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الاتحاد الأوروبي

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طاقم شؤون المرأة
Women's Affairs Technical Committee

FINAL EVALUATION FOR THE PROJECT

"MY RIGHT TO MY FUTURE - WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION"

IMPLEMENTED BY:

CARE INTERNATIONAL IN COOPERATION WITH WOMEN'S AFFAIRS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

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THE REPORT WAS PREPARED BY

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Glossary

EU	European Union
WATC	Women's Affairs Technical Committees
PLO	Palestinian Liberation Organization
CARE WBG	CARE West Bank and Gaza
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
UNSC Resolution 1325	United Nations Security Council Resolution (2000) on Women, Peace and Security
WB	West Bank
GS	Gaza Strip
WBG	West Bank and Gaza
PBC	Palestine Broadcasting Channel
CEC	Central Election Committee

Executive Summary

CARE International, presented by CARE WBG, collaborated for a second time with Women's Affairs Technical Committee to implement the action "My Right to My Future – Women's Participation in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution". This action was shortened as PEACE II, representing a follow up on the earlier phase called PEACE I in the same communities. The action was implemented between April 2015 and September 2017, in all governorates of the Gaza Strip and nine governorates from the West Bank. The final beneficiaries were from political parties, local media outlets and 220 young activists from the twenty communities were involved in the different stages of the project.

The project aimed at establishing the conditions for the advancement of the peace process by strengthening the political and societal participation of women leaders for a just and lasting peace. This overall goal was planned to be achieved through the two specific objectives; 1) promote women leadership to play influential role within political parties; 2) shifting social attitudes towards women's political participation and empowering youth and specifically young women to play an active role in civil society peace building and reconciliation.

The consultancy company was hired to conduct an end line survey and end evaluation to measure the impact of the project and review the whole process according to OECD standards. It was also requested from the consultant to develop a lessons learned list and come up with recommendations for next project phases. The main research tools for this process where;

1. Focus groups with different beneficiaries and stakeholders such as; political parties, youth volunteers and activists, and media trainees (males and females).
2. Semi structured interviews with media outlets, leaders of political parties, management staff from CARE and WATC.
3. Questionnaires from 1210 interviewees. Data analysis through filling and analysing 1210 questionnaires measuring the project indicators and finding out to which extent the expected results are achieved. The questionnaires were built upon the training material and information that the people received. People from different groups participated in filling the questionnaires and from the 20 targeted locations.

The main findings of the final evaluation can be summarized as follows. The project was well planned and intentionally targeted the different stakeholders; namely the political parties, youth groups and activists, media outlets and media professionals and other community partners. This was an innovative approach that was well applied by the project team and well managed by WATC and CARE. The project resources were well utilized in order to reach its objectives and results. They were suitable according to the implemented activities and actions. The targets and objectives were reached for almost 100%; all the planned activities were fully implemented and all the target groups were reached. Only on the level of broad change of attitude and change in the national representative structure not all project indicators were reached, but this was too much to ask for. The project left its impact on individual and community levels. The overall impact reached a higher number of people; more than it was expected. Different sustainable resources and material were left inside the participants and individuals; they are still being used and will be used and stay active in future; such as the trainings and training material, media coalition, and youth groups formed after community initiatives.

Different lessons learned were gathered, especially they are related to changing the methodology of intervention and the networking between the different stakeholders. The project deserves to be repeated with an adjusted methodology that will give a different role for the political parties and a more structural engagement of the media outlets in the community initiative, more trust and responsibilities for the youth leaders and more engagement and training for higher management levels.

2. Introduction

"In reality, you have moved the still-standing water in the political parties."- A female activist involved in the project from West Bank.
"Each woman can reach her goals as long as she has the desire and motivation" A media broadcaster from the West Bank trained in the project.

2.1 Project Summary

CARE International, presented by CARE WBG, collaborated for a second time with Women's Affairs Technical Committee to implement the action "My Right to My Future – Women's Participation in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution". This action was shortened as PEACE II, representing a follow up on the earlier phase called PEACE I in the same communities. The action was implemented between April 2015 and September 2017, in all governorates of the Gaza Strip and nine governorates from the West Bank. The final beneficiaries were involved from political parties, local media outlets and 220 young activists from the twenty communities involved in the project.

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This should be achieved through implementing 3 main connected components that can be summarized as follows; 1) working with political parties and their basis to support women active participation in political parties higher level positions, 2) engaging with media actively to promote women's political participation and peace building activities, 3) working with youth and young women activists from conflict affected communities to play active roles in mobilizing and contributing to greater peace and security in the OPT.

Both Peace I and Peace II are part of CARE's women empowerment program, through which CARE mobilizes worldwide expertise in community mobilization, strategic approaches to women empowerment, project management as well as advocacy capacities and international networks. WATC is a Palestinian registered NGO that brought in their strong relations with political networks, women organizations and media, as well as their years-long experience in women empowerment.

Overall Objective	Overall Project Indicator	Target
To establish conditions for the advancement of the peace process by strengthening the political and societal participation of women leaders for a just and lasting peace.	1. Women are represented in high-level peace negotiation team	At least one
	2. Increased representation of women in political parties, in particular at high-level decision-making bodies.	A 30% increase
	3. Increased engagement of Palestinian women and youth in reconciliation, conflict resolution, and peace building processes.	A 20% increase of youth active in political parties and NGOs

Specific Objective Indicators	Target
1. **Representation**: Increased number of women are members of political parties	10% increase over baseline
2. Representation: Parties increase the number of women who occupy positions where they meaningfully contribute to peace building processes.	At least 3 out of 12 parties
3. Awareness: In targeted communities increased on women's political participation and important role in peace building.	40% increase over baseline
3. Awareness: Palestinians have increased awareness on the Charter of Honor and implementation mechanisms	20% increase over baseline

The project has worked with three connect target groups through activities that complemented each other; youth activists, political parties and media outlets. The project involved 220 youth activists (males and females) from different locations; 50 of them are students, 20 are leaders from the local communities. These young people did not only grow in their capacity and capability for the future, but already acted as change makers and spreaders/conveyers of positive messages on women (political) participation. Secondly, WATC involved the political parties through endless lobbying and networking, encouraging them through several activities to follow up with the earlier signed Charter of Honor on women political participation. Lastly, this project also involved selected media outlets in order to raise the awareness regarding the roles of women in peace building and increase the accountability of political parties in their implementation of the Charter of Honor. The activities also aimed to raise the capacity of the eight media and women organizations, to become stronger sources of effective messages around women political participation.

These project activities were a continuation of earlier established results, funded under the same European Union funding framework from 2013 until March 2015. Strong connections were already built and most importantly, the youth activists were already trained until a certain level and the political parties had discussed and signed the Charter of Honor on women political participation. The key points from the Charter of Honor for women political participation are summarized in the figure below. The activities implemented under the evaluated project PEACE II aimed at practical implementation and follow up on the promises made and amplifying these efforts by youth work in the communities and media activities.

2.2. Context of the Project

Project implementation took place during a time when political participation in general is in jeopardy, due to the ongoing military occupation and its limitations as well as the internal division between the geographical areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The communities in the Gaza Strip were still recovering from the wide scale destruction and damage of the third Gaza war during the summer of 2014. The second project year however also coincided with the municipality elections that took place in the West Bank, but were further delayed in the Gaza Strip. National legislative elections have not been taken place since 2006 creating a big democratic gap in Palestine while the national political parties still make up an imperative part of social and political life.

In this setting, the Palestinian women suffer from social and political marginalization in the Palestinian society. Seeing the challenges coming from years of conflict and economic underdevelopment, women and men need to work in strong cooperation to resist and overcome these difficulties and work for a better Palestinian society. However, in the patriarchal society that Palestine generally knows, women often carry a double burden.

From one side they are under the burden of the social norms and customs, which contradict with their full social, economic and political rights. From the other side they are facing all the dangers and consequences of the occupation; restrictions on movement, military trainings, attacks by settlers, and restrictions on access and management of natural resources; leading to low economy of scale due to unfeasible economic options. Under this structure, they hold the responsibilities of their families; as mothers, homemakers, as breadwinners, as wives of martyrs and detainees (another more restrictive and burden added layer imposed by the social and cultural norms connected to martyrs and detainees), and as widows.

The project viewed the concept of political participation in a broad perspective that goes beyond the participation in the municipal and legislative council elections, as it expands to include any work that women conduct, either economic, social or even cultural and has an impact on the role of women in the political sphere.

Charter of Honor for Women Political Participation (signed by 12 political parties)

1- To strengthen the role of Palestinian women in the national, democratic and social struggle and enable them to achieve their political, economic, social and cultural rights.
2- To increase the number of women in decision making positions in political parties and in all representative and coordinating bodies and dialogue committees.
3- To increase the legal quota of women on electoral lists for municipal, local and legislative councils.
4- To encourage female candidates to stand in municipal and local elections and increase the chances of success by having a woman as one of the first three names on the list.
5- To promote the need for female participation on electoral lists in order to ensure the broadest engagement by women in national, community and democratic responsibilities and also to support female candidates in top positions on the lists.
6- To build support in local party branches for political participation by women and encouragement for female electoral candidates.
7- To provide opportunities for the intellectual empowerment of women and defence of their rights, while developing their skills and capacities to enhance their national and democratic performance.

The broad concept of political participation forks into the reality of women rights in all fields, and spans into all gender equality issues. Throughout this final evaluation the focus is on political participation in its broad concept; meaning that during the fieldwork, all topics related to gender issues and women rights were included and explored.

The basis for equal political participation is the equal level of democratic rights applied in the country: the right to vote, right to be member of a political party and the right to run for elections. In this aspect, the women have equal rights in Palestine and they are legally able to participate fully. There is even a quota in the legislative council to reserve at least 20% of the seats for women. In practice, however we need to look at the quality of participation of women and their ability/ extent of applying these rights fully and freely.

During the most recent municipality elections of May 2017, the percentage of men who registered for the elections (eligible voters) was 51.11% while the percentage of females who registered to vote was 48.89%. Looking at the results of the elected councilors, the winning female candidates formed 19.8% of the total winning candidates where the percentage of winning male candidates reached 80.2%.
Comparing the eligible registered voters with the voters in elections in the year 2012/2013, the percentage of male registered voters was 57.23% and the percentage of females was 42.77%, according to the Central Election Commission. It is however, it is questionable if the meaningful role of women in political parties during the 2017 elections increased over the years with the higher turnout.

3. Methodology

3.1 Purpose of the evaluation

The purpose of the final evaluation, as agreed on in the Terms of Reference of the contract was to evaluate the impact and results of the full PEACE II project, funded by the European Union. The OECD terms for project evaluation will be used to discuss all relevant project aspects.

The process consisted of both an end line study and an evaluation report. The main aims of this whole process are:

- Measure the impact of the project regarding the involvement of Palestinian women in political work and political participation in its broader concept.
- Measure the society's attitudes towards the political participation of women in general, and especially the participation of the women in the political parties and elections.
- Evaluate the impact of the project abiding to the five criteria for evaluation according to the (OECD/DAC).
- Compare the results of the research and evaluation with the results of the previous studies regarding the involvement of women in political work and broader political participation.

3.2 Methodology of the evaluation

Follow the contract an inception report set out the suggested methodology and research tools. The evaluation process took place in two phases; the first phase focused on completing the end line survey for which focus groups, interviews and the questionnaire were used (discussed below) during June/July 2017. The second phase focused on validating the results through focus groups and more interviews (discussed below) during September/October 2017. All research tools were prepared in coordination with the project team consisting of CARE WBG and WATC.
Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected during the evaluation process and used in the appropriate ways. Multiple sources of data ensured high validity of the overall comments on the project.

