

## **Dutch cooperation programme in the Palestinian Territories**

The Netherlands encourages and supports progress in the Middle East Peace Process through political and developmental means. It also assists in Palestinian statehood building and socio-economic development. Currently, the focus of the Dutch development programme in the Palestinian Territories is on three key sectors where the Netherlands has proven added value: security & rule of law, food security, and water. The Netherlands furthermore supports a substantial human rights program and is a core donor of the UN Agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA. Finally, the Netherlands is involved in Palestinian private sector development and supports culture and sports activities. Gender perspectives constitute an integral component of the programs across all these sectors.

The current Dutch cooperation programme in the Palestinian Territories is based on the Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP) 2014 – 2017. The full text of the MASP is available on the website: <http://pal.nlmission.org/development-cooperation>.

### **NL support 2010 - 2013:**

- Security, good governance and rule of law:	€ 31,965,000
- Food security:	€ 29,495,000
- Integrated water management, water and sanitation:	€ 2,000,000 (as of 2013)
- Human rights:	€ 6,390,000
- Culture and Sports:	€ 1,100,000
- Small grants scheme:	€ 330,000531

Total expenditures 2010-2013: **€ 71,269,619**

### **NL planned budget for support 2014-2017:**

- Security, good governance and rule of law:	€ 25,900,000
- Food security:	€ 22,000,000
- Integrated water management, water and sanitation:	€ 16,500,000
- Human rights:	€ 4,800,000
- Culture and Sports:	€ 760,000

Total budget 2014-2017: **€ 70,170,000**

### **Humanitarian aid**

The Netherlands has been an active member of UNRWA's Advisory Commission since 2005, providing \$ 178.5 million in voluntary contributions since 2007. It currently is the Agency's eleventh-largest donor. In 2013, the Netherlands contributed € 16 million for human development programs and humanitarian aid.

The planned humanitarian aid budget for the period 2014-2017 is € 60,000,000.

## NL Planned budget for 2014:

- Security, good governance and Rule of Law:	EUR 5.060.000
- Food security:	EUR 5.700.000
- Integrated water management, water and sanitation:	EUR 4.600.000
- Human Rights:	EUR 1.200.000
- Culture and Sports:	EUR 160.000

## Gaza Pledge: 2014-2017

The Netherlands will contribute *EUR 13,064,200* for the rehabilitation of Gaza. This amount will mostly be used for the import costs of construction materials, including a donation to the VN import monitor mechanism, which will enable the re-construction of hospitals and schools. A part of the pledge will also be used for removing the remaining explosives in Gaza.

**The matrix below provides an overview of the Dutch funded programmes and projects in the Palestinian Territories as from 1 January 2010, specified per sector:**

### Security & Rule of Law

The Netherlands / NRO aims to achieve the following strategic outcomes in this sector:

1. Conditions are in place in which Palestinians can receive capable and responsive justice and security services.
2. Conditions are in place in which the PA justice and security institutions operate transparently and can be held accountable to the Palestinian public.

This leads to the following outputs:

- 1.1 Justice and Security institutions jointly capable of delivering justice services, where possible beyond Area A.
- 2.1 Increased participation by civil society organisations in order to hold public actors within the justice sector accountable.

The focus of the activities mentioned below is thus on the development and consolidation of independent, legitimate, self-sustaining and cooperating justice and security institutions. Additionally, the activities are directed at a strengthened civil society that in absence of a functioning parliament is able to act independently between the public and government, in order to create an atmosphere in which government actors within the justice and security sector, can be held accountable.

Gender component: legal aid for women, UNDP-advocacy program to advance women's rights, enhancing officials and lawyer's capacity on gender equality, improvement of the justice system's response and finally lobby and advocacy activities that will address the limitations women face under the movement and access restrictions.

