

# FINAL REPORT

## Palestine (Gaza Strip) Gender Profile

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This information presented here was gathered from on-site sources. Therefore, JICA is not responsible for its accuracy.

## **Preface**

This report is done according the JICA office request; it explains the gender situation in different sectors in Gaza Strip, the information's and the figures in this report represent Gaza Strip unless there is no pure numbers. We use some time the figures for Gaza Strip and West bank denoting to the Number and its reference.

We have used the most recent available data from different sources (PCBS and others) to complete this report.

We are happy to present this report for the benefit of research and planning in Palestine and abroad.

Authors

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## List of Abbreviations

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
F	Female
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization, UN
FP	Family Planning
GAD	Gender And Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNI	Gross national index
GNP	Gross National Product
Gov	Government
GS	Gaza Strip
HIV/AIDS	Human-Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IMR	Infant mortality rate
IUD	Intra-Uterine Contraceptive Devices
Konrad	Donor name
LVC	local village council
M	Male
MCHC	Maternal child health care
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOEHE	Ministry of Education and Higher Education
MOH	MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MOL	Ministry of labour
MOP	MINISTRY OF PLANNING
MOSA	Ministry of social affair
MOWA	MINISTRY OF WOMAN AFFAIRS
MTDP	Medium Term Development plan
NED	Donor association
NGO's	Non governmental organizations
NIS	New Israeli shekels
Norad	Donor association
NVTCs	National Vocational Training Centres
OPT	Occupied Palestinian Territories
ORT	Oral Rehydration Therapy
PCBS	Palestinian central bureau of statistics
PHC	Primary health care
PLC	Palestinian Legislative Council
PNA	Palestinian National Authority
PT	Palestinian territories
STD's	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
UNDP	United Nations Development Programs
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency

Voc	Vocational
WAC	Women's affairs centre
WB	West bank
WBGS	West Bank and Gaza Strip
WDR	World Development Report
Welfara	Donor name
WHO	World Health Organization
WID	Women in Development

## **2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy on Gender**

### **2-1 General Situation of Women in Palestine-Gaza Strip**

#### **General Situation of Women in Palestine- Gaza strip**

Palestinian women inhabit a seemingly contradictory set of circumstances. While there have been noteworthy improvements in female Literacy and rises in enrolments of girls and women in primary, secondary and tertiary education, these gains have been mitigated by persistently high fertility rates & comparatively low participation of women in the areas of labor and politics. Over the past few years, Palestinian women have made some significant steps towards improving their political representation. Specifically, the Ministry of Women's Affairs was established in November 2003 and a quota law for local elections was passed on 1 December 2004. These must be seen as positive first steps in the process of bridging the gender gap and as a victory for the women's movement in its effort to empower Palestinian women.

#### **1. Introduction:**

Palestine comprises two areas separated geographically: the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Gaza strip is a narrow piece of land lying on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Its position on the crossroads from Africa to Asia made it a target for occupiers and conquerors over the centuries. The last of these was Israel who occupied the Gaza strip from Egypt in 1967. Long time from the 1967 war, GS suffered from the Israeli occupation that affect various life activities (safety and security, health, education, work, etc.). In August 2005, the Israel evacuated the occupied Gaza Strip. In reality, the Israeli unilateral disengagement imposed huge prison for the Palestinian people introduced by Israeli government for the first time in modern world. This is the newest and most dangerous reoccupation of people with disavowal from their rights and the entitled to live with self-determination in their occupied land. In addition, all these Israeli activities violate the UN human rights conventions and UN decisions.

In the current situation the Palestinian people in GS have been suffering from humanitarian emergency with continued movement restrictions and the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) budget and services are not funded at all in which the Israeli government also continue stopped handing over to the PNA VAT and customs taxes that it collects on Palestinian goods on its behalf. As, PNA without salaries, poverty rates are predicted to increase sharply, conservatively, to 74%



and the GDP growth is anticipated to drop to negative 25% in 2006 compared to 5% positive growth in 2005.<sup>1</sup>

### **Gaza Strip Demographic character:**

Palestinian territories(PT) considered from the most crowded areas in the world that it contains 636 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>, Gaza Strip in particular is the most crowded area in the world (378 sq. Km, population density is 3,808 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>). In midyear of 2006, the population in GS count as 1,4 million(49.5% females, and 50.5% males, and sex ratio is 102.7 male to every 100 female), mainly concentrated in the cities, small village, and eight refugee camps (66.9% of the males, and 70.2% of the females ) which contain two thirds of the population of Gaza Strip.<sup>2</sup> . In Gaza Strip, the population density is 3,808 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>.

In the population pyramid it is shown that the dominant age in Palestine is the young in both sexes that the age category 0-14 resembles 45.7% of the total population (48% in GS and 45.8 in WB) while female age category 0-14 resembles 45.8% of the total females, and 65+ resembles 5% of the total female population in the P T<sup>1</sup>

The number of females in Palestine at the child bearing age (15-49) is estimated to 838,555 (45.1%) of the total number of the females in 2005 and 22.3% of the total population, out of which 292,480 (43%) in Gaza Strip represent 17.2% of the total population and 543,075 in West Bank (46.4%).

In GS the life expectancy was 71.2 years for males and 72.3 years for females in 2005..(IN Palestine 71.7 years for males &73 for female& life expectancy in WB is 71.7 years for M and 73.4 years for F). The improved health situation and the gradual decline in the infant and child mortality rate contributed to longer life expectancy<sup>3</sup>.

### **Education status**

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) has placed an emphasis on equal opportunities for boys and girls to receive an education, including constructing more schools for girls and encouraging schoolgirls who are engaged or married to completes their studies .while there is a high level of girls enrolment in primary education in GS (89.1%)\*,it declines at the secondary level

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1 Assessment of the future humanitarian risks in the occupied Palestinian territory, UNDP, 11 April 2006".

2 PCBS, 2006, Demo graphic indicators. Ram Allah-Palestine.

3 MOH2006,Health Status in Palestine, The Annual Report2005, Gaza,Pa,2006

(75.7%)\*due to high dropout rates, which are higher for girls (0.8%)\* than boys (0.7%)\*at the secondary level . In Gaza, female students resemble 50.9% of the whole GS students, while in high education they resemble 46.9% from the university student, but the form 42.9% from the society colleagues' students. From all population only 7.5% of 15+ are qualified as BA and more (9.2 for male and 5,8 for female) form them 7% in WB and 8.4% in GS. For girls, dropping out of school is often the result of early marriage. Illiteracy rate among 15+ estimated in the year 2005 as 7.7% in the PT (3.1 for male and 11.1 for female) which improved more than the year 1997 (9.3 for male and 13.7 for female)this progress reduce the illiteracy in the last year, but still the gap between male and female remains. Female represents three times more than males in illiteracy.Woman has made significant gains in higher education, with narrowing gaps between M&F enrolment. Despite these gains, the curricula still promotes gender stereotypes of women.<sup>4</sup>

### **Woman and technical education and training**

Theoretically, it is free for both sexes, but still there is low participation of females in the technical and vocational fields, they dominate mainly in the administrative, hair cutter, sewing and embroidery.

According to PCBS, the percent of females in all technical education estimated as 27% of the total joined these fields due to social and dominant traditional thinking to their rules in the society.

### **Health status**

In Gaza strip, about 99.1% of births took place in health institutions, from all deliveries 64.1% at Governmental hospitals in G S (Palestine 15% , while WB more women deliver at private hospitals (44.8%).Women living in refugee camps were less likely to use the private hospital centers (13.7%) compared to urban (24.8%) and rural women (24.7%). Among these women, rural women were also most likely to deliver at home (4.9%) and less likely to deliver in a physician's clinic (3.2%), whereas women from the urban settings more likely to use NGO Centers and physician's clinics.<sup>5</sup>

The abortion rate was reported as 13/1000 case in Shifa hospital\*, and 107/1000 case in Khanyounis hospital\*.

The reported maternal mortality rate (MMR) in GS was 21.3 per 100,000 live births among women aged 15-49 years ( in Palestine 12.7 and 6.7 WB)<sup>6</sup>.

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4PCBS,2006 Gaza Strip Database Ram Allah. Palestine

5MOH,Health Status in Palestine, The Annual Report2004,Gaza,Pa,2005

6 www.moh3.com

On the other hand a large number of Palestinian woman in GS do not participate in decisions regarding their reproductive and sexual health: in a study conducted by UNIFEM, 43.5% of women over 18 reported that they did not make the decision regarding their marriage, but that it was arranged by a male relative, and 44% of woman do not participate in decisions related to pregnancy and child – bearing<sup>7</sup>. Early marriage continues to be a problem in GS. As the economic situation worsens and families look for ways to reduce household expenditures, many girls are married before they are physically or emotionally ready to deal with the complexities of married life.

Both financial cost and physical obstacles such as lack of freedom of movement limit women's access to health care. Overall, women's health has continued to deteriorate during the past five years , with women suffering more often from malnutrition, anemia, and psychosocial trauma

As a result of the deteriorating socio-economic situation there are an increasing number of female-headed households witch estimated in 2005 (8.2%) of the Palestinian. , while it forms 6.8% of the poor families and the poverty rate equivalent to 56% among the families directed by females while it is 51% among families directed by males, it shows that the females are more affected by poverty than males.<sup>8</sup>

### **Women's Economic Rights**

Palestinian women's economic rights are governed by a combination of military occupation practices that restrict their freedom of movement between cities in the Gaza, west bank, Israel, and regional countries because of the recurrent closures and siege ( thus curtailing their employment options) and cultural and legal factors that limit women's access to economic justice and independence, significant numbers of Palestine women are outside of the formal labor force, are engaged in unpaid domestic work, or working within the informal sector . Social and cultural norms make it difficult for women to strike a balance between their productive role (paid work) and reproductive role (domestic responsibilities). Women comprise only 13.5% of the paid labor force<sup>9</sup>, however with the increasing economic hardships and growing poverty especially in rural and isolated areas, more women are seeking work in the formal workforce as a way of increasing household

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7 MIFTAH,2006. Gender-Based Violence In Palestine,2006

\* two main hospitals in GS

8 PCBS.2006.Poverty in Palestine, 2005, report of main result. Ram Allah- Palestine

9 MOWA, 2006.Palestinian women database. Ram Allah -Palestine.

income. Even so, it has been reported that women only earn 77% of men's wages in Gaza & 65% in WB<sup>10</sup>

### **Type of families**

The nuclear families became dominant than compound or extended families, it forms 81.3% of the total family number in the year 2005 compare with that of 1997 which was 73.3%.

