A7FZ104461		
d	Solid Waste Collection Roll-On Roll-Off Truck	1	Volvo/AL Asbah	FL 816 / Roll On Roll Off YV2TOY1A6FZ104120		
е	Solid Waste Collection Mini-Tipper Truck	1	Volvo/AL Asbah	PEUGEOT/ Mini Tipper VF3YCPMAU12925452		
	Total Lot 1	5				
	Lot 2					
а	Solid Waste Mini Street Sweeper	3	BOW	Hako Citymaster600 147002505092 147002505102 147002505112		
b	Street litter Vacuum Suction Cleaner	1	BOW	Glutton model 2411/163047089338		
	Total Lot 2	4				
	Lot 3					
	Skid Steer Front Loader	1	CAT	Cater Pillar 226 B3/A5200483		
	Total Lot 3	1				
	Lot 4 (Rotopress)					
а	SW Collection Compactor Truck - capacity 16 m3	1	Volvo	FE42 / FAUN YV2V0X1A5GZ104727		
b	SW Collection Compactor Truck - capacity 20 m3	1	Volvo	FM 64 R / FAUN YV2X922D7GA782596		
	Total Lot 4	2				
	Total fo all Lots	12				

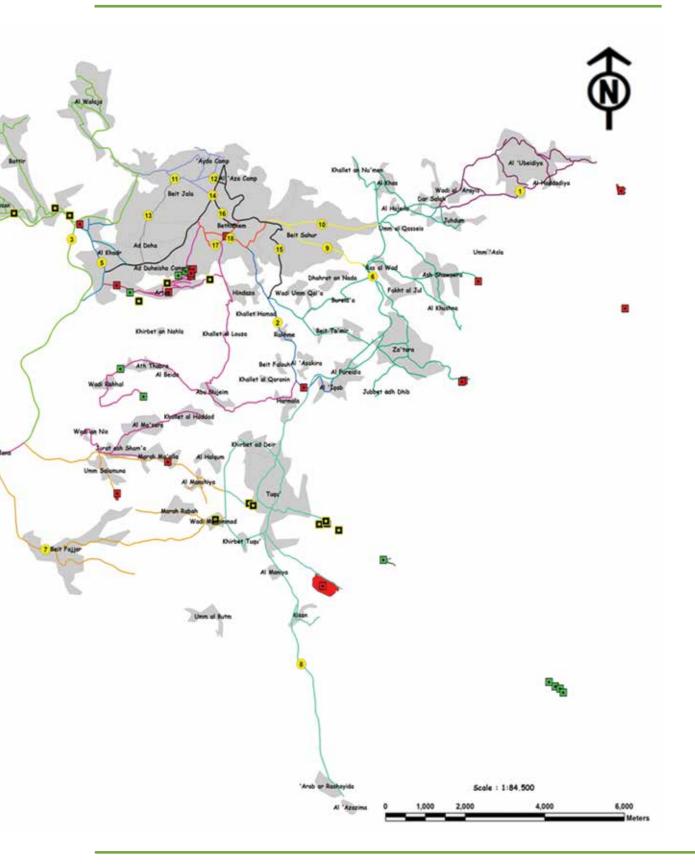
4. Construction of BJSC-SWM Central Maintenance Station & Administration Facilities

The structural basic elements that include the mechanical workshop for vehicles, containers maintenance workshop, and administration building have been prepared. A garage for the vehicles will be part of the central maintenance workshop area.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORATE



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROJECT BETHLEHEM GOVERNORATE



REHABILITATION & BEAUTIFICATION MANGER SQUARE

The late Mr. Said Khoury, Co-founder of CCC and founder of BDF has pledged to rehabilitate and beautify Manger Square.

Objectives and Rationale

Manger Square is the iconic center of Bethlehem, and the hub of various religious activities and festivals celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. As well as national and social celebrations. Planning and beautification of Manger Square aims at reclaiming the functionality of the square as an open space and its status as an urban landmark free of vehicular traffic. It will help in prolonging tourist stay in Bethlehem, job creation and the overall quality of life.