3. 2.1 Focus groups

Focus groups were selected as research tool in order to receive feedback from a large group of participants in an effective manner, and have qualitative results concerning each of the evaluation points. In total 14 focus groups were conducted, of which 5 with participants from the Gaza Strip through Skype, and 9 in the West Bank in person. It was agreed by the project team and consultant to conduct one focus group in each project location in order to cover all targeted locations (which are 20 locations). There were a few exceptions where different groups from different locations were gathered into one location. The sampling process was planned in order to get representatives from each target group in the focus group. It was

agreed to have at least 12 persons in each focus group, 2 from the political parties, 3 from media outlets, and the rest from youth activists and volunteers. It was also agreed that 50% of the participants should be men and 50% of them women. The total number of participants was 170, with 57 of them being from Gaza and 113 from the West Bank. At the start of the focus groups an introduction was given about the project and aims of the evaluation, after which open questions were put before the group with everybody free to respond.
The locations for the focus groups were decided on in coordination with the project team and the local coordinators while all logistical issues were prepared by WATC. Annex 3 shows all the focus groups conducted in phase 1 and phase 2 of the project.

3.2.2 Semi-structured Interviews

Semi-structured interviews were used to get more in-depth information from key actors from the involved target groups, to understand the process of implementation and impact of the project. It was aimed to reach all political parties and media outlets, as well as members of the project team to receive a full picture of the process. WATC coordinated with the different stakeholders to arrange for the interviews, but not all stakeholders were responsive and cooperative. Annex 2 shows the full list of interviews conducted during the evaluation process. Notes were taken during all interviews and reviewed later in the evaluation process.
A list of guiding questions was prepared by the consultant, which was reviewed and approved by the team. The questions aimed to understand the results on some of the project indicators, and to find out the level of satisfaction among the relevant stakeholders. The questions focused on the satisfaction of each interviewee regarding the activity set he/she is involved in. The questions also focused on the opinion of the interviewees about the project and the different interventions, the different stakeholders, and the impact of the interventions. For each interviewee specific questions were also raised regarding gender issues, political party issues, the issue of participation and integration of youth, how much the project was successful to integrate the media outlets and till what level was the role of the media coalition effective.

3.2.3 Questionnaire

The questionnaire was prepared in the first place to measure the results of the project on the project indicators and targets. The questionnaire included five main themes looking at the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of the society, media outlets, feminist institutions, and political parties towards the political participation for women. In addition, questions were asked about their attitudes towards the impact of the Israeli occupation on the political participation of women. The questions were statements to which the interviewees could respond on a scale from "totally agree" to "totally disagree". The statements were taken from the relevant documents to measure the participants' agreement with them; e.g. the questions related to the role of the political parties were partly extracted from "the Charter of Honor". Also here, the questionnaire was reviewed and adjusted by the project team in different topics in order to be more suitable to the needs of the team. These quantitative results were incorporated and compared to the qualitative data that was gathered during the focus groups, interviews and meetings.
The research sample and the number of questionnaires in each areas were calculated collaboratively, 60 questionnaires were decided for each locality, with the reservation of 5% margin of error. Around 1270 questionnaires were distributed to the 20 project locations. 60 questionnaires were excluded due to missing answers. The final number of valid questionnaires was 1210. The statistical analysis was done through SPSS for statistical analysis, where the basic statistical results were extracted such as the means and percentages. The statistical calculations were used in order to subtract the results answering the indicators, namely the attitudes of the respondents.

3.3 Limitations of the Final Evaluation

Everything in the capability of the consulting company and project team has been done to increase the reach out and the validity of the study. However, with practical limitations still some issues should be recognized. While the focus groups are a strong research tool for the collection and validation of information, they know a few limitations. Firstly, part of the evaluation process was during the month of Ramadan, meaning the participants in the focus groups were fasting; which affected the level of their concentration. It also meant some delay in the attendance of some participants.

Besides this, the methodology adopted mixed focus groups involving representatives of different target groups as participants, which meant community members were sitting next to political party leaders. This might have effected some of the responses from the target group members, especially the youth felt restricted in voicing their opinions. The consulting company then started to do separated focus groups, for each of the targeted groups. this gave the different actors more freedom to express their feedback.

Another limitation was the lack of community members (other than the youth activists or party members) in the focus groups, so the project impact from their perspective was not included. Also, not all focus groups included many media students, so little information from their specific experience could be taken into account (timing was not suitable for their university/ schools schedules).

It was hard to arrange interviews with the political party leadership. This meant that only five members of political parties' leadership were involved in an in-depth interview and their viewpoints could be less taken into account than planned for.

Thirdly, the evaluation process took place in two phases (with the end-line and then more focus on final evaluation with the close of the project) which was both a plus point and a limitation.

The selection of interviewees was not so successful as part of them did not represent those who were originally involved in the project; some were not even knowledgeable about the project activities or potential impact. for instance; part of the interviews and focus groups in the second phase (with the close of the project) felt more negative about the project because they felt left alone or separated (compared to reviews of these who were involved throughout the project- these were part of the new comers who joint as part of the larger group in the community level).

This was also applied on the various expectations of the project; these new comers expected more than project mandate; for instance, more financial assistance was requested to continue running youth groups; which is out of the scope of the project. This can be used as an example of the different expectations from the participants and the project team; some participants had wished for continuous support also after project closing while this was not possible to give by the project team and counted on more action by the participants themselves.

4. Relevance

The first part of the discussions (in the different tools) briefly considered the first of the OECD evaluation points, namely relevance. It looks at whether the undertaken activities suited the priorities in the national context and the local context, as well as if the methods of implementation were and stayed relevant for the project and target groups.

Overall, the project design, activities and implementation have been perceived as high relevance for Palestine as well as specifically the target groups. The project team did apply mechanisms that increased local involvement and the matching of local needs. This became clear from the focus groups, where relevance was checked for, as well as the interviews with key stakeholders. From project documents, it was also clear the participants had been engaged in needs assessment meetings and other baseline activities that offered opportunities for the target group to express their needs and wishes. An assessment of the capacity of all partners was also part of this process. The only difficulty was found in the formulation of the project indicators which were not always realistic and they were not reflecting the highly challenging local situation (please see point 4.1 below).

4.1 Relevance to National Context

The project addressed challenges that have a huge impact on the potential for peace as well as the lives of women. The formulated aims are relevant of national problems that are recognized by the target groups and supported by research and examples from international bodies; namely the importance of involvement of women in peace building and the lack of support for women in political parties. All focus groups and almost all interviewees confirmed this and the project has done a high-quality baseline study confirming the communities' challenges. The aims and targets however were set very high, too high on a few occasions. In these instances, the implemented activities were not sufficient to reach such a big scale and impact, which is further discussed in Chapter 6. It would have been wise if a more realistic estimation of the national context would have been made, where it is clear that national peace negations and the involvement of women at that level is out of reach in the current time and in the current planning of such a project. However, all activities were recognized as very relevant, especially since they took into account do no harm principles related to local circumstances and developments e.g. the municipality elections that were announced and implemented during the project period. WATC has undertaken periodic needs assessment sessions and activities in different areas all over the West Bank and Gaza Strip to keep high relevance of all activities.

4.2 Relevance to Needs of Target Groups

The design of the project includes a set of project participants: media, political parties and youth activists. However, all target groups and participants were strategically chosen with a clear argumentation from the project management team on the choice of actors. The choice on members of the media coalition e.g. proved to be very relevant for reaching the activities' goals as it ensured knowledge sharing and exposure to new ideas between media and women institutes.

At the start of the project a clear baseline study and needs assessments were done among the target groups, that not only confirmed the problem analysis but more importantly opened up the communication channels with the project team. Since then the communication channels have been open and frequent feedback was looped back into the project. Feedback from the local coordinators and field

team was brought back to the managers at WATC and CARE levels, who ensured adaptation and responsiveness where needed. Examples of when this happened was e.g. with the challenges and changes surrounding the announced municipality elections which provided a great opportunity for the project as well as the community initiatives which remained very flexible.

"THESE INITIATIVES ENHANCE, EMPOWER AND SUPPORT YOU."

– A FEMALE ACTIVIST FROM THE WEST BANK.

"FOR ME, I AM NOW ABLE TO INVOLVE MYSELF IN ANY PLACE OR INSTITUTION IN THE WAY I WANT."

– A FEMALE ACTIVIST FROM THE WEST BANK.

Recipients from training during the project activities confirmed the suitability of the training topics and methods for their needs and interests. They expressed a willingness to participate in more trainings and on more topics. In all project communities, local community initiatives were implemented in which the youth activists took the leadership, supported by leaders from the political parties. The participants stated they were given a lot of freedom to design the activities in their communities, using needs assessments and participatory approaches to design their local action. This level of freedom was appreciated and the participants reflected they felt in this way they were meeting local needs without pushing for a WATC/CARE/donor agenda. However, there were still some project regulations set about the design of the activities that the youth should follow, but only a few expressed they were bothered by this. Also all political parties verbally confirmed their interest and commitment to the project, which is a good sign for the good relations that the project team had with the political establishment. It might not say much about the actual impact on the ground in the parties, but it is a good sign of the relevance and collaboration of the target group.

4.3 Methods of Implementation

The project's methodology applied several mechanisms that ensured high local ownerships, high commitment from local stakeholders and good relevance. This came mostly from the participatory approaches taken when developing activities, e.g. in developing the action plans in political parties and designing community activities with the youth activists. Also, the media coalition was using the inputs and directions from the media members, while its relevance was increased because WATC ensured to follow up with all plans and provided frequent checks for all members.

Also, building on the results reached in PEACE I project, which can be seen as a previous phase of the project, provided good relevance to the project and helped the project partners to be aware of the needs and opportunities.

Another important part of the implementation was the open communication and continuous feedback between local coordinators and the WATC project team that ensured updated relevance and adaptability to changing circumstances. Overall, both the field staff and the WATC project team showed a good capability to deliver on all tasks and responsibilities and they delivered high results. The transparency and integrity from WATC was clear and proven in the project, and the importance of this should not be underestimated. WATC kept transparent communication about its goals and aims throughout the project.

A reflection should be made about the project's planning phase however and specifically the design of the overall targets. The targets set were clear from the beginning to be high and ambitious, as the members of the national negotiation team are not very easy to reach. It indicated a trend they want to contribute to, but it should have been clear that the project would be unable to deliver/report on.

5. Efficiency

This part of the analysis looks into questions of efficiency, where the focus is placed on time management, organizational capacity and the efficiency of the approaches chosen. This takes into account questions of resource efficiency and if objectives were achieved on time.

5.1 Implementation of Activities

The focus groups expressed satisfaction with the timeliness and organizational way adopted in the implementation of all project activities. It was clear however the project activities were aspired to continue for a longer period; specifically, the trainings of the youth activists, community activities and the media coalition. Youth stated they would have appreciated more time for the training as well as for the implemented community activities. Also, the media coalition activities started after the finalization of media outlets mapping; however actual joint activities' taking off was only in the second year, leaving too little time to follow up with the designed strategy. In other words, the evaluation found that resources in the project were used efficiently but more resources are required to address the needs of the target groups and better attain all objectives.