### **Women and politics participation**

The women participation in politics and decision-making is so low in comparison with the big scarification and suffering they face due to occupational impacts. The indicators shows that women represent 49% of the votes in the 1<sup>st</sup> election 1996 for legislation council, and 3.7% of the whole candidates to the legislation council, while they got 5.6% of the legislative seats, they got also two ministries in (high education and social affairs) among 25 ministers in the government lasts from 1996- 1998, they loose the ministry of high education in the government last from 1998-2003 till the ministry of women affairs formed in 2003.

In the election of 2006, the female number rises to 17 women represent 12.8% of the total (5 from GS and 12 from WB), one woman only shared in the tenth government (2006) is the minister of ministry of women affairs.

In the local councils, women represent 0.5% of the total appointed in the local government (1997) without any member in Gaza local councils; it rises to 1.8% in the year 2000, then to 18% in 2004-2005 from them 36 members in Gaza due to application of the women quota.

The women participation in the civil society is the biggest that it range between 5-25% of the organizations and the leadership standard of the political party<sup>11</sup>.

### **Women and judiciary**

Women participation in judgment is so limited; it is estimated as 15% according to judgment indicators in the Palestinian society 2005

### **Women and violence**

Palestinian women are affected with two distinct interrelated types of violence. The first type is the violence perpetuated by the Israel occupation (attack) including death and injury, home demolition, land confiscation, closures, movement restriction, and the subsequent destruction of the Palestinian economy .the second

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<sup>10</sup> MIFTAH, 2006. Gender-based violence in Palestine, 2006.

<sup>11</sup> MOWA, 2006. Women & Political Participation (study). Ramallah-palestine.

type of violence can be classified as the violence of a patriarchal, conservative society that is suffering from lawlessness.

Palestinian women are subjected to the same types of military occupation- related violence as men, but the impacts women live are different. There are high levels of depression and anxiety among women given the violence that permeates every aspect of their lives.

Women have not been excluded from the mass arrests and detention, and there have been numerous testimonies of women being beaten and tortured in Israeli prisons. There are more than 500 female prisoners, 104 still in the prisons(1% of all prisoners), three of them delivered their babies in the prisons.

The extensive network of closures of the (Rafah, Karney and Aeriz passages ) has placed millions under effective house arrest ,there are 2372 Killed Palestinians (Martyrs) in Al-Aqsa Uprising (Intifada 29 September 2000 - 31 July 2006) out of them 141 female and 2231 male and 490 less than 18 years (70 F, 420Male )<sup>12</sup>.

Home demolitions have had a very negative impact on women. Often the increase in stress and tension within the family leads to increased violence. As noted by the UN Special Repporteur on violence against women," women suffer immensely from forced eviction. Domestic violence is higher in the precarious and often stressful situation of inadequate housing, especially before and during a forced eviction"<sup>13</sup>

Palestinian women as the women in the Arab society complaining of violence with different shapes and grades that range between oral and body harms, it includes Sexual Abuse and harassment, Physical Abuse, economical, political, and Psychological Abuse.

These acts against women reached kill threatening, even killing some times due to what commonly referred to as "honor killings" by a close male relative (father, brother, or uncle).

Through the department of women complaint in MOWA the women police complaint IN GAZA STRIP (2004-MAY 2005) were as follows: 62 times suicide attempts, 8 times try killing, 11 times sexual harassment, 130 times performing shyness acts, 17 time rape attempts, 90 times family abuse, 5 cases suicide, 7 cases rape, 9 honor killings)<sup>14</sup> these indicator share to the presence of violence, but it can't measure the problem that this issue is so secret with the possibility of under reporting.

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<sup>12</sup> PCBS, 2006.Palestine in Figures2005.Ramallah-Palestine.

<sup>13</sup> MIFTAH, 2006. Gender-based violence in Palestine, 2006.

<sup>14</sup> MOWA.2006.A report presented to the Legislation Council 2005 Gaza Palestine.

## **2-2 Government Policy on Gender**

The 2005 Medium Term Development plan (MTDP) of the Palestinian Ministry of Planning recognise the role of women in furthering Palestinian development as dynamic members of the labour force...and. active political players in democratic process.<sup>15</sup>

In November 2003 the ministry of women's affairs was established. Through its creation, the Palestinian authority indicated the start of a political commitment to recognizing the importance of women's rights. this commitment was demonstrated ,through the creation of gender units in each ministry whose task is to review current legislation and practices that discriminate against women & to integrate gender issue through policies, projects and plans of ministries.

### **Women's National Action in Palestine**

MOWA in partnership with other ministries and women's organization set a framework for basic plan(2003)using the strategy of women's empowerment .this plan include main concern issue related to women which are<sup>16</sup>:

#### **1- Education through:**

- Curriculum (stereo type of women).
- Female dropping out from school.
- Vocational training of girls is still limited and traditional.
- Female high education.
- Female illiteracy and adult education.
- Secondary level Compulsory education.

#### **2- Employment and poverty through:**

- Poor families with female-headed households.
- Inequality of wages (male and female)
- Discrimination in labor market.
- Women in non-formal sector.
- Limited women participation in labor force.
- High unemployment rate.

#### **3- Participation in politics and decision-making through:**

- Women's participation in reviewing the current policies in ministries and other governmental entities.
- Women in Legislation council.
- Women in municipal and local councils.

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<sup>15</sup> MOB, 2005. Medium Term Development plan(2005-2007).GS-Palestine

<sup>16</sup> MOWA, 2004.MOWA Strategy. Ram Allah-Palestine

- Women in the leadership of political parties.
- Society attitude towards women participation in political life.
- Women and decision making in home and families.
- Participation of women in federation and population unions.

#### 4- Women and health through:

- Early marriage.
- Women awareness and reproductive health.
- High fertility rate.
- Anti and postnatal care.
- Health services.

#### 5- Women and violence through:

- Murder of women, which commonly referred to as "honor killings".
- Family abuse.
- Sexual harassment at work and public places.
- Secure shelters for violence victims.

#### 6- Democracy and human rights through:

- Women awareness for legal social and economical rights.
- Society attitude and trends for women rights.
- Agreements, conventions, and international agreements for women rights.

#### 7- Laws, legislation, and policies through:

- Valid and proposed laws from gender aspect.
- Alternatives for laws and policies regarding to gender.
- Legal and legislative operations and related current policies.
- Plan of action to implement the laws and legislations clearly.

### [WID/Gender related laws and regulations]

#### The most important articles from the Palestinian law<sup>17</sup>

Laws and regulations	Date	Content
Palestinian declaration of Independence	1988	All Palestinian before the law, and that no person will be subjected to discrimination based on race ,sex ,color ,religion ,political convictions, or disability
Election law for the PLC and local councils in 1996.	1996	No sex discrimination or female favoritism, and no positive one

<sup>17</sup>MOWA,2006.department of policy and studies" Women and law... the women rights"Ramallah-palestine

General election law 13/1995	1995	Every body have the right for election in GS and WB under special conditions, both sexes are equal in right and duties.
Local councils law(quota law)	2005	Two seats in every municipality or local council
General election law(quota law)	2005	There is women quota, after three first male must be one woman ,the following four names there is one women
High education law(#11)	1998	Compulsory education helps the elevation of education between both sexes and reduces illiteracy and dropping out.
Labor law 7	2000	Discrimination between sexes is illegal, the law followed by establishing the executive rules involving home servants, vocational training, lowest wages, and occupational health.
Palestinian investment law Subject: 10 Still the women role in labor and investment is so weak and not regulated.	1998	The law did not regulate women work or her participation in the investment process, it minimize her role in this process.
Personal status law		Palestinian law not yet established yet still in G S the Egyptian law, and in WB Jordanian law.
Civil Palestinian law(#4)	1998	Equity wages for all in PT Equity in chance of work Paid leave for delivered women for 10 weeks.



## 2-3 National Machinery

### Ministry of woman affairs

In November 2003, the ministry of woman's Affairs was established with the mission of empowering Palestinian women and enhances their capacities & status in all felids.

The ministry goal is to improve the government's ability to integrate gender, democracy, and human rights into the policies, plans, and programmers within various ministries and relative legislation and law.

The first Palestinian Ministry of Women's Affairs was established in November 2003. Its strategy and organizational structure were approved by the cabinet in session no.18 on 12/4/2004.

#### Ministry Mission

Mission of the ministry is to empower Palestinian women and enhance their capacities and status so that they can exercise their human, political and citizenship rights and so that they participated and share in building and developing a democratic Palestinian state and an active civil society that are based on equality and human rights.<sup>18</sup>

#### The general goal of the ministry

General goal is to increase gender sensitivity amongst decision makers and to ensure the government's commitment to gender issues and the advancement of women's status in Palestinian society and to guarantee their full political, economic social and citizenship rights<sup>19</sup>.

#### The specific goals

1. Improve the government's political commitment to the integration of gender, democracy and human right into the policies, plans and programs of various ministries and relevant legislations and laws.
2. Utilize all lobbying and advocacy efforts so as to improved relevant policies and laws.
3. Establish a network with regional and international women's organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, to exchange experiences in relation to the implementation of international agreements on women and human rights.

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<sup>18</sup>Ministry of women affairs mission statement

<sup>19</sup>Ministry of women's affairs Goals.

### **Areas of focus in the three years action plan (2005 -2007)**

- Activate women's role in policy and decision making positions.
- Alleviate young women's poverty, especially among those who head their households.
- Promote Technical and Vocational Education and Training for young women.

The ministry has four general directorates that work to implement the core strategies; these include advocacy, media and communication, planning and policymaking .human and financial resource and international relations<sup>20</sup>

Through MOWA creation, the Palestinian Authority indicated the start of a political commitment to recognizing the important of women's rights. This commitment was demonstrated, for example, through the creation of gender unit in each ministry according to ministry council decision dated 3/5/2005.

