

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

جمعية المرأة العاملة الفلسطينية للتنمية
Palestinian Working Women for Development



**Step Forward..
within a long Journey**

Palestinian Working Women Society for Development (PWWSD)

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Annual Report 2022

Step Forward..within a long Journey



Table of Contents

1.Introduction

2. Vision, mission, values and Strategic Directions.

3. Executive Summary

4. Programs

4.1 Enhancement of Women Political Participation and women Agenda on Peace and Security Program

4.2 Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) Program

4.3 Responding and Combating Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Program

4.4 Programs Supporting Units

4.4.1 Advocacy, Communications, and Media Unit

4.4.2 Public Relations and Resources Mobilization Unit

4.4.3 Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) unit

5. Coalitions, Alliance and Cooperation

6. Capacity Building and Development

7. Publications, Policy and Position Papers

8. Conclusions

1. Introduction

PWWSD is a non-governmental women's, development organization, contributes to developing feminist struggle within national, social, and developmental dimensions. PWWSD believes that liberating women is directly linked to ending the occupation and establishing a full Palestinian democratic sovereign civil state.

Since its establishment in 1981, PWWSD witnessed significant institutional, programmatic, and geographical growth and expansion. It has been working at community, national, regional and intentional levels. It works in all governorates in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with focus on marginalized areas such as peripheries of Jerusalem, Area C, Bedouin communities that are areas affected by settlements, settler violence and Israeli aggression.

PWWSD General Assembly comprised of 25 members, and has an elected Board of Directors of 7 members. PWWSD's staff currently stand at more than 40 professionals, full and par-time, and distributed across offices in the West Bank and Gaza.

2. PWWSD's Vision, Mission and Values

2.1. Vision: "A free democratic society that is based on justice, dignity, respect for citizenship, human rights, difference and diversity, where women can enjoy full equality".

2.2. Mission

"PWWSD is a civil feminist human rights organization which seeks to achieve gender equality and combating all forms of discrimination and gender-based violence, facilitate women access to justice, and contribute to the development process, through providing psychological, social and legal support to women, empowering them and encouraging their participation in the political, economic and social fields, and in their participation in the national struggle to end the occupation."

2.3 PWWSD's Values

1. Independence
2. Professionalism
3. Objectivity
4. Advocacy for women practical and strategic needs and Rights
5. Responsiveness
6. Gender equality and Social Justice

7. Human Dignity

2.4 PWWSD Strategic Directions

1. Combating and responding to gender-based violence.
2. Economic empowerment of women.
3. Empowerment and political participation of women.
4. Strengthening role of women in the Palestinian national struggle.
5. Strengthening resilience and sustainability of PWWSD as a leading CSO.

3. Executive Summary

During the year of 2022, PWWSD implemented a total of 13 projects within its three main programs. In doing so, PWWSD empowered, improved lives and contributed in building capacities of women including young females and males, by enhancing their political participation and addressing women agenda on peace and security, empowering women economically, and through prevention, protection, and responding to gender-based violence (GBV). The projects were implemented with local and international partners, and supported by various donors, such as UN agencies (UN Women, UNODC, UNFPA, UNDP), international development agencies, EU, International political parties, and in cooperation with regional collations and consortiums.

During 2022, PWWSD campaigned with other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and coalitions against the shrinking space available for civil society to freely express opinions and advocate for women agenda. It advocated toward ratification of the Family Protection Law, and for the implementation of CEDAW Convention, that was signed by the Palestinian president in 2014. In addition, PWWSD participated in international, regional and local activities and events in order to advance Palestinian women's agenda for peace and security within the National committee and the Civil Coalition to implement the UNSCR 1325 and CEDAW Convention. Its employees and board members regularly took part in demonstrations, sits-in, press conferences, local and international media interviews, and in international and national events and advocacy, calling for an end to the Israeli occupation to the Palestinian land and to hold the Israeli occupation accountable for its atrocities against the Palestinian people, particularly against Palestinian women. It called for the implementation of the International Human Right Law and the International Humanitarian Law applicable to occupied territory.

PWWSD program on “enhancement of the political participation of women and Women agenda on peace and security” contributed towards increasing political participation and influence of women and youth in the democratic and public life in Palestine; by empowering shadow councils' members, women and youth leaders by providing them with the skills and knowledge to enhance their capabilities as well as their abilities to advocate for women's rights and human rights and to make sure that these voices are heard by duty bearers and community leaders, and through strengthening the youth forums for young leaders to monitor and promote accountability of the local and national authorities, and by implementing positive deviance (PD) principle, in which economic, social and cultural conditions of the surrounding environment of successful women who engaged in public life were selected and studied as models, to encourage other women to get engaged in politics and public life.

Through the economic empowerment program, capacities of women community-based organizations (CBOs) have been strengthened to achieve women economic rights and empowerment. Furthermore, by working with rural women and the cooperatives through advocacy and lobbying campaigns and by

providing training and capacity building on gender-related issues, the program empowered Palestinian women economically and provided them with the needed tools to compete in the labor market.

