

Palestinian Hydrology Group For Water and Environmental Resources Development









ANNUAL REPORT 2014

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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.

Mission Statement

PHG is a nongovernment organization strives to maintain its lead position in delivering quality and innovative actions that contributes to protect and develop local water and environmental resources as well as to ensure just allocation of water and sanitation services to all Palestinian Communities and to build the capacity of water and sanitation practitioners. Furthermore, to contribute in building a civil society and empowers the vulnerable groups, including women, to participate in decision making and to promote good water governance and the right to water as well as to improve water, food and energy security for all Palestinian Communities.

Strategic objectives

- 1) Contribute to building effective civil society and to ensure equity and the involvement of marginalized groups, specifically women in decision-making and promote good governance especially in water sector.
- 2) work to achieve sustainable and integrated management of water resources and the environment in Palestine
- 3) Work to achieve an equitable distribution of water sources in line with the water rights and improve conditions of water and sanitation services in the Palestinian communities
- 4) Establish partnerships and alliances with various sectors and relevant authorities in the areas of research and implementation to ensure the development of the water sector.
- 5) Training and preparation of qualified technical staff able to manage and operate water facilities on a sustainable basis.

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.

Despite the harsh political and economic conditions in Palestine, PHG was able to achieve the goals set for the year 2014. This was evident from the type of interventions implemented by PHG that contributed to the improvement of social and economic conditions of the target communities.

The Board of Directors held during the year 2014 (4) meeting formally and a number of consultative meetings, the Board has taken several decisions, including procedural and strategic in nature, namely:

- Adoption of the emergency plan for the year 2014
- Adoption of the 2014 budget
- recommending adoption of audited financial and administrative report for the year 2013
- continue to cooperate with government and non-governmental institutions
- Participation in the emergency room created during the war on Gaza.
- Adopt the staff evaluation procedure

Finally, 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 continue its refusal to the conditional and politicized funding, and seeks to develop the role of the institution in defending the values of a genuine civil society.

Chairman of the Board

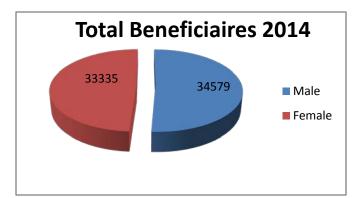
Muammar Orabi

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:

- Groundwater Wells: PHG rehabilitated 3 groundwater wells in Jbara, Hableh and Qalqilia for agricultural use, benefiting about 600 beneficiaries. In addition, PHG has constructed 2 artificial groundwater wells in Sanour Plane to recharge the groundwater by utilizing the accumulated flood water in the plane and to allow farmers from using their lands.
- **Spring Rehabilitation**: 3 springs were rehabilitated in the West Bank for the benefit of 8500 beneficiaries.
- **Ponds**: 1 earth pond and 9 cement ponds were constructed in the West Bank for water harvesting and water storage. Total volume of the ponds is 3050 m3.
- Cisterns: 239 new cisterns were constructed and 26 rehabilitated in the West Bank to improve access to water for agricultural and domestic purposes for the benefit of 3351 beneficiaries.
- Integrated Irrigation Water Management: 22,659 m length of irrigation pipes and 4 steel reservoirs with total volume of 3000 m3 was implemented to improve irrigation and irrigate new areas in the West Bank.
- **Solar energy for water pumping:** PHG has installed 92 photovoltaic cells to serve the farmers in Beit Hasan area who use AL Kabsh spring to pump the water to irrigate their farm at low cost.
- Drinking water supply improvement: PHG has constructed and rehabilitated 4 domestic water supply systems with total length of 26,180 m of various diameters and constructed one reservoir of 100 m3 volume in the West Bank which served nearly 12970 persons.
- **Food Security**: 11 home gardens and 4 chicken farms was supplied to poor families in Gaza benefiting 141 persons. In addition 329 green houses were rehabilitated in Gaza for the benefit of 836 beneficiaries.
- **Agricultural Roads**: PHG has rehabilitated and reconstructed 25.6km length of agricultural roads in various areas of Nablus, Tulkarem, Qalqilia and Salfeet.
- Drought Mitigation: PHG has also assisted in reducing the impact of drought on the marginal communities in the Northern Jordan Valley and in Hebron area through providing 15,840 m3 of tankered water to the affected communities. PHG also conducted 150 water quality tests to make sure that water used by marginal communities in the south is safe.
- Poverty Alleviation: PHG has also carried out 63 projects on small income-generating
 activity in the West Bank, of which 63 very low income families benefited and 86
 projects in Gaza for the benefit of 86 poor families. These projects have contributed to
 the improvement of the economic situation and standard of living of these families.

