

2019

التقرير السنوي ANNUAL REPORT



JULY 2020

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1. Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG) in Brief

PHG is an NGO established in 1987 and registered in 2001 in accordance with the Palestinian NGO Law number 1 of the year 2000 under registration number **QR-156-A.**

Vision

"Striving to achieve water and environmental justice for all Palestinian People"

Mission Statement

PHG strives to maintain its lead position in delivering quality and innovative actions that contributes to sustain local water and environmental resources and related ecosystems, foster the resilience and adaptation capacity of target people toward climate change, promote the right based approach to adequate water and sanitation as well as contributes to improve water, food and energy security for Palestinian men and women. Furthermore, to empower the local and vulnerable groups, including women, to participate in promoting good water governance.

Strategic Directions

- 1. Promote the right to water, sanitation, food and energy for Palestinian Men and Women.
- 2. Strengthen the resilience and adaptation capacity of Palestinian Men and women to coup with implications of climate variability and change.
- 3. Building the capacity and empowering local, user and vulnerable groups (both men and women) to improve efficient water and sanitation management as well as good water governance.
- 4. Promoting innovative actions as well as policy oriented research to contribute to the sustainability of water and environment and their related ecosystems in Palestine.

2. Report of the Board of Directors

In response to the political, social and economic challenges facing the Palestinian civil society, and out of the need to maintain the institution to its leading role as one of the important institutions in the water sector and the environment and civil society in general, the Board has provided the necessary means to carry out the new projects to maintain the leading role of the institution and give it a value-added excellence.

The harsh political and economic conditions in Palestine; declining donor contributions as well as increased competition among local and international NGOs, has affected the work of PHG and challenged its ability to achieve the quality objective set for the year 2019. However, PHG has implemented wide range of interventions that contributed to the improvement of social and economic conditions of the target communities.

The Board of Directors held during the year 2019 (4) meeting formally and a number of consultative meetings, the Board has taken several decisions, including procedural and strategic in nature, namely:

- recommending adoption of audited financial and administrative report for the year 2018
- Discussed the financial challenges facing the organization and adopted decisions for organizational review in line with expert recommendation of changing the current structure to match fund availability from projects and revise the strategy by adopting a general strategic framework instead of predefined specific quality objective that may or may not be fulfilled if fund is not secured.
- Also discussed the possibility of benefiting from the existing assets (Old Office space, Land in Gaza), if needed to overcome financial shortfall.
- Adopted decision to make the necessary legal, institutional and financial preparations for joining the proposed social security scheme.
- Adoption of the 2020 budget

The board extends its sincere appreciation to all the partner organizations, donors and supporters of PHG who enabled us from accomplishing what we accomplished this year. Moreover, the Board seeks to develop the role of the institution in defending the values of a genuine civil society.

Chair of the Board Eng. George Odeh

3. Executive Summary

PHG has carried out many activities, which contributed to improve water and sanitation services in the Palestinian communities. The main activities implemented during this year can be summarized as follows:

- Improving Farmers Resilience and Adaptation Capacity to Climate Change through Integrated Irrigation Water Management: 19200 m length of irrigation pipes and 7 steel reservoirs with total volume of 4450 m3 and 3 pumping stations were implemented to improve irrigation and irrigate new areas in the north and south of the West Bank.
- Promoting Right to drinking water through improving availability of and access to supply systems: PHG has constructed and rehabilitated 5 domestic water supply systems with total length of 4250 m of various diameters in the West Bank which served nearly 1500 persons of which 700 are women.
- Promoting right to sanitation through Wastewater Gray water Collection, treatment and Reuse: PHG has implemented 18 gray water treatment units in the West Bank. In addition, PHG has constructed 1507 m length of sewer lines in Salfeet area.
- Contribute to Sustainable Water Resources through Protection and Development Springs: 5 springs have been rehabilitated in Salfeet and Ramallah areas.
- Protect the Dignity of War affected Households in Gaza through Improving WASH Facilities: PHG has replaced the damaged wash facilities for 1402 households affected by the war on Gaza to enable the people to live in dignity in their houses.
- Mitigating Climate Change Impact and Reducing Pollution through application of Renewable Energy: Construct 5 small solar system for pumping water out of groundwater wells in the Northern Part of West Bank. In addition, install solar panels for 6 wastewater pumping stations in Gaza to help overcome the pollution threats facing Gaza due to sewage spills from the existing pumping stations.
- Improving Access to Land and Water Resources through Agricultural Roads: PHG has rehabilitated and reconstructed 16 km length of agricultural roads in the Northern Part of West Bank.
- **Public Awareness**: To help raise awareness towards the preservation of water resources, environmental and behavioral change, PHG has implemented 26 awareness-raising workshops and training activities to the beneficiary groups and students in addition to 4 open days with children as well as 11 workshops for women.
- Empowering Local Water User Groups and Building their Capacity: PHG has accomplished 60 training sessions with nearly 240 hours of training for water users associations and groups where nearly 45 female and 100 farmers have benefited.
- **Research and Studies**: PHG has conducted four studies on various issues related to Auja Dam Storage problems, access to water and sanitation in 63 communities.