Project title	Implementing Agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
Access to Justice Phase II	UNDP/PAPP	Strengthening and reforming the rule of law by developing efficient, accountable and harmonised justice and security institutions, which are gender-sensitive and rights-based, while also improving access to justice and security services to disadvantaged social groups, especially women and girls in the Westbank and Gaza.	01/05/2014 – 31/03/2017	€ 6,156,000
AMAN Anti-Corruption Phase V	AMAN – the coalition for integrity and accountability	Improving integrity, transparency, accountability, quality of services, and equal opportunity in public institutions and civil society organizations.	01/06/2013- 31/05/2016	€ 744,255
Musawa Core Funding	Musawa	Establishing a State of Justice and Rule of Law in the Palestinian Territories through the reduction of violations of Rule of Law and the reinforcement of the culture of Rule of Law.	01/07/2013 31/12/2015	€ 850,000

OQR Rule of Law Program	Office of the Quartet Representative (OQR)	Expanding the legal footprint of the PA, strengthening Palestinian rule of law institutions and supporting the NRO in its role as co-chair of the JSWG and important donor within the Security and Justice Sector.	01/04/2013 - 31/03/2016	€ 1,185,000
UNDP EUPOL Accountability Program	UNDP/PAPP with technical assistance of EUPOL COPPS	Strengthening internal police accountability (PCP), assistance to the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC) and Corruption Crimes Court (CCC) to enhance national anti-corruption efforts and engagement of Palestinian civil society to promote civilian oversight.	01/07/2012 - 31/03/2014	€ 301,000
PEGASE	European Union	A contribution to help the PA finance its budget deficit and implement its reform agenda. Furthermore it helps the PA to meet its obligations toward civil employees. The Dutch contribution is earmarked for salary payments in the justice and security sector.	Annual contributions since 2010	€ 9,000,000 Justice sector € 8,000,000 Palestinian Civil Police and Civil Defense
<b>Project title</b>	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Project description</b>	<b>Project period</b>	<b>Funds allocated</b>
Palestinian Prosecution Service	Center for International Legal Cooperation (CILC)	Strengthening the Palestinian public prosecution service, and through this the Rule of Law in the Palestinian Territories.	01/01/2010 - 31/03/2014	€ 2,797,896
PCP Program Fund	UNOPS, in close cooperation with EUPOL COPPS	Support the development of the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP), with as goal that the PCP becomes able to uphold security and the rule of law in an effective and accountable manner. Furthermore, the program facilitates the construction of police station Beit Leed.	01/09/2011 - 30/06/2014	€ 5,000,000
Penitentiary System	UNODC	Strengthening the management of the Palestinian penitentiary system and rehabilitation of inmates in civil prisons administered by the Palestinian Authority.	01/11/2010 - 31/12/2013	€ 2,894,905
Access to Justice	UNDP/PAPP	Strengthening institutional capacity of Palestinian justice system to uphold the rule of law and improve access to justice through legal empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged.	01/06/2010 - 31/03/2014	€ 3,678,800
AMAN Anti Corruption Phase VI	AMAN – the coalition for integrity and accountability	Improving integrity, transparency, accountability, quality of services, and equal opportunity in public institutions and civil society organizations.	01/05/2010 - 30/04/2013	EUR 760,000

## Water

The Netherlands has a widely appreciated historic role in the water sector and internationally recognized expertise in water management. It can thus provide substantial support to further develop the water and wastewater sector in the Palestinian Territory. Water is one of the core issues to be negotiated between Israelis and Palestinians in the framework of the final status agreements.

The Netherlands/NRO has identified the following strategic outcomes/outputs for water:

1. Increasing the quantity of water delivered to the customers
2. Improving the sanitation to protect the natural water resources from pollution by wastewater.
3. Enhancing research and capacity development

This leads to the following outputs:

- 1.1 Reducing unaccounted for water (UFW)
- 1.2 Increasing the volume of domestic water available at tap (liter/capita/day)
- 2. Improving cross-border cooperation on treatment of wastewater
- 3. Promoting innovation in water-related research and education.

The activities mentioned below are based on actual needs, PA priorities, the activities funded by other donors and Dutch added value expertise.

Gender component: the interventions address the difficulties Palestinian men and women face in access to and distribution and cost of water (treatment), and address them equally.