Furthermore, PWWSD Program to combat and to response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) continued to provide legal, psychosocial services, awareness and capacity building support to women who exposed to violence and to their surrounding families. This included domestic violence and violence imposed through the Israeli repeated aggression on Gaza Strip and West Bank. The program focused on providing services to women and girls who are victims and survivors of violence, elderly women with disabilities, girls in conflict with the law, girls and women who use drugs, in addition to women with chronic diseases and women and girls with disabilities.

Also, public meetings, conferences and youths' forums were organized as part of awareness and advocacy to eliminate violence against women, and women who recovered from violence participated as "Leaders" through "positive deviance" approach in raising awareness the community leaders, schools' teachers and other women on how to prevent and cope with GBV. The program provided family counseling to all family members in a holistic manner and enhanced their skills, in order to help them discuss and express feelings through systematic and enjoyable activities.

4.0 PWWSD Programs:

4.1 Enhancing Women Political Participation, and Women Agenda on Peace and Security Program:

Within this program, PWWSD organized community awareness activities in the field of civil, political and social rights, gender issues/political participation, local and international laws, advocacy, mass media, and local government laws. It issued reports, position papers and studies related to political participation and women security and peace agenda. It encouraged and motivated women and youth to take an active role in organizing and participating in awareness-raising workshops, organized lobbying activities and campaigns to influence duty bearers regarding the political, civil and social rights of women, participated in coordination with the women's movement and civil society coalitions and networks in conducting reviews and amendments to polices, strategies and laws.

PWWSD played an active role in coalitions related to women civil and political rights at the local, regional and international levels, and hosted and facilitated the work of coalitions, such as the Gender Forum in Local Government, and the Forum against Violence. It supported and implemented women community initiatives in regard to their civic, political and social participation, monitored and documented violations of the occupation, published reports, researches, position and policy papers and statements and disseminating it locally and internationally, and participated in preparing the shadow

report related to the implementation of CEDAW convention and in the women's movement in monitoring its implementation by the government.



Picture 1. Examples of Workshops encouraging female engagement in the electoral process, specifically in smaller local councils (Hebron and Bethlehem Governates), March 2022.

During 2022, women local shadow council members, women, and young leaders increased awareness and confidence to address political and socio-economic rights. Women members of the shadow councils were nominated in the local councils' electoral lists of the second phase of elections that took place on March 2022, and some of them won and were elected as members in the local councils. Furthermore, the post trainings assessment demonstrated that there was an improvement in the skills/knowledge that enhance or empower the participation in the political processes and community development. As part of strengthening and expanding the shadow councils, new shadow councils in different areas in the West Bank were established during 2022, and women members of the shadow councils and elected member in local councils increased their knowledge on negotiations, leadership and media skills, Election Laws, International Law, and the use of technology as a tool to promote women's participation in political processes.

In addition, the Political Participation program organized town hall meetings in several locations in the West Bank under the title “the needs and priorities of women and the role of institutions and decision makers in responding to these needs”, in which hundreds of people (females, males) participated in these meetings.



Picture 2. An awareness workshop on women's wellbeing, Nablus, Nablus Governorate, December 2022

Members of the shadow councils led all the hall meetings with the support of the PWWSD'S field educators, and presented the module of the shadow councils and its role in enhancing women political participation, and highlighted the importance of the support provided by political parties and local community to women's empowerment in Palestine.

Furthermore, advocacy meetings with political parties and community leaders were carried out in five locations in several governates in the West Bank, where hundreds of duty bearers and right holders participated.



Picture 3. Advocacy meeting with leaders of political parties and community leaders on the role of political parties and democratic forces in promoting the political participation of women and youth" (September 2022).

In addition, the program empowered young women and men within the youth's forum to be potential champions and mobilizers for social attitudinal change toward their rights to participate in political processes, where young women and men reached on new skills in leadership, negotiations, and the use of social media as a tool for advocacy and lobbying, and as community mobilizers to create societal-level changes for gender equality and democracy.

As an example, one of the participants, said:

"The training course has developed my abilities in managing the debates, as I have the skill that qualifies me to lead and manage an advocacy campaign. The issues that tackled in the training are very important in the lives of youth and women."

In addition, the society and policy makers became more sensitized to women rights in the political life and more supportive, as decision makers who were reached out during the program, expressed changed views or positions through support women's issues in general, and their participation in the local elections in particular, whether as candidates or as voters, and PWWSD media including social media activities and posts reached hundreds of thousands of people in 2022.



Picture 4. The national Day for “Leaders” in Local Governance, March 2022

Within the political program, a total of 21 elected members in local councils from the Southern, Northern and Center parts of the West Bank strengthened their role in political participation, especially in the decision-making process. As a result of the capacity building, an advocacy initiative was developed on relevant topics.



Picture 5. The first day of the training sessions on good governance, the role of women in local development and the laws of local authorities for elected female members in local councils (Ramallah, 1 October 2022).

