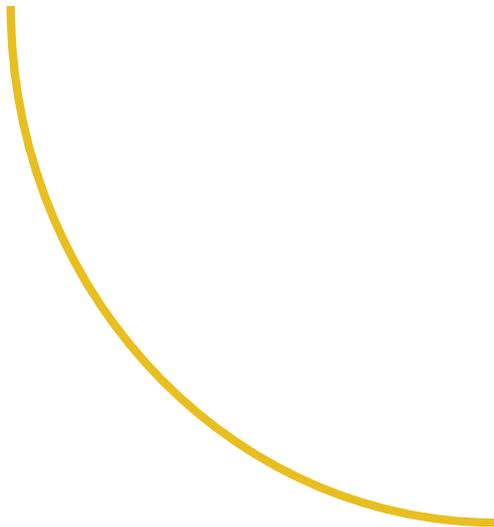
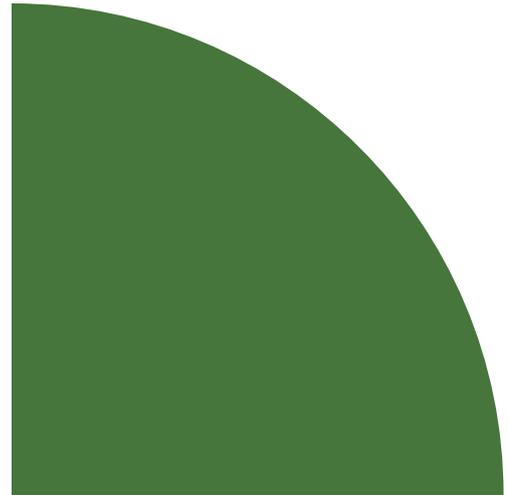


2021 | ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT PICA





ABOUT US

The Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA), established by a Presidential decree by President Mahmoud Abbas on January 2016, is the main public diplomacy tool of the State of Palestine, and the national coordinator for South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTrC). PICA transfers Palestinian knowhow to countries of the South, in the form of development and technical assistance. Its creation is guided by a national responsibility towards the international community and is an expression of gratitude and appreciation for the support given to the State of Palestine over the years.

Importantly, PICA maximizes knowledge sharing, enriches development cooperation, contributes to international development process of the South and enhances the role of Palestine as an agent of positive change in the world. Palestine is honored to capitalize on its contributions to the international efforts in the field of development and humanitarian cooperation, aiming to participate in realizing UN 2030 agenda and its SDGs.

OUR VISION

We aspire to contribute to a resilient world united by solidarity through development by forging a new humanitarian-development partnership between the State of Palestine and other developing countries, anchored in sharing and co-creating proven solutions for building resilience.

OUR MISSION

We deliver proven humanitarian and development solutions to other developing countries and promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the process of making substantial contributions to humanitarian relief, sharing good practices and promoting SSTRC.

PICA plays a vital role in exercising solidarity on international level by executing bilateral, trilateral, and multilateral cooperation initiatives leading to improved living standards and strengthening resilience across the world. Thus, PICA contributes directly to advancing 2030 agenda and its SDGs, in cooperation with local, regional and international partners.



PICA PILLARS



TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE-SHARING

PICA relies entirely in its missions, programs and activities on the Palestinian human resources and knowhow skills to provide technical cooperation and share knowledge. Technical cooperation and knowledge sharing include but not limited to the following areas: health, agriculture, energy, statistics, engineering, education, media training and others.

RELIEF AND HUMANITARIAN FAST RESPONSES

Based on PICA vision to engage in post natural disaster response and intervention operations and as part of the international civil protection mechanism, PICA has established Palestine Rapid Response and Rescue team (PRRRT) in 2017. The team is comprised of specialized doctors, rescuers, emergency medical technicians, civil defense members, and humanitarian relief and shelter experts.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PICA seeks to create robust partnerships with the Palestinian private sector (from within the State of Palestine as well as the diaspora communities) in order to initiate and implement strategic projects across different geographical locations and economic industries. These projects aim to improve the well-being and socio-economic conditions in targeted countries - benefiting from a wide range of signed agreements and cooperation frameworks with local, regional and international partners.

