



## Bethlehem 21 Project

Environmental Sustainability for a Better Life:  
An Integrated Approach for Localizing Agenda 21 in the Bethlehem  
District, LIFE05 TCY/GA/121

### Task 4: Developing Local Sustainability Action Strategies

### Community Visioning Process Report "D4.1"

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&

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*The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.*

## Bethlehem 21 Project: An Overview

Bethlehem 21 Project is a Palestinian initiative responding to Chapter 28 of Agenda 21 whereby local authorities are called upon to undertake a consultative process to develop and implement a “Local Agenda 21” for and with their communities. The participation and cooperation of community members with the local authority will be a determining factor in bringing about radical changes and promoting sustainable development at a local level because so many of the economical, social and environmental challenges have their roots in local activities.

Bethlehem 21 project aimed at developing the capacities of the targeted local authorities including the Municipalities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Beit Sahour, Za'tara, Al Khader and Ed Doha and the Village Council of Battir, to reinforce them to enter into dialogue with citizens and local organizations in order to develop local sustainability action strategies or “Local Agendas 21”. The adopted participatory approach was in the form of a visioning process that focuses on bringing together a broad section of the community with the local authority to develop a shared vision for the sustainability of their community and plan how to achieve it.

The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ) in cooperation with the Centro Regionale d’Intervento per la Cooperazione (CRIC), started the implementation of Bethlehem 21 Project on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2006. It lasted for 32 months through which the following main tasks were accomplished: (1) securing and maintaining the support of local and national authorities; (2) establishing an effective participatory process; (3) creating baseline community profiles; and (4) developing a local sustainability action strategy for each of the targeted communities. The project resulted in:

- Having strong advocates of the sustainability initiative among the involved local and national authorities.
- Securing broad public participation of community members and raising their awareness level with respect to localizing Agenda 21.
- Fostering trust in local and national authorities among the community members.
- Establishing a comprehensive GIS based information system for each local authority.
- Strengthening the technical capacities of the targeted local authorities in GIS, database management and environmental monitoring.
- Producing baseline community profiles providing an assessment of the communities’ environmental and socioeconomic conditions.
- Understanding peoples’ perceptions of their environmental futures and social well being.
- Adoption of the recommended actions and strategies by the local authorities.

To learn more about this project, please visit the website:  
<http://bethlehem21.arij.org>

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Bethlehem 21 Project

Environmental Sustainability for a Better Life: An Integrated Approach for Localizing Agenda 21 in the Bethlehem District

## The Local Sustainability Action Strategies “Local Agendas 21”

Prepared by



Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem (ARIJ)  
Water & Environment Research Unit

2008

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## **The Strategic Planning Process**

The Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem (ARIJ) and Centro Regionale d’Intervento per la Cooperazione (CRIC) in cooperation with the local authorities involved in Bethlehem 21 Project organized a community visioning forum in each targeted locality during July and August 2008. Each forum brought together the Mayor/Head of Village council, some of the councillors and the municipality/village council’s employees with the community based organizations and the members of the citizens’ committee. It aimed at empowering the local community through participation with decision makers in the community visioning process, by which a community envisions the future it wants and plans how to achieve it. Accordingly, the adopted strategic planning process resulted in:

- Identifying the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the community by using SWOT analysis.
- Formulating a shared community vision statement that declares the community members’ vision for a more sustainable community 20 years from now.
- Defining the elements of the local sustainability action strategy which are represented by specific goals and targets that provide measurable commitments and identifiable steps towards the achievement of the vision.
- Translating the goals and targets into concrete actions and projects as well as developing a detailed mechanism for implementing the high priority projects.

The community visioning process provided each of the targeted local authorities with a local sustainability action strategy that will enable them to knock the door of donors, funding agencies and implementing institutions with clear needs and priorities especially that such strategy has been developed in partnership with the local community. This gives it power and legitimacy and promotes the sense of ownership and responsibility among the citizens leading to sustainability and public benefit.

## **The Vital Development Projects at the Bethlehem Governorate Level**

The local sustainability action strategies outline the projects required to meet the needs and concerns of the targeted communities at the local level. However, joint projects that require collaboration among local authorities at the Bethlehem Governorate level have been also tackled. These include:

1. Establishing a licensed sanitary slaughterhouse.
2. Constructing a sanitary landfill for domestic solid waste. It should be noted that the related feasibility studies have been prepared by the World Bank.
3. Constructing a central wastewater treatment plant to treat the wastewater that flows freely until it reaches the Dead Sea.
4. Establishing an environmentally sound industrial zone in Area C to regulate the light and medium sized industrial activities in the Governorate.