### **The tasks and responsibilities deal with the gender unit:**

1. Active participation in implementation and development of general ministry polices and consider gender aspect in these polices.
2. Follow and monitor the development of general budget of the ministry to suit the needs of Palestinian women priorities and to ensure consideration of gender aspects in designing, implementing, follow up, and evaluation.
3. Participation in planning, follow program evaluation, different ministry activities in relation with gender issues to harmonize with national strategy for women.
4. Act to identify the social type problems in the sectors of the ministry who are working to improve the qualitative and quantitative indicators to help in follow up the integration of gender concept in the ministry's policy and program.
5. The gender units' work to activate the developmental polices in different sectors in the ministry that it support all directorates in the ministry in developing polices taking women in consideration and suggest practical polices and programs for this purpose. It works to review and modify the valid programs and polices.
6. The gender unit has to make balance between the programs, polices, and evaluates the programs executed by the ministry from social view to know how much women is considered in these programs and determine the policies to be generalized.<sup>21</sup>

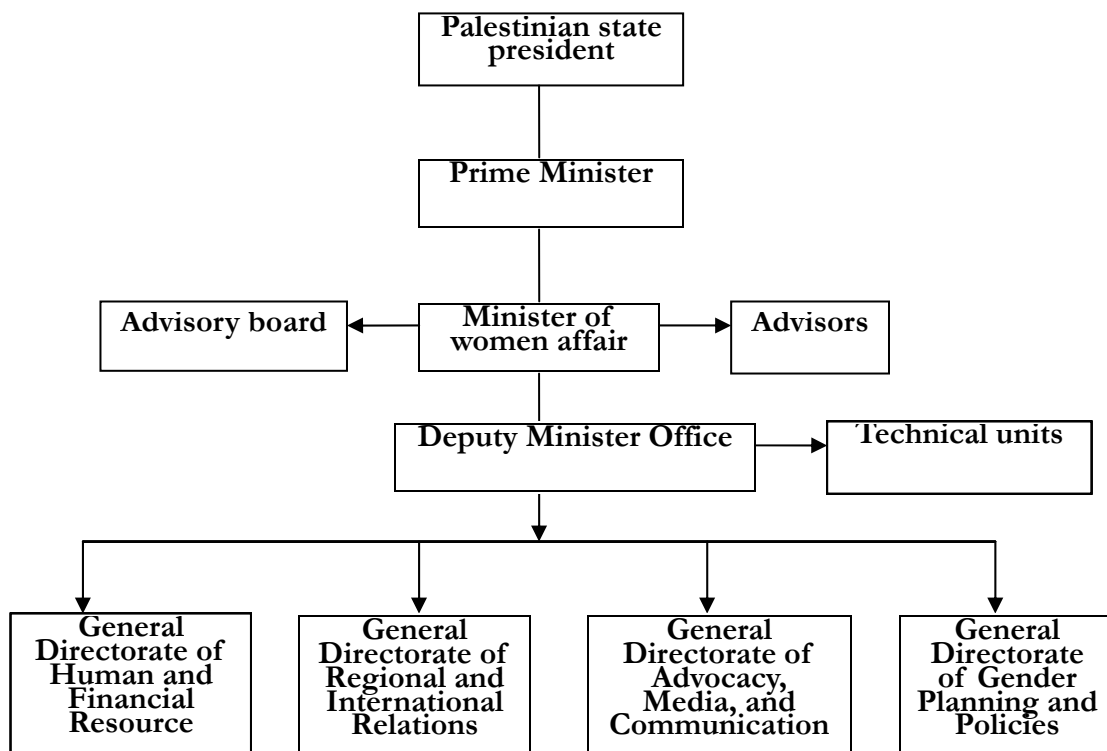
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<sup>20</sup> MOWA, 2004.Minsrty of woman's affair plan (2005-2007).Ramallh-palestine.

<sup>21</sup> Cabinet decision No.12 dated on 3/5/2005

The ministry MOWA has four general directorates that work to implement the core strategies; these include advocacy, media and communication, planning and policymaking .human and financial resource and international relations.

### Organizational chart of National Machinery



### **[The Main Activities of Ministry of Women's Affairs**

- Prepare MOWA strategic & ministry action of plan (2005-2007)
- Develop the abilities of the employees in the MOWA regarding Gender.
- Develop the abilities of the gender units in different ministries (15 units).
- Actively participation in modification of election law and women quota.
- Apply activities to encourage women political participation.
- Helping in cooperation with the general women federation to prepare the women right document.
- Review plans of some ministries to integrate gender concepts.
- Apply many researches regarding (gender, occupational skills, and women in public sectors).
- Establish complaining department to evaluate the complaints of women victims and support them via specific consultation and counselling.
- Establish communication centres in different governorates to follow women work.
- Promotion for women issues (women political participation, technical education for girls, poverty of young ladies, and violence against women).
- Prepare the national code of actionn between governmental and NGOs organisations and ministries.

### 3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

#### 3-1 Education

The ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), in general, maintains an approach of equal opportunities for boys & girls to have a quality education. Resulting in comparatively smaller gender gaps than in other sectors, these gains in the educational level of women have not translated into improvements for women in the labor force and the public life. The education sector faces a major challenge in moving gender equality issues from quantitative to qualitative levels if it is to contribute to effecting real changes in gender roles and responsibilities.

#### **[Government Policy]**

MOEHE has placed an emphasis on equal opportunities for boys & girls to receive an education to ensure school learning as essential right from the services must be available through: compulsory education program, reduce student drop out, eradication of illiteracy, and construct more schools for girls females to compensate the neglected Israeli occupation period to encourage schoolgirls who are engaged or married to complete their studies.

#### **[Literacy education]**

the overall literacy rate for men & women in GS are estimated 92.4% in 2004 among (+15Yrs) (92.3% in Palestine and 91.8% in WB) females have 88.7% and males have 96.1% .this shows that still the illiteracy rate among female is higher. ,but it has been improved in enrolment rates at the basic education level rises in 1995-1996 from 86.9% to 91.1% in 2003-2004 in both sexes( male from 87%-90.9%, and female from 89.8% -91.3%) ,this indicate that there is no gender gap in the enrollment rates of girls and boys at the basic education level ,but the gender gap appear in the older classes. In the 15-17 age brackets, 58.5%of girls are enrolled in education compared to56percentageof boys<sup>22</sup>.

#### **[Primary and secondary education]**

##### **Pre-school Kindergartens:**

The sector of **Pre-school Kindergartens** gain their importance through preparing the children to the future, but unfortunately these centers in Gaza Strip have no fixed curriculum and programmed entertainment to stimulate and motive children and develop their skills, and the teachers don't have gender sensitivity , but their work is restricted to the learning of read and write.

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22PCBS,2005. men and women in Palestine: trends and statistics 2005, Ramallah-palestine

In the year 2005-2006, there were around 216 kindergartens in the Gaza Strip distributed as follows: (79 in Gaza, 33 in North Gaza, 36 in Khanyounis, 43 in Rafah ) all are mixed sexes unless one in Khanyounis. The total children No. is 20605 (10406 male and 10199 female), this number is below the number before 4 years due to absence of safety and security beside the miserable economical status.<sup>23</sup>

The Kindergartens sector is completely private, NGO's or UNRWA responsibility, the MEHE regulate this activity through their supervision on the health and educational program, more ever they authorize the places and giving license.

The teachers' count 1084 in the kindergarten, they distributed as 37 males and 1047 females, which denote that this profession is female dominant, the Gaza culture and the low wage professions help the women to find job there.

### **General education:**

The education system in Palestine forms of two stages, essential lasts 10 years, and secondary lasts 2 years. There are three providers for education, MOEHE for governmental schools for essential and secondary education, UNRWA for schools in essential education, and private sector for essential and secondary education.

The number of schools in Gaza governorates reached 558 schools in the year 2006-2007 distributed as, (343 governmental 61.5%, and 187 UNRWA 33.5%, and 28 NGO's 5%). In the year 2005-2006 the student number in the governmental schools in Gaza Strip estimated as 234.751 (males represent 115.344 (49.3%), and females 119.407 (50.9%) and the class density was 41.3 students /class.

In the **UNRWA schools**, there are 195.431 students represent 44.4% from the whole student number (100.796 are males, and 94635 females) with class density higher than governmental sectors.

In the **private schools**, there are 10.317 students' represents 2.3% of the total students (6593 are males, while 3724 are females) male are much more than female.

The schools can be classified according to sex as 236 schools males represent 42.2%, and 205 schools females 36.7%, and mixed schools 117 represent 20.9%.<sup>24</sup>

### **The repetition rate:**

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23MOEHE.2005.Education Statistic yearbook2003/2004-2004/2005Ramallah-Palestine.

24MOEHE,2006.Statistics of general education in Gaza Strip 2005-2006.www.moehe.org.ps

The repetition rate has been declined from 2.45% 1998/1999 to 0.77% in the scholastic year 2005/2006. These rates vary according to grade level and the causes. For example, the repetition rate was low in the lower grades and it increased rapidly in the highest level at 2.27% in (grade 10) and reached 2.14% in (grade 11). The main cause of repetition among male is no desire to continue their study 44% where among female was engagements and marriages 65%. Geographic distribution shows that the highest level of repetition was in North Gaza governorate 1.09% followed by Rafah 0.78%.<sup>25</sup>

### **Dropping-out from schools**

PCBS data 2004 shows that drop out from school among males in GS is 1.4%, and 3.2% among females, this percent elevated with the age and class( 1<sup>st</sup> preparatory class 0.2%- 3.6% in the 10<sup>th</sup> class and 3.3% in the 1<sup>st</sup> secondary class.

We can notice that drop out is more higher among males in the first classes (may be due to child male work), but after the 10<sup>th</sup> class females become higher (may be due to early marriage and tradition).<sup>26</sup> Different studies show that the number of students who refuse to join their classes is progressively increased, duo to different causes (fear, anxiety, and depression) result from school violence environment. In spite of official instruction preventing the physical punishment inside educational organization, still the physical punishment is practiced.

### **[Gender consideration development plan and education]**

**The ministry of education plan concerned these issues:**

**The objectives of the education due to Women's National of Action in Palestine**

- 1- Attacking the dropping out problem and reducing the illiteracy rate among females.
- 2- Making efforts to identify the obstacles that prevent women integration on equal footing with men in all areas of education and training (as students and teachers), and taking appropriate measures to ensure equal educational, training and job opportunities.
- 3- Encouraging girls to join existing educational disciplines (agriculture, industry and hotels) in which they showed no interest in the past.