POLICY LEADERSHIP

Based on its own experiences, PICA provides thought leadership in the international development policy arena, contributing in a limited but strategic way to international development policy-making. It mainly contributes with its policy leadership to regional and international development plans as well as promoting resilience and the humanitarian-development nexus and effectiveness – with particular emphasis on SStrC.

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?



WE PROMOTE PALESTINAIN IDENTITY

PICA promotes Palestinian identity internationally, and provides a new plan based on sharing expertise through South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

WE MERELY DEPEND ON PALESTINIAN EXPERTISE

We were established based on a Palestinian desire to harness human and institutional resources and expertise to provide technical support and solidarity for international development cooperation. Thus, we deploy qualified Palestinian experts to provide technical support and contribute to international development cooperation and assistance programs.

WE AIM TO BRING 2030 AGENDA TO LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

PICA has developed a framework of international cooperation for development by implementing cooperation programs in line with SStrC principles and the UN 2030 agenda. All PICA working areas aim to contribute to the global development agenda, each field aims at accomplishing a specific SDG.

WE HAVE A CULTURE OF ADAPTABILITY

The resilience of Palestine, and Palestinian technical experts, is unparalleled. Irrespective of the thematic/sectoral profession, the realities of the operating environment in Palestine leads to the ability to work anywhere. PICA draws from a national resource pool of people who are not only used to, but also have turned the necessity of being able to deliver anywhere into a science and an art that is refined not only during missions but also at home between missions.

WE WORK IN PARTNERSHIPS

We blend Palestinian experts from renowned academic institutions, associations, unions, NGOs and public and private sectors, allowing a rich exchange and sharing of knowledge in the missions and programs that we implement. Such programs and missions are implemented in full cooperation with our local, regional and international partners.

WE ARE ACCESSIBLE

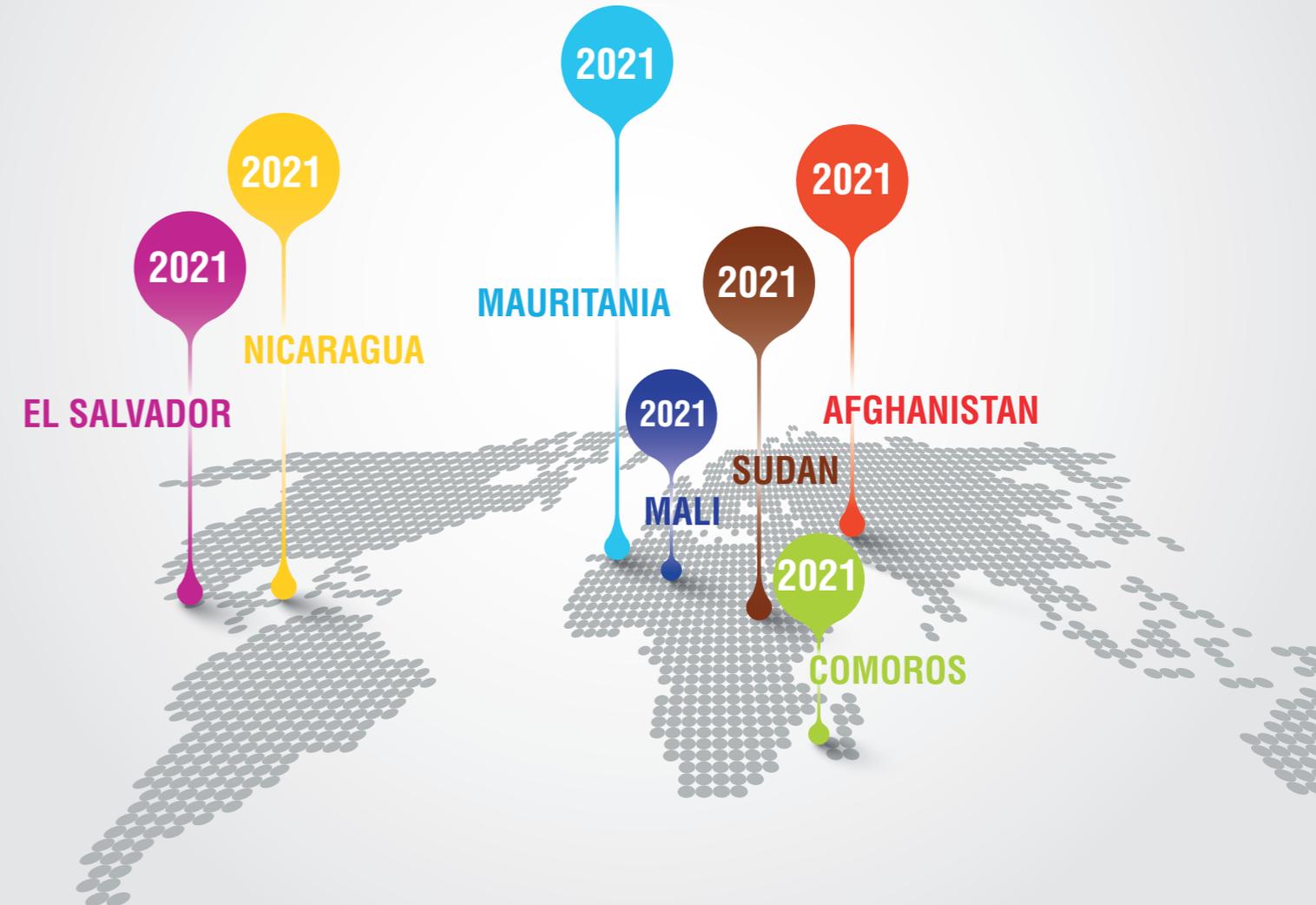
As PICA depends in its entirety on a wide range of expertise inside the State of Palestine and in the diaspora, supported by a wide range of partners, we are always accessible and open to all types of partnerships that allow us to promote 2030 agenda and its SDGs.

