

Erasmus⁺ CBHE for Research Affairs at IUG

Title:

Development of Research Infrastructures and Institutionalization of Research Culture and environment at HEIs of Gaza.

Project Idea:

Research at Palestinian HEIs (IUG) are emerging culture. In Gaza strip, it suffers from duplicated problems due to political situation and siege. This led to weaken the overall research system among HEIs and its role in sustainable development.

The weakness is attributed to several reasons; financial restraints are the most effective factors, weak research infrastructure with limited capabilities, and the mentioned difficulties due to Israeli siege. In addition to these reasons are the lack of interest and low quality, lack of qualified researchers and supervisors, and availability of administrative bureaucracy and bureaucratic policies and rules¹.

Thus, research as a pioneered sector of development, has an urgent role including two main steps. First, to build a strong infrastructure and improve its related functions. Second, to work on transition from doing basic research to innovation which leads to sustainable development, namely, Research and Development (R&D). IUG believes that this needs strong and well-institutionalized infrastructure. Many data illustrates that the recent infrastructure is weak and in urgent need for technical and financial support.

Goal and Objectives:

The main goal of this project is to: build a strong research infrastructure in IUG as a pioneer HEI in Gaza strip to make research more close to community needs and national priorities in order to achieve sustainable development. In other words, the goal is RD for R&D.

¹Salem & Isaac, A Strategy for Efficient Research Funding in Palestine, Applied Research Institute, Jerusalem.

In order to achieve the main goal, following specific goals should be achieved:

1. Formation and reformation of strategies and policies and its enforcement procedures.
2. Capacity building for the wide spectrum of HEIs researchers (Bachelor, Master, Doctorate, and Post-doctorate levels).
3. Support the transition from basic research to innovation by building a well-consolidated synergic environment for research innovation.
4. Building effective connections and partnerships with other Research Institutes under the umbrella of national research priorities.
5. Building effective partnerships with community institutes in order to achieve R&D.