The total beneficiary number from PHG activities in 2019 was nearly 61809 persons of which 54% male and 46% female and segregated by gender and age as shown in the figure 1. Moreover, the capacity of 5 local councils have been upgraded in Gaza.

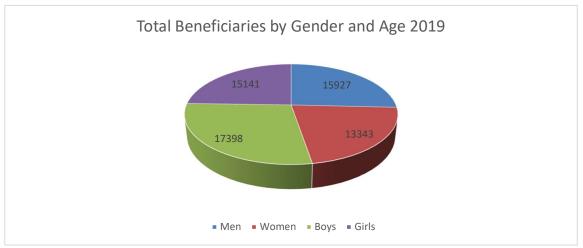


Figure 1: Total beneficiaries in 2019

The total number of communities benefitted from PHG interventions in 2019 was 85 communities where 59 communities in the West Bank and 26 Communities in Gaza as shown in Figure 2.

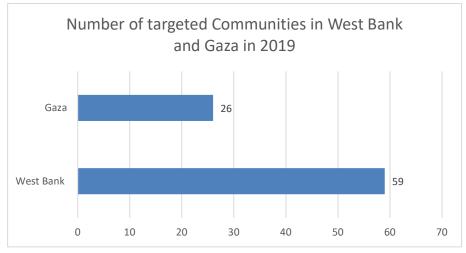


Figure 2: Total Benefitted Communities in 2019

The main obstacles faced the work of PHG during the year can be summarized as follows: 1. Escalated Israeli restrictions on access and work in marginal area in the West Bank especially those classified as Area C has continued.

2. Poor economic conditions and low beneficiary contribution.

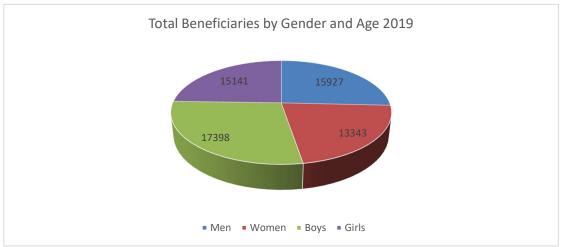
However, the organization through its experience and its distinguished relations with the local communities and stakeholders has eased the impact of these obstacles mentioned above and managed to maximize the benefit from the projects implemented during this year.

ملخص تنفيذي

نفذت مجموعة الهيدرولوجيين الفلسطينيين العديد من أنشطة تحسين خدمات المياه والصرف الصحي والتي ساهمت في تعزيز المرونة، الصمود والتكيف مع الاثار المنبثقة عن التغير المناخي واجراءات الاحتلال في المناطق الفلسطينبة المستهدفة. ويمكن تلخيص الأنشطة الرئيسية التي تم تنفيذها خلال هذا العام على النحو التالي:

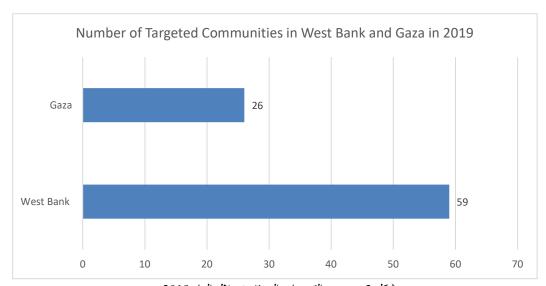
- تحسين قدرة المزارعين على الصمود والتكيف مع تغير المناخ من خلال الإدارة المتكاملة لمياه الري: تم تنفيذ 19200 م من أنابيب الري و 7 خزانات فو لاذية بحجم إجمالي 4450 م 3 وتم تنفيذ 3 محطات ضخ لتحسين الري وري مناطق جديدة في شمال وجنوب الضفة الغربية.
- ضمان الحق في الحصول على مياه الشرب من خلال تحسين أنظمة الإمداد والوصول إليها: قامت المجموعة ببناء وإعادة تأهيل 5 أنظمة إمدادات مياه منزلية بطول إجمالي يبلغ 4250 مترًا وبأقطار مختلفة في الضفة الغربية ، وقد خدمت ما يقرب من 1500 شخص من بينهم 700 امر أق.
- تعزيز الحق في خدمات الصرف الصحي تجميع ومعالجة وإعادة استخدام: نفذت المجموعة 18 وحدة معالجة للمياه الرمادية في الضفة الغربية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك تم أنشاء خطوط صرف صحي بطول 1507 م في منطقة سلفيت.
 - المساهمة في استدامة المصادر إعادة تأهيل الينابيع: تم إعادة تأهيل 5 ينابيع في منطقتي سلفيت ورام الله.
- حماية كرامة الاسر المتضررة من الحرب على غزة من خلال تحسين مرافق المياه والصرف الصحي: تم تاهيل وترميم المرافق الصحية المنزلية لـ 1402 أسرة متضررة من الحرب على غزة لتمكين الناس من العيش بكرامة في منازلهم.
- التخفيف من تأثير تغير المناخ وتقليل التلوث من خلال استخدام الطاقة المتجددة: إنشاء 5 أنظمة شمسية صغيرة لضخ المياه من آبار المياه الجوفية في شمال الضفة الغربية. بالإضافة إلى ذلك ، تم تركيب 6 انظمة شمسية ل 6 محطات ضخ مياه صرف صحي في غزة للمساعدة في التغلب على تهديدات التلوث التي تواجه غزة بسبب عدم توفر الكهرباء باستمرار مما يؤدي الى تسرب مياه الصرف الصحي من محطات الضخ الحالية الى الاراضي المجاورة والطرقات.
 - تحسين الوصول للاراضي الزراعية ومصادر المياه من خلال انشاء الطرق الزراعية: قامت المجموعة بإعادة تأهيل وإعادة بناء 16 كم من الطرق الزراعية في الضفة الغربية.
 - توعية الجمهور: للمساعدة في رفع مستوى الوعي تجاه الحفاظ على الموارد المائية والتغيير البيئي والسلوكي ، نفذت المجموعة 26 ورشة عمل التوعية وأنشطة تدريبية للمجموعات المستفيدة بالإضافة إلى 8 ورشات عمل للنساء.
 - تمكين جمعيات مستخدمي المياه من خلال التدريب وبناء القدرات: تم انجاز 60 دورة تدريبية مع ما يقرب من 240 ساعة من التدريب حيث استفاد منها 45 امرأة و 100 مزارعًا.
 - البحوث والدراسات: تم عمل أربع در اسات حول مختلف القضايا المتعلقة بمشاكل تخزين سد العوجا، ودر اسة اوضاع المياه والصرف الصحي في 63 قرية وبلدة فلسطينية في الضفة.

• بلغ إجمالي عدد المستقيدين من أنشطة المجموعة للعام الحالي ما يقرب من 61809 شخصًا منهم 54٪ ذكور و 46٪ إناث ومقسمون حسب الجنس والعمر كما هو موضح في شكل 1. علاوة على ذلك ، تم بناء قدرة 5 مجالس محلية في غزة.



شكل 1: مجموع المستفيدين خلال العام 2019

• بلغ إجمالي عدد التجمعات المستفيدة من تدخلات المجموعة للعام الحالي 85 تجمع وبلدة مقسومة الى 59 في الضفة الغربية و 26 في غزة كما هو موضح في الشكل 2.