PICA VALUES

Partnership
Impact
Credibility
Adaptability



WHERE WE SERVED IN 2021



2021 MISSIONS



AFGHANISTAN

PICA implemented a medical program in Afghanistan focusing on strengthening the capabilities of Afghanistan's medical staff in different fields of emergency, trauma and burns. This has been achieved through specialized training, joint operations and patient examinations, in addition to assessing the health situation in several hospitals in Kabul (Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital, Istiqlal Hospital, and Republic National Hospital).



OUTCOMES:

1. Providing training to more than 180 doctors and medical students in emergency fields such as Chest, abdomen, head neck, back, pelvic and limb trauma, as well as treatment and care of basic burns, and preliminary examinations.
2. Conducting over 20 operations in the areas of emergency, burns and wounds.



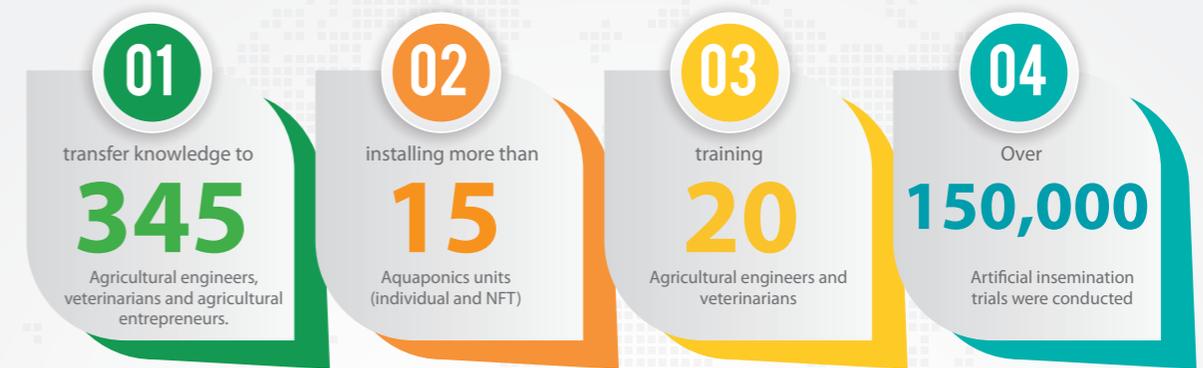
NICARAGUA

PICA launched agricultural cooperation programs in Nicaragua, focusing on over 10 fields including: veterinary and lab services, livestock improvement, Aquaponics, greenhouses management and vegetable production. These programs are strategic to transfer the knowledge to the maximum number of Nicaraguan agricultural engineers, veterinarians, and agricultural entrepreneurs in the widest geographical locations possible. Through these programs, we aim at increasing productivity, profitability, and improving nutrition as well as contributing to food security while complying with Nicaraguan national agricultural strategies, needs and gaps.