In another intervention, members of shadow councils who were engaged in politics were used, through Positive Deviance (PD) and adaptive leadership methodologies and activation of community groups, in which women groups were formed and workshops were conducted in several locations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The focus was on presenting and sharing the positive experiences of the participating women with the aim of conveying the idea that women are capable of making change in their lives and in their communities and encouraging them to take steps towards political participation. A woman who participated in one of workshop was quoted as:

“I participated in a lot of workshops, but I did not hear terms such as positive deviance, and I had a tendency to spread the culture of positive deviation more widely, despite the economic and political conditions we live in”.

In addition, the participants enhanced their roles as women’s community groups in their societies, to create safe spaces and opportunities for women to express their experiences, rights and challenges, and to listen to positive and inspiring experiences with the aim of disseminating and spreading their positive practices to other women.



Picture 6. The first initiative; an exchange of experiences visit held in Deir Al-Asal's village council hall, with the participation of women member of local councils from the middle and south of the WB (Hebron, 7 December, 2022).

To support women participation in the second phase of the local elections (March 2022), as voters and as candidates, PWWSD in cooperation with the Palestinian Central Elections Committee implemented project, with focus on the needs of women candidates who lack the appropriate tools to recruit voters, as the traditional conservative community and political discourse and the existing patriarchal structures does not give women adequate space to express themselves and promote their role as decision- makers and that they have the capacity to serve the whole community.

4.2 Women Economic Empowerment Program

Women's economic participation in Palestine takes place in a complex and volatile political context. In addition to facing direct daily violations of their right to life, freedom of movement, work, health, education, and housing by the Israeli occupation, Palestinian women also faced economic-Gender based violence (E-GBV) and discrimination that affects the realization of their economic rights in the domestic context. According to the latest Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics' (PCBS), women participation in the labour force (15 years old and above) in 2021 and 2022 was approximately 17%, and 19%, respectively. Unemployment rate among young female graduates (19-25 years) holding an intermediate diploma or higher is more than 70% compared to 39% for young males.

In addition, women remain legally under the men's guardianship of men in all family issues and are discriminated against in matters of divorce, inheritance, child custody and ownership of marital assets. Women's enjoyment of their rights to property real estate or land – is an essential element in their economic empowerment, as it increases women's participation in decision-making at the family levels, and provide them with a number of options that greatly help them deal with economic crises.

Therefore, PWWSD embarked in program of “Women Economic empowerment” in order to mitigate the effects of the economic discrimination against women, through empowering women, young women and Women Rights Organizations (WROs) and CBOs, so they could be able to advocate for their economic rights and to minimize effects of E-GBV.

During 2022, PWWSD through this program conducted community awareness campaigns on women's engagement in economic activities, raised awareness of the rights holders on their economic and social rights, provided psychological, social and legal counseling services to women exposed to GBV and to victims in the work environment, contributed to the empowerment of youth economically and raised their awareness of their rights and duties, enabled them to enter the labor market, and raised their awareness of the importance of both men and women participation in economic life.

In addition, the program organized women in union and community structures, implemented women community initiatives that enhance their economic and social participation, strengthened the capacities of grassroots Community Based organizations (CBOs), including women in cooperatives, as related to women's civil, economic, social rights and gender issues, provided training to women's associations and cooperatives and building their capacities in economic and social empowerment, trained partner organizations on advocacy and mobilization to advance women's economic rights, and implemented advocacy campaigns to influence changing the laws and policies that prevent gender equal economic rights and impede women in joining the labor market.

Within the program, PWWSD promoted Women's inclusion in the economy through engaging in a project of breaking discriminatory norms of entering women into the labor market. The project focused on awareness, training, workshops, media and advocacy campaigns in order to break the norms associated with traditional jobs of women, empowered women to move toward jobs that usually monopolized by men.

It organized awareness sessions and workshops with hundreds of universities students in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (females and males), produced and broadcasted films reflecting the concepts of valuing women's care work, and arranged flash mob shows highlighting the merit of employment for women, created billboards, produced radio and TV episodes on women non-traditional jobs, and published stories highlighting women success in their non-traditional jobs.



Picture 7. Examples of a Non-traditional job by Palestinian woman (Truck Driver and Carpenter), as highlighted by “Breaking the Discriminatory Norms” project.

In another regional project, PWWSD and partners engaged with young women who face multiple discrimination as a result of Economic-Gender-Based Violence (E-GBV) in the targeted countries. The project empowered women, to be the leader for change by holding duty bearers accountable and improve conditions for young women in the informal sector, through strengthening processes that contribute to creating an environment that promotes women economic rights (WER). The capacity building of women is reflected in strengthening inclusive leadership, mutual learning, building capacity in advocacy, and challenging existing social norms and gender inequality.

The overall goal of the project is to have Gender-responsive accountability mechanisms for WEE (Women Economic Empowerment) at multiple levels. To achieve the goals, the project in its second year is planned to accomplish four results; establish safe and secure space for the young women and WROs to develop mobilization and advocacy strategies to hold decisions makers accountable, create innovative and inclusive learning and leadership for women and WROs, build up capacities in advocacy, alliance building, social mobilization and inclusive leadership for young women and the WROs, and to develop advocacy interventions at multiple levels.