Project Phase-1

KNT Construction Company executed works at the three municipal buildings surrounding Manger Square. At the old municipality building the roof water distribution system was rearranged for optimal use and minimal load. The sixty year old waterproofing was replaced, the front facade windows were enlarged while all other windows were replaced and all the outside stone facades were cleaned and repointed.

At the new municipality building all facades were cleaned by water jetting and sand blasting and the roof was cleaned up. Similarly the Peace Center facades were cleaned by water jetting and sand blastering. The roof was cleaned and the main façade doors and windows repaired and repainted.







REHABILITATION & BEAUTIFICATION MANGER SQUARE

Project Phase-2

Works were executed by Al-Maher General Contracting Company and included:

Roofs of the Municipality Buildings:

» The Roofs of the Old Municipality Building, the New Municipality Building and the Peace Center Building was greened and equipped with recycled wood tiling, and pergolas for the use of the media during festivities.

The Square Improvements:

- » The Square improvements included various landscaping interventions including patching of damaged tiles, cleaning of stone elements, adding new signage to shops and installing two digital screens.
- » The main entrance to the Municipality was changed by replacing the existing short wall with a planter, adding flag poles, fixing street tiling and drainage and streamlining traffic with fixed bollards and moveable planters and creating a new parking for the Mayor away from the entrance.
- » Afteem's Road is an essential exit of the square, the surface was tiled and the road had no drainage system, our intervention included asphalt with a rough texture to avoid a slippery surface, adding a drainage system to the road, and adding a new stair case for pedestrians.
- » The intervention at the entrance of the Old Municipality Building, removal of all steel door adding a new automatic glass door, and painting of staircase.







REHABILITATION & BEAUTIFICATION MANGER SQUARE

- » Backyard of Old Municipality Building: Rehabilitation of the backyard of the Old Municipality Building included a construction of a new 100m3 water cistern, tiling of the area in front of the stores and the staircases, rehabilitation of manholes, rehabilitation of steel doors and addition of a 250KVa standby generator to be used for festivals and events.
- » The intervention included adding new signage for the Municipality Buildings, adding new rolling shutters and security glass doors for two shops, adding new signage for seven shops, and canopy rehabilitation of one shop.



- » A new lighting scheme was installed to accentuate the surrounding buildings and the Church of Nativity, the features of the square and the processional route. In addition, new spotlights were installed beneath the trees in the square to articulate them. The entire lighting theme is programmed to change depending on the season.
- » The electrical distribution capacity was boosted to cater for the increase of electrical power during the Christmas season, adding a new 500AMP service for the square, with four external sockets to be used during festivals and events. a 250KVa standby generator was also added.







REHABILITATION & BEAUTIFICATION MANGER SQUARE

• Waste Bins Containers (Underground)

» The system was installed at locations at the Square, with a double containers system that works on hydraulic power.

• Hydraulic Bollards

» Prior to intervention access to Manger Square was controlled manually by means of metal posts locked to a metal insert at ground level. Two systems of hydraulic bollards were fixed at the entrances of the square. The opening and the closing is now controlled remotely for the entrances of the Square.

• New City Barriers

» 100 steel city barriers were provided to the Municipality and ten to the Nativity Church to be used during events and festivals.

Straightening of Tree near the Peace Center Building

» The work to straighten the sloped tree involved supports that were fixed at the tree, to be pushed with hydraulic power.









BEIT SAHOUR MUALLEM SAID KHOURY SPORTS COMPLEX

On May 2016, Bethlehem Development Foundation, Beit Sahour Municipality, and the Arab Orthodox Society celebrated the opening of Muallem Said Khoury Sports Complex in Beit Sahour.

The project was funded by the Khoury family in memory of the late Muallem Said Khoury. Beit Sahour Municipality and Bethlehem Foundation wanted to provide the residents of Bethlehem area with sports facilities according to international standards. The project involved the completion of unfinished works including parquet flooring and sound attenuation to the indoor basketball court and the external landscaping and parking areas.

