

Expand Your Business

and Create Jobs for Palestinians

Courtesy of
Palestinian Market
Development Programme



The UK AID and EU-funded Palestinian Market Development Programme (PMDP) has for the past two years helped local companies grow their business and create more jobs. One key component in this endeavor is to strengthen trade and investment linkages both locally and with diaspora Palestinians, thus increasing the engagement of the Palestinian diaspora in economic activities, tourism, and knowledge transfer in order to help develop the Palestinian economy. We recognize the importance to link local companies with international markets and are utilizing the strength of the diaspora to create more of the employment opportunities that are so urgently needed in the occupied territories.

diasporas have played key roles in the development of their respective homelands. People of Irish origin from all over the globe have played a major role in Ireland's post-conflict economic recovery; and the Indian diaspora has clearly impacted India's economy over the past twenty years; it has both attracted investment and created jobs by developing a thriving IT sector that is linked to the Silicon Valley and international markets - to name just a couple of examples.


Palestinians living in the diaspora are no exception: Spread around the globe, they are an asset to and play an important role in the country's economic transformation, contributing either individually or collectively in order to improve local living conditions. Almost every family has at least one member who provides financial assistance, helps provide education, or donates to charity in his or her homeland; diaspora organizations have been active in providing scholarships, medical help, and relief services; and diaspora ICT businesses have engaged by creating employment via offshore branches and companies.



The office of Infinite Tiers Group (ITG), a Palestinian diaspora offshore company located in Nablus. Photo by Ahmad Alami, courtesy PMDP.

Numbers at a Glance

- 534 Palestinian enterprises in West Bank and Gaza received assistance
- 149 new markets (local or international) entered (75 owned or managed by women)
- 243 new products developed or enhanced (141 owned or managed by women)
- 1,112 jobs created.
- 250 enterprises reported improved annual performance
- 32.9 million US \$ increase of GBP achieved through sales due to programme assistance



Today, many members of the Palestinian diaspora who own successful IT and engineering companies in the USA, Europe, and the Gulf have set up off-shore or outsourcing operations in the territories. In many cases, the sound business decision was taken to relocate such operations from countries such as the Philippines and India, creating jobs and utilizing the Palestinian talent available. Highly satisfied with the results, all of these businesses have increased the numbers of Palestinian employees to around one hundred. More such enterprises are needed, and we are sure that the experience, motivation, and networks are available in the Palestinian diaspora to make similar success stories happen. PMDP is searching for genuine interest in investment and reaching out to the Palestinian diaspora, eager to help facilitate such business opportunities for anyone ready to investigate possibilities or embark on a business.

What we offer for Palestinian Diaspora Businesses?

- PMDP assistance for companies that can reach up to 75% of costs
- Technical studies, e.g. market and market entry research, feasibility studies, and HR assessment
- Quality preparation and certification, e.g. gap analysis, factories layout, and certifications
- Know-how, knowledge transfer, and training
- Promotion in local and international markets
- Trademarks, copyrights, and product listing
- Sales representation, e.g. legal consultation, registration, partial fees for opening a branch

We are eager to hear back from diaspora organizations and individuals, establish communication, and jointly develop ideas and initiatives directed at Palestinian economic development and job creation. We would love to hear from you! Don't hesitate to contact us at any time, and if you are around, we would love to meet you in person.

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Palestinian Market Development Programme (PMDP), a UK Aid and EU funded programme with offices both in Ramallah and Gaza, is implemented by DAI Europe in cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of National Economy. PMDP aims to strengthen trade and investment linkages and to forge linkages with the Palestinian diaspora in order to engage and encourage it to play an active role in the economic development of the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt). Additionally, the Programme is working to improve the local Palestinian business-enabling environment and to assist in the activation of the Palestinian National Export Strategy.