

ANNUAL REPORT

COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY

2023



**The Year of Challenge
and Determination**

Background of the organization:

The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development is an independent, non-governmental feminist development organization that contributes to advancing feminist struggle within national, social, and developmental dimensions. The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development believes that women's liberation is directly linked to ending the occupation, eliminating all forms of discrimination against women in both public and private spaces, and contributing to building a society governed by values of justice, equality, and freedom.

Since its establishment in 1981, the organization has experienced significant growth and expansion both geographically and in terms of institutional and programmatic development. It operates at community, national, regional, and global levels through multiple and diverse coalitions and networks. The organization works throughout all governorates of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with particular focus on marginalized areas including the periphery of occupied Jerusalem, Area C, as well as Bedouin communities and those exposed to settler crimes or isolated by the annexation and expansion wall.

The General Assembly of the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development consists of 25 women, with an elected administrative body composed of 7 members. The organization employs more than 40 staff members, both full-time and part-time, distributed across various offices in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

PWWSD's 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".

Mission Statement

"Palestinian Working Women for Development 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."

General Context in Occupied Territories and Its Impact on PWWSD Work

The year of 2023 was marked by escalating occupation practices, genocidal warfare in Gaza, systematic violations of international law, and the absence of adequate social protection mechanisms that collectively created complex layers of discrimination and vulnerability affecting all aspects of Palestinian life.

Political and Security Context

The year 2023 witnessed complexities that Palestinian society had not experienced in past decades across political, security, economic, and cultural levels. Complete closure and siege policies were implemented across occupied territories, while the West Bank was systematically transformed into isolated enclaves through military checkpoints, earthen barriers, and iron gates. These measures fundamentally undermine any possibility of establishing a Palestinian state in territories occupied in 1967 and pose serious threats to regional and international security.

Systematic attacks by the Israeli army and settlers escalated dramatically, particularly targeting agricultural areas where the majority of working women are employed. Daily military raids on Palestinian towns primarily affected women and children, while infrastructure destruction targeted essential services including water, electricity, sewage, and transportation networks. The Gaza Strip, under siege since 2007, faced severe restrictions that created widespread poverty and unemployment, particularly among women who constitute 60% of agricultural workers. Contaminated water supplies resulted from non-functional desalination plants, while lack of raw materials prevented the reconstruction of previously destroyed homes.

The October 7, 2023 Crisis and Its Consequences

The events of October 7, 2023, marked the beginning of what has been characterized as one of the most brutal wars against the Palestinian people, reaching levels of genocide and ethnic cleansing. Within the first 100 days of aggression, 1,968 documented massacres were committed against Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. The human toll was catastrophic, with 30,469 Palestinians killed or missing as a result of Israeli attacks. Official hospital documentation confirmed 23,469 deaths, including 10,300 children and 7,100 women, while 7,000 people remained missing under rubble, 70% of whom were children and women.

The wounded numbered 59,604 individuals, with 6,200 in critical condition requiring transfer abroad for life-saving treatment. However, only 707 wounded individuals were actually transferred for external medical care. The targeting of healthcare workers was systematic, resulting in 337 deaths among medical and paramedical staff, 45 civil defense personnel, and 117 journalists. Additionally, 99 healthcare workers and 10 journalists were arrested by occupation forces.

Systematic destruction of civilian infrastructure became a defining characteristic of this period. Government facilities, educational institutions, religious sites, and archaeological locations were deliberately targeted. A total of 134 government facilities were completely demolished, alongside 95 schools and universities, with an additional 295 educational institutions partially damaged. Religious and cultural heritage suffered severe losses with 240 mosques and 3 churches partially destroyed, and 200 archaeological and heritage sites completely demolished.

Housing became a primary target, with 69,200 residential units completely destroyed and 290,000 partially damaged, displacing 2 million people. Healthcare infrastructure was deliberately compromised, rendering 30 hospitals and 53 medical centers non-functional, while 150 health facilities suffered partial damage and 121 ambulances were destroyed. The scale of destruction was unprecedented, with 65,000 tons of internationally banned explosive materials dropped on the Gaza Strip.

