



**Terms of Reference for a Technical Assistance for the implementation of two
Accessibility Assessments and Improvement Plans in Hebron (Palestine)**

REF: 01/2016 Technical Assistance Accessibility

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1. BACKGROUND

Movimiento por la Paz-MPDL (hereinafter MPDL) is currently implementing the project “Contribuyendo a la protección y promoción de los derechos de las PcD y su participación en comunidades cada vez más inclusivas y accesibles en Hebrón” funded by the Agencia Andaluza de Cooperación Internacional al Desarrollo (AACID).

The rationale behind this project steams from the joint experience of MPDL and its partner (Health Work Committees, hereinafter HWC) that have worked in the field of Disability in the intervention area interruptedly since 2008.

The project aims at contributing to the advancement of the rights of Persons with Disability (hereinafter PwDs), as well as to their enhanced participation in 8 rural communities in Hebron (Beit Ummar, Beit Ulla, Beit Kahel, Tarqumia, Der Samit/Al Yasseryah, Saer, Ithna and Halhul), as means towards the emergence of a more equitable, accessible and inclusive civil society.



Indeed, the action seeks to facilitate and encourage the active involvement of this otherwise blatantly excluded group in the design and implementation of strategies aimed at improving their access to their rights.

Within this framework, accessible community-based support services are provided for PwDs and their families, who will also have a leading role in claiming an increased commitment of local authorities in their continuity and strengthening.

Further developing this approach, the project proposes a ground-breaking pilot experience in the municipalities of Saer and Ithna, through the participation of students of Architecture Polytechnic University of Hebron (PUH) along with PwDs in a hands-on vocational training scheme that will result in a Accessibility Assessment of the 2 municipalities, Improvement Plans and the execution of at least 4 architectural interventions to improve the accessibility for PwDs.

The persistence of architectural and environmental barriers has been pointed out by PwDs and their families as a major problem, which not only contributes to the exclusion of PwDs and confine them to their homes, but also makes the role of their caregivers, mostly female family members, more difficult in cases of reduced mobility. The physical and environmental barriers in public spaces and buildings further exclude PwDs from participating in the life of their communities and contribute to their confinement. Accessibility is not guaranteed in existing structures and it is yet to be effectively incorporated as a mandatory principle in new building plans.

This first and second results (R1 and R2) of the project are based in the above-mentioned Accessibility component and have two interconnected sub-components, through which PwDs will become fully active agents of tangible community changes. In the first one, a group of PwDs together with other community members in each municipality and PUH students will identify the barriers that prevent their access to public spaces and buildings, compromising their ability to participate in the life of their communities. This analysis will result in the development of two Accessibility Assessment and Improvement Plans (hereinafter AAIP) that will be handled to the municipalities to serve as a guide for inclusive urban planning. Complementary, a group of PwDs will be offered the opportunity to directly participate in the removal of some of these barriers through the architectural interventions. Indeed, at least four architectural interventions pre-identified in the AAIPs will be selected and implemented in each municipality under the supervision of the consultant/s with the support of the PwDs involved, the students of Architecture of the Polytechnic University of Hebron and community and local actors.

The development of these components will provide PwDs with the opportunity of directly contributing to their communities' transformation. Indeed, improving accessibility will not only have an impact on their ability to use public spaces and buildings and challenge exclusion, but also improve the mobility of other vulnerable groups, such as older people and women who also suffer the consequences of non-inclusive urban planning.



While PwDs will continue to be the main target of these results, their impact will be maximized through the involvement of three additional groups:

- 20 students from the Hebron Polytechnic University will be trained on Accessibility and gender approach applied to urban planning to participate in the drafting of the Accessibility Assessments and Improvement Plans coordinated by the consultant/s.
- the municipalities' engineers will participate in the coordination and supervision of the Accessibility Works.
- 2 focus groups with women will serve to provide information about the use of public space by women and girls in order to draft a study of urban space from a gender approach that will feed the Accessibility Assessments. The focus groups will also provide recommendations and draft the criteria to be taken into account for the drafting of the accessibility plans and the selection of the accessibility works in each municipality.
- a local construction company will implement the accessibility works along with the participation of PwDs.

2. KEY FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The implementation of R1 and R2 will be led by a consultant/consultancy team with extended experience in architectural, community-driven, gender based and environmentally and culturally sustainable projects in the OPT. The consultant/s will be in charge of:

- a) Providing training on accessibility and gender approach applied to urban planning to 20 students of architecture from the Polytechnic University of Hebron.
- b) Drafting a study on the access of public space with gender approach based on the information provided by the focus groups.
- c) Producing an assessment document about the accessibility needs in each municipality with the support of PUH students and the Accessibility Committees. The assessment will focus on 4 case studies in each municipality chosen by the Accessibility Committees. This document will be divided in two parts:
 - one will be the proper assessment (Accessibility Assessment, one per municipality)
 - the second will consist on the Improvement Plans (again, one per municipality) that will develop suggestions for the 4 case studies to improve the accessibility. The Improvement Plans will propose measures to improve the accessibility mainstreaming the gender approach developed in the study on the access of public space with gender approach (see point b) and the contributions of the women's focus groups.



d) Design of the accessibility works which entails:

- To design 4 architectural interventions to remove accessibility barriers for PwDs in the rural communities of Saer and Ithna (Hebron District, 2 interventions per municipality).
- To develop the work plans for the 4 architectural interventions.

