

SANAD ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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OUR MISSION

Improve the well-being* of youth, strengthen their role as active citizens, and empower local communities, while promoting equality and combating racism, prejudice and violence.

*Well-being involves those aspects that are crucial to meeting human needs, as well as the ability to pursue one's goal, to thrive and to feel satisfied with their life. OECD report "Measuring and Assessing Well-Being in Israel", 2015

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Our society faces many challenges that come from the outside but are reflected internally. For example, instability, despair and a lack of a clear future, may lead to violence and other phenomena. At the same time, in order to work on the development of society, we must work to strengthen it from the inside and develop its human and social resources. Our goal as civil society is to bring sustainable developments to our communities that can give stability and gradual improvement.

When we look at youth, we see a large potential that is not being used for the benefit of our communities. In the Triangle Region, youth spends a significant part of their time studying, working and accessing basic services outside of their communities. The solution is to develop local institutions that could meet the needs of youth, including private, public and commercial institutions, civil society bodies, associations and movements.

Sanad has been working since 2011 to bring about that kind of sustainable development needed and promote local initiatives that could meet the needs of young men and women in the Triangle Region, which is home to more than 300,000 Palestinian citizens of Israel. We would like to invite you to join us in this effort and partner with us.

Until the end of 2017, Sanad has been able to maintain a steady line of development and progress in its organizational development. This year was very important as we built internal work systems and recruited a professional and dedicated staff. In addition, we developed unique projects and programs as presented in this report.

In 2017 we developed important partnerships. We developed and implemented joint projects with local and international institutions, including Temple University in Pennsylvania, Global Peace Revolution Foundation, Shatil, Maryam Foundation, Rayan, Maouf, as well as municipalities and local institutions in the Triangle Region. This year, Sanad was able to diversify its sources of income and establish fruitful relationships with new foundations. We are very thankful for the generous support of the Asfari Foundation, the Social Venture Fund and the British Shalom-Salaam Trust. In addition, we are very thankful for the trust and support of community members in the Triangle Region, who believe in our work and support it through a monthly membership. A third venue of support is government funding. We have started to learn and apply to different opportunities available to Sanad, including the Green List, which supports informal education opportunities for youth.



Obayda Asbeh **Director** During a visit to Europe in 2017, I was able to meet different organizations and institutions. We are honored to have been able to build a working partnership with some of them and look forward to strengthening these partnerships and exploring further opportunities. We are also working to expand our membership base and bring more community members to be part of Sanad. Going forward, we will seek to continue with our organizational development with the aim of becoming a more sustainable community organization. We look forward to strengthening existing partnerships and develop new ones and continue with the implementation of the projects and programs we have initiated.





PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY BASED APPROACH & BASELINE PROJECT

In 2017 and 2018 Sanad is conducting a project working to build the research capacities of young leaders and students on data collection and analysis, critically assessing research and presenting results clearly. Beneficiaries will build a baseline measuring the well-being of young people in the Triangle region based on the OECD framework for measuring well-being in Israel. The findings will be widely distributed to inform both citizens and the media, and to spark a constructive debate between civil society and policy makers.

We are partnering with Dr. Marsha Zibalese-Crawford from the Temple University, who is the lead researcher.

Research Instrument: We contacted the OECD and the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics from July until November 2017. We did receive an answer in November from Kate Scrivens, from the Monitoring Well-Being & Progress, Statistics Directorate. Nevertheless, we could not get the actual instrument, but only references to statistical information, research reports, and some specific questions used by the OECD in their research process. After reviewing available research, we developed our own instrument. Dr. Zibalese-Crawford developed a draft survey of 100 questions, which was reviewed in several occasions by the Research Team.

Research Team: An invitation to be part of the Research Team was published in our Facebook page on December 6. In addition, we reached out to our contacts and Sanad's graduates from previous projects. We received 29 letters of interest and interviewed 20 candidates, 15 of which have been recruited to be part of the Research Team.