شكل 2: مجموع التجمعات المستفيدة خلال العام 2019

4. General Overview of the Situation in oPt

The continued Israeli restrictions and the increasing expansion of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) - occupied State of Palestine are considered the biggest factors in hindering the proper implementation of development plans and preventing the various duty bearers from assuming their roles entrusted to them. Hence, hindering the improvement of environmental, social and economic conditions of the Palestinian People. The impact of settlements is not only through the direct act of land confiscation and expansion of settlements but also beyond that. The more dangerous is the act of settlers in preventing people from developing their land in area C and prevent them from accessing their local resources (eg. Springs) and destroy infrastructure and means of Palestinian livelihoods (destruction of wells, roads and cutting trees).

The situation in Area "C" communities in the West Bank and East Jerusalem continued to worsen where low or in access to water and basic services has continued which mostly affects vulnerable families by increasing their poverty and food insecurity, as well as further deteriorating living conditions and hygiene practices. For example, it was realized that access to water in many Bedouin and herding communities in Southern Hebron, Northern Jordan Valley and eastern slopes (Ramallah) is secured through small size old water pipes laid over the ground with high losses and irregular water supply. Most importantly, the pipes are facing constant settler attacks and destruction which further restrict access to safe, sufficient and affordable water, thus forcing many families to depend on trucked water with prices over 20 NIS/m3, which places them in a situation of great financial vulnerability. As a result, many families are increasing their (semi) coerced seasonal displacement during summer to be closer to filling points and water sources. This movement complicates their return to the communities and places them at risk of permanent displacement due to settler harassment and settlement expansion.

The blockade has continued to contribute to a serious deterioration in the access of the population to basic services in Gaza. This was mainly felt in a further deterioration in Gaza's chronic electricity deficit with longer power outages of 18 to 20 hours a day, continue to severely undermining already depleted basic services and further reducing water supply where most of the population has access to piped water for only three to five hours every five days which resulted in reducing per capita water availability from 84 Liter to 53 liter.

The blockade on Gaza is still imposing severe restrictions on entry of construction materials and other WASH related materials. The Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM) is still not as effective as it should be and the Israeli Authorities so called list of dual use items still complicating the entry of wash related materials on to Gaza.

These restrictions and acts have created a new challenge for local and international humanitarian NGOs in responding to the grave needs of communities leaving them very vulnerable to face very hard conditions.

5. Water and Environmental Situation in oPt

Water availability and access to the Palestinian communities have deteriorated over the past decade due to increased Israeli restriction and policies that limited the Palestinian ability from developing and managing their water resources properly. Since the signature of Oslo Interim Agreement back in 1995, water made available to Palestinians has dropped by 14 MCM, it was 118 MCM at the time of signature, the figure that was also agreed in the interim agreement to nearly 104 MCM in 2015. This reduction combined with other Israeli policies have influenced the supply quantities from Palestinian local water resources as well as limited per capita water use to vary from 70 l/day in the best cases to as low as 20l/d in the marginal communities and increased the reliance of Palestinians to the purchased water from Israeli company which is nearly 56% of drinking water currently, making their water security very fragile and bound to the Israeli merit.

Moreover, more than 7500 people are still having no access to water in the West Bank while 95% of domestic water in Gaza is of poor quality. In addition, the poor services related to water supply and limitation on physical infrastructure for both water and wastewater have left nearly 68% of the population in the West Bank not served with wastewater collection and treatment systems.

The situation can be summarized in the following key features:

- The gap between supply and demand is still very high and is estimated at nearly 300 million cubic meters.
- The main constraint to the development of resources and infrastructure is that the Israeli occupation army and military orders are still the main controlling elements in the water and the environment sectors.
- Infrastructure is still poor where losses from water supply system may reach up to 40% on average per year.
- Poor social and economic conditions lead to lower ability of people to pay for water services and this effect the overall ability of supply providers to provide the services properly.
- Wastewater collection and treatment is not yet up to the required level and the Israeli constraints are still hindering the development of new treatment plants. Moreover, the produced treated effluent from the existing treatment plants is not properly reused and flows either westward or eastward. It is really astonishing to know that Israel is capturing the flowing treated as well as poorly treated effluent flowing westward, treating and reusing it and charging Palestinians with the treatment cost. It was realized that Israel has charged Palestinian National Budget the sum of 83 Million NIS for treating the westward flowing effluent.
- Over 95 per cent of the water extracted from the coastal aquifer is unfit for human consumption, with the result that 90 per cent of people in Gaza rely on purchasing desalinated water from private trucking, posing a heavy financial burden on already

impoverished families and health risks due to widespread contamination of that source. Increased electricity cuts have further reduced water supply and has affected the operation of approximately 130 critical water and sanitation facilities.