Picture 8. Signing the agreements with a total of 11 Partners Organizations (POs) within Fem-Pawer Project (Economic Empowerment Program, Jericho July 2022).

During the year 2022, the main focus of Fem-PAWER was on building capacities of the POs after receiving the grants, through conducting capacity development, networking opportunities and to initiate lobby and advocacy campaigns. These activities started after the POs underwent self-assessment, to identify the assets and areas for improvement in the field of lobbying and advocacy for E-GBV, and to identify organizational capacity of the POs in the field of governance, finance management, program management, networking as well as their strengths and areas for improvement.



Picture 9. Example of activities conducted by one of the PO (ADWAR-Hebron) as part of FEM-PAWER Project. (November 2022).

Within a project entitled "Our Rights...Our priorities", PWWSD built its interventions on the findings of a previous analytical study (conducted in 2021), as well as on the capacity building trainings that targeted at least 30 various CBOs during the first year. PWWSD conducted community awareness

sessions, formed and followed up of the local coordination committees, implemented the yearly public awareness thematic campaigns, and executed seminars about SDGS.

The topics for the community awareness sessions were identified based on discussion with the CBOs. The yearly thematic public awareness campaign was arranged in coordination with the local employment council in Tulkarem as well as in coordination with official departments in the governorate (ministries of labour, agriculture, national economy, and Chamber of Commerce). The project also made progress toward human rights and a rights-based approach in tackling women's economic empowerment, and promoted gender equality and the rights of People with disability (PWDs) for inclusion in work and in the Palestinian society at large, as reflected in the outcome of the training and awareness activities, as well as other activities aiming at fostering dialogue with duty bearers.

As part of the project, a shadow report in response to PA report to CEDAW committee has been prepared by consultant. The report addressed the economic rights of Palestinian women and highlighted the challenges of economic empowerment of Palestinian women, specifically rural women.

In addition, the shadow report shed light on the impact and progress made by the PA in implementing the human rights of women, specifically economic rights, and addressed the inadequacies and gaps in laws and policies and their implementation. The shadow report focused on CEDAW Articles 1-16, specifically articles directly relevant to women's economic empowerment. It presented general recommendations that contain the latest interpretation of the normative standards in the CEDAW Convention, reports of other UN Human Rights mechanisms, concluding observations of other UN treaty bodies which relate to women's economic rights, and summary Records that capture the dialogue between the government and CEDAW Committee.

In another project, PWWSD in collaboration with local partners (ARIJ, ESDC, LRC, PACU, UWAC) fostered Gender mainstreaming and gender equality concepts by utilizing various methods and tools; PWWSD implemented training sessions for partners on "Results-Based Lobbying and, seven of which focused on Human Rights Based-Approach (HRBA) and gender mainstreaming and one training was conducted by our partner ARIJ on advocacy.

Within the project, PWWSD conducted two advanced capacity-building sessions on the design and development of advocacy plans promoting gender equality and women's rights (a total of 12 females and 2 males) reached on the concept of advocacy and lobbying definition and the importance of volunteering and launching community initiatives aimed at sustainable development in Palestine. Another capacity building training was conducted on climate change, climate justice, and how climate impacts women, specifically rural women which contained local challenges of climate change, the

humanitarian action that affects climate change, the impact of climate change on women, and international agreements related to climate change (28 female participants from CBOs and partners) were reached out on these topics.

As part of the project, PWWSD implemented advocacy campaigns of 17th (empowerment rural women) 16th (The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence), and 8. Mar (international women's day 2022, to promote policies that support rural women's access to, and control of their productive resources, as well as advocacy interventions to promote the rights of rural women in the agricultural sector as whole and agricultural cooperatives in particular especially through addressing the consequences of the Israeli occupation practices that exacerbate violence and increase risk of food insecurity.

As a results of the media campaigns within the project in 2022, social media activities and posts reached more than 876,341 people from Jan to Dec. 2022, besides the live views of the spots, interviews, and videos on PWWSD media partners; WATTAN TV, ROYA TV, PALESTINE TV & MADA TV channels and other radio channels. This well-reached number was achieved through media coverage, position papers, protests, success stories, research, campaigns event, meetings, training sessions, short films, TV and radio episodes and spots, and other different messages PWWSD raised through 2022.

On the other hand, three meetings were implemented with duty bearers and municipalities to discuss economic opportunities for rural women and cooperatives in Nablus, Tulkarem, and Ramallah with participants from 78 women and 5 men.

Furthermore, a policy paper was produced about "governing and cooperatives in illuminate of international conventions and Palestinian context. "And a factsheet about "economic rights of rural women in Palestine". Also, PWWSD Conducted two days of training for PWWSD coordinators and POs focal points on evidence-based reporting, documentary production, and data translation of testimonies for advocacy (9 participants. 2 male-7 female), and this activity was shared on Facebook which reached 2,679 people.