The Research Team is responsible for all aspects of the Community Based Participatory (CBP) Project. This body takes all decisions related to the project. The team is built by the Lead Researcher Dr. Zibalese-Crawford, representatives from Sanad, and recruited youth. Most of the youth are members of local youth academic movements, including: Academics and Youth of Zemer, Academics of Qalansawa, Academics of Kfar Kara'a, Academics of Kfar Bara, and Academics of Kfar Kassem.

In January 2018 the Research Team participated at two training workshops with Dr. Marsha Zibalese-Crawford on CBP and Photovoice. In addition, the team finalized the research instrument and had one field day in two villages in the Triangle Region to start collecting data.

LEARNING CENTER – PILOT

In 2017 we invested significant efforts in developing the concept of Sanad's Learning Center – Promoting lifelong learning opportunities. The Learning Center is a pilot initiative promoting the sharing, utilizing, and expanding capacities, skills and know-how in the Triangle Region for the benefit of the community. This initiative will be launched in 2018.

We believe that our community has significant resources, capacities and knowledge. At the same time, we, as a community, need to continue building our skills and know how to further strengthen and develop our community. Learning spaces and opportunities are scarce and often not suitable or affordable for all members of our community. Lifelong learning opportunities are important to make sure that we share our knowledge, remember the knowledge and heritage from our ancestors, but also learn new developments and technologies and embrace new opportunities that will enable us to grow, while remembering who we are and where we come from.

The Learning Centre is an open place where we can share our knowledge and build our skills, old and new, for our personal, professional and social benefit.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2017 Promoting Human Capital

SUMMARY

In 2017 we had the following activities promoting human capital in the Triangle Region:

- Course on Resource Development, started in March until June 2017 with 20 participants
- Participatory Community Based Approach & Baseline Project, started in October 2017 and will continue until June 2018 with 15 participants (members of the Research Team)
- The Learning Center was launched in February 2018 with 15 participants and will continue throughout 2018. We expect 100 participants.

Promoting human capital by encouraging lifelong learning, the pursuit of quality education as well as meaningful employment among .youth

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COURSE

From March until June 2017 Sanad, in partnership with Shatil and the Municipality of Baka Al Gharbiya, conducted a training on Resource Development in Baka Al Gharbiya in the Triangle Region. Twenty participants participated at the training, 16 of which successfully graduated and received a leaving certificate. Participants were from civil society organizations (mainly from the Triangle Region and some from Nazareth), staff from local authorities, and independent activists. The training consisted of 13 weekly meetings and a total of 45 hours. The training aimed to develop resources and capacities for local civil society organizations and encourage Arabic speaking professionals to work as fundraisers in the region.

On 23 May, representatives from international foundations met with trainees to give their feedback on their presentations and project initiatives, including: Ms. Hana Amoury – Rosa Luxemburg Foundation; Ms. Carol Goldgeier – Gimprich Foundation; Ms. Elisheva Gilad – Heinrich Boell Foundation.





WHY YOUTH?

Too often the energy, enthusiasm, and positive potential of young people are overlooked as community resources - yet young people will be the leaders, actors and decision-makers in the future. Youth participation is a key factor for the political and social development of society and democratic systems. Investing in youth means a commitment not only to their improved well-being and livelihood, but also to strengthening the fabric of their communities, and the economic, social, political and cultural development of future generations.

The empowerment of young people depends on and reinforces the empowerment of society at large.

Sanad uses the definition of youth as set by the EU as of March 2016 as people between 15-29 years old. This means for us that we:

- Bring a youth perspective to all issues.
- Youth takes part of decision-making processes and bodies (currently 3 out of 7 board fall in this category).
- Sanad will ensure that younger generations are always part of the organization, discussions, and decision-making bodies.
- While direct beneficiaries of our work are youth, indirect beneficiaries include the entire community.



Risk of Poverty and Other Challenges

In recent years, the risk of poverty has shifted from the elderly to the young. Young people (aged 18-25) have suffered from the most severe declines in levels of income, and youth are now experiencing immense risk of income poverty (OECD, June 2014, Income Inequality Update). This is of great significance if we take into consideration that the Arab population in the region is very young, around 40% aged under 14 years.

