

Annual Report

The Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA)

2018





PICA
الوكالة الفلسطينية للتعاون الدولي
Palestinian International
Cooperation Agency

Annual Report

The Palestinian International
Cooperation Agency (PICA)

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Cooperation Agency (PICA)

“FROM A START-UP
TO A PLATFORM
FOR STRATEGIC
GROWTH”



الناتشر





CONTENT

Foreword	10
Preface	11
Executive Summary	
o Vision	12
o Mission	12
o Responsibilities	12
o Comparative Advantages	13
o Approach: Values and Principles of Commitment	13
o Strategic Objectives	13
o Geographic Priorities	14
o Thematic Priorities	15
International and Local Achievements 2018	
o Technical, Humanitarian and Relief Missions	16
o Bilateral and Trilateral Agreements	32
Activities	40
Training Courses	47
Partners	53
Afterword	56



"We are completely ready to cooperate with your countries, exchange knowledge and provide Palestinian technical teams to work in different fields, aiming to achieve further development that benefits all.

Thus, we instructed PICA to immediately start contacting your countries to provide knowledge and expertise needed."

H.E. President Mahmoud Abbas
26th African Union Assembly Meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



Foreword



Since its establishment, the Palestinian International Cooperation Agency (PICA) has been an honorable model for the State of Palestine as it represents the forefront of activities, aiming at empowering the pillars of the State of Palestine and its institutions in the process of realizing the international development agenda. PICA has served as a public diplomacy tool adjunct to the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, guided by the principle of “solidarity through development for a more resilient world”. Thus, PICA fulfills its main objective of providing development assistance, technical and knowhow support to different countries worldwide.

After Palestine officially assumed the presidency of the Group of 77 (G-77) and China in 2019, Palestine has placed itself on the world map not only from a political perspective, but as a country that adopts development agenda and policies based on the idea of solidarity through development. We are proud to reiterate the readiness of the Palestinian diplomacy with all its arms and national institutions to efficiently lead G-77 and its principles in promoting SDGs and 2030 agenda.

PICA represents a reflection of the Palestinian people’s responsibility and human values and virtues. This responsibility stems from our deep belief in expressing gratitude and appreciation for the support provided by the international community to the State of Palestine over the years. Through providing technical and humanitarian assistance and mobilizing Palestinian expertise and knowledge in different areas of comparative advantage, PICA contributes to enhancing solidarity with Palestine and builds cooperation and communication bridges with the rest of the world.

PICA uses the Palestinian knowhow skills inside the occupied territories of the State of Palestine and in the diaspora to promote SDGs at national, regional and international levels. Thus, South-South cooperation is complementary rather than a substitute for North-South cooperation, which continues to be one main channel for international development cooperation.

We firmly believe that South-South cooperation offers opportunities and supports our efforts to promote international cooperation to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan. PICA is the voice of friendship, solidarity and human values, reflecting our long-term commitment to the promotion of a more just and equitable world.

H.E. Dr. Riad Malki
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates
PICA Management Board Chairman

Preface



This report presents a synopsis of PICA main achievements in the year of 2018. During the past few years, PICA has endeavored to convey messages to the rest of the world, expressing Palestine’s ability as emerging country to provide assistance to countries and peoples in need.

With the blessings of H.E President Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine, the establishment of PICA inaugurates a new chapter of contemporary Palestinian history filled with hope and giving. This is evident through the implementation of national policies in the field of international cooperation, sustainable development, and

sharpening the Palestinian expertise inside the Palestinian territories and in the diaspora, representing Palestinian people internationally.

Despite considerable challenges, PICA has reflected the Palestinian development strategy through international actions in a large number of countries and provided assistance as much as possible. This vision is an implementation of H.E President Mahmoud Abbas’ instructions to show solidarity and provide assistance within available resources.

Under the guidance of the Palestinian leadership and in accordance with the Palestinian vision, PICA sheds light on Palestine from a different perspective in order to complete the integrated national strategy of the Palestinian institutions, including the Ministry of Education, Health, Agriculture, Economy, Culture, Information, Technology and others. In addition, PICA aims at reflecting the principle of investing in the cadres and institutions of the State of Palestine despite all challenges and obstacles.

In line with our current and future vision, we signed and developed long-term strategic agreements and partnerships with international, regional and local institutions, in addition to expanding PICA staff and integrating young Palestinian expertise of different disciplines to achieve PICA vision and objectives.

Palestine is not a donor country in the traditional sense and it is difficult at the present time to be so as a result of decades of occupation and deprivation in various fields of development on a deliberate basis. Therefore, PICA seeks to enhance social and international development through the exchange of expertise, using Palestinian knowhow skills in multiple sectors and engaging in a dynamic exchange of good practices rather than a traditional donor-recipient relationship.

Mr. Imad Al-Zuhairi
PICA Director General

PICA: Enhancing the Positive Role of Palestine Internationally

Vision

Solidarity through development for a more resilient world

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.

Mission

We deliver proven humanitarian and development solutions to other developing countries and promote South-South Cooperation in the process of making substantial contribution to humanitarian relief, disaster recovery, and reconstruction operations.

PICA also 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 Agenda 2030 and its SDGs, in specific SDGs 3, 4, 6, 7, 11 & 16 and other goals as agreed with local and international partners.

Responsibilities

PICA was established based on a Palestinian desire to harness its human and institutional resources and expertise to provide technical support, solidarity and action plan for international development cooperation.

At the developmental level, PICA promotes Palestinian identity internationally, and provides a new plan based on obtaining aid and sharing expertise through South-South Cooperation.

Under the umbrella of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates and supported by Palestinian embassies abroad, PICA deploys qualified Palestinians to provide technical support and contribute to international development cooperation, humanitarian assistance and investment opportunities.

PICA Comparative Advantages

PICA has several comparative advantages that jointly add up to a set of skills and organization profile that is unique compared to existing development partners. At the organizational level, the comparative advantage of PICA flows from its strong unequivocal mandate and political backing from the highest authority of the State of Palestine. PICA is set up as a novel initiative drawing on the full range of existing capacities within a highly educated government workforce, including the diplomatic corps, of Palestine.

Approach: Values and Principles of Commitment

PICA aims at achieving its vision with integrity, implementing its responsibilities with respect, and committing to national and humanitarian development as well as voluntary and collective action that serves the common cause.

Strategic Objectives

PICA engages in three overall strategic areas of work:

1. Bilateral cooperation with partners as part of South-South Cooperation.
2. Triangular cooperation, including third party intervention and provision of technical assistance and development cooperation.
3. Multilateral cooperation through international organizations, including cooperation agreements with the UN, EU, African Union, et al.

PICA Role in Africa

Guided by the importance of building strong strategic bridges with African countries, PICA is committed to promoting inclusive human development with a focus on priority areas of alleviating poverty, improving health and promoting education.

PICA aims at playing a key-role in anti-poverty programs in Africa. This is reflected through PICA membership in the Alliance to Fight Avoidable Blindness (AFAB-II 2018-2022), supported by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB).

Moreover, PICA aspires to foster investment opportunities in Africa in coordination with the Palestinian private sector.