Project title	Implementing agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
Water Improvement for Bethlehem	L'Agence Française de Développement	Increasing drinking water availability and meet demand by rehabilitating the network and optimizing its operation.	01/05/2014 – 30/04/2016	€ 7,500,000
Project title	Implementing Agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
Transboundary Wastewater management	UNDP	Wastewater management of transboundary wastewater pollution in Baqa Al-Sharqia and Nazlat.	01/01/2014 – 31/12/2014	€ 324,290
Dutch-Palestinian Academic Cooperation	Maastricht School of Management	Cooperation project between five Palestinian and five Dutch universities to improve the individual, organizational and institutional capacity of the Palestinian higher education sector toward contributing to the effectiveness of the Palestinian water sector regarding the development, provision and management of water resources and services.	01/12/2013 – 31/12/2015	€ 1,331,605

## Food Security

The Palestinian agricultural sector is of key importance for food security, as well as for income generation and private sector development. A significant part of the Palestinian population is dependent on it, either for their daily access to food or for employment opportunities. The main elements for increasing agricultural production in the PT – the availability of land and water, access to (foreign) markets and institutional capacity – are currently also the main constraints hindering its sustainable development.

Through its programs, the Netherlands/NRO is addressing these constraints and aims at achieving the following outcomes:

- 1. Sustainable increase in food production to the benefit of the Palestinian people through (1.1) improved access to and use of land and water for food production, and (1.2) improved agricultural productivity of existing Palestinian farmlands;
- 2. Improved access to markets for Palestinian farmers through (2.1) increased competitiveness of agricultural products and (2.2) improved institutional capacity of the PA for service delivery to the agricultural sector.

This leads to the following outputs:

- 1.1 Increased availability and use of land and water for food production;
- 1.2 Higher yields of horticultural crops produced by agricultural cooperatives;
- 2.1 Improved quality and marketability of Palestinian horticultural products;
- 2.2 PA institutions capacitated to implement the WTO sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS).

Gender component: the NRO aims to upgrade the role of women in the agricultural sector, inter alia by involving women cooperatives in high quality, certified agricultural production techniques and by stimulating female ownership and entrepreneurship vis-à-vis agricultural land resources. This should boost the participation of women in the agricultural process as a whole, both in qualitative and in quantitative terms.

Project title	Implimenting agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
Area C Agricultural Wells	Food and Agriculture Organizations of the UN (FAO)	Rehabilitation of twelve water wells and to increase water availability for irrigation, to enhance agriculture production, to improve the management of natural resources (land and water) and ration water use in agriculture and to build local capacities and upgrade knowledge of water use optimization in irrigation.	01/04/2014 – 30/04/2016	€ 1,939,133
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Capacity Building	FAO	Improved effectiveness and efficiency of the MoA to deliver its services to the agriculture sector in relation to Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS).	01/04/2014 – 31/07/2017	€ 1,039,420
Land and Water Resource Management for Agricultural Development in the West Bank Program	Consortium led by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) - with LRC, PHG and ESDC as partners	Improve food security and reduce poverty in vulnerable rural areas of the West Bank through comprehensive development of available agricultural resources including land, water and human capacity. Simultaneously, the goal is to promote farmers' perseverance and attachment to their land, especially regarding land in Area C.	01/07/2013 – 31/12/2016	€ 8,005,240
Project title	Implementing Agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
High Value Crops	Consortium of FAO, UAWC, MGO, ASALA	Improved access to markets for Palestinian farmers by improving the quality and marketability of their horticultural products.	01/01/2013 – 30/06/2016	€ 4,961,036
Gaza Buffer Zone Land Rehabilitation Project	FAO	Pilot project to provide community near Gaza buffer zone with improved access to, and use of land and water resources in this Buffer Zone. 300 dunums of land close to their village will be rehabilitated for the use of food production.	15/10/2012 – 31/03/2014	€ 348,040
Gaza Eearly Recovery Phase II	PARC – Agricultural Development Organization	Enhancing food security, as well as the position of farmers and their families in the Gaza strip who were severely affected by the Israeli military operation in December 2008 and January 2009.	01/06/2010 – 31/05/2012	€ 4,259,336
Gaza Cash Crops season 2010 -2011 & season 2011-2012	PARC - Agricultural Development Organization	Providing the farmers in Gaza with the means to continue their activities in the field of the production of cash crops (strawberries, flowers and vegetables) as well as attention to longer-term capacity-building and improvements in marketing of the produce.	01/07/2010 – 30/06/2011 & 01/06/2011 – 30/09/2012	€ 1,742,866 & € 2,047,004
Reef Finance Co.	Reef Finance Co.	The goal is to further integrate the Palestinian rural areas (West Bank and Gaza) in the microfinance services in order to strengthen their contribution to economic development in rural areas and the contribution of agriculture to economic productivity.	01/05/2010 – 31/08/2013	€ 2,495,250

### Human rights

The rights of Palestinian people are under duress by both the PA and the Israeli authorities and settlers. Therefore, the NRO provides financial aid to a limited number of local human-rights organisations. In choosing its partners, the NRO works toward an adequate geographical and thematic coverage, i.e. human-rights NGO's that are active either in Gaza or the West Bank or both. Priorities for the NRO include freedom of expression and religion, equal rights for women and LGBT-people and support for human rights defenders.