Arab public schools in Israel are underfunded, which reflects in low scores, high drop-out rates and low proficiency in Arabic and Hebrew. When seeking higher education, Palestinian youth, citizens of Israel, face significant barriers. Access to high-quality education is essential for individual well-being, both as a driver of other outcomes such as employment status, income, health status and civic participation, and as an intrinsic component of human success and personal development.

Furthermore, access for youth to participate in the decision-making process and governance is severely limited. The social cost is the exclusion of Palestinian youth in shaping and participating in society as active citizens. This is detrimental because civic engagement allows people to express their political voice and contribute actively to the functioning of society. In turn, open and transparent governance contributes to the functioning of institutions and the provision of public services that support material well-being and quality of life. Discrimination and structural challenges, difficulties in building a family and a home, unemployment, patriarchal social norms, and a lack of safe cultural and social spaces result in high levels of frustration and despair, low self-esteem, and feelings of disempowerment. This creates a situation of high risk for youth, leading to an increase in violence and at-risk behaviors, especially for young men.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Several lectures, workshops and events about different topics took place, including: • On April, Sanad hosted a lecture on Nutrition and Health with 30 participants. Professor Hochberg from the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem and nutritional consultant for many healthy restaurants, provided a 2-hours lecture on natural and healthy food.

In May, in cooperation with the partners of the Network for Social Entrepreneurship (Maof, AI Fanar, the municipality of Baka AI Gharbiya, Rayan Network, AI Qassemi College of Engineering and Science and Sanad), we launched the first conference on socio-economic initiatives. On its establishment partners will continue to present the project and produce a practical plan that includes all aspects required by social entrepreneurs, including practical tools and services through partners to develop these initiatives and work with them in a practical and effective.

• In September, Sanad, in collaboration with a number of partners headed by Rayan AI-Tirah Center, organized a Conference for Academics from the Triangle Region. The conference focus on the practical aspects of their academic and professional career to expand knowledge and awareness about how to build a sustainable career and to connect hundreds of academics and youth working in the Triangle Region with each other. Target group: With this opportunity partners call upon all academic youth and graduates from all over the Triangle Region.

In November, Sanad partnered with the Mariam Foundation and Peace Revolution International to bring a series of Meditation Workshops to various towns in Israel and the West Bank. Together with Daniel Matallana, who conducted 7 meditation workshops in 7 different towns reaching 170 people, we were able to explore alternative ways to improve our health (mental and physical) and deal with stress in our day-to-day lives. For students facing increased levels of stress and exposure to social media, this can be a welcome break.



Promoting Social Capital SUMMARY

In 2017 we had the following activities promoting social capital in the Triangle Region:

- A Charity Day in Jatt in March 2017, reaching 2,000 people.
- Community outreach: Several lectures, workshops and events about different topics including:
- Health in April 2017 with 30 participants;
- Social-entrepreneurship day in May 2017 with 160 participants;
- A conference for academics from the Triangle Region in September 2017 with 160 participants;

• Meditation session in partnership with Peace Revolution and the Mariam Foundation in November 2017 with 170 participants.

CHARITY DAY

On 28th March 2017, Sanad coordinated the Charity Day in the village of Jatt. The event was organized by Ruach Tova (http://www.ruachtova.org.il/en) organization, which is based in Tel Aviv. Around 12 local partners got together, who organized a large group of around 1,500 volunteers. Sanad has participated at this initiative for 3 years since 2015. Sanad's staff and volunteers distributed materials among 4 local schools, 2 Kindergardens, the public library, Student Councils, and the Youth Village Project in Jatt. Some of the activities conducted in this day included: cleaning, painting, distributing information among residents, among others. Sanad was the main partner in Jatt. We mobilized around 40 local volunteers.



Promoting social capital through strengthening social cohesion, partnerships, community development and capacity building for local organizations, as well as promoting social responsibility, civic and political participation of Palestinian youth.