It is highly recommended to avoid any gap between planning and implementation, and; between training and activities. Now some of the youth experienced a feeling of "being left alone", since training was not quickly followed up by next activities or internships. From project team's perspective; it was very important to build their knowledge through following the comprehensive sequence of the different capacity building components (theoretical knowledge followed by practical information dissemination, then excursion in Jordan, then practical community initiatives implementation and finally the internships). This sequence in fact supported gradual thematic capacity building for the youth- gender, women empowerment, 1325 related activities, communication and public affection skills,

In case practical reasons make such gaps unavoidable, at least clear and consistent communication should be continued with the participants. The same is true for delays in financial payments that happened with some community activities, clear and frequent communication was needed for the participants.

It should be stated that the choice of the Training of Trainers (ToT) training was a very efficient choice, as the intensive course for a small group meant that a large group of participants could be reached through the workshops provided by the selected group. The recipients of the ToT training expressed their wish for more courses, reflecting their high satisfaction with the trainers, the methods applied and the materials used.

5.2 Project Management

The implementing actors CARE International and WATC took very smooth complementary responsibilities, where roles were clear but flexible and communication was frequent and open. While WATC was leading on ground activities through their networks and connections with political parties, media outlets and youth in communities; CARE was provided thematic and technical backstopping- building on its global resources and connections that helped WATC reach the needed impact on the ground.

The project team had identified several risks beforehand, and sufficient measurements were in place to mitigate and avoid a negative impact of those risks. Especially the risk of social rejection of initiatives; and potential obstacles at political parties' level. However, no negative events took place, and a lot was done

ensure that communities were positively involved. The good connections, transparency and thorough follow up by WATC in their activities and work helped the political parties to feel confident in working with the team and indorsed activities to take place. (please note that at early stages; some risks were foreseen in Gaza where the governing party Hamas undertook restrictive measures on project meetings in the communities. However, WATC was able to mitigate their interference, also by demanding the protection of their right to gather based on the Basic Law).

A big plus from the project management was the way information management was applied in the project and the level most stakeholders were kept informed on project details. Reporting was according to high standards, also following donor requirements, and in general participants, party leaders and managers from the involved media felt they were sufficiently kept up to date on project developments. This feedback was received during the focus groups. Contributing to project goals, the documentation of community initiative was especially good, as the media outlets cooperated to broadcasts on these activities reaching a wide audience with the project information.

5.3 Methods and Approaches

Several approaches were followed to increase the efficiency of the project and its overall success. for instance; the selection of the target groups, resulted in a nontraditional mix of stakeholders (media, political parties, youth activists) that increased the overall success of the project. WATC was able to manage this sensitive combination in a tactical way, opening doors with both political parties and media outlets that were otherwise closed. Now the effects of single actions were multiplied, through broadcasting in the media or connecting the activists with internships. One step that was ignored however was the possibility to connect the different community activities with each other, this would have created the possibility to exchange lessons and experiences and contribute to the further capacity building of communities.

In addition, the previous project phase (PEACE I – funded under the same framework) and the evaluated project (PEACE II) were found to be well connected to each other and building on the successes of the first project. This brought good benefits for the target groups and increased the current project's success.

Overall, the selection of the project beneficiaries was well done and contributed to the success of the project in several ways. First of all, the youth activists and political parties were engaged in earlier project cycles and therefore more ready and willing to participate. Many of the female participants already had built skills and confidence and could therefore deliver. Also, male participants were involved who in some case were already prepared to be open to and deliver for women political participation. If the men were not prepared to be contributing positively to empowerment of the female participants before entering the project space, they could contribute negatively at times and slow down the success of the project. Lastly, the good connections from WATC with the political parties ensured for a relatively quick opening into all parties and their willingness to at least sit around the table and formally participate.

6. Effectiveness

The evaluation will now move into a discussion of the effectiveness of PEACE II in attaining its project objectives.

6.1 Main Results on ERs

The results on the ground, feedback from the evaluation tools and the project reports clearly show all activities have been implemented according to plan and almost all Objectives related to the Expected Results are reached by the action. The following table will summarize the results per each Expected Results, after which the evaluation will comment on the outstanding results from the activities.

ER	Indicators	Activities contributing to ER indicators	Targets	Completed Activities
ER 1: Women are supported to actively participate in political parties towards peaceful settlement of the conflict	Political party basis know and are supportive of Charter of Honour on women's participation	Activity 1.2.: Engage with the party basis in 20 target locations on the implementation of the Charter of Honour	80% of party bases are supportive of Charter of Honour	At least two meetings/ location for each of the party basis were carried out to raise their awareness on women political participation and the Charter of Honour. Baseline showed that only 4% of political parties' basis were aware of the charter; at the end of the activity, almost all political party basis participants were aware of it. Although project baseline and documents showed that this target was fully achieved; the end line survey (questionnaire) showed only 62% of the party basis was supportive of the CoH, so the objective was not fully reached. Target partially achieved.
	Political parties have identified mechanisms to put the Charter of Honour into practice;	Activity 1.1: Individual meetings with leadership of each of the political parties and one joint workshop to develop mechanisms to operationalize the Charter of Honour	At least 8 parties have completed their action plan	All political parties endorsed the general plan with mechanisms for implementation. Nine of them further developed their action plans to put the CoH in practice. Target fully achieved

	Women in mid-level positions in parties express support by basis and higher management.	Activity 1.3: Develop activity plan for implementation of mechanisms with each party Activity 1.4: Conduct a media conference to present the activity plans Activity C.3: Hold closing ceremony with media, political parties and activists to celebrate successes and exchange knowledge	Target value: 20% increase over baseline	Through the cross meetings between different levels of the political parties (basis, middle and senior levels); women expressed that they feel they are more supported by the different actors to come up with mechanisms to enhance their engagement. Baseline showed that 30 women from the targeted parties feel that they are supported by their parties' basis. Achievement: 45 women in the middle of the political parties expressed that they received the support from the base and the leadership of the political parties, meaning target is reached. Target: fully achieved
ER2: Selected Media is actively engaged in promoting women's political participation and the central role of women in reconciliation and peace building.	Targeted media outlets have increased knowledge on gender equality, women's role in peace building and campaigning	Activity 2.2: Conduct trainings for media outlets on women's rights and role in peace building, gender-sensitive reporting, the Charter of Honour and campaigning skills Activity c 1: Hold a review meeting with media on campaigning and lessons learned on media as a watchdog of women's participation in peace building	4-8 staff members increased their knowledge and are reporting on women role in peace building	Activity was fully completed, where 8 staff members from the selected media outlets were trained on gender equality and women's role in political sphere and peace building. Moreover, one to one meetings were implemented with WATC consultants to look at concrete examples of media reports that were developed by the media outlets were revised and adjusted from gender and women rights perspectives. Target: fully achieved
	MoU on reporting on women's political participation	Activity 2.1: Select 4 media outlets, define terms of media coalition and sign MoUs	Media forum established and network is created	More media outlets than planned, namely 8 plus WATC participate and come to agreement on a MoU. Target fully achieved

	4 media outlets have implemented an 18 months campaign on women's participation in peace building	Activity 2.3: Support media outlets to conduct an 18 months media campaign to raise public awareness on women's political participation and report on Charter of Honour Activity 2.4.: Provide one on one coaching for each media outlet on gender-sensitive reporting	4 campaigns are implemented in four media outlets	Target fully achieved.
ER 3 Youth and specifically young women activists from 20 conflict affected communities have increased political awareness, confidence and skills and play an active role in mobilizing and contributing to greater peace and security in the oPt	Peace activists, community leaders and media students express greater confidence of decision-making in the private and public spheres; want to be change agents for women's role in peace building.	Activity 3.1: Implement "how to be a successful leader" training programme for peace activists. Activity 3.2: Conduct a learning and networking visit for 20 community leaders to a leading women's rights organization	189 activists out of 270 express greater confidence.	Training was done for the 220 youth activists. Internal assessments and the end line survey showed that they were more confident and willing to continue working on mobilization plans at their communities. Target fully achieved.
	Female peace activists have completed internships.	Activity 3.4: Internship program for 20 community leaders	20 activists enrolled in internship program	20 youth activists complete their internships and comment on the benefits for them. Target fully achieved.
	Peace activists have implemented community mobilisation plans for peace building, advocating for women's participation.	Activity 3.3: Develop and implement 20 community mobilization plans to strengthen women's participation in peace building	20 target communities implemented and benefited from community mobilization plans	Community mobilization plans were developed and selected initiatives were implemented in all locations. Target fully achieved

6.2 Outstanding Results

This section provides a more detail analysis at the reached results from the above described project activities. Regarding the overall results which were achieved; most of the participants in the focus groups expressed their high satisfaction. Most of the expected results of the project were fully reached and some were almost reached. Most of the participants expressed their high satisfaction and collective ownership for the initiatives, especially when they were partners in planning and implementation, which contributed to increase the overall social acceptance.

Some general obstacles to the implementation of the project where:

- The difficult situation of the Gaza Strip and their extra vulnerabilities; the youth from Gaza could not travel to Jordan for the exchange visit. Also, the internal environment was more difficult to participate in, due to the destruction of the last Gaza war as well as the more sensitive political environment and a more restrictive policy from the Gaza Strip government.
- Also, there is enormous effort needed to coordinate the efforts with political parties and media outlets (these to a lower level though). To get the parties involved meant many efforts had to be put into coordinating and communicating with the managers and leaders in these parties.

6.2.1 Outcomes Expected Result 1

Women are supported to actively participate in political parties towards peaceful settlement of the conflict

The only gap in the outcomes on ER1 was the lack of support for the Charter of Honor in all political parties; while awareness was increased (reaching more than 80%) full support was still lacking. The questionnaire measured a support of 62% and not 80% (original target). An added value that was attributed to the project is the integration of women and youth in the political parties. This was achieved through connecting the parties (basis in the communities) with the youth activists in the community activities as well as through internships. Good results were seen from training the youth (preparing them for working with the public but also with the political parties, their existing structures and municipalities. Unfortunately, not every party was very active in the local community activities, although at early stages and during inception they committed to do so. Besides, not all parties were able to develop and agree on action plans for the implementation of the Charter of Honor on women participation (but the target of the project, 8 out of 12 was reached). This shows the need to continue working with political parties to motivate them and increase their willingness to effectively change. The party basis also did not reach the level of support that was hoped for towards the Charter of Honor for women participation.

6.2.2 Outcomes Expected Result 2

Selected media is actively engaged in promoting women's political participation and the central role of women in reconciliation and peace building

All indicators were fully reached for this ER. Additional media outlets were engaged in the media coalition; which shows the good impact had on motivating media outlets to join the efforts. This was due to encouraging peer education/ coaching attained among established media organizations and media women organizations. Even though there were no indicators on the change or increase of capacity at the level of these media, the focus groups showed this increase in media coalition partners was a beneficial move to make. Integrating the community activities in the media component was a great success as the media staff reflected in the focus group on how they felt the activities were very relevant and gave them very good materials to broadcast about. The involved staff also expressed their desire to stay involved in

these topics and even conduct individual media initiatives outside of the project or established media concerning the issues of women's political participation. This shows how much the project impacted them and gave them insights in the capacity of the media to change national opinions on these issues.