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<sup>25</sup> PCBS,2006.Education repetition 2005.Ramallah-Palestine.

<sup>26</sup> MoEHE.2005.Education Statistic yearbook2003/2004-2004/2005Ramallah-Palestine

- 4- Establishing new educational disciplines in the various technological, professional and scientific fields.
- 5- Developing and unifying the curricula, and introducing new gender- sensitive concepts such as equality, democracy, human rights, civil service, environmental protection, health and life-style skills,
- 6- Increasing the number of women occupying decision-making positions in the educational system and within the Ministry.<sup>27</sup>

### **[Vocational and Technical education, higher education]**

The vocational education, training centers in Palestine in general, and GS in particular still accepting the low educational standard students, and the MOEHE is the ministry of charge for these centers. In Gaza there are 2 government vocational schools, one commercial school (for girls), other agricultural school (for boys), UNRWA (8 training institute), MOSA (12 centers), MOL (4 centers), and 87 centers related to the private and NGO's associations.

The PCBS shows in their report 2004-2005 that female still restricted with limited programs in vocational education in spite of the available possibilities to join any program they wish to study and female represent only 27% of the vocational education, and most of them joined the traditional activities which reduce their ability to develop their skills and culture to enable them to participate actively in the national economic building. These activities they join to are; hair cutter, secretary, sewing and embroidery without using any advanced technology or modern fashions, even these activities is so difficult to join training.<sup>28</sup>

#### **High education:**

At the baccalaureate level, young women form 49.4% of total enrolment in community colleges & 48.9% of total enrolment in the 5 universities of GS, (11 female magistrates 6 in GS and 5 in WB), in the other hand there are 109 male magistrates (52 in GS and 57 in WB) and at the master level, this percentage of total enrolment drops modestly to 35.2 %<sup>29</sup>. Girls have largely be encourage to choose arts course ,thereby limiting their opportunity in the labour force and due to

<sup>27</sup> Post-Beijing Governmental plan of action, prepared by the international coordination committee, 1996

<sup>28</sup> MOWA, 2006. Palestinian women status 2005. Ramallah- Palestine.

<sup>29</sup> (MOHE website) [WWW.moche.org.ps](http://WWW.moche.org.ps)



the closure of GS there is lack of freedom of movement which affect negatively their access to education out side GS.

### **Non-formal education:**

There are two types of non-formal education, one is the literacy education, and the other is the corresponding education.

MOEHE act to follow up the adult learning and literacy education targeting the dropped out students (18-55ys) with cooperation of local NGO's and universities, who had active role through initiating new centers and classes for literacy education in the different Palestinian areas. MOEHE provide the free books and training. The study in these institutions is 2 yrs (2semesters each year). The information of MOEHE shows that there are 38 NGO's local institutions for literacy education and the students are 1417 (655 female, and 772 male).

One of the local organization providing literacy educational services is the (Red Crescent Association) and the Family and Women Enabling Center belongs to the MOSA

The system of corresponding education initiated by MOEHE to serve the age group 15-19yrs of the two sexes who finished the first 5 educational years successively and dropped out due to any cause aimed to supply them by the essential, knowledgeable, and occupational skills needed to join the academics and vocational study, the period of study is 2yrs, if age <18yrs then student can join the 10<sup>th</sup> class in the school, but if >18yrs he can join vocational study.

The statistics of MOEHE 2005-2006 shows that there is one center in GS serves 15 females and 8 males.<sup>30</sup>

### **Gender concepts in Palestinian curriculum;**

The human development report 2004 criticize the curricula still promotes gender stereotype of women via quantitative and qualitative analysis performed to the syllabus to study the gender concepts in the Palestinian curriculum regarding sex determination expressions in all their forms and have the following results:

-Dominant of male expression than female used in showing the picture in the lessons and telling the stories or giving the examples, while female appear in secondary expressions or even housewife.

-Focusing on regular role of social nature through restriction of women work in house activities or teacher or any regular noncreative role, and neglecting the leadership and highly skill roles. More ever, they concentrate on the empathy of women in relation to the sapience of man.

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<sup>30</sup> MOEHE. Non-formal Educational Department (personal visit)

-Confusion in using the language expression to denote to the female character in the book even if they mention the title.

## 3-2 Health

### Health

In spite of the obstacles facing the PHC system in general and health sector in particular as a result of occupation and killing, demolishing, and cut the roads between the PT areas in addition to shortage of financial resources. The Palestinian health care system accomplished many quantitative and qualitative achievements in their performance, this is clearly noticed in the different indicators like reduce the IMR, improve MCHC, increase health insurance covering, and the improvement of services related to women health.

#### [Government Policy]

The Palestinian Public health law denotes clearly in the articles (4, 5, 6) to consider MCH as essential part of the national Palestinian developmental strategy. The MOH also committed to perform all the diagnostic, preventive, and curative services and other educational and special services to the adolescent, and pre marriage examination and family violence.<sup>31</sup>

The MOH initiating the women health department to care of women issues and enhance the women programs suited the comprehensive women health and rights.<sup>32</sup>

#### GOALS of Women health directorate:

1. Ensure the convenient environment to meet the physical, psychological, social needs for women.
2. Improve and facilitate access to services and information to keep the safety and respect to women and help them taking health decisions built on scientific base.

The MOH works together as partnership and cooperation between the Governmental, NGO's, UNRWA, and Private sectors.

#### Total Fertility Rate (TFR)<sup>33</sup>

The population of GS is currently growing at a rate of 3.8 percent per year. According to The Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), 2005 conducted by

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31 MOWA, 2005. MOH policy & programmes towards human health rights

32 Anida Qamhia, 2005. conference of women health rights during occupation.

33 MOH, 2006. Health status in Palestine, Annual Report 2005.

(PCBS); the trend of fertility rate is declining to 5.8 births per woman in the GS(4.6 in Palestinian Territory, & 4.1 in the W B). While fertility rate was 6.9 births per woman in 1997. The high rates of fertility which is among the highest in the world can be attributed to the following: the traditional practice of marrying at an early age; the sense of security that marriage provides, particularly in times of conflict and political Turmoil; the desirability of producing male offspring that is prevalent in Palestinian society; and the comparatively high percentage of women of reproduction age. However, there is some evidence to suggest that fertility rates have already begun to decrease in recent years. This decrease can largely be attributed to an increase in education, particularly among women, and a rise in the number of women in the labour force.

On average, a Palestinian woman marries at age 19.4 and gives birth to her first child at 21 old. The DHS shows that the fertility peak was between 20-29 years and decreased by increasing the age.

### **[Medical Health]<sup>34</sup>**

During reproductive age, women may get pregnant, miscarry, give birth, and breastfeed, all these take their toll on women's health, making them more susceptible to illnesses and health related problems in the long run.

In Gaza strip there are four health sectors providing maternal care; the MOH, UNRWA, the NGOs and the private doctors.

#### **A. Antenatal care services**

The number of visits paid per pregnant woman was 6.5 in Gaza strip (5.5 in Palestine and 4.8 in WB). In UNRWA, it was reported at 7.6 visits per pregnant women in G S, the percent of women who paid 7-9 visits was 47.5%.

According to The Demographic and health Survey (DHS), in 2005, Data showed that 96.5% of pregnant women aged 15-49 years received antenatal care in GS. There is direct relationship between education level and receipt of antenatal care; women who did not receive antenatal care were more likely to be less educated than women who received antenatal care. In addition, access to antenatal care decreased with parity, with fewer women accessing antenatal care for their 4th pregnancy or more.

##### **A.1. Tetanus toxoid immunization:**

The vaccination for pregnant women is taken based on MOH protocol during the first antenatal visit.

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<sup>34</sup> Ibid

Immunization coverage among newly pregnant women was 64.1% IN G.S (42.4% in PA and 25.2% in WB). In UNRWA, out of total (11,100) pregnant women of 20 weeks and over of gestation, the vaccinated pregnant women were 11,005 with a coverage rate of 99.1%.

## **B. High risk pregnancy services**

The high-risk program has been implemented in 26 referral governmental clinics in the G S and 18 MCH clinics in UNRWA

The percentage of newly pregnant women visits with high-risk pregnancy was 14% of total newly pregnant women in MOH (17.8% in the GS and 11.6% in the WB). The number of visits paid per high-risk pregnant women was 5.2 visits.

**In UNRWA** the percentage of newly pregnant women visit at high risk and alert pregnancy was 44% from total antenatal visits of newly pregnant women. Out of the total, 40% paid 3-4 visits and 47.7% paid 7-9 visits.

According to (DHS) During home visit program in Gaza Strip, the factors associated with hig risk pregnancy were: Anemia (48.8%) , Multipara (27.5%), Primapara (25.4%), Hypertension(16%),Diabetes(5.5%),Previous Cs (21.6%), Pre-eclamptic toxemia (2.1%),Others(6%)

taking in consideration that one woman may have more than one complication.

## **C. Delivery care**

In Gaza Strip About 64.1% of births took place in health institutions (governmental hospitals) and 0.7 % at homes. Women living in refugee camps were less likely to use the private hospital centers (13.7%) compared to urban (24.8%) and rural women (24.7%). Among these women, rural women were also most likely to deliver at home (4.9%) and less likely to deliver in a physician's clinic (3.2%), whereas women from the urban settings more likely to use NGO Centers and physician's clinics.

### **C.1. Complications associated with delivery:**

**According to MOH &** during home visits program in Gaza Strip, 62.2% of women with high-risk pregnancy exposed to complications during delivery. The complications were associated with the last delivery; taking in consideration that one lady may have more than one complication are (**Obstructed labor**(61.4%),**Bleeding**(28.1),**Urinary tract infection**(17%),**Hypertension**(14.4%),**Others**(3.8%).

## **D. Postnatal care services**

In the Gaza Strip, the total number of beneficiaries of home visit program was 1950 women in the year 2005, compared with 1,107 women in the year 2004 (4.1% of total live births). Also, the total number of women who received post natal care in the UNRWA clinics was 30.920 women, 98.4% out of total live birth.