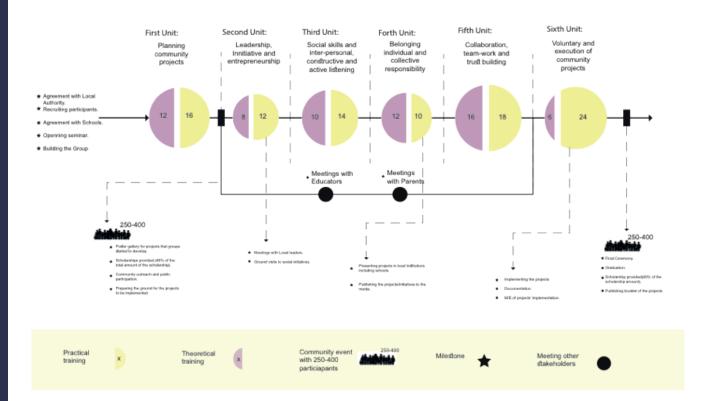
SANAD'S FLAGSHIP PROJECT

Sanad's flagship project is a yearly training cycle, which targets university students, who receive theoretical and practical training. In partnership with the Al-Qasemi College of Engineering and Science. During the practical hours, students work with and mentor school-children. Together, as a team, they design and implement community projects. Since 2012 around 100 university students and 250 children from two local communities (Jatt and Baka) have been trained. A total of 24 community projects have been developed and implemented.

For 2017 we were unable to raise the resources needed for this project. Therefore, we decided to freeze this initiative until we are able to secure new sources of income. Towards this end we invested important efforts to explore and approach government funding (for more information, please see Resource Development).



Youth Training-Flowchart One Cycle



Promoting Youth Initiatives

One of Sanad's projects is to promote youth initiatives through providing organizational infrastructure and support for promising initiatives. Sanad is currently in the planning phase for this program, which will be launched in 2018.

ALUMNI NETWORK

In 2017 we started building our Alumni Network. We have 100 graduates of our training cycle (students) that are interested in being part of Sanad's community and participating in further activities. In order to be able to build a network and open channels of communications, we are building a database and mailing list of all our alumni.

Other Activities

In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the following took place:

MEETINGS WITH INTERNATIONAL BODIES

In April we hosted Mr. Tony Kay (Deputy Head of Mission of the British Embassy in Israel) and Mr. Waseem Abbas (Political Adviser) to learn more about the situation in the region and the experiences of Palestinian citizens of Israel as well as the work of civil society and community-based organizations. During the visit, Mr. Kay and Mr. Abbas had the opportunity to meet community members and participants of Sanad's activities to learn more about their experiences.

• In May, Sanad participated at a roundtable organized by MEPI (US Middle East Partnership Initiative) together with several activists from the Palestinian community in Israel. We talked about the social impact of initiatives supported by MEPI and the ways in which different organizations work together.

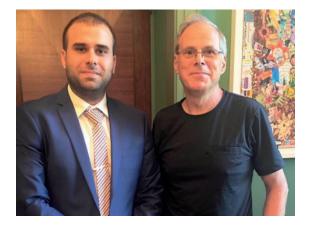
 In August, Sanad's Director Obayda Abu Asbeh, visited London, where he had the opportunity to meet representatives of British Shalom-Salam Trust, the Asfari Foundation, NIF London and CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Oversees Development).

 Sanad's Director Obayda Abu Asbeh also met Mr. Gilles Beschoor Plug, Dutch Ambassador to Israel; Mr. David Quarrey, British Ambassador to Israel; Mr. Thomas R. Genton, Counsellor for Press and Media Affairs at the US Embassy in Tel Aviv; Batya Kallus from the Social Venture Fund; and Lilli Stern from the Schocken Foundation.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF OUR WORK

Several interviews with the local media took place as well as extensive media coverage of our activities. On 7 June, the satellite TV channel Mussawah aired a special program on "Our Youth Win" featuring Sanad's work. The program lasts 30 minutes and widely watched among the Palestinian community in Israel. In our Bacebook page we count with 3,149 followers. Promoting social, cultural, economic and political youth initiatives through providing infrastructure, organizational frameworks, support and consultation.







ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT, CAPACITY & DEVELOPMENT

In 2016 we moved to our new office in Jatt. After that important step towards becoming a more independent and professional organization, we have improved our infrastructure and developed our team in considerable ways.