Furthermore, other actions and projects should be implemented in order to overcome the challenges facing sustainable development in the Bethlehem Governorate. These include:

### **Water & Waste Management**

1. Increasing the quantity of water supplied to the Governorate and developing additional water resources by constructing domestic and agricultural rainwater harvesting cisterns and constructing dams to capture the surface water runoff in wadis.
2. Managing water demand by reducing water losses in the public water network, and improving the irrigation efficiency using modern irrigation systems to ensure more efficient use of the available water resources.
3. Rehabilitation of the existing water springs.
4. Rehabilitation of the Roman wells in the Eastern Slopes.
5. Developing the water and sanitation infrastructure to ensure sustainable access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation. This entails connecting the un-served localities to the public water network and achieving a full coverage of households’ connections to the sewage networks in urban areas.
6. Adopting environmentally sound management options of wastewater in rural communities by introducing decentralized wastewater management systems, which entail collecting, treating and reusing wastewater on site by using small and medium scale wastewater treatment plants.
7. Adopting environmentally sound solid waste minimization techniques at source in order to reduce the amount of waste that must be managed. This can be achieved by separating and composting organic solid waste at source using household garden composters.

### **Urban Management**

8. Inaugurating a Local Urban Observatory to monitor and orient the urban expansion in the Governorate and consequently preserve open spaces.
9. Preparing a strategic plan for establishing a Joint Cooperation Council “Metropolitan Bethlehem” that joins the cities of Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Beit Sahour, Al Khader and Ed Doha.



10. Preparing a comprehensive traffic management plan and constructing ring roads that encircle and link urban areas in order to route traffic outside the city center and alleviate traffic congestion.

### **Air Quality**

11. Controlling air pollution by adopting policies that minimize air emissions. These include using unleaded gasoline; using renewable energy sources (i.e. implementing solar and wind energy projects in marginalized rural communities); regular monitoring of air quality; adopting “best practices” to limit and control air emissions from quarries and stone cutting facilities; prohibiting open burning of solid waste; among other practices.
12. Reinforcing and supporting the use of “clean” electrical buses in major cities to reduce air emissions from vehicles.

### **Agriculture & Biodiversity**

13. Applying biological and integrated pest control procedures to protect the valuable fruit trees such as stone fruits, grapes, and olive trees from the stem borers, nematode, olive fly, etc to increase the trees production and extending their life.
14. Establishing community-based seed banks to preserve the seeds of the Palestinian valuable varieties and species. This can be achieved by providing the local agriculture cooperatives with the seeds of the suitable varieties and training them on creating seeds revolving systems through providing farmers with seed stock that will be brought back to the cooperatives by the end of the agricultural season.
15. Establishing a plant nursery to serve the Bethlehem Governorate in order to increase the number of available seedlings and improve their quality.
16. Developing agro-ecological tourism sites in the Governorate where the pilgrims, tourists, and the Palestinians can enjoy the spirit of history and holiness through visiting places designed in an environmental way. This includes establishing a biblical farm and an agricultural museum.
17. Improving the access of vulnerable and food insecure rural families to the means of agro-production through providing them with small laying chicken farms, beehives, rainwater harvesting cisterns, home gardens, drip irrigation systems, grey water treatment units, and planting materials.
18. Initiating integrated rangeland management in the eastern part of the Governorate where overgrazing has resulted in the deterioration of the wildlife resources and biodiversity.
19. Protecting the Palestinian lands located close to the Segregation Wall through land reclamation and plantation of trees.
20. Protecting wild animals, especially rare and threatened species and migratory birds, by controlling hunting.
21. Greening road sides, public spaces, and barren lands by planting trees.
22. Adopting appropriate measures to control the problem of stray dogs in streets.

### **Social & Institutional Dimensions**

23. Expanding the basic and secondary educational system capacity by constructing more schools and cancelling the two-shift system.
24. Establishing public parks to provide citizens living in urban communities with open spaces for recreational purposes.
25. Ensuring the accessibility of health care services to all individuals.
26. Forming a “Sustainable Development Committee” from members of national and local authorities as well as local organizations at the Governorate level to coordinate, unite and monitor the efforts towards achieving sustainable development.
27. Forming a special committee to monitor the progress made towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals at the Governorate level.
28. Extending projects similar to Bethlehem 21 Project in other localities in the Bethlehem Governorate as well as other Governorates such as “Dura 21 Project”.
29. Establishing a monitoring and evaluation process on the progress made by local authorities towards implementing the projects and actions imposed by their Local Agendas 21.

### **Others**

30. Enforcing national laws and regulations, and formulating bylaws to implement the required actions and measures at the local level.
31. Promoting transparency and communication among local authorities, non-governmental organizations and local community by forming citizens’ committees; and organizing periodical community assemblies and public hearings to ensure public participation in the decision making process.
32. Establishing a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable intentional community “eco-village”, where families will cooperate to utilize natural resources in a sustainable manner.
33. Establishing a Palestinian Center for Environmental Technology and Education (CETE) that focuses on water and energy conservation, wastewater treatment and reuse, solid waste treatment, indoor air pollution prevention, indoor and outdoor air quality monitoring as well as sustainable building.