6.2.3 Outcomes Expected Result 3

Youth and specifically young women activists from 20 conflict affected communities have increased political awareness, confidence and skills and play an active role in mobilizing and contributing to greater peace and security in the OPT

Under ER3, the full target was reached and all activities were successfully completed. The results among the youth activists were greater than expected; as they benefitted very much for the combination of training, internships and community activities. The community initiatives were very successful; in some locations participants were three times higher than expected, and some municipalities asked for repetition or expansion of the community activities. The youth activists were always willing to contribute and participate in this. Due to external circumstances out of control of the project team, one community initiative in Gaza did not take place as it was related to the municipality elections that in the end were not held in the Gaza Strip.

"THIS PROJECT GAVE ME A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT; IT SHARPENED MY PERSONALITY AND I WAS ABLE TO EXPERIENCE PARTICIPATING IN THE ELECTIONS."

– A FEMALE ACTIVIST FROM WEST BANK.

6.3 Results on Overall and Specific Objectives

While the project is not held accountable on attaining overall project objectives; below is a summary of project achievements in this area. Please note that these overall objectives were too ambitious and were not foreseen to be achievable by the end of similar project planned over such a short period.

Overall Project Indicator	Target	Reached
Women are represented in high-level peace negotiation team	At least one	No change
Increased representation of women in political parties, in particular at high-level decision-making bodies.	A 30% increase	Increase of 30.8% in membership according to WATC numbers, but no change reported on the higher management level.
Increased engagement of Palestinian women and youth in reconciliation, conflict resolution, and peace building processes.	A 20% increase of youth active in political parties and NGOs	Increase

SO Indicators	Target	Reached
1. **Representation**: Increased number of women are members of political parties	10% increase over baseline	Yes, 30.8% based on WATC numbers
2. Representation: Parties increase the number of women who occupy positions where they meaningfully contribute to peace building processes.	At least 3 out of 12 parties	No, no changed noticed
3. Awareness: In targeted communities increased on women's political participation and important role in peace building.	40% increase over baseline	Yes, 66.4% based on evaluation analysis
3. Awareness: Palestinians have increased awareness on the Charter of Honor and implementation mechanisms	20% increase over baseline	Yes, 62.9% based on evaluation numbers

7. Impact

As stated before the project has seen very good results and positive impact on the levels of the youth activists, communities, political parties and media outlets. More than 270 young people have increased their knowledge and skills and have organized their communities around women's political participation. More women in political parties felt supported in their roles and momentum in society was created around encouraging active roles for women in the political sphere. The networks and relations that were established in the project between media outlets, political parties, women organizations and youth groups were very valuable and some of these will have sustainable impact. Especially the internship placements and media coalition facilitated value exchange of knowledge and views. The connections between the youth groups on the one hand and the media outlets and political parties on the other hand could have been stronger and more efficient. The unintended negative effects of the project were minimal in quantity or quality, but still some youth groups had negative experiences with political parties or their initiatives were minimally covered by the media during their implementation. There was only small change at the management levels in the media outlets and political parties, which will require longer time and additional resources, but also more effective and systematic involvement of these actors.

7.1 Impact on Communities

The twenty project communities from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have generally been very supporting and interested in the project activities and were open for the action. Youth groups gave feedback that their community initiatives have been well received and did not face any negative interference from the community leaders. The opposite, the community initiatives had good resonance with the local institutes, organizations and inhabitants. Many community initiatives reached high participation and turn out with some activities receiving triple the amount of visitors expected. This was true for theater plays in the Gaza Strip (with a political message) and the school wall painting activities in the West Bank (focusing on and teaching women's rights in the process). Also, many youth leaders were asked to repeat the same activities in different locations or for different audiences, pointing to the interest of the communities in the project's message. The feedback is therefore given to allow for a higher budget of the community initiatives as they would be very impactful if they could reach a higher scale.

The end evaluation notices that over the two years of the project, the number of women members of a political party has increased by 30.8% nationally. This is a larger national movement. Other than that, the networking with the political party basis in the communities also meant that these groups were activated again and momentum was created around the message of women's political participation. Through the meetings new voices were heard by party members and this is an important process that did only minimally take place if it wasn't for the project.

The focus groups also showed success stories how women from the communities felt more comfortable to speak up in the political party meetings and how some were more supported by the men and boys from the community. This again shows the importance of the involvement of men and boys in the community activities, which was generally around 50% in the community actions. In the end line questionnaires, the opinion about the role of CBOs with regards to women's political participation was high. For example, 79.7% agreed or totally agreed that there are organizations in society that support the political participation of women and 78% agreed or totally agreed that society is contributing positively to the political participation of women. The population however was divided on the question of the awareness of local organizations on the rights of women regarding to political participation. Only 53% agreed or

totally agreed with this statement. In general, 68% of the respondents felt that society was the main obstacle for women to participate fully in the political sphere, while 70% pointed to Israeli's military occupation as a main challenge for the women's political participation.

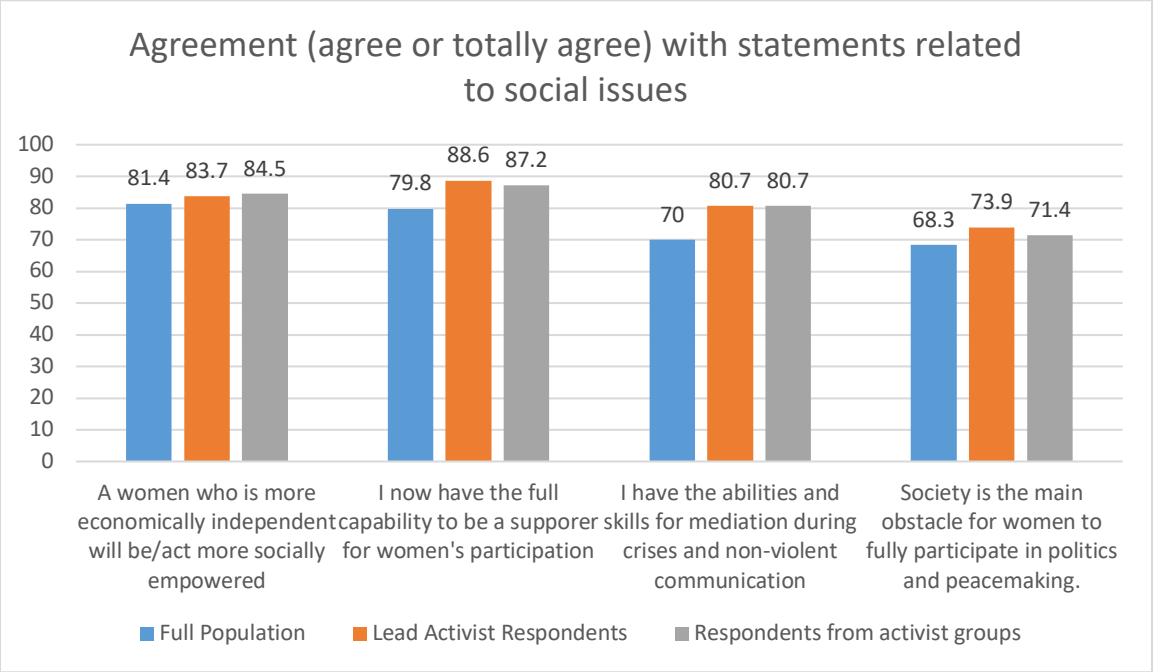


FIGURE 1 SELECTION END LINE QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS REGARDING SOCIAL ISSUES

7.2 Impact on Youth Activists

Youth activists' capability and enthusiasm to advocate for women empowerment – including political participation- and reconciliation greatly increased. However most of them are disappointed from existing structures like the political party leadership.

The training sessions clearly changed all participants; the difference in beliefs, attitudes and perceived skills showed up in the questionnaire. The project has succeeded to change the lives of many youth groups towards the better. The questionnaire also showed that 80.7% of the trained youth agreed to the statement "*I have the strong and supportive skills in mediation during crises, nonviolent communication and International women rights framework".* In addition, 88.6% of them agreed to the statement *"I have the full ability from now on to be a supportive partner for the women issues and their political participation".*

This is a great result! There were testimonies that their participation led to changing their vision, especially after being introduced to the central concepts of women's right to political participation. Also many male participants expressed their acceptance and support for the political participation of the women in the focus groups. Some of the male participants helped women from their families to stand for elections, others pushed electoral blocs to integrate the women in the first ranks. One other example of the impact of the project is the story about a young man, who refused the idea of the project and did not want to participate. After being convinced to attend one meeting, he started to change his views and became slowly a supporter of women's political participation. In the end he encouraged women in his own family

to participate in the elections and made other men in his community accept the presence of women in the political spheres.

The project also had a huge impact on the personal level of many females who participated in the groups. In each focus group there were women and girls who did run in the municipality elections or at least volunteered during the elections period. During the discussions in the focus groups, many girls and women expressed the positive deep difference they experienced after the involvement in the project. The project activities refined their personalities, and equipped them with the tools and skills needed to empower their political participation. Many of them became role models in their communities and through their experiences and stories they could impact other women in their communities outside the project. Their voices reached wide and impacted other men and women in a strong way.

Besides, many talents were discovered during the implementation of the initiatives; drawing, management, vocational and others. Thus the initiatives helped and encouraged the release of youth talents. Such talents continued to give even after the end of the project. This had a positive impact on the lives of the talents; some of them became well known on community levels and continued to participate in other initiatives in their own areas and outside to other areas. However, the awareness of the youth activists on the Charter of Honor and the mechanisms of CEDAW and UNSC Resolution 1325 was lower than expected. Some of the interviewees were not able to connect these tools to the broader concept of women political participation, which was a pity seeing the trainings done and overall improvement in their awareness.

From the focus group, it was clear that also the male participants became very strong advocates for women political participation through the project; they continued promoting the message even after project activities had stopped. Feedback was given that it was even recommended to increase the percentage of male participants in the training groups. Training however should not be done in a more intensive manner to be able to enhance attitudes in favor of women's political participation.

The project used local institutes and networks to connect twenty youth activists with internships e.g. in the Central Election Commission (CEC). This helped the youth activists to increase their practical skills and increase their future employability, but it also opened up their horizon and connected them with well-known institutes and qualified staff. Women who were participating in the CEC experienced the democratic process of elections close by, increasing their awareness around political participation but also giving them plenty of opportunities to bring the topic of women's political participation to the foreground. Many youth groups became well established through implementing the community initiatives. They became known in their communities and were addressed to collaborate on solving local issues or implementing local initiatives; where youth groups gained more trust and credibility from other local actors to work together on local issues. Many of the youth groups were enthusiastic and willing to continue with their activities, especially the ones that were built on strong basis. However; some groups will not be able to continue, mainly due to lack of resources or space available to meet regularly.

During focus groups, youth activists stated they felt more accepted and supported by the communities that they worked in during the project. They felt more connected with the needs and wishes of the local community and through their awareness raising activities they could see members from the communities being more supportive for their aspirations of political participation. In this way, the project reached its envisioned change on the target group as youth activists became opinion leaders in their community.

There were critical voices from the youth about the involvement of the political parties in the community initiatives. It was clear that more opportunities for exchange were needed for the political parties to be exposed to the youth's voices and message, some youth were disappointed in the efforts political parties made in the community activities and how interested they were in real change

"THIS PROJECT GAVE US A LOT OF POWER AND SUPPORTED US FOR FUTURE"

– A MALE ACTIVIST FROM THE WEST BANK.

