



Natuf Organization for Environment & Community Development

Administrative Report 2017



Administrative Report 2017

Natuf 2017

Continuing towards excellence and creativity

Eng. Hatem R. Hassouna Chairman of BoD

13 projects and activities conducted during 2017 in various sectors such as the environment, education, economic empowerment, relief and development worth a total of \$1,747,703.

12 income-generating projects implemented ranging from commercial, productive, agricultural and service projects amounting to a total of \$59,150.

A total of 11,560 beneficiaries of the organization's activities and projects (56% males- 44% females). A total of 650 training hours developing the beneficiaries' capabilities in a range of areas such as academic, life-development and practical fields.

> Natuf 2017 Continuing towards excellence and creativity

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Board of Directors



Eng. Hatem Hassouna Chairman of BoD



Atef Abu Shaban Tresurer



Zena Al Shawa Secretary



Eng. Hassan Ouda Vice President



Eng. Mohammed Aljafarawi Member



Heba Al Timawy Member



Eng. Abdelaal Abu Rass Member

Information about the Organization



Eng. Ramy Hossain Executive Director

Membership of the Organization

- Member of the Palestinian NGO Network
- Member of the Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network

Finance audit

Badr Eddin Public Accountants and Financial Consultants

Name of Organization

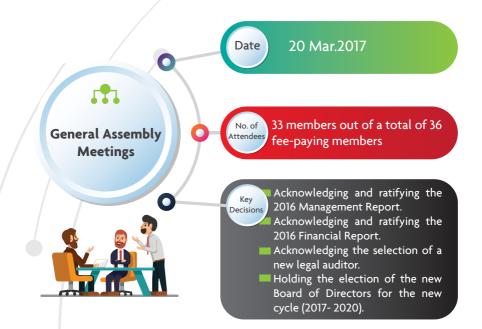
Natuf for Environment and Community

Number of Directors

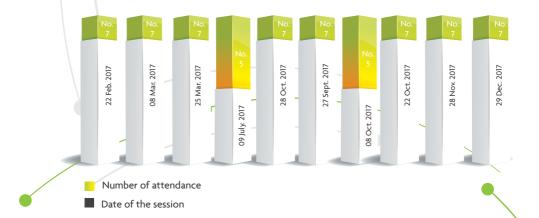
(5 males – 2 females)

Sector Community Number of development **Registration** no. 7196 **Members** of Date of the General Number of registration Assembly employees 29.07.2002 36 members 18 employee

General Assembly Meetings



Board of Directors Meetings





Natuf is a civil Palestinian association established in 2002. It is a licensed charitable association by the Ministry of Interior and holds registration no. 7196. Natuf seeks to support community development in Palestine generally and Gaza Strip particularly, it aims to contribute in securing healthy and sound community environment through progressing development in the field of environment and community development.

Natuf has been founded as a response to the existing environmental problems that the Palestinian society endures due to the absence of environmental awareness, lack of infrastructure and limited green spaces. Additionally, it yearns to push forward the wheel of community development by taking part in fighting poverty and unemployment in the Strip.

Natuf work is represented in searching for and finding ideal sustainable environmental solutions to combat hindrances of environment and development and development and puts plans and strategies necessary increases the environmental, social and economic situation of the Palestinian soc

Our mission

Natuf seeks to build and develop environmental and community programs compatible with sustainable development standards and contributes in securing better living conditions for the society to be able to utilize its resources and capacities.

Our vision

To be pioneers in achieving advanced level of integration between environmental and community development

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Our values

- Environment Protection: protect, adapt and fulfill the utmost use of the environment; and enhance the sound behavior to aesthetically appreciate the environment components.
- Social Responsibility: deal positively with the needs of the society and focus on the most urgent ones; and act responsibly with the emergent and recent requirements.
- Innovation and Creativity: Follow developmental and advancing policies in the environmental, technical, administrative and financial domains.
- Gender Equality: inculcate equality among all staff members of both sexes, in addition to beneficiaries.
- Group Work and Sharing: incarnate group work spirit at the association's level, as well as the various partner institutions'.
- Credibility, Transparency and Accountability: achieve clarity and commitment to professional, clear and declared programs and plans, constant follow up according to professional and practical mechanisms, and ongoing check for targets achievement.