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# Bethlehem Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

## Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Bethlehem City, envision that in 2028 our city will be.....  
 “A tourist vibrant city that is safe, economically prosperous, technologically advanced while preserving its religious, historical and cultural heritage, environmentally safe, characterized by active citizenship, free of intolerance, provides a good quality of life as well as a city where law is enforced under the jurisdiction of an active local authority.”

### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Bethlehem City, 2009 - 2019

#### Goal 1: Vitalize the City and its Citizens Economically

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 1:</b> Create job opportunities and improve the citizen's income by 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing the Old City of Bethlehem to become a vital tourism attraction, while maintaining its historical and archeological features.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 2:</b> Improve and develop the tourism facilities and attractions in the city, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing effective cooperatives with high qualifications and a patriotic sense of belonging.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 3:</b> Catalyze investment in medium sized industrial projects that would contribute to a vibrant local economy, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing medium sized industrial projects such as aluminum and wood factories.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing an industrial zone to serve the Bethlehem Governorate.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 4:</b> Protect and preserve local products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating recreational facilities to boost domestic and inbound tourism.</li> <li>Rehabilitating and developing infrastructure to comply with the needs of the City Development.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land settlement and expansion of the Bethlehem Municipality Master Plan.</li> <li>Adopting an appropriate mechanism for marketing local products so that local producers would get fair prices.</li> <li>Setting laws and regulations to protect and preserve local products.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

#### Goal 2: Protect the Environment and Promote the Prudent and Efficient Use of Natural Resources

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 5:</b> Raise the efficiency of services, as well as the environmental and health control measures of poultry and livestock slaughtering and selling by 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a licensed sanitary slaughterhouse to serve Bethlehem Governorate.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Closing all the existing unlicensed and unsanitary slaughterhouses that are scattered across various areas of the Governorate.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 6:</b> Adopt environmentally sound management options of solid waste by 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing a sanitary landfill for domestic solid waste to serve Bethlehem Governorate.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up a separate system for the collection, transport and treatment of the hazardous medical and industrial wastes.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 7:</b> Adopt environmentally sound management options of wastewater by 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raising the effectiveness of the municipal city cleaning services by distributing small solid waste containers throughout the city and organizing public awareness campaigns to preserve a clean environment.</li> </ol>

#### Goal 2: Protect the Environment and Human Health

#### Goal 3: Improve the Agricultural Sector and Enhance Food Security

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 7:</b> Reduce the proportion of people without sustainable access to improved sanitation by 25%, by year 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installing small scale wastewater treatment plants to replace the existing cesspits that directly contaminate the springs and reusing the treated wastewater for irrigating home gardens.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing an integrated wastewater management project that entails collecting wastewater by means of a sewerage network, treating the wastewater and reusing it for irrigation purposes.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 8:</b> Develop and improve, the wastewater management in the village, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing 10-15 km roads allowing access to the agricultural lands.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reclamation of 2,000 dunums of agricultural lands and providing the farmers with the suitable seeds.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 9:</b> Develop and rehabilitate agricultural lands, between 2009 and 2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up an effective system for solid waste collection to achieve full collection coverage.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Composting organic domestic solid waste and agricultural waste at source and utilizing the compost as a soil conditioner.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 10:</b> Raise the effectiveness of the municipal solid waste services, by 2010	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing domestic and agricultural rainwater harvesting cisterns.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating the springs, especially “Ein Hamdan”, “Ein el-Basin” and “Ein Bardamo”.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 11:</b> Reduce the amount of domestic and agricultural solid waste at source, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting organic agriculture.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applying the integrated pest management practices.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 12:</b> Develop additional water resources for domestic and agriculture use, between 2009 and 2012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applying the “drip irrigation” system to use the water resources efficiently.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing community awareness and educational campaigns with respect to the sustainable agriculture practices; and encouraging the youth to cultivate their agricultural lands.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 13:</b> Adopt sustainable agricultural practices by 2013	

# Battir Village Council in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

## Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Battir Village, envision that in 2028 our village will be.....  
 “A prosperous agricultural village, environmentally safe, green, preserving its traditional, historical and cultural heritage, attracting tourism, has a well-developed infrastructure, and assuring equal access to job opportunities.”

### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Battir Village, 2009 – 2019

#### Goal 1: Empower Local Community and Improve the Quality of Life

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 1:</b> Enhance and develop the basic health care services by 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the existing health care center and providing an ambulance for the village.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 2:</b> Develop the existing educational facilities and promote vocational education and training, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a developed agricultural and industrial vocational center.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing and developing the existing resources inside the schools; providing libraries, playgrounds, labs ...etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 3:</b> Preserve the archeological and cultural heritage and stimulate the cultural activities among the youth, between 2009 and 2014	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovating the ancient and historical buildings, while preserving their unique architectural style, to become a vital tourism attraction, and a place for cultural and social activities.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a cultural and educational center, and organizing awareness campaigns and cultural programs for the youth.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 4:</b> Create job opportunities for women by 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing the existing public library and the sports club.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 5:</b> Improve family ties, health and relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing small sized production projects targeting women in the traditional industries such as embroidery.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 6:</b> Promote and foster the sense of belonging and citizenship among the local residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing psychological guidance and awareness programs that focus on family relations.</li> <li>Organizing community awareness campaigns and periodical community assemblies in cooperation with the Village Council to educate the citizens, develop their capacities and promote active citizenship.</li> </ul>

**Target 8:** Develop alternative sources to groundwater and nonrenewable energy supplies, between 2009 and 2019

**Target 9:** Use clean energy sources to reduce air emissions from vehicles between 2009 and 2019

**Target 10:** Raise the environmental awareness level among community members by 2011

- Completing the installation of the public sewerage network to achieve a full coverage of households and establishments' connections.
  - Constructing a central wastewater treatment plant to treat the wastewater generated from Bethlehem City and the surrounding localities that is freely discharged into Wadi El-Nar and reusing the treated wastewater for irrigation purposes.
  - Constructing domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns.
  - Implementing solar energy projects as an alternative energy source.
  - Using “clean” electrical vehicles especially public buses.
  - Organizing community awareness campaigns that aim at improving the citizens' practices and lifestyle habits as well as changing their unsustainable consumption and production patterns.
  - Enforcing the environmental laws.

#### Goal 3: Develop and Empower Local Community

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 11:</b> Promote social solidarity and cohesion, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing community awareness campaigns and seminars to educate the citizens, develop their capacities and promote active citizenship.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the sense of active participation and promoting voluntary work among the citizens by forming specialized committees or activating the existing ones.</li> <li>Promoting transparency and communication among the municipality, non-governmental organizations and local community by activating the existing neighborhood committees; organizing periodical community assemblies and public hearings; publishing periodical reports about the municipality's accomplishments; and ensuring public access to such information.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 12:</b> Foster trust among citizens, local authority and non-governmental organizations, between 2009 and 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing and enforcing the laws equitably and impartially.</li> <li>Building a hospital.</li> <li>Organizing the health sector in a way that would comply with the needs of citizens and increasing the number of specialized medical staff.</li> <li>Organizing media campaigns to raise the health awareness among citizens about the prevailing diseases.</li> <li>Building more classrooms in the existing schools.</li> <li>Building a high school to meet the needs of the future.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 13:</b> Enhance and develop health care services in the city by 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing a sports city that offers a wide range of sporting facilities to improve the youth sports performance level.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing public libraries and parks.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 14:</b> Expand the basic and secondary educational system capacity, between 2009 and 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing human resources in the education system by improving programs to train teachers before and during service as well as improving their financial conditions.</li> <li>Developing programs to direct and lead high school students to choose the appropriate specialties.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 15:</b> Provide adequate cultural, recreational and athletic facilities by 2013	
<b>Target 16:</b> Improve education at all levels by 2013	





## Beit Jala Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

### Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Beit Jala City, envision that in 2028 our city will be.....

“A city that is safe, free and open to everyone, a place where residents enjoy social, economical, and environmental wellbeing with a just law and united efforts at the Governorate level.”

#### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Beit Jala City, 2009 - 2019

##### Goal 1: Vitalize the City and its Citizens Economically

##### Goal 2: Develop the Domestic and Inbound Tourism

##### Sustainability Goals and Targets

##### Prioritized Actions and Projects

**Target 1:** Create job opportunities and employment, between 2009 and 2019

- 1 ■ Establishing a commercial center and a bus station.
- 2 ■ Building an art crafts center that accommodates 6 traditional handicrafts workshops and a shopping gallery.
- 3 ■ Developing and expanding the light crafts industrial zone in the city.
- 4 ■ Establishing markets for marketing the local products and forming a special committee to follow up this issue.
  - Implementing small sized productive projects such as domestic food processing and home gardens.
- 5 ■ Developing the “Makhroor Area” and creating tourist and recreational facilities in it to boost domestic and inbound tourism.

**Target 2:** Improve and develop the tourist attractions and facilities in the city, while preserving the archaeological and cultural heritage by 2019

**Target 3:** Protect and preserve local products

##### Goal 3: Develop and Empower Local Community

##### Sustainability Goals and Targets

##### Prioritized Actions and Projects

**Target 4:** Raise the individual’s awareness level about his/her role in the society

**Target 5 :** Foster trust among the citizens and local authority, between 2009 and 2011

**Target 6:** Strengthen and empower the local organization by 2010

**Target 7:** Develop and build the municipality’s capacities by 2010

- 1 ■ Organizing community awareness campaigns, seminars and voluntary programs targeting all community members, especially students and housewives, in order to educate them; develop their capacities; and promote active citizenship.
  - Organizing periodical meetings between the municipality and local community to ensure public participation in the decision making process and to promote transparency and communication among them.
  - Forming an effective committee of local organizations in order to coordinate and unite the efforts under the supervision of the municipality.
  - Reinforcing the human and technical capacities of the municipality with respect to the administrative and institutional issues especially in the field of Geographic Information System (GIS).
  - Providing the municipality with the necessary equipment.

