

## Conflict, Participation and Development in Palestine | CPDP

### Enumeration of results

- Training of 75 field researchers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in qualitative and quantitative field research.
- Drafting of 10 research papers by field workers on various socio-political issues related to life under occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- Drafting and printing the qualitative and quantitative research handbook focusing on the conducting of fieldwork in conflict areas, particularly those under occupation.
- Conducting exchanges between academics and students from the University of Vienna and Birzeit University. These exchanges involved joint visits by academics from the Department of Development Studies at the University of Vienna and academics from the Centre for Development Studies and the Institute of Women Studies at Birzeit University. Field workers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip also participated in these exchanges. The exchanges involved discussion of work aspects, lectures, presentations and learning experiences. At the same time, students from the University of Vienna visited the Centre for Development Studies for periods of between three and eight weeks over the course of the past three years. The students participated in the research programs of the Centre, as well as in drafting research proposals and contributing to seminars.
- Setting up a research cluster at the University of Vienna. The main activities of the research cluster were focused on strengthening research into issues of development in conflict areas. This involved four public lectures, four workshops, and a lot of informal debates on the process of development within conflict regions, particularly in the occupied Palestinian territory. In addition to working with students and academics, the research cluster engaged in the organization of the international graduate student conference 'Rethinking Palestine' that was held at the University of Vienna from 13th to 15th of December 2013. After receiving a surprising number of applications from all over the world (over eighty), we decided to structure the



Photo: Samia Al-Botmeh

workshop sessions in such a way that important issues regarding not only the occupied Palestinian territories, but also the Palestinian diaspora as well as Palestinians inside Israel could be covered. Hence, the following panels were held at the workshop:

- Cultures of Resistance
- Neoliberalism, Whiteness, and Solidarity
- Gendered Orientalism, Protest, and the Thirdspace
- Political Islam in Palestine
- Sumud and Return



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Selected papers from the conference workshop will be published soon.

- Conducting a joint final seminar at Birzeit University. The final seminar for the project was held on October 13, 2014 under the title “Development as power - learning from the field”. The seminar’s programme focused on the understanding of development as power within conflict-stricken Palestinian territories and the manner in which fieldwork is conducted under such conditions. The workshop was conducted simultaneously between the West Bank and Gaza Strip - using a video conference link between the two territories. The seminar was attended by the 75 field workers as well as members of the general public, students and academics. Colleagues from the DDS, Helmut Krieger and Ramin Taghian, also took part in the deliberations of the seminar. Field workers were granted a certificate to testify to their participation and completion of training in quantitative and qualitative fieldwork. The certificate carried the logos of both Birzeit University and APPEAR.
- Developing two courses to be taught as part of the existing MA program in development and gender at the Institute of Women Studies. The first course has been finalized under the name “Foundations of Development and Alternatives in the South”. The second course is titled “Trajectory of Economic Development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory”. The work also focused on developing a diploma in development studies. The diploma is directed at the local community and makes prime use of the manual that was developed as part of this project. This has been done in close cooperation with the DDS.

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**Partner Institution:** University of Vienna (Petra DANNECKER)

**Partner Country:** Palestinian Territories

**Project Duration:** 1 August 2011 - 31 July 2014

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