



SPEECH
For UNDP/PAPP Special Representative
Mr. Jens Toyberg-Frandzen

Excellencies

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am very pleased to be present here today for this grand occasion. Not only are we here to inaugurate this beautiful new learning facility but we are also here to commence new projects under the KfW VI programme, starting with ten out of the 66 projects which we will sign today.

These will include the construction of a new vocational training center in the city of Nablus, additional classrooms in various schools in the Jenin district, youth and sports centers, and finally rehabilitation of roads.

The KfW programme is a strong example of a development programme building the selection of its projects on needs basis and grass roots involvement.

while employment generation is at the forefront, but on several occasions, I have experienced the profound engagement of the community in the process, which, according to all criteria **is development**.

This engagement is paramount for the sustainability of all projects. Examples of such projects include:

- Poverty alleviation through the construction of schools



- Provision of much needed health care in isolated communities through the construction of clinics
- Installation of water networks to bring the most precious basic need, water, to households,
- Construction and rehabilitation of roads to ensure the smooth transit of people and goods
- Construction of facilities for the disadvantaged to meet the special needs of this segment of society
- Provision of venues for cultural, educational, and social activities through the construction of Youth, women and sports centres
- Moreover, the creation of hundreds of permanent jobs through the sustainability of these facilities

UNDP/PAPP is grateful for the strong partnership with KFW and the Federal Republic of Germany in addressing the common goals of alleviating the hardships Palestinians face both in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

This partnership has resulted in the implementation of 500 projects in various sectors, valued at over 70 million Euros, generating approximately one million workdays.

In short, this programme translates hope into reality for the Palestinian People.

I am particularly pleased, being here today, that Jenin and its surrounding villages will also benefit from this programme.



This new impressive 1300 square meter modern learning center, inaugurated today, has the potential of training over 200 students, in 13 vocations, on annual basis. Future fashion designers, technicians, mechanics, drafters, secretaries, manufactures, etc in Jenin will now have the opportunity to acquire the skills necessary to play an active role in their society.

This vocational training centre, and the vocations taught, is closely aligned to the human resource needs of the Jenin area and responds to the actual needs that have been identified by the job market, the community, and the trainers themselves.

In other words, **it is demand driven teaching and training**, that caters for creativity and innovation, rather than supply driven teaching.

The sixth phase of the Employment Generation Programme, commencing now, has a very strong emphasis on education because it is the cornerstone that enables the Palestinian people to build a better future for themselves.

To this effect, twenty-five additional classrooms will be constructed, in five primary and secondary schools, benefiting over 1600 students in the Jenin district.

These six projects will complement the already implemented 43 projects funded in 31 communities in the Jenin District through prior phases of the Employment Generation Programme. A total value of approximately five million Euros.

United Nations Development Programme
Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People
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This event today, and the signing of these projects, is indeed a joyous event, and I would there like to conclude my remarks by expressing my sincere appreciation to the Federal Republic of Germany, KfW, the Governor of Jenin and the Palestinian Ministries of Labor and Local Government who are all an integral part of the success of this programme. I also wish to thank all those who have contributed to the completion of this centre and future projects to be implemented. I look forward to the implementation of the projects.

I wish you all the best.

Thank you