The health crisis extended beyond immediate casualties, with 10,000 cancer patients facing death due to lack of treatment access and 400,000 people suffering from infectious diseases due to displacement and unsanitary conditions. The systematic nature of attacks created a humanitarian catastrophe where more than 10 children lose limbs daily, while epidemic diseases spread rapidly among the displaced population.

Socioeconomic Challenges and Gender Impact

Palestinian society continues to operate without a social security law despite previous drafting efforts, leaving Palestinians without any form of protection and forcing them, predominantly women, to accept any available employment opportunities regardless of rights protection. Women's workforce participation remains below 20%, largely due to systemic barriers and widespread gender-based violence in workplaces that is not addressed by Palestinian Labor Law No. 7/2000. The Ministry of Labor's audit and investigation department remains inactive in monitoring labor law compliance and holding violators accountable.

The absence of legal protections pushes many women into the informal sector without rights, while the escalation since October 7 has resulted in hundreds of thousands of Palestinian workers being banned from their workplaces inside Israel, dramatically increasing unemployment and poverty levels. Women in agriculture, who represent 60% of the agricultural workforce, face particular vulnerabilities as settler attacks prevent access to farmland and harvest opportunities, creating food insecurity especially for female-headed households.

The impact on women extends far beyond direct targeting through execution, detention, and forced displacement. Women face systematic confiscation of productive resources and indirect targeting through family separation, forced displacement of male family members, and restrictions that transform them into sole caregivers under extremely difficult circumstances. Movement restrictions severely limit access to employment and educational opportunities, while

healthcare access becomes increasingly dangerous, particularly for pregnant women facing delays or closures at checkpoints.

Civil Society and Democratic Governance

The political landscape is characterized by the absence of elections and faltering democratic processes, combined with increased influence of conservative and tribal forces. Civil society organizations face unprecedented challenges through restricted operational space, conditional funding arrangements, and systematic targeting by occupation forces under false pretenses of encouraging hatred, violence, and anti-Semitism. The feminist movement faces particular targeting through escalated incitement campaigns by religious fundamentalist groups, while women's rights advocates encounter increased hostility and threats.

Organizational Response and Strategic Framework

Despite these overwhelming challenges, the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development maintained its commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment through evidence-based interventions focused on women beneficiaries and women-led organizations. The organization implemented a comprehensive gender policy framework addressing multiple aspects of social protection and equality promotion.

The strategic approach encompasses designing social protection strategies that recognize multiple forms of discrimination against women while ensuring programs meet women's specific needs throughout their lives. This includes acknowledging women's caregiving roles without reinforcing negative stereotypes, establishing accessible and gender-sensitive social services, and implementing fair resource distribution mechanisms linked to women's peace and security agendas.

The organization prioritizes interventions that mitigate gender power relations and address unequal roles within families and communities, while maintaining active advocacy for cessation of Gaza aggression and implementation of relevant UN resolutions. Political advocacy focuses on increasing women's representation in decision-making positions and ending internal political divisions, supported by extensive networking with grassroots and civil institutions locally and regionally.

Policy development efforts concentrate on creating comprehensive documentation addressing discrimination in personal status rights, electoral laws, and various legal frameworks, while developing government procedures and policies that promote equality principles. These efforts aim to establish systematic approaches to reducing discrimination and inequality across all sectors of Palestinian society.

The year 2023 represents a critical juncture for Palestinian society, with women bearing disproportionate consequences of occupation policies, military aggression, and systematic rights violations. The convergence of genocidal warfare, territorial fragmentation, economic strangulation, and political deterioration has created unprecedented challenges that require sustained international attention and intervention. The absence of adequate legal protections, combined with systematic targeting of civil society and women's rights organizations, threatens the foundation of Palestinian social development and democratic aspirations. Nevertheless, organizations like the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development continue implementing crucial interventions while advocating for the structural changes necessary to achieve equality, justice, and sustainable development for Palestinian society.