From the focus groups it became clear that the media students also experienced a big personal change. They were activated in the project to write about women's political participation and found their own ways and platforms to express this. It was interesting to hear however, that none of these young media students published something about the Charter of Honor on women's political participation that was signed by the political parties; they used other openings and stories that were possibly more relevant to their view. Also it was hard to see any organizational changes that took place because of the media students; they were not necessarily bringing about wider change in their work places or media outlets they were affiliated to but the change was clear in their personal publications.

7.3 Political parties

Impact on the political parties was translated on the increase on women participation/ membership in the parties themselves. Although the political parties have ratified the charter of honor; and although they have developed operational plans; focus groups and questionnaires showed weak male supportive attitudes. Another positive impact that the project contributed to is the renewed conversation between communities, the party basis and the party leadership / higher management level.

There were great differences per location and per party on their support for involvement of the women and youth. Some political parties were very supportive during community initiatives; others were barely visible in the activities. Some of these party members highly appreciated participating in the project, but they were highly affected by their roles in the political parties (with almost no change in the attitudes towards women and youth). for instance; during focus groups; it was noticed that some political parties' members tried to convince the youth to become politically affiliated to reach higher political positions. This contradicts with the definition of political participation that was applied during the project and goes against the importance of unaffiliated active citizens.

Another comment still often heard from political party members was that "the real problem" laid with the lack of qualified women who were able and willing to take up political positions. This comment was also made in connection with the mechanisms of the CEDAW treaty which supports a quota of 50% in political parties and parliament. Some political party members during the focus groups expressed that several women were invited to participate in the elections by the party leadership, but refused to take part for personal reasons. These results show the huge efforts still need to be done to fully create a supportive environment in the political parties and take out the obstacles women face in their political careers.

Although political parties' basis knowledge on the Charter of Honor was increased; only 62% of the party basis support the charter. The Charter of Honor was not disseminated on a large scale in the parties

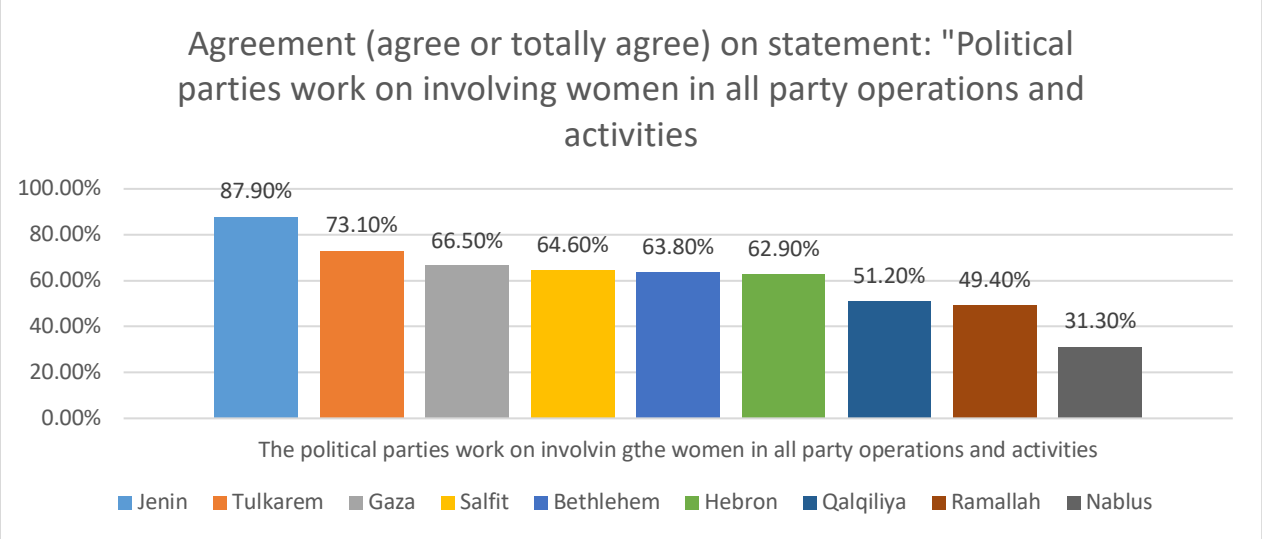
(10,000 copies), while party members made no effort to spread this knowledge further. The action plans / implementation plans from the political parties were not distributed on a wide level, only some parties distributed the action plan among the party basis.

The performance and attitude of women already active in the political parties was a point for attention in the evaluation and should also be carefully considered in future project planning. It was noticed women active in the parties were not very gender sensitive and not supportive of open participation of other women in the political party. In the West Bank, most political parties' members attending the focus groups were female, while in Gaza only men from political parties attended. The discourses applied by the female political party members during the focus groups was evaluated as not very strong and supportive of women rights and women political participation. Most of the women continued to support the political party's vision and showed no bold approach to women's emancipation. The consultant even noticed that the women in the political parties were not really changed by the project, but remained gender insensitive in the broad definition (parties' priorities come first). Looking at the possibilities of the women in the parties, the consultant personal observation/noticed their position was still weak with little powers to change opinions or push for different agendas than the agreed on party agenda. It is therefore clear that they were aware of their rights in equal political participation; and although sources of support for women's political participation are found, their voices are not the strongest yet and a fully supportive environment is still missing.

"THE RIGHTS OF THE WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL PARTIES ARE STILL INCOMPLETE."

– MALE PARTY LEADER

The connection of the political parties with the youth groups was a strong aspect of the project, but not easy to implement successfully at all times. A meaningful connection might require more resources and time to actually induce and encourage change at higher party levels. E.g. if youth had no existing connections with the members of the political parties, the community initiatives saw weak participation or support of the political parties. When there was good collaboration between the youth groups and the political parties, momentum could be much easily created in society around women's political participation that reached many community members.



It was very interesting to notice in the end line questionnaires that a positive view on the role of political parties with regard to women's political participation did not depend on the age or the respondent, or the gender, but on the location. As the table below shows there is a huge difference between the responses on the statements concerning the political parties in the questionnaire depending on location. Respondents from Nablus, Ramallah and Bethlehem are much more negative over the options women have for involvement in the political sphere than the respondents from Jenin. This trend is not limited to this specific statement but shows up in all statements regarding the political parties.

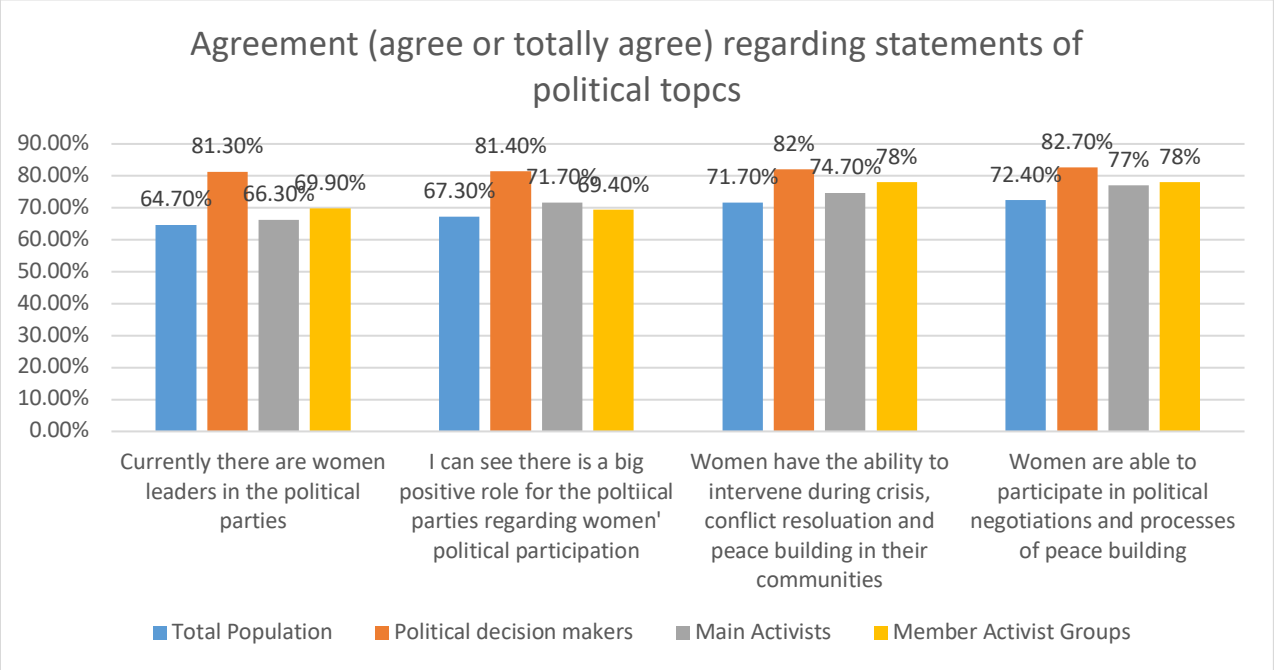


FIGURE 2 RESULTS END LINE QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING POLITICAL TOPICS

The end line questionnaire showed that respondents who were holding a decision making position in a political party were more positive about the position women currently had in political parties and the support political parties were giving, up to 17 percent point higher than the general population. Overall, the respondents were agreeing with the positive role political parties have regarding women's political participation with 67.3%.

7.4 Media outlets

The media outlets were actively involved in the project, mainly through the media coalition that brought training, workshops and a combined strategy and campaign to 8 different media organizations. This was a new and innovative approach, creating a platform for learning and collective strategy planning. The project aimed to increase the capacity of the different outlets and reach a wide audience with their message of women's political participation. This is generally reached by the project, though a more long-during and far-reaching impact could be planned for if management levels were better involved in the project activities to ensure training could be broader applied by the participants.

The organizational impact affected by the strong media outlet individual agendas. The training for staff led to good change on personal level and the capacity from individual staff members was built leading to better media products. However, the training was focused on selected staff (mid – senior level). In one

case the trained employee left to another job and nothing was being done with the project information afterwards. This shows that more commitment is needed on organizational level, allowing more staff to share these relevant new skills.

The media coalition was established with some delay in the project, meaning activities had less time to create an impact. All participants reported positively on the impact of the coalition however. although a strategic plan exists for the coalition; it is highly recommended to WATC to try to follow up with this network as its impact has been very good.

It was admitted during interviews and focus groups that WPP was a topic during election season but after that there is very little attention for. This was partially affected by the project; yet all the media outlets have very strong own agenda and viewpoints on what they should broadcast.

Only in some youth groups that implemented community activities there were members who had connections with media outlets. In these cases, the media was involved from the beginning in their community actions. However, in other groups where there were no media people in the groups, it was clear that the media coverage was weak. This shows that the media outlets were not involved unless there were people motivating them from inside the youth groups. The project team could have supported these connections more.