Moreover, By the end of 2022, PWWSD implemented a conference titled "rural women: rights to gender equality in inclusive development", which includes 113 participants from rights holders, government sectors such as the Cooperative Work Agency, the Ministry of Labor, and the Ministry of National Economy, NGOs local and international such as the International Labor Organization. All participants had effective participation in the research and reports that had been presented and produced by PWWSD. In the same context, PWWSD brought together a large number of women who worked on developing their capabilities, and through the conference, they were able to talk directly with the responsible authorities without an intermediary about their concerns and requirements.

Also, within the project, psychosocial assistance was provided to women exposed to GBV via free helplines and case management by a team of counselors in five different areas (Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Tulkarem, and Hebron) with 432 consultations and 443 counseling sessions to 214 cases conducted, and a total of 763 women were reached on professional legal aid services to GBV victims in three areas (Ramallah, Tulkarem, and Nablus). In addition, an analytical report of GBV cases handled during the project was published. The report discussed in details selected cases as related to type of violence, the success achieved and the challenges face the counseling and the recommendations to tackle it.



Picture 10. Training of partner organizations (POs) on Evidenced Based Advocacy (May 2022)

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Program

During the year 2022, this program (A total of 6 projects) provided case management, individual and collective psychological and social counseling services to women exposed to GBV, legal advice and pleading cases in courts, strengthened capacities of workers in grassroots organizations in GBV and women's rights to participate in community awareness and advocacy campaigns, documented GBV cases and publishing periodic reports, implemented community awareness campaigns on GBV for all segments of society, formed forums of women GBV survivors.

In addition, the program implemented awareness-raising and capacity building of the rights holders and enable them to participate in and lead policy dialogues and meetings with duty bearers, reviewed policies and regulations and systems and proposed amendments to them and/or drafting new ones related to combating GBV, coordinated and implemented lobbying and advocacy campaigns at the national and regional levels on GBV, issued statements and position papers related to GBV, coordinated and networked with relevant organizations to build alliances and arranged policy discussion sessions with duty bearers to influence laws related to combating GBV.



Picture 11. An awareness workshop on youth's life skills, Nablus, Nablus Governorate, October 2022.

Through the GBV program, PWWSD contributed to the annual 16 days campaign to Combating Violence Against Women, by implementing activities within the program projects. The activities ranged from conducting awareness sessions, organizing trip for GBV women survivors to talk about their experiences, participating in media (TV and radio, social media) programs on GBV issues, and embarking in advocacy activities toward the duty bearers, particularly on the “Family Protection Law” and on the National Referral System.

The program provided GBV multi-sectorial services including health care and sexual and reproductive health services for GBV survivors, including women including senior women with disability (WWD), women who used drugs, and women and girls exposed to GBV and in conflict with law. It supported Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in remote areas in order to provide multi sectoral remote quality services to communicate, monitor cases and document progress and provided equipment to enhance the remote services infrastructure.



Picture 12. Hearing sessions organized with duty bearers, Gaza Strip, October 2022).

Furthermore, supportive groups were selected, formed, and empowered on psychosocial interventions, and coordination meetings with key service providers within the framework of the National Referral System were facilitated also, and hundreds of individuals (females, males) were empowered through community workshops.

In addition, PWWSO counselors conducted awareness sessions with hundreds of beneficiaries, in which the main topics were related to stress management, GBV, communication skills, time management, and self-care. During the implementation period of the project, female beneficiaries have registered more than one case in the Palestinian courts, in which all these cases documented by Registration of legal accompaniments of women survivors of gender violence in judicial proceedings and every case has file in Bethlehem office.

As a complementary to its various projects, PWWSO provided legal support and services to women survivors and victims of Violence against Women (VAW), and on organizing hearing and awareness sessions with duty bearers and duty holders. During implementation of the project in 2022, PWWSO lawyers conducted consultations in relations to the most prominent problems that women suffer from, such as custody, child maintenance, wife alimony, deferred dowry, and labor law. Also, cases were filed for women suffering from gender-based violence and deprivation of basic rights to plead in courts in the four areas, and awareness sessions were implemented with total beneficiaries of women regarding the personal status law.

As part of Sawasya project, PWWSO and a CSO (The Arab Women Forum in Negev (MAAN) invited Institutions, policy/decision makers, service providers, Judicial bodies, and service providers, that support women legally through legal aid services, legal awareness and consultations for women and girls' victims and survivors of violence, to discuss the results and recommendations of the legal study that MAAN produced titled **"Women with Palestinian Identity Married in the Negev Between the**

Hammer of Laws and the Oaks of Society”. Among the recommendations resulted from of the session was to conduct community awareness against marriage of young girls and against multi-wife marriage in “Negev”, to Increase the coordination with the counseling department in the Sharia courts, to provide information on rights of the married women in Negev, to advise women not to marry already married men who having Israeli ID, and to demand to modify/change laws and regulations for the fair treatment of women married to men who carry Israeli ID.



