

Grants for Palestine from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
through the Saudi Fund for Development
2020







Foreword:

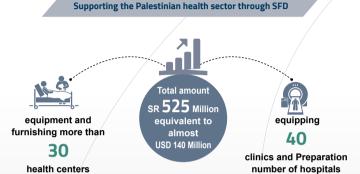
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on its official and public levels gives utmost importance to the human issues in general, and the Palestinian dilemma in particular which receives the Kingdom's continuous economic and political support. In the field of economic support, the Kingdom had in course of the past few years offered through the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) the Palestinian people more than SR. 18105 million, equivalent to almost USD 4828 million. It was allocated to support the Palestinian authority budget with SR. 10117 million, equivalent to almost USD 2698 million through the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and implement development projects through the international and regional organizations and institutions with SR. 7988 million equivalent to almost USD 2130 million.

The Kingdom has continuously stressed the urgency to support the Palestinian people and provide them with the basic requirements for a decent life; such as education, housing and health care. Not only this, but it has also closely worked with those who exert any efforts to lighten the strain of people's suffering. The Kingdom deeply believes that one day the issue would be eventually resolved according to the international law in a fair way that guarantees all rights of the Palestinian people. Yet till this moment eventually comes, the Kingdom considers that it is the duty of the international community whether all governments, institutes or organizations, to provide the necessary support to the Palestinians.

The Kingdom's contributions to Palestine extended to cover the vital and main sectors which included education, health, housing, infrastructure and social development. This is illustrated as follow:

Health:

The kingdom through SFD, had supported the Palestinian health sector with a total of SR. 525 million, equivalent to almost USD 140 million. The amount was allocated for the construction, equipment and furnishing of more than 30 health centers, 40 clinics and equipping number of hospitals and the provision of advanced medical devices and medicines. That's in addition to supporting the medical staff and their technical cadres to cope with the current worldwide medical development and raise the standard of health services across Palestine territories. The amount was also used for the provision of medicines and an ambulance for the clinic attached to Al-Aqsa Mosque.



Education:

Education is definitely the main tool to raise up awareness among children and prepare the coming generations to be able enough to build the Palestinian state. As the kingdom believes in the importance of this sector, it contributed a total of SR. 741 million, equivalent to about USD 198 million in order to construct, expand, develop and equip more than 400 primary and preparatory schools and support Al Azhar University, Birzeit University and Bethlehem University in different areas of Palestine.

Number of schools that have been established



primary and preparatory schools

Universities that have been supported



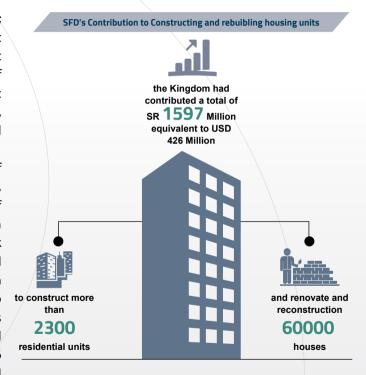
Al Azhar University, Birzeit University and Bethlehem University with total amount of SR 741 Million, equivalent to USD 198 Million

2

Housing:

Housing represents the backbone of societies in general; however for the Palestinians it goes far beyond this, it actually stands as the icon of Palestinian resistance against the cruel occupation and a blockage to the expansion of Israeli settlement particularly in the sacred areas, historic mosques and Islamic monuments in the old towns, especially the major ones such as Al-Quds and Al-Khalil which truly preserve the Arab and Islamic identity.

In order to support the Palestinians' resistance in the face of occupation and help preserve those old towns from seizure, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had financed a broad range of projects which aim to repair and rehabilitate the old town houses especially those close to Al-Aqsa, Dome of the Rock and Ibrahimi Mosques. Likewise, the Kingdom constructed and renovated the residential units in the Palestinian refugee camps located in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as Nahr Al-Bared and Ain Al-Hilwa refugee camps in Lebanon. In this regard, the Kingdom had contributed a total of SR. 1597 million, that is equivalent to USD 426 million, to construct more than 2300 residential units and renovate and reconstruction 60000 houses.