OUTCOMES:

1. Transfer the relevant knowledge to more than 345 Agricultural engineers, veterinarians and agricultural entrepreneurs.
2. Institutionalize some agricultural services and contribute to Nicaraguan agricultural strategies to transfer the knowledge to their staff.
3. Installing more than 15 aquaponics units (individual and NFT) established in different agricultural institutions.
4. Rehabilitate and train labs staff (20 agricultural engineers and veterinarians) including the central lab and some other national labs.
5. Over 150,000 artificial insemination trials were conducted by government led efforts, along with a strategy adopted since the cooperation has started.



MEDICAL PROGRAM IN NICARAGUA

PICA has launched a health scoliosis (Orthopedic pediatric program) in Nicaragua in which 4 successful scoliosis surgeries were conducted and the patients recovery were supervised. More surgeries of the same nature will be conducted starting next year. This cooperation in health also aims to transfer the knowhow to the surgeons, nurses and the supporting staff, as well as, academically by reaching out to medical schools and integrating the knowledge in lectures and workshops, which will be significantly improved by launching the virtual operative orthopedic program In 2022.

These surgeries are funded by Palestinian-Nicaraguan businessmen, implemented by PICA and supported by the Nicaraguan Embassy and adopted by Nicaraguan national health strategies. This program aims at improving the good health and wellbeing of the Nicaraguan people by providing very major orthopedic surgeries at public hospitals.



EL SALVADOR

PICA launched agricultural cooperation programs in El Salvador, focusing on over 10 fields including: veterinary and lab services, livestock improvement, Aquaponics, greenhouses management and vegetable production. These programs are strategic to transfer the knowledge to the maximum number of El Salvador agricultural engineers, veterinarians, and agricultural entrepreneurs in the widest geographical locations possible. Through these programs, we aim at increasing productivity, profitability, and improving nutrition as well as contributing to food security while complying with El Salvador national agricultural strategies, needs and gaps.



OUTCOMES:

1. Transfer the relevant knowledge to a total of 188 Agricultural engineers, veterinarians and agricultural entrepreneurs.
2. Institutionalize some agricultural services and contribute to Salvadoran agricultural strategies to transfer the knowledge to their staff.
3. Installing 200 aquaponics units (individual and NFT) established in different agricultural institutions.
4. Rehabilitate and train labs staff (15 agricultural engineers and veterinarians) including the central lab and some other national labs.
5. More than 800 artificial insemination trials were conducted after starting our cooperation.



MAURITANIA

PICA, in partnership with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the Ministries of Agriculture in Palestine and Mauritania, has completed the first phase of the “Transfer of the Palestinian Knowhow in supporting the value chain of vegetable agriculture to Mauritania” program. PICA along with its partners have set up all the details concerning launching the program, designing the material, as well as determining the requirements.

As outlined in the program document, the Palestinian side represented by PICA in cooperation with the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture has started the first phase by offering a specific knowledge to more than 20 Mauritanian trainees on strategic planning and located 1.5 Hectares in Rosso area and 0.3 Hectare in Yaghref as models to implement the practical part of the training program.