**Target 7:** Provide adequate cultural, recreational and sports facilities by 2019

**Target 8:** Improve the quality of primary education

- 4 ■ Developing human resources in the education system by improving programs to train teachers before and during service.
  - Encouraging and supporting students by providing them with incentives; and organizing educational awareness programs targeting the parents.

#### Goal 5: Protect the Environment from Pollution and Promote the Prudent and Efficient Use of Natural Resources

**Target 9:** Adopt environmentally sound management options of wastewater by 2013

**Target 10:** Minimize the use of drinking water for agricultural purposes by 2010

**Target 11:** Stop land degradation and low productivity

**Target 12:** Preserve the wild indigenous plants

**Target 13:** Reduce the amount of domestic solid waste that is collected and transferred to the dumping site by 25%, between 2009 and 2013

**Target 14:** Closing Za’tara’s current solid waste dumping site by 2011

**Target 15:** Promote active citizenship and raise the environmental awareness level among community members by 2010

- 1 ■ Implementing an integrated wastewater management project that entails collecting wastewater by means of a sewerage network, treating the wastewater and reusing it for irrigation purposes.
- 2 ■ Implementing rainwater harvesting projects:
  - a. constructing domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns; and
  - b. constructing a dam to capture the surface water runoff in “Al-Wa’ar Wadi”.
  - Raising the awareness level among community members regarding the prudent and efficient use of drinking water.
- 3 ■ Conserving the rangelands by designating them as nature reserves and regulating grazing.
  - Planting forest trees.
- 4 ■ Separating and composting organic solid waste at source by using household garden composters and utilizing the compost as a soil conditioner.
  - Reducing the use of plastic bags and replacing them by environmentally friendly bags.
- 5 ■ Organizing community awareness campaigns targeting all community members especially the housewives and students.



## Za'tara Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

### Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Za'tara Town, envision that in 2028 our town will be.....

“A clean and green town, that is self-sufficient, educationally advanced, viable while preserving its religious, historical, cultural heritage and good traditions, free from poverty, illiteracy and unemployment, socially just and equitable under a sovereign Independent Palestinian State.”

### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Za'tara Town, 2009 - 2019

#### Goal 1: Achieve Local Economical Growth and Sustainable Self Efficiency

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 1:</b> Halve the proportion of people whose income is less than 15 ILS a day, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a canned-vegetable factory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a sewing and knitting factory.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 2:</b> Create productive job opportunities especially for the youth	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing small sized productive projects that aim at enhancing food security including green houses, home gardens, rainwater harvesting cisterns in addition to sheep, cows and chicken farms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a fodder factory.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 3:</b> Protect and preserve local agricultural products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a diary factory.</li> <li>Constructing agricultural roads to facilitate the reclamation of agricultural lands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopting an appropriate mechanism for marketing local products so that local producers would get fair prices.</li> <li>Organizing training workshops to provide qualified human resources for implementing the aforementioned projects.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

#### Goal 2: Improve Education

#### Goal 3: Meet the Basic Health Needs of the Citizens

#### Goal 4: Improve the Recreational, Cultural, and Athletic Services that Target Youth and Children

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 4:</b> Develop the agricultural, industrial and commercial vocational education, between 2009 and 2013	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a vocational education institute. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing the existing health care center and adding an emergency unit.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 5:</b> Enhance and develop the basic health care services, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building two elementary schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building additional classrooms in the existing schools.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 6:</b> Expand the basic and secondary educational system capacity, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a public garden. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building a sports center.</li> <li>Building a public library.</li> <li>Establishing a kindergarten.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

**Target 8:** Improve education and promote vocational education and training, between 2009 and 2012

**Target 9:** Expand the basic and secondary educational system capacity, between 2009 and 2012

**Target 10:** Enhance and develop the cultural and social facilities by 2010

**Target 11:** Promote and strengthen relations between the expatriates and local citizens by 2012

2. Developing human resources in the education system by improving programs to train teachers before and during service as well as improving their financial situation.

Establishing a vocational training institute to empower the youth in different specializations such as medical, industrial and information technology professions.

Building a high school for boys.

Building an extra floor to the Girls Expatriate High School.

3. Implementing the second phase of the “youth societal center” project, which aims at empowering the children and youth.

Improving and developing the facilities of the Senior Citizens' Association that aims at providing good quality services to ensure a decent life for the elderly.

Establishing a guest house for the expatriates in order to motivate them to serve their city.