A delegation representing BDF and CCC attended the Inauguration of Muallem Said Khoury Sports Complex. Namely, Mr. Samer Said Khoury, Board of Trustees Chairman/President of Engineering and Construction at Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC), and Mr. Suheil Hassib Sabbagh, President of Human Resources at CCC, Mr. Ziad Al-Bandak, Chairman of Board of Directors, Mr. Nafez Husseini, Secretary of the BDF Board of Directors and VP at CCC, Mr. Mazen Karam, Managing Director/CEO, BDF and CCC Palestine staff.



COMMUNITY SPORTS & CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS DOHA 5x5 MINI SOCCER FIELD

The playground in Doha was inaugurated in cooperation with Al-Doha Municipality and Al-Mada'en Contracting Company.

The event attendees included Chairman of Board of Directors of BDF Mr. Ziad Al-Bandak, Managing Director/CEO Mr. Mazen Karam, Mayor of Al-Doha Mr. Khaled Mahboob, Al-Doha Sports Club and a number of representatives from the Palestinian Ministry of Youth and Sports.



BEIT SAHOUR 7x7 MINI SOCCER FIELD

Rehabilitation works lasted for three months and were carried out by Al-Mada'en General Contracting Company. They rehabilitation works included building a retaining wall around the playground and providing full lighting system for use at night.



Future Projects

COMMUNITY SPORTS & CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND BEIT JALA

Salam (Peace) Park, was established on 4 dunums of land that were obtained by the Beit Jala Municipality. There are several recreational areas in the Garden, including a children's playground, a bird sanctuary, and a park. It accommodates hundreds of visitors who come regularly from many regions of the West Bank. The Garden welcomes organized groups, families, and individuals and has become a preferred location for school trips, scout camps, and family gatherings. Its unique landscape is home to dozens of species of birds that favor the rich location of Al-Sahel Valley

BDF Intervention

A generous donation of a \$50,000 was made by the Late Mr. Said T. Khoury RIP, for the rehabilitation of the playground.

A concept design that was submitted to Beit Jala Municipality included replacing the children's playground equipment and amusements, adding benches, plants, pergolas, lighting features amany other improvements.

Beit Jala Municipality hired a local engineering company for the detailed design and supervision. The contract was awarded to Brothers Engineering for Contracting Co. Works expected to be completed in February 2017.





Future Projects



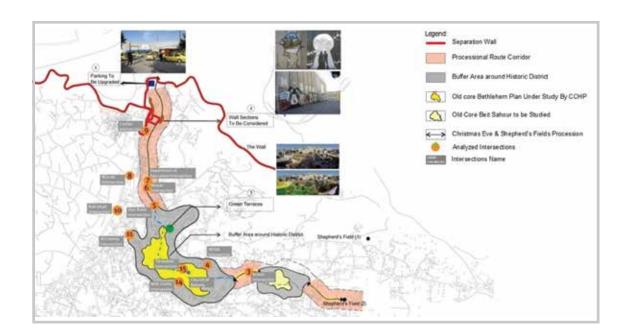
CHRISTMAS PROCESSION ROUTES PROJECT

The project addresses three major processions. The Christmas procession from the Old City of Jerusalem through Mar Elias Monastery and ending at the Church of Nativity, The Shepherds' Procession which starts in Beit Sahour and ends at the Church of Nativity, and the Peace Procession from Old Beit Sahour to the Shepherds' fields, which are the main attractions bringing tourists and visitors from all over the world to the Bethlehem Governorate.

Developing the procession routes is of high importance to the Bethlehem Governorate. Tourism is the main income generator for the cities of Bethlehem and Beit Sahour. The importance of these routes stems from their religious and historical significance. Acknowledging these facts, the Bethlehem Development Foundation with the Bethlehem and Beit Sahour Municipalities came together and formed a unified and qualified team that created this cluster project proposal in cooporation with the French Development Agency (AFD).

The project aims at motivating tourists, visitors and locals to walk down the routes instead of just passing through by bus and missing all these special walking experiences, thereby nurturing the local economy and creating more job opportunities. To achieve this, the routes will undergo major improvements on their intersections, parking areas, rest areas, green terraces, street furniture and street decorations.