Picture 13: session entitled: Women with Palestinian Identity Married in the Negev Between the Hammer of Laws and the Oaks of Society

Within the project “Enhancing the protection and Re-integration of Furthest Left Behind Groups of Women and Girls Victims and Survivors of Violence in Palestine, PWWSD ccounselors in Bethlehem, Hebron, Jordan Valley, and in Gaza Strip (North and Gaza City), conducted awareness sessions for the three target groups (elderly women with disabilities, women, and girls’ victims and survivors of violence, and women and girls’ users of drugs in Gaza, and e lawyer from PWWSD in Jordan Valley conducted legal awareness sessions related to personal status law and inheritance with elderly women with disabilities. In addition, peer to peer support groups conducted in several locations, for elderly women with disabilities, where every group attended Peer support sessions, which is considered as one of the effective techniques in exchanging experiences for people with the same circumstances, giving space for self-expression, learning new techniques and experiences, establishing social relationships and communicating with people who have experienced difficulties and found positive ways to cope.

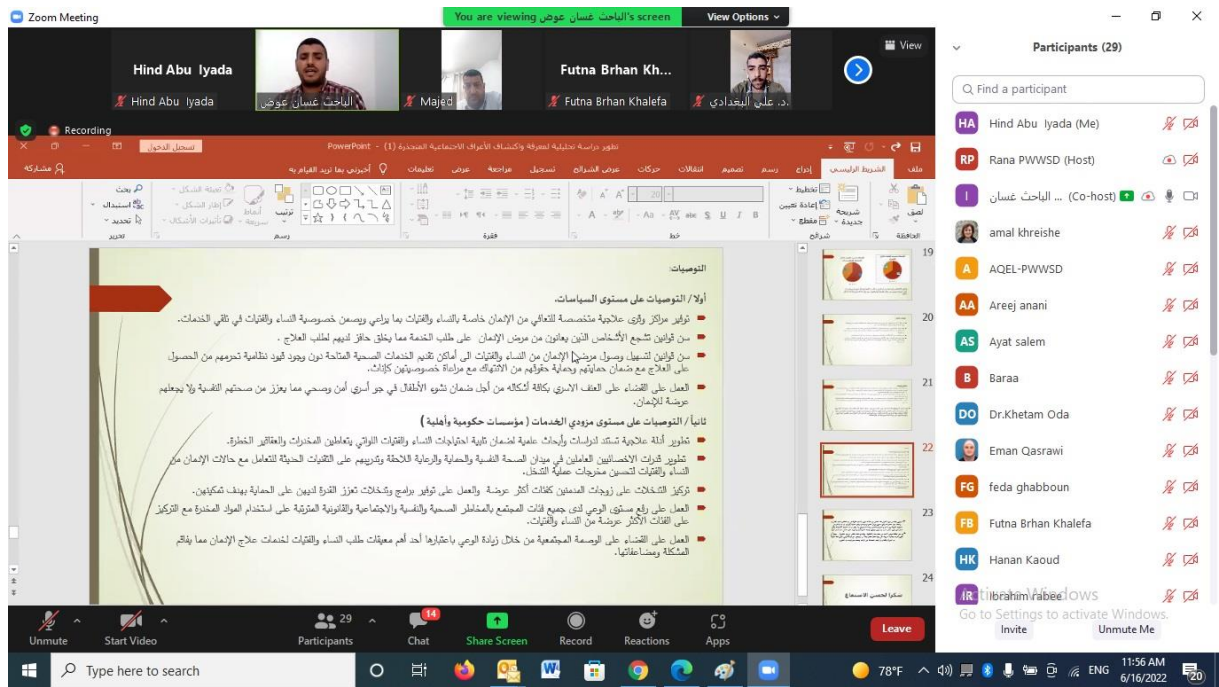
Also, two seminars were implemented in November, 2022, one in Bethlehem, and one in Gaza Strip, in close collaboration and with participation of the CSOs forum to combat GBV, with decision makers,

service providers and women community leaders to present the outcomes of the results of the policy sessions and open dialogues on key recommendations and strategies for change, and a total of 12 messages were disseminated through social media from September–November about women left behind groups (elderly women with disabilities, girls' victims and survivors of violence and in conflict with the law, and women and girls who use drugs in Gaza).



Picture 14: An example of Awareness session on protection and Re-integration of Furthest Left Behind Groups of Women and Girls Victims and Survivors of Violence in Palestine (October 2022).

Furthermore, a symposium conducted virtually to present the results of the pilot analytical paper and strategies for change that address social norms that tolerate violence against women and gender inequalities of women and girls who use drugs in Gaza. A total of 31 persons participated in the session, most of whom were decision-makers from Ministry of Justice, ministry of health, psychological health and a group of Psychologists from CBO's in Gaza strip government institutions, a group of human rights and feminist institutions, specialists, university professors, and researchers.



