



Palestinian National Plan 2011-13

Youth Cross-cutting Strategy

1. Sector Profile

The youth is the second largest age category in the Palestinian society. Possessing the potential of devising change and building, the youth sector plays a major role in the society. Over the past periods, work with the youth sector has been haphazard, lacked coordination and marred by an obscure vision. Therefore, promotion of this vital sector has not been attained. It is time now to adjust the work track and vision as well as to concert efforts and energies towards a long-term investment in the youth, thereby fulfilling their interests and the good of their society and homeland. This Strategy provides a framework that combines primary concepts, realistic vision and practical programmes, which will guide policies of working with the youth over the upcoming three years. Building on past successes and avoiding deficient functions, the Strategy presents a new sector approach and prepares the ground for a sustainable operation and ongoing investment in this sector, which we hope will lead the future towards building the State of Palestine.

The Youth in Palestine

Defining the youth category varies on grounds of age and sociological factors. The United Nations defines the youth as those individuals between 15 and 24 years of age. The Arab League of Nations adopts an age category of 15-35. For purposes of the Youth Cross-Cutting Strategy, it was agreed that the youth comprise persons in the 13-29 age category. It should be noted that adolescents are persons between 13 and 17 years of age and are subject to definitions prescribed by international conventions of the right of the child. This Strategy uses the term ‘adolescents’ in the context of distributing activities in the Palestinian Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS). Accordingly, MoYS’s activities are divided into three activities: (1) children targeted by the Childhood Directorate (in the 7-12 age category); (2) adolescents targeted by the Adolescents Directorate (in the 13-17 age category); and (3) youths targeted by the Youth Affairs Directorate (in the 18-35 age category).

This Youth Cross-Cutting Strategy adopted the following definition: The youth fall in the 13-29 age category. Accordingly, the youth represent 29.1% of the total Palestinian population.

The Palestinian youth sector comprises a broad range of institutions:

- In its capacity as the specialised government body, MoYS is the national institution, which plays a supervisory and oversight role in dealing with the adolescents and youth. MoYS directorates cover all residential areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. MoYS seeks to “develop and consolidate the Palestinian youth by creating an enabling environment to promote the status of the youth, youth institutions and frameworks and sports movement, as well as to integrate the youth within the development and state building processes.”
- Youth centres and clubs: 408 youth clubs and centres exist in the West Bank and Gaza. Of these, 350 are in operation. It is worth mentioning that 60% of these clubs and centres do not have buildings. Also, a large majority of these centres, including youth clubs, develop sports, social, cultural and scouts programmes and activities, as well as programmes targeting

children and adolescents. However, operation of these centres in the youth field, including its comprehensive vision, is inadequate.

- Civil society organisations: Approximately 250 civil society organisations deliver youth-targeted programmes. Nevertheless, geographical distribution of youth clubs and bodies is inconsistent with the population distribution. With a large number available in Ramallah city, these clubs and institutions are concentrated in city centres. Activities carried out by youth institutions vary: around 39% deliver youth-related services; 19% sports services; 6% rehabilitation programmes; 6% educational programmes; and 8% cultural programme. Approximately 19% of the said institutions target women and workers. 8% provide services to persons with special needs, including detainees, released detainees, and the disabled.

2. Situation Analysis

In the general Palestinian context, two major factors limit, demarcate and influence strategic planning: the Israeli occupation and internal context. A third factor is the almost complete reliance on external funds.

(i) The Israeli Occupation

The Palestinian society's development, social, political and economic cycle is virtually completely exposed to the Israeli occupation. Undoubtedly, the pace and manifestations of conflict with the occupation, as well as the positions of international actors towards the conflict, play a decisive role in shaping the Palestinian priorities. Real life experience witnessed by the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) reveal the profound impact of the Israeli occupation on the whole Palestinian sphere. This has been best clear at the outbreak of the second Intifada and in the wake of the 2006 legislative elections, resulting in the suspension of financial support, closure imposed on Gaza, and Israeli military offensive on Gaza in late 2008.