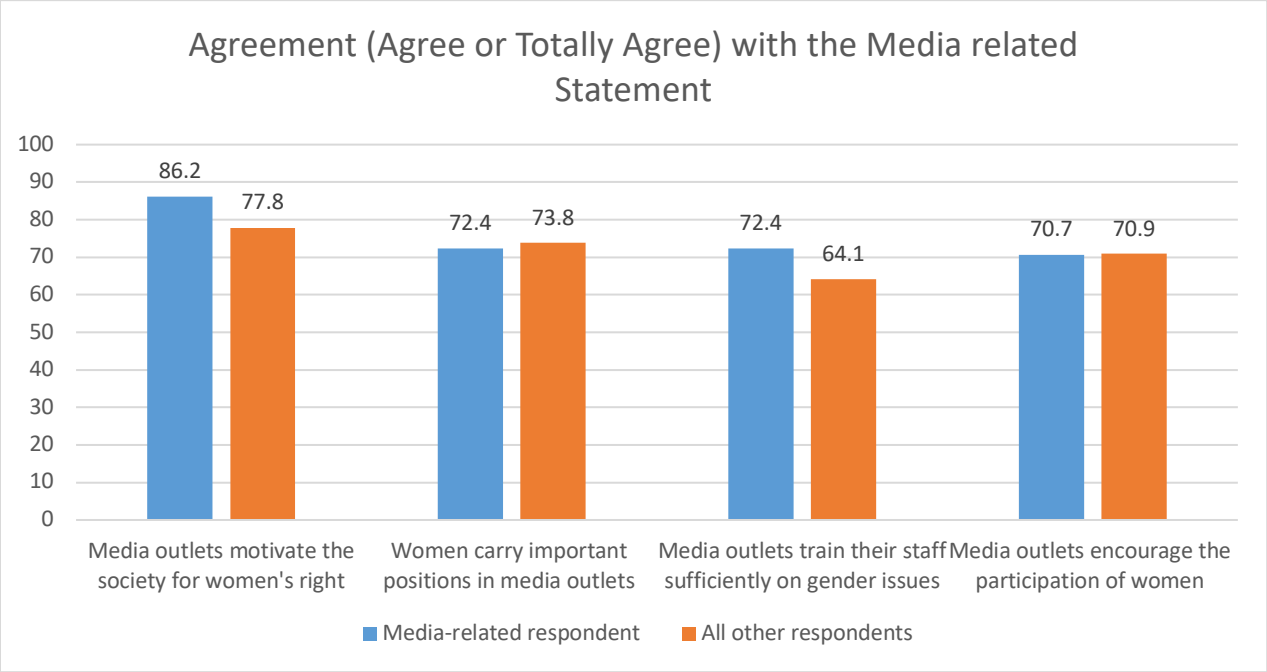


FIGURE 3 RESULTS END LINE QUESTIONNAIRE RELATED TO MEDIA OUTLETS

The questionnaire showed a more positive view on the media outlets by the media staff, but in general the respondents where not negative about the role media has in supporting women's rights. About 77.8% of the respondents agreed or totally agreed with the statement "Media Outlets motivate the society for women's rights". Media staff agreed or totally agreed with this statement for 86.2%. A gap could be seen regarding the leadership positions women currently carry in media outlets as well as the training media staff receive regarding gender issues, which feeds into the recommendation to include more media leaders in the trainings or workshops.

8. Sustainability

The changes in the lives of the youth activists are reviewed as most sustainable in the project; youth became advocates for empowerment and peace. Their skills are further developed and stronger connections were made with different actors. It is very hopeful these young men and women will continue to be sources of change and development in their communities and the national Palestinian society at large. Positive signs were noticed in terms of youth groups gaining trust of the local community. Even some community initiatives are likely to continue, as they were embedded in schools and municipalities activities (who) requested repeating the activities). Through such actions the idea of the project will continue to be shared with individuals, institutions and whole communities. Not all youth groups however have a strong organizational sustainability as they lack the resources to continue. The traineeships of the youth contributed to the overall sustainability as the youth established important connections that will help them in the future, while they also spread the project message in these institutes.

While the media staff were active in the trainings and coalition, there is a risk that the coalition will not continue to make a strong impact; unless WATC continue leading the coordination among the different actors. The coalition was a very interesting mix of representations of media staff and would bring great impact if it was able to continue and receive follow up from WATC. In all cases the media staff who received the training will continue to apply their new skills in any position or job they will undertake.

Several political parties showed the interest in continuing with the Charter of Honor on women's political participation and their developed action plans. However, there is no follow up from the project and the media are too weak to hold them accountable, so accountability needs to be requested by the party basis. There is a commitment given by some of the political parties however it is unsure till which level they will follow up with the project goals.

Changes have taken place in the awareness in the communities and more women and young advocates for women participations have been integrated into local institutes, political parties and communities. They should be the ones to change their local institutes and hold accountable their representatives. The project gave hopes many women have become more capable and equipped for this.

9. Reflections - changing landscape of women's political reality in Palestine

Great differences are visible among political parties, which require different approaches and recommendations. Some of the parties prefer a full integration of the woman into their management levels, but they will expect the female party members themselves to work, develop and move up. It was noticed on several occasions these party leaders were not willing to actively support the women as they did not recognize the big gap and current constraints on women that would require the leaders to be actively remove limitations on women's empowerment. In line with their passivity, a common heard excuse for the lack of women voices in political parties was the so-said lack of capable women in the communities. There are no women willing, qualified and ready to occupy positions of leadership and influence they say.

The gender divisions run deep into the political parties. One clear example of this was the behavior of men and women from the same political party during the focus groups. The male party members were the vocal, dominant group participants while the female members seemed to be waiting for their permission to talk.

It was interesting to see that political parties in the Gaza Strip in general were much more eager to involve young voices and the youth groups in their activities. Even though this did not mean the parties showed gender sensitivity, at least they were eager to use some of the new voices in their activities. However, in general a conviction can be felt among the youth that the results and improvements they were able to reach for their communities was outside of the political party. Some even voiced strong resentment about the involvement of political parties and were negative about the relevance and position the parties have in society; they were convinced real social change should be reached outside of the political party. Some even refused to deal again with political parties in the future. This is a strong statement and a sign of loss of faith in the established political system for this young generation.

The youth are the hope of the future, the seeds that the project aimed to incubate for better political participation of the women in the future. The young men who were involved in this phase of the project were often already activated in the first phase of the project (PEACE I), ensuring that they were aware and ready to participate with the women and encourage free political participation of their women colleagues. The number of men added to the project participants who were not involved in the first phase was limited and that was a wise choice. The same counts for the female young activists; for most of them it was not their first participations and this resulted in strong and successful participation of these women.

It was clear the youth involved in project activities were already active in their communities; they had already some skills and experience in mobilizing their communities and this was activated and used even more in the project. Through interactions however with the youth, the thought cannot be ignored that they lacked an understanding of the philosophy and abstract ideas behind the broader concept of women political participation and its crucial place in gender equality and a peaceful future. Even though their knowledge increased on political mechanisms and tools, their conviction was not so strongly based on the wealth of knowledge and reasoning behind the case of women's political participation (the existing philosophy). Lacking a strong knowledge basis could give weakness problems in the future for these activists, as they need to defend their case.

A strong commitment was felt among the young participants however to carry on with the plight for equality and open participation for all. They lack however the social, political and economic support. It was often heard that without financial support they can't continue. It is important to realize that even young change makers need a support system in their families and communities, both economically and socially for them to feel confident to continue their struggle.

10. Lessons learned

Based on the evaluation tools and observations in the communities and among the project teams, a list of lessons learned can be summarized as follows:

1. **Involving political parties**: it is very important to keep and strengthen the relations with the political parties but based on evaluating their resources devoted to similar initiatives. One point to include in the methodology is stronger forms of joint monitoring or accountability mechanisms for the follow up on the Charter of Honor. For this aim, more effective use of the media should be integrated.

2. **Involving media**: to reach for a stronger watch dog role, media outlets' involvement should have been more systematic especially with communities and youth participants. One idea is to connect them already with the youth initiatives during the planning process of the community activities so that the youth are already connected with the media and hear their views. Use of media should be integrated in a stronger way to reach a higher number of audience and lead to a bigger change on national level. Women participation should not be treated as a seasonal issue; so there has to be a mechanism ensuring the sustainable messages that reach the audience over a long term.

3. **Involving youth activists**: more attention should be paid for the CEDAW mechanism and UN Resolution 1325 and how they relate to the wider concepts of women's political participation. If the youth would be more aware of these tools it is believed their awareness work would be stronger. Engaging men and boys in these activities should continue, but based on good and clear selection mechanisms.

4. **Involving communities:** It is highly recommended to connect the different actors more closely, especially during the planning phase of the community initiatives. The media, political parties, youth groups and community members should already meet during the planning phase to create more understanding and involvement from all sides. Also, the different youth groups should be connected and taken on learning exchanges whenever possible.

5. **Involving men and boys:** the project's community activities included on average 50% men or boys. This has been vital to the project's impact on the communities, as the men were positively changed by the project's activities. Again it should be stated however that additional efforts should be expected to prepare men and boys to constructively participate in the project's space by giving enough attention to the concept and ideas of women's empowerment.

6. **Economic Empowerment can be used as an entry point to women empowerment:** During the focus groups and interviews there were many hints that the more the women are economically dependent the more they carry influence and the more they have a greater role as decision makers in their communities. The questionnaire showed that 36% strongly agrees with this statement and another 45% agrees with this statement.

11. Conclusions

The project “My Right to My Future – Women’s Participation in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution” was successfully implemented during the proposed period and all activities were finalized with very good results. The success stories and achievements of the project were many. Each location and participant had its own context and conditions, according to which they were effected and changed by the project activities. The impact of the project was not limited to one result, or a set of similar achievements, on the contrary; the action affected each location and target group according to its context and the implemented activities. The involvement of the political parties, media outlets and men in the communities were part of an innovative approach that succeeded to enhance the action’s impact and bring envisioned change into reality. There is the potential to invest more through such approaches for a better change but with some changes in the taken method, to increase the efficiency of the established partnerships and connections.

The logic of the action was very relevant and the process of developing the activities knew good participation from all stakeholders. It was clear however that the goals for the political parties were set high and the targets were not reachable within the limited scope and timeframe of the activities. This could have been clear in the planning phase already. The goals should have been formulated in a way following the SMART technique to get to more realistic targets that are doable in the project setting. Now however, the implemented activities made a very good follow up on all the hard work from the first project (PEACE I) and a good start for continuous efforts, especially with the political parties and the national councils (or negotiations teams).

The evaluation showed that most of the resources and materials which were used were suitable and efficient for the project. The budget, human resources, communication tools and the project tools and approaches were applicable and suitable for the project’s objectives and implementation. The intended objectives and targets of the project were professionally and successfully reached. Most of the targets were reached with 100%, while some (specifically the ones on national political party level) were not fully reached. The overall achievement of the objectives was more than 95%, which is still a very high result.

The project has made an impact on many different stakeholders through the different activity sets the project organized. Standing out for sustainability and impact are clearly the holistic activities for the youth activists; through engaging them in training, traineeships and the organization of community initiatives, their capacities were greatly increased. They have also come in contact with (networks of) political parties and media organizations, giving them tools and connections for the future and a better understanding of their own possibilities in the Palestinian society.

Other good impact was made on the communities and the political party basis who were exposed to messages of women political participation and gender equality. This was an important intervention that made an impact reaching as far as the middle and higher management. It was however hard to reach for substantial changes on the higher level in parties and national structures. Due to their bureaucratic nature and the stagnation in the dominant structures, the higher structures are hard to substantially change (with regard to representation of women, meaningful positions for women) but a good start is made. The impact on the political parties and media outlets was also clear, especially when individuals benefitted from trainings or were engaged in the community initiatives. Higher impact could be reached however if leaders were also involved in trainings or workshop sessions and coalitions/connections were more structurally implemented and early. Because of the positive impact of the community initiatives, it is

highly recommended to increase the budget, frequency and locations of these. Youth leaders can be given more responsibilities and freedom in implementing these, to also increase their capacity.