Beneficiaries of the organization services, geographical distribution, gender equality, achievements of the organization, participation in sustainable development goals

Number of Indirect Beneficiaries	Number of Direct Beneficiaries (by Gender)		Program
Total	Females	Males	
35000	4026	488	Enhancing Women's Political Participation and the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda
60000	8514	1436	Economic Empowerment
20000	9682	1667	Psychological Counseling and Combating Gender-Based Violence
	22222	3591	Total
115000		25813	Grand Total
	%86	%14	Percentage

Percentage	Total	Psychological Counseling and Combating Gender-Based Violence	Economic Empowerment Program	Enhancing Women's Political Participation and the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda	Region
%62	15994	5496	6787	3711	West Bank
%38	9819	5853	3163	803	Gaza Strip
	25813	11349	9950	4514	Total
		%44.0	%38.5	%17.5	Percentage

In 2023, the organization served a total of 115,000 beneficiaries, 86% of whom were female and 14% male, through three main programs: promoting women's political participation and the women, peace and security agenda; economic empowerment; and psychological counseling and combating gender-based violence.

The beneficiaries are distributed between the West Bank (62%) and the Gaza Strip (38%). The organization highlights its role in achieving the fifth Sustainable Development Goal on gender equality through awareness campaigns, legal support, education, economic empowerment, and psychological and social programs.

Media and educational campaigns were carried out to raise awareness of the rights of women and girls, provide psychological, social, and legal support to abused women, and encourage their political and social participation. The organization also supported women leaders in accessing

decision-making positions and actively participated in advocating for women's rights locally, regionally, and internationally.

PWWSD Achievements at the end of 2023:

1. Psychological Counseling and Gender-Based Violence Prevention Program

The program, based on a pre-prepared emergency plan, responded to urgent humanitarian needs, especially those that surfaced after the start of the genocidal war in the Gaza Strip. Female counselors working on the program provided counseling services and supportive activities for patients and their companions from Gaza Strip citizens in hospitals and residential places in the West Bank (those who could not return to the Strip due to the aggression). The interventions included providing individual and group psychological counseling services and recreational and psychological relief activities.

Coordination and networking with official institutions and civil society organizations were activated to provide services for the program's target groups, especially abused women. The program expanded the circle of leaders opposing gender-based violence by forming networks of young men and women to contribute to reducing violence against women and girls.

The program worked to familiarize women with services provided by government entities for women in the psychological field, provide family support in areas affected by Israeli aggression in the Gaza Strip for various groups (women, people with disabilities, and children), and provide in-kind, financial, and food assistance to war victims.

Additional services included providing psychological and social support to families of martyrs in the West Bank, continuing to provide legal services to women, and increasing knowledge of grassroots institutions and target groups about national referral system procedures.

Outputs of the Psychological Counseling and Combating Gender-Based Violence Program:

Provided counseling and psychological services to groups affected by war and violence, while expanding the circle of anti-violence leaders by forming youth networks and providing legal and psychological support to affected women and girls.

The programs also included support for education through grants for poor students and the implementation of economic projects such as the Al-Zawada restaurant project as a sustainable source of income for the organization.

2. Economic Empowerment Program

The program established the "Feminism for Economic Rights Coalition" comprising 11 partner institutions, led by PWWSD to work on economic rights issues, gender-based violence in

workplaces, and violations of women's economic rights, especially in the informal and private sectors.

The "Min Haqqi" (My Right) Coalition for Equality in Economic Rights in the Labor Market was founded and activated, including about 30 women's grassroots institutions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, aiming to contribute to protecting women's economic rights, reducing violations of these rights, and promoting collective action concepts in this context.

A network of pioneering young women was formed in both the West Bank and Gaza, including leadership young women aged 18-35 years, focusing on targeting the young generation of women. The network aims to enhance women's economic rights.