Moreover, many of the available spaces in the Bethlehem Governorate shall be converted into community places for both the local and visiting communities to enjoy and benefit from. Standard, creative, and strategic placemaking techniques will be implemented on different parts of the project. They will impact the four system layers of the communities, social, economic, built and natural, so that the people and visitors of the Bethlehem governorate may deeply care about the area and start to view it as a vital, vibrant and livable population center in which education and job attainment exist, and where opportunities are created, diversity and culture celebrated and bright futures realized.



Future Projects

HOP-ON, HOP-OFF TOURS

Overview

Bethlehem is a hub of Palestinian culture and tourism. It is known around the world as the birth place of Jesus Christ. It is inhabited by one of the oldest Christian communities in the world, and it has been a major site of Christian pilgrimage since the construction of the Church of the Nativity in the 4th century AD.

The town has a great number of interesting attractions and landmarks, where visitors can admire the beauty of many significant monasteries and their natural surroundings and spend time shopping in the finest gift shops.

The Bethlehem Bus Tours (HOHO) will provide visitors (foreign and domestic) with audio guided tours throughout





the Governorate. Built along the Hop on Hop off concept the tours will also encourage more community based tourism development at key locations and sites along its designated route.

Our bus services will use the cleanest engines available and offer unbeatable passenger comfort and customer service along with frequent services and unrivalled reliability and punctuality.

Project Description

The HOHO will aim to increase the geographical spread and economic benefits of tourism to more remote and neglected sites within the area. The tour will include a state of art multilingual audio guided bus tour with key drop off and pick up locations distributed throughout the area. In addition to enhancing the visitor experience, the Hop on Hop Off tours will provide easy and safe transportation for the visitors and encourage them to visit all significant sites outside the traditional tour operators beaten tracks. Tourists using the HOHO will be able to disembark at any of the drop off points and tour the area at their leisure. The HOHO will primarily target the thousands of Foreign Individual Travelers (FITs) and organized groups of visitors arriving and staying overnight in Bethlehem & Jerusalem. The HOHO ultimately helps one day visitors to extend their stay in Bethlehem.



A Private Public Partnership for Bethlehem and Palestine

"Bethlehem Destination Christmas" (BDC) is a non-profit Private-Public Partnership (PPP) with its core goal is to revive the traditionally low season from late November to late January by promoting Bethlehem as the Ultimate Christmas Destination and elevating festivities around Christmas time to international levels.

After [the Magi] had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was." Matthew 2:9.

A little over 2000 years ago in Bethlehem one of the most influential figures in human history was born. According to the well-known story of the Nativity, the magi saw and followed a star that led them to the place in Bethlehem where Jesus was born. Today, people from all over the world still follow in their footsteps. But the numbers of visitors that are currently received over the Christmas holidays in Bethlehem are only a fraction of the potential that the town can attract and accommodate.

Bethlehem in itself is meaningful for devout Christians and many others, as Jesus is an important prophet for Muslims as well. To spend the Christmas season in Bethlehem is a most treasured experience on many levels and not only for pilgrims: Locals cherish the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ in their hometown, and Palestinians from all of historical Palestine gather to celebrate the many holidays of this special season; they are keen to let the world know that Christians live in Bethlehem and happy to promote the city as a unique tourist destination. Many foreign visitors and pilgrims regard their being able to spend Christmas in Bethlehem as the oncein-a-lifetime chance to be in this important place where it all began at the time that Christians all over the world celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. And indeed, the message of peace that emanates from the story of the nativity should be heard over the whole cacophony of negative messages that come from within the region