The media partners were integrated into the project in an inventive way, with the media coalition being a unique action in the whole of Palestine. Bringing these actors together has created learning and sharing that opened up mind of media staff and greatly increased their skills and knowledge. However, decision makers and managers were not closely involved into these activities, meaning in some cases that the learned skills by staff were not applied consistently throughout the media platform. Involved staff needed more support from their organization to have to space to apply these skills, share these skills and teach others these skills. It was clear however the training itself was very strong and coalition participants were very positive about the information and skills learned.

The sustainability of the aspects of the project are more than what was expected. The activities of the project have touched the future of the participants, who were positively affected by the project and started a new phase in their lives. The trainings and training material are sustainable sources that will be used by the trainees in future sessions. The initiatives that the youth groups conducted left a sustainable impact on the lives of people in addition to the fact that the youth became very well known as individuals and groups in their areas. The change of attitudes and approaches, and opening the eyes wide on the issues that were considered vague or unknown in the past, is a very important hint for sustainable change for the future.

12. Recommendations

ON PROJECT MANAGEMENT LEVEL

Realistic Targets: The project indicators were not all formulated into realistic targets. Some of the planned targets were looking at the national level and were not realistic to reach in the project timeframe through the planned activities. It will help the relevance of the activities and indicators if a more realistic set of targets is planned out. This includes basing the targets on an elaborate baseline study that will gather more information on women's political participation and the needs of the youth groups.

Increase Scale Community Initiatives: A repeated request from the youth groups was the possibilities for more time and a wider scale of community activities. More time for the phase of implementation as well as more initiatives per year would bring even stronger results in the communities.

Avoid Time Gap: It is recommended to avoid gaps or delays between the planning of activities and implementation of activities, specifically with reference to the community initiatives. This made the youth groups feel separated from the project and the project's message for some time.

Increase networking between stakeholders: In the project, several opportunities were noticed for more networking between the stakeholders and different participating groups. The first is the connections between the different youth groups; exchange visits would increase the learning experience for the youth. This especially true since some youth groups felt isolated, for example in the Gaza Strip. Whenever possible, WATC should increase the communication and networking with all local and national actors on their work.

Ongoing support: Whenever possible, waiting for the next round of funding should be avoided and short term "project thinking" should not be kept in mind by the WATC and CARE WBG team. If resources allow (and minor resources are needed for the given suggestions), several activities should be continuously supported even now the project is phasing out. This will be possible in particular for the youth groups and media coalition, where follow up meetings might be possible and coordination for future community initiatives can be provided. This is highly requested by the project participants and should not be underestimated by WATC.

ON POLITICAL PARTIES' LEVEL

Stimulate Leadership Involvement: To increase the impact on the political parties more should be done to involve the party leadership in setting up activities that actively deal with women's political participation. this could be through a competition or award between women in the political parties on relevant topics, conducting a participatory research by party leadership about the role and position of women in the party, organizing youth camps that educate on gender issues, CEDAW, UNSC Resolution 1325 and other topics related to women's political participation. Through such channels, the parties should be seduced to be more active on the gender topics.

Train Higher Management: It is highly recommended to organize trainings and/or workshops for the higher levels of management in the political parties. These workshops should have a different character than the ToT sessions or youth training, but can be beneficial for the party leaders on the same topics. This could have a higher impact on possible changing direction or changing the atmosphere regarding women's political participation in parties.

Increase Accountability: Accountability should be increased on many levels in the political system, but also on the party leadership; either through the media or through activating party basis strongly. One suggestion in this could be a monitoring group for the implementation of the Charter of Honor on women's political participation. The monitoring group could be made up of party members, as well as community members and youth to follow up on the action plans. Another suggestion in this area is the forming of lobby groups among the youth or community members than can hold the political parties more actively accountable and press for certain issues.

Increasing connections: the consultant thinks the connections between the media, political parties and youth groups should have been stronger. edia outlets can be better used; broadcasts could be made about strong female figures in political parties and other short movies or testimonies. In the same line; supervise and support the interaction between the political parties and the youth groups more actively, when working on the planning and the implementation of community initiatives. Political parties should have taken a more supportive role for the youth groups in order for the project to reach an even higher impact.

ON MEDIA OUTLETS' LEVEL

Continue the Media Coalition: This highly beneficial project component can only have a strong impact if WATC uses all power it has to continue with the coalition. A strategy has been planned and regular meetings and follow up will keep the media outlets engaged on this topic. Coalition members have expressed the fear that there will be no continuation if the WATC does not provide continuous follow up and support.

Get Commitment: Additionally, the project team should try to get a stronger commitment from the management levels of the media outlets, not just the participating staff. Ensure communication channels with the management levels of the media are open and the managers will support the staff in implementing lessons learned in their work with the media channel.

Train Decision-Makers: One way to involve higher management staff in the project is to engage higher staff in a training workshop or sessions that discuss similar topics, but in a way that is relevant and effective with these decision makers.

ON YOUTH ACTIVISTS' LEVEL

Training: The ToT training sessions were very successful thus it is highly recommended they continue, and it is recommended that participants will receive certificates upon completion. All leader participants were very motivated to train the other youth. This approach can be applied in more topics and in more sessions. It is further recommended to increase the training meetings for the youth leaders (the TOT workshops) in order to offer continuous support in the later stages of the project. It would also be highly beneficial to have more sessions that elaborate on the mechanisms of CEDAW and UNSC Resolution 1325 ant their connection with the broader concept of women political participation. This will help the youth in the future to make a strong case for women participation on all levels. It is also highly encouraged to keep on looking for ways to practice the attitudes thought in the trainings and find outlets to practical apply the lessons learned for the participants.

Customized Packages: Several youth groups suggested to also develop specialized training packages for each community that would address the specific needs of the youth groups and communities. This can be arranged with large responsibilities for the youth groups themselves, under supervision of WATC.

Responsibility and Trust: It is recommended to search for opportunities to give the youth leaders more responsibilities in the project, especially after performing so well in the earlier phases of the project. There will be great personal benefits for the youth leaders if they experience they are given more trust in the project.

Database: The project should build a database for the volunteers and other stakeholders that will store key information from all groups. This will facilitate easier and more continuous communication with WATC and offers opportunities for easier connections among the youth groups and other stakeholders.

ON COMMUNITIES' LEVEL

Community Initiatives: It is recommended to allow for a broader concept of community services for the youth-led community initiatives. The focus has to be on the social services through the initiatives and not to focus narrowly on political participation. In the end, the process of changing attitudes in society happens through social interventions. This resonates with the feedback from youth groups who encourage the project teams to keep open minded about the initiatives, be open for new ideas (artistic camp, cultural camps, women statues and so on) and not remain fixed on the same initiatives. The idea of income generating projects was also mentioned as feedback and should be considered as well in next phases.

Keep Involving Male Actors: Men are the partners in the process of social change, and can be important sources of support. Extra efforts should be expected however to prepare the men to actively support women empowerment in the project activities and communities.

Engage marginalized groups: It will be an added value if vulnerable groups, like youth with a disability, in the community can be positively engaged in the community initiatives. This will increase their empowerment and would also widen the basis of support for project activities.

Increase Activities in Schools: Upon reflection, the consultant noticed the importance of involving older school students in the project and it is therefore strongly suggested to increase activities in the 11th and 12th grades of local schools. This can impact the youngster in their thinking and will positively impact their mind with regard to gender issues and political participation. Working with young ages has a higher impact on their attitudes and supports their thoughts to bring an aware generation in the future.

Take Vulnerability into Account: Several communities know additional vulnerability due to their local and circumstances; e.g. in the Gaza Strip several participants were still dealing with the damage, destruction and trauma from the last Gaza War. Other communities in the West Bank were prone to demolition or closures. When possible, project team should be aware of these additional challenges and provide specialized support whenever possible and requested by the groups. This should however not be an excuse to push for the project's agenda, as this remains valid even in stressful situation.

Annexes

Annex 1 Guiding Questions Semi-structured Interview

1. Interview Questions for political party representatives

"My right to my future" project

1. Are you working on the assignment of women leaders in the coming Palestinian-Israeli negotiations, or any activity regarding the coming negotiations?
2. Was there any increase in the proportion of female representation in the party? Do you focus on this ratio by party leaders? What was the number? What is the current change? Are there any lists?
3. Do you think that the activities carried out during "My right to my future" project at the community level sufficient? Is there a need to develop training material? Activities? Other plans? What are the proposals?
4. Do you think that the trainings that were provided hold the basic contents and enough understanding to raise awareness about the political participation of women?
5. Are there any models indicate an increase in the number of women participating in political parties and in the activities? Are there examples reflect the increase in political participation of women?
6. In your point of view, who are the groups that can support the political participation of women?
7. How was the party's role in the project? How do you see the role of the political party in the coming phases of the project?

8-What are the main problems faced by the party in the project? And how they were overcome?

9. What are the negative aspects that hindered the party from networking with project staff or youth groups or activists engaged in the project?
10. What are the positive aspects highlighted by working with the party? How can they be addressed in future?
11. To what extent the experience of WTAC have contributed to build and network for facilitating the implementation of the project through the political parties, was their presence appropriate for work in this area? Did they understand and accept the context?
12. In your opinion, can women take high positions in politics without being politically affiliated? And why?
13. What is the mechanism adopted by the party to implement the charter signed in the beginning of the project? Did you adhere to and apply its terms? How?
14. What is the role of media organizations from your point of view regarding the political participation of women? Do you include issues of political participation in media programs? And was this enough?
15. What is the role of the Community institutions from your point of view regarding the political participation of women? Do you include issues of political participation in media programs? And was this enough?
16. What is the role of youth in your opinion in order to promote the political participation of women? What are the suggestions for next steps?

20. What do you think of women's participation in municipal elections last year 2017? Was women's representation enough? Is there any thorough study of the reality of women in elections?

21. Does the project respond to your needs in enhancing the role of women in politics? How and in what direction?
22. What improvements did the project leave on the lives of the beneficiaries? How? Are there any success stories?

2. Interview Questions for media organizations

1. Do you think that the activities carried out during the project at the community level sufficient? Is there a need to develop training material? Activities? Other plans? What are the suggestions?
2. Do you think that the exercises provided basic contents and enough understanding to raise awareness regarding political participation-for women?.
3. Was the number of media personnel that have been trained enough? And how they were affected?
4. What was the role of the media in the project? And how do you see its role in future phases of the project-specific activities?
5. What is the mechanism adopted by the media to press for applying the "Charter of honor" signed by in the beginning of the project? Did you abide and adhere to it and did you apply its terms? How?
6. In your opinion, can women take high positions in politics without being politically affiliated? And why?
7. What are the main problems faced by the media in the project? And how they were overcome?
8. What are the negative aspects that hindered media organizations related to project staff or youth groups or activists engaged in the project?
9. What are the positive aspects highlighted by the project? How can be developed in future?
10. How the project has contributed to establish or build new relationships with target groups as media student, youth activists, and the political parties?
11. Were media attitudes affected by the project? Positively? Negatively? How?
12. What are the project weaknesses? What are the strengths?

    13-Do you see that project activities will lead to far reaching results regarding women's political participation and raise awareness?

14. In your point view, which groups can be merged to contribute and support the integration of women in political parties?
15. What is the role of media organizations from your point of view regarding the political participation of women? Do you include issues of political participation in media programs? And was this enough?
16. Does the project contribute to the change the media strategy towards raising awareness and knowledge about broad concept of women political participation? And any relevant topics?
17. What is the role of the Community institutions from your point of view regarding the political participation of women? Do you include such issues of political participation in media programs? And is this enough?
18. What is the role of youth in your opinion in order to promote the political participation of women? What are the suggestions for future?
19. What is your opinion regarding women's participation in last municipal elections in 2017? Was women's representation enough? Was there a thorough study about the reality of women in elections? Are relevant topics were covered by media organizations?
20. What impact did the project leave on the lives of beneficiaries in local communities? And how? Are there any success stories?