(ii) Internal Context:

As a result of the continued occupation, structural weakness of the Palestinian economy and territorial fragmentation, the Palestinian internal context is highly fragile, vulnerable, and dependent on the outside world. Political fragmentation has culminated in a geographical-political division between the West Bank and Gaza Strip. At the same time, the political division has given rise to regional tendencies, destabilised the concept of citizenship for the sake of political allegiances and affiliations, and subjected all walks of political, civil and institutional life to narrow criteria governed by multiple factors, including priority the factional over the national and undemocratic ideology. Hence, youth activity has encountered numerous restrictions.

(iii) Almost complete dependence on external support:

The Palestinian economy lacks productive capacities and suffers from structural distortions as a result of semi-complete annexation to the occupation's economy. External support has influenced

priorities of both government bodies and NGOs as it responds to prevalent situations. It has ranged from supporting institutional building after PNA was established to continued to support emergency aid programme.

Situation Analysis on Grounds of Major Components

Situation analysis covers nine major components defined by the youth and adolescents in line with an analytic examination of the National Youth and Adolescents Strategy 2004-6. These are: participation; citizenship; allegiance; education and training; work; health; culture and media; ICT; environment; sports, (non-curricular learning), and entertainment.

The Youth vis-a-vis Participation, Identity and Allegiance

Based on their interaction within their families, social surroundings and institutions, youth participation is the hub of the youth situation analysis. This is the most sensitive barometer to measure development levels in the society. Active and participative youth means that the society is investing in various human resources to attain an advanced level of development. It also means a society that respects dialogue between individuals; social and political frameworks that are democratic and transparent; and economic structures that are flexible, socially responsible and adopt creativity as well as individual and youth initiatives. In general, the Palestinian youth is politicised; most Palestinian political parties have constituted youth components and arms, especially within youth and student unions. Despite the high rate of voting amongst the youth, they score a high percentage of aversion from political activity. (61% of the youth intend to vote in the upcoming general elections and 15% said they would likely take part in polling, reflecting the youth's high tendency to political participation in Palestine). According to a recent study, 70% of the Palestinian youth identify themselves as politically inactive. Compared to 26% in the West Bank, 37% of the Gaza youth define themselves as politically active. Political activity is higher among male youths than females: 36% of young men and approximately 25% of young women. Several studies explain that aversion from political factions is attribute to the youth's declined trust and confidence in these factions after the Palestinian political polarisation culminated in internal infighting. The pre-PNA phase was marked by a popular awareness shaped by factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). This awareness was centred on allegiance to the land/homeland. Primarily because statehood was absent, a clear concept of citizenship was not composed then. The Youth National Survey shows multiple allegiances and identifications of identity amongst the youth: belonging to the Islamic world was first, following by belonging to the Arab world. With reference to local allegiance (and sub-identity), allegiance to the Palestinian territory as a whole scored first (61%), and the family or tribe was second (14%) (The latter is particularly the cases amongst residents of rural areas and refugee camps).

The Youth vis-a-vis Work and Reduction of Unemployment and Poverty

In general, the youth (as well as children, women and the disabled) are most vulnerable to poverty and unemployment. According to the World Bank 2008 estimates, approximately 52% households in the Gaza Strip were lived the poverty line compared to 19% in the West Bank. Should poverty be assessed on the basis of income after financial transfers and food aid are deducted (take into account that 80% of Gaza households depend on food and direct aid), poverty rates score 77% in Gaza and 47% in the West Bank. In both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, extreme poverty represents 69% and 37% respectively. Statistics show that 34.5% of the youth are economically active, including 36.0% in the West Bank and 31.9% in Gaza. Unemployed youth represented 35.7%. On the other hand, women's participation in the workforce reflects a substantial gender-based gap. 15.4% of women participate in the labour market, including 16.5% in the West Bank and 13.5% in the Gaza Strip.

The Youth vis-a-vis Education and Training

Since 1994, PNA has invested in developing and promoting the education sector. According to 2008 statistics, approximately 44.6% of individuals in 15-29 category are enrolled in educational institutions, including 86.9% of persons in the 15-17 age category, 49.7% in the 18-22 age category; and 10.45% in the 23-29 age category. Statistics also show that truancy (either joined and left or did not joint an educational facility) amongst the youth in the 15-29 age category was 29.3%, including 32.7% of males and 25.8% of females). In the 15-29 age category, 7.4% of young men held a BA or above compared to 8.9% of young women. Compared to 3.7% of young men, 2.8% of young women have not completed any education. 0.9% of the youth in the same age category are still illiterate, including 0.8% of males and 1.0% of females.