ONGOING PROGRAMS



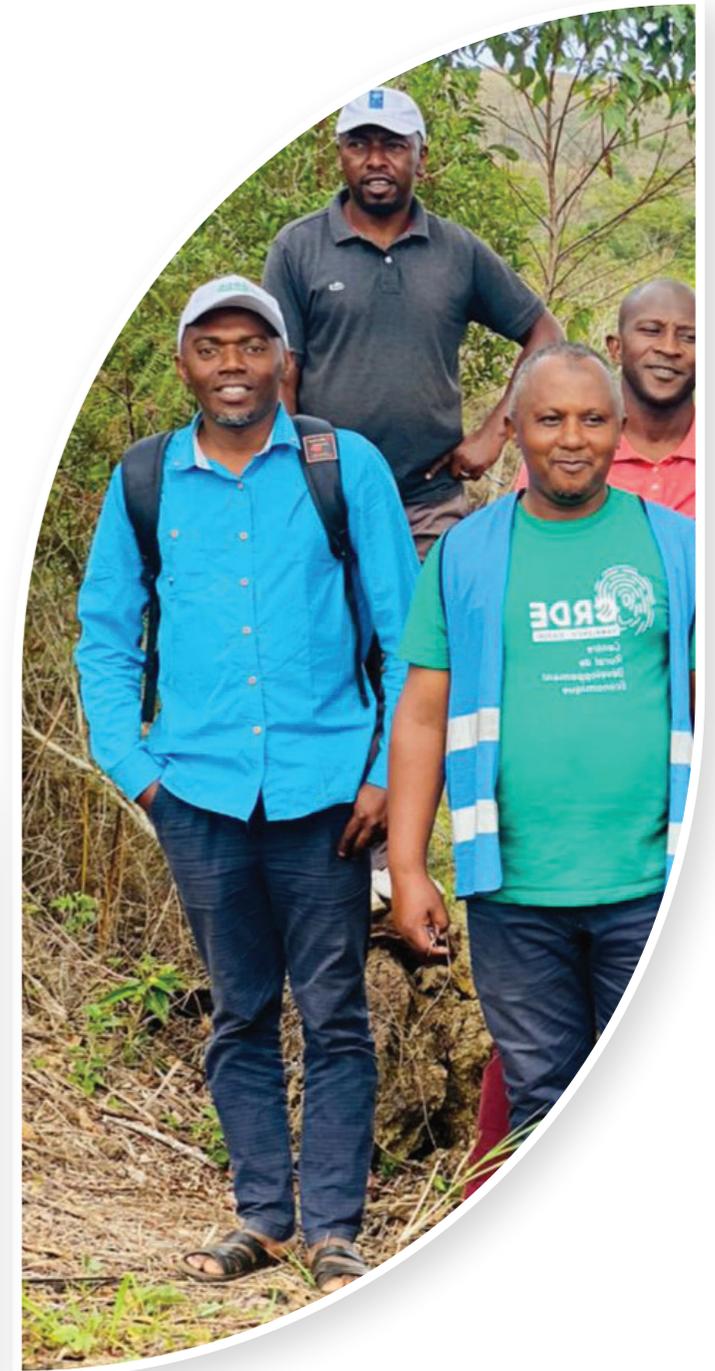
Sudan

PICA, in partnership with Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), National Public Health Laboratory, Federal Ministry of Health Sudan and Sudanese Doctors organizations (TBC) initiated a Reverse Linkage project between Sudan (Recipient) and Palestine (Provider) to develop the institutional and human capacities of the National Public Health Laboratory in Sudan. The project comes as a response to the urgent need to support Sudan's health sector, in particular, the medical laboratories, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, through the provision of necessary medical equipment for testing and dealing with COVID-19 cases as well as building the technical capacities of health workers who are in the forefront of the national efforts to combat COVID-19.

IsDB, through its Reverse Linkage Section, as well as the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation and UNOSSC, are working together through the Reverse Linkage mechanism to build the institutional capacities of Sudanese medical laboratories, through the provision of the necessary medical and laboratory equipment. On the other hand, PICA will provide expertise in COVID-19 related issues through its doctors' network scattered around the globe. Around 12 Palestinian doctors from Palestine and diaspora have been selected to share their knowledge and expertise with doctors and medical staff in Sudan. The specialized knowledge is to be transferred to medical staff in Sudan in a blended manner (online and on field), which will cover topics related to medical laboratories, scientific research, public health, quality management, and managerial skills of the Sudanese staff. During 2021, the implementation agreement was signed between partners; the implementation plan and diagnostic report were also issued. In January 2022, the first phase of the project in the field of epidemiology will be implemented, focusing mainly on quality management of national Sudanese labs that in turn will be responsible on quality assurance and management of other medical labs in other areas of Sudan.

Comoros

PICA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ACCI -Comores Agence de Coopération Internationale to implement development programs in Comoros in the fields of agriculture, water, health, food production, and civil defense, in addition to agreeing on future development programs in sectors that need intervention and development assistance. Moreover, PICA participated in celebrating the International Day of South-South Cooperation and held a workshop on the work of the Palestinian International Cooperation Agency and the Comorian Agency for International Cooperation.