Geographic Priorities

PICA started the implementation phase in some African and Latin American countries. While this reflects a primary geographic focus on these two regions, PICA has acquired other opportunities in different geographical areas. In total, PICA projects in 2016 and 2017 reached 21 projects in 21 countries in different regions, as well as 12 bilateral cooperation projects with other development agencies in Turkey, Belgium, Morocco, Thailand, Poland, Sri Lanka, Chile, and a trilateral cooperation initiative with Tunisia and Morocco.

In 2018, 7 projects were implemented in 7 different countries, ranging from bilateral, trilateral and multilateral projects, as shown in the following table:

PICA Projects in 2018

Republic of Guinea/ Conakry	22 nd November 2018	Cooperation Type	
Joint cooperation in the medical field			
Republic of Nicaragua	5 th December 2018	Cooperation Type	
Agriculture, health and investment cooperation programs			
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	30 th April 2018	Cooperation Type	
Cooperation program in agriculture: including the reclamation of agricultural land, the construction of plastic houses and the operation of poultry incubators			
Republic of Indonesia	8 th -12 th October 2018	Cooperation Type	
1st Plan: Providing emergency relief to the affected areas in Indonesia. 2nd Plan: Providing material, relief and humanitarian equipment			
Cote d'Ivoire	8 th December 2018	Cooperation Type	
Medical week to transfer medical expertise			
African countries	Five years 2018-2022	Cooperation Type	
Combating poverty targeting 12 African countries that are members of the Islamic Bank: Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Mauritania, Comoros, Chad, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Djibouti and Togo			
Republic of Mozambique	5 th April 2018	Cooperation Type	
Specialized medical program for the correction and treatment of children spinal deformities			

Thematic Priorities

The State of Palestine, through PICA, is able to provide technical assistance in areas of humanitarian response, resilience, and sustainable human development, with a strong focus on emergency development and humanitarian aid, as essential steps on the path to fostering resilience. Thus, PICA had four main pillars as follows:

PICA Four Pillars

- 1 Relief and rapid humanitarian response.
Palestinian Rapid Response and Rescue Team (PRRRRT)



- 2 Technical Cooperation and knowledge sharing- Public and Private Sector
 - Agriculture
 - Education
 - Environment
 - Media
 - Voluntary work
 - Statistics
 - Health
 - Public and private sector
 - Water



- 3 Promoting investment opportunities:
 - Promoting investment opportunities in foreign markets.
 - Encouraging Palestinian investors to invest in projects abroad.



- 4 Leadership in public policy
 - Drafting the Roadmap for South-South Cooperation
 - The relationship between resilience and human development

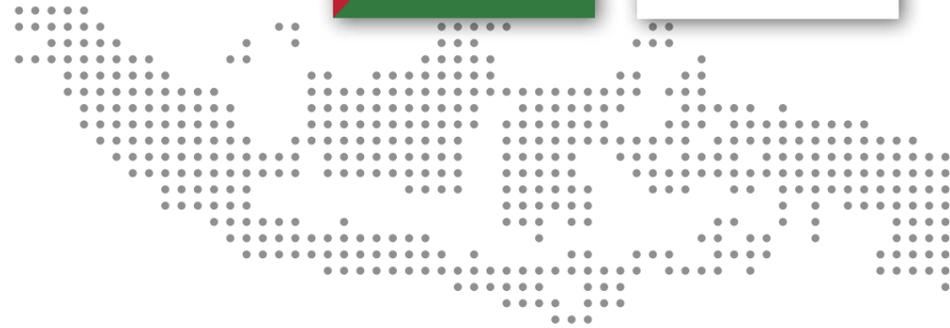
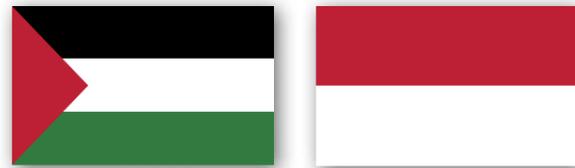


Local and international achievements for the year 2018

Delegations of experts
Humanitarian & relief missions



Rescuing Indonesia earthquake victims



According to Indonesia's National Disaster Agency, the death toll resulting from Indonesia's earthquake in the year of 2018 has risen to more than 1,300 with the 7.5-magnitude earthquake hitting the coastal city of Palau off the central island of Sulawesi, causing severe tsunami.



In September 2018, Indonesia suffered a deadly Tsunami that caused thousands of victims to flee their homes after the disaster. Following this incident, PICA planned to deport the Palestinian Rapid Response and Rescue Team (PRRRT) to the affected islands to provide medical support. Later on, the Indonesian Government declared the affected islands a military closed zone due to the dangerous impact Tsunami caused including spread of diseases. Following this declaration, PICA decided to deport a relief mission to provide basic emergency needs, helping the Indonesian people after the area was officially closed.

4000
Displaced People



200 Tents

have been lit which accommodate



I stand here... wearing the Palestinian scarf to show the strong commitment of Indonesia, of the people of Indonesia, to always be with the Palestinian people and their rights. Indonesia will always stand with Palestine



The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
H.E. Retno Marsudi



A March for Peace & Humanity in Solidarity with Palestine

Jakarta/Indonesia

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, H.E Dr. Riad Malki, along with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E Ritno Mersoudi, with the participation of a large number of religious and political figures, civil society and foreign diplomatic officials based in Indonesia, participated in a big march in the center of the capital Jakarta, under the title “March for Peace and Humanity in Solidarity with Palestine”. The march was organized a week after the earthquake to show unity and solidarity with the Palestinian people as expressed by the Indonesian people and government with all its sects, religions and orientations.



Medical Week in Côte d'Ivoire



Transferring medical expertise

In its attempts to promote SDGs and 2030 agenda, particularly goal 3 on good health and goal 17 on strengthening partnerships, PICA organized a medical week in Côte d'Ivoire. The medical week was implemented in cooperation with the Palestinian Medical Association, the Palestinian Ministry of Health, and the embassy of the State of Palestine in Côte d'Ivoire, in addition to the Ministry of Health in Côte d'Ivoire. A Palestinian medical team consisting of 13 experts from various medical specialties, including anesthesiologists and nurses, participated in a 10 day humanitarian medical mission to the Ivorian capital of Côte d'Ivoire. The team conducted quality operations and trained Ivorian medical staff on specific specialized techniques, enhancing the performance of the medical staff at the University Hospital Kokodi in the capital Abidjan.

20-25 quality operations and 50-60 medical examinations were conducted.

The training techniques included:

Children's Surgery - Dental Surgery - Orthopedic Surgery - Eye Surgery



The Embassy of the State of Palestine to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan provided necessary facilities to enable the delegation to carry out its mission to the fullest extent. Jerusalem Pharmaceuticals Company, one of PICA partners, also provided medicines for the mission.

On the sidelines of the medical week, PICA organized a number of important meetings, including academic cooperation with major universities in Côte d'Ivoire to promote Palestinian identity, and encourage academic cooperation between Palestinian universities and universities in Côte d'Ivoire.

PICA met with the President and senior officials of the University of Felix Houphouët-Boigny to discuss and develop joint cooperation plans. The Palestinian delegation suggested programs based on cooperation related to academic exchange of students and professors, as well as cooperation in the field of research, studies and scientific and cultural activities.

