

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

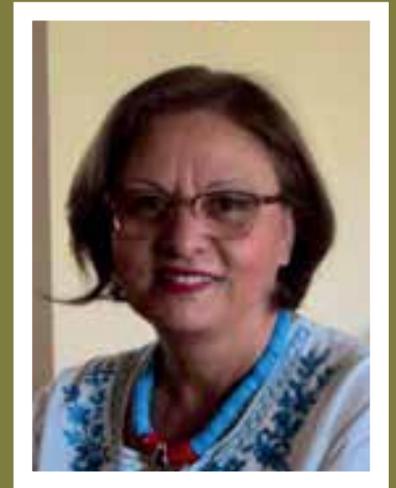
Dalia Association  
مؤسسة دالية

## Letter from the President of the Board of Directors

Dear Friends of Dalia,

I am pleased to provide you with Dalia's latest annual report.

This year proved to be challenging. The association experienced financial and administrative issues that accumulated over the past few years. These challenges put us at a difficult crossroads, which could have brought failure or success. Now, I am happy to tell you all that we have managed to emerge from this crisis, even stronger than before. We still believe in our mission and vision of achieving Palestinian controlled durable development using our local resources.



In the field, in addition to continuing our work with the Village Decides program and the Women Supporting Women Program, we launched a new youth community controlled program, that encourages our youth to engage in dialogue with their local communities and come up with solutions, for their needs and priorities, using their local resources.

In addition to these community programs, efforts were made to link local resources, including people with experience and creative ideas, with individuals in the community to support their needs and priorities.

Since Dalia strives to include all the Palestinians wherever they are, we held a few meetings and discussions to involve the Palestinian Diaspora to contribute with their resources for a Palestinian controlled durable development. This also means reviving our indigenous aid system known as "Al Ouna" which encourages giving, volunteerism and solidarity. We also advocate for changing the current aid systems to respect our rights as Palestinians to determine our priorities and our right to self-determination.

Our work in the field would not have been possible without a strong foundation at the administrative level; we revisited and revised our internal policies and governance structures to ensure stronger management mechanisms are in place. We continue to develop policies and procedures for our key functions and activities.

Everyone at Dalia, from staff, board members, general assembly and volunteers, believe in the need for community change, where it starts with each one of us, in hopes to extend to the whole Palestinian society, where we value our local available resources, and work towards changing the current aid system that respects our rights as Palestinians to determine our priorities and our right to self-determination.

Towards community philanthropy, we work together to attain a society that leads its own development.

With love,

Basma Abu Swai

President of the Board

## Letter from the Executive Director

Dear friends,

2016 was a turnaround year for the Dalia Association. When I joined in late August, 2015, the Dalia Association was facing a crisis. As a result, the board and I were faced with difficult decisions regarding Dalia's future. Fortunately, we received a grant from the European Democracy Endowment in early 2016 that provided us the opportunity to sustain the organization and recruit an additional two key staff members to the team.



With the new TeamDalia, we have been working diligently to strengthen our programs as well as our organizational governance and management.

■ **Community Programs** – In 2016, we established a new program targeting youth in Palestine. The program, called IBDA' which means start in Arabic, operates along the same framework of our other community programs, Village Decides and Women Supporting Women. Through our community programs, we facilitate community controlled grant making as the community, be it the whole village, women, or youth, identify their priorities and vote for the initiative that best meets their needs. We also raise awareness on the importance of community philanthropy in which we all can contribute to our society's development through our own material and immaterial resources. And finally, we encourage the community to identify local resources and mobilize them to support the implementation of their priorities.

■ **Community Organizing** – With the establishment of our youth program, Ibda', we have also started to develop a curriculum that will be used to guide community leaders and community organizers as they work to ensure durable development in their towns and villages. The curriculum is focused on the four pillars to ensure comprehensive community development – strong local economy, social structures, as well as cultural and ecological harmony.

■ **Dukkan** – In order to diversify our sources of income as well as communicate community philanthropy throughout Palestine, we established the Dukkan initiative in late summer 2016. Dukkan is a second hand shop and embodies our philosophy of community philanthropy as the items sold in Dukkan are donated by Palestinians who no longer need these items. The community is the donor as well as the receiver. During the opening of Dukkan, several of the donors were also able to purchase items that they found at Dukkan. Dukkan will be a mobile second hand shop until we are able to locate a permanent space.