cultural exchanges could promote greater awareness not only

and beyond. It is our opinion that shared international

of this message of peace but also of the people still living in the land, the custodians of this shared heritage who long for nothing more than a just peace in the region. In this spirit, the Bethlehem Destination Christmas (BDC) initiative was formed in order to affirm Bethlehem's centrality to worldwide Christmas celebrations and to highlight the town's significance in the Christmas story. With its slogan Follow the Star, BDC intends to enhance Bethlehem's Christmas season and help generate tourism in the area over the period running from late November, with the beginning of Advent Season and the tree lighting ceremony, to late January, with Armenian Christmas celebrations on 19 and 20 January. In cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, the municipalities of Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, and Beit Jala, and the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music, BDC intends to attract local and diaspora Palestinians as well as international visitors to Bethlehem. It will achieve this goal by organizing, among other Christmas-related events, an annual International Bethlehem Christmas Choir Festival along with an International Christmas Market and

other seasonal attractions. The festival's performances will feature local and international choirs, with special focus on Palestinian musicians from Palestine and the diaspora, and are expected to attract many visitors to Bethlehem and Palestine.

The BDC initiative was founded by a group of people, representing prominent Bethlehem institutions, who are keen to devote their shared enthusiasm and contribute their manifold ideas and experiences to the common goal of repositioning Bethlehem as an essential Christmas icon. By launching this initiative, they will bring attention to Palestine's cultural heritage and promote Bethlehem as the ultimate Christmas destination.





While the official launch of the BDC celebrations is scheduled for Christmas 2017, the board has planned a special pre-launching event to take place during the official Tree Lighting Ceremony on 3 December 2016. On that occasion, the renowned Oslo Philharmonic Choir will hold joint performances with local choirs. During the Bethlehem Destination Christmas' first official celebration of Christmas in 2017, the promoters, in cooperation with the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), will host a major conference that is to be attended by the mayors and representatives of Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour and international guests. Naturally, the event will be hosted in the Bethlehem area and shall facilitate the joint planning of future BDC celebrations. In particular, each twinned municipality will be offered the opportunity to annually sponsor a weekend (Thursday to Sunday) within the extended Christmas.

Season, when BDC events will feature a variety of Christmas markets and musical performances that shall be presented throughout the Bethlehem region. These events will not only generate international tourism but will also provide points of attraction for substantial numbers of Palestinians from historical Palestine and its diaspora. BDC will furthermore propose to synchronize the lighting of trees and ringing of church bells within the network of twinned towns and cities.

The initiative's innovative approach brings together the three cities of Bethlehem, Beit Sahour and Beit Jala —known for being, respectively, the birthplace of Jesus Christ, the home of the shepherds, and the home of St. Nicholas — with other world cities renowned for their special connection to Christmas traditions and events, among them:

- Amsterdam, Netherlands, home of the first and largest St. Nicholas Parade
- Greccio, Italy, home of the first Nativity Scene
- Strasbourg, France, home of the first Christmas Market
- Berlin, Germany, where Martin Luther began the tradition of the Christmas tree
- Rovaniemi in the Lapland region of Finland, home of the Santa Claus Village

In operation with these cities as a core group, the promoters of BDC shall organize the hosting of joint Christmas markets and develop bi-lateral and multilateral travel itineraries for the mutual exchange of visits. The celebrations shall furthermore capitalize on and aim to engage the more than one hundred towns and cities that are twinned with Bethlehem, Beit Jala, and Beit Sahour, to the benefit of all parties involved. A yearly conference is envisaged to study various Christmas traditions and plan cooperation activities. This conference could be hosted, on a rotational basis, by the core group cities and attended by representatives of twinned towns and cities, thereby creating an important occasion of exchange that will enhance tourism in the respective host cities and beyond. The promotion of BDC will involve local and international bloggers, journalists, tourists, musicians, universities, and travel writers who can help achieve the initiative's goals of reviving Palestinian tourism within an extended Christmas season, thus encouraging tourists to prolong their stay in Bethlehem beyond current trends. Special attention will be given to ensure international media coverage. Besides generating job opportunities, the initiative will also contribute to the development of Palestine's cultural scene and will allow for important cultural exchange.

The Bethlehem Development Foundation (BDF), founded by the late Said Khoury to regenerate Bethlehem, has since 2012 worked diligently to upgrade and promote the Christmas season by decorating Manger Square and its Christmas tree and supporting choirs and celebratory events.