6. Activities

6.1 Contribution to Sustainability of Water Resources Protection and Development

The status of most of water sources in the state of Palestine (both wells and springs) are in bad conditions due climate change from one hand and mosre importantly due to the Israeli restrictions imposed on the rehabilitation of these resources especially in West Bank on the other hand. The main water sources protected and developed during this year were:

6.1.1 Springs:

PHG has rehabilitated and developed 5 springs, in Ramallah and Salfeet Area include source rehabilitation to maximize the flow, reservoir and storage pond rehabilitation and construction, and install main pipelines from the source to main storage.



6.2 Improving Farmers Resilience and Adaptation Capacity to Climate Change through Integrated Irrigation Water Management

This activity aims at optimizing the use of agricultural water resources and to maximize the benefits of farmers through reducing the cost of purchased water, reducing losses and improve irrigation efficiency. PHG implemented 7 metallic circular reservoirs in northern West Bank area 1 of them with 500 m3 and 3 with 1000 m3 capacity 1 with 750 m3 and 2 with 200 m3. In addition, implement 19200 meter long main irrigation lines in the northern part of West Bank as well as implement 3 pumping stations.

The integrated system included the installation of water meter for each farmer to facilitate operation and management of the water used by each one of them.



6.3 Promoting Right to Water and Sanitation6.3.1 Improving Water Supply Systems

PHG has implemented three domestic water supply systems with total length of 4250 m in Salfeet Area.





6.3.2 Wastewater – Gray water Collection, Treatment and Reuse

PHG has extended 1507 m sewer line for collecting wastewater and reduce public health risk in Salfeet. PHG has also implemented 18 grey water treatment units.







6.4 Protect the Dignity of War Affected Households in Gaza through Improving Wash Facilities

PHG has rehabilitated the wash facilities of 1402 war affected households in Gaza for the benefit of neraly 9982 persons of which 4864 female.





6.5 Mitigating Climate Chang Impact and Reducing Pollution Threats through Application of Renewable Energy (Solar)

PHG has implemented 6 main solar energy systems fo pumping in Gaza and 5 in West Bank for groundwater pumping.





6.6 Improving Access to land and Water Resources Through Construction and Rehabilitation of Agricultural Road

PHG has rehabilitated and constructed 15 km length of agricultural roads in the northern and southern part of West Bank.





6.7 Awareness and Capacity Building

PHG believes that capacity building of beneficiaries is an important component of any project in order to ensure its sustainability. Training the beneficiaries on the operation and maintenance of the interventions improves the sustainability of these projects and serves them better. Moreover, raising the awareness of various constituency of society helps promote the best practice in water use and management as well as help in protecting the environment. In this context, PHG has conducted 240 hours of training for the 45 woman and 100 farmers as well as organized a training for 5 local councils in Gaza.



6.8 Empowering Local Water Users Associations and Building Their Capacity

PHG has formed and built the capacity of 8 agricultural water user association in West Bank to promote participatory principle of community in managing local water sources and supplies.

6.9 Research and Studies

PHG has conducted four studies on various issues related to biogas and compost production, Auja Dam Storage problems, access to water and sanitation in 63 communities and sustainable Production and consumption initiatives.





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6.10 Lobby and Advocacy

PHG has always played a major role at the national level and through the effective participation in several committees and also public events. Moreover, PHG has initiated several activities to help promote the water awareness to decision makers as well as international visitors. PHG has accomplished the following:

- PHG has given 8 lectures to local and international online on the current water and the impact of Israeli water policy on Palestinian Water Security.
- PHG is also one of effective institutions in civil society issues, whether performed individually or through its presence in the NGOs Network PNGO or PENGON (Environmental NGO Network).
- Play important role in coordinate among the local and international agencies working in the water and sanitation in oPt under the coordination mechanism known as EWASH.
- Finally PHG in its endeavor to advance water justice, it empowers people to act positively toward realizing their water rights and to raise their capacity to demand their right to access water.