■ **Convening and Linking** – Over the last year, we have also focused on our role of providing a venue and public space for the community to share and exchange. We held sessions to discuss alternatives to the electricity shortage, models for community supported agriculture, and self-sustaining communities through the Cuban experience. We also facilitated the linking of local resources. For example, in April 2016, the Farashe Yoga Center in Ramallah held their first yoga retreat in the village of Susya to raise awareness on the village's situation as well as to support the local economy through alternative tourism.

■ Governance and Management – We are also working to improve our organizational governance and management. Over the last year, we reviewed our policies and updated our administrative and financial policies and procedures. We also developed a grants management policy with procedures in order to clarify roles and support our staff in their work. In the next year, we will review our fiscal sponsor policy and revise as needed. We also plan to develop procedures so that our community can send us their feedback and suggestions as we aim to continuously review what we do and how we do it with the aim of continuous improvement.

■ Building a community of givers – And finally, we have been working to strengthen our community of givers. A community foundation such as the Dalia Association should serve as host to the community's resources, material and immaterial. Our community consists of Palestinians living in Palestine as well as the Diaspora, as well as our friends who are in solidarity with us. As such, we have encouraged volunteers to serve at the Dalia Association as well as within the community. In 2016, we hosted two volunteers who served in the villages of Zawiya and Susya. We also hosted volunteers in our office to support our work. We also received financial donations from individual givers in Palestine as well as our friends living abroad. Further, a local non-profit, Palestine for Development, provided us a grant in April 2016 that enabled us to launch our new youth program, IBDA'. It is this grassroots giving that we hope to strengthen in order to support self-determination and durable development in Palestine.

As always, I welcome your comments and feedback at any time. Feel free to contact me via my direct email at [aisham@dalia.ps](mailto:aisham@dalia.ps)

Because community giving IS our national wealth!  
Towards community philanthropy,  
aisha

## Community Programs:

### ❖ IBDA' Youth Program:

Dalia launched its youth community controlled program this year. The program encourages the youth to contribute in the development of their communities, by coming up with initiatives and projects identified by the youth themselves. At Dalia we believe in the important role youth play when involved in development, targeting their community priorities using local resources, moving away from conditional aid.

Through the IBDA' youth program from the Dalia Association, we encourage youth to become active citizens and contribute to the development of their communities by using local resources, and the public participation in identifying, selecting and implementing projects of benefit to the community.

The projects include an income-generating element to ensure durable development and a strong local economy. The program is currently implemented in six locations in the governorates of Ramallah, Jerusalem, and the Jordan Valley.

The selected initiatives need to:

- Meet the needs of the society, or solve a problem that benefits the community.
- Use local resources including human resources, expertise, skills, as well as cash resources. Community resources must be valued at least 25% of the grant amount.
- Should generate income and be sustainable.
- Respect the social and environmental aspects of the community.

The selection of ideas, initiatives and projects take place in a public meeting for the youth, where they vote for the best initiatives.

In 2016, eight projects have been voted for in the governorates of Ramallah, and the Jordan Valley.

### ❖ Ramallah Governorate

- Saffa: The IBDA' cafeteria, and the Murooj Community Garden.

The youth groups identified the need for a public space in the community to socialize and engage in social and cultural events, therefore they proposed the creation of Al Murooj Public Park and cafeteria IBDA' to provide locally made food to the visitors of the park.

- Mazari'Al Noubani: Service Center and Qurtaleh for the sales of traditional products locally and online.

In an effort to revive the social and cultural scene of the village, the youth saw the need to establish a local shop for selling locally made products and handicrafts by craftsmen and craftswomen in the town. The name Qurtaleh is a traditional term for locally made baskets. In addition, a service center was identified to provide a hub in the town for needed services instead of travelling to the closest city center to acquire such services.



## ◆ Jordan Valley

- Al Jiftlik: Sanabil Al Reef Kitchen and Al Ghuzlan sports and health center. The Youth in Jiftlik voted for the best two initiatives that they found needed in the community. Sanabil Al Reef Kitchen aims to provide locally made food for the residents and for the nearby schools, in addition to a social space to share these nutritious meals. The second initiative includes a health and fitness center for the whole community, run and controlled by the local youth.

- Fasayil: Al Naseem Cafeteria and Fasayil's community garden. Again, you can feel the need of public social spaces everywhere you go in Palestine, and this has been confirmed by the proposed and selected initiatives in the communities. Fasayil, in the Jordan Valley, has also identified that one of the most pressing needs in the community is to have a public and social space for families and their children. Therefore, Fasayil's community garden was voted for, and the Al Naseem cafeteria will provide locally made food by the women of the village.