- Wastewater Collection, treatment and Reuse: PHG in cooperation with GVC has
 extended 12.66 km sewer lines to the treatment plant of Sarra and also upgraded the
 wastewater treatment plant to be able to treat wastewater collected from the entire
 village. PHG has also implemented a new wastewater treatment plant in Beit Hasan in
 cooperation with ACPP. In addition PHG has constructed 8 km length of sewer lines in
 various areas in Gaza.
- Emergency Response: WASH and Shelter; PHG as part of its role in emergency response to the needs of affected people from the Israeli war on Gaza as well as from other Israeli acts against Palestinian communities especially in area "C", it has supplied 7 mobile latrines, 16 plastic water tanks, 8 mobile water tanks on 4 m3 each and one truck with water tank of 10 m3 volume in the West Bank. In the mean time PHG has distributed 520 plastic tank of 1 m3 volume and 395 plastic tank of 0.5 m3 volume in addition to 880 m3 as well as 29,580 liter of bottled water to the affected people from the war on Gaza.
- Public Awareness: To help raise awareness towards the preservation of water resources, environmental and behavioral change, PHG has implemented 6 workshops awareness-raising and training activities to the beneficiary groups who benefited from the projects implemented. This has contributed positively to improve the quality and durability of the implemented activities.
- Training and Capacity Building: PHG through its Water Training Institute has accomplished more than 150 hours of training where nearly 240 trainee benefited of whom 60% male and 40% female.



The total beneficiary number from PHG activities in 2014 was nearly 67914 persons of which 51% male and 49% female as shown in figure 1. Moreover, the agricultural water activities assisted in developing 8867 dunums.

The main obstacles faced the work of PHG during the last 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.
- 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.

4. General Overview of the Situation in oPt

The rigidity of the political process and the increasing expansion of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) are considered the biggest factors in hindering the process of improving social and economic conditions. 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).

It is worth noting that the Israeli Authorities imposed very strict conditions on the communities living in the seam zone and in marginal areas such as northern Jordan Valley, Tubas Governorate, Masafir Yatta and Tana East of Beit Dajan - Nablus. Some communities were obliged to leave their locations and their properties were destroyed several times. All emergency assistance for these affected communities were also threatened by the Israeli Army and some equipment and cars were even confiscated by the Army including items of assistance supplied by Humanitarian Organizations. Beneficiaries and workers involved in delivery and installation of various humanitarian assistance substances have also been arrested and beaten by the Army.

The most severe situation during 2014 was in Gaza where the Israeli war on Gaza has left more than 2130 martyrs (including 577 children) and more than 11,066 injured people (including 3374 children). Moreover, some 61,800 house was demolished completely or partially and almost 371,300 people were displaced from their houses. This situation has not only affected the work of all agencies including the work of PHG but also destroyed many installations and infrastructure installed by those NGOs. For example, PHG's desalination unit east of Gaza was completely destroyed by the Israeli army and that caused a loss of nearly 200,000 US\$ worth infrastructure that was donated by Arab Fund to establish the desalination plant that was supposed to be used for distributing water to schools and nearby communities in Gaza. The war has caused severe damage to the WASH sector in Gaza. It destroyed 26 groundwater wells, 6 desalination units, 16 water reservoirs, 63 km of water supply pipes and 6 treatment plants and pumping units with total cost of nearly 34.4 M\$.

Although the war has ended but yet the consequence is still there and hundreds of Gazan families are still living in open areas and their homes are not rehabilitated, the blockade on Gaza is still on and severe restrictions still imposed on construction materials and on other WASH related materials.

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

5. Water and Environmental Situation in oPt

Despite all the efforts made by the government and nongovernment organizations in the field of water and environment, the needs are still huge. The situation can be summarized in the following key features:

- The institutional setup and clarity of roles and responsibilities needs to be clarified better. It is good to mention that there is an ambitious plan by the Water Authority to re-structure and reform the water sector, yet it is not clear how it will end or where it stands at the moment.
- The gap between supply and demand is still very high and is estimated at nearly 300 million cubic meters. Moreover, Palestinian per capita water use has decline by 15% from previous years due to reduced amounts sold to Palestinians by the occupation authorities.
- 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 may reach up to 45% on average 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. It is good to mention that bill collection percentage varies from 20-80%.
- There is a rising concern about the drilling of agricultural wells in the northern West Bank and in Jordan Valley. This needs to be regulated and controlled before it is too late and before some key traditional resources are lost completely.