Strategic Goals

- Contribute to solve environmental problems and find solutions to adapt and lessen effects of climate change.
- Contribute to deal with main issues related to infrastructure that have environmental impact and find suitable solutions that create development and enhancement.
 - I Work on promoting the environmental culture and awareness of the society.
 - Take part in improving living conditions for the youth and families in the Strip through economic empowerment programs.

Work on establishing a professional institution and maintaining fund sustainability and diversity of its resources.



Our partners





Natuf in social media











Natuf^{*}s Events and Activities in 2017

A visit from a delegation from ACTED

Date: 19 Sept. 2017

A delegation from ACTED represented by Eng. Osama Jouda paid a visit to Natuf's HQ to study cooperation between the two organizations and mutual participation in future activities and projects that serve the objectives of both parties.

Participation in a workshop studying the local market needs for master's degree graduates

Date: 8 Nov. 2017

Natuf participated in a workshop studying the local market requirements for MA degree holders of various specializations. The workshop shaped part of the activities of "Al Fakhoora Scholarship and Empowerment Programme "- Stage 2.

A party for diabetic children on World Diabetes Day

Date: 14 Nov. 2017

Natuf participated in an event celebrating diabetic children implemented in cooperation with Haifa Society for Diabetic Children and funded by Jawwal Company on World Diabetes Day.

A visit from a CHF International delegation to Natuf's HQ.

Date: 28 Nov. 2017

A delegation from CHF International headed by Mr. Mohammed Sabe visited Natuf's HQ and met with the members of its Board of Directors to discuss the importance of cooperation between the two organizations.

A visit from Human Appeal- Gaza Office delegation to Natuf's HQ

Date: 03 Dec. 2017

A delegation from Human Appeal- Gaza Office headed by its Country Representative, Mr. Hatem Shurrab, visited Natuf's HQ to discuss partnership between the two organizations and mechanisms for implementing relief and development projects throughout the Gaza Strip.



Participation in the Hult Prize Ceremony

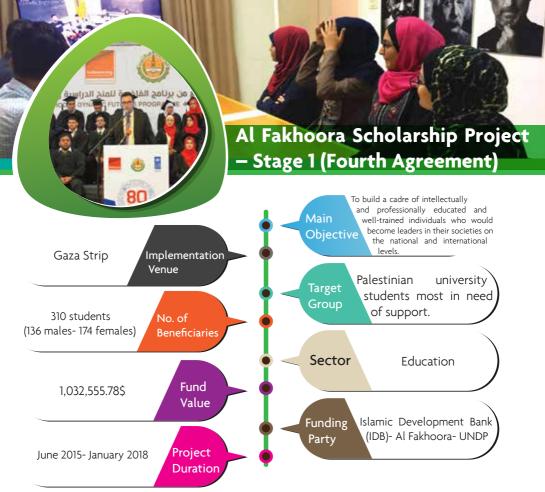
Date: 14 Dec. 2017

Natuf participated in the Hult Prize Ceremony (Nobel Prize for Children) which took place in Cairo Hotel. Hult Prize is the largest global student competition held annually by Hult College for Business in partnership with the UN.

This competition supports the participation of university students who carry innovative ideas and hope to make positive change to the world by suggesting a global question or problem competing on a prize worth \$1 million.



Natuf's Projects in 2017



Al Fakhoora Scholarships and Empowerment Programme is implemented by UNDP/ Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People in partnership with Natuf. The first stage of the program between 2009 and 2018 was funded by the Islamic Development Bank-Jeddah and Al Fakhoora- Qatar. The program provides a multi-service scholarship including university education opportunities and empowerment to youth students most in need of support. The program uses multi-level knowledge systems to enhance and develop the abilities of students enrolled in its scholarships and to promote them to work in local and global markets.

Project Outputs

316 graduates (152 males and 188 females) from all Gaza governorates.

306 bachelor's degree graduates- 4 students in foreign universities- 30 master's degree graduates