Project title	Implementing agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
ICHR Core Support 2014-2016	Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR)	Promoting a human rights based culture, enhancing the justice systems in accordance with international human rights standards and the promotion of international mechanisms for the defense of human rights standards.	01/01/2014 – 31/12/2016	€ 1,200,800
Human Rights/International	NIRAS/Birzeit	The program focuses on strengthening the operations of Palestinian and Israeli human rights CSO's by providing core funding for established CSO's and project	01/07/2013 – 30/06/2017	€ 2,900,000

Humanitarian Law Fund		funding for newly established CSO's.		
Support to the Palestinian Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD)	Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD)	Ensure that the Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD) will be in a position to provide the Palestinian leadership with accurate, timely, legal, strategic and tactical advice on negotiations with Israel on all final-status issues.	01/07/2011 – 03/06/2014	€ 1,300,000
ICHR Core Support 2011-2013	ICHR	Promoting and protecting human rights through supporting the only official and independent national human rights institution in the Palestinian Territories, the Palestinian Independent Commission for Human Rights (ICHR)	01/07/2011 – 31/12/2013	€ 900,000
NDC Human Rights Good Governance Secretariat II	NGO Development Center (NDC) - JFA partner	Joint financial assistance (NRO, SiDA, SDC, Denmark) and capacity building of NGO's that are working to promote and protect human rights and good governance in the Palestinian Territories.	01/05/2010 – 30/06/2014	€ 3,988,000

### Culture & Sports

The Culture & Sports program of the NRO supports cultural and sports activities in the Westbank, Gaza and East Jerusalem that enhance the Dutch-Palestinian relations and promote joint values of a diverse, open and tolerant society. The focus is on projects in sectors which have a Dutch angle, are visible, and are sustainable. Culture and sports are sectors in which a society can explore its undiscovered potential, interact with the world and furthermore contribute to a sense of positivity, which is especially needed in areas of conflict and hardship.

Project title	Implementing agency	Project description	Project period	Funds allocated
Feasibility study Contemporary Art Museum East Jerusalem	Van Abbe Museum, Eindhoven	The feasibility study will assess the feasibility of establishing a Palestinian contemporary art museum in East Jerusalem.	01/12/2013 – 15/10/2014	€ 35.270
UNESCO Tell Balata Restoration	UNESCO	In cooperation with UNESCO and Leiden University, the project has included an excavation phase, where the archeological site was screened by archeologists from the Netherlands and PA, the second stage included the restoration of the site, and finally the building of an information center, transforming an abandoned archeological site into a tourist attraction, with facilities and guides.	01/12/2009 – 31/05/2014	€ 379.100
Palestinian Film Fund	Qattan Foundation	The project purchased equipment needed for filming, that were not available in the West Bank. The equipment is used by Palestinian film makers on a fee basis. Movies resulting from this project featured at local and international cinemas, of which two were awarded international prizes.	1/12/2009 – 30/06/2013	€ 301,920
UNRWA West Bank Sports	UNRWA	Organisation of culture and gender sensitive sports activities and tournaments for young Palestinian refugees in 97 schools in the West Bank.	01/09/2009 – 30/04/2013	€ 61,500
Palestine Israel Journal Youth Publication	Palestine – Israel Journal	Finance the Journal's quarterly issue on Palestinian and Israeli youth, dedicated to young Palestinians and Israelis and their role in the conflict's resolution.	01/09/2012 – 31/05/2013	€ 39,000
Theater Days	Theater Day Productions Gaza	A contribution to the work of Theater Day Productions which stimulates children to think critically, and to articulate and imaginatively present their problems through youth theatre and professional level training, plays, workshops and animations.	01/04/2012 – 31/12/2014	€ 245,000
PASSIA Religious Studies	PASSIA	Promote mutual understanding between people of different beliefs, provision of a forum to discuss religious issues, provide opportunities to learn about faith, re-examine the meaning of religious perspective and show that religious belief in the Middle East is different from fundamentalism.	01/05/2012 – 30/04/2013	€ 36,540

**Small Grants Scheme (PKP)**

The NRO provides the possibility to give financial support to small projects directly benefiting and improving the well-being of the community. The programme is intended to be an incentive for NGOs and non-profit organisations to implement their community development activities.