14th December 2018
The President of the Senate of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Gianni Ahusu Kouadio, reaffirmed the importance of PICA programs in Côte d'Ivoire and its role in promoting and developing cooperation between the two countries.



Medical Program in the Republic of Mozambique



Transferring medical expertise and establishing Orthopedics Dep at the Government Hospital in Maputo

A medical delegation headed by Dr. Alaa Azmi, Head of the Program of Transferring Knowledge in Chiropractic and Orthopedic Surgery at PICA, started the implementation of a specialized medical program in the field of pediatric spinal therapy in the Republic of Mozambique. Dr. Azmi carried out surgical operations including spine orthodontics for a number of children. Moreover, the Palestinian medical delegation transferred medical expertise to local doctors at the government hospital in the Mozambican capital of Maputo, and gave specialized academic lectures on new surgical techniques.

The delegation included:

- Head of PICA program of transferring knowledge in orthopedic surgery, Dr. Alaa Azmi.
- Anesthesiologist, Abdel Basset Nazzal.
- Neurologist, Mohamed Dar Taha.
- Operations Nurse, Mohammed Nayefeh.

Medical equipment were provided by a donation from Swiss companies specializing in medical materials.

The College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) is an independent body that fosters postgraduate education in surgery and provides surgical training throughout the region of East, Central and Southern Africa. COSECSA delivers a common surgical training programme with an internationally bench-marked exam and qualification.

COSECSA is a non-profit making body that currently operates in 14 countries in the sub-Saharan region: Botswana, Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In August of the same year, PICA implemented the second phase of its development program in the Republic of Mozambique, which is establishing and operating an orthopedic department at the government hospital in Maputo, with pioneering Palestinian expertise. The program, which will last for three years, has a central role in providing treatment, especially with the lack of medical staff or local centers that are capable of doing this type of treatment locally.



Ambassador of the State of Palestine to the Republic of Mozambique, Fayez Abdel Gawad, stated: "This program is a unique case of cooperation in the medical field and has received great attention from officials in Mozambique.

The leadership in Mozambique aspires to expand cooperation with Palestine in other fields such as agriculture and environment, etc."

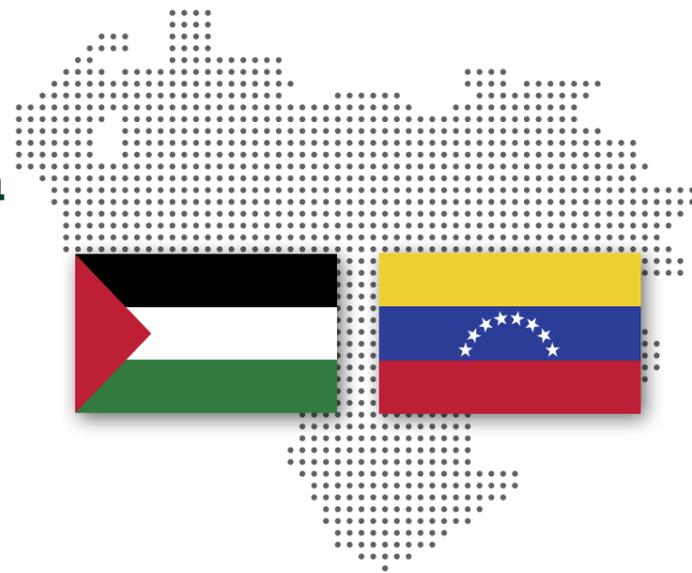
"This work is an important fingerprint for Palestine and a source of pride and appreciation"



Amb. Abdel Gawad added.



Agricultural Mission in Venezuela



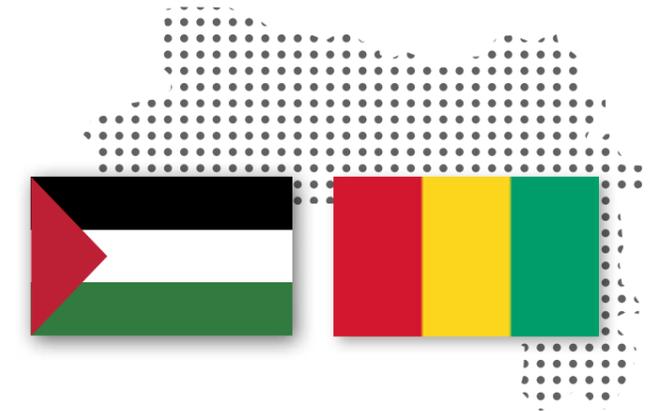
Agriculture in Venezuela accounts for about 3% of GDP, 10% of the labor force, and at least one-quarter of Venezuela's land area

PICA, in cooperation with Palestine Engineers Association, deployed a delegation of specialized experts to implement a development program in the agricultural sector in Venezuela. The program is related to the reclamation of agricultural lands, the construction of plastic houses, and the operation of poultry incubators. Palestinian experts visited relevant sites, where the project was reviewed and the needs for the exploitation of land, plastic houses and poultry farms were realized in a way that serves the interests of Venezuela local market. A working mechanism has been put in place to determine all the needs and required equipment, materials, devices and systems for the installation and operation of production lines.

The team completed its tasks as part of an organized plan of action developed between PICA and local partners including the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Foreign Investment of Venezuela.



Exploratory Mission to Guinea, Conakry

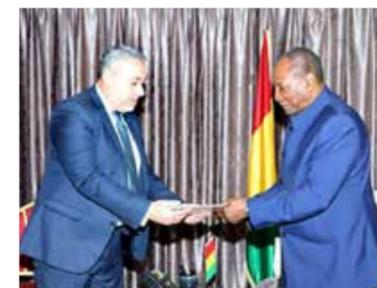


A delegation led by PICA visited the Guinean capital of Conakry in order to review the health conditions of the capital hospitals and to present future joint programs that serve the goals of both countries. The visit strengthens cooperation in areas of health development so as to promote 2030 agenda and its SDGs in addition to relevant national goals. The delegation included a number of the finest doctors from the State of Palestine, who evaluated the health conditions in the hospital of Enas Din and Duncan Hospital in Conakry.

In light of the health situation in the Guinean capital, PICA signed a cooperation agreement with the Guinean Ministry of Health, aiming at promoting joint medical cooperation.

“The signed agreement enables PICA to implement medical programs in Guinea using specialized Palestinian medical expertise. These specialized teams will carry out activities and programs in the field of individual and institutional capacity building through which Palestinian capabilities will be adapted to the needs expressed by Guinea.”

Imad Al-Zuhairi
PICA Director General



On the sidelines of the visit, an official letter from President Mahmoud Abbas to President Alpha Condé was delivered on the importance of strengthening relations between the two countries.