The Youth vis-a-vis Health and Environment

In spite of the government and nongovernment effort to enhance health service delivery and raise health awareness among the youth, many health-related needs are yet be fulfilled. These primarily include reproductive health (especially in light of the widespread practice of early marriage between girls) as well as psychological health. Traumas and violence exercised by the occupation have left tens of thousands of the youth suffer from direct and indirect psychological problems. Analysing the health situation of the youth reveals a high rate of chronic diseases. Statistics (The Youth in the Palestinian Territory: Statistical Picture) show that the youth in the 15-29 age category suffer from a chronic disease that required ongoing medical attention rose from 1.1% in 2000 to 2.1% in 2004. Other data (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics: Palestinian Survey of Household Health) indicate that 17.1% of the Palestinian youth in the aforementioned age category smoke.

The Youth vis-a-vis Entertainment and Sports (Non-curricular Learning)

Since MoYS adopted its new plan in 2008, the Ministry has been working on several tracks, especially in the areas of summer camps and scouts movements. MoYS has started to support youth centres, inaugurate high-quality sports facilities, and diversify entertainment programmes and link them to an integrated philosophy of the youth development process. The 2003 Youth Survey results show a low percentage (10.3%) of the Palestinian young people who exercise sports activities. At the

time the survey was being compiled, the percentage was higher in the Gaza Strip than in the West Bank. Declining exercise is attributed to generally weak sports infrastructure, unbalanced distribution of sports facilities to residential areas, and lacking equipped sports halls for girls and women (observing social customs and tradition) as well as sports halls and equipment for the Israeli army set up a flying checkpoint disabled (5-8% of the total youth). 43 sports unions are in operation in Palestine, including 23 Olympic unions, nice international unions, and 11 high-quality unions.

The Youth vis-a-vis Culture and Media

Culture is particularly significant in guiding socio-political transformations in various societies. Recently, media – especially factional – outlets have played an adverse role in promoting fragmentation and division on the Palestinian arena and employed a destructive incitement discourse. On the collective level, the Palestinian culture has score some successes, but did not make qualitative transformations. In addition to establishing several theatrical bands, the youth have taken an active part in exhibitions, plays, and various performances and fine arts.

The Youth vis-a-vis ICT

The 2006 Household Survey of Information Technology and Telecommunications showed that 67% of the youth use the computer – a rise of 43% compared to 2004 data. Also in 2006, 43% of the youth also possessed mobile telephones, marking an increase of 26% in comparison to 2004. 29% of the youth used the internet in the Palestinian territory in 2006. The gap between male and female youths in using the computer was bridged, attaining an equal status in 2006. Whereas the youth who continued their education beyond the secondary school scored the highest percentage of using the computer (approximately 86%), the youth in the 15-19 age category had the lowest percentage (56%).

3. Vision

“Empowered and participative youth, who have diversified and equitable opportunities for a balanced growth within the framework of a democratic, pluralistic society.”

Palestine’s youth are the essential source of a society-wide investment in a better future, the most significant features of which is ending the occupation and establishing a Palestinian state, which is governed by freedom, security, peace and justice. Accordingly, the future action of investment in the youth sector will be to enable them to access all society’s resources. Such investment is the foundation of a generation of the youth, who are cognisant of their potentials and rights, believe in their national identity, defend their right to self-determination, take part in promoting development and benefiting from its fruits, and committed to themselves, families, society and nation on the basis of citizenship and gender equality. To achieve this goal, the government bodies, civil society actors, the private sector other interested organisations and initiatives are working towards preparing social, economic and political contexts on various levels in order to promote and empower the youth as

well as develop and guide their capabilities towards building a better future for them and for their society, taking account of their position, interests, priorities and viewpoints of each policy, programme and law.