All of these projects, will have an economic element to generate income that sustains the initiatives. Each grant received has a value of \$1250 US dollar.

IBDA' also includes a students' project in the Orthodox School of Bethany in Al 'Eizarya. A group of high school students will be acting as grant makers, coming up with initiatives to solve community issues, and organizing activities around a community priority; strengthening by this process certain personal skills like leadership, as well as enhancing their sense of community and their role as active citizens in the community. The project ideas will be pitched in a public meeting for the students of the school, where they will vote for implementing two initiatives that benefit their school and their local community. The winning projects will get a small grant from Dalia, and guidance to implement their initiatives, which will be implemented in the first quarter of the upcoming year.

As in all of our programs, Dalia focuses on the criteria of demonstrating community benefit or meeting a specific need for the society, community contribution and the use of local resources (at least 25% of the grant should be provided from local and community resources, financial and non-financial) taking into consideration environmental and social aspects.



## ◆ The Village Decides Program:

This year, the Dalia Association followed up with the established village funds as part of the Village Decides (VD) program, in the villages of Zawiya, and Burqa. We also started the program in Tuqu' village, south of the West Bank. In the first phase, we gave two grants to two groups with two initiatives that were voted for by the community in an open meeting. The grant receivers were the Tuqu' Youth Entrepreneurs Group, and the Al Ghad group for people with disabilities. In their initiative, the youth group are addressing issues related to youth involvement and their representation in the cultural scene of the village. They also aim at raising awareness on environment and cultural heritage; capacity building and empowerment of youth to decide on their future careers. Through these activities, the groups will generate income to sustain themselves and provide more capacity building for the future.

Al Ghad group's initiative aims at involving disabled people in the community as productive members of society, supporting families of disabled people and generating income for Al Ghad group to provide more services and support to disabled people. They are establishing a discounted grocery store to provide job opportunities to persons with disability, and generating income for the groups' association and work. Both groups received a grant of \$6000 US. It's worth mentioning that the community contribution in both initiatives exceed the required 25%, as both groups contributed with 50%.

In the second phase of the program, a village fund was established to recruit the villages' local resources to address the community's needs and priorities. A village fund committee was established to implement the activities of the fund assessed by the community and create follow-up mechanisms of work. The Dalia Association contributed to this fund with \$6094 US, as well as the village's 25% contribution.

The committee will start implementing initiatives addressing the need and the priorities of the community starting next year.



## ◆ The Women Supporting Women Program:

This year, the Dalia Association followed up with the women's funds in Salfit, Jenin, Tulkarem, Ramallah and Jericho. The Women Supporting Women (WSW) program was recently launched in the South of Hebron, where two grants will be given to two initiatives identified by women organizations and grassroots groups.



### Distributed grants in 2016

Beneficiaries	Program/Fund	Location	Grant Value \$ US	Project
Village Fund	Village Decides Program	Tuqu'	6094	To support community priorities
Al Ghad group for people with disabilities	Village Decides Program	Tuqu'	6000	Establish a discounted supermarket to support persons with disabilities
Tuqu' Youth Group	Village Decides Program	Tuqu'	6000	Support the youth sector through the work of awareness and recreational activities for youth
Aid Watch	Gaza Fund	Gaza	2743	Contribute to the narrative of the daily reality of the people of Gaza, especially those affected by the attack of 2014.
Jaba' Community Women Groups	Jenin Women's Fund	Jaba'	3240	To establish a poultry farm

## Initiatives from Dalia

### Dukkan

Dalia launched the Dukkan initiative, a second hand shop; a community volunteer initiative that embodies the concept of community philanthropy, where there are no donors and beneficiaries, rather everyone is a donor. Dukkan's initiative allows all members of the community to donate any used items, which in turn Dalia sells at very low prices to benefit everyone in the community.

The initiative remains mobile until we find a permanent space. This year Khalil Sakakini Cultural Center hosted the first opening for approximately a month in August. In early 2017, the next Dukkan will take place in Beit Sahour, hosted by El Bier Arts and Seeds.



## Philanthropy Funds

### The Jerusalem Fund

This Fund will support the Palestinian Jerusalem communities in setting their priorities and mobilizing financial and non-financial resources to achieve their goals. This time the fund will focus on two main priorities – supporting families who have experienced home demolitions, and empowering youth through our youth grant making program.