#### Goal 4: Develop the Infrastructure

#### Goal 5: Protect the Environment and Human Health

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 12:</b> Improve and develop the sanitation infrastructure by 2012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completing the installation of the public sewerage network to serve the unconnected households. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completing the storm water drainage system in the city.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 13:</b> Provide the citizens with sustainable, reliable and safe drinking water so that the per capita water consumption is not less than 100 liter per day, between 2009 and 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating and upgrading the water network; and building a water reservoir to ensure access to water supply in high areas in the city.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 14:</b> Enhance and develop the health care services in the city by 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completing the building of the public health clinic “the Maternal and Child health Clinic” inside the municipality’s building. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building sidewalks and retaining walls for specific main and secondary roads.</li> <li>Upgrading the lighting network.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 15:</b> Rehabilitate the road network and improve the lighting system by 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing and paving new roads to develop new urban areas and direct the urban expansion towards the West and South-West of the city in order to protect the Palestinian land from confiscation.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 16:</b> Preserve the lands and regulate urban expansion by 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing a sanitary landfill for domestic solid waste to serve Bethlehem Governorate and consequently closing the solid waste transfer station that is located in the middle of a residential area inside the city.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 17:</b> Adopt environmentally sound management options of solid waste by 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a licensed sanitary slaughterhouse to serve Bethlehem Governorate.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 18:</b> Raise the efficiency of services, as well as the environmental and health control measures of poultry and livestock slaughtering and selling by 2013	





## Beit Sahour Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

### Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Beit Sahour City, envision that in 2028 our city will be .....  
 “A city that is safe, open, socially and culturally vibrant, economically and environmentally developed and prosperous, yet in harmony with its history and heritage.”

#### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Beit Sahour City, 2009 – 2019

##### Goal 1: Empower and Sustain Local Economic Activities

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<p><b>Target 1:</b> Raise the productivity of local economic activities, between 2009 and 2019</p> <p><b>Target 2:</b> Increase the per capita share of the economic sectors that contribute to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), between 2009 and 2019</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing a comprehensive study to assess the current state of the economic activities and identify points of strengths and weaknesses.</li> <li>Developing the existing tourism projects.</li> <li>Establishing medium-sized tourism investment projects.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a crafts vocational training institute to develop the traditional tourism-related handicrafts (e.g. olive wood carving, mother of pearl, embroidery ...) with the aim of increasing the products competitive capacities in foreign market.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating agricultural lands and developing additional water resources for irrigation use through the rehabilitation and construction of rainwater harvesting cisterns in order to rise the contribution of the agricultural sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).</li> <li>Improving and enforcing the legal and regulatory framework related to land-use.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

##### Goal 2: Create a Socially Just Community and Promote the Individual's Role in Social Development

##### Goal 3: Improve the Quality of Life

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<p><b>Target 3:</b> Foster the sense of belonging to local community and country, between 2009 and 2013</p> <p><b>Target 4:</b> Ensure fairness and equal access to opportunities as well as to civil and political rights for all community members</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing community awareness and education campaigns for the youth with respect to: active citizenship, the role of civil society; existing laws and regulations; the Palestinian issue and the importance of the Arabic Language.</li> <li>Activating the role of students in school life and developing young leaders by establishing school clubs.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving and enforcing the legal framework.</li> <li>Empowering and developing civil society organizations.</li> <li>Renovating the ancient and historical buildings, while preserving their unique architectural style, to become a vital tourism attraction and a place for cultural and social activities.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovating and rehabilitating the old market place.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

**Target 11:** Develop and rehabilitate the agricultural lands, between 2009 and 2016

**Target 12:** Develop additional water resources for irrigation use, between 2009 and 2012

- Rehabilitating 23 km of the agricultural roads.
- Constructing agricultural rainwater harvesting cisterns.
- Rehabilitating the springs.
- Organizing awareness campaigns targeting the farmers with respect to the use of the forbidden pesticides and other chemicals.

#### Goal 3: Improve the Quality of Life. Socially and Economically

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<p><b>Target 13:</b> Create productive job opportunities for the citizens, between 2009 and 2013</p> <p><b>Target 14:</b> Enhance and develop health care services, by 2013</p> <p><b>Target 15:</b> Develop the education system and promote agricultural vocational education and training, between 2009 and 2015</p> <p><b>Target 16:</b> Improve and develop the educational facilities and infrastructure, between 2009 and 2015</p> <p><b>Target 17:</b> Raise the intellectual, cultural and educational level among community members; and provide recreational facilities, between 2009 and 2019</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing small sized productive projects such as domestic food processing, home gardens and green houses.</li> <li>Building a public health care center.</li> <li>Organizing health education campaigns to raise the health awareness and education level among citizens.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing an agricultural vocational education and training center to serve Al Khader Town and the surrounding localities.</li> <li>Developing human resources in the education system by improving programs to train teachers before and during service.</li> <li>Developing educational awareness programs to solve the problem of students drop-out from schools.</li> <li>Reviewing the education law as regards to the automatic upgrade of students by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.</li> <li>Decreasing the number of students per teacher.</li> <li>Building additional appropriate classrooms in the existing schools and building new schools with adequate facilities.</li> </ul> </li> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a multi-purpose community center that includes a social center, a public library and a sports center.</li> <li>Completing the construction of Al Khader Stadium facilities.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