4. Strategic Objectives, Policies and Interventions

The tables below summarise strategic objectives as well as major policies and intervention to be implemented in the youth sector. The full sector Strategies include detailed policies and interventions.

Policy	Policy Interventions
1. Strategic Objective: Promote, expand and improve participation of the youth and adolescents in all aspects of life	
1. The youth's informed, positive, effective and efficient participation in ending the occupation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the youth's awareness of the national struggle priorities and legitimate struggle means. Empower and rehabilitate the youth in lobbying, advocacy and networking. Launch a national and societal political debate on national priorities, in which the youth take part. Coordinate efforts of the youth and popular groups and organisations in order to consolidate resistance.
2. Empowering the youth, promote their participation on all levels, and integrate them in leading positions and elected bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and amend legislation affecting the youth. Develop bodies that represent the youth. Establish youth parallel entities to work on the legislative and local levels.
3. Promote the youth's participation in the development, institutionalisation and state building processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch the compulsory national civil service. Rehabilitate and build capacities of the cadres of youth organisations in development areas.

Policy	Policy Interventions
2. Strategic Objective: Develop and promote values of citizenship, allegiance and civil rights amongst the youth	
1. Build and disseminate citizenship values, strengthen civil rights, and invigorate the youth's role in deepening national unity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop programme to target raising awareness about civil rights and citizenship, as well as launch official and popular sensitisation campaigns on the values of citizenship. Develop legislation on individual and collective civil rights. Establish lobbying groups to obtain the youth's rights and train the youth on lobbying and advocacy skills. The National Honour Charter. Promote the role of the media, especially the youth-oriented media outlets, to adopt civil rights and citizenship values.
2. Planned dissemination of voluntary work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stimulate voluntary action through activities and programmes implemented by civil society organisations, youth centres and local

	<p>government units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend bylaws of civil society actors, ensuring that they allow a certain percentage of the youth to carry out voluntary work thereat.
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Policy	Policy Interventions
3. Strategic Objective: Empower the youth economically, socially and politically	
1. Reduce unemployment amongst the youth and ensuring equal opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop national legislation and policies on labour, employment and reduction of poverty and unemployment, as well as employment regulations, safeguarding equal opportunities and improving the youth's situation. • Set forth oversight measure to prevent exploitation of the young men and women in the labour market and ensure that young person under 18 years of age are not employed. • Provide proper training and rehabilitation to the youth, enabling them to meet the market requirements. • Take measures that ensure gender-based equal opportunities in employment in various sectors.
2. Empower and rehabilitate the youth so that they contribute to development initiatives and projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish lending funds for youth-led projects. • Build capacities of the youth in development areas.
3. Integrate efforts made by the government, NGOs and the private sector so as to support the youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish social responsibility funds. • Construct housing units for the youth (using facilitated repayment mechanisms).
4. Strike a balance between components and needs of the market, society and youth resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform and develop the education system and ensure education output is linked to the labour market. • Develop vocational guidance programmes to help students choose needed specialisations.

Policy	Policy Interventions
4. Strategic Objective: Enhance the quality of and access to programmes and services delivered to the youth and adolescents, including in the fields of sports, entertainment, education, supportive education, public, psychological and reproductive health , environment and culture	
1. Develop school education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop school educational curricula and promote a participatory educational approach. • Reduce truancy and take the necessary measures to put an end to school violence. • Develop capacities of teachers and supervisors. • Rehabilitate the education infrastructure and expand application of applied education and IT use. • Support and develop vocational education in line with needs of the labour market. • Expand training in consistence with the students' needs.
2. Develop university education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance higher education. • Evaluate and review higher education specialisations and programmes in congruence with the Palestinian society's

