

## RESULTS SUMMARY

### Youth Local Councils – the Voice of Youth in the Gaze strip, Palestine

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PROJECT	<b>Title:</b> <i>ActionAid Denmark SPAI &amp; SPAll programme, PalestineYout country programme</i>
	<b>Partner:</b> ActionAid Denmark (AADK), ActionAid Palestine (AAP) & Association for Women & Child Care (WEFAQ)
	<b>Country:</b> occupied Palestinian territories
	<b>Period:</b> 2018 - 2025

**CHANGE**



The partnership between AADK, AAP and WEFAQ facilitates that Youth-led Committees take leadership to reduce vulnerabilities in their communities and are included as youth representatives in key spaces by duty-bearers. The young people are recognised as neutral actors to lead voluntary work, provide safe spaces & raise awareness on rights and e.g. protection services, and they led initiatives as part of the 2022 16 Days of Activism Campaign focusing on protection risks in Rafah & Khan Yonis and promote young entrepreneurs.

**CONTEXT**

1/5 of the population in Gaza are between 18-29 years and 16 years of air, sea & road blockade as well as 5 military wars have negatively impacted their lives by a steady deterioration in the economic and humanitarian situation incl. limiting access to essential services, jobs & opportunities. Additionally, 1/2 of the young people say that they have significant mental health issues, and young people, particularly young women, do not have space to voice their concerns and share their experiences with duty bearers.

**CONTRIBUTION**

AADK, AAP & WEFAQ focus on the capacity strengthening of young people and access to safe spaces. After the trainings on youth leadership, human rights and humanitarian response incl. protection the programme has seen a cohort of young people leading action in their communities & engaging with duty-bearers. As Wala' Al-Shareef, a young activist says: "I did not have a deep knowledge about rights and laws for women's protection (...) but now I have good knowledge and I have the ability to hold decision makers accountable".

IMAGES		
	<p>Photo: Mohammas Jodeh, WEFAQ, December 2022 at an event during the 16 Days of Activism Campaign against GBV</p>	<p>Photo: Osama Abu-Leila, March 2023. Young women entrepreneurs present their products at an event "Ambitions for Change" organised by the youth- and women-led groups.</p>

[See next page for more details](#) →

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### ACTIVITIES

AADK; AA Palestine & WEFAQ strengthened capacities & skills of young people & their organisations through the establishment of youth-led groups such as Women-Led Protection Committees (WLPCs) & Youth-Led Preparedness and Response Committees (PRCs) while facilitating physical (safe) spaces for activities and for the young people to network. During the pandemic the groups distributed NFIs, raised awareness on safety and assisted GBV survivors by referring them to legal and psychological support from the Family Support Center (supported by AA Palestine & WEFAQ). Recently they focused on mobilising the public on gender- & protection-issues & brokering relationships with duty-bearers incl. the cluster systems, the Sharia Courts, the Policy and Ministries. Salam, a young activist says: “The trainings contributed to strengthening our community presence and our ability to face different kinds of crisis, positions and situations”, and members of youth-led committees report improved confidence, self- esteem, and sense of purpose.

### LESSONS

A key lesson is that fostering local leadership of development and humanitarian work in the context of Gaza is difficult and new due to the political nature of the context characterized by frequent Israeli military escalation and internal Palestinian division. It is hence required to have strong and clear communication to show impact and neutrality of humanitarian work led by young people, as Mohammad Al-Mudalal says: “The political context in Gaza makes some communities and community members believe that humanitarian actors, young volunteers and humanitarian actions are politicised”. If sufficient funds are available, youth led committees could reach more vulnerable groups in Gaza and could use more effective technological & online tools for communicating with affected people. One of the important lessons is that youth need to engage increasingly and continuously with affected groups and relevant organisations to increase their influence and reach.