6. Activities

6.1 Conventional Water Resources Development

Palestine is classified as a scarce country in terms of water availability. Most of conventional water resources are in bad conditions due to the Israeli restrictions imposed on the rehabilitation of these resources in the West Bank and the war on Gaza. The main water sources developed during the year 2013 were:

6.1.1 Groundwater Wells:

PHG rehabilitated 3 production wells in West bank whereby the production of wells improved by more than 20% and benefited 140 families and served to irrigate 318 dunums. The improved efficiency of wells have reduced the production cost of water by nearly 30% and thus contributed directly to improve the income from agriculture

to the benefitted farmers. Furthermore, the additional water quantities made available from rehabilitating the wells encouraged farmers to rehabilitate more lands and created more job opportunities for local farmers.

In addition to the three agricultural wells PHG has drilled 2 artificial recharge wells in Marj Sanour area in order to benefit from the flood water to replenish the groundwater and improve the agricultural wells productivity in Sanour area.









6.1.2 Spring Rehabilitation:

PHG has rehabilitated 3 springs. 2 of them in Farkha village - Salfeet where the spring rehabilitation included source rehabilitation, construction of reservoir of 100 m3 and a pumping station with 1500 m of main pipeline to serve the entire village of 1500 inhabitants. The other spring was in Taffouh village in Hebron where the source was rehabilitated and one reservoir was constructed at the source. The work is still ongoing and will be finished next year with other components.



Before and after Rehabilitation

6.2 Non-Conventional Water Resources Development

6.2.1 **Wastewater Collection Treatment and Reuse**

PHG in cooperation with GVC has completed the extension of 12.66 km sewer lines and also upgraded the wastewater treatment plant in Sarra to be able to treat all wastewater collected from the entire village. PHG has implemented a 8 km length of sewer lines in the southern part of Gaza to improve sanitation conditions in these areas.

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6.2.2 Water Harvesting:

Water Harvesting is one of the priorities that PHG has been promoting since its establishment. Such projects are relatively cheap and traditionally known and they secure sufficient and safe water quantities to the communities. PHG has implemented number of water harvesting projects as follows:

• Earth and Cement Ponds: PHG has implemented 1 earth pond with volume of 1200 m3 and 9 cement ponds with total storage capacity of 1850 m3 in West Bank in addition to 26 earth ponds in Gaza with capacity of 326 m3 each.





• Cisterns:

PHG has implemented 239 new cisterns for domestic and agricultural use were constructed and 26 were rehabilitated. The cisterns has benefited nearly 3351 beneficiaries.





6.3 Emergency Drought Mitigation

PHG has delivered nearly 15,840 m3 of tankered water to the areas that mostly suffer from the drought in the northern Jordan Valley (Tubas and Nablus) and eastern part of Hebron. The targeted areas are mostly herders communities. They have no access to water and they purchase water through tankers. The quantities allocated to each household or beneficiary was calculated based on the number of animal heads he owns and also the number of family members. The minimum requirements for animals (sheep and goats were considered as 30l/head /day (max 60 heads per farmer) and nearly 20 l/c/d per individual in the households. The total beneficiaries from these activities were nearly 3645 beneficiaries in the area. Moreover, PHG has provided 8 mobile water tanks of 4m3 volume to beneficiaries in eastern Hebron as well as water truck with 10 m3 volume to Joint Water Service Council in East Bethlehem.

6.4 Deprived families Economic Empowerment Program

PHG has supported the poor families directly through establishing income generating projects for those families. PHG has implemented 45 interventions for the benefit of 45 families in the West Bank and 280 projects in Gaza Strip. Moreover, the poverty gap was reduced by 70-80% for these families and nearly 20% of them were graduated completely from poverty.





6.5 Food and Water Security Projects: Improve Access to Water and Food

PHG has targeted poor and marginal families in Gaza to improve their food security through developing home gardens and establishing small farms. During 2014 a total of 11 home gardens and 4 chicken farms were implemented for the benefit of 15 families or 141 beneficiaries . In addition, PHG has rehabilitated 329 dunums of greenhouse in Gaza, those affected by the Alixa storm..