The small grants schemes is no longer available as from 1 January 2014

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Implimenting agency</b>	<b>Project description</b>	<b>Project period</b>	<b>Funds allocated</b>
Advocacy Trip Jahalin Association	Jahalin Association	Advocacy trip to Europe by three members of the Jahalin Association in order to communicate the urgency of the situation of the Bedouin in the Palestinian Territories to organisations, members of Parliament, and media and increase understanding by all those whom the Jahalin Association lobbies or meets to reverse their displacement.	15/11/2013 – 31/12/2013	€ 5,000
<b>Project title</b>	<b>Implimenting agency</b>	<b>Project description</b>	<b>Project period</b>	<b>Funds allocated</b>
Opinion Poll Survey	Jerusalem Media and Communication Center (JMCC)	A survey was designed to examine Palestinian (local) opinions and attitudes on the NRO programmes in the Palestinian Territories, as well as the opinions about the Netherlands in general. This survey served as a basis for the NRO's Public Diplomacy strategy.	15/02/2013 – 15/06/2013	€ 10,000
School Sports Education Project	Dar El Tifl School	Providing support to Dar El Tifl Al Arabi Girls School in East Jerusalem to carry out its sports education project through the provision of sports equipment and facilities, supporting a sports festival as well as the publication of the first edition of its sports journal.	15/12/2012 – 15/06/2013	€ 16,600
Bicycles for Girls' Schools in Nablus	Civil Society Association	The project funded the purchase of bicycles, training of girls to cycle and a rally at the end of the project to demonstrate the girls' ability to cycle in public areas.	15/12/2012 - 30/06/2014	€ 21,350
Garden of Nations	De Tempelhof	The installation of the Angel of ...? statue by a Dutch artist at the Garden of Nations in Ramallah. The statue represents the three religions originating from this region: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.	15/11/2012 – 30/02/2013	€ 15,000
De Stilte Dance Festival	Ramallah First Group (Siriyet Ramalah Al Uwla)	Support to the participation of a Dutch Dance Group (De Stilte) at the Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival.	15/03/2012 – 15-06-2012	€ 6,000
Silwan Playground (Holland Park)	Wadi Hilwah Community Center	The project created a children's playground and recreational area and is serving as a breathing and safe zone for the underprivileged community in Silwan neighborhood in East Jerusalem. The playground area is called Holland Park.	15/12/2011 – 30/6/2013	€ 23,000
Music room and recording studio in Duheisheh Camp	Ibn Mukhayam Association	The project established a music room in a refugee camp, where music can be played and CDs can be recorded.	12/2011 – 04/2013	€ 20,000

**Private Sector Development**

For Private Sector Development, the NRO closely cooperates with the Netherlands Enterprise Agency. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency is the central organ of the Dutch government responsible for promoting the international presence of Dutch companies in foreign markets and for supporting private sector development in emerging economies, such as in the Palestinian Territories. The agency provides Dutch companies with information and services critical for the pursuit of new opportunities in these markets. Additionally, it also offers a number of instruments for businesses from developing countries interested in cooperating with Dutch and foreign companies. The instruments which are currently open to businessmen- and women in the Palestinian Territories are: PUM senior experts program, MatchMaking Facility, CBI, the Center for the Promotion of Imports and the Private Sector Investment Plus Program that ended in 2014.

For more information please visit the NRO website:

<http://pal.nlmission.org/services/trade-information>

In terms of population, the Palestinian Territories are currently world leader when it comes to the amount of PSI projects and PUM missions in recent years. The table below gives an impression of the amount of successful applications by Palestinian entrepreneurs for the PSI, PUM and MMF instruments. In addition, CBI has started an Export Coaching Program (ECP) for a group of Palestinian IT companies (SMEs).

<b>Year</b>	<b>PSI</b>	<b>PUM</b>	<b>MMF</b>
2013	7	36	13
2012	4	27	2
2011	6	25	1
2010	2	5	5
2009	1	n/a	n/a