The program built capacity of partner institutions in advocacy and pressure fields and developed advocacy strategies and plans to protect women's economic rights. A needs assessment study was conducted for partner institutions in the following areas:

- Digital transformation and security from a gender perspective, preparing a guide on these issues and implementing a training program to build partner institutions' capacities in these areas, including intensive training, mentoring, follow-up meetings, and virtual training.
- Security and safety using participatory methodology in cooperation with Kvinna Till Kvinna Foundation. Needs reports were prepared, key intervention priorities were identified, and work was conducted with some institutions based on needs assessment results.

The program focused on networking, building, and strengthening alliances with private sector institutions, municipal councils, and relevant government institutions, building and strengthening partnerships and regional work, and exchanging expertise and experiences between Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, and Tunisia.

Economic violence based on gender was addressed and awareness raised about it, as it is not included in institutional interests. Focus was placed on women in the informal sector and women with disabilities in the labor market in particular.

The program embodied a model integrating vocational training with economic rights awareness training and programs for women, contributing to creating job opportunities for young women, especially new graduates.

Trainers were trained in comprehensive security, where PWWSD and partner institutions now have specific competencies to provide training for the institutions themselves and target groups in comprehensive security topics: self-security, safety, and psychological relief using creative, non-traditional methods.

The program reached or expanded targeting to marginalized communities and locations such as some villages in Salfit, Qalqilya, and Jordan Valley governorates, and beginnings to strengthen and expand work in Jerusalem governorate.

The program was distinguished by direct communication with the Gaza Strip through a comprehensive work visit involving PWWSD's management team, programs, coordinators, and counselors. The visit included programmatic work meetings with the Gaza Strip team, visits to partner institutions, networking visits and relationship building with Gaza Municipality, and participation in various activities in the Gaza Strip. The visit had resonance and appreciation from institutions and target groups.

Advocacy and pressure in the field of economic rights were enhanced at the international level through preparing reports on women's economic situation and presenting them to relevant UN bodies.

Achievements of the "Feminism for Women's Economic Rights" program were presented by the four partners from Lebanon, Tunisia, Jordan, and Palestine to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (the program's funding body). The project implemented by PWWSD received the highest score among other partner countries in the program.

A series of accountability meetings with economic decision-makers were held, involving duty bearers from relevant ministries and institutions such as the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Agriculture, Commercial Chambers, etc., with the presence of rights holders.

Capacities were built for the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development, women and young women members of cooperatives and grassroots women's institutions in combating climate change and gender, do-no-harm policy during work, psychological relief and support, and other related topics.

Psychological support and assistance groups were formed in both Ramallah and Hebron with the participation of a number of women and young women.

Outputs of the economic empowerment program

The outputs of the economic empowerment program, which consist of activities and events implemented within the program, are as detailed hereinafter:

- ✓ 60 Meetings and events.
- ✓ 55 Raising awareness sessions and workshops.
- ✓ 15 Initiatives.
- ✓ 7 Campaigns.
- ✓ 6 Visits and exchange of experiences.
- ✓ 4 Training sessions for partner institutions.
- ✓ 3 Conferences.

- ✓ 2 Training sessions for women leaders.
- ✓ 1 Establishment of a network for leaders.
- ✓ 1 Camp for leaders.

3. Women's Political Participation Enhancement and Women, Peace and Security Agenda Program

The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development participated in international, regional, and local activities and events related to enhancing women's participation in decision-making centers. This also included advancing the women, peace and security agenda in Palestine through the National Committee and Civil Coalition for implementing Security Council Resolution 1325 and the Coalition for implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

PWWSD called for applying international human rights law and international humanitarian law in the occupied Palestinian territories. Based on this, PWWSD implemented and participated in many advocacy, pressure, and communication activities, such as:

- Hosting the Gender Forum in Local Government since July 2019 until now.
- Attending UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings (67th session) and meetings and activities of the Coalition for implementing the Convention on combating all forms of violence against women.