6.6 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 and reducing losses. PHG implemented three integrated irrigation systems in Nassariya Area in the Northern Jordan Valley which included the extension of water lines from the well and connected to two circular metallic distribution reservoir with the size of 500 m3 each. The second one was in Jalud - Qalqilia where 2500 m long pipes were connected to 1000 m3 steel reservoir and the third one was in Shufeh - Tulkarem where 4500 m long pipes connected to 1000 m3 reservoir. In addition, 3500 m long irrigation water distribution pipelines were implemented in Anazleh Esharqieh to benefit 500 beneficiaries. 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.

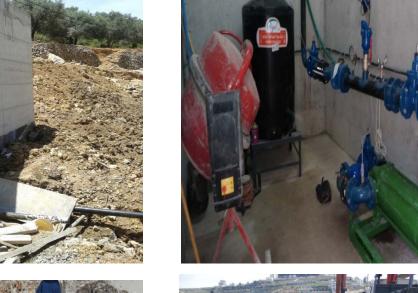




6.7 Water Supply Development

PHG has implemented four domestic water supply development and rehabilitation projects in the West Bank. It rehabilitated and upgraded the water network of Halhoul town with total length of pipes replaced were nearly 13 km, in addition to implement 2.5 km length main line in Tel ELKhashabeh - Nablus and 1.3 km of main pipe as well as a reservoir of 300 m3 capacity in Froush Beit Dajan. Finally, PHG has finalized the rehabilitation of Ramadeen network and extended a line of 1.5 km, a reservoir of 100 m3 and a pumping station in Farkha village - Salfeet.









6.8 Solar Energy Utilization in Water Pumping



PHG has implemented one solar system in Beit Hasan area - Nablus to assist farmers from using solar energy to pump water from Al Kabsh spring to irrigate their land at low cost. The project includes 92 photovoltaic cells that produces 20kw/h.

6.9 Agricultural Road Rehabilitation

PHG has rehabilitated 8 km length of agricultural roads in Kufur Zeibad, Deir Istia, Baqa El Hatab and Marda in addition to 12 km in Tulkarem, Salfeet and Qalqilia area.

6.10 Emergency Response: WASH & Shelter

PHG as part of its role in emergency response to the needs of affected people from the Israeli war on Gaza as well as from other Israeli acts against Palestinian communities especially in area "C", it has supplied 7 mobile latrines in Tana - Beit Fourik and 16 plastic water tanks in Ras Eltin and EL Bqi'a. In the mean time PHG has distributed 520 plastic tank of 1 m3 volume and 395 plastic tank of 0.5 m3 volume in addition to 880 m3 as well as 29,580 litre of bottled water to the affected people from the war on Gaza.





6.11 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

accomplished more than 150 hours of training for the target beneficiaries on issues such as groundwater well operation and maintenance, cisterns operation and maintenance, water supply network O&M, while trained them on how to maintain home gardens and how to make composting. The total beneficiaries from these activities were 240 trainee out of which 85 were females.

In the mean time PHG distributed nearly 3,000 leaflets and 400 school bags to raise awareness and encourage water conservation.

Workshops and Conferences

PHG has conducted 6 workshops for various target groups where nearly 165 beneficiaries participated (80 female). Moreover, 10 lectures for schools and community were organized where nearly 280 students (153 girl students) benefited.

In addition, PHG has organized two other workshops one related to privatization of water services, prose and cones and whether this can be applied in oPt and the other workshop was on adopting water conservation devices to rationalize the water use inside the house.

6.12 Research and Studies

PHG has participated in a number of local and international research projects to help improve water management at local as well as at Mediterranean Basin Level. PHG is involved in several EU funded research projects among which the (ENPI_CBCMED) funded SWMED project which aims at improving domestic water conservation and management in the Mediterranean Basin. In addition, SEARCH project in cooperation with IUCN to study the impact of climate change on the resilience of both social and ecological systems in the southern Mediterranean Basin. PHG has also accomplished number of local research and assessments related to the existing water access and water quality as well as state WASH of vulnerable communities in marginal areas.

6.13 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:

• Participation in all committees that coordinate the activities of a national level (the Committee Against the Wall, the National Action Committee to develop the Jordan Valley) and others.