PARTNERSHIPS

In 2017 we were able to further deepen our relationships with local partners, including civil society organizations, local schools, local authorities, community leaders and activists among others. We have also been able to build new collaborations. At the local level, we are recognized as a community based and highly professional youth association, representative of the community, and not as a group of individual community members. At the regional and international level, we have been able to reach out to other stakeholders.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

In 2017 we were able to diversify our sources of income. We are sincerely grateful to the Asfari Foundation, the British Shalom-Salam Trust, and the Social Venture Fund for their generous support and trust in our work. In addition, we are building a strong community support base, which generously provides in-kind donations, volunteer work and financial contributions. We are deeply grateful for this support. In addition to international donors and community support, we are developing our internal capacities to apply for government funding. With the support of Waseem Aghbariya, a young experienced fundraiser focusing on international donors, we have submitted several applications to different governmental funding opportunities, including: Betuach Leumi in partnership with Assiwar, and the Green List. Both applications have been rejected. We are currently holding conversations with the Green List and in the process of re-applying.

OUR STORY

As an answer to youth movements in the wider region, several local organizations were established, but many lacked stable and sustainable frameworks and infrastructures and eventually had to close. As a response to this vacuum, a group of seven local activists came together to discuss solutions that could provide a sustainable and viable platform for youth groups that want to contribute to the development of the local community and to strengthen an inclusive, open and diverse society in the region.

After mapping strengths and opportunities, Sanad Youth Association was established in 2012. Sanad has been officially registered as a non-for-profit organization in 2014, under the auspices of the Al-Qasemi College of Engineering and Science in Jatt, Israel.

Since those initial meetings, Sanad has successfully achieved its targets set in 2012:

Today Sanad is a viable organization

 Sanad has trained a total of 100 university students and 250 children in 2 local communities (Jatt and Baka), implementing 24 community projects.

• Sanad has secured its first external funding through MEPI.

Sanad is governed by an active Board of Directors with seven members. The organization is led by Obayda Asbeh, who is an architect and city planner. He received his first degree at the Technion in Haifa. He is currently taking a Masters in Public Administration at the Haifa University. In 2012 he built Sanad together with other local activists. Since January 2016 Obayda became a co-founder of iDAR-Jerusalem (Interdisciplinary Design, Architecture and Research) and he is the Executive Director of an architectural and design magazine published on a quarterly basis by DE-iDEA Labs. Obayda participated in the MEPI Student Leadership Program organized by the US Department of State and won the Best Debater Award.

SANAD'S STAFF

Mr. Chadi Omar, General coordinator.

Chadi is an activist from the Triangle Region and has been engaged in civil society for the past 10 years. Shadi is an M.A. student in Archeology and Ancient Near East Civilisation at the Tel Aviv University, where he works as research assistant as well. He received training by EVS-Finland and Baladna as youth guide. He is the co-founder of the students' and youth movement in the town of Zimer, the co-founder of a Youth Movements' Forum and a former activist at Sadaka-Reut.

Ms. Heidi Paredes, Program and Resource Development.

Heidi has an M.A. in Communication Sciences, Political Sciences and American studies from the University in Mainz, Germany. Heidi has fifteen years' experience in program and resource development and is a local consultant working in the fields of media, gender, environment, culture, youth and human rights.

CPA Bassam Qaderi – External Accountant.

Basam is a certified public accountant and auditor. He has an MA in Public Policy and Public Projects from Tel Aviv University. He has extensive experience in working with financial and governmental institutions, including the Bank of Israel as senior accountant in control and supervision of banks, audits and control of credit and evaluation of credit portfolios; the Prime Minister Office as control of development budgets in the Arab sector; as well as at the Audit Department in the Ministry of Financial Statement Audits and the State Comptroller's Office.



We would like to sincerely thank our partners and supporters:

Asfari Foundation British Shalom-Salaam Trust Global Peace Revolution Foundation Maouf Maryam Foundation Members of Sanad Municipalities and local institutions in the Triangle Region. Rayan Social Venture Fund Shatil

Temple University, College of Public Health, School of Social Work, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.