The Gaza Strip has been deprived of development since the imposition by Israel of a comprehensive blockade in 2007. As a result, development and reconstruction needs in the Strip are enormous, especially in the aftermath of the military Operation Cast Lead (December 2008 - January 2009) and November 2012.

**Construction of 300 Residential Units to Rehouse Affected Palestinian Families in Rafah - Gaza Strip**

Due to the Israeli bombardment and invasions of the Gaza Strip and the demolishing of the Palestinian houses, there has been a high need to reconstruct homes for people who lost their houses.

The project will contribute to reducing the suffering of about 300 families who are now without homes as their housing units have been totally destroyed.

The project is designed to serve the non-refugee families who lost their houses during an IDF operation in Philadelphia corridor and thus became internally displaced since 2001.

The project, funded by the Saudi Committee in 2005, is located in Tal El Sultan neighbourhood in the city of Rafah. The project includes 300 housing units (average area 120 m²) in 126 buildings of maximum three floors, two schools, a mosque, sewage pumping station, water, sanitation, telephone, electricity and road networks. The units are 100% complete along with schools, utilities, and pumping station. The remaining works include the roads and the mosque.

The project will also contribute to relieving the impact of the crisis on deprived communities and localities by reducing the number of internally displaced people and providing urgently needed job opportunities to poor families and workers in these areas.

**BASIC FACTS**

The Gaza Strip has been deprived of development since the imposition by Israel of a comprehensive blockade in 2007. As a result, development and reconstruction needs in the Strip are enormous, especially in the aftermath of the military Operation Cast Lead (December 2008 - January 2009) and November 2012.
Project Overview

Status:
Active

Project Start Date:
January 2006

Estimated End Date:
December 2014

Donor:
Saudi Committee for the Relief of the Palestinian People

Partners:
Ministry of Housing and Public Works

Geographic Coverage:
Gaza Strip - Rafah Governorate

Focus Area:
Crisis Prevention and Recovery - Infrastructure

Millennium Development Goal
Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Project Officer:
Rezeq Awad, Engineering Unit
Contact: 00970-59-9-792496, rezeq.awad@undp.org

Project Number: 00049740
Award Number: 000542831
www.ps.undp.org

Challenges and Constraints

- The project was suspended in August 2007 due to the closure on Gaza and the absence of construction materials, but was then reactivated in January 2011. Lack of construction materials due to access restrictions is hindering the completion of the project.
- Delay in transferring the eligible instalments

Accomplishments and Progress

- Design of the project elements that include the 300 residential units, two secondary schools, a mosque, a water well, a sewage pumping station, and infrastructure works was completed except the electricity and telephone network
- Package 1: levelling works was finished and handed over
- Package 2: Construction of 37 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 3: Construction of 36 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 4: Construction of 39 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 5: Construction of 74 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 6A: Construction of 18 units was finished and handed over
- Package 6B: Construction of 22 units was finished and handed over
- Package 7: construction of school no.1 was finished and handed over
- Package 8: construction of school no.2 was finished and handed over
- Package 9: Construction of 40 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 10: construction of 36 housing units was finished and handed over
- Package 11: Construction of infrastructure works was finished and handed over
- Package 14: Construction of Sewage pump station was finished and handed over

Finances and Delivery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Amount Contributed</th>
<th>Amount Delivered</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques Campaign for the Relief of the Palestinian People</td>
<td>USD 16,110,929</td>
<td>USD 13,253,719.22</td>
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