**The following results of home visit program (MOH Program) in GS were:**

- The mean age of visited mothers was 27.6 years; out of them 32.4% are teenage mothers. The mean age of fathers was 32.2 years.
- The mean number of education years for mothers and fathers was 10.8 and 11.1 years respectively.
- The mean age at first marriage was 19.4 and 24 years for mothers and fathers respectively.
- Only 7.3% of mothers were currently working
- Consanguinity marriage was about 56.3%, out of them 28.7% were at the first degree of relative.
- The mean age of women at first delivery was 20.9 years; out of them 16.4% gave the first child at age under 18 years. The mean age of last delivery was 27.7 years.
- The mean number of pregnancy was 4.5 and abortion 0.5.
- About 98.8% of visited ladies had antenatal care (68.4% in MOH, 28.1% in UNRWA and 1.8% in NGOs).

## **[Nutrition Conditions]<sup>35</sup>**

### **Anemia among women**

The percentage of anaemic mothers whom visited the governmental MCH for antenatal care was 27.2% in the GS (38.5% in the PA, and 50% in the WB).

During study conducted in UNRWA in the year 2005, the prevalence rate of anaemia among pregnant women was 35.7 % ( HB < 1gm/dl) and 45.7 % ( HB < 12 gm/dl) among nursing mothers visited UNRWA-PHC centres for antenatal services in the Gaza Strip.

During home visits program which are conducted by Women's Health and development Directorate in MOH, Haemoglobin (HB) has been examined for 1,950 visited mothers after delivery in Shifa hospital especially those at high-risk pregnancy or who has complication/s during delivery.

The results indicated that 79.9% of women were anaemic. Out of the total, 0.8% was diagnosed <8 gm/dl, 16.7 % of 8-10 gm/dl and 43.3 % of 10-11 gm/dl.

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35 Ibid

Ferrous sulphate and folic acid as a tonic is distributed for pregnant women and children under 3 years in MOH and UNRWA centres free of charge.

### **Breast-feeding**

According to data obtained from DHS in 2005, percentage of breast fed babies is high 95.6% in GS with no sex differences. In general, males are more likely to be weaned in the first three months (17.1%) compared to females (14.7%).

Continued breast-feeding rate (9-12 months) is highest in Gaza Strip (76.3%), mean duration of breast-feeding is high in Palestine, it is recorded as 10.9 months.

Data obtained during home visit programs indicated that 83.2% of infants have had exclusive breast-feeding for different periods. About 14.1% of infants have been receiving mixed feeding and 2.7% artificial feeding.

### **Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)**

In general, MMR in Palestinian Territories is considered low compared to other Arab regions and development countries. In 1997, the crude mortality rate in WBGS was approximately 4.8 per 1,000 and is projected to drop to 3.55 in 2010 and to 3.26 by 2025.<sup>36</sup>

In 2005, only 7 maternal deaths were reported in GS; all of them died in hospitals (8 in Palestine and 1 in WB). Therefore, the reported maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in Palestine was about 7.7 per 100,000 live births among women aged 15-49 years.

In Palestine the underlying causes of deaths were: Pulmonary embolism 37.5%, Pre-eclamptic toxemia 25%, Amniotic fluid embolism 12.5%, Heart failure 12.5%, Septicaemia shock 12.5%.

### **[Family Planning]<sup>37</sup>**

According to (DHS) in 2005 conducted by PCBS, the results showed that the contraceptive prevalence rate in GS was 43.0% (50.6 %for Palestine). Rural women use more family planning methods (55.3%) compared with urban and refugee camps women (44.7% respectively).

Furthermore, improvement in health conditions, particularly RH, coupled with an increase in the use of family planning techniques is playing a role in decreasing fertility level. The number of beneficiaries' visits in GS (new and repeated) from FP services in MOH was 110,478 visits in 2005 compared with 94,578 visits in 2004 with increasing percentage of 16.8 %.

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<sup>36</sup> PCBS, population in the Palestinian territory,1997-2025

<sup>37</sup> MOH,2006.Health status in Palestine, Annual Report2005.

The number of new clients benefited from FP services in MOH was 16,474 and constitutes 14.9 % of total

The most popular method which has used by new clients in Palestine was Pills, which constitute 38.4% of all contraceptive models. The most method used in Gaza Strip the most method used was Pills (44.9%).

In UNRWA, about 5,186 new clients in G S benefited from FP services in 2005 which constitute about 5.6 % of total visits (91,095 visits).

Pills was the first method used for FP in UNRWA clinics in Gaza Strip (44.8%), followed by condom which constitute about 26.1% of total contraceptive methods., while the IUDs was the first choice in the NGOs clinic with a percentage of 40% of total FP devices.(health status in Palestine

## **Sexual transmitted disease (STD)**

### **[HIV/AIDS]**

Sexual transmitted disease (STD) is very sensitive issue in the Palestinian society, so it is difficult to perform any STD screening program to the pregnant Palestinian women and the data is limited for the real Number of cases and carriers.

Information and data reported about STDs are often incomplete; consequently a wide gap exists between reported and estimated figures for STDs.

IN the year 2005 in Palestine, 6,088 new cases of STDs were reported with an incidence rate of 161.8 per 100,000 populations. The highest incidence rate was showed among females at 312.8 per 100, 0000 populations, while among males it was 18 per 100,000.

73.5% of cases were reported as vaginal discharge among females and 44% of cases reported as urethral discharge among males.

Regarding to regional distribution, 4,917 cases were reported in Gaza Strip with an incidence rate of 353 per 100,000 and 1,171 cases were reported in West Bank with an incidence rate of 49.3 per 100,000

### **Etiological diagnosis:**

In Gaza Strip, 4,625 new cases were reported, with an incidence rate of 332 per 100,000 (31.1 per 100,000 in males Vs 251 per 100,000 in females). Among females 38% of cases were reported as pelvic inflammatory disease followed by candidacies which constitute 35% of total cases. While among males non-gonococcus arthritis represent 29% of total cases.



### **MOH Expenditures<sup>38</sup>**

The Ministry of Health ran a budget deficit of 60 % in 1995 and continues to face major financial constraints that affect its ability to administer and develop health programmes and to provide material support and priority to women's health and reproductive health.

In 2005, the actual MOH expenditure was 139,584,400 USD, which means that the MOH expenditure per capita was 41.5 USD. The MOH expenditure resembles 3.02% from the GDP

Salaries expenditure in the MOH constituted 52.4% while non salaries expenditure constituted 47.6% which was dispended on medications, medical disposables, and lab reagents 22.6%, treatment abroad 14.93% and 9.3% on other operating expenditures.

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38 Ibid

### 3-3 Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

#### Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries

-Agriculture is an important sector of the Palestinian economy, since it plays a key role from its participation in the GDP (7%).

- Agriculture and farms faced many problems

Statistics shows that Palestinian farmers are steadfastness in spite of the Israeli army violation destroying lands and farms, confiscation of lands. More than 29% of the Palestinian are living under poverty line (2.1\$ daily income), and 18% are living under severe poor situation<sup>39</sup> (not able to earn daily food), so malnutrition is dominant in Gaza 16%, and WB 13%).

-Women in rural areas comprise a substantial percentage of the agricultural labor force, but are largely unpaid and unrecognized.

#### [Agricultural Policy and Gender]

The long term strategy of the agriculture development in Palestine 1997-2010 mentioned: that the plan acts to rehabilitate the rural society using comprehensive rural development process to develop the Palestinian rural areas, in this frame it will be concentrate on the gender to promote rural women to play main role in the productive sector as they play main role in reproductive sector.<sup>40</sup>

The Palestinian agriculture policy (2004) concentrates about integration rural women in agriculture & rural development process<sup>41</sup>

This mean that there is a high commitment by the decision makers in the MOA towards the comprehensive rural development process as one of the strategic goals in the agriculture development depends on the human being.

#### [Ownership of farming land and agrarian reform]

Data shows that 97% of the agriculture holder in GS is male & 3% is female.<sup>42</sup> In spite of prevailing laws governing inheritance stipulate that men and women have an equal right to inherit, but in practice many woman come under pressure from male relatives to give up their inheritance in order to keep property within the family and not allow it to be transferred to the women's husband and his family.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>39</sup>PCBS,2006.Poverty in PALESTINE

<sup>40</sup> Gender integration directory in politics and Palestinian MOA programs, 1997.

<sup>41</sup> MOA, 2004. Agriculture Policy In Palestine.

<sup>42</sup> PCBS, 2005.Farm structure survey 2004/2005.Ramallah-Palestine.

<sup>43</sup> MIFTAH, 2006. Gender-based violence in Palestine,2006

In a similar manner, while women are legally entitled to own land, they are often pressured to give up their share of inheritance to male family members or to keep the land ownership in the name of a male family member.

### **[Rural life and gender]**

Women resemble the second higher number in agricultural labour, but are largely unpaid work they perform, according to 92.1% of the permanent agricultural employment in GS are male & 7.9 are female<sup>44</sup> that most of the farms owned to the family, they bear the different hard work in the farm without a corresponding re-division of resources or power. Women's work considered as extension of women's household duties. These works are not calculated in the economic evaluation. The rural women farmers work in different works inside the farms, and home agriculture and chicken farms, and domestic animals in addition to marketing of these products.

The matter of neglecting women participation in agriculture demonstrated in free work and their absence from agriculture cooperation societies and agricultural colleagues.

Free work for female and not giving them their wages affects the whole agricultural activity and reduce the general indicator of agricultural wages and make it the lowest wages in the economical activities.

### **[Extension Activities and Training for Women]**

MOA and several NGOs play a major role in the agriculture sector:

The rural department in MOA is concerned in development of rural women, and minimizes the unemployment rates. A project of (work and training for food) which aims to help families is executing now, providing them the essential food, support agricultural sector, rural women, raise their living standard, train them how to earn their food, help them to raise their health standard, train them in agricultural issues, and encourage their participation in decision taking.

**There are several NGOs play major roles in the rural women training in the rural communities, the following are the important NGOS in GS:**

**Rural woman Development Society (Rafah):** The targeted group: The rural woman in the agricultural and remote regions is in Khan Yunis governorate and Rafah. main activities: Vocational training rounds ( the manufacture of my food -

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<sup>44</sup>PCBS,2005.farm structure servay2004/2005

drying vegetables - freezing the vegetables - maftool- Jum),trainings on house gardens , how they start a project , the marketing.

**The society of enlightenment and agricultural guidance (Rafah )** :Service projects of the farmers ( irrigation networks - the distribution of cows - agricultural pools - trainings - an enlightenment - a marketing. a nutritional manufacture - ( maftool - Jum - a cheese - a milk A training on house gardens)

**Al Huda Development Association (Khan younis, Bani Sohila):** established in 1997 to encourage community development in bani suhaila village and adjacent area. Main activities:

production unite sponsored by the Welfare Association Consortium and agricultural Relief .