57,410 training hours implemented in life and scientific skills

40,052 hours of voluntary work in the local community

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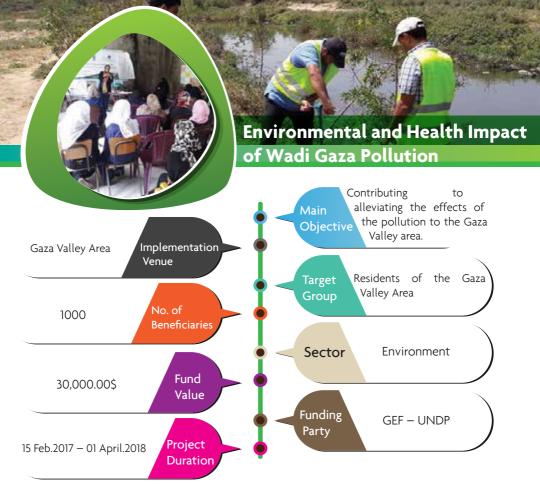
This is one of the projects of WAJD Foundation involving the economic field. It aims at improving the economic conditions of youth who became orphans because of the 2014 assault on Gaza through building dignified lives for them and their families. It sets to achieve this goal through enhancing their roles in their communities, building their capacities and helping them gain access to the work market by providing them with job opportunities or micro income-generating entrepreneurship projects.

Project Outputs

41 youth who received training currently have jobs (30 males- 12 females)

221 of orphan youths received various training programs.

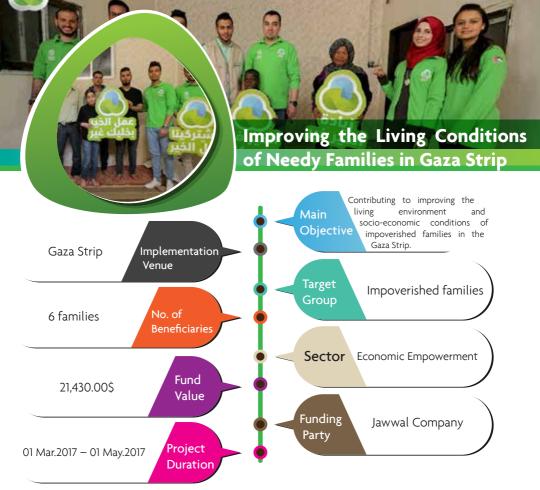
12 youth developed income-generating projects.



The project provides a comprehensive study assessing the environmental and health impacts of the pollution affecting the Gaza Valley area. It also contributes to lowering the impacts of this pollution through numerous activities evaluating the effects on environmental components such as soil, underground water, sea water, animal homes, plant growth and the health of local residents.

Project Outputs

Under implementation

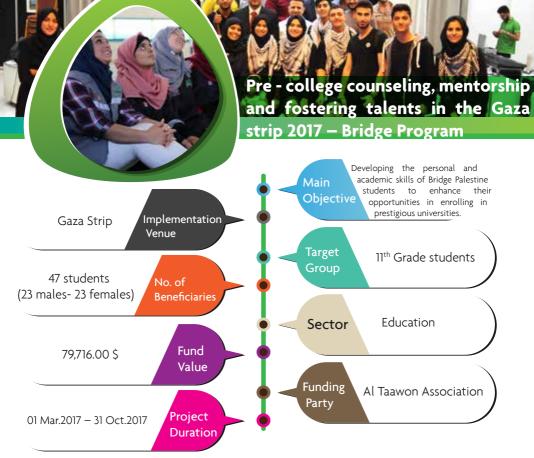


The project is based on improving the living conditions of 6 impoverished families in Gaza city through rehabilitating their living environment by repairing and restoring their homes to meet minimum living standards. This helps improve the difficult economic and social conditions suffered by Gaza residents.

Project Outputs

6 needy family houses were repaired and restored.

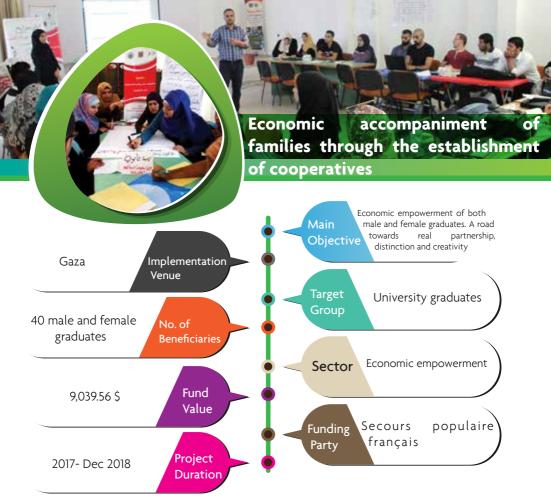
The living environments of 6 families in Gaza governorates were improved.