#### Goal 4: Boost Domestic and Inbound Tourism

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<p><b>Target 18:</b> Improve and develop the tourist attractions and facilities in the city, while preserving the archaeological and cultural heritage, between 2009 and 2013</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviving the Old Town of Al Khader to become a vital tourist attraction by renovating the ancient houses and establishing a museum.</li> <li>Renovating the historical buildings and archaeological sites in “Wadi Al-Ghaweet” and “Wadi Al-biar” areas to become a vital tourist attraction and a place for cultural and social activities.</li> <li>Reviving the Solomon's Pools entrance and involving the private sector in the tourism reviving process.</li> <li>Organizing publicity campaigns about the historical and archaeological sites in the town.</li> <li>Organizing festivals for traditional industries and promoting the “Grape Festival” and the “Al Khader Culture and Arts Festival”.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>



## Al Khader Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

### Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Al Khader Town, envision that in 2028 our town will be.....  
 “A safe town that is clean and green, agriculturally developed and self-sufficient, a vital tourist attraction, characterized by social cohesion, provides a good quality of life under a sovereign independent Palestinian State.”

### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Al Khader Town, 2009 – 2019

#### Goal 1: Provide a Healthy Clean Living Environment

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 1:</b> Ensure sustainable access to improved sanitation, between 2009 and 2013	1 ■ Installing small scale wastewater treatment plants at household level in the neighborhoods that currently lacks a sewage network system.
<b>Target 2:</b> Develop additional water resources by 2011	■ Rehabilitating and upgrading the public sewerage network to serve the unconnected population.
<b>Target 3:</b> Reduce the amount of domestic solid waste at source, between 2009 and 2011	2 ■ Rehabilitating the existing domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns and constructing new ones.
<b>Target 4:</b> Raise the effectiveness of the municipal solid waste services, by 2011	■ Constructing a storm water drainage system.
<b>Target 5:</b> Raise the efficiency of services, as well as the environmental and health control measures of poultry and livestock slaughtering and selling by 2013	3 ■ Separating and composting organic solid waste at source and utilizing the compost as a soil conditioner.
<b>Target 6:</b> Raise the environmental education and awareness level among community members	■ Increasing the number of solid waste containers and developing an effective method for solid waste collection from source.
<b>Target 7:</b> Reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, between 2009 and 2012	■ Removing the littered solid waste and construction debris from road sides.
<b>Target 8:</b> Increase the size of green areas and improve the road network by 2010	■ Organizing voluntary campaigns to clean the town.
	■ Establishing a licensed sanitary slaughterhouse to serve Bethlehem Governorate.
	■ Organizing community awareness campaigns that aim at improving the citizens' practices and lifestyle habits that negatively impact the environment.
	■ Enforcing the law.
	■ Promoting organic agriculture.
	4 ■ Greening road-sides, public spaces, and barren lands.
	■ Rehabilitating and paving the secondary roads.

#### Goal 2: Improve the Agricultural Sector and Enhance Food Security

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 9:</b> Improve the quality of farmers' life	1 ■ Developing the existing association of grape production and marketing.
<b>Target 10:</b> Protect and preserve local agricultural products, mainly grapes, between 2009 and 2019	■ Establishing a factory to manufacture grape products such as raisins, and grape juice.
	■ Reclamation of 12-14 dunums of agricultural lands, especially those located close to the Israeli settlements and the Segregation Wall.
	■ Applying the intercropping system.

**Target 5:** Preserve the archeological and cultural heritage, between 2009 and 2019

**Target 6:** Stimulate recreational, cultural and athletic activities, between 2009 and 2015

**Target 7:** Improve family ties, health and relations

- Supporting the handicrafts and traditional trades (e.g. embroidery and sewing).
- Rehabilitating the city's sport grounds.
- Establishing clubs and recreational centers.
- Building a public library and a theater.
- Encouraging and supporting young talents and creativity.
- Adopting and implementing awareness programs with respect to family relations.