The architectural interventions and works' planning will be designed based on:

- the 4 interventions selected from the Accessibility Assessment and Improvement Plans.
- the data and raw ideas developed by the Accessibility Committees, the study on the access of public space with gender approach and the contributions of PUH students.

The proposed design will ensure environmental sustainability, making the most of local resources and existing structures and taking into account all types of disabilities (physical, visual, hearing, intellectual and/or psychological impairments). The design will also have an approach towards social sustainability by applying techniques suitable to the specific sites of action.

e) Supervision of the accessibility works with the support of the municipalities engineers.

3. KEY DELIVERABLES

Within the framework of this technical assistance, the consultant/s will provide MPDL with:

Deliverable 1: 2 Accessibility Assessments (one per municipality) that include the assessment and the Improvement Plans based on 4 case studies in each municipality.

Deliverable 2: A study on the access of public space with gender approach based on the information provided by the focus groups.

Deliverable 3: The materials of the lectures, evaluation sheets and a short report on the development of the lectures at the University of Hebron.

Deliverable 4: design of 4 architectural interventions to remove accessibility barriers for PwDs (2 for Saer and 2 for Ithna) which include:

- the preliminary design drawings
- all the definitive and construction drawings and work plans of the 4 interventions;



- an estimate of quantities and cost calculation;
- all the integrative drawings that will be deemed necessary during the construction phase.

The submitted work:

- will contain plans, elevations, sections and technical details;
- will be in a scale functional to the appropriate precision for the different phases of the project;
- will show a metric scale in each drawing;
- will have the dimensional quotation essential to the understanding of the physical characteristics of the project in each drawing;
- will contain indications of the materials and their technical characteristics;

All the work will be submitted in digital format and in particular:

- the drawings will be in dwg or dxf format, with print layout in Uni format max A3 (black and white). The drawings will also be submitted in pdf format (Uni max A3) in order to allow black and white printing on site. All the print layouts will contain readable dimensions, metric scale, the necessary annotations, and the name of the architectural firm;
- the bill of quantities will be in xls format;
- the material description in pdf format.

Deliverable 5: A final report assessing the whole process: implementation of the Accessibility Assessment and Improvement Plans, training for students, design of the interventions and supervision of the works.

All documents must be in ENGLISH.

4. BUDGET

The total budget allocated for this technical assistance is 34.200 euros, including VAT, all costs included.



5. LOCATION AND TIMELINE OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The technical assistance is based in the Hebron Governorate, Palestine. It is expected to take place from February 2016 to May 2016 over a 4 month period.

The assignment will be considered completed when the construction phase ends and all documents are validated by MPDL.

6. COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

MPDL Head of Mission in Palestine will be in charge of the implementation of the project and will therefore be the focal point for communications and coordination with the consultant/s. On the other hand, the consultant/s will work in close coordination with Health Work Committees (HWC), MPDL's partner organization, and in particular with HWC's Coordinator of the project, and the municipalities of Ithna and Saer.

7. QUALIFICATIONS, SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND RELEVANT EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- MA degree in Architecture.
- Proven experience as architect/s in inclusive design projects (disability and gender approach).
- Proven work experience as architects/s (both in the design of architectural interventions and the supervision of works) in the Palestinian context with its specific challenges of security and access.
- Previous experience in an international relief or development setting, preferably with a non-governmental organization.
- Good understanding of the needs of rural communities and people with disabilities, and of appropriate ways of tackling these needs, particularly in the context of a protracted conflict such as Palestine.
- Specific knowledge and proven experience on participatory methods.
- Good command of English required and Arabic desirable.



8. HOW TO APPLY

Please ensure that you submit the following information:

- Cover letter describing the consultants' suitability for the assignment and match with previous work experience, qualifications etc.
- A portfolio with at least two images for each realized project that show the consultant/s experience in Palestine and his/her ability to design and produce architectural interventions in an emergency context, using low-tech techniques.
- The CVs of all individuals included in the consultancy team.
- Budget breakdown for the technical assistance (please see point 4. Budget of these ToR).
- Provisional availability to fulfill the consultancy as per the timeframes indicated in the Terms of Reference.

Interested applicants are asked to submit an electronic copy of their expression of interest/proposal by January 20th, 2016 with the subject REF: 01/2016 Tec. Assist. Accessibility to Érika Cerrolaza, Desk Officer for Palestine at Movement for Peace-MPDL: e.cerrolaza@mpdl.org.

Enquiries regarding the expression of interest/proposal process may be directed to Érika Cerrolaza, Desk Officer for Palestine at Movement for Peace-MPDL: e.cerrolaza@mpdl.org.