Audited Financial Statement

		2019	2018
	Note	U.S. \$	U.S. \$
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash on hand and at banks	4	283,714	578,969
Prepayments and other debit balances	5	48,057	40,537
Pledges receivable	6	451,573	249,644
Total Current Assets		783,344	869,150
Land	7	324,090	174,280
Property, Plant and Equipment - Net	8	1,327,756	1,290,064
Total Assets		2,435,190	2,333,494
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	9	285,695	179,332
Accrued expenses	10	6,000	6,000
Total Current Liabilities		291,695	185,332
Due to Employees	11	145,882	145,882
Employees' Provident Fund	12	300,400	375,526
Employees' end of service indemnity	13	665,395	693,959
Total Liabilities		1,403,372	1,400,699
Net Assets			
(Deficit) in Unrestricted Fund		(873,064)	(1,036,928)
Temporarily Restricted Contributions	19	238,676	497,622
Cumulative Change in Fair Value (Financial Assets)	1	14,360	7,757
Cumulative Change in Fair Value (PPE)		1,257,600	1,039,770
Investment in Property, Plant and Equipment		394,246	424,574
Total Surplus in Net Assets		1,031,818	932,795
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		2,435,190	2,333,494

Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG) Statement of Activities and Other Comprehensive Income For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

			2018			
		2019 Temporarily				
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total	
	Note	U.S. \$	U.S. \$	U.S. \$	U.S. \$	
Grants and Revenues:						
Grants	14,19		2,146,052	2,146,052	1,915,211	
Unrestricted Contributions	15	82,146		82,146	169,011	
Other Income	16	337,608		337,608	281,397	
		419,754	2,146,052	2,565,806	2,365,619	
Net Assets Released from Restriction	19	2,404,998	(2,404,998)			
Total Grants and Revenues		2,824,752	(258,946)	2,565,806	2,365,619	
Expenses:						
Salaries and Related Expenses		71,679		71,679	764,514	
Other Administrative Expenses		113,243		113,243	185,972	
Projects' Expenses		2,404,998		2,404,998	1,245,549	
Total Expense - (Statement - E)		2,589,920		2,589,920	2,196,035	
Depreciation		52,168		52,168	48,812	
Allowance for Doubtful Account		74,666		74,666		
Currency exchange difference		(14,387)		(14,387)	101	
(Gain) on Sale of Fixed Assets		(11,151)		(11,151)		
Change in Net Assets for the Year		133,536	(258,946)	(125,410)	120,671	
Other Comprehensive Income		224,433		224,433	7,757	
Total Comprehensive (Loss) Income		357,969	(258,946)	99,023	128,428	

Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG) Statement of Cash Flows For The Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
	U.S. \$	U.S. \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Grants received	2,026,269	2,152,629
Other income	337,608	281,397
Expenses paid to suppliers and employees	(2,628,213)	(2,048,880)
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Provided from Operating Activities	(264,336)	385,146
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Additions to Property, Plant and Equipment	(20.010)	(22.202)
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Investing Activities	(30,919)	(32,202)
Net Cash Flows (Osed in) Investing Activities	(30,919)	(32,202)
(Decrease) Increase in Cash and Banks Balances	(295,255)	352,944
Cash on hand and at Banks - Beginning of Year	578,969	226,025
Net Cash on Hand and at Banks at End of Year	283,714	578,969
Characteristics		
Change in net assets	(125,410)	120,671
Depreciation	52,168	48,812
Change in Fair Value (Financial Assets)	6,603	7,757
Proceeds from sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	20,230	
Gain on disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	(11,151)	
(Incease) Decrease in pledges receivable	(276,595)	68,407
(Increase) in prepayments and other debit balances	(7,520)	(3,410)
Increase in accounts payable	106,363	126,771
(Decrease) in due to employees		(1,249)
(Decrease) in unpaid leave		(46,571)
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Provident fund expense	74,666	
Provident fund payment	(75 (84)	26,198
Employees' end of service indemnity	(75,126)	
Payments for employees' end of service indemnity	26,633	59,341
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Provided from Operating Activities	(55,197)	(21,581)
to	(264,336)	385,146