

## REALIZING HUMAN RIGHTS IN COMPLEX DEVELOPMENT CONTEXTS

### GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

Hebron, State of Palestine

### THEMATIC SCOPE

Human Rights

### TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Women, youth and children

### PARTNERS

Key partners for this initiative include the UN Special Coordinator's Office for the Middle East Peace Process, OHCHR, the Governorate of Hebron, and the UN Country Team for the State of Palestine.

### PROGRAMME SUMMARY

**Background:** Hebron is the largest Governorate in the West Bank in the State of Palestine in terms of area (1064 km<sup>2</sup>), population (700,000 people, approximately 23% of the West Bank population), and economic activity (17,661 active businesses, comprising 21.3% of the West Bank's total). With the recent escalation of violence throughout Israel and Palestine, initially triggered by tensions around Jerusalem's Holy Sites starting in September 2015, Hebron has emerged as one of the most volatile areas. In addition, Hebron has the highest poverty rate in the West Bank with 34% of its population classified as poor compared to an average of 18%<sup>1</sup> and 32% of the population are food insecure compared to the West Bank average of 21.5%. Hebron's population is predominantly urban, with approximately 622,200 people (85.35% of total) living in urban areas, 87,844 (12.04%) in rural areas and 19,129 (2.6%) in refugee camps<sup>2</sup>.

At the request of the UN Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and the Governor of Hebron, UN-Habitat is leading an interagency process comprising 12 different UN Agencies, Funds, and Programmes in applying a Human Rights-Based Approach combined with an area based approach focusing on the development of a UN Country Team Strategy (UNCT) for the Hebron Governorate. The UN Strategy for Hebron focuses on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations of Hebron (women, children, and youth) as rights holders and identifies the key duty bearers, including Israel as the occupying power in Area C of the West Bank. A series of short and medium term joint projects supporting rights holders in fulfilling their human rights in Hebron were developed by the UNCT. Importantly, this Strategy also represents a key result of the Human Rights Mainstreaming approach of UN-Habitat as it relied upon normative material and guidance of the headquarters unit, and linked global to regional to local offices in supporting the development of the Strategy.

**Goals and Objective:** The expected results of this activity are to achieve a significant improvement in the fulfilment of human rights for women, youth, and children as duty bearers in Hebron. This will be achieved through a combination of targeted rights-based advocacy through a range of media and other channels, strengthened coordination of the UNCT in developing and implementing their initiatives to ensure continuity of the Human Rights-Based Approach, and formulation of a localized Human Rights Barometer to measure progress or regression of the fulfilment of human rights in Hebron.

<sup>1</sup> Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011) [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_Rainbow/Documents/hebrn.htm](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/hebrn.htm)

<sup>2</sup> Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2011). [http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/\\_Rainbow/Documents/hebrn.htm](http://www.pcbs.gov.ps/Portals/_Rainbow/Documents/hebrn.htm)  
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 **UN-HABITAT  
ROLE**

 **MAIN  
OUTPUTS**

- Strengthen support to the UNCT Hebron Task Force in developing and coordinating the implementation of their projects so as to ensure policy coherence and continuity of the human rights focus in the delivery of programming.
- Strengthen the human rights-based advocacy for Hebron in collaboration with OHCHR and the UN Special Coordinators Office so as to improve understanding of the situation in Hebron within the national and international communities
- Develop a localized Human Rights ‘Barometer’ for Hebron so as to allow for tracking of the impact of the UN Strategy and other interventions.
- Develop a UN-Habitat normative document on formulating Human Rights and Area Based strategies for complex development contexts

 **MAIN RESULTS /  
IMPACT**

Strengthened coordination of the UNCT in developing and implementing their initiatives to ensure continuity of the Human Rights-Based Approach, and formulation of a localized Human Rights Barometer to measure progress or regression of the fulfilment of human rights in Hebron.

 **PROGRAMME  
DURATION**

2 Years

 **TOTAL PROJECT  
BUDGET**

USD \$450,000