Bridge Palestine is a national initiative concerned with improving the educational opportunities for distinguished and creative students in the Palestinian society through helping them enroll in prestigious and well-known international universities. The program provides a multi-level training environment to build students' personal, academic and sub curricular capacities throughout a total period of three years. The aim is for these students to become a distinguished force able to compete on a global level.

Project Outputs

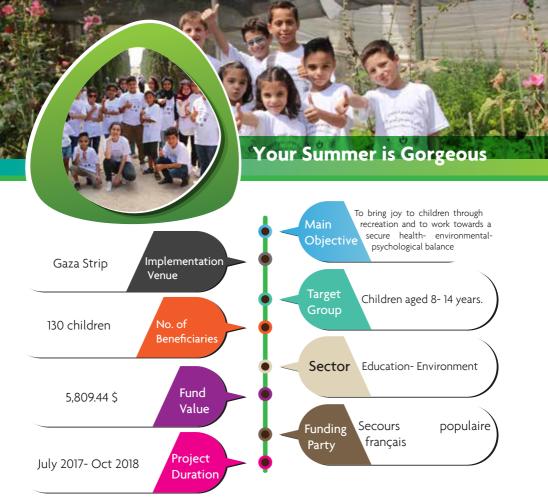
47 male and female students were assisted in choosing their academic specializations and in understanding the enrollment process and requirements. They were also helped in creating an image of their future professional lives. Their skills were developed according to their interests and hobbies in various scientific, literal, artistic and body-building fields to enhance their opportunities in enrolling in prestigious universities.



The project is based on organizing male and female graduates in cooperatives that have legal bodies to ensure the rights of these cooperative's members and to empower them economically to enter the work market. This shall be achieved through providing them with the abilities, skills and training needed to ensure their projects' success and to enable them to make decisions, manage crises and determine requirements.

Project Outputs

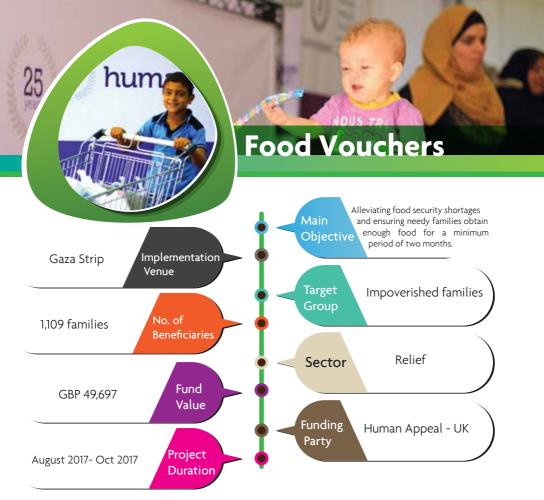
50 male and female university graduates were organized in cooperatives with legal bodies to ensure their rights and to empower them economically and promote them for the work market.



The camp aims at bringing happiness and comfort to children through various programs, cultural activities, team work, enhancement of their creative abilities, visits to cultural and entertainment sites in the area and through raising their awareness to the environment and how to protect it.

Project Outputs

Children were made aware about the different types of pollution and solutions for them. They were also made aware of environmental health, body health and personal hygiene. They were introduced to the different types of soil (sand, clay soil and silt) and their various properties and agricultural characteristics and were introduced to fruitful and non-fruitful plants. The children had fun and were very happy as three workshops were held carrying creative titles about their right to education. The most important water problems in Palestine were identified and the children were made aware of their right of expression, which was enhanced through special related activities.

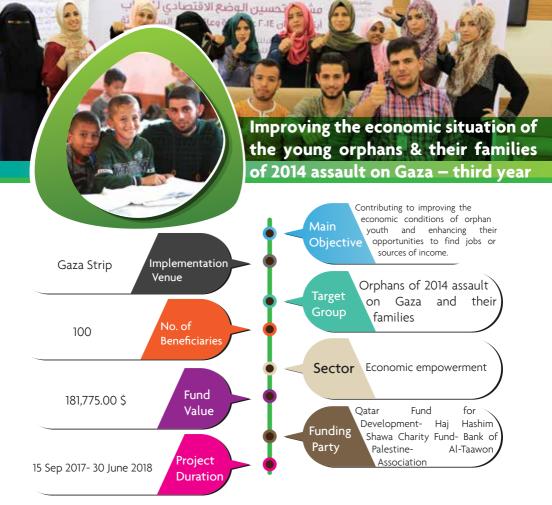


This project aims at supporting needy families by distributing purchase vouchers to 1009 families to improve their economic conditions and to contribute to alleviating their food insecurity.