Agricultural Mission to the Republic of Nicaragua



PICA led a delegation aimed mainly at developing Nicaragua agricultural sector. On the sidelines of the visit, the Palestinian delegation held meetings with a number of official bodies to determine and review the needs of health, agriculture and investment sectors. The needs and priorities were outlined as follows:

First: Health Sector:

Capacity building and operations in the following areas:

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Open heart and catheter

Bones

Children

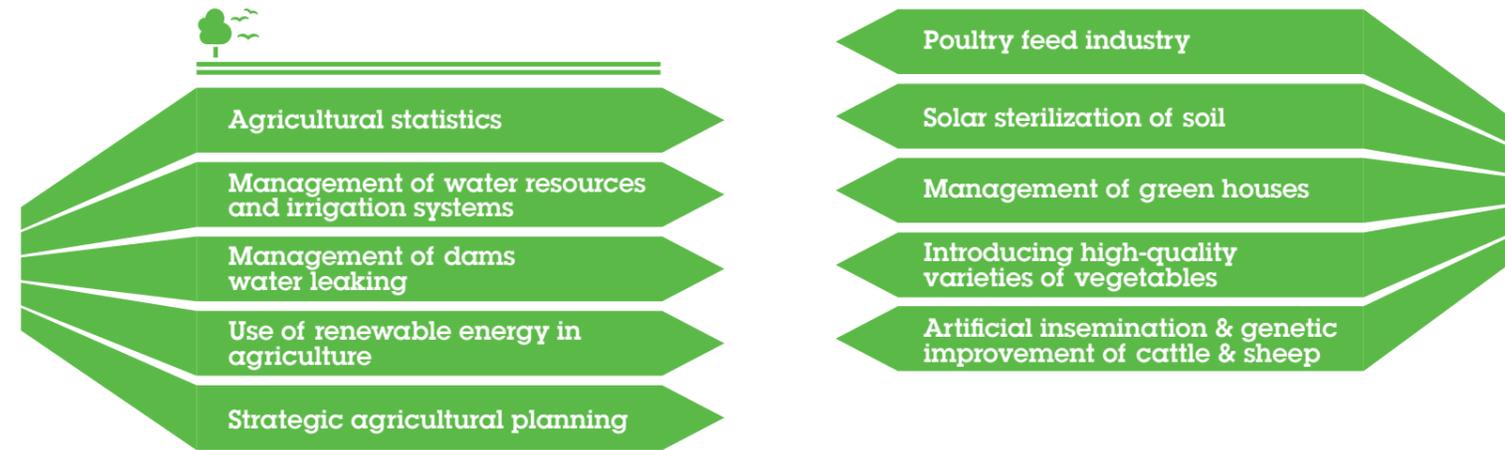
Ear, Nose and Throat

Urinary tract



Second: Agricultural Sector:

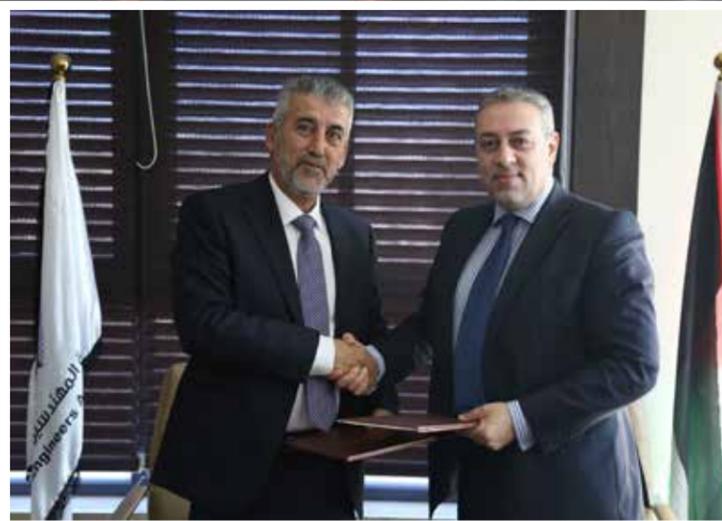
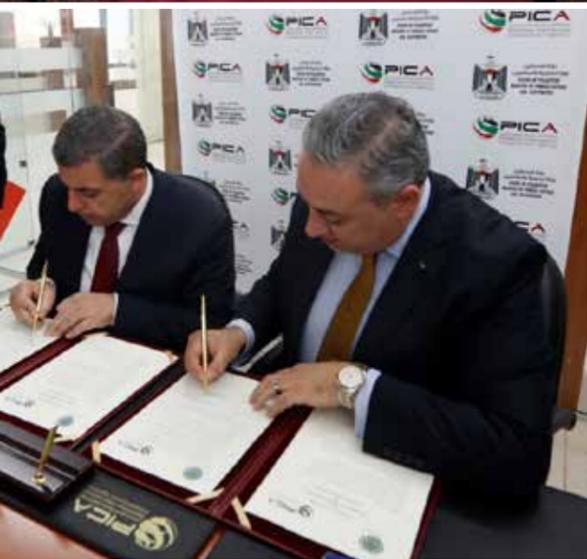
PICA met with government parties specialized in the agricultural sector where both parties agreed on developing capacity building of Nicaraguan staff and cooperate in the following areas:



Third: Investment Sector

Cooperating with national institute for investment promotion in Nicaragua to encourage the entry of Palestinian private sector to invest in the Nicaraguan market.

Bilateral and Trilateral Agreements



Bilateral and Trilateral Agreements

MoU between PICA and Palestine Engineers Association

9th January 2018, in recognition of the importance of partnering with non-governmental institutions and its effective role in the development process at the local and international levels, PICA signed a strategic MoU with Eng. Magdy Al-Saleh, stating a number of items. The items include: contributing to developing Palestinian cadres and implementing development activities and entrepreneurial projects in cooperation with supportive countries and institutions. The items also include participating in Arab and international delegations pertaining to the engineering field and involving specialized Palestinian engineering cadres in PICA programs, within bilateral, trilateral and multilateral cooperation programs.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and Palestine Doctors Association

15th January 2018, PICA signed a cooperation agreement with Palestine Doctors Association to strengthen partnership between the two sides. The agreement stated developing an annual operational plan to serve common interests, contributing to the development of Palestinian cadres and enhancing their capabilities and providing them with necessary additional expertise in various medical specialties. This shall be performed through implementing training programs and participating in specialized workshops in the field of medical development. Both PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, and Chief of Palestine Doctors Association, Nezam Najeeb, signed the memorandum in the presence of concerned officials. Mr. Nezam Najeeb stated that “the agreement will pave the way for the promotion of specialized diplomacy, expressing the readiness of Palestine Doctors Association to use its potential to achieve national goals in the field of international cooperation.”

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and the Venezuelan Foreign Trade Bank

7th February 2018, PICA signed a strategic cooperation agreement with the Venezuelan Bank in the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the capital of Caracas, in preparation for cooperating in various vital fields, especially investment and private partnerships. According to the agreement, a Palestinian-Venezuelan Businessmen Council will be established, in addition to cooperating in various fields such as environment, energy, water, education, health, agriculture, hotel management, disaster management and information technology. Moreover, the agreement highlights implementing bilateral and trilateral projects that serve the development agenda within the framework of South-South Cooperation.