PWWSD organized and participated in many national activities and events against practices and violations committed by Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people, whether in the West Bank or Gaza Strip, and violations of international law. PWWSD participated regularly in:

- Demonstrations, sit-ins, press conferences, and media interviews, local and international, and events related to international advocacy and national-level advocacy calling for ending Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories and holding it accountable for its atrocities against the Palestinian people, especially against women and girls.
- The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development organized a massive demonstration in Al-Manara Square in Ramallah, with 300 participants including women, men, political parties, decision-makers, and others, protesting the Israeli war against the Gaza Strip.
- The Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development conducted a campaign with other civil society organizations and coalitions against reducing civic space and restricting freedoms in Palestine.

The "Women's Political Participation Enhancement and Women, Peace and Security Agenda" program contributed to increasing political participation and influence of women and youth in democratic public life in Palestine through:

- Empowering shadow council members, women, and young leaders by providing them with skills and knowledge to enhance their capabilities and defend women's rights and human rights, ensuring these voices are heard by decision-makers and community leaders.
- Strengthening young leaders' forums to monitor and enhance accountability of local and national authorities regarding their role in protecting women's rights and promoting gender equality.
- Applying the positive deviance principle, where the economic, social, and cultural environment surrounding successful women who engaged in public life was selected and studied to encourage other women to participate.

Outputs of women political participation program:

130 community workshops were held in the West Bank with the participation of 1,385 people, mainly targeting women and girls, members of shadow councils, and civil society. The workshops addressed issues of gender equality, women's political participation, the impact of internal division, and peace and security agenda. The workshops also called on the Ministry of Local Government to approve the gender charter and adopt it as a priority in feminist policies.

4. Student Support, Empowerment and Education Program

This is a program to provide scholarships for poor students in Palestine. The program is considered part of the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development's efforts to support education and empower young men and women to obtain appropriate educational opportunities. The program aims to provide educational opportunities for students from weak social classes and low-income families, helping them continue their education and develop their skills better.

The program includes providing financial grants to cover study costs such as tuition fees, book costs, and others. It is funded by a group of donor institutions or individuals who wish to provide financial support to the institution within this framework. The number of scholarship beneficiaries in 2023 reached 45 students (35 from schools, 10 from universities). The program continues to provide financial grants according to specific conditions and criteria.

5. Al-Zawada Restaurant Project

The project idea is based on traditional Palestinian dishes and for the restaurant to be a source of income for PWWSD contributing to its financial sustainability. A plan was developed to work on developing this distinctive project by conducting in-depth research on local popular dishes that can be focused on. The menu can be diverse and include dishes from different cultures and

traditions to increase restaurant patronage, especially since its location is central and easily accessible, close to commercial areas in downtown Ramallah.

Restaurant management complies with all required local regulations and permits, including public health and safety standards and business licenses. The restaurant needs rehabilitation and development as it requires internal redesign to reflect popular and traditional atmospheres. Colors and decorations that reflect the cultural identity of the dishes served should be used, furniture should be renewed, and it should be re-equipped with necessary equipment and tools for preparing meals appropriately.

Using appropriate marketing strategies will contribute to reaching a wider audience segment, which may be possible through social media advertising and promotional offers. Work can be done to provide excellent customer service by maintaining a high level of customer satisfaction through providing exceptional service and distinguished food quality.



Main Campaigns, Conferences, Seminars, Meetings, and International Sessions


#	Activity	Description	Image
1	Conference on Enhancing Access of Gender-Based Violence Survivors to Legal Services within the Framework of the Essential Services Package.	In partnership between PWWSD and the Women's Affairs Center in Gaza, as part of the joint "Hayat" program implemented in cooperation with UN Women.	 <p>جمعية المرأة العاملة الفلسطينية للتنمية مع حياة المشترك: القضاء على العنف كومة كندا، وتنفيذ مشترك من قبل هيئة الأمان صندوق الأمم المتحدة للسكان (UNFPA) لجان البناء، ربة (UN-Habitat)، ومكتب الأمم المتحدة (UN Women) مع وازن شؤون صحة ومنظمات</p> <p>ضمن برنامج "حياة المشترك" .. مؤتمر لتعزيز وصول الناجيات من العنف إلى الخدمات القانونية</p>
2	Participation in the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York.	Representatives of the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSD) participated in the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held in March 2023. This participation is part of the second phase of the strategic partnership between PWWSD and the Swedish organization We Effect.	