Mali

In cooperation between PICA, the Embassies of the State of Palestine and Qatar and the government of the Republic of Mali, the monuments of Al Quds Al-Sharif and the martyr Muhammad Al Durra were rehabilitated, and inaugurated at Al-Quds Square in the Malian capital, Bamako. The inauguration ceremony was held in the presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mali, senior government officials, diplomatic corps accredited to Mali and representatives of resident international organizations.



NATIONAL ECOSYSTEM



The State of Palestine is proud to contribute to resilient development policy making through technical cooperation and by sharing development experience. We have deep faith in our national responsibility towards the international community. Accordingly, we strongly support the initiative on Enhancing National Ecosystems for South-South Cooperation. Strengthening institutional and technical capacities is crucial for the effort to improve the effectiveness, coordination and mainstreaming of South-South and Triangular Cooperation. We reflect our commitment by sharing our own experience. The Ecosystem's first three pillars are Strong Political commitment, having a national strategy for South-South and Triangular Cooperation, and the establishment of a national body to implement the aforementioned strategy.

PICA coordinates and organizes the Palestinian development process, which includes assisting with preparation of the National Development Plan and the implementing of cooperation programs in line with South-South principles and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. All PICA working areas aim to contribute to the global development agenda.

In addition, we recognize the importance of the fourth pillar, building information bases on national South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives to assist in maintaining a comprehensive database for enhancing future activities.

In regards to the fifth pillar of the National Ecosystem, «connected actors», we recognize the importance of linking together actors who undertake South-South and Triangular Cooperation

initiatives from conceptualization and design to implementation and follow-up. This leads, as suggested by the paper on enhancing the national ecosystem, to increasing coordination and harmonization of efforts between actors undertaking those initiatives.

PICA's partnerships are an important tool to promote its activities, develop capacities and mobilize financial sources. Since its creation, the purpose has been to establish and consolidate strong local, regional and international partnerships and agreements. PICA works closely with governmental and non-governmental institutions, Civil Society Organizations, academia, research institutions and the private sector at the national and international level.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

(2022-2023)

Tanzania
Mali
Uganda
Gambia
Guinea
Zimbabwe
Côte d'Ivoire
Comoros
Sudan

Mauritania
Uzbekistan
Tajikistan
Kyrgyzstan
Pakistan
India
Maldives
Indonesia
Ecuador

Nicaragua
El Salvador
Uruguay
Brazil
Chile
Guyana
Suriname
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Sovereign Order of Malta Organization



AFTERWORD



Guided by a vision of “solidarity through development for a more resilient world,” the State of Palestine, through the Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA) aims to promote South-South and Triangular Cooperation while realizing the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). PICA works on shaping a partnership driven approach that focuses both on technical assistance and connecting existing and emerging capacities through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. This approach, which integrates partnerships, innovation and knowledge exchange as key pillars, is designed to enable PICA to achieve rapid gains; while maximizing cost effectiveness and stimulating local ownership and sustainability. Because the agency was established on the back of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its new paradigm for development, it has an exceptional opportunity to leapfrog several stages of development approaches.

As PICA continues to solidify and expand the coverage of its delivery (both thematic and geographic), its tested and tried development solutions will make a bigger impact not only on the realization of the SDGs but also on strengthening solidarity between nations of the world. To turn this mission into reality, PICA, as a young purpose driven organization, harnesses a continuous learning culture, an innovative mindset, and an ability to create and share knowledge that meets changing needs, which are aligned to the evolving targets and priorities of its partners. Importantly, PICA staff, partners and supporters are dedicated to work together to foster this culture that is critical to realizing the shared vision of all stakeholders involved.

Drawing on already existing goodwill and determination of the Palestinian people in Palestine and across the diaspora communities, PICA will continue to provide a unique and unprecedented example of the potential of public diplomacy in breaking stereotypes – both of Palestine specifically and of what a developing country can do in general. All this can be leveraged for a stronger international engagement with the Palestinian cause while providing PICA with an opportunity to prove that development cooperation is not only the business of a few privileged donor countries.

PARTNERS



International Partners:



Local Partners:





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