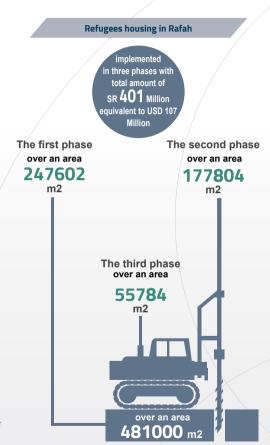
The Saudi Program for Housing Palestinian Refugees in Rafah

The housing project in Rafah represents a residential complex of comprehensive services constructed over more than 481000 m2. The project is set to be implemented in three phases at a total cost exceeding SR. 401 million which is equivalent to US\$ 107 million. The first phase was executed over 247602 m2 and was opened in February 2013. It comprised 752 residential units to house about 4564 people; besides the construction of 4 schools, a commercial complex, a health center and a cultural one. That's in addition to the provision of several services which included connecting and construct a tank of water, sewerage, electricity and communication networks besides the construction and lighting of roads network, and a mosque with a capacity of more than 1200 prayers, making gardens and digging water wells with a storage tank of 2000 m3 capacity.

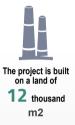
The second phase consisted of the construction of 765 residential units to house 4761 individuals over an area of about 177804 m2. Additionally, two schools were constructed and supplied with all the required services such as the connection of water, sewerage, electricity and communication networks besides the construction and lighting of roads, making gardens, and a mosque with a capacity of 400 prayers. The phase is scheduled to be open in 2014.

The third phase comprises the construction of 220 residential units to house 1300 individuals over a total area of 55784 m2 besides to the connecting of water, sewerage, electricity and communication networks, making gardens, and construction and lighting of roads.

The housing project in Rafah is definitely one of the major and most significant projects that the Kingdom keens to support in Gaza Strip. The project is totally unique in every bit; size, design, form and construction circumstances. Actually, it is the first comprehensive project ever that "UNRWA" implements in Palestine. The project was also incepted amid extremely harsh conditions due to the blockade imposed on Gaza Strip which led to a clear shortage in the basic materials required for construction, as well as the stoppage of the construction works and its related activities, which led to the deterioration of the economic and social circumstances of Gaza Strip besides the increase in the unemployment rate. Nevertheless, "UNRWA" perfectly managed to implement the program in record time and with high quality standards due to the optimal diplomatic and professional efforts of its staff in charge of the project. It's worth mentioning that the project had directly and indirectly contributed to support Gaza Strip economy in a real crucial timing. In terms of this, the project had in its first phase, provided more than 400 thousand working days and contributed to improve the economies and the works related to construction business as of the blacksmithing and carpentry repair-shops, etc. It had also contributed to the increase in the income of many individuals and families.













Riyadh housing project at Birzeit University in the West Bank:

The project aims to provide healthy, safe housing and a suitable environment for female students in the university, which will increase the number of female students enrolled in the university, the trouble of moving between distant cities and being harassed at the Israeli checkpoints. The project is built on a land of 12 thousand square meters located inside the university campus with total cost SR 60 million, which equivalent to USD 16 million, the apartment consists of 50 housing units distributed in three buildings with halls for student including sitting room and dining and accommodates for 196 female students. The project is including parking, roads, lighting, landscaping, a treatment unit Sewage water, public service networks and guard rooms.

Infrastructure:

The Kingdom through the SFD had contributed to finance various infrastructure projects. Those included the construction and maintenance of the electricity, water, sewerage and communications networks, laying roads through all the Palestinian lands plus Nahr Al-Bard and Ain Al-Hilwa refugee camps in Lebanon. The mentioned projects totaled to about SR. 406.17 million which is equivalent to USD 108.3 million.

Social Development and Sport Facilities:

The social infrastructure sector is evidently significant in fighting poverty and reducing the dependence of Palestinian families in earning their living on the aids and assistances granted by donor countries and organizations. For this, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has generously contributed to the program of enhancing the economy and boosting the capacities of those working in the education and health sectors. In this regard, the kingdom had participated together with number of financers to finance the project of "Enhancing social protection and comprehensiveness in Gaza Strip". The project aims to improve the economic status of some poor Palestinian families in Gaza Strip through developing their capacities to be effectively productive; this in turn increases their income and improves their living standard in order to eventually become independent in earning their needs. In sport aspect, SFD has also contributed to rehabilitating five sport stadiums and one cultural center in Palestine, to allow Palestinians to occupy their spare times in an appropriate and prepared environment.





6