21. How many people were reached in local communities? Whether through social media outreach, etc? How much is the number or percentage in General?

    22-What about media Coalition? Have you been designing a strategic plan? Is there an intention to develop and increase the number of coalition members? How the Coalition can continue after the project?

Annex 2 List of Interviewees

Interviews during June/July	Interviews during September/ October
Interview with Ms.Layali Zahran- Project Coordinator.	Interview with Dr.Nour Abu Al Rub, Secretary of Fateh party in Jenin Region– on 30 September 2017
Interview with Lubna Al Ashqar – Media Coordinator.	Interview with Mr.Mohammed Alloush – Central Committee Member of Struggle party in Toulkarem and a National Council Member – Toulkarem on 3 October 2017
Interview with Ms.Jackleen Bro – Project Main Accountant.	Interview with Mr.Loay Al Madhoun – Member of Central Committee of Struggle party- and Tarajy Abu Irjeleh – Women Committee in Struggle party in Gaza. On 4 October 2017 via skype
Interview with Lana Al Saqa – Gender Unit manager at the Palestine Broadcasting Channel.	Interview with Mr.Loay Abu Moammar – General Manager of "Sawt Al Watan" Radio in Gaza- on 8 October 2017 – via skype.
Interview with Nadia Abu Nahleh- WTAC's Manager/ Gaza Strip	Interview with Mrs.wafaa Abdulrahman – Manager of Falastiniat NGO in Ramallah – on 9 October 2017
Interview with Hiba Al Tibi – Care international (WBG).	Interview with Mrs.Huda Ellayan – Member of Political Bureau of Fida Party and a social activist in Gaza Strip- on 8 October 2017 – via skype.
	Interview with Mrs.Abla Saadat – Union of Women Committees – Ramallah – on 9 October 2017
	Interview with Abed Al Aydi – Manager of Ma'an NGO in Ramallah – on 11 October 2017
	Interview with Mrs.Doaa Hamayel a Program Broadcaster at Nisaa FM in Ramallah – on 11 October 2017

Annex 3 List of Focus Groups

During June/ July 2017	During September/ October
A focus group was conducted for Bethlehem and Hebron Groups on 1/6/2017	A focus group was conducted for Jenin on 30 September 2017
A focus group was conducted for Jenin and Nablus Groups on 4/6/2017	A focus group was conducted for Nablus on 30 September 2017

A focus group was conducted for Toulkarem and Qalqilia Groups on 5/6/2017	A focus group was conducted for Bethlehem on 1 October 2017
A focus group was conducted for Ramallah and Salfit Groups on 6/6/2017	A focus group was conducted for Hebron on 1 October 2017
Two focus groups were conducted for Gaza Groups on 12 and 13/6/2017	A focus group was conducted for Toulkarem on 3 October 2017
	A focus group was conducted for Gaza
	A focus group was conducted for Gaza
	A focus group was conducted for Gaza

Annex 4 Research Questionnaire

A FINAL EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE "MY RIGHT TO MY FUTURE"

FIRST SECTION: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

1- Sex - □ Male □Female

2- Age □18-30 □31-45 □46-60 □61-75 □ over 75

3- Social Status □single □Married □Separated □Divorced

5- Place of Residency □City □Village □ Camp

6-In which governorate do you live: ……

SECOND SECTION: EDUCATION LEVEL AND WORK SPHERE

7- Level of education: □Less than high school □high school □Diploma □Bachelor level □ Graduate studies

8- Do you work? □Yes □No

9-Do you work in your specialization? □ Yes □ No

10-If no what do you work? ……

11-Which sector? □Governmental □Civil □ Private □ International □Owner

□ other…….

12- Do you issue decision for other employees at your work place? □Yes □No

13-If yes, how much employees you are responsible for? _____

14- Are you politically affiliated? □Yes □ No

15-If the answer is yes, are you affiliated to: □Fateh □Hamas □Democratic front □Popular Front for liberation of Palestine □People's party □Arab Front □National □Liberation Front Palestinian □Popular Struggle □Arab Struggle front. □Other

16-Are you from the people who give orders in the party within the decided devision in the party? □Yes □No

THIRD SECTION: YOUR ROLE IN THE PROJECT

17-Did you receive trainings? □Yes □No

18-If your answer was yes, how many trainings did you receive? What kind of trainings?

19-Are you from the main activists in the project? □ Yes □ NO

20-If yes, what were the activities you implemented?

21-Are you from the media people who were involved in the project? □ Yes □No

22-If yes what did the project add to you?

23- Are you from the activists' groups? □**Yes** □ **No**

24-If yes, What was your role in the project?

25- If you were not from the main activists, or media people, or active groups, what was your role in the project?

Fourth Section: the attitudes of the respondents regarding the society and its impact on the role of women in political participation, peace building and reconciliation.

Number	Item	Totally Agree	Agree	I do not know	I do not agree	I totally do not agree
1	The Palestinian society contributes to enhance the role of women in political participation					
2	There are groups in the Palestinian society which support the women in political participation					
3	The women participate in most of the political activities, peace building and reconciliation in their communities					
4	The Palestinian women have the tools and equipment they need to enter the political sphere and to work on peace building and reconciliation					
5	The women themselves support the role of leader women and non-leader women in their communities to work in the political sphere, peace building and reconciliation					
6	The different civil society institutions are well prepared to participate in women political participation					
7	The local communities are on a high level of awareness regarding women political participation					

8	The percentage of women who participate in political work is real and not only on paper					
9	The women have equal opportunities as well as males to have high rank positions in the departments of social and political institutions					
10	It does not matter if the participating in decision making are married or not, women are women					
11	Preconceptions and stereotypes in the society are disabling conditions challenging the enhancement of role of women in political participation, decision making and intervention during conflict resolution					
12	The society is considered the main obstacle facing the women political participation peace building and reconciliation					
13	Norms and customs in Palestine enhance the rank of Palestinian women.					
14	The Palestinian women enjoy fair social rights					
15	I have the strong abilities, which are supportive in mediation during crises, nonviolent communication and international women rights frameworks.					
16	I have the full capacity from now to be a partner and supporter for the women issues and their political participation					
17	I can see that the more the woman is economically independent the more she is obeyed and a decision maker in her society and family					

The fifth section: the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of media outlets and their impact on the role of women in political participation, peace building and reconciliation

Number	Item	Totally Agree	Agree	I do not know	I do not agree	I totally do not agree

1	Media outlets play a role to support the women roles in their societies.					
2	Media outlets contribute to motivate the society and raise the awareness regarding women rights in general and specifically the right to political participation					
3	Media programs and media outlets include clear agendas and strategies related to encourage the communities and raise their awareness regarding the women political participation					
4	The women play and important role in media outlets through having positions help them to transfer their voices through media					
5	There is media monitoring and high sensitivity towards women rights and gender issues, and specifically the role of women in political work.					
6	Media outlets played an important role during the municipal election in 2017 regarding raising the awareness about the importance of having nominated females in the different blocks					
7	Media outlets are concerned to train their staff in order to include women rights and gender issues in the political work in different programs					
8	With the existence of social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter and others, it is possible for the women to send their messaged and contents					
9	Women participation is considered qualitative on social media, through which they could change their context and raise their roles regarding political participation					
10	Media outlets' encourage for the women participation in general in different spheres and specifically in political sphere					

Sixth Section: the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of Civil Society and Governmental organizations and their impact on the women political participation, peace building and reconciliation

Number	**Item**	**Totally Agree**	**Agree**	**I do not know**	**I do not agree**	**I totally do not agree**

1	The CSOs play an important role in raising awareness regarding the women rights in political participation and decision making					
2	The CSOs encourage the occupation of women in front lines in political parties, main and important positions					
3	The CSOs do not depend only on the existence of women in leadership positions, but also on real participation in decision making					
4	During the last three years the women were involved in negotiations, conferences, and meetings on international level.					
5	CBOs and governmental organizations are considered main and important partner to encourage the women in political work in the political parties.					
6	The women and from their positions in different institutions can gain their rights to political participation and decision making					
7	The women occupy leadership positions which fit their representation and capabilities in the Palestinian ministries.					
8	The women effectively and powerfully participate in decision making on political level					
9	The Palestinian social status law is oppressive for the rights of women in some of its substantial items					
10	The penal law provides protection to women					
11	The Palestinian legislations related to women are fair and provide them with all sufficient and rights					

The seventh section: the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues, and their impact on the role of women in political participation, peace building and reconciliation

Number	Item	Totally Agree	Agree	I do not know	I do not agree	I totally do not agree

1	Feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues; do a high effort to raise the awareness of local communities regarding the political participation and decision making for the women					
2	Feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues; work on media marketing regarding the women rights issues through bringing long term programs to have a higher impact on the societies.					
3	Feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues; use the social media platforms and any updated tools to raise the awareness of the communities					
4	Feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues; try to reach equality and equality, through engaging males in different activities for social change and gaining the rights of the women					
5	Feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues; provide long term services in the local communities for social change					
6	There is a high rate of collaboration between the feminist institutions which are specialized in gender issues and other media institutions					
7	You participate in activities and events for the advocacy of women issues					
8	Gender contributes to enhance the equality between men and women					
9	Gender means the women and their issues					
10	Gender means roles, relations and needs for men and women					

The eighth section: the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of political parties and its impact on the women political participation, peace building and reconciliation

Number	**Item**	**Totally Agree**	**Agree**	**I do not know**	**I do not agree**	**I totally do not agree**
1	The political parties prefer the existence of leader women in the front lines due to their abilities to intervention during crises, and the participation to decision making					

2	Currently there are women in the leadership level in the political parties					
3	The political parties work on involving the women in all parties' operations and activities.					
4	There are formal speaker form leader women in the different political parties.					
5	The women have the ability to manage the political parties through being in decision making positions					
6	The women have the ability of intervention during crises, conflict resolution, peace building and reconciliation in their communities.					
7	The women are able to participate in the political negotiations, peace building processes and reconciliation					
8	The Palestinian women occupy 20% of the leadership on some of the political parties					
9	I can see that there is a big positive role for the political party regarding the women political participation					

The ninth section: the respondents' attitudes regarding the role of the occupation and its impact on the role of women in political participation, peace building and reconciliation.

Number	**Item**	**Totally Agree**	**Agree**	**I do not know**	**I do not agree**	**I totally do not agree**
1	The occupation contributes to deepen the limited women participation in political action, peace building and reconciliation					
2	The occupation oppresses the political parties, which negatively impacts the involvement of the women in political parties, and especially in the front lines					
3	The occupation is a main challenge for the women political participation, peace building and reconciliation					
4	The political participation is one of the main reasons for unsustainable political work in the local communities, which negatively impacts the political work of women.					

TENTH SECTION: YOUR PERSONAL POINT OF VIEW REGARDING WOMEN POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

1-what is your point of view in general regarding women political participation in your community?

2-do you see that there is concrete change on your personal kife after you participated in "My Right to my Future" project?

3-Is there social change after conducting the initiatives and activities through "My Right to my Future" project? Please detail