### EVIDENCE

The change claims of the programme are supported by regular reports from partners and from the ongoing dialogue with the youth. It was also supported by the 2020 SPAI-Mid-Term review. The programme has seen that 70+ young people from the groups have started to take leadership for actions in their communities as exemplified by the 3 initiatives tackling issues of cyber blackmail and digital security for women targeting university students since Sep. 2022. The support towards youth engagement is witnessed by the fact that 17+ young people from the youth groups have been invited to join municipal councils & neighborhood committees to advice officials on conducting need assessment and integrating principles of humanitarian principles in their actions, & 6 young people were elected as representatives of youth councils under the umbrella of municipal councils in Rafah, Al-Shokah and Al-Naser, and for the first time young people are represented in the Protection Cluster and GBV sub.cluster.

### DOMAINS

<i>Development strategy priorities:</i>	<i>Insert strategy priority</i>
<i>Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability</i>	x
<i>Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people’s rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people’s rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability</i>	x
<i>Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work</i>	x

## GUIDANCE NOTE

This format consists of two overall sections: on page one, the results summary communicates results to an external audience using a brief summary of what has been achieved; while page two provides an opportunity to explain the background and evidence behind the claims made as part of the summary.

### Page 1: Results summary

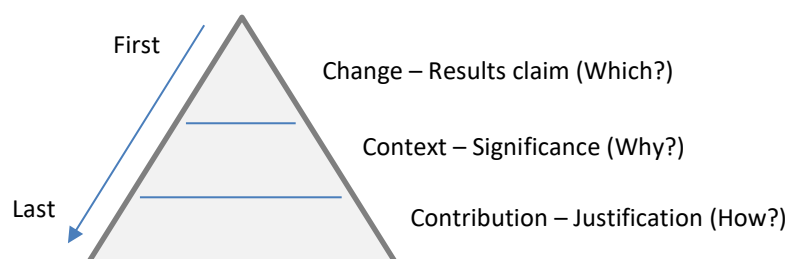
The results summary should outline of the overall change. This should be phrased in a clear and concise manner, focusing on the benefits for target groups or communities, and preferably start out by stating the overall key message as a one-line statement. It is thus important to prioritise what the key message should be and not attempt to describe every possible change that may have occurred.

Note that case studies should not describe all of the activities carried out during the implementation. Instead, it should focus on one or two key messages to be highlighted – which may also span several projects – and only outline activities to backup contributions to the highlighted change.

This can be illustrated as a “reverse funnel.” First, the “change” section introduces the overall results claim, which answers the “which.” Note that this is done before any details have been provided. Second, the “context” section outlines the problem being addressed by the project and the significance of the change. For example, by explaining “why” it benefits target groups or communities.

Finally, and lastly, the “contribution” section should provide examples to justify for “how” the intervention contributed to realising change. Note that this should focus on the plausible linkage between the change and intervention rather than describing details from activities. It is often useful to think of this as a reverse theory-of-change, i.e. “After we did X, then Y occurred, because of Z.”

Figure 1:  
Reverse funnel for communication



### Page 2: Additional information

The second page should provide background and evidence for project’s contribution to change. It can also address technical issues that do not fit in the results summary. The section consists of the following sections:

- **Activities:** Whereas the “contribution” section on page one provides a brief summary of the project contributions to change, the “activities” section allows for more detail on the project design, organisation and underlying activities in support of the contributions made.
- **Lessons:** Describes lessons learned through the implementation. These should relate to the results claim or alternatively the project(s) as a whole. Please consider (1) novelty – i.e. whether the change represents something new – and (2) the potential to scale and/or build on lessons going ahead.
- **Evidence:** A narrative comparison between results claims and the underlying evidence. It should answer “X led to Y, because of Z,” although it does not need to be phrased this way. It is useful to include references to a few selected documents for further details. Please see guidelines for more.
- **Domains and development strategy:** Describes contributions to defined domains and the Danish development strategy. Please consider limiting the number of domains to a few selected ones.