	<p>development needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop training programmes to associate university education with practical expertise. This will take place in cooperation with the government, civil society actors and the private sector.
3. Improve the youth's health and promote youth-targeted health service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance and promote healthcare services that are friendly to the youth and adolescents, especially at schools and universities. • Rejuvenate healthcare plans so that they conform to the youth's health and psychological needs. • Expand the health insurance system so as to include the youth as well as cover assistive devices for the disabled. • Ensure that the youth and adolescents receive psychological and social guidance service, especially those who have undergone traumas. This line of activity will enact legislation to protect the youth's and adolescents' health against agricultural chemicals and manufactured materials. • Terminate violence against the youth and adolescents as well as violence among the youth themselves.
4. Promote health awareness among the youth and adolescents in the areas of public, reproductive, mental and preventive health as well as healthy behaviour and lifestyles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate health-related concepts in educational curricula. • Extend sensitisation campaigns and support youth-oriented media shows on health aspects. • Develop the youth's capacities in health education. • Designate a portion of the youth's voluntary work and summer camps to launch health education campaigns.
5. Promote the youth's role, raise their awareness about environmental issues, and link their environmental practice to sustainable development needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft environmental plans so that they conform to the youth sector's needs and promote the youth's role in the environment conservation. • Raise environmental awareness of the youth and adolescents. • Cooperate with local government units to green residential areas and construct public parks, as well as urge responsible bodies to take proper measures in regard of dump sites and sewerage. • Develop environment development programmes and initiatives under the leadership and implementation of the youth and adolescents. • Support youth initiatives on environment protection and improvement. • Develop and consolidate the youth's voluntary work targeting environment protection.
6. Promote culture amongst the youth and empower them in the media sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural development of the youth and adolescents. • Promote youth-oriented media and integrate the youth in the media activity. • Develop legislation and programmes and take measures to promote forms and tools of creativity as well as cultural, artistic, media and knowledge-based production. • Expand cultural exchange programmes in order to raise knowledge and be open to cultures of other peoples.
7. Promote an all-level IT use amongst the youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand a positive ICT use within the youth and adolescent sector. • Build the youth's virtual community. • Extend ICT use in school and university educational systems. • Extend access to ICT to poor and marginalised areas in line with

	<p>their material capacities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver training on ICT.
8. Promote education-based sports (non-curricular learning); build and develop infrastructure of youth activities; develop youth-targeted programmes; and support operational budgets of youth clubs and institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and develop infrastructure of youth activities, as well as develop youth-targeted programmes. • Enhance youth clubs and centres so that they assimilate the largest number possible of the youth, focusing on young women. • Provide infrastructure necessary to exercise various entertainment activities. • Build capacities of youth and sports centres. • Support and develop summer camps as well as encourage scouts activities. • Support operational budgets of youth clubs and institutions.
9. Develop and support competitive sports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and develop competitive sports. • Develop capacities of youth centres and clubs in terms of infrastructure, equipment, development of respective cadres' capacities, administrative and financial regulations, ICT and governance. Accordingly, they will be capable of delivering high-quality services and programmes.

6. Allocation of Resources and Responsibilities

Cost estimates that cover the youth sector's needs have been compiled. All amounts in the table below are in USD '000.

Cost Estimates According to Policies

The Youth Sector Budget

Strategic Objective	Policy	Government Sector Budget			Contribution of the Civil Society and the Private Sector			Total
		2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013	
Promote, expand and improve participation of the youth and adolescents in all aspects of life	The youth's informed, positive, effective and efficient participation in ending the occupation	1000	1000	1000	50	100	100	3250
	Empowering the youth, promote their participation on all levels, and integrate them in leading positions and elected bodies	800	800	800	100	150	200	2850

	Promote the youth's participation in the development, institutionalisation and state building processes	2000	1500	1300	100	200	300	5400
	Planned dissemination of voluntary work	800	800	500	100	100	100	2400
	Total	4600	4100	3600	350	550	700	13900
Develop and promote values of citizenship, allegiance and civil rights amongst the youth	Build and disseminate citizenship values, strengthen civil rights, and invigorate the youth's role in deepening national unity	2800	2400	2400	200	300	400	8500
Empower the youth economically, socially and politically	Reduce unemployment amongst the youth and ensuring equal opportunities	2000	1500	1000	1000	1500	2000	9000
	Empower and rehabilitate the youth so that they contribute to development initiatives and projects	8000	8000	8000	2000	2000	2000	30000
	Integrate efforts made by the government, NGOs and the private sector so as to support the youth	15000	15000	15000	2000	3000	5000	55000
	Strike a balance between components and needs of the market, society and youth resources	2000	2000	2000	1000	2000	2000	11000
	Total	27000	26500	26000	6000	8500	11000	105000
Enhance the quality of and access to programmes	Develop school education	1000	500	300	200	300	300	2600
	Develop university education	1000	500	300	200	300	300	2600