This link shows the details of the crowdfunding campaign:

[https://www.launchgood.com/project/jerusalem\\_fund\\_support\\_palestinian\\_communities\\_in\\_jerusalem#/](https://www.launchgood.com/project/jerusalem_fund_support_palestinian_communities_in_jerusalem#/)

At the end of this year, Team Dalia met with several community based organizations and grassroots groups in Jerusalem to launch the Jerusalem fund, in order to mobilize these local resources to implement community priorities.



**Jerusalem Fund: Support Palestinian Communities in Jerusalem**

From home demolitions to youth empowerment, support Dalia Association in our work with Palestinian Communities to define their own priorities.

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Making Coffee in a Demolished Palestinian Home

Dalia Association  
A Palestinian Community Association

MAKING COFFEE IN A DEMOLISHED PALESTINIAN HOME

© Jerusalem, Palestinian Territories | Other

**\$1,148**  
funded of \$3,000 goal

**40**  
supporters

Project Closed

Closed

This project was closed on Jul 16, 2016 11:45 PM

## The Gaza Fund:

The Gaza Fund was launched for the benefit of the local community in order to support Gazans affected by the Israeli aggression of 2014.

The total amount (\$2743 US ) was awarded to the Aid Watch initiative, which in turn produced films and stories reflecting the current reality after the 2014 Israeli attack.

The following link contain stories written by the Aid Watch:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/AidWatchPalestine/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/AidWatchPalestine/videos/?ref=page_internal)

## Fiscal Sponsorships

Dalia offers fiscal sponsorships to grassroots groups and initiatives that are still in their initial startup phase. We provide them with professional administrative and financial support to proceed with their vision and mission. At Dalia, we believe that fiscal sponsorships are essential means to strengthen our community and the Palestinian civil society.

In 2016, we provided fiscal sponsorship to the following groups:

### Palestine Writing Workshop

“Promote creative thinking and expression through activities and trainings in drama, reading, writing, illustration and storytelling among members of the Palestinian community, particularly youth; Develop a network of local and international artists to participate in cultural events in Palestine; To support Palestinian artists, especially young ones in their careers, to improve their ability to produce works”

Retrieved from <http://palestineworkshop.org/en/>

Photo from: <http://bit.ly/2pn81Ap>



### Aid Watch Palestine

“AWP stimulates and supports efforts to make international aid more accountable to Palestinians — starting with reconstruction of the Gaza Strip. We invite the Palestinian community and aid actors, local and international, public and private, to join us in critical and constructive scrutiny of aid. Together, we can liberate ourselves from aid that harms, and focus on long-term solutions”.

Retrieved from (: <http://www.aidwatch.ps/about>)



## Convening - “Mujawarat”

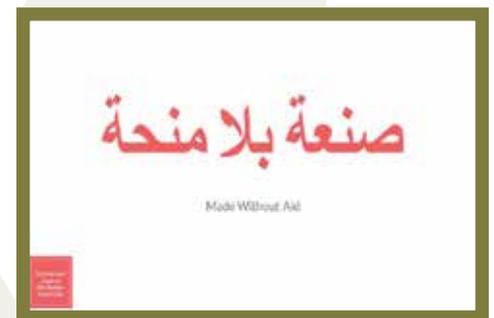
Solar Energy – an alternative resource - a path to Palestinian self-determination



Dalia Association held a presentation titled “Solar Energy – a practical alternative to electricity in Palestine. Moutasem Hassan discussed using a solar power concentrator, which is composed of materials readily available in Palestine and is simple enough to assemble using local labor.

### Support local farmers, and join a CSA!

To support local farming, we collaborated with farmers of Om Sleiman Farm in Bilin close to the apartheid wall. Mohammad and Muhab presented their community supported agriculture initiative, a model of food sovereignty providing healthy, organic produce to all participating members.



### Saad Dagher lecture- Cuba as a model of self-reliance

Saad Dagher, agricultural engineer, gave a talk on his observations from his recent visit to Cuba. He provided us with examples of using local resources to ensure energy sufficiency and food sovereignty within Cuba. The farmers employ effective methods where they use and reuse local resources, such as natural fertilizers from the remains of herbs and animals, and the use of natural pest control among many examples.



## Linking and Advocacy

Our mission includes linking communities all over Palestine with each other. This also necessitates linking these communities with local resources. Therefore, we conduct different activities that ensures a two-way exchange of knowledge and resources, in addition to raising awareness on the availability of local resources.