Project Outputs

Purchase vouchers were distributed to 1109 impoverished families to improve their food security.

The economic conditions of 1109 impoverished families were improved through the project.



This is one of the projects of WAJD Foundation involving the economic sector. It aims at improving the economic conditions of youth who became orphans because of the 2014 assault on Gaza through providing dignified lives for them and their families. It sets to achieve this goal through enhancing their roles in their communities, building their capacities and helping them gain access to the work market by providing them with job opportunities or micro income-generating entrepreneurship projects.

Project Outputs

Under implementation



The project aims at providing the youth sector with the opportunity to participate in the first cultural, knowledge-based, interactive camp in Palestine. All groups will be educated and trained theoretically and practically on several topics such as: cultural awareness of others, English language skills, sports, story narration, the art of speech delivery, drawing, creative writing and leadership and communication skills.

The project is also concerned with discovering the talents of the target group members both individually and collectively, as well as, spreading the culture of community service and integrating the target group members in community service initiatives.

Project Outputs

Under implementation



The project is based on developing the academic skills and enhancing the opportunities of 36 Bridge Program students to obtain academic scholarships. It also aims to build and develop personal skills in various training areas.

Project Outputs

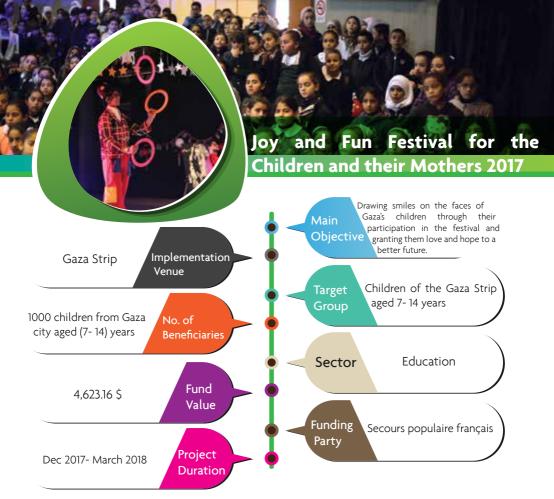
36 final academic plans for the students reflecting the academic levels they reached during the third year of the Bridge program.



The project aims at providing winter clothing to children belonging to needy families in the Gaza Strip through distributing clothes vouchers. This helps lift some of the burden off needy families' shoulders by supporting them with winter clothing for their children.

Project Outputs

Winter clothing was provided to 503 boys and girls from the Gaza Strip.



The project aims at providing entertainment to 1000 children from Gaza city through their participation in the festival, its games and artistic shows. This helps contribute to the psychological and emotional discharge of the children and to raising their levels of creativity.

Project Outputs

Bringing happiness to 1000 children aged 7- 14 years and their mothers from Gaza city.



Natuf Success Stories 2017



Laila Barhoum is an MA graduate in Poverty and Development Studies and a beneficiary of 'Al Fahkoora Scholarships and Empowerment', a program implemented by UNDP- Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian Peoplein partnership with Natuf and funded by the Islamic Development Bank-Jeddah and Al Fakhoora- Qatar.

Laila completed her MA studies at the Development Studies Institute at the University of Sussex in the UK and began a journey full of challenges amid the difficult economic conditions in the Gaza Strip.

She worked for local NGOs, the Palestinian Association for Education and Environmental Protection and then for the Palestinian Center for Microprojects Development.

She started working for UNICEF as a coordinator of a mobilization initiative within the project entitled "Investing in Education and Building Resilience in Gaza", funded by the "Education Above All Foundation" in Qatar and Al Fakhoora Programme.

Barhoum says: "When you are living in a blockaded territory, your experience is limited.

Al Fakhoora programme broke this siege for me by allowing me to complete my postgraduate studies in the UK. This opened many horizons for me through which I could develop my scientific and practical skills and granted me the opportunity to gain more experience at the professional and personal levels".

She added:" Al Fakhoora Programme works on investing in the efforts and capabilities of its beneficiaries. It has helped me integrate into the INGO work environment such as my work with UNICEF, which was a large shift to my professional career. Al Fakhoora also provides other activities such as youth initiatives and virtual sessions which helped me communicate with students around the world. This has helped give me awareness of developments happening in other parts of the world leading to me gaining a wider vision of how to confront problems in education and poverty".