**Bunnat Al mostuqbul Association( Kherbet al Adas village, Rafah):** established in 1998. main activities: freezing the vegetables - maftool- Jum),Trainings on house gardens.

**The family development society (North Area ,Beit Hanoun ):** main activities training for rural women ( the house gardens - the apiculture - the house animals ), a role and the importance of the woman in the elections ).

**Al Atta Benevolent Society for Women and Children( North Area ,Beit Hanoun):** established in 2000 that targets women and children. Main activities: Honeybeed Nursery and Honey Production Project.

**Union of Palestinian Agricultural Relief (gaza gonernorate):** established in Gaza 1988. focused on rural women .main actinities: Guidance and training women and men in agricultural field, offering small loans to establish small income generation, Encouraging the women to become involved in micro cooperation.

**Ma'an Development Center (Gaza):**established in 1989. Main activities rural and agriculture development program, food processing &quality control program,development and training in managing small enterprisesprogram.

## **[Forestry]**

The forest area in Gaza resembles only 1.5% of GS in 2004, so no gender gap in this sector.

## **[Fisheries]**

This sector is almost for men, the participation of women is almost non-existent Before the Aqsa Intifada the women were working in the fish cleaning exported to Israel or for local use in restaurants and hotels, but after the year 2000 and complete closure of the GS their work were very limited, more ever Fishermen in Gaza have limited access to the Mediterranean sea &where there is access the coastal waters suffer from over fishing.

### 3-4 Economic Activities

#### Economic Activities

Women participation in activities in GS is restricted to the governmental work in some activities like; services, education, health, and social work. Still the NGOs work is the preferable for women and the gap between male and female work chance still high.

#### **[Employment opportunities]**

Women participation in labor force in GS was 10.6% in 2000, and become 9% in 2005 from the total labor force in PT, which was 12.7 % in 2000, and 13.3% in 2005.

The labor force percentage declines in 2005 due to the political and economical status in the PT as siege of the PT by the Israeli army and the recurrent closures of the passages around Gaza Strip and other intended economical obstacles from the Israeli side.

The big difference in the percent of male (63.9%(2005), 64.2%(2000)) and female work chances in the same year is indicated to decrease work chances to the women, in addition to the unpaid work and not considering women work in agriculture and homes in the national income, all of these factors affects the women participation in the labor force making it from the lowest in the world and the middle east which reach in the middle east 25%)<sup>45</sup>

There is a significant increase from the 7.1% at the beginning of the intifada in 2001, the participation of women in PT was 10.3% in 2001 and 13.3% in 2005.

Moreover, while data indicate that more women are willing to work than the labor market can absorb, women typically spend four times as long as their male counterparts in search of work.

The percentage of the unemployment continue to rises among females since 2000 in relation to the previous years, it was estimated as in GS (30.3% 2005, 18.6% 2000), this happened due to the arising of Al Aqsa Intifada and its affection to the labor market, the closure of the PT, scarce of the donors, disuse of the local resource, recurrent army invasions, and random Israeli firing. Male unemployment rate in the same period (of 29.6% 2005, 19% 2000). This disparity is equally a measure of the limited size of the female labor force<sup>46</sup>.

#### **Employment by sector:**

45 PCBS, 2006. Labour Force Survey: (April-June round, 2006) Ram Allah-Palestine

46 Ibid

An estimated 30.8 % of working women are employed in the education sector, which ranks as the most female-dominated area among the formal sectors in PT. However, women in this sector are concentrated at the lower levels of education and are generally confined to the lower occupational rungs. In addition to prevalent gender-based wage disparities that favor male staff, teachers generally earn less than workers in other professions with lower qualification and skill requirements.

While women make up a large part of the agricultural labor force and represent 29.9 % of working women, the majority work as unpaid family labor. In addition, women continue to have little access to agricultural training or extension, agricultural cooperatives and marketing schemes.

A total of 5 % of working women are employed in the public sector compared to 12 % of men. This disparity is predominantly because the biggest growth area of the PNA has been in the security services and police, which have created more employment opportunities for men. As per a study conducted by the ministry of women affairs, the ratio of women in public sector reaches 43% in WB and 29% in GS, besides the ratio of the women who are working for the PN institutions and ministries, which reaches 37% of the total ratio of public employees, this ratio is too low if it compared with the ratio in Israel (60%). Also the studies have showed that women participation in institutions hierarchy are not that high level since it is 50% in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, 48% in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and 40% in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, this ratio is being decreased as long as we go up towards the top of the hierarchy since it equals zero in the level of deputy minister where it is the highest post grade.<sup>47</sup>

-Approximately 8.1 % of female workers are employed in the processing and manufacturing industry. A further 6.9 % work in the health sector, 6.8 percent in managerial positions and 6.4 per cent in small trade businesses.<sup>48</sup>

### **[Women workers in public and private sector]**

Sector	Employment				Total	%
	Male	%	Female	%		
Government		63% <sup>x</sup>		37% <sup>x</sup>		100 %

<sup>47</sup> MOWA,2005. Study: Women In Public Sector.

<sup>48</sup> UN,2006. Social and Economic Situation of Palestinian Women(90-05) United Nations  
New York, 2005

Private	NA		NA		70,000x (5000GS)	
Own Account (Self-employed)	NA		NA	31,5%		31,5 %
Unpaid Family Worker	400	0.3	225.200	66.5		47.8
Total					656,000x	

X : data shoes WBGS

### **[Support system for women workers]**

While the structural context of policies and programmes aimed at creating jobs for women is restricted, major opportunities do exist in the current situation. Foremost among these are a comparatively open and positive attitude at a societal level with regard to women working outside the home; and a basic desire by women to find work opportunities. Consequently, there is a vital need to establish job creation schemes for women, particularly in the target group of new graduates of community colleges and universities.

While a number of credit and training programmes exist for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), women tend to represent a small proportion of borrowers and are typically offered smaller loans.

### **[Informal Sector]**

With men unable to find employment, an estimated 64% of women are working in the non-formal sector. They are often involved in unpaid family work and business, or develop income generating business within their own homes. While this work is not accounted for within the employment statistics, it is an important source of income for households. Much of this work falls within traditional women's work, including sewing, embroidery and making food preserves. Even in this non-formal sector where women typically already possess the necessary skills and know-how, local & international NGOs are working to increase & strengthen microenterprise programmes since many women lack access to information, resources or credit services.

### **[Support for micro enterprises]**

Ministry of social affairs (MOSA) through vocational training center (in Jabalia & Nousaierat) and various number of NGOs that were established in 1990s to serve the needs of these women and to offer them the required training and skills.

**Al Beit al Samed association** (Gaza Governorate): established in 1989 to serve the Palestinian community through its various activities. One of its activity art activity program-embroidry works.

**Al Majd Women's society( Nusseirate camp):** established in 1995 to train Palestinian women to become active members in the community & to integrate handicapped women by employing them through the society various programs .one of this activities Palestinian heritage revival and development ,pastry making, sewing, beauty salon that trains women in this field.

**Al Atta Benevolent society for women and children (Notheren Governorate):** established in 2000 with aim is to work to advance the economic, social and health agenda for women. One of activities honeybee nursery and honey production.

**General Union of Palestine Women GUPW** (Gaza): established 1964 .GUPW involves Palestinian women in the question of liberating Palestine, upgrades women's knowledge and culture. One of their activities vocational training courses in tailoring weaving, ceramics hairdressing and computing.

**Women's Sanabel Society for Women's Work (Deir Al Balah,Middle Area):** established in 2000. it concern in vocational training course for women – train women in embroidery, weaving, sewing, food industry, ceramics & creative art.

**The society for women's work for women and children's rehabilitation (Gaza): established in 2000.** One of its activates training course in sewing, beauty, ceramics, embroidery & handcrafts to enable women to establish income generating business es.

**General union of Palestinian women for social work (Gaza):** established in 1988. Its aim to encouraging women to play a more active role in society. One of its activates 2 training centers for women in Al Zaitun neighborhood & Bani Suhaila village .the centers provide professional training in embroidery ,ceramics, hairdressing and sewing.

**Gaza Community Mental Health Programme (Women's Empowerment Project)(Gaza):** established in 1995 to help women affected by domestic, social, and political violence by offering them rehabilitation , education ,as well as social ,psychological, legal and health counseling .

### **Unemployment and poverty**

Prevalence of poverty among Palestinian families estimated as 29.5% in the year 2005(22.3% in WB and 43.7% in GS), and the sever poverty concentrated in GS (27.9%) than WB (13.1%).<sup>49</sup> )

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<sup>49</sup> Poverty in Palestinian territories, 2005. define and levelling of poverty.



There is strong relationship between poor women and nature of labor market which always demand males rather than females; the thing that negatively affects woman, particularly whom are slide under poverty level where the poverty rate of families with females bread winner has increased up to 40.3% in GS and up to 24.9% in WB according to PCBS estimates.

More over it is noteworthy to mention that the poverty rate of families with male breadwinner in GS (44.8%) is greater than what it is in WB (31.5%) as well. (PCBS 2005).