Bethlehem University, founded in 1973, plays an important role in developing the tourism and hospitality sector. Emphasizing excellence in its tourism and hospitality programs and maintaining a strong connection and cooperation with all stakeholders in the industry, it fills the ever-growing market needs.

In 1992, Diyar Consortium, an NGO that focuses on art, culture, and tourism, organized the first conference on alternative/authentic tourism in Palestine and launched the Authentic Tourism Program that has changed the landscape of tourism by offering a holistic approach to visits to the Holy Land. Dar al-Kalima University College of Arts and Culture, the educational arm of Diyar, created the "Diploma in Tour Guiding" program to train and qualify Palestinian guides, targeting especially women, with a new approach to guiding that combines the unique historical, religious, and cultural context of the Holy Land. Diyar continues to develop innovative ideas, conferences, and festivals.

The Edward Said National Conservatory of Music (ESNCM) is a music school that teaches and promotes music with the aim of making it accessible for all Palestinians, wherever they live, within the framework of strengthening the Palestinian cultural and national identity.

The Holy Land Incoming Tour Operators Association (HLITOA), with over fifty active members, represents Palestinian incoming tour operators and is shaping the tourism industry in the Holy Land in general and Palestine in particular.

The BDC will support a range of marketing efforts and PR activities to promote Bethlehem and Palestine at international travel trade fairs in cooperation with the ministry of tourism and the private tourism sector. A successful press conference, attended by over forty journalists, was held at the ITB Berlin Tourism Fair in March 2016, where BDC screened a promotional film by the Palestinian MoTA that received a Second Star Award. Bethlehem Destination Christmas envisages participation in other major international travel trade fairs such as WTM London (Britain's largest travel fair), FITUR Madrid (Spain's largest travel fair), and CMT Stuttgart (Europe's largest consumer travel fair). In its marketing activities, BDC will support Palestinian tour operators, enhancing their networking with international tour operators and other official bodies, and give assistance to incoming tour agents in their tour designs and marketing efforts. BDC's target is global and thus includes both international and national tourism markets that cover all of historical Palestine.

The Bethlehem Destination Christmas initiative requires awareness and support to be able to reach its goals. True internationalization of Christmas will hopefully lead to a greater intercultural awareness and shall induce a sense of pride and joy within the Palestinian community and its diaspora. This can have a very positive multiplier effect for our region. So let us all Follow the Star and head to Bethlehem to be part of the events that commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

BDF in the Media





BDF in the Media



Information •



The Bethlehem Development Foundation is a Non-Profit

NGO Registration Number

BL-3347-SD

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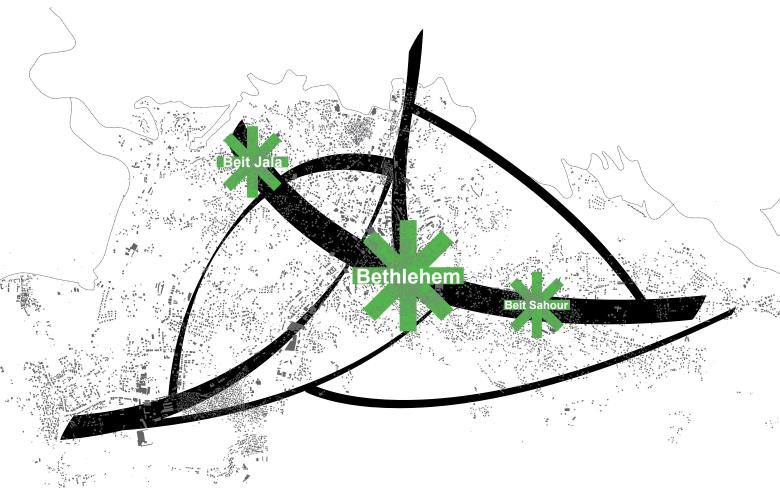
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External Auditors

Ernest & Young

Bethlehem Development Initiative Arcs of Spirituality



B E T H L E H E M D E V E L O P M E N T F O U N D A T I O N