MoU between PICA and TİKA

15th February 2018, PICA signed an MoU with the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), strengthening cooperation and development programs and strategic partnerships. The MoU aims at exchanging technical expertise to implement development programs and activities in a number of fields, including: rule of law, ICT, education, health, environment, agriculture and other vital areas. This cooperation serves the interests of both countries within the principle of achieving peace and promoting SDGs.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

20th February 2018, PICA and PCBS signed a cooperation agreement, paving the way to utilize Palestinian expertise pertaining to statistics for countries seeking to establish their statistics systems. The agreement was signed by the president of PCBS, Dr. Ola Awad, and PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, in the presence of concerned officials from both institutions. Minister Awad considered this agreement as a cornerstone for joint work between both sides, leading to the realization of programs and activities through which both institutions achieve relevant national and international goals. The agreement also included cooperation with specialized international institutions and bodies involved in the implementation of trilateral programs and activities. Such programs are among the concerns and priorities of the parties involved with development programs and international development goals.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) – Ankara

27th February 2018, PICA and SESRIC signed a strategic cooperation agreement in the Turkish capital of Ankara, under which the two parties shall enhance cooperation mechanisms to serve the 2025 OIC Program of Action and 2030 agenda and its SDGs. The agreement includes technical cooperation procedures in the areas of good governance, economic and social development, environment and humanitarian affairs, and the transfer and exchange of expertise and information according to the terms of reference and the expressed needs. The agreement also reinforces engagement in cooperation programs with technical cooperation agencies of the member states.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and Santiago Public Emergency Hospital (HUAP) – Chile

10th March 2018, according to the cooperation agreement signed between PICA and Chile International Cooperation Agency (AGCI), and based on the agreement signed between the Palestinian and Chilean Ministries of Health, the Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Chile, Imad Al-Jada, and on behalf of PICA, signed a cooperation agreement with HUAP in the presence of PICA representative in Chile, Basem Nassar. The signed agreement aims at developing joint cooperation pertaining to human resources training in the fields of health, emergency, injury, surgery and burns.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and the Ministry of Health in the Republic of Mozambique

10th March 2018, represented by the Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Mozambique, Fayez Abdul Jawad, PICA signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Mozambique represented by Health Minister, Nazira Karimo Vali Abdula. The agreement aims at establishing a spinal surgery program at the government hospital in Mozambique through the use of leading Palestinian expertise.

MoU between PICA and United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) – Brazil

12th March 2018, to promote joint cooperation programs between PICA and UNOSSC in New York and on the sidelines of the Brazil Conference on International Cooperation to discuss the preparations for the UN Summit for Cooperation in Argentina, an MoU was signed between PICA, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, and the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Cooperation and Director of the UNOSSC in New York, George Chidiac. This MoU aims at enhancing trilateral cooperation between PICA and the member states and support PICA participation in international and regional activities and programs. The MoU also encourages joint coordination to meet challenges under the mandate of each party, especially those related to education, public health, social work, infrastructure, women in development, young leaders and climate change.

Cooperation Agreement between the State of Palestine and the Republic of Vanuatu

8th October 2018, PICA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vanuatu signed a cooperation agreement which is the first of its kind between the two countries, aiming at promoting bilateral and trilateral development cooperation to serve mutual benefits of both parties. Under this agreement, a number of programs will be implemented, particularly the establishment of the Faculty of Nursing in support of health sector, as well as supporting the capacities of vocational training and communication centers. The signing followed months of cooperation between PICA and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vanuatu.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and the Ministry of Health of Guinea-Conakry

18th November 2018, PICA signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Health of Guinea-Conakry aimed at promoting joint cooperation in the medical field and paving the way for PICA to carry out medical programs in Guinea, using Palestinian medical expertise. These specialized teams will undertake programs pertaining to individual and institutionalized capacity building by aligning the Palestinian potential with the needs expressed by Guinea.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA and Birzeit University (BZU)

29th November 2018, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, PICA signed an MoU with Birzeit University represented by its president, Dr. Abdul Latif Abu Hijleh. Due to the agreement, BZU will contribute to developing Palestinian cadres in various academic disciplines through the implementation of training programs, workshops and panels. Moreover, the agreement highlights the implementation of pilot development activities and projects and innovative academic solutions that serve the needs of countries targeted by PICA in line with national interests.

Cooperation Agreement between PICA & the Ministry of International Cooperation Represented by Order of Malta - Rome, Italy

3rd December 2018, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates and the Chairman of the Board of Management, H.E Dr. Riad Malki, and the Minister of International Cooperation, Dominique Dalla Ruschkovad Montbel, on behalf of the Order of Malta, signed an agreement to reinforce joint cooperation, especially in the field of health and human services. The signing occurred during a meeting between H.E President Mahmoud Abbas and Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta, Prince Giacomo Douala Torre, at the presidential palace in Rome.

MoU between PICA and the Palestinian Businessmen Association

30th December 2018, PICA signed an MoU with the Palestinian Businessmen Association to reinforce external investment opportunities inside the Palestine territories and abroad, especially in countries where PICA is active. The memorandum supports the association's efforts to build trade and investment cooperation relations at the international level. It also involves the Palestinian Businessmen Association in PICA economic and development activities, and aim at implementing development programs within the framework of South-South cooperation. The memorandum supports the association's efforts to attract investment to Palestine and promote Palestinian businessmen overseas investment, with a focus on countries that have Palestinian communities.

Signing Party	Agreement Subject	Location	Date
Engineers Association - Palestine	Engineering development	Palestine	2018/1/8
Palestine Doctors Association - Palestine	Medical development	Palestine	2018/1/15
Ministry of Health - Mozambique	Development of bone and spine surgeries	Mozambique	2018/1/20
Foreign Trade Bank for Investment and Export -Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Development of investment, combating poverty and social exclusion	Venezuela	2018/2/7
T□ KA	Cooperation in various fields	Palestine	2018/02/15
SESRIC	Technical cooperation, exchange of knowledge, capacity development and development programs	Turkey	2018/2/26
PCBS	Development in the fields of research and statistics	Palestine	2018/2/20
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Vanuatu	Strengthening bilateral and trilateral development cooperation	Vanuatu	2018/10/08
UNOSSC	Strengthening trilateral cooperation between the Agency and member states	Brazil	2018/3/12
HUAP	Joint cooperation in the medical field	Chile	2018/3/10
Guinean Ministry of Health	Joint cooperation in the medical field	Guinea Conakry	2018/11/18
BZU	Development of Palestinian academic cadres	Palestine	2018/11/29
Order of Malta	Joint cooperation in health and human services	Italy	2018/12/3
Palestinian Businessmen Association	Promoting Palestinian investment opportunities abroad	Palestine	2018/12/30

PICA Most Marked Achievements 2018

Joint projects with Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) in Latin America

- Rehabilitation of Arab nursing home and inauguration of sports stadiums – Santiago

11th May 2018, within the framework of cooperation and partnership between PICA and TİKA, several joint projects have been completed in the Chilean capital, Santiago. The projects include the rehabilitation and construction of rooms with their services in the Arab nursing home, the reconstruction of its sports stadium, and the inauguration of sport stadiums at the HQ of the Palestinian sports club in the capital, Santiago. This step followed prior agreements between PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, and Deputy General Director of TİKA, Prof. Perol Chitin, which were concluded in Santiago, Chile. According to the agreements, programs and activities are to be implemented in Chile with the support of the Turkish Agency in full coordination with the Ambassador of Turkey to Chile, Nguyen Kaya, and the Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Chile, Imad Jada.

- Rehabilitation of Palestinian Arab Club building – Caracas

5th December 2018, in full cooperation with PICA and with the support of the embassies of the State of Palestine and the Republic of Turkey in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, TİKA rehabilitated the Palestinian Arab Club building in Caracas, which is used to organize cultural, civil and social events and activities for Arab communities. The project reflected the strong relationship between PICA and its Turkish counterpart, and the friendship between the two peoples and leaderships. This project is the fourth of its kind that the agencies worked on in Latin America.



