



“Supporting resilience through dialogue” project

First national-level conference to discuss future scenarios and national resilience policies in Palestine 7.12.2020

Background

The “Supporting Palestinian Resilience through Dialogue” project is being implemented by the Palestinian Center for Policy Research and Strategic Studies (MASARAT) and the Finnish Crisis Management Initiative (CMI), in partnership with the Office of the Representative of the European Union (West Bank, Gaza Strip and UNRWA). It aims at promoting the Palestinian consensus and resilience through providing a platform for effective dialogue, as well as increasing the international participation in the attempts to attain the Palestinian reconciliation based on the developments and conflict circumstances within the Palestinian context.

The project comprises of several interrelated phases as follows:

First: Study the different scenarios of the Palestinian people’s resilience and the implications of the relevant internal and external factors on the future of the Palestinian cause and the conflict dynamics. This includes studying the potential variables, risks and shocks that might impact the Palestinian political system, the opportunities that might serve the Palestinian people and their national cause, the political strategies and dynamics of Israel, and the policies of the international powers, in order to facilitate a deeper understanding on how the different scenarios may affect the future of the Palestinian cause and the region for that matter.

Second: Develop policy recommendations aimed at impeding the impacts of the most precarious scenarios, thus promoting the chances of coming up with the preferred scenario in favor of strengthening the resilience of Palestinian people in the face of growing risks.

Third: Design and implement practical initiatives in support of the recommended policies in different areas, reflecting unitary models of joint action by groups in various Palestinian communities at home and abroad.

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The national-level conference will take place between the second and the third phase of the project, to enable the implementation of the third phase.

Conference Objectives

- Provide a platform for presenting and discussing the project's outputs: future scenarios and related policy recommendations for Palestine
- Ensure that key political constituencies which are marginalised and / or insulated from the current political system are increasingly involved in the public reflection on policies
- Validating policy prioritization (to enable subsequent project activities during phase 3)
- The conference will also serve as a catalyst for creating working groups which will focus on developing replicable models of participatory and representative decision making that operate across political divides; and aim to seek greater buy in for the policy recommendations

Target groups and stakeholders (for further reference, see list of invitees)

- Local level participants (incl. youth, women, business leaders, municipality officials, local CSOs, unions, grassroots activists and media actors)
- National level actors (incl. party leaders and other officials, current and former ministers, advisors, business leaders, national CSO leaders, union leaders)
- Regional and international level actors (e.g. states engaged in the West Bank and Gaza, international organisations, diaspora)
- National strategic dialogue advisory group (project's advisory committee)

Practical issues

- The conference will be organized simultaneously in the West Bank and Gaza
- The conference can be organized fully online via zoom.

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