3	National Campaigns Conference for Achieving Gender Equality in the Economic Field.	Participation in a conference organized in honor of International Women's Day, attended by representatives of grassroots feminist organizations, civil society organizations, labor unions, ministries, local authorities, and feminist activists including those advocating for the rights of women with disabilities.	 A photograph showing a woman standing at a podium on a stage, addressing an audience. The stage is decorated with a banner that includes the text 'الجمعية الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان' (National Society for Human Rights) and 'مؤتمر الحملات الوطنية لتحقيق المساواة بين الجنسين في المجال الاقتصادي' (National Campaigns Conference for Achieving Gender Equality in the Economic Field). The audience is seated at round tables in a large hall.
4	"Our Right, Our Priority" Festival in Jericho.	On the occasion of International Women's Day, PWWSD organized the "Our Right, Our Priority" Festival in Jericho, attended by representatives of grassroots feminist organizations, civil society organizations, labor unions, ministries, local authorities, and feminist activists including those advocating for the rights of women with disabilities.	 A photograph showing a large group of women, many wearing headscarves, seated at long tables outdoors. They appear to be participating in a social gathering or festival. The setting is an open area with a checkered canopy overhead and trees in the background.

5	Launch of the “Under Exceptional Circumstances” Campaign.	A national campaign to support Palestinian female prisoners.	 <p>منذ عام 1947، اعتقلت قوات الاحتلال ١١ ألف امرأة فلسطينية. وعلى مدار هذه السنوات ارتكب الاحتلال العديد من الجرائم بحق الأسيرات من تَكييل وتعذيب. ألم بأن الأوان للحد من جرائم وانتهاكات الاحتلال بحق المرأة الفلسطينية والأسيرات الفلسطينيات!!</p> <p>التسيرات في ظروف استثنائية</p> <p>29 أغسطس</p> <p>أسيرة</p> <p>يعشن ظروف</p> <p>الحملة الوطنية لدعم الأسيرات الفلسطينيات خلال شهر رمضان</p> <p>جمعية المرأة العاملة الفلسطينية للتنمية - 43 عاماً من النضال والمطاء</p>
6	Launch of the “Narrative 75” Campaign.	On the 75th anniversary of the Nakba.	 <p>٧٥ عاماً ويستمر اللجوء..</p> <p>اللجوء الأطول في التاريخ المعاصر</p> <p>نطالب بتطبيق قرار الجمعية العامة للأمم المتحدة رقم ١٩٤</p> <p>قرار ١٩٤: عودة اللاجئين الفلسطينيين إلى ديارهم التي هُجروا منها، وتعويضهم.</p> <p>كروية ٧٥</p> <p>جمعية المرأة العاملة الفلسطينية للتنمية</p>

7	<p>National Dialogue Session titled “The Role of Political Parties and Democratic Forces in Pressuring for Setting a Date for General Elections as a Gateway to Ending Division and Reducing Palestinian Stagnation”.</p>	<p>PWWSD organized a seminar attended by representatives of official government institutions, political parties, youth movements, and civil society organizations. The seminar aimed to encourage women's participation in public political life and their access to decision-making positions through democratic elections, especially in light of the continued postponement of general elections and the lack of response from decision-makers to civil society demands for electoral law reforms and lowering the candidacy age to 18 in line with international standards.</p>	
	<p>A Series of Meetings Held by PWWSD in Gaza.</p>	<p>A delegation of staff from PWWSD in the West Bank organized a series of field visits to several projects and partners in the Gaza Strip.</p>	

8	138th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.	<p>PWWSD, represented by a delegation, participated in official and unofficial briefing sessions and a discussion session with representatives of the Palestinian government during the 138th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva on July 5–6. The discussions focused on Palestine’s commitments to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. PWWSD provided comments on the state's responses regarding women's civil and political rights, focusing on public freedoms, political participation through elections, anti-corruption efforts, and the Family Protection Law.</p>	
9	Open Discussion Meeting titled “What Comes After the Alamein Meeting: Implications, Significance, and Outcomes?”	<p>A dialogue meeting in Ramallah was attended by political leaders and feminist figures, including Majida Al-Masri, member of the political bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, as the only woman who participated in the Cairo meeting.</p>	
10	74th Session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural	<p>Official and unofficial briefing sessions continued over three days, including constructive dialogues with state parties, civil society organizations, and</p>	