Poverty Eradication Project in Africa



4th April 2018, on the sidelines of the 43rd annual meeting of the Islamic Development Bank Group (IsDB) in Tunisia, the second phase of poverty eradication program in the African countries of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) was signed with 250 million dollars funding. The program has been signed with the participation of Arab and Islamic countries, international cooperation agencies, charities and NGOs.

The African Poverty Eradication Program, which targets 12 African member countries of IsDB has been officially launched, including Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Mauritania, Comoros, Chad, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Djibouti and Togo.

The Global Partnership Initiative

The Palestinian International Cooperation Agency PICA joins the Global Partnership Initiative on Effective Triangular Cooperation



21st August 2018, PICA joined the Global Partnership Initiative on Effective Triangular Cooperation in order to enhance strategic values of international cooperation.

This initiative aims at developing partnerships between effective parties on an international level and is considered as a platform for stakeholders to advance development efforts from both north and south countries in order to contribute to the implementation of SDGs. The initiative was established during the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea in 2011. It included 161 countries and 56 international organizations.

Delivering Emergency Intervention and Response Equipment for the Palestinian Civil Defense

29th April 2018, in accordance with the agreement signed between PICA and the Office of the Polish Representation in Palestine last year, PICA handed over special equipment used for search and rescue operations to the Director General of Civil Defense, Major General Yusuf Nassar, upon their intervention in relief and humanitarian missions in countries suffer from natural disasters.

This came during a ceremony held by PICA at the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates in the presence of a number of Palestinian and Polish personalities.

During his statement, PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, reaffirmed that PICA, during the past few months, worked with the Polish government to provide basic equipment in addition to delivering trainings to specialized cadre by experienced Polish trainers.

Activities



Activities

Cooperation with Chilean International Cooperation Agency (AGCI)

9th January 2018, PICA discussed a number of future cooperation programs with AGCI within the framework of joint cooperation, during a meeting with Chilean Ambassador to Palestine at PICA HQ.

Cooperation with Argentinian International Cooperation Agency

22nd January 2018, PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, welcomed Deputy Head of the Representative office of Argentina to Palestine, Rodrigo Lopez Gadano. Both sides discussed development programs that PICA intends to implement in cooperation with related parties in Argentine, particularly after agreeing on an MoU draft that will be signed later on. The initial agreement included three areas of cooperation: health, agriculture, youth and sports. This meeting is a follow-up of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, H.E Dr. Riad Malki, visit to Argentina that aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation in order to serve the interest of the two sides, through their international cooperation agencies.

Cooperation agreement with the Venezuelan Government

11th February 2018, PICA signed an agreement to implement Palestinian-Venezuelan cooperation programs, through establishing the Palestinian-Venezuelan Businessmen Council, which will enhance partnership and investment opportunities between the two countries. The Councils TOR, which fall under the framework of PICA and the Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade of Venezuela, were reviewed and agreed upon. Consequently, it will perform as a key for cooperation between Palestinian and Venezuelan businessmen, and will target other countries that fall within the priorities and interests of both sides.

Fruitful meetings in Turkey

28th February 2018, under its framework to implement plans and programs on bilateral, trilateral and multilateral levels, PICA held various meetings with Turkish development institutions and bodies of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which is based in the Turkish capital, Ankara. On the other hand, PICA received the Shield of the Embassy of the State of Palestine to Turkey in recognition of the joint cooperation between PICA and the Palestinian Embassy in Ankara. This event occurred during an official visit by PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, to SESRIC HQ.

Brazil Conference on International Cooperation between South-South Countries

11 March 2018, PICA participated in the International Cooperation between South-South Countries conference, held in the Brazilian capital, entitled “Tracks, Opportunities and Challenges”, in preparation for the summit to be held in the Argentine capital Buenos Aires in 2019. The conference shed light on the role of developing countries and their contributions to the development process, within the framework of South South cooperation and 2030 agenda.

Bilateral Plan of Action with the Argentinian International Cooperation Agency - Argentina

13th March 2018, within the framework of the official visit by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, H.E Dr. Riad Malki, to Argentina, PICA and its Argentinian counterpart agreed on a clear plan of action that includes specific development programs to be implemented within a fixed timeframe. Both parties agreed on implementing three bilateral projects, followed by implementing the second phase of trilateral cooperation.

The Second Annual Cooperation Conference for the Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

15th March 2018, PICA participated in the Second Annual Cooperation Conference for the Caribbean States which was held in the island of Margarita, Venezuela, for the first time after Palestine has been recognized as an observer state in 2016. The conference revolved around the importance of economic integration among member states, through the establishment of a common market and the promotion of cooperation in the fields of education, culture and industry. During the conference, PICA representative presented a briefing about PICA programs in the Caribbean states and discussed programs to be implemented in the future in a full partnership with Palestinian public institutions, non-governmental organizations and private sector.

Cooperation with the Republic of Vanuatu

4th May 2018, PICA participated in a strategic dialogue in the Republic of Vanuatu with senior officials in which a framework of development cooperation in vital areas was agreed on. Both parties agreed on a strategy of action targeting the Pacific countries, aiming at mobilizing more international solidarity with the Palestinian cause and strengthening the status of the State of Palestine internationally.

Trilateral consultations with the Republics of Greece and Cyprus

10th May 2018, PICA participated in trilateral consultations with Greece and Cyprus in the presence of Assistant Minister for European Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Amal Jadou. The consultations aimed at enhancing trilateral cooperation in order to find strategies to develop cooperation between the three countries and EU. Ambassador Jadou reaffirmed the importance of strengthening relations to include cultural, academic, economic, developmental, security, agriculture, energy, water, tourism, health, investment possibilities and exchange of expertise in all fields.

The official delegation accompanying H.E President Mahmoud Abbas to a formal meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart

9th May 2018, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, PICA participated in the official delegation accompanying H.E President Mahmoud Abbas to a formal meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart in Venezuela. H.E president Mahmoud Abbas held official talks with his Venezuelan counterpart, Maduro Moros, at the Presidential Palace in the Venezuelan capital of Caracas. President Abbas briefed his Venezuelan counterpart on the progress of the Palestinian cause, particularly after president Trump declared Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel and moved the US embassy to Jerusalem. President Abbas also discussed the comprehensive peace plan presented by his excellency before the UN Security Council and appreciated the Venezuelan President's support for the Palestinian cause in international forums. On the other hand, Venezuelan President affirmed the steadfastness of his country's support for the Palestinian right to end occupation, freedom and independence.

Cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment in Havana - Cuba

12th May 2018, PICA held a coordination meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment in the Cuban capital of Havana to review the implementation of previous MoUs related to joint cooperation in a number of vital development areas. The First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment affirmed that Palestine is a priority and a preference in all matters related to the implementation of investment projects in his country due to the strong relations between the two peoples and their leadership.

Receiving a Danish students delegation

16th May 2018, PICA received a delegation of Danish students specialized in journalism from the University of Roding Hoskul in Denmark. The meeting focused on PICA role in strengthening the relationship between Palestine and other countries. The meeting also discussed latest developments in the Palestinian political arena and the Palestinian-Danish relations.

