

Who are we

The NGO Development Center, known as Markaz Tatweer, is an innovative Palestinian non-profit organization that empowers Palestinian NGOs to better provide vital services to Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza, especially the poor and marginalized. Conceived in partnership with leading Palestinian NGOs, unions and networks, NDC mobilizes donor funding to deliver a unique combination of direct grants and capacity building programs that enhance the effectiveness, self-reliance and sustainability of Palestinian NGOs.

Markaz Tatweer became operational in November 2006. This new entity grew out of and builds on the achievements of the Palestinian NGO sector under the recently-ended PNGO I/II Projects of the Welfare Association Consortium, which successfully invested \$50 million from the World Bank and other donors into the Palestinian NGO sector.

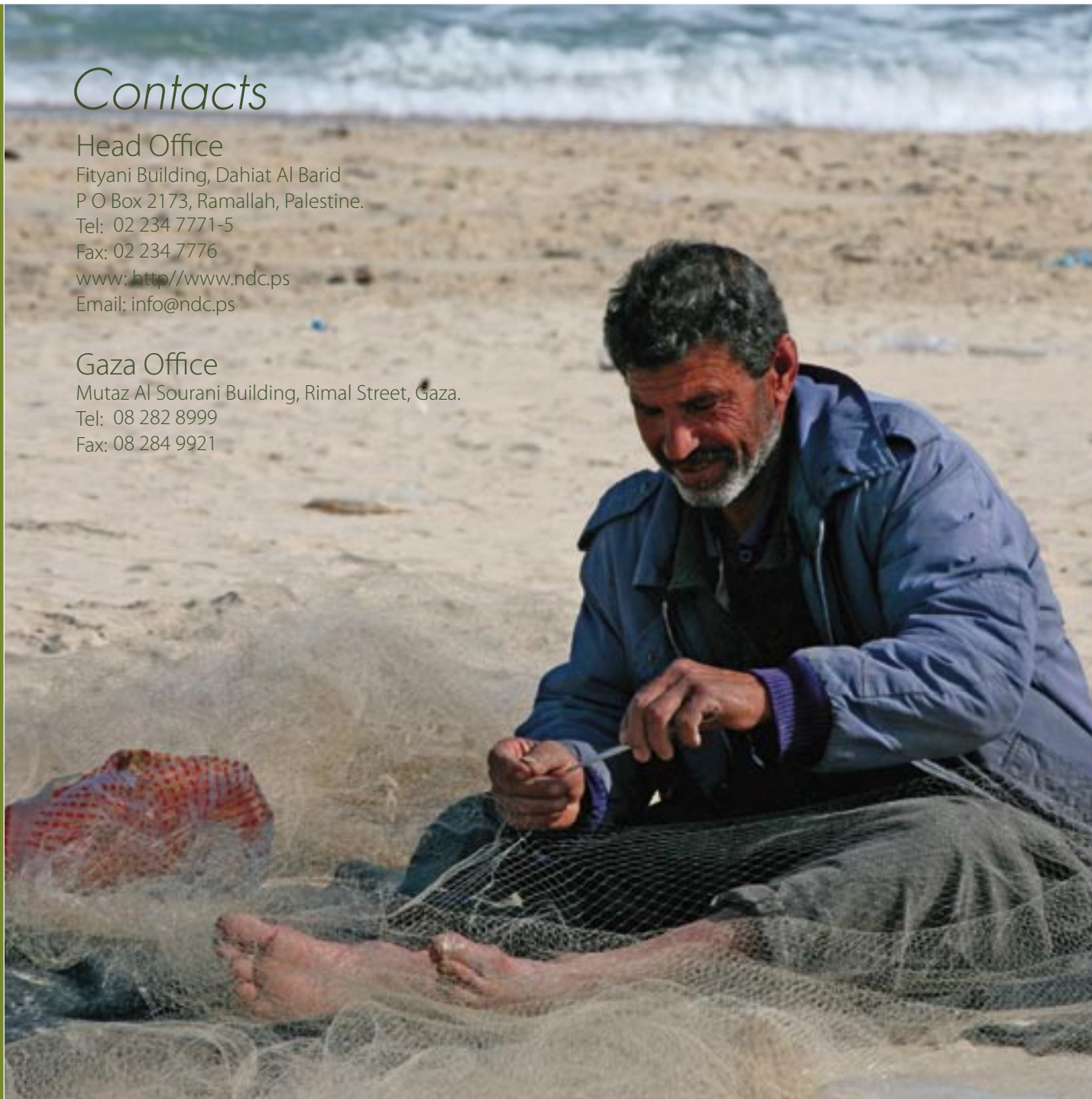
Our mission

Markaz Tatweer's mission is to build the capacity of civil society institutions and increase their self-reliance and sustainability; and to develop participation and cooperation levels among institutions, networks and unions. It also strives to provide accurate, comprehensive studies and information that will be available for all, on civil society, its programs and activities.