	<p>Rights at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva.</p>	<p>stakeholders to assess whether the standards of the International Covenant are being applied in practice and to evaluate how its implementation can be improved to ensure full enjoyment of these rights by all members of Palestinian society without discrimination.</p>	
<p>11</p>	<p>Dialogue Session with the Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Palestine, Mr. Gocha Buachidze.</p>	<p>With the participation of representatives from political and national parties, youth activists, and members of the advisory committee for the program to promote women's rights through the implementation of reconciliation agreements in Palestine.</p>	

12	Organize a Protest in Ramallah titled “Gaza Is Not Alone”.	A mass rally in Ramallah demanding an end to the genocide war on Gaza.	
13	Leadership Capacity Building Camp for Young Women.		

Strategic Partners

Over the past years, the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development (PWWSD) has established a number of strategic partnerships. These are the key partners who provide the necessary support to strengthen the organization's capacity to achieve its main goal: enhancing the role and participation of Palestinian women and empowering them economically. This is done by promoting the involvement of youth, marginalized women, small-scale female farmers, and others, in order to improve their sustainable livelihoods. In addition, the organization offers programs to protect women from gender-based violence and promotes women's political participation so they can engage effectively in political life and contribute to governance and administration reform.

The following table presents the list of strategic partners of the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development:

Logo	Strategic Partner
	United Nations for Development Program(UNDP)
	We Effect
	Kavinna Till Kavinna
	European Commission
	UN Women
	French Development Agency(AFD)
	Center Party International Foundation (CIS)
	Karama

Challenges and Recommendations

Challenges and Obstacles:

- Funding Fragmentation: Scattered donor funding and fluctuating commitment from funding institutions to allocate sufficient and adequate special budgets for the institution to enable it to carry out its responsibilities and have more effective impact in achieving goals, especially after the war on Gaza and short-term funding limitations.
- Emergency Funding Limitations: Emergency funding limited to a maximum of 3 years and shortage in funding for small projects to support women victims of violence.
- Role Overlap: Overlapping roles related to managing and implementing the three programs, requiring clarification of tasks and responsibilities and establishing a system that connects work between programs and contributes to development and exchange of necessary expertise for continuous improvement.
- Political Deterioration: Deteriorating political situation in the West Bank and Gaza, especially after October 7th, which left reflections and impacts on the nature of work and negatively affected achievements.
- Movement Restrictions: Difficulties and risks in movement due to settler attacks on roads, road closures, and multiple invasions by Israeli occupation and settlers, leading to conducting some activities online instead of face-to-face.
- Activity Delays: Due to deteriorating political conditions, this led to delays in implementing some activities across most projects and cancellation of other activities with donor approval, affecting commitment to plan implementation.
- Gaza Operations Suspension: Complete suspension of work and activities for all projects in Gaza, and freezing of most project activities due to reduced funding, especially after October 7th, with new conditions imposed by most donors, causing delays and work disruption.
- Democratic Decline: Decline in democratic life and failure to set a date for general elections (before October 7th).
- Shifted Priorities: Changed priorities of governmental, civil society institutions and citizens due to the genocide war on Gaza, affecting women's needs and priorities, and weakening civil society institutions' ability to continue pressure for achieving equality in various life areas.
- Lack of Civilian Protection: Absence of civilian protection and complete lack of security feeling, absence of safe spaces for women in both West Bank and Gaza due to occupation violations in the West Bank and genocide war in Gaza.
- International Double Standards: Double standards of the official international community and UN regarding the Palestinian issue, and failure to force Israel to stop the genocide war on Gaza and hold it accountable for its crimes.