According to PCBS, there is a notable decrease in the size of woman participation in the labor force (from 12.7% in 2000 down to 10.4% in 2002) and raised again up to 13.5% in the year of 2004, where this ratio considered as the lowest one compared with the developing countries (2005 1MOWA)

As for the unemployment rate where it reached up to 25.3% in the first quarter of the year 2006 (21.4% in WB and 34.1% in GS, (21.5 for male and 19.5 for female( PCBS 2005 )

#### 4. On-going Gender Projects

Project / Program	Implementing Organization	Donor Organization	Duration	Budget(\$)	Relative to Women
Women / General					
Empowerment of rural Women.	Women's affairs technical committee	NED	One year	38.000.x	Women Empowerment
Advocacy and capacity Building for Reform	Women's affairs technical committee	Norad	One year	268.134.59x	Women Empowerment
Sawt AL Nisa Newsletter.	Women's affairs technical committee	Konrad	One year	0.00	Women Empowerment
Empowerment of Young Leaders in Democratic and Good Governano	Women's affairs technical committee	Diakonia	One year	50,000x	Women Empowerment
Training for Lawyers and community Workers.	Women's affairs technical committee	Welfara	One year	48,47.00x	Women Empowerment
Empowerment of Women in Local Councils	Women's affairs technical committee	Fredrick Ebert	One year	NA..	Women Empowerment
Empowerment of rural Women.	Women's affairs technical committee	NED	One year	38.000.00x	Women Empowerment
Women's Rights	Women's Affairs Center	UNIFEM	6 months	20,000	Violence against women and human rights
Equal Opportunities for Working Women	Palestinian Working Women Society for	NPA	6 years	65,000 x	Women working and syndicalism rights

	Development (PWWSD)					
Women Can Do It	Palestinian Working Women Society for Development (PWWSD)	NPA	Two years	50,000 x		Women participation in political life
Women's Rights Violence against women in Gaza conflict	Women's Affairs Center	DCA	One year	45,000		Documentary film, research, campaign
Education						
Technical training & literacy classes for remote/marginalized area women	Local committees and CBOs	UNIFEM	1 year			Capacity Building and income generation
Empowering female university student	Women's affairs center	Ford Foundation	Three years	255,000		Student fees empowerment
Women's empowerment project	Women's affairs center	Kvina till kvinna	Two years	90,000		Training & capacity building,
Health / Medicine						
Psycho-social support through mobile counselling units	GCMHP	UNIFEM	1 Year	NA		Counselling and empowerment
Hanan project	MOH	USAID	3 year (1-1-05)	NA		
Nutritional surveillance	MOH	WHO	2 Years (05-07)	200.000x		Monitor nutritional status of the women
Fortification of flour	MOH	UNICEF	3 Years (04-07)	2.000.000x		Compensate the food element
Increase reproductive health services	MOH	UNFPA	4 years	800.000x		Reproductive health. Advocacy, Population

					development strategy.
Establishing a food & Nutrition dept.in Palestine	Nutrition Dep./MOH	NORWAY	3.5 YEAR	359.000x	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery					
Food Security	Najda Association	UNIFEM	6 Months		Food security and capacity building
Work and training for food	Ministry of Agriculture, world food project	world food project	7month	Depend on food amount distributed	supply food aids to the small farmers and rural women. Train rural women in agricultural issues
Economic Activities					
Free to work	Society voice association	EU	2 YEARS		Training Rehabilitation For Women to Increased Work Apportion ties
Wax product, food processing unit , baby sitter training, soup product	Vocational training centre	cida	4 years	3,000,000	Training poor women to make small business
Developing and Training in Managing Small Enterprises Program.	Ma'an Development Centre	Atheda austrialia	1month		
Rehabilitation for agricultural	Ma'an Development Centre	World Vision	4 month	250,000	
Food security	Ma'an Development Centre	oxfam	1 year	55,000 €	
Food security	Agricultural relief	oxfam	1 year		
Home garden					

X: indicate the amount of projects for WBGS

## 5. Gender Information Sources

### 5-1 List of Organizations/individuals related to Gender

(Name of Organization)	Contact Person (Area of specialization)	Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, xperience in Social & Gender Analysis)	Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)	Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail
Organization/individual who prepared the Profile				
Jica Alumni Association	Azza reziq (head of coordination department)	Consultant for gender	2006	+970-8-2871417 fax:+970-8-28406 20 azzareziq@yahoo.com
Government Organization				
Ministry of woman affairs	MSS.Rrhab shober	Women right bills, various study( women in public sector, violence against women,		Gaza strip- tel el hawa. Tel: 08-2841740 Fax:08-2841620
Ministry of social affairs	Sabah abu armana (General director)	Hardship cases of women (poor women), small enterprises, vocational training .	--	Gaza – Tel: 08-2829191 Fax:08-2866209
Ministry of health	Dr. Dina Abu Shaban (Women health director)	Women health		Gaza strip- gaza Tel:08-2822889 Fax:08-2848825
MOW/Department Of Rural Development	Najah Al Zalaan	Training On Gender Activities Related To Agriculture Palestinian agricultural development report	2006	Gaza strip- gaza Tel:08-2830900 Fax:08-2827805
MOLG	Wafa el borsh	Training for local council women members		Gaza strip- Gaza Tel:082820271 Fax:2866844
International Organisation				
UNIFEM	Ghada Gadan(progra	Support institutional capacity –building on		

<b>(Name of Organization)</b>	<b>Contact Person (Area of specialization)</b>	<b>Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, xperience in Social &amp; Gender Analysis)</b>	<b>Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)</b>	<b>Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail</b>
	m assistant)	gender		
UNFPA	Osama Abu ATA	Support institutional capacity –building on gender mainstreaming. MOWA gender audit		
<b>NGOs</b>				
Women's Affairs Technical Committee	Nadia abu Nahla	Lobbying & coordination activities-empowers women from various Palestinian parties, rural women assistant projects		Address:p.o.box5008,al kateba st.,gaza Tel:(08) 2844322 Fax:(08)2836088 e.m:watc-gz@palnet.com
Palestinian Working Women Society for Development	Lama el horani			Tel:08-2843388 Fax:8-2826449 E.M:watc-gz@palnet.com
Women's affairs center	Naila ayesh	Gender Training- Media Communication program, Small Busnise Program- Documentation Research Program	Early marriage in GS Al-ghaida(an nual magazine	Tel:(08) 2877311 Fax: (08)2877313 E.M:wac@palnet.com
General Union of Palestinian Woman	Ms Maream Al Atrash	Vocational training Lectures on low issues, Illiteracy programs.	--	Gaza Strip Tel:08-28441 Fax:08-2843441 E.M:GUPW@HOTMAIL.COM

<b>(Name of Organization)</b>	<b>Contact Person (Area of specialization)</b>	<b>Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, xperience in Social &amp; Gender Analysis)</b>	<b>Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)</b>	<b>Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail</b>
Al Bait Al Samd Association	Ms.Feryal Abu Hashesh	Art activates program, embroidery works, training and producing sewing works, training and producing ready made		TEL:08-2842012 FAX:08-2828734
Union of Palestinian Agricultural Relief	Abed Al Kareem Ashour	Gudance and training women and men in agticultural field. offering small loans ,Encouraging the women to become involved in micro cooperation.,Assistance in solving marketing problems .		Tel:08-280504008 Fax:08-2805039 E.M:ADMING@P ALNET.COM
Ameera Society for Teaching and Development the Palestinian woman	Ms. Ahlam Firwana	Provision of Aid to the Poor Project ,alnutrition Alleviation Project.		Khan youins Tel:08-2050677 Fax:08-2050677 E.M:amera_com @hotmail.com
Al Huda Development Association	Ms. Mahdia Al Bereem	Professional courses for women to advance omen'sprofessional skills and help women initiative incomegenerationproject. Production unite sponsored		Khan youins, Khan youins Tel:08-2071950 Fax:08-2071388 E.M: alhudadev@yaho o.com
Culture and	Ms. Mariam	Women's Health Centar		Khan younis

<b>(Name of Organization)</b>	<b>Contact Person (Area of specialization)</b>	<b>Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, xperience in Social &amp; Gender Analysis)</b>	<b>Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)</b>	<b>Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail</b>
free Thought Association	Zaqout	in Gaza Middle area provideds a omen's clinic'		Tel:08-2051299 Fax:08-2067299 E.M:cfta@palnet.com
Bait Al mostuqbul Association	Ms. Sabah Al Qara	Vocational training rounds ( the manufacture of my food - drying vegetables - freezing the vegetables - maftool- Jum). Trainings on house gardens.		Khan younis-Khoza'a Tel: 08-
Media & information of Palestinian women	Huda hamoda	Conference :women NGOs effectiveness in Gaza Strip	2005	Gaza strip- Gaza Tel:08-2820211 Fax:08-284355 www.pwic.org
Al Atta Benevolent Society for Women and Children	Ms. Ibtisam Al Za'neen			Gaza strip-Northern Governorate Tel:08-2455809 Fax:08-2458593
<b>Consultants</b>				
Etimad mohana	Gender development consultant			
Zinab el ghoneemi	Legal consultant	Women rights trainer		
Dr. deena abo	Women	Reproductive health		