Laila stresses that obtaining her MA from the UK has helped her engage in international NGO work and invest in the experience she gained from living and studying in the UK. This has helped her contribute to the development of the economic situation in the Gaza Strip.





"From the Rubble of Despair, We Make Life".. Khalil Al Yazji

Khalil Wajdi Al Yazji, 20, from Al Karama neighborhood in northern Gaza city, lost both of his parents in the last assault on Gaza. He became the only breadwinner for his family and decided to work in his late father's carpentry.

Khalil says: "The carpentry was in great need of new equipment and machines to help me cut, shape and decorate wood to suit customers' needs and improve my abilities".

He added: "I did not expect that my carpentry would become this big and equipped with all these machines. When I was told by the Welfare Association that they had accepted my project proposal for developing the place, I felt so happy".

Khalil is a beneficiary of the "Improving the living conditions of orphan youth of the 2014 assault on Gaza and their families project"- Year 2/ WAJD Program, funded by Qatar Fund for Development and the Bank of Palestine, supervised by the Welfare Association and implemented by Natuf. The project aims at empowering orphans, helping them to live in dignity and to move forward in their lives to achieve their dreams and ambitions and become active individuals in their communities.



Aseel Al Tatari is a student benefiting from the Bridge Palestine Program funded by the Welfare Association. This program is concerned with improving the educational opportunities of distinguished and creative students in the Palestinian society through helping them join prestigious universities. The program provides a multi-level training environment to help build students' personal, academic and sub curricular capacities throughout three years of training. It aims at producing a distinguished force of students able to compete globally.

Aseel says: "Before the Bridge program, I had a lot of energy and many ambitions but did not know how to make use of them. I did not know how to plan for my future as my skills and abilities were buried and not applied properly. Bridge program is a comprehensive program which began by developing my skills and discovering my talents to make me ready for a better life. The program granted me the opportunity to benefit from councilors and academic guidance experts who helped me reach out to the most famous international universities and gain the opportunity to join them".

She added: "Through Bridge, I learned how to prepare and manage projects and the program gave me and other secondary school students the opportunity to play the role of the first United Nations model in Gaza".

Aseel also said:" Bridge has helped me discover myself and know my path in life. I now know that I want to be a doctor and through the opportunity given to me by this program, I will become a doctor as I have gained an offer from Western New England University to study Medicine. Through this opportunity, I will achieve my dream and help serve my people".

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Samia Al Aswad is a widow and a mother of five children. She lives in Karama neighborhood in Gaza in a house short of minimum living requirements. She and her family have lost the meaning of a dignified life.

Samia suffers from health problems and two of her children are handicapped and in need of proper care and a healthy living environment.

The poverty and difficult financial conditions Samia suffers from, as do the rest of Gaza's residents, made her seek help from charities working in improving the livelihoods of needy families.

Samia says:" My house was without spirit or life as it was unlivable and without any windows. We suffered from rain pouring inside in the winter and constant problems with electricity".

She added: "I obtained generous assistance from Natuf within their project for improving the living conditions of needy families in the Gaza Strip. Our house was completely repaired and is now in a livable condition for me and my children".

Samia is a beneficiary of the "Improving the Living Conditions of Impoverished Families in the Gaza Strip Project" funded by Jawwal Company. This project involves rehabilitating the living conditions of needy families by repairing and restoring their homes to reach minimum living standards amid the difficult economic and social situation of Gaza Strip residents.

Mr. Fadi El Hindi Director of Al-Taawon Association Gaza Office

What they said about us!

Natuf has been able to draw a special line for itself in

civil work in the Gaza Strip in record time. It has been able to leave a mark in many areas and we are happy with our partnership with it and hope for more.

Mrs. Hala Othman

Manager of Al Fakhoora Scholarships and Empowerment Programme- UNDP Your active partnership with Al Fakhoora Scholarships and Empowerment Program since 2009 has had the highest impact in providing added value to the services and activities implemented by the program for its target groups including students and graduates.

التعاور

Mr. Hatem Shurrab Human Appeal Country Representative

We are proud of our partnership with Natuf and of the successful projects it has implemented on our behalf. Natuf believes in its ideas and has therefore excelled and will continue to do so. It has a positive impact on the lives of people in Palestine.



Natuf 2017

Continuing towards excellence and creativity







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