and services delivered to the youth and adolescents, including in the fields of sports, entertainment, education, supportive education, public, psychological and reproductive health , environment and culture	Improve the youth's health and promote youth-targeted health service delivery	1000	300	200	1000	1500	2000	6000
	Promote health awareness among the youth and adolescents in the areas of public, reproductive, mental and preventive health as well as healthy behaviour and lifestyles	2000	2000	2000	200	300	500	7000
	Promote the youth's role, raise their awareness about environmental issues, and link their environmental practice to sustainable development needs	2000	2500	3000	500	300	200	8500
	Promote culture amongst the youth and empower them in the media sector	3000	3000	3000	100	200	300	9600
	Promote an all-level IT use amongst the youth	2000	2000	2000	100	200	200	6500
	Promote education-based sports (non-curricular learning)	1000	1000	1000	200	300	500	4000
	Build and develop infrastructure of youth activities	12000	10000	10000	2000	3000	5000	42000
	develop youth-targeted programmes	2000	2000	2000	100	200	200	6500
	support operational budgets of youth clubs and institutions	7000	7000	7000	100	100	100	21300

	Develop and support competitive sports	7000	7000	7000	200	300	500	22000
	Total	41000	37800	37800	4900	7000	10100	138600
Grand total of strategic objectives costs				266000				
Grand total of the government contribution				216000				
Grand total of the contribution of the civil society and the private sector				50000				

7. Expected Results

Strategic Objective	Indicators	Target		
		2011	2012	2013
Promote, expand and improve participation of the youth and adolescents in all aspects of life	Increased percentage of young candidates in various elections	18-25%	25-30%	%35-30
	Percentage of young voters in representatives elections	70-61%	75-70%	80-75%
	Representation of adolescents registered in various youth institutions	40-30%	50-40%	60-50%
	Percentage of the youth participation in policies parties	35-30%	40-35%	50-40%
	Percentage of young members on official delegations and exchange	25-15%	35-25%	45-35%
	Reduced rate of disputes between families and terminated phenomenon of carrying illegal weapons	15-33%	10-15%	5-10%
	Production of political dialogue programmes, in which the youth take part	35 programmes	50 programmes	100 programmes
Develop and promote values of citizenship, allegiance and civil rights amongst the youth	Number of media and sensitisation programmes, which promote concepts of citizenship and national allegiance	20-60 programmes	60-100 programmes	100-150 programmes
Empower the youth economically, socially and politically	Percentage of young workers, especially women and the disabled, in the various fields of production and labour	35-30%	45-35%	55-45%
	Number of projects run by the youth	100 projects	150 projects	250 projects
	Percentage of young technical specialists	20-26%	25-35%	35-45%
	Number of voluntary activities, in which the youth take part every year	40-80	80-150	150-200
	Reduced unemployment and poverty amongst the youth and adolescents	30-35.7%	25-30%	20-25%

	Percentage of budgetary allocations to invest in the capacities of the youth and adolescents	0.05%	1%	3%
	Type of employments sought by the youth (services, trade and restaurants)	25-35%	35-40%	40-50%
Enhance the quality of and access to programmes and services delivered to the youth and adolescents, including in the fields of sports, entertainment, education, supportive education, public, psychological and reproductive health , environment and culture	Percentage of young and adolescent students enrolled at academic and vocational specialisations, as well as students' participation in various student and school committees	44-50%	50-55%	55-60%
	Percentage of the increase in the number of disabled persons, who enrol at school	52%-62%	62%-75%	75%-85%
	Number of health education programme throughout secondary schools	20-40%	40-60%	60-100%
	Percentage of the youth and adolescents who suffer from psychological problems	16%	10%	5%
	Percentage of the youth and adolescents who receive rehabilitation services and assistive tools	60%-70%	70%-80%	80%-90%
	Percentage of youth activities targeting environment conservation	100 activities	150 activities	150 activities
	Increased percentage of the youth participation in agricultural activities, such as planting trees and harvesting olive crops	20-30%	30-45%	45-55%
	Integration of environmental concepts within curricular and non-curricular activities	20-40	40-100	100-150
	Increased number of activities in the voluntary environmental action	50-100	100-200	200-300
	Cultural and artistic production of the youth and adolescents in comparison to the number of various films, plays	20-50	50-120	120-200