Cooperation with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

20th July 2018, PICA discussed means of cooperation with OCHA in regard to implementing humanitarian programs during a meeting with Mr. David Carden, Director of OCHA and his delegation from the Office of Humanitarian Affairs.

The Fourth Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

3rd July 2018, PICA participated in the Fourth Regional Networking Forum for Arab States, Europe and the CIS on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, held in Istanbul. The forum shed light on PICA role in transferring Palestinian expertise to south countries. It also discusses PICA role in promoting entrepreneurship and innovative solutions by strengthening the work of the Palestinian private sector and connecting it to the platform of the Union for the Mediterranean. Organized UNOSSC, the forum aimed at creating and sharing knowledge and promoting South-South and triangular cooperation in the Arab States, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Cooperation with the Palestinian Agricultural Credit Institute (PACI)

18th July 2018, within the context of strengthening national coordination carried out by PICA in cooperation with the local community and the private sector, PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, met with Deputy Minister of Agriculture and head of the Agricultural Credit Institution, Eng. Abdullah Lahlouh at PACI HQ.

Cooperation with the Finnish Representative

18th July 2018, PICA discussed with Ms. Paula Milan, Director of Development Cooperation at the Finnish Representative to the State of Palestine, means of joint cooperation in order to promote 2030 agenda and its SDGs. During the meeting, both sides agreed to hold technical consultations for future cooperation.

Welcoming African delegation participating in the African training program

16th August 2018, PICA welcomed the African delegation participating in the African Training Program, held by the Palestinian National School of Management. The African delegation included 22 government officials representing each of the following countries: Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, Ethiopia and Botswana, as well as the AU Commission. PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, briefed the delegation on the objectives, work and programs of PICA especially in the African continent and the importance of intensifying Palestinian development effort in the African continent within the framework of bilateral or international programs.

Cooperation with Sudan – Khartoum

9th September 2018, a delegation led by PICA discussed with the Sudanese Minister of International Cooperation, Idris Suleiman, possibilities of joint cooperation in the Sudanese capital Khartoum. The Palestinian delegation included a number of businessmen and representatives of major Palestinian companies from various fields (agriculture, medicines, refrigeration and air conditioning) that are interested in economic cooperation and development in Sudan.

Cooperation with Arab and Islamic funds

23rd September 2018, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi and his team, PICA discussed program and plan of action with Arab and Islamic funds represented by H.E Minister Nasser Qatami. Al-Zuhairi shed light on the important role played by Minister Nasser Qatami, Adviser to the Prime Minister of the Arab and Islamic Funds, and his team in promoting development in Palestine. Both sides agreed on a joint plan of action that reflects the interest and priorities of the two parties to achieve mutual benefit and contribute to empowering and supporting the Palestinian expertise and specialized human resources. These resources are used to transfer economic empowerment and resilience to various countries within the framework of bilateral, trilateral and multilateral cooperation.

Palestinian-Polish cooperation

24- 27 September 2018, in full cooperation between PICA and the Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM), a disaster management and crisis management training was implemented for three days for the members of the emergency intervention and Palestinian Rapid Response and Rescue team (PRRRT). The training included national and international crisis management procedures, risk analysis, and emergency response plans preparations, with the aim of developing team skills to work efficiently in the event of large-scale crises inside the country and during external missions.

Cooperation with Canada

27th September 2018, PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, welcomed Canada representative to the State of Palestine, Ambassador Douglas Scott Broudfroot. The meeting aimed at discussing the framework of enhancing development cooperation between Palestine and Canada through PICA programs, so as to promote SDGs and 2030 agenda and relevant national goals, in particular joint programs that benefit various African countries and others.

Cooperation with Palestine Engineers Association

1st October 2018, in cooperation with Palestine Engineers Association, PICA started an agricultural project in Latin America. The project serves as a model for future cooperation in agricultural field between Palestine and Latin American countries. Agricultural engineers have developed all plans and prepared all the necessary studies for the project which will be implemented in the next few months.

Cooperation with the Palestinian Businessmen Association

1st October 2018, PICA discussed means of cooperation with the Palestinian Businessmen Association to serve common goals. The two sides agreed on establishing a strategic relationship that serves the private sector and the Palestinian business sector inside the Palestinian territories and abroad.

Joint cooperation with the EU

4th October 2018, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, PICA welcomed Head of Cooperation in the Office of the Representative of the European Union to Palestine, Ms. Alessandra Vitsler, with the aim of discussing frameworks for enhancing cooperation. The two sides agreed on a number of steps to establish cooperation that serves the international development agenda, as well as other mechanisms to advance future joint programs.

Trilateral cooperation with UNDP and the Ministry of Interior (MoI)

4th October 2018, PICA held a meeting with its partners from UNDP and MoI to discuss a number of projects that fall under the current trilateral development cooperation. A number of programs to be implemented were discussed in which PICA will play a key role in implementing relevant plans and programs within the framework of South-South Cooperation.

The 4th High Level Meeting on Country-led Knowledge Sharing

15th – 17th October 2018, the State of Palestine, represented by PICA, participated in the 4th High Level Meeting on Country-led Knowledge Sharing in Bali, entitled “local innovation as an engine for comprehensive development.” The event was organized by a number of organizations and agencies, including IsDB, World Bank Group, JICA, German Cooperation Agency and relevant ministries of the Government of Indonesia, with a large international presence. PICA Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, stated that during the past years, sharing experiences became a third hub that complements the focus of financial support and technical focus within the context of international development. The transfer of good practices contributes fundamentally to the implementation of international development goals, he added.

the High-level Ministerial Meeting on South-South Cooperation in Green Economy in Dubai

23rd – 25th October 2018, PICA participated in the High-level Ministerial Meeting on South-South Cooperation in the Green Economy for Agricultural Development, in cooperation with UNOSSC, food security, and South-South cooperation in green and smart cities and tourism in Dubai. PICA representatives also participated in the preparatory meeting for the launch of the World Green Economy Summit, which is one of the world’s leading green economy platforms, bringing together world-class experts from all over the world.

Joint cooperation with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Palestine

28th October 2018, PICA discussed with OIC office in Palestine possibilities of joint cooperation during welcoming OIC representative, Ambassador Ahmed al-Ruwaidi, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates. It was agreed that a number of practical measures would be implemented to achieve common interests under the mandate of both parties.

Cooperation with World Health Organization (WHO)

30th October 2018, represented by its Director General, Imad Al-Zuhairi, PICA discussed mechanisms for enhancing joint cooperation with the Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Office in Palestine, Mr. Gerald Rukenshaub. Al-Zuhairi highlighted the importance of cooperation with WHO in Palestine, which is specialized in supporting health programs, one of the main focuses of PICA. Mr. Rukenshaub reiterated the importance of WHO in the Agency’s efforts, particularly in the field of rapid intervention and urgent response, stressing the importance of supporting these programs through specialized training and capacity building programs.

Bilateral cooperation with Birzeit University

2nd November 2018, PICA discussed mechanisms to enhance cooperation with Birzeit University. The two sides agreed to hold seminars to introduce PICA programs and achievements to students and to sign a cooperation agreement, highlighting the importance of strategic partnership with Palestinian educational and academic institutions.