Picture 15: Virtual participation in a symposium on “Social norms that tolerate violence against women and gender inequalities of women and girls uses drugs in Gaza”

As a partner in a comprehensive Haya project, administered by various UN Agencies (UN WOMEN, UNODC, UN Habitat,) PWWSD focused on further expansion and use of services by women survivors and victims of VAW, through awareness, assistance and support and advocacy initiatives. PWWSD counselors conducted face to face awareness sessions through mobile information clinics in the communities covered by the project, on topics related to GBV definition, forms and physical and psychological effects of GBV, and on identifying the police, women’s protective institutions and on social affairs available services. In addition, hundreds of targeted women and girls received consultations and individual counseling sessions, and public awareness sessions were held, mainly aiming to provide space for survivors and women who classify as positive deviance (PDs), shared their experience with complete privacy and confidentiality. More than two hundred women participated in these sessions in Ramallah, Nablus and Jenin, Furthermore, peer-to-peer meetings were held in four governorates, involved women PDs and victims of GBV with the aim to exchange experiences between women, and mitigate the impact of violence.



Picture 16: An example of workshop conducted for all service providers on the National Referral System (Tulkarem, September 2022)

During 2022, help desk counselors conducted face-to-face awareness sessions through mobile info clinics, and a total of (24) awareness sessions were held on topics related to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) definition, forms, and physical and psychological impacts of GBV, identifying the police, women's protective institutions and social affairs available services, psychosocial health and wellbeing, and the protection mechanisms.



Picture 17. Women during awareness session, in Jenin. October, 2022

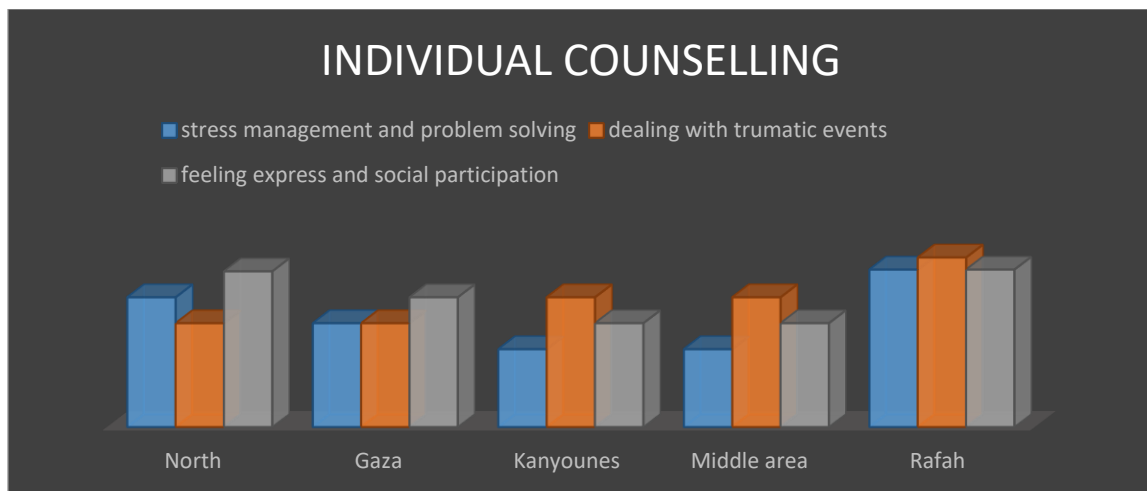
This involved a total of (341) women and girls' participants, where all of them are new beneficiaries. Overall, since the beginning of the project, a total of (494) sessions were completed reaching a total of (6659) women, including (5675) new participants. In addition, a total of (96) women received consultations; and, (52) received individual counseling sessions. Cumulatively, since the start of the project, a total of (2291) consultations were delivered and 1062 women received individual counseling, of these (615) were new beneficiaries and 439 were follow up cases.



Picture 18. As part of Haya project, a Mural was installed in Jenin (December 2022)

Also, Women survivors “positive deviants” have engaged to express their feeling through safe area by 2 self-care days one in Jenin and other in Ramallah to increase their resilience and improve well-being, and the Forum for Women survivors of violence continued its activities in 2022, in which several meetings were held, with the participation of twenty attendees including women PDs. The Forum’s implemented activities toward reaching the following goals: (a) Presenting the services available by the national referral system service providers, (b) Concluding the achievements of the HAYA program, (c) Presenting women’s experiences and future suggestions as well as the challenges, and (d) Increased networking between women PDs across project areas.

During 2022, a project was implemented in Gaza strip, to increase the level of protection and resilience of the vulnerable population exposed to Human Rights and Humanitarian International Law violations. Activities were implemented to improve the physical and psycho-social condition of people, where individual and family counselling provided for family members of individuals who have acquired a disability as a result of human rights violations, in addition to conducting community awareness activities and group counselling for women exposed to gender-based violence or human rights violations, and providing speech therapy service for minors.



Picture 19. Level of achievement following individual counselling for the targeted groups in Gaza Strip (40-70% improvements)

Programs Supporting Units

Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) unit:

During 2022, the unit provided training and capacity building on MEAL and on results-based reporting for PWWSD staff and contributed to developing MEAL system for PWWSD projects and programs. It also facilitated for external training with a consultancy firm, that resulted in developing the MEAL system for PWWSD, and for conducting baseline and endline studies for several projects.