and exhibitions			
Number of <i>Dabke</i> and folkdance bands composed of the youth and adolescents and sponsored by youth clubs and institutions	50-100	100-180	180-250
Percentage of budgets allocated to culture and art at youth clubs and institutions	20-30%	30-38%	38-50%
Number of national cultural and scientific handouts that address issues of the youth and adolescents		20-30	30-40
Quality of programmes delivered and how sensitive they are to issues of the youth	10 programmes	20 programmes	30 programmes
Increased number of computers and IT labs throughout youth clubs and institutions	20-35%	35-50%	50-70%
Number of Palestinian youth-run websites with purposeful contents	15-25%	20-35%	35-40%
Percentage of the youth and adolescents who participate in entertainment sports activities	12.8-20%	20-35%	35-50%
Increased percentage of participants in multi-purpose youth festivals	20-30%	30-40%	40-55%
Percentages of the youth and adolescents who take part in scouts activities	13-20%	20-25%	25-30%
Percentage of the youth and adolescents who receive training on life skills	10-15%	15-22%	22-28%
Percentage of the youth and adolescents who participate in summer camps	120000-150000	150000-200000	200000-230000

Increased access to various entertainment services	11.6-18%	18-25%	25-45%
Increased number of sports and entertainment facilities and youth centres, particularly those of young women and the disabled	60%-70%	70%-80%	80%-90%
Increase funds allocated by the government and international donors to support sports and entertainment activities of the youth and adolescents	3-6%	6-8%	8-10%
Percentage of progress in the quality of services and infrastructure of youth clubs and centres	10-15%	15-20%	20-25%
Quality of delivered programmes, along with assessing their effectiveness and influence	National/quality reports		
Behavioural and personal transformations resulting from participation and integration in sports and entertainment activities	Special surveys		

8. Development Approach

The Youth Cross-cutting Strategy relies on an integrated participatory research approach, which links two complementary aspects. First, an interactive, participatory approach has benefited from various national expertise as well as experiences of the youth and adolescents and respective institutions. To this avail, two teams were established: the National Team assumed supervision, monitoring and guidance of all development phases of the Strategy, and the Technical Team developed the Strategy in technical terms. An expert on sector and cross-cutting strategies was consulted. More than 25 consultative meetings were held with relevant government bodies, civil society organisations, private sector agencies, and international actors. Also, over 43 workshops were organised throughout Palestinian governorates. These brought together more than 1,800 male and female young people from across the spectrum (in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, including East Jerusalem). additionally, innumerable activities, interviews and discussions were in place.

Second, national policies on the youth and adolescents were reviewed using a policy-oriented research approach. Information and outputs of national policies were upgraded in line with developments in the Palestinian context as a whole, and in respect of the youth sector in particular. Respective items of legislation, studies and surveys (including the Youth Survey) were revised. In accordance with guidelines set forth by the 13th Government Programme, all available materials were adapted to develop this cross-cutting strategy. Usually, a policy research comprises a situation analysis, definition of targets to introduce a measurable

change to the situation in place, and activities required to devise the aspired change (policies, programmes, etc.). A policy research also entails change channels, main stakeholders, entities to be changed, and monitoring and evaluation indicators.

This Youth Cross-cutting Strategy departs from a set of guidelines that take account of the special Palestinian context within a vital, resilient, human and forward-looking perspective. This Strategy is essentially based on the Palestinian Declaration of Independence, Palestinian Basic Law, and 13th Government Programme. In consistence with respective international principles and conventions, the Strategy is grounded on the following principles: the right to self-determination; promotion of national identity and allegiance; consolidation of citizenship; commitment to human rights; gender equality; integration of the youth within the development process; and empowerment and promotion of the youth participation.