- **Changed Public Priorities:** Changed people's priorities including women, especially after the Gaza war and its economic and security consequences including unemployment, job loss for hundreds of thousands of workers, partial work, layoffs in private sector, and impact on small projects and establishments through work disruption, closure, or decreased production levels. This increased practical needs of women and families for humanitarian aid and alternative income opportunities, which cannot be met through awareness, advocacy, psychological support, and relief - particularly as this is PWWSD's primary role.
- **Human Rights Violations:** Repeated human rights violations in the West Bank and Gaza specifically, and the horror of committed crimes led to loss of trust in human rights discourse and international system, especially regarding women's issues.
- **Unimplemented Laws:** Issuing laws for women's protection without implementing oversight on their execution.
- **Limited Access to Services:** Women's inability to access services during crises.
- **Service Suspension:** Complete suspension of services related to gender-based violence, especially in the first weeks of the war.

Recommendations:

- **Legal Framework Enhancement:** Accelerate strengthening the institution's legal environment, including a special law for the institution that harmonizes between the institution's responsibility and implementation of national policies and dynamics through the Ministry of Women's Affairs and women's institutions, to guide and implement the institution's three programs on a comprehensive and national scale.
- **Organizational Development:** Complete work on organizational building and institutionalizing the institution to enable it to perform its assigned role in developing national policies for enhancing women's role at various levels.
- **National Team Formation:** Activate establishment of a national team in partnership with the Ministry of Women's Affairs to build a policy for enhancing women's role and effective participation economically, politically, and socially, and work on its implementation.
- **Partnership Development:** Establish the institution's role with partners at international, regional, and national levels including public, private, and civil sectors at planning and guidance levels.
- **Media Efforts:** Intensify media efforts to highlight the institution's image as a national umbrella for supporting and enhancing women's role.
- **Strategic Plan Utilization:** Utilize the national cross-sectoral strategic plan, especially plans of Ministry of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs, and Ministry of Labor, to implement recommendations and direct donors and active parties toward supporting the institution's role and enhancing complementary role with related institutions.

- Stakeholder Engagement: Include institutions and ministries covered by the national referral system to participate in workshops due to their significant impact in introducing services in marginalized and non-marginalized areas, as many people are unaware of the types of services provided and their locations.
- Gender-Based Violence Programs: Adopt activities in all projects related to gender-based violence due to its deep impact in teaching women many life skills such as stress management, anger management, gender-based violence, and services provided to women.
- Women's Movement Coordination: Need to coordinate women's movement efforts to restore consideration for women's national role, requiring calling meetings to develop practical plans and mechanisms to achieve this.
- International Pressure: Increase efforts by rights-based, women's, civil, and community institutions to pressure the international community to take responsibility in holding the occupation accountable for its crimes and providing protection for the Palestinian people in general and Palestinian women specifically.
- Media Coverage: Intensify media coverage to monitor occupation violations in the West Bank and convey what is happening to the Palestinian people and violations, especially against women, to the world.
- Economic Projects: Create economic projects that meet practical tangible needs of women and young women, such as creating job opportunities and supporting income-generating projects.
- Restaurant Development: Work on developing and reopening Al-Zawadira restaurant to become an income source that helps support activity implementation and cover specific administrative expenses.
- Long-term Projects: Adopt long-term projects (at least 5 years) aimed at empowering women at various levels.
- Cross-sector Cooperation: Full cooperation between civil society institutions and ministries working on women's empowerment.
- Rural Women Empowerment: Empower women in villages and marginalized areas to become field leaders and power centers for other women in society.
- Capacity Building: Build and develop capacities of women victims of violence and empower them economically, socially, and politically to become capable of facing reality and challenges.
- Islamic Law Implementation: Activate laws that protect women's rights in Islamic Sharia and work on their implementation.
- Women's Protection: Protect women in private and public spaces, especially in work environments.
- Emergency Plans: Adopt effective emergency plans, especially during crises.

- Emergency Committees: Form women's emergency committees concerned with providing services to women victims of violence during emergencies in all cities and municipalities.