### Linking in Susya

In early 2016, we linked the Rural Women's Association of South of Hebron with Sidra-Liqya's Women Association, Action Against Hunger, Oxfam Quebec, and Moutasem Hassan with his solar energy concentrator. We also discussed the women's priorities with the community. The idea of income generation and alternative tourism was discussed. We also linked Farashe Yoga Center board to hold their first yoga retreat in Susya, in an effort to raise awareness and show solidarity with the village threatened daily by nearby Israeli colonial settlers. With the help of a bus rented from the Women's Association of Beit Surik, a diverse group of Palestinians and internationals spent the weekend of April the 22nd in Susya, doing yoga, generating income for the threatened village, and supporting a resilient community.

The following link contains the Farashe Yoga retreat in Susya:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1o\\_nKb6784&ab\\_channel=DaliaAssociation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1o_nKb6784&ab_channel=DaliaAssociation)



### Mobilizing resources from the Palestinian Diaspora

In order to engage the Palestinian Diaspora with their homeland, and in an effort to mobilize resources from the Palestinians living abroad, we conducted several activities with different leaders from civil society and its institutions, to discuss and benefit from their successful experiences in mobilizing resources, from the Palestinian Diaspora. At Dalia we believe that mobilizing resources from our own people in the Diaspora is one further step towards self-reliance; and independence from conditional external resources.



## Global Summit on Community Philanthropy

Team Dalia attended the global summit on community philanthropy in Johannesburg, South Africa in December. We led two sessions in this conference; the first day included a “speed networking” session, where participants sat two by two facing each other, exchanging contacts and expertise in participatory grant-making. In the second session with the Foundations for Peace, we discussed the true meaning of peace; that it can only be achieved through social justice, and the empowering of indigenous people. We also participated in the poster session, presenting two posters, one on Dalia’s work in general, and the second on our research on the best practices of women’s funds around the world.



# Dalia's Family

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Shadi Abdelhadi: Member

Sami Alalul: Member

Alia'a Naser Eddin: Deputy

Yanal Hammouda: Member

Hekmat Bessiso: Treasurer

Siham Rashid: Member

Fida Touma: Secretary

Najla A.S. Shawa: Member

## Team Dalia

Melia Hashweh Tannous: Financial Officer

Lina Isma'il: Community Programs Officer

Ahlan Samara: Office Manager

Rasha Sansur: Communication and Reporting Officer.

Aisha Mansour: Executive Director

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Mohammad Rimawi; Hafez Omar; Sami Alalul; Asil Abu Assba; Amar Rasul; Nadia Hassan; Raed Tharf; Mahmoud Kittaneh; Shadi Abdelhadi; Nader Dagher; Abdel Rahman Karajah; Michael Blosser; Michael; Muna Shtayya; Max Schindler; Alia Naser Aldin; Yanal Hammouda; Haifa Asaad; Basma Abu Swai; Iyad Joudeh; Naila Ayesh; Yara Abdel Hamid; Fida Mousa; Nora Murad; Rima Ajrami, Mohaned Berekdar; Rami Hinawi; Salwa Mohammed; Maha Mikhail; Rula Muzaffar; Hekmat Bessiso; Arda Shamshoum; Fida Touma; Saed Dagher; Jassi Murad; Ahmed Zaghmouri; Sanah Yassin; Faris Amin; Amro Hourani; Yara Yousef; Andrew Foster; Riad Bahhur; Fawaz Maghari; Ghadeer Dajani; Nadine Zaqout; Suhair Ahmad; Alaa Anwar; Ramzi Sansur.

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Al Maysam Homeware; Khalil Al Sakakini Cultural Center; Designs by Taline; Mariam Hijawi; Nora Murad; Rasha Sansur; Maha Sansur; Lorraine Sansur; Reem Khalil; Arda Shamshoum; Ahlam Samarah; Fida Touma; Aisha Mansour; Basma Abu Swai; Jassi Murad; Shurouq Asad; Alia Naser Aldin; Khalid Jubran; Yara Abu Yousef; Melia Tannous; Nadine Mazawi; Shirabe Yamada; Will Harris; Rima Tarazi; Karen Man; Radya; Nabil Gazawi; Rene Bahu; Amal Adeeb; Sama Anfous; Nader Zeineh; Sareena Anfous; John Bandak; Rima Qashou'.

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Global Fund for Community Foundations

European Endowment For Democracy

Asfari Foundation

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Palestine for Development Foundation

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