



For a future of Peace, Freedom and Dignity



The exacerbation of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, the fragmentation of the Palestinian Territories in separated and incommunicable areas, the construction of the separation wall by Israel, the missing development of Gaza Strip after the Israeli disengagement, have led the increasing of forms of violence as expression of humiliation and lack of alternatives, frustration and fear.

In Palestine, especially in Gaza Strip, the situation becomes very critical, after the cut of funds to the Palestinian Authorities.

The population is badly in need of support and help in the different sectors of the social, economic and political life in order to cope with the numerous effects of the conflict, such as: dramatic increase of impoverishment rate, unemployment, mental health disorders, psychosocial difficulties, health insecurity, life insecurity, environmental threats and human rights violations.

CRIC (Centro Regionale d'Intervento per la Cooperazione) is a development and relief NGO acknowledged by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and by the European Union. CRIC has been engaged since 1983 in development programmes in Africa, Latin America, Middle East, Balkans and Southern Italy.

Since 1991 CRIC is working with its partners in the Palestinian Territories of West Bank and Gaza Strip with the common objective of building alternatives of peace to the long-lasting conflict, in a prolonged emergency situation on the ground. CRIC strategy in the Palestian Territories is marked by a resilience based approach to the economic, social and psychosocial problems arose within the conflict. This is also done by focusing on the socio-cultural dimension of the beneficiary communities, since self-determination is fundamental for the democratic development of the society.

In order to face the critical situation in Gaza strip children, and with base on previous assessments carried out by CRIC during 2006, a emergency response is designed to deliver socio-educational support to the children of Gaza strip during the school period 2007/2008 C.R.I.C. has been entrusted by the European Commission Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) to run the project ECHO/ME/BUD/2006/01017, called Psychosocial support to preschool aged children and their caregivers in Gaza Strip, as part of European general effort in support to the Palestinian population aiming to give psychosocial support to Palestinian pre-school aged children in 24 Kindergartens in Gaza Strip, improving their resilient capacities, intervening in the socio educative context.

The objective of the project is to support early childhood of Gaza strip to cope with the stress caused by the conflict and the siege, by intervening in their psychosocial context. In other words, the project has intended to enhance the resilience capacity of pre-school aged children in Gaza strip by intervening in their socio-educational context aimed at the development of the skills of their caregivers, involving them in the educational process, and at the improvement of quality of educational process in KGs and families environment

The selected Kindergartens have already introduced a teaching methodology that focuses on the educative programs with psychosocial, emotional and kinetic objectives, useful mediators to support the development of resilient capacities of children. Such methodology have promoted an active participation

of children in the learning process, in order to stimulate their imagination and creativity and the active participation of mothers of children and community members in the educative process of the children.

The main activities of the project have been:

- 🏠 Workshops on different educational and children behavioural topics have been done for 2275 mothers and caregivers.
- 🏠 Recreational and non formal educative activities have been organized for 3360 children.
- 🏠 The educative methodology implemented in 24 KGs have been followed up with 976 dedicated hours.
- 🏠 30 community volunteers have received 60 hours of trainings, carried out by PCDCR.
- 🏠 105 teachers have received 160 hours of trainings, carried out by our partner Canaan.
- 🏠 The project have gave a monthly transport allowance to 180 teachers, in order to attend the workshops.
- 🏠 The teachers have received a further 256 training course, carried out by Gaza Centre Mental Health Program.
- 🏠 A special kind of training called “Play-bus activities” has been implemented by Al Amal. The Play-bus team activities have involved 3360 children and 786 mothers.
- 🏠 As part of educational activities and in order to involved the parents in KG activities, the project has been done 24 trips for 2670 mothers and 3906 children.
- 🏠 The project has paid school fees to 976 needy children of the Kindergarten community.
- 🏠 Stationary, toys and educational items have been will distributed according to the needs of the Kindergartens.