



Palestine Dialogue Center Gaza

&



Association for Progressive Education Tel Aviv

Forging Ties Building a Future

Purpose of Proposed Project:

Peace will not be possible until there is an environment of peace which means that people will prefer living in order to create a better future than dying and killing to create an alternative future. To create such an environment individuals need to see people they respect speaking and acting in support of this. These same individuals need to see tangible benefits in their immediate life circumstances.

The first purpose of this project is to create and strengthen decision makers and opinion setters from both communities in their vision of an alternative mutually beneficial future for both peoples. The second purpose is to create an on going system of assistance from the Israeli's to effectively intervene and help in specific problem solving. Finally, with incremental continuous success on the ground, we can sell this belief, a alternative mutually beneficial future, to both communities.

Description:

We will hold a series of meetings of for decision makers and opinion setters to create personal bonds and cross communal understanding. These meetings will be at two levels: 1) A core group of people with significant public standing and access to the political structure, 2) specific groups such as the emergency services of both communities, or Mayors, parliamentarian aides, ministerial assistants and so on.

All the meetings will be facilitated by a joint Israeli / Palestinian team. Each meeting will end with the creation of a specific and definitive action plan.

Stage one: A group of people from Israel and Gaza will meet in Europe to work out details of the program. The group in Gaza has been authorized by the office of the President, Mr, Mahmood Abbas, to initialize the talks. These talks will finalize the core group and the target groups. The core group will include people from Gaza and the West Bank

Stage two: The joint facilitation team of the undersigned ngos' will identify and enlist venues for the meetings. Already Bari & Rome in Italy have agreed to host a meeting, so has Malta, an NGO in France and Spain and Greece.

Stage three: meetings will be set up under international umbrellas according to the target groups. We envision about ten such meetings.

Stage four: Meetings will take place and action plans for the specific target groups will be jointly drawn up.



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Stage five: After each meeting the action plan will be implemented and follow up meetings will take place in the region.

Justification

The Palestinian and Israeli societies have suffered long and hard in the conflict between the two communities. Each society has been held back because of the extensive investment in the armed conflict and security related expenditures. Citizens have lost hope and youth do not make long term plans. In the Middle East mothers sigh in relief at birth when they learn it is a girl born and not a boy. Boy's grow into young men and young men have been sacrificed for a century in this conflict, a young mans life is precarious in the Middle East.

The Israeli Palestinian conflict serves as a justification for heating up the international political environment by various parties and its solution would go a long way in crystallizing assumed grievances and alleviating them in the international arena.

The approach suggested takes into consideration that there needs to be a wide base of public acceptance to the idea of peace within each body politic. For peace to “break out”, more than acceptance is needed, peace must be viewed as possible and practical. Each community needs to be convinced that the other side desires a solution that is viable, security providing and that it's benefits will be enjoyed by the wider population. Therefore we plan a subtle public opinion campaign that will be word of mouth. We understand that having an intellectual understanding alone is not sufficient, and the campaign will not succeed if we can create tangible results that provide real solutions for real people with real problems, with a sustainable weave of influential people on both sides.



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Ofer Shalom

As we spoke over the phone we are now ready for stage one which will include a weekend meeting of 9 delegates from the PNA and 9 from the Israel. A Palestinian and Israeli facilitator will lead the meeting. A total of 20 people all told.

The suggested program will be as follows:

Weekday	Friday September 8 th	Saturday September 9 th	Sunday September 10 th	Monday September 11 th
Daytime				
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Morning 09:00 – 10:00 10:30 – 12:30	Travel to Europe	Continuation Current political analysis PNA, Israel, EU	Possible alternatives futures - what can be?	Planning next meetings.
Lunch	Hotel	Hotel	Hotel	Hotel
Noon 13:00 - 14:00	Arrival from T.A 14:00 Arrival from Cairo 11:20 Rest and organization	Narratives – an overview and main ethos and symbols - A Palestinian Narrative, An Israeli narrative. Q&A.	Planning sessions What needs to be done to get there What can we do with the help of our friends? Political and social agenda. Influencing public opinion to an environment of peace.	Departure at 10:00 from hotel for Palestinians and 20:00 for Israeli's
16:30 – 18:00	Orientation Ice breaking and expectations	What is the socialist agenda we have for our people?	Tasks and budgets.	
18:00 – 20:00	Current political analysis PNA, Israel, EU			
Evening 20:00 - ∞	Joint dinner	Local Political meeting at dinner	Dinner -	Travel to airport
Remarks				

The Participants are as follows but may be changed.

Delegates from Israel:

1. Mr. Ori RAMTY - The aide to the minister of Defense
2. Mr. David SWISSA - The strategic advisor to the Chair of The Israeli Labor Party
3. Mr. Tomer LOTAN - Aide to Minister of Education Yuli Tamir
4. Ms. Nily CHARUFH - Aide to General Secretary of the Labor Party Eitan Kaba
5. Ms. Michal CHOMSKI the aide of the Minister of Tourism Yitzhak Herzog

Delegates from Palestine

1. Mr. Hashem DASUKI – Director General Ministry of Interior
2. Mr. Musa NABI – Former Chief of Police of Gaza
3. Mr. Ramadan ALNAGAR – Senior party member
4. Mr. Rafiq HAMDUNA – Head of Palestinians Prisoners Committee
5. Mr. Zaher ALKAYALI – Director of Non Formal Education Gaza, Responsible for P2P youth programs



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6. Mr. Issam SAAD – Facilitator

The Budget is as follows in US dollars and will depend on the final dates:

Expenses	UNIT	RATE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
CURRENCY - USD \$				
Direct Costs Per Seminar				
Material	participant	\$5	20	\$100
Facilities				
Lecture Hall	Day	\$250	3	\$750
Workshop rooms	Day	\$100	6	\$600
Audio Visual facilities	Hour	\$100	3	\$300
LCD projector	Hour	\$100	3	\$300
Facilitators	Day	\$200	6	\$1,200
Transportation				
Travel via Egypt or Jordan	Person	\$400	6	\$2,400
Cairo or Amman to Paris	Person	\$600	6	\$3,600
Tel Aviv to Paris	Person	\$600	6	\$3,600
Travel Insurance	Day	\$3	48	\$144
Accommodation	Day	\$70	48	\$3,360
Communication				
Cell Phone	Day	\$100	8	\$800
Phone & Fax	Day	\$100	4	\$400
Internet	Day	\$100	4	\$400
Subtotal Direct Costs				\$17,954
Administrative Cost 10%				\$1,795
Contingency Reserve 5%				\$898
TOTAL				\$20,647