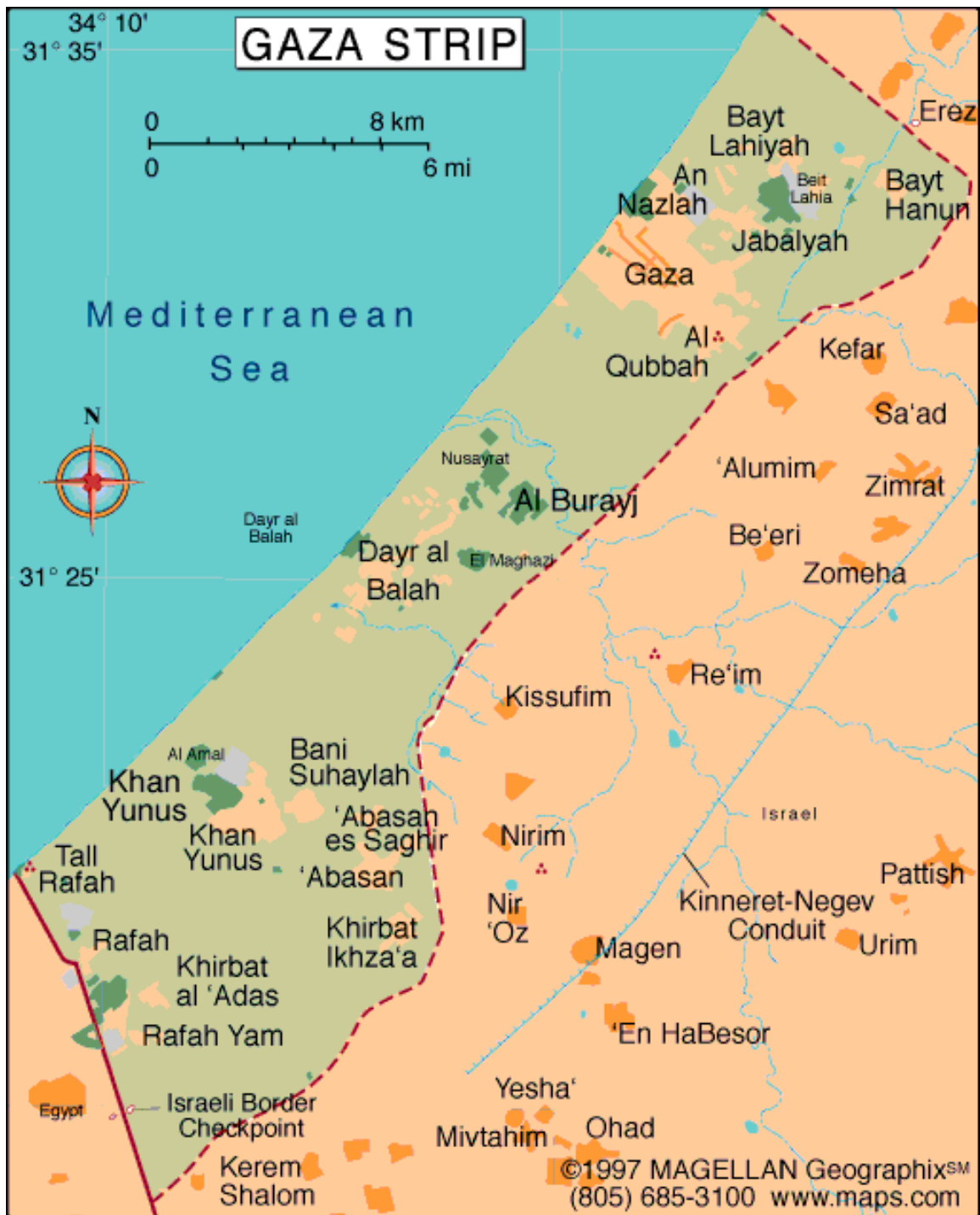


<b>(Name of Organization)</b>	<b>Contact Person (Area of specialization)</b>	<b>Results (Project Content Year Related Organizations, xperience in Social &amp; Gender Analysis)</b>	<b>Reports / Writers (Published Year etc.)</b>	<b>Contact Address Tele/Fax/E.Mail</b>
shaban	health			
Andaleep Odwan	Gender & media			
Mona el shawa	Director of women department in Palestinian centre for human right	Human rights training		
Haneen Al Samak	Gender & development consultant	Help women to find work in several sectors	Research about situation of Palestinian women (2001, women empowerment project)	Tel:08-2821333 Fax: 08- 2883359 E.M:haneen_2002@yahoo.com
Amal Syam	Gender trainer	10 year experience in gender training	Several training manuals	+ 970-8- 2877311 +970-8-2877313

## 5-2 List of reports and references related Gender (not cited in the profile)

Title	Publisher	Year	Where to get
<b>Education and Training</b>			
Fifth year developmental plan	MOEHE	2001	MOEHE,GS
Education and gender in Palestine	Bir-zit University, women institute study	2003	Bir-zit University West Bank
Intifada and its reflection on women, field study on high education sample	wac	2002	wac
Female education strategy in Middle east and North Africa	UNICEF	1994	UNICEF-GAZA
<b>Health and Medicine</b>			
Health rights for Palestinian women	Women Legal guidance centre	2004	Women Legal guidance centre West Bank
Literature in Women reproductive health	MOFTAH	2004	MOFTAH
Qualitative study: Trends and opinion of the decision makers around consultation and pre marriage examination and its impact on the Palestinian society.	MOFTAH	2005	MOFTAH
<b>Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</b>			
National Strategic Agriculture Plan, Palestine(2006-2008)	MOA		MOA, Gaza Strip
<b>Economic Activities</b>			
Assessment of the future humanitarian risks in the occupied Palestinian territory,	UNDP,	11 April 2006".	UNDP,
Intifada and its reflection on women, field study on professional sample Gaza Strip	WAC	2002	WAC
Intifada and its reflection on women, field study on small project sample	WAC	2002	wac
<b>Social/Gender Analysis</b>			
Women and army conflict and loss	Women study centre	2002	Women study centre, West Bank
General budget and Gender	Palestinian initiation	2005	MIFTAH ,WB

	to deepen the global talk and Democracy(MUFTAH)		
Palestinian Development Plan	MOP	2001-2005	MOP, Gaza
Women guide for political rehabilitation	UNIFEM	2005	UNIFEM office ,Gaza Strip
Strategies for a Post – Beijing Palestinian Governmental plan Of Action Through The Year 2000	MOP	2000	Women Watch, UNDP website
Group living and women Gaza Strip	Donia Al Amal Ismail	2000	Published study, Ruyah magazine, Monthly research Magazine from the general information organization. Gaza
Palestinian women from 1967- Intifada 1987	Donia Al Amal Ismail	2001	Published study, Ruyah magazine, Monthly research Magazine from the general information organization. Gaza
Palestinian women role(recent and contemporary history	Ghazi Sourani	2002	Published study, Ruyah magazine, Monthly research Magazine from the general information organization. Gaza
Women and political participation	Donia Al Amal Ismail	2001	Published study, Ruyah magazine, Monthly research Magazine from the general information organization. Gaza
Palestinian family between the past to now	D.Abdalla Ahmad Hourani	2002	Published study, Ruyah magazine, Monthly research Magazine from the general information organization. Gaza



## References

### (Complete List of References Used In Compiling the Profile)

Title	Author	Year	Publisher
<b>Education and Training</b>			
Education Statistic yearbook2003/2004-2004/2005	MOEHE	2005	General directorate of education planning. Ministry of education higher education. Ram Allah-Palestine
Basic Statistics of General Education in Gaza Governorates	MOEHE	2006	MOEHE, www.moehe.org.ps
Men and women in Palestine: trends and statistics	PCBS	2005	PCBS,www,pcbs.org
Education repetition 2005..	PCBS	2006	PCBS
Post-Beijing Governmental plan of action.	international coordination committee,	1996	UNDP
Non-formal education Department	MOEHE	2006	
WWW..moehe.org.ps	MOEHE	2006	MOEHE, Gaza
<b>Health and Medicine</b>			
MOH policy & programmes towards human health rights	MOWA+MOH	2005	UNFPA
Conferences of Women human rights under occupation	MOWA	2005	MOWA
Health Status In Palestine	MOH	2005	MOH
Health Status In Palestine	MOH	2006	MOH
population in the Palestinian territory,1997-2025	PCBS	2006	PCBS
<b>Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</b>			
Poverty in Palestine	PCBS	2006	
Guide Of International Gender In The Polices And Program Of The a Ministry Of Agriculture	ISLAH JAD	1997	MOA, Gaza Strip
Report Of Agriculture Development In Palestine	Najah Al Zaalan	2006	MOA, Gaza Strip

Palestinian Agricultural Policy	MOA	2004	MOA, Gaza Strip
Farm structure survey 2004/2005	PCBS	2005	PCBS
Gender-based violence in Palestine,2006	MIFTAH	2006	UNFPA,GAZA
<b>Economic Activities</b>			
Labor Force Survey:(April-June round, 2006)	PCBS	2006	PCBS, Ram Allah-Palestine
Social and Economic Situation of Palestinian Women(90-05)	Elin katab	,200 6	United Nations
Poverty in Palestine2005	PCBS	2006	PCBS on Website www.pcbs.gov.ps
Millennium Development Goals, Palestinian territories(report of action work)	UNDP	2005	MOP,GS
Millennium Development Goals national report	MOP+PCBS	2005	MOP+PCBS
Four years-intifada ,closures &Palestinian economic crisis(an assessment)	World bank	2004	World bank, GS
Study: Women In Public Sector.	MOWA	2005	MOWA, Ramallah-Palestine
<b>Social/Gender Analysis</b>			
Social& Economic Situation of Palestine	A.Abu Attieh	2005	United Nations
Gender-based violence in Palestine	MIFTAH	2006	UNFPA,GS
<b>Others</b>			
Ministry of women affairs action plan(2005-2007)	MOWA	2004	MOWA
Ministry of women affairs strategy	MOWA	2004	MOWA
Palestine: Human Development Report	Birzeit university, Developmen t Studies program	2004	Mop, Development study program
Woman &Man In Palestine	PCBS	2006	PCBS
The Demographic Survey In West Bank &Gaza Strip	PCBS	2006	PCBS

## 7. Definitions :( Technical Terms)

- 1- **Drop-out Student:** A student who left school during the last scholastic year and who did not transfer to another school.
- 2- **Vocational Secondary Education:** Vocational secondary education includes commercial, industrial and agricultural tracks. It consists of the first and second secondary grades.
- 3- **UNRWA School:** Any school run or supervised by UNRWA.
- 4- **Gross Enrolment Rate :** The total enrolment of students on a grade or stage or level of education, regardless of age, expressed as percentage of all corresponding eligible official age group in the given school year.
- 5- **Net enrollment ratio:** is the ratio of the number of children of official school age (as defined by the national education system) who are enrolled in school to the population of the corresponding official school age.
- 6- **Primary education** provides children with basic reading, writing, and mathematics skills along with an elementary understanding of such subjects as history, geography, natural science, social science, art, and music.
- 7- **Illiterate:** It applies to persons unable to read or write in any language and who were never awarded a certificate from any formal education system
- 8- **Non-Formal Education:** Cultural center licensed by MOEHE offering courses on different fields of education or knowledge.
- 9- **Average Number of Students Per Class:** Total number of students divided by total number of classes.
- 10-**Total fertility rate:** the average number of children that would be born alive to a woman ( or group of women)during her lifetime if she were to pass through her child bearing years conforming to the age – specific fertility rates of a given year , the sum of age – specific fertility rates is multiplied by five .
- 11-**Antenatal care services:** Health provider attention to the health of the pregnant woman and her fetus
- 12-**Tetanus toxoid immunization:** The vaccination for pregnant women is taken based on MOH protocol during the first antenatal visit.
- 13-**Births attended by skilled health staff:** refer to the percentage of deliveries attended by personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care, and advice to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own, and to care for the newborn and the infant.
- 14-**Unemployment (female):** is the share of the female labor force that is without work but available for and seeking employment..
- 15-**Maternal mortality rate:** is the number of women who die during pregnancy and childbirth, per 100,000 live births

**16-Life expectancy at birth:** indicates the number of years a newborn infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

**17-Adult illiteracy rate (% of people aged 15+)** is the proportion of adults aged 15 and above who cannot, with understanding, read and write a short, simple statement about their everyday life.

**18-Anaemia:** WHO define anaemia as Hb is less than 11 gm/dl.