Cooperation with Palestine Polytechnic University

28th November 2018, PICA discussed means of cooperation with the Palestinian Polytechnic University. The Dean of the College of Applied Professions, Dr. Ishaq Sidr, expressed the readiness of the Polytechnic University of Palestine, especially the College of Applied Professions, to provide academic and technical expertise and lead new projects. Both parties agreed on signing a cooperation agreement in the near future to implement joint activities and programs that serve common interests and national goals.

The International Orthopedic Conference - India

29th November 2018, the State of Palestine, represented by Dr. Alaa Azmi, participated in the International Orthopedic Surgery Conference in India, among other countries such as Switzerland, Malaysia, Singapore, Britain, the United States, Canada, Korea, etc.

Partnership with Moroccan International Cooperation Agency – Rabat

15th – 20th December 2018, PICA and its Moroccan counterpart discussed means of enhancing cooperation through the establishment of bilateral, trilateral and multilateral development programs and the exchange of knowledge in many fields. This came during a visit by PICA to the HQ of the Moroccan Agency in Rabat. The two sides agreed to sign a bilateral cooperation agreement and coordinate a joint event to be held at the UN High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation (BABA + 40).



Training Courses





Training Courses

South-South Cooperation Training Course – India

12th – 23rd November 2018

PICA participated in a training course entitled “South-South Cooperation” in India organized by the Institute of Studies and Research of the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The training focused on South-South cooperation and its importance, particularly in the wake of major changes in the structure of global aid. The course shed light on main principles, policies and modalities including national sovereignty, national ownership, independence, equality, non-intervention, mutual benefit and clear practices through South-South cooperation. It also highlighted the extent to which South-South Cooperation trends could be applied in practice.

Turkish Diplomatic Institute Training – Turkey

11th -18th November 2018

a delegation from PICA participated in a training course held by the Diplomatic Institute of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The training provided young Palestinian diplomats with basic technical skills and technical knowledge to be able to serve as professional diplomats in various fields, nationally and internationally. The course mainly focused economic diplomacy, diplomatic correspondence, international relations and negotiations.

South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation Conference - Germany

17th October 2018

PICA participated in a training program on South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation at the United Nations Knowledge Center for Sustainable Development in Bonn, Germany. The aim of this program, which comes within the framework of strengthening the capacities of the State of Palestine, is to strengthen the capabilities of PICA in the implementation of international development strategies in conjunction with the preparations of the State of Palestine to assume the chairmanship of G77 and China. It also aims at strengthening the capacity of member states to implement sustainable development goals in line with 2030 agenda.

Intermediate Cyber Security for IT Professionals – India

18th -27th September 2018

PICA participated in a training course entitled “Cyber Security for Information Technology Experts”, held at Kanpur University. The course aimed at exchanging experiences in the field of cyber security and keeping abreast of the technological development in this field, which is of great benefit in protecting information and services provided to individuals and institutions.

Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Program – India

6th – 17th August 2018

PICA participated in a specialized training course on “Sustainable Development Goals”, organized by the Academy for Scientific Research and Information for Developing Countries (RIS) with the support and funding of the Government and the Indian Foreign Ministry. The course aimed at enhancing the regional communication and cooperation of the participating countries, as well as exchanging views, visions and experiences on South-South cooperation as a strategic axis in diplomacy and an effective mechanism for achieving SDGs. The Palestinian delegation reflected the capacity of the State of Palestine to share knowledge, cooperate and provide assistance to various countries and peoples in the world.

Protocol, the European Union and Italian Development Cooperation Course – Italy

8th – 15th July 2018

a delegation from PICA along with a group of diplomats from the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates participated in an eight-day training course in Rome, Italy on Protocol, the European Union and Italian Development Cooperation. On the sidelines of the training session held in Rome, PICA representatives held meetings with the Italian Agency for Development and International Cooperation in the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome, with the aim of introducing PICA and exploring prospects for joint cooperation between both agencies.

Study Mission at the Tunisian Agency for Technical Cooperation – Tunisia

9th -13th July 2018

A delegation from PICA paid a study and professional visit to the Republic of Tunisia. The delegation participated in several introductory meetings with the Tunisian side represented by the Tunisian Agency for Technical Cooperation. The visit comes as a continuation of the efforts of the two agencies to promote and develop joint work in the Arab and Islamic world and to support South-South cooperation programs, as well as keeping a close eye on the experience and work of the Tunisian Agency for Technical Cooperation. The delegation held important coordination meetings on joint development projects related to women’s economic empowerment and programs to combat blindness in a number of African countries.

The Role of the United Nations in Supporting South-South Cooperation and Triangular cooperation Training - Istanbul

20th -22nd June 2018

PICA participated in the international training on the role of the United Nations in supporting South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation between countries, which was organized in Istanbul by the UN South-South Cooperation Office in New York.

Study Visit to the Republic of Estonia

7th -11th May 2018

PICA participated in a study visit to the Republic of Estonia, aiming at increasing the participants' knowledge on several topics including e-governance as Estonia is an advanced country in this field. The internal and external policy of Estonia was also emphasized during this visit in addition to an explanation of the Russian-Estonian relations and the relationship with the European Union.

Diplomatic Training Course - the Hague

5th April – 2nd May 2018

PICA participated in a specialized training course for diplomats in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, organized by the Netherlands Institute of International Relations, Clingendael, and funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The training aimed at strengthening regional cooperation of the participating countries, ensuring the exchange of views, visions and experiences between Middle East and Dutch diplomats and European policy makers. It also expanded diplomats' vision in all issues related to regional and international development and issues of common concern.



PICA Partners

Local Partners



PICA Partners International Partners



PICA Partners International Partners



سانت فنسنت والجرينادينز



جمهورية الأرجنتين



وزارة خارجية فانواتو



وزارة الصحة الغينية



جمهورية غينيا



جمهورية السودان



Afterword

By promoting a vision of solidarity through development, PICA aims at strengthening the relations of Palestine with a variety of countries around shared interests and with the dual objective of creating value for Palestine, through public diplomacy, and creating value for partners in the global South through the transfer of Palestinian knowledge, crisis response capacity and resilience.

PICA works on shaping a partnership-driven approach that focuses both on technical assistance and connecting existing and emerging capacities through South-South 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 our delivery (thematic and geographic), tested and tried development solutions with a proven impact on SDGs implementation, will inform the work of PICA.

To turn this mission into reality, PICA, as a young outfit, needs to harness a continuous learning culture, an innovative mindset, and an ability to create and share knowledge that meets our needs, which are aligned to the evolving needs of our partners. All PICA staff will foster this culture that is critical to realizing our shared vision.

PICA participation in BAPA+40 conference, held in the Argentinian capital Buenos Aires in March 2019, reinforced the representation of the State of Palestine in international partnerships and enriched its resources and capacities through cooperation with development bodies that are in line with PICA strategy, to make a difference globally and show appreciation to supportive countries.

As part of the Global Partnership Initiative (GPI) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) working groups, PICA aspires to play an active and influential role in developing a new direction on how best to integrate South-South and Triangular Cooperation as an integral and effective modality to promote 2030 agenda and its SDGs.







GOALS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



We are committed to achieving 2030 agenda and its SDGs.

PICA

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