- PHG has given more than 15 lectures to local and international delegates and groups on the current water problems 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 Coordinating Committee for NGOs Network PNGO or PENGON (Environmental NGO Network). In this regard the role of PHG was as follows:
- Represent civil society in many local committees and international forums.
- 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.

6.15 Membership

PHG has become a member in the International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN).

Audited Financial Statement 2014

Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG) Ramallah - Palestine Statement of Financial Position As of December 31, 2014

Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG)
Ramallah-Palestine
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

		2014	2013
	Note	U.S. S	U.S. \$
Current Assets			
Cash and eash equivalent	5	1,428,167	722,658
Prepayments and other debit balances	6	7,497	10,713
Pledges receivable - Net	7	143,022	378,305
Total Current Assets		1,578,686	1,111,676
Land	8	25,350	25,350
Fixed assets - Net	9	504,399	498,421
Total Assets	_	2,108,435	1,635,447
Current Liabilities	10	155,201	159,805
Accounts payables	11	7,407	7,407
Accrued expenses	12	56,302	57,614
Provision for unpaid leave Total Current Liabilities		218,910	224,826
	13	277,664	301,323
Employees' provident fund	14	536,133	505,491
Employees' end of service indemnity Total Liabilities		1,032,707	1,031,640
Net Assets Unrestricted fund		(780,125)	(782,535
Temporarily restricted fund	20	1,326,104	862,571
Investment in fixed assets		529,749	523,771
Investment in fixed assets Total Net Assets	-	1,075,728	603,807
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	_	2,108,435	1,635,447

		2014			2013
		30 may 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Temporarily		
		Unrestricted	Restricted		
		Fund	Fund	Total	Total
	Note	U.S. S	U.S. \$	U.S. \$	U.S. S
Grants and Revenues					
Grants	15,20		5,258,657	5,258,657	1,788,331
Unrestricted Contributions	16	297,677		297,677	313,156
Other Income	17	251,240		251,240	120,764
		548,917	5,258,657	5,807,574	2,222,251
Net Assets Released from Restriction		4,795,124	(4,795,124)		
Total Grants and Revenues		5,344,041	463,533	5,807,574	2,222,251
Expenses				931,173	844,468
Salaries and Related Expenses		931,173	**	369,904	308,624
Other Administrative Expenses		369,904	-		
Projects' Expenses		3,769,582	-	3,769,582	1,441,434
Depreciation	9	38,948	-	38,948	38,130
Total Expenses		5,109,607	-	5,109,607	2,632,656
Currency Exchange Difference		(226,046)		(226,046)	61,864
Change in Net Assets for the Year		8,388	463,533	471,921	(348,541

The Accompanying Notes Form an Integral Part of These Financial Statements

-3-

Chairman of the Board

General Director

Chairman of the Board

General Director

-2-

Palestiniun Hydrology Group (PHG) Ramallah-Palestine Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

		2014	2013
	Note	U.S. \$	U.S. S
Operating Activities:			
irants received		5,791,617	1,995,822
Other income		251,240	120,764
xpenses paid to suppliers and employees		(5,297,505)	(2,472,337)
ash Provided from (Used in) Operating Activities		745,352	(355,751)
nvesting Activities:			000000000000000000000000000000000000000
additions to fixced assets	9	(44,926)	(3,301)
roceed from disposal of fixed assets		5,083	46
Cash (Used in) Investing Activities		(39,843)	(3,301)
ncrease (Decrease) in Cash		705,509	(359,052)
ash and Cash Equivalent - Beginning of the Year		722,658	1,081,710
Cash and Cash Equivalent - End of the Year		1,428,167	722,658
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets			
to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Change in net assets		471,921	(348,541)
Depreciation	9	38,948	38,130
Gain on disposal of fixed assets		(5,083)	77
Decrease (Increase) in pledges receivable		235,283	(105,665)
Decrease (Increase) in prepayments and other debit balances		3,216	(3,736)
Decrease) Increase in accounts payable		(4.604)	197
Decrease) in provision for unpaid leave		(1,312)	(6,355)
(Decrease) Increase in employees' provident fund	13	(23,659)	29,061
Increase in employees' indemnity	14	30,642	41,158
Cash Provided from (Used in) Operating Activities		745,352	(355,751)

The Accompanying Notes From an Integral Part of These Financial Statements

Chairman of the Board

General Director