Right to Education in the Gaza Strip

Initiated in February 2015, with a budget of just over USD 21 million from Qatar Development Fund through Al Fakhoora - a programme of Education Above All Foundation, the Right to Education programme aims to reconstruct and rehabilitate educational facilities that were damaged and destroyed during the 2014 hostilities on Gaza, increase the capacity for mental health care in Gaza and restore the hope of youth for increased prospects of employment through e-work.

The programme targets 51 educational institutions including the rebuilding of totally damaged schools, rehabilitation of partially damaged universities, schools and vocational training centres. Innovation is capitalized in implementation through introducing elements of child friendly schools, provision of multi-purpose halls to serve as emergency shelters during crisis, installing sustainable green energy source (PV cells) to address electricity cuts and sustainable WASH (water and sanitation) facilities. Through the programme, over 600,000 Palestinian children and youth will regain equitable access to quality education in an inclusive and child-friendly learning environment.

Programme Outcomes:

- **Outcome 1:** Adequate learning environment provided through decreasing class overcrowding by reconstructing completely destroyed schools, adding new classrooms to the existing buildings, and rehabilitating private schools
- **Outcome 2:** Building back better adopted in reconstruction/rehabilitation process promoting preservation of environment and enhancement to accessibility to essential services
- **Outcome 3:** Accessibility to vocational and higher education enhanced through reconstruction of damaged university buildings and developing these facilities
- **Outcome 4:** Mental health wellbeing enhanced for students and their parents through better mental health care and better prospects for a brighter future

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**FACTS**

- 96.4 literacy rate among Palestinians aged 15 years and above
- 4% annual increase of students in Gaza (10,000 new students each year)
- Approximately 37 students per classroom in Gaza (MOEHE 2015)
- 200 additional schools are immediately needed in Gaza
- 190 schools will be needed by 2020 to meet annual student increase
Project Overview

Status: Active

Project Start Date: April 2014

Estimated End Date: March 2017

Donor: Qatar Development Fund through Al Fakhoora, a programme of Education Above All Foundation - Qatar

Partners: Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Health (MoH) and Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA)

Geographic Coverage: Gaza Strip

Focus Area: Public and Social Infrastructure, Environment, Education

Sustainable Development Goals Quality Education, Industry, innovation and Infrastructure

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Accomplishments

❖ 5 training centres rehabilitated
❖ 7 higher education facilities have been rehabilitated, while another 3 are still in the implementation phase
❖ 13 private schools have been rehabilitated
❖ 12 governmental schools have been rehabilitated, while 4 are in the implementation phase
❖ 420 school counsellors have been trained on advanced skills of “mind and body” self-care technique, under the mental health component, to enhance children’s mental health resilience and wellbeing
❖ 2 agreements for the mental health component have been signed with the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme and the Centre for Mind-body Medicine

Finances and Delivery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Amount Contributed 2015 - 2017</th>
<th>Amount Delivered or Disbursed - 2015</th>
<th>Amount Delivered or Disbursed - 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qatar Development Fund through Al Fakhoora - a Programme of Education Above All (EAA)</td>
<td>USD 21,200,041</td>
<td>USD 1,166,187</td>
<td>USD 4,241,573</td>
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</tbody>
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Challenges and Constraints

❖ Access of materials into the Gaza Strip, especially wood and cement. New restrictions by the Israeli Authorities on entry of materials in addition to withdrawing approvals of projects and calling for resubmission. The new insulation materials are on the dual list and need special approval.