

Terms of Reference

TwB volunteers to support FCA's project: "Improved inclusive quality education and wellbeing of the most marginalized Palestinian children"

Palestinian region

Location: Israel – Occupied Palestinian Territory (IOPT)

Host organization: FCA Middle East Regional Office

Length of Posting: 3 months

Starting date: Preferably early 2021

Number of positions: 4

Title: Education Specialist (TWB Volunteer)

Background

The project has been initiated together by several key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), UNESCO, the Representative office of Finland in Ramallah and Finn Church Aid (FCA). FCA has been invited to contribute to the improvement of inclusive quality education in particular at the school level through the Teachers without Borders initiative.

MoEHE, together with its partners, is implementing the third Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP III). This project is in line and seeks to support the implementation of the Palestinian ESPD III and its objectives. The aim is to participate to the Ministry's efforts to transform the educational approach at the school level – in specific schools - from a textbook memorization to learner-centred education with the teacher as a facilitator of learning. Support to principals, supervisors and the community is included in the plan. The primary and secondary schools to be targeted will be selected by the Ministry of Education according to commonly agreed upon selection criteria. Through this project, FCA contributes to the MoEHE priority to establish stronger ties with international community to guarantee and protect educational rights for Palestinian students in the West Bank, Jerusalem and in Area C.

Volunteer's main tasks may include:

- Conduct an assessment on teacher education needs (in-service training), learning environment creation needs and support needs in school administration
- Review and assess school development plans together with key stakeholders including teachers, supervisors and principals
- Plan and conduct teacher education workshops according to the assessment, focusing on learner-centred methods and inclusive education (partly based on existing materials)
- Follow up, support classroom-based practical learning for teachers, and contribute in creating tools that feed the monitoring and evaluation phase to measure the impact of the project's progression.
- Participate in creation of teachers' professional (learning) communities that are active and use various methods (networking, blended learning, classroom based learning, workshops, face-to-face meetings, mentoring etc.)
- Participate in planning and coordination meetings, including project steering committee meetings as needed with the Program Manager and Project Officer
- Participate in the data and evidence collection and communication as agreed
- Follow up with work done in previous schools to ensure continuity of learning and to evaluate progress and contribute in creating tools (pre-post tests or questionnaires) that feed the monitoring and evaluation phase to measure the impact of the project's progression.

Special tasks (time permitting)

- Engage PTA as needed to strengthen existing networks
- Suggest improvements to physical school environment

Position specific Qualifications and Competencies:

- Demonstrated working experience at national (and international) levels in inclusive and special needs education, quality education, teacher education, school administration and/or recreational activities, arts and sport.
- Proficiency in written and spoken English required. Knowledge of Arabic is an asset
- Prior experience of working in education sector in a developing country is an asset
- Readiness and aptitude to work at times with limited access to services
- Sensitivity to local cultures
- Knowledge of Palestine's education system and policies is an asset

Practicalities

The TWB volunteers will be hosted by the IOPT Country Office and managed by the IOPT Education Officer. The volunteers will be strategically guided by a steering committee representing key stakeholders: FCA, UNESCO, MoEHE, school representatives, and others.

The volunteers will be housed in shared furnished apartments or at a guesthouse. They will have access to the FCA office in Jerusalem as needed.

FCA induction will be provided in country upon arrival, and safety and security procedures are to be followed as per FCA's guidelines.

Volunteers will sign the FCA code of conduct and child safeguarding policy and will be briefed about the culture upon arrival.