Regularly the unit helped in clarifying the theory of change (TOC), the logical framework (log frame) and the MEAL plan for the new projects. It also holds learning meetings to discuss project's progress, identify main points of strengths, brainstorm about solutions to challenges, generated feedback, and ensured activities are being run in accordance with the project's budget, timeframe, objectives and standards of stakeholders and partner's requirements.

The unit also had conducted monitoring and assessment for the field visits by the project coordinator to some targeted areas and for trainings and workshops. In addition, it reviewed and ensured the existence of the pre and post assessment for the workshops and the capacity building activities. Moreover, the unit emphasized that qualitative data collected through quotes and tracking of success and change stories when applicable.

During and as part of the regular monthly programs' meetings, learning sessions were organized and ideas were discussed to improve implementation of the project. The unit facilitated the for all baseline and evaluation studies carried out for various projects during 2022. This included contribution in drafting the TORs, selecting the consultants/researchers, reviewing the inception and the draft and final reports, and organizing the workshops where results and findings were presented.

Advocacy, Media, Communications, Public Relations and Resources Mobilization Unit: This unit contributed to the successful implementation of all projects; It covered and published projects activities, and ensured the media plan component for each project is implemented on time and toward to intended targets.

In addition, it issued regular press releases and briefings about PWWSD's activities and achievements, issued statements and position papers on events related to Palestinian women issues and PWWSD scope of work, and organized press interviews and dialogues through various print, audio and visual media.

Furthermore, the unit promoted PWWSD awareness-raising activities, used various media outlets to advertise and promote PWWSD advocacy campaigns and activities, highlighting women voices through advertisements, short meetings with journalists, and published written quotes, updated the information and highlighted PWWSD activities on the website and social media, invited journalists and media

representatives to participate in PWWSD activities, and organized field trips for journalists and influencers to PWWSD projects or partners activities

Moreover, the unit follow up on call for proposals, reviewed project proposals and submitted them to potential donors, managed the relations with donor partners, followed up on PWWSD public relations and communication interventions, organized introductory meetings with potential donors and partners in coordination with programs management

The unit also, invited existing and new donor partners and international agencies to participate in PWWSD activities and events, sent electronic Newsletter to partners, friends and supporters, and contributed in organizing annual events and conferences as part for PWWSD projects and programs.

PWWSD Cooperation and Coalitions:

During 2022, PWWSD continued to function as reference for women's issues and partners with organizations that share the same values and concepts. PWWSD is member in different networks that spread out as the following:

Locally:

- PNGO (Palestinian Non-Governmental Organizations Network).
- Civil Society Organizations to Combat Violence against women (Al-Muntada).
- Civil Coalition for Family Protection Law.
- Civil Coalition for Penalty Law.
- Palestinian Women's Coalition to Implement United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1325).
- Advisory Board of the Safe Shelters for Abused Women (led by the Ministry of Social Development).
- National Commission for Employing Women.
- Gender Forum for Women in Local Governance.
- National Body to Monitor Elections.
- National Commission for Legislation on Gender Issues.
- Training and Employment Council.
- Women's Coalition for the Implementation of CEDAW accords.
- The Palestinian Coalition for Economic and Social Rights includes a number of institutions works on related issues to economic and social rights.
- Childhood Protection Network.
- Protection Cluster in United Nations.

Regionally:

- UNSCR 1325 Operation Group.

- Arab Women Forum (Aisha).
- Arab Network for Advocacy and Workers Education Adult Education.
- Arab Women Network – Karama.
- Jusoor Network for Women in Political Life.
- Amneh Network

Internationally:

- Euro Mediterranean Feminist Network, (EFI-IFE)
- Anna Lindh Foundation.
- Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID).
- International Federation for Education of Workers Association (IFEWA).

Research Publications, Reports, Policy and Position papers:

In 2022, PWWSD published research studies, fact sheets, and policy and position papers on different topics within its three programs. The full publications are available at PWWSD website (www.pwwsd.org)

Staff Capacity Buildings and Strategy Development 2021-2025:

During year 2022, several trainings and capacity building activities were conducted, tackling various topics, such as evidenced-based advocacy, Results-based reports writing, effective communications and inter-personal skills, results performance management, and on financial and procurement procedures.

Conclusions

During 2022, despite PWWSD success in implementing a total of 13 projects in West Bank and Gaza Strip, targeting diverse groups, with focus on vulnerable communities and marginalized areas, and reaching thousands of women, girls, youths, men, people with disability, including rights holders and duty bearers, several challenges and issues faced PWWSD during 2022 that need to be addressed. Among these, the need for a sustainable financial core fund, the need for reforms and activation of the income generating resources the PWWSD has. The shift from activities-oriented work to results based management and reporting has to be continued, and the needs for the activation of resources mobilization, media and communications unit need to be considered as priority for PWWSD future.

Furthermore, PWWSD advocacy and lobbying campaigns have to be evaluated and revised accordingly, with the focus to be on the sustainable impact on the targeted groups. PWWSD has to strengthened its outreach to local and international communities, utilizing PWWSD achievements, either in terms of success stories, data or results of studies, reports position and policy papers.