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Our objectives

Markaz Tatweer's objectives are:

- Enhance levels of cooperation, coordination and participation among NGOs and umbrella organizations and enhance cooperation and complementarity with the private and public sectors.
- Enhance the capacity, sustainability and self-reliance of NGOs.
- Identify in cooperation with umbrella organizations sets of criteria for and contribute towards developing policies related to the NGOs.
- Advocate supporting the work of NGOs in Palestine.
- Provide precise and thorough information and research papers on NGOs and render it accessible to all.
- Enhance the capacity and preparedness of NGOs to be responsive to the needs of the poor and marginalized.
- Contribute towards the work of member organizations towards building and development a Palestinian, democratic strong civil society, based on political pluralism, the respect of human rights and the rule of law.



Our programs

Markaz Tatweer implements and will implement programs that respond to the objectives and mission stated above. Markaz Tatweer was delegated the implementation of the PNGO III Project, which aims to provide social services to those who are poor, vulnerable or affected by the deteriorating socioeconomic conditions. It also contributes towards institutional development of the NGO sector. Markaz Tatweer also manages two other programs Masader, and Unified.

1. The PNGO III Project

The Project provides grants to NGOs through its **NGO Grants for Social Delivery Program** and works towards the institutional development of the sector through its **Sector Development Program**. There are five types of grants provided to NGOs:

- A. Empowerment Grants (US \$2.29 M):** These grants support experienced NGOs in providing innovative social services. NGOs must have 5 years of demonstrated experience in the proposed service sector.
- B. Mentoring Partnership Grants (US \$2.433 M):** These grants are designed to create partnerships between community-based NGOs of limited experience with leading experienced NGOs operating on a national scale. These partner NGOs will be able to improve the quality and effectiveness of their services by learning from the professionalized mentor NGO in areas such as project management. Partner NGOs will benefit from greater access to funds and from closer interaction with competent and experience NGOs.
- C. Grants to Specialized Health Service Providers (US \$1.6 M):** These grants support Palestinian NGO hospitals in the West Bank and Gaza providing specialized health care services that are unavailable in the current public health system. These grants target NGO hospitals that already have a contract with the Ministry of Health.
- D. NGO-Local Government Partnership Grants (US \$0.3 M):** A pilot scheme, these grants encourage partnerships between municipalities and locally based NGOs to improve services to the four poorest governorate NGOs and municipalities will carry out joint activities that address community priorities in areas such as early childhood development, and adult learning. The municipality will undertake small rehabilitation/construction projects that enable and support the NGO's programming activities.
- E. Emergency Grants (US \$ 7.6 M):** With parallel financing from the Agence Francaise de Développement, these grants will finance temporary employment generation projects through the development of NGO-operated community assets. The target for minimum labor content is 30%. These grants target the poorest households with temporary employment under minimum-wage labor conditions.

As for the Sector Development Program, it aims to develop the NGO sector as a whole to become more responsive, transparent and accountable to Palestinian communities by setting standards, promoting collaboration within the sector and strategic policy research and planning. This program will be implementing an NGO Code of Conduct (US \$ 0.6million), establishing a process of coordination and information exchange (US \$0.29 million) and preparation of studies which promote areas of cooperation between NGOs and the private sector (US\$0.21 million).

2. Masader

Markaz Tatweer promotes sector-wide coordination and sharing of best practice experiences within its programs and on its Masader portal (www.masaderps). Masader strives to provide a platform for powerful information exchange in which data and knowledge could be shared by a diverse community of individuals, businesses and NGOs. It offers to NGOs a free opportunity to explain their work and demonstrate their accountability to the public. It also allows organizations to understand the work of peer organizations through its level of services, which range from an NGO directory, news, events, projects, and e-library.

3. Unified

An initiative launched in 2005 to provide employees working in the NGO sector with vital, primary, secondary and tertiary health services, Unified boasts today more than 21,000 employees insured. A specialized managed unit under the supervision of the sector development program facilitates its management and coordination. Unified provides health services for the least obtainable cost, and ensures compliance with the quality standards.

Our Organizational Structure

The Board of Directors is composed of 13 members and provides overall guidance and oversight to Markaz Tatweer. The director manages all the operations and is responsible to the BOD. He directly supervises the unit managers and the financial department. Unit managers supervise all field and administrative staff in their unit and conduct operational planning. The organizational chart of the Center is as follows:

- Chairman of the Board: Mr. Zahi Khouri
- NDC Director: Ghassan Kasabreh