#### Goal 4: Develop the Infrastructure and Protect the Urban Environment

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 8:</b> Improve and develop the road network by 2010	1 ■ Constructing a ring road that connects Beit Sahour and Beit Jala cities in order to alleviate traffic jams.
<b>Target 9:</b> Reduce water loss in the public water networks by 2010	■ Rehabilitating and paving the existing roads and creating parking lots for cars.
<b>Target 10:</b> Develop additional water resources by 2010	■ Rehabilitating the public water network.
<b>Target 11:</b> Ensure sustainable access to improved sanitation, between 2009 and 2010	■ Rehabilitating and constructing domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns.
<b>Target 12:</b> Raise the efficiency of services, as well as the environmental and health control measures of poultry and livestock slaughtering and selling by 2013	■ Completing the installation of the public sewerage network to serve the unconnected households.
<b>Target 13:</b> Relocate the handicraft factories outside residential areas, between 2009 and 2011	2 ■ Establishing a licensed sanitary slaughterhouse to serve Bethlehem Governorate.
<b>Target 14:</b> Reduce the amount of domestic solid waste at source, between 2009 and 2011	3 ■ Establishing a special handicrafts zone.
<b>Target 15:</b> Increase the size of green areas by 2010	4 ■ Separating and composting organic solid waste at source by using household garden composters and utilizing the compost as a soil conditioner.
<b>Target 16:</b> Raise the environmental awareness level among community members	5 ■ Improving and updating the “Beit Sahour Municipality Master Plan”.
	■ Greening road-sides, public spaces, and barren lands.
	■ Organizing community awareness campaigns.



## Ed Doha Municipality in Partnership with the Local Community Towards a Better Life

### Local Agenda 21

We, the citizens of Ed Doha City, envision that in 2028 our city will be.....

“A city that is safe, clean and green, free from industrial establishments, enjoys the attributes of a contemporary city while preserving its customs and traditions, socially just and equitable, characterized by active citizenship and provides a good quality of life.”

#### The Elements of the Local Sustainability Action Strategy for Ed Doha City, 2009 – 2019

##### Goal 1: Provide the Basic Social Services to Improve the Quality of Life

##### Goal 2: Develop and Empower Local Community

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 1:</b> Develop the existing educational facilities, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building five schools with adequate facilities such as libraries, playgrounds, laboratories, etc.</li> <li>Building more classrooms in the existing schools.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 2:</b> Foster the sense of belonging and active citizenship among the citizens, between 2009 and 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizing community awareness campaigns and seminars to educate the citizens, develop their capacities and promote active citizenship.</li> <li>Promoting voluntary work and allowing the participation of local community in the decision making process.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 3:</b> Enhance and develop the basic health care services, between 2009 and 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building a public health care center and an eldercare center.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 4:</b> Provide adequate cultural, recreational and athletics facilities, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building a multi-purpose urban center which contains a social center, a public library and a sports center.</li> <li>Completing the construction of the public and recreational parks.</li> </ol>

##### Goal 3: Promote and Implement Effective Local Environmental Management

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 5:</b> Relocate the heavy industries outside residential areas, between 2009 and 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing an industrial zone for the heavy industrial activities (e.g. stone cutting facilities, gas filling stations, among others) to serve the Bethlehem Governorate.</li> </ol>
<b>Target 6:</b> Provide a healthy living environment, by 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limiting the number of new licenses given to the heavy industrial establishments and enforcing restrictions to comply with the environmental regulations.</li> </ul>
<b>Target 7:</b> Balance between urban development and the increase of green areas in the city by 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prohibiting the raising of livestock and poultry within residential areas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocating the crafts industries to a specialist industrial zone and reorganizing their trade.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Greening road-sides, public spaces, and barren lands.</li> </ol>

**Target 8:** Raise the environmental awareness level among community members by 2011

**Target 9:** Adopt environmentally sound management options of industrial wastewater, between 2009 and 2019

- Organizing community awareness campaigns targeting all community members with a special focus on housewives and students.
- Collecting and treating the industrial wastewater at source.

#### Goal 4: Develop the Infrastructure and Protect Human Health

Sustainability Goals and Targets	Prioritized Actions and Projects
<b>Target 10:</b> Reduce water loss in the public water network by 2010	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating the public water network. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing the amount of water supply to the city.</li> <li>Constructing domestic rainwater harvesting cisterns.</li> <li>Raising the awareness level among community members regarding the prudent and efficient use of drinking water.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 11:</b> Supply the citizens with safe drinking water so that the per capita water consumption is not less than 100 liter per day by 2010	
<b>Target 12:</b> Improve and develop the road network by 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Constructing three new roads. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating 10-12 km of existing secondary roads.</li> <li>Rehabilitating and developing the roads infrastructure to manage the traffic efficiently and comply with the requirements of the people with special needs.</li> <li>Creating and constructing special parking lots for trucks and large vehicles.</li> <li>Developing the electricity network, and improving and upgrading the streets' lighting system.</li> <li>Implementing solar and wind energy projects as alternative sources to nonrenewable energy.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<b>Target 13:</b> Improve and develop the electricity services by 2015	
<b>Target 14:</b> Address the citizens' current and future needs as regards to sanitation services, between 2010 and 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completing the installation of the public sewerage network to serve the unconnected households. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitating and upgrading the existing sewerage network to meet the needs of growing population.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>